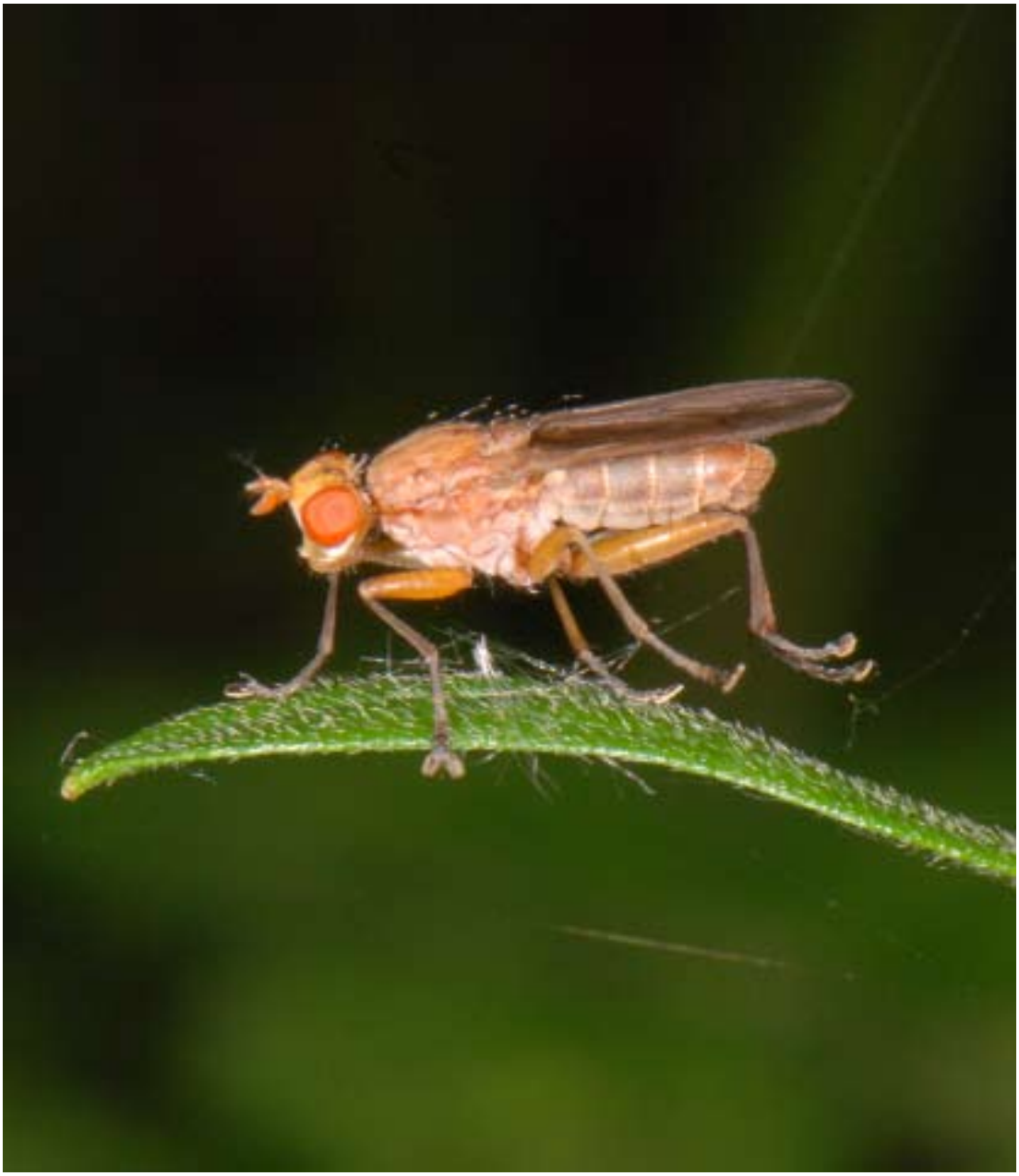
BULLETIN OF THE

Dipterists Forum

Bulletin No. 66 Autumn 2008



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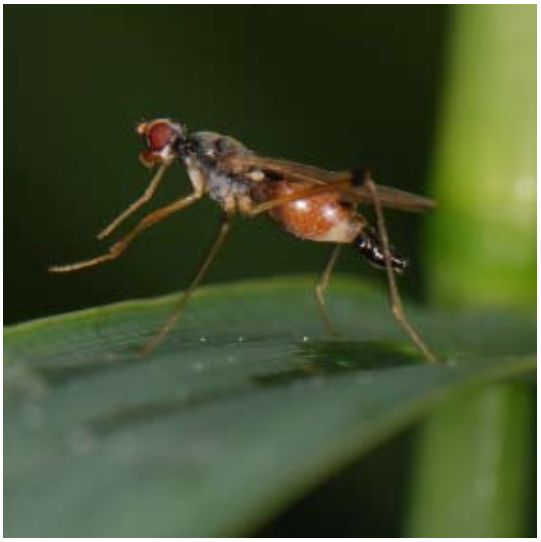

Contributions to this Bulletin

Please note the following deadlines for the next two bulletins:

Spring bulletin

Aims to be on your doorstep in the first two weeks of March, contributions by the end of December, this is printed in February in time for the March workshop meeting.

Autumn bulletin

Aims to be on your doorstep in late October, contributions by the end of July. Printed around the time of the Autumn field meeting and in time to provide details of the Annual Meeting.

Would contributors please note that it takes a **minimum** of 4 weeks to compile, edit, reproduce, collate and distribute each issue.

Minor amendments or insertions may be negotiated during the 2 weeks following these deadlines but major items must be in by the deadline.

Website

www.dipteristsforum.org.uk/

Forum

www.dipteristsforum.org.uk/index.php

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Articles submitted should be in the form of a word-processed file on disk (3.5", CD or USB Flash) or via E-mail which should have the phrase "DF Bulletin" in the Subject line; Email text alone will not be accepted. Do not use "all capitals", underlining, blank lines between paragraphs, carriage returns in the middle of a sentence or double spaces. Scientific names should be italicised throughout and emboldened only at the start of a paragraph, place names should have a grid reference. Please submit in native format and Rich Text Format (.rtf) and additionally send pictures in their original format. An accompanying print-out would also be useful. Line artworks are encouraged, colour pictures and illustrations are welcome, they will be printed in black and white (uncorrected) and so it would be wise to see what a B&W photocopy looks like first. The Bulletin will also be made available in colour pdf via our website. Please note the width of the borders used in Dipterists Bulletin, for conformity with style would newsletter compilers please try to match this format.

