

This is a guide to converting your site files from Transect Walker Version 1.3 format to Transect Walker 2 format. More detailed information is also available in the Transect Walker 'Help' files, accessible from within the program itself

INTRODUCTION:

The structure of Transect Walker 2 data files is significantly different to those created by Transect Walker 1.3, and as a result you cannot read or edit files created in one version using the other. If you have been using Transect Walker 1.3 to store your transect data, there is no need to create a new site file in Transect Walker 2. Instead you can convert your existing files to Transect Walker 2 format using the 'Translator' program that comes with the new version. As long as you choose a different file location for the converted files when using Translator, your original 1.3 files will not be lost and can be kept as an archive.

NOTE: BEFORE YOU BEGIN THE CONVERSION, IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT YOU HAVE COPIES OF YOUR ORIGINAL PAPER RECORDS TO HAND AS THE TRANSLATOR PROGRAM MAY FIND ERRORS IN YOUR DATA, AND YOU MUST BE ABLE TO CORRECT THESE TO COMPLETE THE PROCESS.

CONVERTING YOUR FILES:

1. To open the Translator program, first open Transect Walker 2 and click on FILE, then CONVERT OLD TRANSECT WALKER FILES. Alternatively, in 'My Computer' or 'Windows Explorer' locate the Transect Walker 2 folder (default location is C:\Program Files\Transect Walker 2) and double click on 'Translator'.
2. You then need to select the folder where the converted files will be placed. The default location is C:\Program Files\Transect Walker 2. **If you choose a different location, make sure it is not the folder containing your 1.3 files otherwise you will over-write your old files.**
3. Now you need to choose to convert one file or many files by clicking on the appropriate button. You will then receive a warning message suggesting you should have your paper records available. This is highly recommended, as the Translator program may find errors in the data, such as incorrect dates and missing recorder names, and you have to correct these before you can proceed.
4. When the conversion is finished, a pop-up box will notify you that the translation is complete. You can now close Translator and begin work in Transect Walker 2 with your new data files. We recommend that you move newly translated files into a separate folder before adding more data. Otherwise, if the Translator program is used again on the same file, your changes and additions to the new files could be over-written.

IDENTIFICATION OF DATA PROBLEMS/ISSUES:

In addition to identifying critical errors when converting old files, Transect Walker 2 automatically detects missing site information and other important missing data in your site files after the conversion process.

When entering full weekly visit data in Transect Walker 2, the temperature and % sunshine fields (treated as optional in Transect Walker 1.3) must be completed in order to continue entering data.

If these essential weather data are missing from your converted data, and if any basic site or section details are missing, on opening the file you will receive a warning message: "Problems have been found with the data. Please run Data Issues from the File menu". If you click on FILE, then DATA ISSUES, you will see a list of missing data. **All of these must be resolved in order to prevent the warning message from appearing each time you open the site file.**

For further information, visit the UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme website (www.ukbms.org) or the Butterfly Conservation website (www.butterfly-conservation.org).

✉ Butterfly Conservation HQ, Manor Yard, East Lulworth, Dorset, BH20 5QP
transect@butterfly-conservation.org
☎ 0870 7744309

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