

EDITORIAL

It really is most encouraging to have enough material to be able to produce another Newsheet so close on the heels of the last one. Once again thanks are due to our contributors who make the effort to let the Editors have a supply of such varied and interesting material; please keep them flowing in!

Roy Crossley

THE BANGOR VISIT WAS WELL WORTH WHILE

In July 1987 an enthusiastic band of Empid and Doli collectors descended on North Wales for a week. While many Diptera from other families were also recorded, these two produced by far the biggest contribution to the fauna list for Anglesey. I still have not had time to collate all the Caernarvonshire lists!

Before the visit only 23 Dolichopodid species had been recorded from Anglesey - there are now 99 on the list. 32 of these were found at only one site and 17 at only two sites. The rest were recorded at three or more localities. For easy reference they are listed below in alphabetical order and the site is named for those species found in only two or one localities. By far the richest Doli fauna was at Newborough Warren NNR where 30 species were listed including one new to Britain(*). Malltraeth, Traeth Dulas and Cors Goch also provided more than a dozen new species records each.

<u>Achalcus cinereus</u>	Cors Goch
<u>Anepsiomyia flaviventris</u>	
<u>Aphrosylus celtiber</u>	
<u>A. ferox</u>	
<u>A. raptor</u>	Cemlyn; Porth Tywyn Mawr
<u>Argyra argentella</u>	Llanbedrgoch; Traeth Dulas
<u>A. argentina</u>	Traeth Lligwy
<u>A. argyria</u>	" "
<u>A. leucocephala</u>	
<u>A. perplexa</u>	Llandyfrydog; Llanbedrgoch
<u>A. vestita</u>	
<u>Campsicnemus alpinus</u>	Cors Goch; Mynydd Bodafon
<u>C. armatus</u>	
<u>C. loripes</u>	Cors Goch; Llyn Hafodol
<u>C. pusillus</u>	Cors Erddreiniog
<u>C. scambus</u>	Mynydd Llwydiarth, Newborough Warren
<u>Chrysotus cilipes</u>	
<u>C. collini</u>	Llanbedrgoch
<u>C. gramineus</u>	
<u>C. laesus</u>	Cors Goch
<u>C. neglectus</u>	
<u>C. pulchellus</u>	Newborough Warren
<u>C. suavis</u>	Red Wharf Bay
<u>Dolichopus atratus</u>	Newborough Warren
<u>D. atripes</u>	Llandyfrydog; Llyn Hafodol
<u>D. clavipes</u>	
<u>D. diadema</u>	
<u>D. longicornis</u>	Newborough Warren; Rhosneigr

<u>D. notatus</u>	Newborough Warren; Malltraeth
<u>D. nubilus</u>	
<u>D. picipes</u>	Craig Wen N.R.
<u>D. sabinus</u>	
<u>D. signatus</u>	
<u>D. simplex</u>	
<u>D. subpennatus</u>	Newborough Warren
<u>D. trivialis</u>	
<u>D. vitripennis</u>	
<u>Hercostomus celer</u>	Malltraeth
<u>H. chalybeus</u>	Llyn Hafodol
<u>H. chetifer</u>	Plas Uchaf
<u>H. cupreus</u>	
<u>H. germanus</u>	
<u>H. metallicus</u>	Mynydd Llwydiarth
<u>H. nigripennis</u>	
<u>H. nigriplantis</u>	Cors Goch N.R.
<u>H. praetextatus</u>	Traeth Dulas
<u>Hydrophorus nebulosus</u>	Newborough Warren
<u>H. oceanus</u>	
<u>Hypophyllus obscurellus</u>	Traeth Dulas; Plas Uchaf
<u>Liancalus virens</u>	Traeth Lligwy
<u>Medetera jacula</u>	Newborough Warren
<u>M. muralis</u>	Porth Cwyfan
<u>M. petrophiloides</u>	Newborough Warren; Cemlyn
<u>M. saxatilis</u>	
<u>Micromorphus albipes</u>	
<u>Neurigona biflexa*</u>	Newborough Warren
<u>Rhaphium brevicorne</u>	Porth Tywyn Mawr; Traeth Lligwy
<u>R. caliginosum</u>	Plas Uchaf
<u>R. consobrinum</u>	Newborough Warren; Traeth Dulas
<u>Schoenophilus versutus</u>	Newborough Warren; Cors Erddreiniog
<u>Sciapus platypterus</u>	Traeth Lligwy
<u>S. wiedemanni</u>	Newborough Warren
<u>Sympycnus desoutteri</u>	
<u>S. spiculatus</u>	The Dingle, Llangefni
<u>Syntormon aulicus</u>	Newborough Warren; Llanbedrgoch
<u>S. denticulatus</u>	Llanbedrgoch
<u>S. filiger</u>	Newborough Warren
<u>S. monilis</u>	Llandyfrydog; Llanbedrgoch
<u>S. pallipes</u> (var. <u>pseudospicatus</u> ; true <u>pallipes</u> not reported)	
<u>S. pumilus</u>	
<u>Tachytrechus notatus</u>	Porth Cwyfan; Traeth Dulas
<u>Teuchophorus monacanthus</u>	Traeth Lligwy; Traeth Dulas
<u>T. spinigerellus</u>	Traeth Dulas
<u>Thinophilus ruficornis</u>	
<u>Thrypticus pollinosus</u>	Mynydd Bodafon
<u>Xanthochlorus ornatus</u>	Newborough Warren

Empids have not been looked at in any depth over the years and only 25 species had been recorded in Anglesey before 1987. This number was more than doubled during the July visit, bringing the total to 52 species. 14 of the species new to Anglesey were recorded from one site only and 6 others from only two sites.