BULLETIN OF THE
Dipterists
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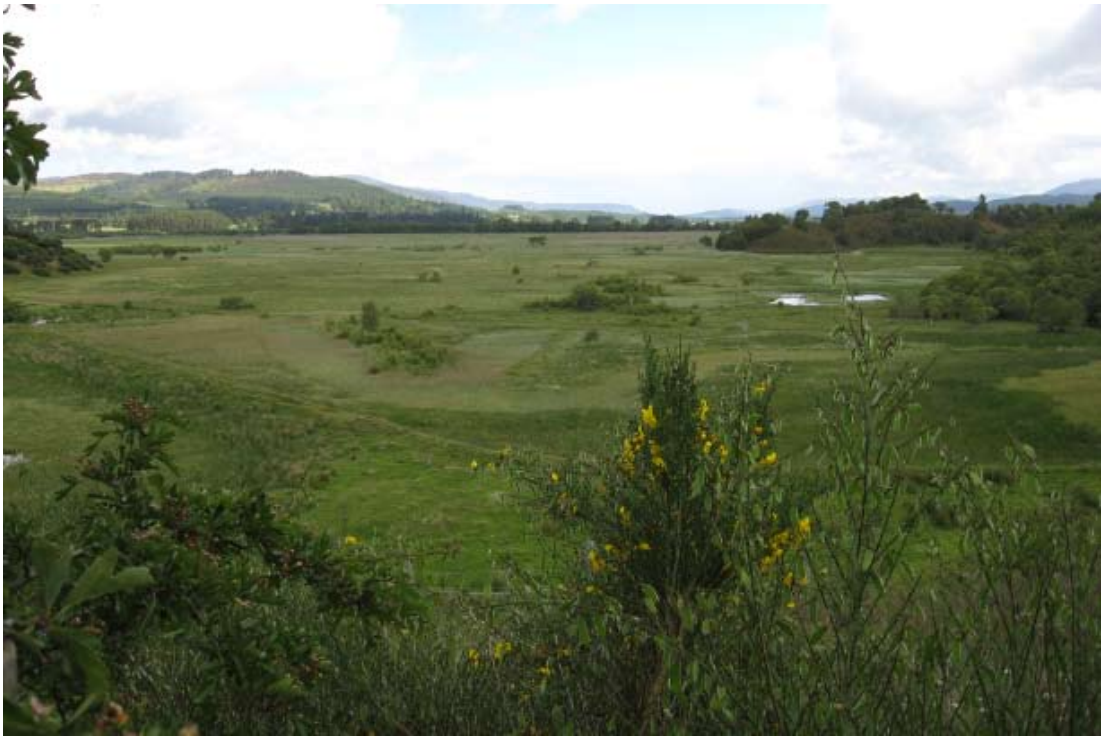
Contents

Forum news

Editorial

The reports I've received from Dipterists Forum readership so far suggest that the format of this Bulletin and the various Newsletters (also reformatted by myself) are very popular. Those members who use the Dipterists Forum website have been pleased to be able to access these items electronically. Perhaps the day will come when our print run of 350 will actually decline as our membership increases but we've yet to come across the first DF member brave enough to tell us "Don't send me a paper copy, I'm content with the electronic version."



Cairngorms view during Dipterists Forum Summer Field Week 2008 - Judy Webb

Colour is the main difference between the two formats. It is now possible to include decent colour illustrations in the Bulletin and the Newsletters. You'll only see it in the electronic version but it does open up opportunities (as indeed does the Dipterists Forum website) for any member with an inclination to hunt with the camera to get their work published. I suspect that, as far as the Bulletin is concerned, we are seeing only the very beginning of this new era of colour illustration. Many thanks to those who have embraced it so far, the Newsletter editors are really cracking away at it. I especially like John Kramer's use of microscope shots to help with identification. Barbara Ismay and the "Adopt a species" crew have brightened up the BAP species accounts with appropriate illustrations. Our indefatigable Publicity Officer, Judy Webb, is also doing the right thing in selecting a few choice pictures she has taken at field meetings and sending them to me. A little more of that would be most useful to me when I come to compile the Bulletin. For example the front cover picture for the first two issues in this format have been my own; I don't necessarily want to hog this opportunity to show off a good photograph so please, if you have something which you think would look impressive on our front cover, do send it to me.

Darwyn Sumner

News from the schemes

Cranefly Recording Scheme

Newsletter # 17 included with this Bulletin

John Kramer

Hoverfly Recording Scheme

Newsletter # 45 included with this Bulletin

David Iliff

Sciomyzidae Recording Scheme

Newsletter # 4 included with this Bulletin

Ian McLean

Other news

New kids in the classroom!

I would like to take this opportunity to say hello to all of the Dipterists that are out there. My name is Erica, and along with another newbie Kim Goodger, we would like to introduce ourselves as the new Diptera curators at The Natural History Museum. Alongside Nigel Wyatt, Zoe Adams and Theresa Howard (The Collections Manager) we are responsible for all matters relating to the Diptera Section.

I am in charge of the Nematocera and Orthorraphous Brachycera, whilst Kim is looking after the Acalyptrates and Nigel curating the Calyptrates and the Aschiza. Theresa, as well as managing us, is responsible for the Culicidae, and the final member of the curatorial staff, Zoe, who deals with Psychodidae. If you have any enquiries or questions dealing with any of the above then please do not hesitate to contact any of us.

Nigel is our resident expert on Diptera, with Kim and I both babies in the Dipterist world. We are both relishing the challenge that has been placed in front of us and trying to learn as much as we can from you and the wider Diptera community. We have a large task in sorting the collection ready to go into our new building, Darwin Centre Two, early next year.

We both recently greatly enjoyed the summer meeting at Aviemore and I hope that we will see many of the participants at the museum in the future.

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The British Isles Diptera List has reached 7000

– or has it?

but the British list still has a little way to go

While a band of happy dipterists were scouring sunny Scotland in an endeavour to be the first to catch that 7000th species (or were they distracted by the goal of a honeypot) I was juggling the figures to ensure that the total reached this magic number in the first 2008 issue of *Dipterists Digest*.

While in recent years the total has been rising inexorably to this sought after number, actually being certain that it has been achieved is not so straightforward. For some time we have known that there are more than 7000 species in the British Isles simply by adding on the number of species that either specialists or active collectors have been aware of, but have not yet found the time or opportunity to formally publish.

To help addressing that backlog of expected additions I included papers in the Digest on Ceratopogonidae and *Xanthochlorus* (Dolichopodidae), which have long been in preparation. I am grateful to Martin Drake, Ivan Perry, Adrian Pont, Peter Skidmore, Dave Gibbs, Graham Collins and Andrew Halstead for their contributions to the addition of other species to the British list in the same issue. The problem in reaching a clear total was that it was necessary to delete some species due to misidentifications and that several species on the British list have recently been sunk into synonymy with other species. In some cases these synonymies are controversial and two have been omitted pending further study but five were accepted in this latest issue of the Digest.

What determines whether a species should be admitted to the list should also be considered. Many species added to the list in recent years are probably recent arrivals here, often due to casual introduction in vehicles or with imported plants. Climate change is also a factor in the spread of some of these species as they are often recent arrivals in the parts of northern Europe from which they then arrive here. Climatic factors are also responsible for the spread of such species after arrival and possibly for some previously restricted resident species becoming noticed for the first time. In cases like the tachinid *Opesia grandis* it is difficult to know whether it is a recent arrival or a species that has been overlooked for that reason. In this case Ivan Perry found it in a natural site at Devil's Ditch before it appeared in his own garden, but it still may have first arrived in the country as an accidental introduction. The drosophilid *Hirtodrosophila trivittata*, being found so far only in the New Forest and rare on the continent, may be a native species that has been overlooked but it will be interesting to see if now appears in other areas.

Other species have first been noticed in gardens and when a fly appears in an entomologist's garden, even though these may be more environmentally friendly than most, one must assume that it could also be present in many others. It can't be certain how the fungus gnat *Greenomyia mongolica* got here, whether with plants or by transport, but it is already known from three widely scattered sites, two of the finds being in a house and a garden, so is also apparently established.

Of species added in the latest Digest *Cheilosia caerulescens* is clearly an introduced species, brought in with the houseleeks in which it develops, but is admitted to the list because it is already known to be established, if only in gardens. *Scaptomyza adusta* is also clearly imported and has only been found developing in a hothouse, but it was completing its development there. It does not qualify for the category of imported species recognised in the 1998 checklist for casual introductions, which do not get established as breeding species, such as the Mediterranean fruit fly *Ceratitis capitata*. The so-called black dump fly *Hydrotaea aenescens* was in the imported species category but was recently elevated to the national list, as it is now known to be an established breeding species. *Scaptomyza adusta* cannot therefore be excluded from the overall British total although it is known to be a recent introduction. The same applies to *Medetera grisescens*, now known to be present in several hothouses and a *Coenosia* species, unidentified but possibly of African origin, was found at the Eden project a few years ago, but this has yet to be published and it is not known if it has become established there or elsewhere.

