

EYE D

Southern Migrant Hawker

The Southern Migrant Hawker is a dispersive species which has become more prevalent in recent years

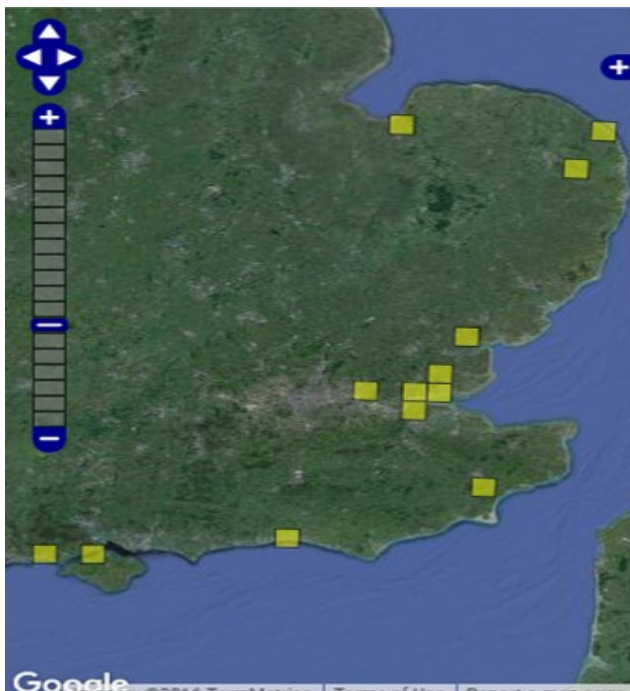
This small (roughly 60mm) Hawker is superficially similar to the Migrant Hawker but the mark on S2 is blue in the male, and the sides of the thorax are blue-green with fine dark lines. The blue markings on the abdomen are a little more prominent than in the Migrant Hawker.

The Southern migrant hawker breeds in standing water in its normal, Mediterranean habitat but in Britain it can often be found hawking along damp reedy ditches.

This rare migrant appears to be becoming more frequent in the UK, and is a potential colonist. After a single confirmed record during the twentieth century, four individuals were observed in southern England during 2006.



(image © Tim Caroen)



During 2010 many individuals were then seen in south Essex and north Kent, with oviposition being noted at two sites .

It is definitely one to keep your eyes peeled for in Sussex, and it will be interesting to note the types of habitats that it preferentially frequents away from its mainland habitat.

If you think you see it, let us know, and preferably send us a photo so that we can verify it for you.