

June 2007 Insect Sightings - Sandwich Bay Bird Observatory

At least 20 Red Admirals were evident across the area on the 1st and two **Large Skippers** were found on the 3rd, continuing the trend of record early emergences that has been such a feature of this year. The first **Meadow Brown** appeared on the 4th; not quite the most advanced Observatory record but only three days later than the previous earliest, and an arrival of 17 Painted Ladies took place on the 9th. **Small Skippers** were evident from the 11th and **Marbled White** appeared for the first time on the 15th; the latter setting a new record for earliest emergence by over a week. An influx of 10-13 Large Whites took place on the 17th/18th and 37 Small Coppers were counted on the 23rd, but the month more or less came to an end in a series of downpours that seem to be an increasingly regular feature of late June these days.

Moths sighted during the 2nd include 2 Silver Y, 2 Latticed Heath and numerous Cinnabar found within the long grassy areas of the Estate. **Bright Wave** moths, totally 7 so far, were recorded on the 19th.

Other insects; on the 1st included 13 Red-eyed Damselflies along the North Stream, a few Variable Damselflies in the ditches and at least 5 **Banded Demoiselles** on the North Stream and the ditch bordering the railway line. On the 2nd at New Downs there were 2 Hairy Dragonflies, 20 Common Blue Damselflies and 11 Azure Damselflies. Behind Backsand Scrape additional insects on 13th included Black-tailed Skimmer, Emporer Dragonfly, **Four-spotted Chaser**, Broad-bodied Chaser, **Ruddy Darter**, **Common Darter**, **Blue-tailed Damselfly**, **Common Blue Damselfly**.