Perhaps a separate category is needed in a future checklist to cover such species. The international trade in plants is likely to increase cases of this nature in the future. The fungus gnat *Leia arsona* is still regarded as a casual import here and is not included in the national total. However, it is well established in nurseries

in the Netherlands. I am presently writing an account of some other species of fungus gnats (in the genera *Lyprauta*, *Proceroplatus* and *Sciophila*), all apparently of South American origin, that have also become well established in Dutch nurseries at least since 2005, in association with orchids and bromeliads. It is quite possible that these species will be transported here and may be here already.

Errors of calculation may also have occurred both in the 1998 list and in the supplements, that have appeared in Dipterists Digest, as certainly happened in calculating the Irish list, making a decision on which was the 7000th species more difficult. There is also the possibility that I have missed some species that have been added other than in the usual entomological journals. It was accepted in both the 1998 checklist and in the supplements that species mentioned as occurring in Britain in the Dipterists Bulletin, Recording Scheme newsletters, British Wildlife or other informal publications would be admitted to the list. Formal addition in an entomological journal or other scientific publication, with details of how such species may be recognised, is desirable and should still be given priority although it may sometimes have been thought unnecessary once a species has been included in the official list.

Many species, for which there was no known published record for Britain, were also added to the 1998 checklist on the authority of the specialists contributing to it, although this was avoided in the case of Ireland where only species that had been published previously were noted as occurring there. In many cases these species added in the checklist have later been formally added to the British list in other publications, although further details of a significant number have not yet appeared. It is to be hoped that this will be remedied before a new checklist is produced.

Fauna Europaea should have been a record of what species had been recorded from Britain and Ireland up to its appearance on line in 2005, but unfortunately the coverage by authors of some families was very variable and excluded many species in the 1998 checklist, while listing as British some species that have either never been recorded here or were only included erroneously in 19th century checklists. Correction and updating of this database is also not practicable. It has not yet been possible to make a full assessment of the information on British and Irish occurrence in the Fauna Europaea database but it is recognised that many families do have reliable lists in it and it is, nevertheless, a useful summary of knowledge throughout Europe if the problems are borne in mind.

What also should be made clear is that when the figure of 7000 has been raised we are talking about a British Isles total, which includes species found in Ireland but not so far in Britain. Although the Irish fauna is smaller than that of Britain there are certainly some species present there that do not occur here. This figure is continually changing as some Irish species are later found in Britain while further species are being first detected in Ireland. The number of species recorded from Ireland but not yet from Britain has increased to 37 from 29 in the 1998 list. One of these recently added is a sciomyzid *Tetanocera montana* which could possibly have been overlooked in Britain but I have heard (Ian McLean *pers. comm*.) that another sciomyzid new to the British Isles has recently been found in Ireland, although that is yet to be published.

A new checklist of Irish Diptera is currently in preparation, which I am co-authoring with Jim O'Connor and Robert Nash. The Irish total is still a little less than half that of the British Isles, currently standing at 3304 species, a little more than stated in the latest Digest as it includes species that are in press and will be published this year. As the Irish fauna of several families is still poorly known the true total will certainly exceed half of the British Isles total (a goal for Irish dipterists to aim at), the rate of addition still being rapid.

Rather than relying on the inclusion of the 37 Irish species not yet recorded from Britain, perhaps we should be thinking in terms of 7000 species recorded from Britain as our goal. So, however the British Isles total is calculated, we still have c.35 to go to achieve a British total of 7000, which should be an incentive to all those who know of additional species to put their knowledge into print.

Nevertheless, 7000 British Isles species of Diptera should be regarded as a milestone in our knowledge of this order, which has been achieved thanks to the efforts of many members of Dipterists Forum and others. In view of the leap to this total that has been made due to additions published this year it is not possible to single out any one person as having added the 7000th British Isles species, but the prize for the 7000th British species still awaits.

Peter Chandler

Scientists from Bishop Museum help launch new world inventory of fly species

New Index of Names Shows Flies Comprise About 10% of the Planet's Species

A team of scientists from the Bishop Museum, U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service in Washington, D.C., the Natural History Museum of Denmark in Copenhagen, and Oxford University Museum of Natural History have completed a new index of over 156,000 fly species names. This latest version of the Biosystematic Database of World Diptera (BDWD) represents one of the largest online indexes for any group of organisms and will be announced officially on Tuesday July 8th at the XXIII International Congress of Entomology in Durban, South Africa.

The Bishop Museum, the leader in biological information in the Pacific, has been closely involved with the planning, development, and organization of the BDWD since its inception and is now helping bring the new version to the public. The index verifies that flies account for roughly 10% of the known species.

"Most people think of house flies when you say "flies" but flies also include gnats, midges, no see-ums, punkies, tsetse, bots, and mosquitoes. They are probably the most important animals in our knowledge of human diseases and through their bites cause more deaths each year than all other forms of death combined through such ailments as malaria, dengue, elephantiasis, sleeping sickness, and yellow fever," said Dr. F. Christian Thompson of the USDA Systematic Entomology Laboratory at the Smithsonian Institution and coordinator of the BDWD project.

Dr. Neal L. Evenhuis, Chairman of Natural Sciences at the Bishop Museum added, "The variety of shapes and sizes of flies is remarkable. They can vary from less than a tenth of an inch and almost invisible to the naked eye to some with wingspans of more than three inches." He says their common names give a clear indication of what to expect such as no-see-ums, antler flies, moose-headed flies, big-headed flies, and stalk-eyed flies.

Evenhuis works on a group of flies in Hawai'i called long-legged flies that have speciated to a remarkable rate and have evolved to have different and sometimes bizarre modifications on the legs of the male, that it uses to attract females. "The variety of modifications makes it easy to identify each species and we are finding new ones in our rainforests almost as fast as our staff can go out and collect them. There's something new every time a sample is brought back to the lab," he says.

Flies are an important part of the world's ecosystems and perform critical functions that keep our planet running smoothly. The species are also beneficial as pollinators of many of our wildflowers, trees and bushes and even help in pollination of some crops.

Scientists have also confirmed that fly larvae are important in re-cycling organic material in our lakes and streams and speeding up the decomposition of dead leaves in the forests. Flies also have direct applications to human health as certain maggots are used medically to clean out bedsores and similar slow-healing wounds. And the poster-child of genetics research, the fly Drosophila melanogaster, has brought us valuable insights in the genetics of diseases ranging from type-II diabetes to age-related memory impairment.

New technologies and funding initiatives globally are helping with the task of continuing this inventory. Dr. Adrian Pont, specialist on muscid flies from Oxford University says "There is still much to be discovered and described, but the taxonomic impediment of a shortage of experts seems to be improving with funding agencies such as the U.S. National Science Foundation, the European Union, GBIF, and others providing specific funds to assist in the effort of taxonomy and bioinformatics. In addition, journals have adopted more expedient electronic techniques to allow for faster publication so we can see the results of discovery faster."

Please visit www.diptera.org for the latest version of the Biosystematic Database of World Diptera. This index of fly names is critical for ongoing inventory projects such as the Encyclopedia of Life, the Catalogue of Life, the Integrated Taxonomical Information System, and Species2000, all of which BDWD is an active partner with.

The Bishop Museum is the largest museum in the state of Hawai'i and the premier natural and cultural

history institution in the Pacific, recognized for its cultural collections, research projects, consulting services, and public educational programs. It holds one of the largest natural history specimen collections in the world. Bishop Museum's mission since its founding has been to study, preserve and tell the stories of the cultures and natural history of Hawai'i and the Pacific. For more information, please visit www.bishopmuseum.org.

