



And Polleniidae... (Cerretti et al. 2019)

Maintaining data quality while not discouraging recorders



data = records = time (date) + location (coordinates, place name, habitat etc.) + species name/specimen + “optional”: collector/identifier



quality? E.g. reliable, repeatable, detailed, fit for purpose...



recorders = those who submit records (not necessarily those who collect!): specialists, occasional recorders, students, enthusiasts, general public

Whom to trust?

worker; also some of the older, as yet un-
with currently recognised species. As an example of the latter, *Acrophaga subalpina* (Ringdahl).
(Zett.) of Bradley (5) is almost certainly *Acrophaga subalpina* (Ringdahl).
Following van Emden (1954) for current nomenclature, we have interpreted all
such records where the synonymy is unambiguous.
In the case of the genera *Calliphora* and *Lucilia*, the changes have occa-
sionally complicated the position. Until 1928, British *Calliphora* appear to have
been accepted as either *C. erythrocephala* (Mg.) or *C. vomitoria* (L.); thus Wain-
wright (54) records having collected in 1919 a specimen of *C. loewi* End. which
he did not identify as such until 1928. The less readily detectable *C. uralensis*
Villen. was not separated in existing collections until 1932, when Collin recog-
nised a single specimen in an old collection; the record was not confirmed by
further collection until 1938.
The classification of the *Lucilia* species was so drastically revised as a result
of the work of Richards & Collin (53) in 1926 that in the case of many older
records unsupported by specimens it is impossible to say to what species the
record refers. The females of the *L. caesar* group (*L. caesar* (L.), *L. illustris*
(Mg.) and *L. ampullacea* Villen.), still present difficulty, and in certain records
an identification of *L. caesar* is either stated or implied as being only to the
group. Where such records arise from accounts of sheep myiasis, they can fairly
safely be attributed to *L. caesar* or *L. illustris*, since *L. ampullacea* is believed
not to strike sheep.
The sources for existing records for Scotland preponderantly antedate both
the recognition of the less common *Calliphora* species, and the critical revision of
the genus *Lucilia*, so that the Scottish distribution picture presented by Table II
is of little value for either of these genera.
... county distribution maps. ... degree of precision in designa-


- Science – cannot learn from unreliable information
- Early mistakes result in more mistakes later
- With no evaluation/ quality checks/guidelines we'll end up in chaos.. (Changes in taxonomy, characters evaluation etc.)

Maintaining data quality
Why?

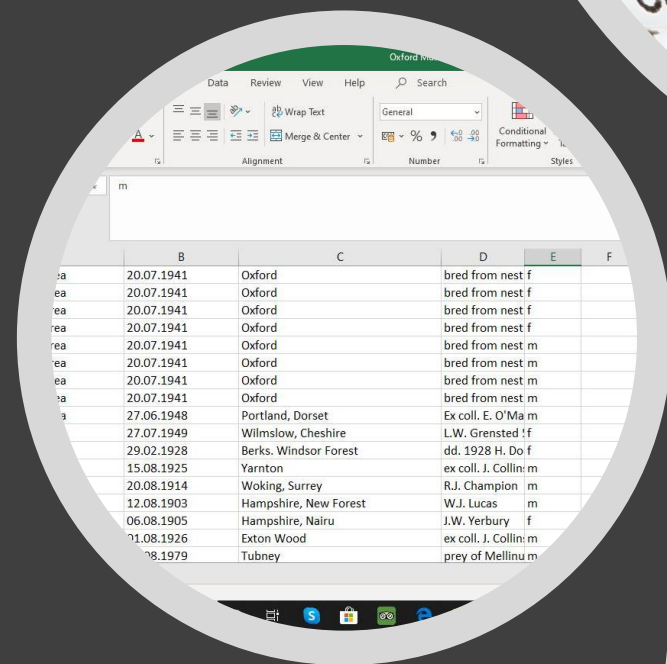
Maintaining data quality

How?

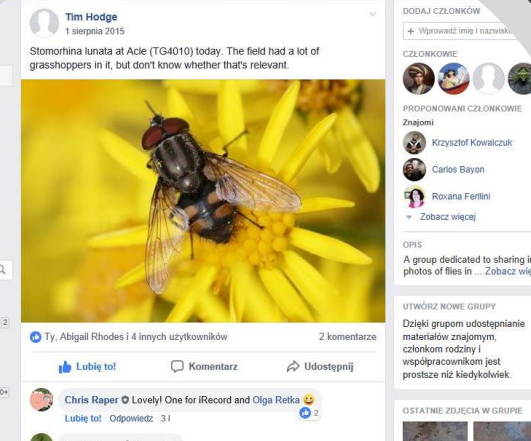
- Voucher specimens – museum donations
- Photographs – social media; iRecord
- Spreadsheets



ENGLAND: F
Cholsey, Oxon...
27.VII.2014
Coll: C.M.T.Raper
U. SIVEN
3/2019



	B	C	D	E	F
sa	20.07.1941	Oxford	bred from nest f		
ea	20.07.1941	Oxford	bred from nest f		
ea	20.07.1941	Oxford	bred from nest f		
ea	20.07.1941	Oxford	bred from nest m		
ea	20.07.1941	Oxford	bred from nest m		
ea	20.07.1941	Oxford	bred from nest m		
ea	20.07.1941	Oxford	bred from nest m		
ea	27.06.1948	Portland, Dorset	Ex coll. E. O'Ma m		
ea	27.07.1949	Wilmslow, Cheshire	LW. Grensted 1 f		
ea	29.02.1928	Berks. Windsor Forest	dd. 1928 H. Do f		
ea	15.08.1925	Yarnton	ex coll. J. Collin: m		
ea	20.08.1914	Woking, Surrey	R.J. Champion m		
ea	12.08.1903	Hampshire, New Forest	W.J. Lucas m		
ea	06.08.1905	Hampshire, Nairu	J.W. Yerbury f		
ea	01.08.1926	Exton Wood	ex coll. J. Collin: m		
ea	08.1979	Tubney	prey of Mellinu m		





6.

- Palpi dark
- prementum short – subfamily MELANOMYINAE



- Palpi pale/yellow
- prementum long – *Bellardia pubicornis* (subfamily CALLIPHORINAE)



(Not) discouraging
recorders...

- Assertiveness
- Always educate – remember the limits!
 - Social media – interaction
 - Making identification easier (but not less reliable!) translating some terms into general English, using pictures
 - Involvement – courses, projects
- Never compromise the quality – better small amount of good data than a lot of useless information



Some thoughts

- We need to think of the future, not just about present
- We have scientific responsibility for producing/collecting high quality data
- Poor quality data is waste of everyone's time
- Setting standards?
- Creating guidelines for recorders?

THANK YOU

