

Conopidae Recording Scheme

Despite rumours to the contrary, admittedly well-founded, readers may be surprised to hear that the Conopid Recording Scheme is not, in fact, dead in the water. A Herculean effort over this winter, mainly by my colleague Mandy Stiltz, has seen a large part of the paper records database transferred into MapMate. Unfortunately, not quite enough to make a draft atlas worthwhile for this bulletin, but we certainly intend to have an atlas ready for the autumn bulletin. We should have all of the remaining records that we have here entered by about the end of March, so this summer is the time to get any additional records to me, preferably in an electronic format which is readable in MapMate, but any other paper format will also do.

There are also some changes in names affecting the UK fauna, but we are still sorting these out. Jens-Hermann Stuke and I have a paper nearly finished which revises the *Myopa testacea* group, and Jens-Hermann has just published a very handy paper revising the *Thecophora atra* group – which includes our species – and which now includes some new and better-understood segregates which just might occur in Britain (Stuke, J-H, 2006: *Thecophora pusilla* auct. – ein Artenkomplex (Diptera: Conopidae). *Beitr. Ent.* **56**(2): 269-279). I have this paper in PDF format, and can send it to anyone who might like a copy.

Recorders should also note that the email address which has been shown in the Bulletin for the last few years has, alas, been incorrect. My current email address is shown below.

Finally, my thanks to all those noble stalwarts who have continued to send me batches of conopid records in recent years, despite the complete lack of incentive to do so. Your reward awaits in heaven, but in the meantime you should have a draft atlas very soon.

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Picture-Winged Flies Recording Scheme

Yes, I know I know. Even deader than the Conopid Recording Scheme. Sigh. Well, actually, the PWFRS atlas is next. Draft atlas possibly by the autumn Bulletin, or failing that for the spring of next year. I promise. No, really. Keep those records coming in.

In the meantime, *Herina longistylata* has gone back to being called *Herina lugubris* – Bernhard Merz managed to find the ‘lost’ type specimens – and the ‘*lugubris*’ of European authors is now called *rivosecchii*. The latter has still not so far been found in Britain, but must surely be here somewhere. See the excellent paper by Merz for details (2002: A revision of the *Herina lugubris* species group (Diptera, Ulidiidae, Otitinae), with a description of two new species. *Revue Suisse de Zoologie* **109**(2): 407-431).

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