Upcoming Presentations of "Flying After Linnaeus:

Dipteran Names since Systema Naturae (1758)"

by Drs. Neal Evenhuis, Thomas Pape, Adrian Pont and F. Christian Thompson:

July 8, 2008 Durban, South Africa, XXIII International Congress of Entomology

August 27, 2008 Paris, France, XX International Congress of Zoology

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Adrian Pont

Notice board

Adopt a species

You might recall that I appealed for volunteers to come forward for this scheme in the last two Bulletins. I am not going to repeat a summary of this call again, but rather refer you to these two Bulletins or the

Dipterists Forum webpage, where you can find this in the Forums section.

I would like to thank all of you who already adopted a species and have contributed to this or the last Bulletin. Your contributions below are very much appreciated and I, certainly, enjoyed reading them. Your work is very encouraging and I hope that some other dipterists might follow. Currently ten of our 35 BAP and one RDB species have been adopted and below you can find information supplied by several 'adopters' on 'their' species. Thank you very much for these contributions and good luck with your quests. So far *Blera fallax, Clusiodes geomyzinus, Dorycera graminum, Empis limata, Hammerschmidtia ferruginea, Idiocera sexguttata, Lonchaea ragnari*, *Milichia ludens, Odontomyia hydroleon, Rhamphomyia hirtula* and *Salticella fasciata* have been adopted.

Please help our threatened species by getting involved in their active conservation and adopt a species. I hope to hear from you soon.

Barbara Ismay

News from 'Adopt a Species'

Dorycera graminum

Dorycera graminum is a distinctive medium-sized ulidiid fly that occurs on a few, mainly grassland, sites in the south and south-east of England. I volunteered to `adopt` *D. graminum* as having a substantial population almost literally on my doorstep it seemed it ought to be possible to find out more of the autoecology. Work on this species in south Essex has already been done by Peter Harvey, 2004, and on status, distribution and biology by John Ismay, 2000, but the larval feeding strategy is unknown.

On this N. Essex grassland site *D.graminum* makes conspicuous use of two post and wire fences across the site for resting, courtship display and mating and possibly egg-laying. During their season it is therefore straightforward to count numbers year on year and establish phenology. Thus;

2005	first noted	
2006	first seen 25/5, last 17/6.	Maximum nos. 34 on 2/6.
2007	first seen 22/5, no last date due to poor weather,	Maximum nos. 97 on 1/6.
2008	first seen 21/5	Maximum nos. 80 on 1/6

To test the theory that larvae might feed on the rotted wood of the fence posts, turf and soil was dug and sieved around one post in March 2007, but no dipterous larvae/pupae were found. This was extended this spring to a number of posts and two rotten posts dug up and examined, but again no larvae/pupae found.

Another possible food source, umbellifer roots, are rather scarce on this site, but spear thistle is common near the fences and one dead root dug up this spring contained a vacated cyclorrhaphous pupa about the right size. Another contained an apparently similar pupa which produced a hymenopterous parasite, whilst a third thistle contained a pupa which looks viable but hopes are now (21/6) rapidly fading! Other possibilities tried, docks, ragwort and other thistle spp. have so far drawn a blank.

Nectaring by adults has not been observed here. Sweeping hawthorn blossom and a number of pasture species in flower produced no *Dorycera*, and very few from the grass. However nettles and docks, not yet in flower, can occasionally produce adults in double figures from one sweep of the net.

Work still to do includes comparing this site with other sites having substantial populations and continuing the search for larvae. It might also be possible to establish if eggs are actually being laid on the fences, which continual probing by the females would seem to indicate.

Any information, apart from that included in **English Nature report 395** and **P. R. Harvey, November 2004**, would be gratefully received.

David Scott

Gavin Boyd sent me, Barbara Ismay, a letter with a very detailed description of the Hills and Hollows LNR, Northampton, which I have scanned in and passed onto David. Dorycera graminum was found on this Northants Wildlife Trust Reserve by Alan Stubbs during a BENHS field meeting in 2003. Gavin tried to re-find it this year, but has failed so far, although it might have been too early for it when he looked. He will try again later this year. Gavin allowed me to cite parts of his letter in the hope that this might encourage others to check out some of the known sites for this picture wing fly. It would be very useful to try and re-find this fly or to pass on details of sites where it occurs in larger numbers. It seems to have been found as singletons on several sites, but it would be very useful for David to receive descriptions of strongholds of this species. As far as I am aware this species has been found in numbers on sites that are Brownfield sites turning into rather rank, scruffy grassland with a lot of so called 'weeds' in them. We (John and I) had it from two sites as a singleton where thistles were present – but it was found in traps on both sites – and we cannot remember the thistle species. However, where John has seen it in numbers, these sites had plenty of thistles present, but again he cannot remember whether these were spear thistles. The stronghold of this species seems to be the Thames Gateway, where it occurs on several sites in rather large numbers. However, I would be very glad to hear that it has been found on other sites in larger numbers.

The following is an excerpt from Gavin Boyd's letter:

"The site is one of three small Northants Wildlife Trust Reserves on the Bradlough Fields, a surprisingly extensive open area of (mostly) grassland just two miles from the centre of the town. The whole area is owned by the borough council now; formerly it was owned by a golf club and there are still traces of bunkers parts. (Not in the Hills and Hollows area, of course, because this was quarried over 150 years ago and is far too rough for anything other than Crazy Golf.). The area of the Reserve is about 7. 5 Hectares; it lies on Jurassic formations, broadly classified as the Inferior Oolitic Series (probably the upper part of the Northampton Sand / Ironstone and the so-called Lower Estuarine Formation) and stands at an altitude of between 90 and 100 metres above sea level. Much of the reserve carries coarse grass and tall herbs (cow parsley, buttercup, willow herb, ragwort, hogweed etc) and is un-mown (although attempts are made annually to keep the ragwort under control). There are patches of hawthorn and blackthorn scrub in some of the hollows and scattered scrubby trees. Three of the larger hollows were scraped bare of topsoil about 3 years ago and have been left to re-vegetate with just one mowing annually. A much finer turf is developing here with vetches, harebell and greater knapweed prominent.

Although designated a Local Nature Reserve, Hills and Hollows is not one of the priority sites managed by the Local Wildlife Trust. It is flanked on the west side by allotments, on the south by a supermarket petrol station and a recently built health centre, on the east (across a busy public footpath) by suburban housing and on the north by a mown area of amenity grassland leading to the remaining areas of Bradlough Fields. There is no permanent standing water, and no watercourses, anywhere on the reserve."

I think this is a very detailed description of the site and I would like to thank Gavin and David for their efforts so far. Gavin pointed out that he will try and get a more detailed list of species recorded from the site. It might be useful to also ask for a list of plants recorded on the reserve as this might state if spear thistle is on the site. In a telephone call Gavin already confirmed that thistles are present on site.

Please email any information to me (Barbara Ismay) and I will forward this to David and Gavin or try and get in contact with David via the Dipterists Forum webpage. You can post a query or information for David under Forum and there under 'Adopt a species' if you are a member of Dipterists Forum. Gavin does not have email or internet, so I will post any comments to him.

Milichia ludens

I am adopting *Milichia ludens* Wahlberg (Milichiidae) p Vulnerable as my species. This is a small, black, inconspicuous fly of secretive habits but with an interesting life style. There are very few records of this fly and the one record of it currently on the NBN is an error.

I was first introduced to this fly by John Ismay, who mentioned that it was known to breed in the nests of the Jet Ant, *Lasius fuliginosus.* This is an ant that makes paper carton nest structures inside ageing, decaying trees, usually in the base. Such a nest existed in a site I was studying in one of a row of dying Lombardy Poplar (*Populus nigra* var *italica*) trees in the grounds of Milham Ford School, Oxford. John

suggested I collect any small black flies either sitting on the trunk of the nest tree or swarming around it. Two such flies were caught on 22.06.2001 and John identified them as *Milichia ludens*.

