

## Anthomyiidae Study Group

Newsletter 8

Spring 2010



### Recent progress

A number of excellent revisions of various genera and species groups of Anthomyiidae have been published between 2007 and 2009. These are by Verner Michelsen (Zoological Museum, Copenhagen) and cover mainly European species (including British). The following genera are covered: *Egle* (catkin flies), and *Paradelia* (Eurasian species). Some species groups in *Pegomya* and *Botanophila* are also revised. Full details of these and other additions and changes to the Anthomyiidae in the British List will be the subject of a forthcoming paper in Dipterists Digest.



### Project to improve the British distribution records of *Chirosia*

If there are any members of the Dipterists Forum who have not previously attempted to collect and identify anthomyiid flies, I thought that a restricted scheme, confined to a fairly easy genus might be useful. I think that *Chirosia* would be a good start, as the species are fairly easy to identify, the larvae all feed on various species of ferns (hence sweeping these will generally produce several species). In addition all the females of the twelve included species are known. Several species are known only from a few localities, including one species only recorded from Ben Lawers. The adults mainly occur in spring and early summer.

Any dipterist who is interested in this project can email me at [mackland@btinternet.com](mailto:mackland@btinternet.com) for a mini pack in PDF format, of keys, male genitalia drawings and distribution data as presently known. By the time this newsletter is published I should have been able to extract all the keys and data relating to *Chirosia* from my main anthomyiid pack, so the resulting "mini-pack" should not be too large to send to interested dipterists as an email attachment.

Here is a real opportunity to increase our knowledge of the distribution of part of a poorly known family which has at present very few specialists world-wide. I will be willing to check any identifications of specimens sent to me, provided I don't have to return the material! Specimens in 70% alcohol will be acceptable.

Michael Ackland  
5 Pond End, Pymore, Bridport, Dorset, DT6 5SB  
Tel. 01308 420254  
[mackland@btinternet.com](mailto:mackland@btinternet.com)

