

Oct 2009

Although numbers and variety continued to dwindle, autumn specialities continued to appear, including **Feathered Thorn** and 3 **Dark Chestnuts** on the 9th. Several rather quiet days ensued, but on a cloudy,



rather humid 13th four new species for the year were trapped, including the exquisitely-named and even more beautiful **Merveille du Jour** (photo on left, by Ian Hodgson), **Green-brindled Crescent**, a **Grey Pine Carpet** and a **Clancy's Rustic**, which in any other quartet of moths would probably have taken pride of place. Although chilly nights depressed numbers even further, a **November Moth** was lured on the 17th, bringing the number of macro species recorded this year to 343.

A **Chestnut** was trapped on the 24th and an intensifying southerly airflow in the last

week of month, which prompted the southern migrant *Palpita vitrealis* to come to a trap just outside the Estate on the 25th, also resulted in the appearance of a **Vestal** (also a migrant from the south) at the Observatory on the 26th, while a **Yellow-line Quaker** was trapped on the 29th.