Every year since then I have been monitoring the occurrence of *Milichia ludens* on this nest tree and observing its interesting behaviour. Remarkably, no individuals have ever been caught whilst sweeping flowers near to the tree or even in a malaise trap 20 m away, all observations have been of flies actually on the tree bark or flying closely round the tree trunk. All the Lombardy poplars have been reduced in height to 4m high monoliths for health and safely reasons, and will need to be reduced again as decay proceeds, but it is hoped to keep the nest tree stump intact for as long as possible. The *Lasius fuliginosus* ants depend on honey dew from aphids which are abundant on the leaves of the adjacent half alive poplar trees. Young black poplar trees have been planted nearby and it is hoped that this will provide a continuing source of the leaves for these aphids when all the aging poplar trees eventually die.

I hope to publish a full account of my 7 years of observations of the *M. ludens* from Milham Ford School in a future issue of Dipterists Digest.

I would be interested in collecting any records of *Milichia ludens* from other Dipterists. The fly is to be expected in good woodland areas or sites with decaying trees that can be home to a nest of *Lasius fuliginosus*. The tree species does not seem to matter much to the ant – I have observed its nests in apple, pine, and pollard willow as well as poplar. However I have no other records of *M. ludens* except from the poplar tree I have studied. *Lasius fuliginosus* is uncommon and perhaps becoming more so in areas where rotting trees are seen to be dangerous and removed rather than being made safe and preserved. *Milichia ludens* is either much rarer than the ant or simply very difficult to record. This is definitely a species that needs more information gathered. My records indicate that the fly may be on the wing between mid April and the end of July. Conservation and protection of its host ant tree should be a priority in any site planning.

Identification of Milichiidae may be difficult and people may be put off by the fact that it is a small (to 6mm) black fly, like so many others. However the identification of *M. ludens* is made easier by its fairly unique wing structure. The wing is unmarked, with humeral and subcostal breaks. The subcostal break is very large, resulting in a jagged 'saw-tooth' like appearance that is unmistakable. These photographs of pinned male (left) and female (right) specimens are poor, but at least they show the unique wing structure.

Anybody with definite *Milichia ludens* records is invited to communicate with me via the Dipterists Forum website in the Forum section.

Judy Webb

Please email any information to me (Barbara Ismay) and I will forward this to Judy or try and get in contact with her via the Dipterists Forum webpage. You can post a query or information for Judy under Forum and there under 'Adopt a species' if you are a member of Dipterists Forum.

Odontomyia hydroleon (Linnaeus 1758) in Yorkshire

The BAP species *Odontomyia hydroleon* was discovered in 1988 by John Mousley at a locality in the North York Moors Forest District. The site is a calcareous fen with numerous flushes and a rich flora, and it has had SSSI designation for many years.

I found a single specimen at the site in 1997 whilst collecting Empidoidea, but on a visit the following year I found none. I understand that Mike Howe reported three males on 23 June 1999, and then no visits were made in 2000. Otherwise, apart from 2005 when Andy Godfrey was working at the site, I have made visits each year during the flight period, which from my records ranges from 23 June to 20 July.

Specimens have been reported in every year, except 1998, always in the vicinity of flushes and in the same

restricted area of the fen, the largest number on any one day being 26 (13 males and 13 females), on 8 July 2008. The next largest count was of 21 (7 males and 14 females) on 4 July 2006. I spend about two hours sweeping both ground vegetation and the foliage of shrubs and trees; flies are tubed and retained until the end of collecting, at which time they are sexed and released.

On several occasions males have been watched in hovering flight in which they look remarkably like *Cheilosia* species, (Crossley, R., 2002 'Notes on some Yorkshire Diptera, 2001', *Naturalist* 127:17-18).

In 2005 Andy Godfrey undertook a survey of the species and, following Alan Stubbs' technique of scattering grapefruit skins on the ground, he found several larvae which he attempted to breed but unfortunately this did not succeed. However, Andy was able to identify the precise habitat used by the early stages, and he confirmed my own suspicions about the possible breeding sites, which appear to be very restricted within the overall fen habitat.

By 2003 it was obvious that parts of the flushes were becoming increasingly encroached upon by *Juncus* spp. Being concerned about the possible adverse effect that this might have on the suspected breeding sites, and after discussions with Alan Stubbs and Mike Howe who had experience of the species at the Welsh site, I suggested to the Environment Officer of the Forest District that winter-grazing by cattle might help ease the problem, as the sheep that had hitherto been in the fen didn't seem to be making any inroad into the rush growth. It would be necessary to replace the fencing, (at a cost!), to make it cattle-proof, and to get the support of a local grazier, and this was subsequently done.

Thus began a sequence of events that had unexpected consequences! My brief reports on the fly, its status and perceived requirements, came to the attention of the regional Government News Network staff who look after public relations and publicity for the Forestry Commission. It was decided that here was a good story, especially as I was the beneficiary of a small grant to cover travel expenses as part of the F.C. 'Assistance for Wildlife Studies' scheme. The angle was that here was a former bank manager spending his retirement in the slightly eccentric pursuit of a rare fly in the depths of a Yorkshire forest. As the press man said to me, "this story has legs, Roy; it will run and run".

And so it did, with reports and pictures in all the local newspapers, and some of the national broadsheets, interviews on various local radios, a mention on Radio 2 and then the Radio Four news quiz. *Odontomyia hydroleon* got wide publicity and it was all huge fun. This was in the summer of 2003. Even more followed two years later when, the fencing having been completed, a number of Longhorn/cross cattle were introduced to the site. This too, was the subject of a press call, on a bitterly cold December day, and this time regional BBC TV people came along too. Whilst the initial press angle had been a bit of a chuckle, it was all good natured and supportive, but the TV approach was rather more serious; the resultant brief broadcast emphasized, with regional pride, the conservation work being undertaken by the Forestry Commission in Yorkshire to protect one of the nation's rarest insects. The reporter seemed to enjoy rolling '*Odontomyia hydroleon'* off the tongue, and, at his suggestion we met up again the following July for a couple of hours filming on site when the fly was on the wing. Again, the subsequent interviews with the FC Environment Officer and myself went very well and I received a lot of favourable feed-back from friends and neighbours!

None of this would have been possible without the encouragement and enthusiastic support over the years of a succession of Forestry Commission staff. Thanks to them, an impressive bit of practical conservation work is being undertaken, apparently successfully so far. In addition, all the known calcareous fen/flush sites within the North York Moors Forest District have been surveyed by me for evidence of further sites for this fly, but so far a blank has been drawn. This work is on-going, as is the continuing monitoring at the known site.

Roy Crossley

If you wish to contact Roy, please email me (Barbara Ismay) and I will forward this to Roy or try and get in contact with him via the Dipterists Forum webpage. You can post a query or information for Roy under Forum and there under 'Adopt a species' if you are a member of Dipterists Forum

The Malloch Society has adopted five species

They kindly granted permission to reproduce part of their texts from their webpages. I have only included changes to the last Bulletin, so you might want to check the last Bulletin or their webpages for additional information (www.mallochsociety.org.uk)

Blera fallax

Overview

For the past 15 years the Malloch Society has worked on the ecology and conservation of these endangered hoverflies. They are included in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan process set up to conserve important elements of the British flora and fauna. The discovery of populations of these hoverflies on some of their Scottish reserves led the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) to become lead partners for their conservation. With Scottish Natural Heritage, the RSPB are providing financial and other resources to implement conservation in a 3 year programme of work (2003-2005) developed by the Malloch Society.

These are some of the very first attempts anywhere in the world to manage and conserve individual species of saproxylic Diptera.

Habitat, distribution and abundance

In Scotland the pine hoverfly is associated with mature Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) although in Europe in will occur in association with other conifer species Most historical records refer to native pinewood sites but the modern records are more closely linked to mature plantations with large trees where forestry operations are taking place.

