



PRESS RELEASE

HELP IS AT HAND FOR BUTTERFLY SPOTTERS IN TAYSIDE AND FIFE

Wildlife charity Butterfly Conservation launched its new free guide to the butterflies of Tayside and Fife today at Scotia Seeds near Brechin, suppliers of native wildflower seed.

The booklet features the 29 butterflies that might be encountered in the area, plus five easily-identified day-flying moths.

Paul Kirkland, Director of Butterfly Conservation Scotland, said: "The aims of the booklets (which now cover most of Scotland) are to promote the enjoyment of these beautiful and fascinating creatures and to encourage recording.

"Butterflies have proved to be very valuable indicators of the state of the countryside, and records from the public are incredibly useful".

Catherine Lloyd, the Tayside Biodiversity Co-ordinator, said "With so many schools, care homes, churches and community groups keen to encourage wildlife in their grounds or gardens, this latest identification guide is very timely.

"Those working or walking in wilder countryside, be it woodland, the coast or on the hills, can also find out what they have seen - and with suggestions as to where to see others - by using this easy-to-use booklet."

Carolyn Deasley of Scottish Natural Heritage said "We are lucky to have such a variety of beautiful butterflies in Tayside and Fife and we were delighted to help Butterfly Conservation Scotland produce this leaflet. It is suitable for schools, families and individuals who want to find out more about these fascinating and colourful insects and pass on records of where they see them."

The booklet suggests 12 top places to see butterflies and moths, and is available from visitor centres, museums, country parks and other countryside outlets in the area.

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Contacts

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Images

Dark Green Fritillary by Robert Thompson. More images are available from ahogg@butterfly-conservation.org

Copies of the leaflet can be downloaded from www.butterfly-conservation/scotland or www.taysidebiodiversity.co.uk.

Photo opportunity

at Scotia Seeds Field Day on June 17 (wildflower fields, moths and butterflies). For directions contact Scotia Seeds, Mavisbank, Farnell, Brechin, Angus DD9 6TR t: 01356 626425 f:01356 629183 fionaguest@scotiaseeds.co.uk

Notes for Editors

- Butterfly Conservation is the largest insect conservation charity in Europe with 15,000 members in the UK, and over 1,000 in Scotland. Its aim is the conservation of butterflies, moths and their habitats. It runs conservation programmes on over 60 threatened species of butterfly and moth and manages over 30 nature reserves. Further information www.butterfly-conservation.org
- In Scotland Butterfly Conservation receives grant-aid from Scottish Natural Heritage to support volunteers who collect data, provide advice to landowners and others, and promote the conservation of butterflies, moths and their habitats www.butterflyconservation.org/scotland
- Funding for the booklet was secured via the SITA Tayside Biodiversity Action Fund, Perth & Kinross Council, Scotia Seeds Ltd and Scottish Natural Heritage.
- Scotia Seeds Ltd produce and sell seed of a wide range of native plant species in seed packets and mixes for gardeners and their gardens, farmers and landscapers, and for environmental projects of all sizes www.scotiaseeds.co.uk
- Scottish Natural Heritage is the government's adviser on all aspects of nature and landscape across Scotland. Our role is to help everyone understand, value and enjoy Scotland's nature now and in the future. For more information, visit our website at www.snh.gov.uk. SNH media is also now on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/SNHPress#>

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