

Rhizedra lutosa

Rhizedra lutosa, the **large wainscot** or **Isle of Wight wainscot**, is a species of moth of the family Noctuidae. It is native to the Palearctic realm (Ireland to Japan including the Russian Far East and Siberia). It has been introduced into eastern North America and is spreading.^[1]

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Technical description and variation

The wingspan is 42–50 mm. The length of the forewings is 16–23 mm. "Forewing dull white, finely dusted with blackish in the intervals, sometimes slightly rufous-tinged; outer line represented by a row of blackish dots, often obsolete: hindwing whitish washed with grey; sometimes with an outer series of dark spots; — the ab. *crassicornis* Haw.has the black dusting intensified on both wings, forming, in some instances, dark horizontal streaks in the forewing; the rows of spots in both wings strongly expressed; — ab. *rufescens* Tutt is the red form corresponding to *lutosa* Hbn. sometimes with, at others without, the rows of spots; for the more dusted red form, corresponding to ab. *crassicornis* Haw., Tutt has used the name *rufescens-suffusa*. The form occurring in Japan must be separated as a subspecies *griseata* subsp. nov [Warren]: in the males of this (I have not seen a female) the hindwings are dark grey beyond middle with the fringe pale: the forewings also are greyer ochreous with the pale veins more distinctly defined by dark scaling.² males in Tring Museum from Ichikishiri, Yezo, August 1890, (Dr. Fritze)".^[2]

Biology

The moth flies from July to November depending on the location.

Larva bone-colour with a pinkish tinge; head light brown: feeding underground in the roots of reeds (*Phragmites* species).^[3]

Rhizedra lutosa



Scientific classification

Kingdom:	<u>Animalia</u>
Phylum:	<u>Arthropoda</u>
Subphylum:	<u>Hexapoda</u>
Class:	<u>Insecta</u>
Order:	<u>Lepidoptera</u>
Family:	<u>Noctuidae</u>
Genus:	<u><i>Rhizedra</i></u>
Species:	<i>R. lutosa</i>

Binomial name

Rhizedra lutosa
(Hübner, 1803)



Detail of the wing, showing spots



Figs 5, 5a larvae after final moult in lower parts of stems of *Arundo phragmites*

References

1. McCabe, Tim L.; Schweitzer, Dale F. (1991). "*Rhizedra lutosa* (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae) newly introduced to North America" (<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/16252161>). *Entomological News*. **102** (3): 130–132.
2. One or more of the preceding sentences incorporates text from a work now in the public domain: Seitz, Adalbert (1914). "*R. lutosa*" (<http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/10422598>). *Die Gross-Schmetterlinge des Palaearktischen Faunengebietes: Die eulenartigen Nachtfalter*. Die Gross-Schmetterlinge der Erde. **3**. Stuttgart: Seitz'schen Werkes (Alfred Kernen). p. 235.
3. "Robinson, G. S., P. R. Ackery, I. J. Kitching, G. W. Beccaloni & L. M. Hernández, 2010. HOSTS – A Database of the World's Lepidopteran Hostplants. Natural History Museum, London" (<http://www.nhm.ac.uk/research-curation/research/projects/hostplants/>).

External links

- [Large wainscot at UKmoths \(https://ukmoths.org.uk/show.php?id=1770\)](https://ukmoths.org.uk/show.php?id=1770)
- [Funet \(http://www.nic.funet.fi/pub/sci/bio/life/insecta/lepidoptera/ditrysia/noctuoidea/noctuida/xyleninae/rhizedra/index.html\)](http://www.nic.funet.fi/pub/sci/bio/life/insecta/lepidoptera/ditrysia/noctuoidea/noctuida/xyleninae/rhizedra/index.html) Taxonomy
- [Fauna Europaea \(http://www.faunaeur.org/full_results.php?id=447544\)](http://www.faunaeur.org/full_results.php?id=447544)
- [Lepiforum.de \(http://www.lepiforum.de/cgi-bin/lepiwiki.pl?Rhizedra_Lutosa\)](http://www.lepiforum.de/cgi-bin/lepiwiki.pl?Rhizedra_Lutosa)
- [Vlindernet.nl \(in Dutch\) \(http://www.vlindernet.nl/vlindersoort.php?vlinderid=810&vq=Rhizedra\)](http://www.vlindernet.nl/vlindersoort.php?vlinderid=810&vq=Rhizedra)

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