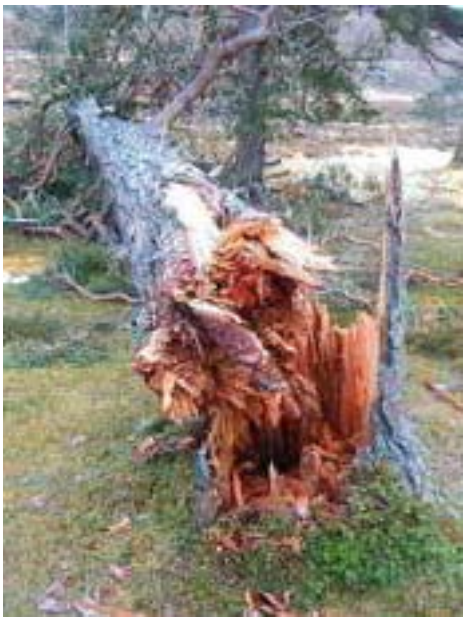
Despite at least 10 years of survey work only two remaining populations are known, both of these occur in Strathspey, centred on the area between Aviemore and Grantown on Spey. In historical times it was recorded from Deeside, along the River Findhorn and in several other parts of Strathspey. In Europe *Blera* occurs in similar situations in coniferous woodlands.

Population levels in natural situations at the two sites remain relatively low, probably less than 250, and fluctuate in response to forestry operations. The number of larvae at one site has been boosted by management action over the last 5 years and similar management is now under way at the second site.

General ecology

Pine hoverfly larvae develop in wet situations in pine stumps usually where there has been some softening or decay of the heartwood by the pine but rot fungus *Phaeolus schweinitzi* . The pine stump needs to have a diameter greater than 40 cm. In order to support a large enough wet decay area. The larvae may emerge as adults after only one year if conditions are suitable, or if conditions are sub optimal due to a small area of decay or overcrowding they may remain as larvae for at least two years. The larvae leave the decay to pupate around the margin of the stump or in surrounding undergrowth. Each fresh stump can probably support the appropriate decay for a period of 8-10 years before the stump dries out completely, a continuity of stumps is therefore required. Adults had been seen feeding on raspberry flowers (*Ribes* spp) but little else is known about their behaviour or dispersive abilities.

History of decline, contributory factors and current threats



The pine hoverfly was first known in Britain in the late 19th century when a Victorian collector found the first specimen buzzing at his hotel window in Braemar. From then on up to the first World War it was taken relatively frequently by the relatively few collectors active at that time. There were occasional records up until the 1940s but then a marked gap in the latter part of the 20th century apart from the discovery of a number of individuals, presumably from the one breeding stump near Loch Garten, in the 1980's. After some ten years of searching the larvae were eventually found by the Malloch Society in the late 1990's and the understanding of the conditions which they required for development prompted a widespread survey for further sites. However despite this extensive survey work only two sites are currently known.

In a natural situation it is considered that the pine hoverfly larvae develop deep in the stumps of large pines which, weakened by an attack of the but-rot fungus, would snap off during storms. However, perhaps due to extensive felling over the last 100 years such old trees such large, snapped pines are very rare in Scotland. As a result *Blera* larvae rely, perhaps almost entirelly, upon stumps cut as part of felling operations. Evidence from Norway and Finland supports this position.

There is a medium term requirement to conserve this species whilst the presemt pinewoods mainly in protected areas continue to grow and mature.

There is no current threat to the populations in the conventional sense, the main issue is that at present our pinewoods do not have the extent of mature or over mature pines which this species requires. Ironically felling within native pinewoods during the early 20th century probably meant that pine hoverfly populations remained high, conservation efforts in recent decades have stopped this felling but with a consequential negative impact on the species. The other important factor is that at present population levels are considered so low and localised that any large scale colonisation events into any surrounding appropriate habitat may be unlikely.

Iain MacGowan

Malloch Society, c/o Iain MacGowan, Scottish Natural Heritage, Battleby, Redgorton, Perth PH1 3EW, Scotland; e-mail: Iain.macgowan@snh.gov.uk

Please get in contact with Iain directly or via the Malloch Society webpage. If you feel that your comment is of interest for other Dipterists Forum members as well, why don't you post it the Dipterists Forum webpage under Forum and there under 'Adopt a species' if you are a member of Dipterists Forum.

If after reading all this you feel that we should stop talking and rather start to help our threatened species, then please get in contact – you might be able to help! If non of the BAP species is in your area, why don't you try and work on one of the species included in the Species Statuses (RDBs)? Many species in these reviews have 'Data Deficient' as their status as we do not know enough about them to assign a status to them.

Barbara Ismay

Membership Matters

The Number of Paid Members & Subscribers at the time of writing (21st June 2008) is as follows :

Dipterists Forum Members	286
Dipterists Digest Subscribers	264

The Breakdown of these figures is as follows :

There are 242 UK based Members & Subscribers to both Dipterists forum & Dipterists Digest

There are 10 Overseas Members & Subscribers to both Dipterists forum & Dipterists Digest

Some 33 UK Members and 1 Oversea Member are Dipterists forum Only = 34

And some 4 UK and 8 Overseas are Subscribers to the Dipterists Digest Only (12)

(This amounts to a total of 298 individuals, as on the 21st June 2008)

We have had some 39 New Members join during the first half of 2008, these figures have Easily surpassed last years full total of 26!

There are an additional 55 Members/Subscribers who have yet to renew for this year, And they are currently off the Mailing list, awaiting renewals.

Membership renewals are usually sent out towards the autumn, to any of those who have not renewed by then, But, as can be seen by the Membership figures, if only a quarter of Last years Members renew, then we will reach 300 Forum Members, if all those renew That figure climbs to 338!! (Although, in reality I expect it to be about 320+,)

And, I am hopeful that more New Members will join during the second half of 2008

There are still a small number of members & subscribers who continue to pay at the Old rate, And, I would be grateful, if those who have yet to top up their membership fees Could please do so or pay me in person if you wish, I plan to be at all the main entomological Events this autumn.

There will also be a Dipterists Forum stall at the Amateur Entomologists Exhibition On Saturday October 18th October 2008, at Kempton Park Racecourse, Starting at 11.00am.

More details are available from the AES Website http://www.amentsoc.org/exhibition.htm

This will be manned by various Committee members, and advice on a wide range of Issues including all membership issues can possibly be resolved here,

Back issues of the Dipterists Digest will also be on sale,

All members & potential members are welcome to introduce themselves.

Mick Parker

Review

Books

WINGATE'S DURHAM DIPTERA

' We never had this trouble with Wingate.' Roy Crossley, (Uttered while trying to identify a particularly stubborn fly!)

The Reverend W.J. Wingate published his book 'A Preliminary list of Durham Diptera, with Analytical Tables', in 1906. As befits a man of the church, he had a philosophical nature. He wrote: *'All that I venture to claim for it (my book) is that it may be found better than nothing.'* This is of course, a very laudable aim. Not very ambitious, but laudable; a first step in a world almost without keys in English. The exception was Verrall's classic work, 'Syrphidae', first published on Jan 1st 1901. Wingate continues, *'It is the outcome of my own disappointments. Many a time I have pounced upon some descriptive list of local species in transactions and magazines, hoping to be able to identify some specimens I had taken, only to find that the learned phraseology, the want of analysis indicating the points of difference, and the unnecessary repetition of points of agreement, made it an almost hopeless task. Life is too short for this weary groping after the undefined, but a short life may be practically lengthened if one is able quickly to begin where a predecessor has left off.'*

Wingate described 2210 species of fly from Verrall's 1901 list of 2884. He also added 318 European species, some of which had been discovered, and the other's, he hoped, would be. This made a total of 2526 species covered by the keys in his book. In his Preface he says, '*It does seem strange, that what I may call our 'Domestic Insects' should receive so little attention, that very few, even among entomologists, can point out with any certainty the common House-fly or distinguish between the Blue-bottles. ..... And yet no order of insects has so many interesting and varied life histories, and none so deeply affects the human race, whether as protectors when acting the part of scavengers, or as depredators destroying crops, or as scourges carrying deadly micro-parasite.'*

Finding biographical details about Rev. Wingate is proving difficult, but I have one or two lines of enquiry. He was a member of the Natural History Society of Northumberland, Durham and Newcastle upon Tyne, and the Hancock Museum, Newcastle, have some information about him. He was also the Vicar at St. Peter's Church, Bishop Aukland, when he published his 'Durham Diptera',and that may also yield some more information. If any reader has any information, it would be gratefully received.

