

Dec 2011

The recent cold weather has meant little trapping effort, but a gentle improvement over the weekend allowed



a session on the 11th that resulted in the capture of a **December Moth**. This was macro species number 351 for the year, which is fairly remarkable given that two years ago the Bay record stood at 308. Poor weather ensured little more until, on the 23rd, John Beugg extracted a **BLACK-SPOTTED CHESTNUT**

*Conistra*

*rubiginosa*

from the moth trap. Not only was this a first for the Observatory, but (we believe) only the third record for Britain, of a species that was recorded for the first time at Dartford in November this year and which has yet to be ascribed an 'official' English vernacular name (photo on the left by Ian

Hodgson).