

## Species Monitoring

## Thames region RAP

### Upper Thames Branch      Chalkhill Blue report 2004

Branch Champion Nick Bowles      nick.bowles@ntlworld.com

Many extant sites checked and populations generally found to be stable, though many slightly weaker than in previous two years. Establishment of a species champions group and associated email group, helped pool records but less effective than in 2003.

Colonies in the three core populations seem to be roughly stable. No reports were received of 'new' colonies.

Some cleared woodland areas with horseshoe vetch within Wendover woods checked but no sign of colonisation. Similarly the quarry site where ad-hoc introduction occurred (and the colony lasted one season) had no reports of even vagrant males this year (though they had been seen in most of the previous 12 years). At both these sites the Horseshoe Vetch looks suitable and the FE intend to open up the scrub around the largest area of Horseshoe Vetch in Wendover Woods.

Very disappointing that the colony at Inchombe Hole was not at all in evidence though Horseshoe Vetch remains. Presume this colony is actually just an overspill, in better years, from Ivinghoe Beacon's populations. Worse news at Stepps Hill where the colony seems very weak the amount of Horseshoe Vetch is much lower than previously.

At our Holtspur Bottom reserve, planted Horseshoe Vetch looks to be growing strongly and in time will become suitable for colonisation.

The new road cutting for the A41 extension has no Horseshoe vetch as yet but perhaps some could be planted if it does not materialise unaided.

For a further year a private site where the species was lost and has reputedly re-established could not be accessed through failure to contact owner. Efforts to gain access will continue.

Details of sightings (and non –sightings) are listed below. **If you can give any further detail for these or other sites, about the butterfly or the habitat, please contact Nick**



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Site Name	No.s seen & date	OS ref.	Contact name
Aston Clinton Ragpits (ACR)	2m 10.07.04	SP8810	Nick Bowles
Coombe Hill Wendover	0 11.07.04	SP845065	Nick Bowles
Steps Hill gully	0 17.07.04		Nick Bowles
Inchcombe Hole (Stepps Hill)	0 17.07.04		Nick Bowles
Grangelands	2 19/07/04		David Ferguson
Aston Rowant	1F, 9M 20/07/04		Wendy Campbell
Coombe Hill Wendover	1 20.07.04	SP845065	Nick Bowles
ACR	11 20.07.04		Nick Bowles
ACR	4m 1f 20.07.04		David Dennis
Grangelands	27 22.07.04		Dave Wilton
Ivinghoe including Steps Hill	22 23.07.04		Tom Dunbar
Swyncombe	19m 24.07.04		Richard Soulsby
Gadsden Wood	1 27.07.04		Tom Dunbar

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Grangelands	9 27.07.04		Tom Dunbar
Coombe Hill	2 27.07.04	SP845065	David Dennis
Happy Valley	15 28.07.04		Tom Dunbar
Grangelands	30 28.07.04		Tom Dunbar
Bacombe Hill	22 29.07.04		Tom Dunbar
Coombe Hill Bottom	10 29.07.04	SP845065	Tom Dunbar
Pitstone Hill (gully)	7m 2f 29.07.04		Wendy Campbell
Ivinghoe Beacon (gully)	4m 29.07.04		Wendy Campbell
ACR	15m 29.07.04		Wendy Campbell
ACR	8m 3f 29.07.04		Nick Bowles
Aston Rowant/Bald Hill	67m, 7f 30.07.04		Dave Wilton
Aston Rowant/Beacon Hill	19m, 3f 30.07.04		Dave Wilton
Coombe Hill	15 31.07.04	SP845065	David Dennis
Coombe Hill	41 03.08.04	SP845065	David Dennis

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Radnage/Yoesden Bank	89m, 18f 10.08.04		Dave Wilton
Whitchurch/Boze Down	32 10.08.04		Dave Wilton
Coombe Hill	16 17.08.04	SP845065	Nick Bowles
ACR	10 14.08.04		Nick Bowles
ACR	11 21.08.04		Nick Bowles
Coombe Hill	7 22.08.04		Nick Bowles
ACR	1 06.09.04		Nick Bowles
ACR	0 09.09.04		Nick Bowles
Coombe Hill	1 09.09.04		Nick Bowles
	Was this the latest record in 04?		
Your records here!!!			
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