Roy Crossley tells me that, some years ago he came across a reference to Wingate in 'The Naturalist' where there was a short piece he wrote in 1903 (p.269) under the heading 'Durham Diptera'

when he was at St Peters Vicarage, Bishop Auckland.

He wrote:

'About six or seven years ago, when old Natural History tastes had been revived by country residence after years of town work, I thought how stupid it was not to know anything about the common flies which crowded the windows in summer. So I turned my attention to the Diptera, and since then I have been collecting in the County of Durham only. The following, comprising 559 species……

And he finished with some good advice to anyone thinking of joining the Dipterists Forum *'Begin young, I wish I had begun younger. But better late than never, only – begin!'*

In 1906 the craneflies (Super-family Tipuloidea) were placed in two families, The Limnobidae, and the Tipulidae. He describes 28 members of the Tipulidae, and (in Limnobidae) 6 in the family Pediciidae, and 42 in the Limoniidae, a total of 76 species to be searched for in the Durham District. There are today about 323 species of cranefly in our current checklist, and very nearly 7,000 on the complete British list of Diptera.

I wonder if there is a contemporary checklist of Durham Diptera, and how this compares with Wingate's list?

John Kramer

Meetings

Reports

Workshop 2008

Preston Montford - March 7 - 9
Introduction to Diptera

Advanced Workshop on Tachinids and Rhinophorids

National Insect Week 23rd- 29th June 2008

This event is an initiative of the Royal Entomological Society. Our field meeting in the Cairngorms qualified as an insect event in the week and the Dipterists Forum is an official partner organisation of National Insect Week. I and member Howard Bentley attended the publicity launch for the week on the 23rd June at Chelsea Physic Garden in London. Here we met representatives of the other partner organisations, listened to presentations and enjoyed a sociable lunch in the beautiful gardens. I had to leave early, but Howard stayed for the entomological lecture and his report on this follows. Judy Webb (Publicity Officer).

Mosquitoes – The Deadliest Animals on the Planet?

Lecture by Prof. Lin Field (President of the RES) and Dr. James Logan (Rothamstead Research Centre)

A good case was made for mosquitoes being more dangerous to us than any other animal group; two million people die every year from malaria alone, and 1 in 17 of all deaths results from mosquito-vectored diseases. Dr. Logan's research is about how mosquitoes find their human hosts. He gave graphic descriptions of sealing volunteers into air-tight bags for several hours, and then analyzing their body odours by gas chromatography. It is well known that some people are much more attractive to mosquitoes than others, and this was demonstrated with the help of three boy scouts who were tested for their effects on a hundred or so female *Aedes aegypti*. While two of the boys caused mild agitation, the third created total mayhem as the mosquitoes frantically tried to reach him. One interesting result of the research is that differential attractiveness is due more to repellents than to attractants in human body odours. Professor Field is a molecular biologist, and she gave interesting insights into her research on the proteins in cells from mosquito antennae which act as receptors for odour molecules. A lively question-and-answer session followed the formal lecture.

anon.

Field Meetings in 2008

Summer Field Meeting 2008

Glenmore Lodge, Cairngorm, 28th June to 5th July

Forthcoming

Annual Meeting

National Museum of Wales, Cardiff.

Friday, Saturday & Sunday, 21st, 22nd & 23rd November

DIPTERIST DAYS PROGRAMME

Friday 21st, and Sunday 23rd November

The museum is open until 5.00pm to those members wishing to use the collections.

Anyone wishing to examine the collections and have the facilities to study them (microscopes, etc) should make contact in advance. Bookings will be made on a first come, first served basis.

Evening: socialising, please contact the usual culprits nearer the time (Adrian, Stuart+Roger, Darwyn+John)

Details of the museum and its collections, location, etc., can be supplied in advance by contacting Adrian Plant (Adrian.plant@museumwales.ac.uk, 02920 573259).

Saturday 22nd November 2008

10.00am Assemble and set out exhibits. The exhibits may be viewed during the coffee and lunch break.

Programme of Talks

10.30am Talks:

1. Adrian Plant
2. Graham Rotheray

11.30 am Coffee Break

3. John Manlove – Forensic Entomology
4. Dave Clements - Conopids

1.30 – 3.00pm Break for Lunch

Bring sandwiches, or use the local restaurants.

3.00-3.30pm ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - See below for the Agenda

3.30-4.45pm Exhibitions and meetings of Recording Schemes. Organisers please contact the Secretary to book a table.

4.45pm Awarding of exhibit prize and Close of Afternoon Session.

The building must be vacated by 5.00pm

7.00 - 9.00pm Dipterists' Supper

It is hoped to organise a meal with drinks on Saturday evening for a reasonable fixed price. This will be at a local Indian restaurant. Please let Adrian Plant know if you wish to attend.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sat 22nd November 2008

The Chairman will open the AGM at 3.00pm

Agenda

1. **Apologies**
2. Minutes of the last AGM and matters arising.
3. Secretary's Report.
4. Treasurer's Report.
5. Membership Secretary's Report.
6. Dipterists Digest Editor's Report.

7. Election of Officers:

The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer and other elected officers with specific responsibilities (detailed below) require annual election. The constitution (7c) requires nominations 120 days in advance of the AGM.

Ordinary elected committee members serve for two years, half of the team standing down each year (7f)

The Officers and General Committee proposed for election or re-election this year are as follows:

Office	**Officer**
Chair	**Stuart Ball (Proposed)**
Vice Chair	John Ismay
Secretary	John Kramer
Treasurer	**Howard Bentley (Proposed)**
Membership Secretary	Mick Parker
Field Meetings Secretary	Roger Morris
Indoor Meetings Secretary	Malcolm Smart
Bulletin Editor	Darwyn Sumner
Publicity Officer	Judy Webb
Website Manager	Stuart Ball
Conservation/BAP Officer	Barbara Ismay
Committee Members	1. Chris Spilling
	2. Peter Boardman
Posts 1 & 2 were elected 2007	**3. Alan Stubbs (Proposed)**
	4. Malcolm Smart (Proposed)

Posts 3 and 4 will stand for election at the 2008 AGM

8. Any other business.

Sunday 23rd November 2008

The museum is open until 5.00pm to those members wishing to use the collections.

Anyone wishing to examine the collections and have the facilities to study them (microscopes, etc) should make contact in advance.

PLEASE BRING AN EXHIBIT IF YOU CAN

Any material relevant to the Diptera will be welcomed. This might include drawings, photos of specimens and habitats, as well as specimens. Larvae are a neglected area, and the apparatus used for keeping them. Any new publications, websites or electronic presentations would also add interest. As usual there will be a book-voucher as a prize for the exhibit judged to be the best. Displays can be laid out in the museum where there is plenty of space; the building is not open to the public on a Saturday.

John Kramer
Secretary

Identification Workshops for 2009

Preston Montford Field Studies Centre

Friday 6th March to Sunday 8th March 2009

Beginner's Workshop - Introduction to Hoverflies

Bookings: Preston Montford Field Centre
Montford Bridge, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 1DX
Tel: 0845 330 7378 Fax: 01743 851066
Email: enquiries.pm@field-studies-council.org
Website: www.field-studies-council.org/prestonmontford

Advanced workshop: Picture-winged flies (Alan Stubbs et al)

Tephritidae, Ulidiidae, Opomyzidae, Pallopteridae

Bookings: Preston Montford Field Centre
Montford Bridge, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 1DX
Tel: 0845 330 7378 Fax: 01743 851066
Email: enquiries.pm@field-studies-council.org
Website: www.field-studies-council.org/prestonmontford

Dipterists Forum members will, I am sure, join me in expressing our thanks to Dave Heaver, our indoor meetings organiser and jolly companion at our Preston Montford get-togethers for a good number of years. Dave has now stood down as organiser and we were very fortunate to get another jolly participant to step in and take over the running of this most important aspect of Dipterists Forum activities: **Malcolm Smart**. As acting Indoor Meetings Organiser he is taking over the job immediately even though he has to wait for the Annual Meeting to be formally elected. Please note, however, that nowadays this job does not include the taking of the bookings for the Spring Workshop, you have to do that directly with the Preston Montford Field Centre.

Darwyn Sumner

Field Meetings 2008-2009

Spring 2009

To be arranged

Summer Field Week 2009

Swansea July 2009

I am in the process of agreeing dates for our field meeting next summer. Swansea University have responded as follows:

> *We would be pleased to host your field meeting next July. Week commencing Monday 13th July 2009 will Graduation Week and is very busy on campus so I would recommend the later week. Today is the last but busiest day of this year's so I just have time to say that we would prefer week commencing 18th July and provide the following:*
>
> *Prices have risen over the last three years but the bedrooms will be brand new:*
>
> *B&B in new ensuite plus field course dinner served between 1800 and 1900 - £39.10 + Vat*
>
> *B&B in non ensuite plus dinner as above - £33.60 + Vat*
>
> *Vat may be avoidable if the meeting is genuinely educational and not run for a profit. Please discuss this with me.*
>
> *We can provide a classroom at £42.00 per day. There may be an evening and weekend opening charge depending on the room used.*

I have replied with a request for the dates to be Saturday 18 July through to Saturday 25 July and have also enquired about the earlier week (4-11 July). Ideally we will get the earlier date but the later one

should not be a problem from the point of view of clashes with school holidays. I shall seek deposits in the near future according to the deposit sought by the University.

This last summer meeting experienced a severe number of cancellations and questions about whether deposits were returnable and who retained them. Also, because several cancellations were at very short notice, additional charges were applied by Glenmore Lodge to cover food that had already been ordered (their caterers are a separate company). In order to provide total transparency about the bookings system I have used I though it might be best to explain how I have managed meetings up until now:

I make the initial deposit from my own account and sign on behalf of the Forum: in essence, I am financially liable for all costs. My initial deposit is recouped as members place their own deposits with me. Once my initial costs have been recouped, the remaining monies are paid to the Centre as they arrive with me. I ask for cheques to be payable to me so that I can manage this financial arrangement – this also simplifies payments as cheques payable to DF would then have to be forwarded and a new cheque drawn to pay the centre. When bookings arrive, I place the deposit in my bank account and send a cheque to the Centre with an updated list of those who have booked. This usually means that over the year I usually send off between eight and ten blocks of deposits. Thus, I hope this reassures anyone with concerns about the finances of the initial bookings. I make no charge for administrative costs – this is not a great amount and is borne by me.

Normally, we pay the balance at the end of the week were are there, and it is not unusual for centres accommodate cancellations and adjust the bill accordingly. It all depends upon the centre, but, for example, deposits for 2007 were recouped and returned to the member concerned. Other centres, especially commercial companies, tend to require the costs in full after a particular cut-off date: this has only happened twice for me – once at Stirling and latterly at Glenmore Lodge. In the case of the latter I have had to ask members who cancelled at the last moment to meet the additional charge.

I'm afraid that having experienced problems this year I feel that I must change booking arrangements to avoid similar problems arising again. Thus, I will seek an initial deposit – probably about 15% of final cost. Depending upon the requirements of Swansea University I will send out invoices 8 weeks in advance for a further payment that should bring the overall deposit to 50% of basic costs (not the cost of the lab hire). Final payments of the remaining 50% plus lab costs will be arranged when at Swansea. The basic deposit will be regarded as non-returnable. The interim payment will be returnable if there are no cancellation charges imposed by the University.

I hope members will not be put off by these arrangements and will understand why I have had to make these changes. I shall e-mail all members who have traditionally joined our field meetings. New members are especially welcome – please contact me.

I have agreed to go over to Swansea to talk to the bookings people to ensure that we have arrangements that suit us. I shall do this whilst we are in Abergavenney this autumn.

Roger Morris

Please check the Dipterists Forum website for notices of the following events which have yet to be arranged

Spring Field Meetings 2009

Autumn 2009

Amateur Entomologists Exhibition 2009

Annual Meeting 2009

Spring Field Meetings 2010

Summer Field Week 2010

www.dipteristsforum.org.uk

Dipterists Forum Recording Scheme Organisers

Please notify Dr Mark Hill of changes:
BRC (CEH) Monks Wood, Abbots Ripton, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire PE28 2LS (Tel. 01487 772413) brc@ceh.ac.uk

Recording Schemes

Whilst all schemes will readily accept records in written form the following symbols are used to indicate some of the known (or surmised) methods by which Scheme Organisers may currently receive records electronically:

Recorder **MapMate**
Microsoft Access **Spreadsheet (Excel)**

Square brackets indicate that the organiser can handle records in the format indicated.

Potential recorders really need to know your preferred recording format so please inform the Bulletin Editor in time for an update of this guide in the future issues

Conopidae, Lonchopteridae, Ulidiidae & Pallopteridae

Mr D K Clements

7 Vista Rise, Radyr Cheyne, Llandaff, Cardiff CF5 2SD

dave.clements1@ntlworld.com

Culicidae - Mosquitoes

Prof. K Snow

Dept. Environmental Sciences University of East London Romford Road London E15 4LZ

k.r.snow@uel.ac.uk

Dixidae - Meniscus midges

Acting scheme organiser

Dr R H L Disney

University department of Zoology, Downing Street Cambridge CB2 3EJ

Drosophilidae - Fruit Flies

Dr B Pitkin

Dept of Entomology, Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road London SW7 5BD

Mycetophilidae and allies - Fungus gnats

Mr Peter J Chandler (see Dipterists Digest)

Hoverflies

[ ][ ][ ]

Dr S G Ball

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stuart.ball@dsl.pipex.com

Mr R K A Morris

roger.morris@dsl.pipex.com

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Larger Brachycera

Simon Hayhow

simon.hayhow@btinternet.com

Tipuloidea & Ptychopteridae - Cranefly

Mr A E Stubbs

181 Broadway Peterborough PE1 4DS

[ ][ ]

co-organiser: John Kramer

31 Ash Tree Road

Oadby, Leicester, LE2 5TE

Sciomyzidae - Snail-killing Flies

Dr I F G McLean

109 Miller Way, Brampton, Huntingdon, Cambs PE28 4TZ

ian_mclean@jncc.gov.uk
ianmclean@waitrose.com

[ ][ ]

Darwyn Sumner

Sepsidae

[ ]

Steve Crellin

Shearwater, The Dhoor, Andreas Road, Lezayre, Ramsey, Isle of Man, IM7 4EB

steve_crellin1@hotmail.co.uk

Stilt & Stalk Fly

[ ][ ][ ]

Darwyn Sumner

122, Link Road, Anstey, Charnwood, Leicestershire LE7 7BX. 0116 212 5075

Darwyn.sumner@ntlworld.com

Tachinid

[3.3][ ][ ][ ]

Chris Raper

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chris.raper@hartslock.org.uk

Matthew Smith

24 Allnatt Avenue, Winnersh, Berks RG41 5AU

MatSmith1@compuserve.com

Tephritid Flies

3.x [ ][ ]

Mr Laurence Clemons

14 St John's Avenue

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