<u>Bicellaria vana</u>	Newborough Forest; Malltraeth
<u>Chersodromia alata</u>	
<u>C. hirta</u>	Porth Tywyn Mawr

<u>C. incana</u>	Porth Tywyn Mawr; Traeth Dulas
<u>C. specularis</u>	Traeth Dulas; Malltreath
<u>Coptophlebia albinervis</u>	Cors Goch
<u>Empis aestiva</u>	
<u>Hemerodromia raptoria</u>	Cors Goch
<u>Hilara anglo-danica</u>	Plas Uchaf
<u>H. fulvibarba</u>	
<u>H. lundbecki</u>	
<u>H. monedula</u>	Rhosneigr; Llyn Alaw
<u>H. obscura</u>	Newborough Warren
<u>H. subpollinosa</u>	Llyn Maelor
<u>Hydrodromia fontinalis</u>	Traeth Lligwy; Llanbedrgoch
<u>H. stagnalis</u>	Traeth Dulas
<u>Pararhamphomyia simplex</u>	Traeth Dulas
<u>Phyllodromia melanocephala</u>	Cors Goch; Malltraeth
<u>Platypalpus albiseta</u>	Newborough Warren
<u>P. albocapillatus</u>	Traeth Dulas
<u>P. exilis</u>	Llyn Hafodol
<u>P. longiseta</u>	
<u>P. minutus</u>	
<u>P. pallipes</u>	Llanbedrgoch
<u>P. parvicauda</u>	Plas Uchaf
<u>P. strigifrons</u>	
<u>Tachydromia aemula</u>	Porth Tywyn Mawr

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SOME NOTES ON DOLICHOPODIDS COLLECTED IN 1989 DURING BIOLOGICAL SURVEYS FOR THE NATIONAL TRUST

This season Keith Alexander (KA) and myself (SG) spent two months surveying NT land in Cornwall; late in the season I also carried out a few days field work in West Sussex and in North Wales. Dolis were rather thin on the ground, but a few species of interest were taken, and these are listed below. The phrase 'apparently not previously recorded in Cornwall' means that there are no records of the species at the Cornwall Biological Records Unit, Trevithick Building, Trevenon Road, Pool, Redruth.

Dolichopus signifer - a species associated with coastal cliff seepages. Listed as 'endangered' (RDB1) in the Red Data Book, but might be expected to occur widely in its extremely localised habitat. Cliff-top seepages, Cudden Point, E of Penzance (KA); cliff-top stream in gulley, Mynachdy, NW Anglesey (SG).

Dolichopus longitarsis - a widespread but uncommon species. Apparently not previously recorded in Cornwall. Wooded streamside, Cotehele, Tamar Valley (KA).

Dolichopus andalusiacus - a rare (RDB3) species that may be associated with shingle bars (see R. Poulding's article in Newsheet 7), though this is not borne out by the present record. Cliff-top stream in gulley, Pendour Cove, Zennor, W Cornwall (SG).

Dolichopus wahlbergi - a local species. Shady bridlepath through woodland, Mackerel's Common, W Sussex (SG).

Hercostomus nigriplantis - a local southern species. Apparently not previously recorded in Cornwall. Marshland just above head of estuary, Ethy Brook, Lerryn, SE Cornwall (SG).

Hypophyllus discipes - a very scarce but widely distributed species. Apparently not previously recorded in Cornwall. Wet woodland, Coombe Valley, S of Bude (SG).

Scellus notatus - a local but widespread species. Shady bridlepath through woodland, Mackerel's Common, W Sussex (SG).

Liancalus virens - a species associated with wet rocks with flowing water. Found widely in such habitats on the coast in Cornwall, including Pendower Beach, Nare Head, Rosemullion Head and Crackington Haven (SG and KA); also Mynachdy, NW Anglesey (SG).

I would be interested to hear of any further Cornish records of those species claimed as 'new' to Cornwall.

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EMPIDS IN WESTERN EUROPE

Alan Stubbs has drawn to my attention a recently published paper by V.S. van der Goot on the occurrence and distribution of Empis (s.l.) species in Holland. (1989 De dansvliegen van het geslacht Empis in Nederland. Ent. Ber., Amst. 49. 173-184).

The Dutch fauna comprises 45 Empis species of which 16 have not been recorded in Britain. This compares with the current UK list of 40 species of which 11 have not yet been found in Holland. Only 29 species are common to both countries of which perhaps the most unexpected is E. (Platyptera) borealis.

The Dutch list is rich in Empis (s.s.) species with 21 representatives, of which 9 are not recorded in Britain; only 2 of the 14 British species are not recorded for Holland, (E. limata and E. praevia).

It would be interesting to have a similar list for Belgium and northern France and then we may get some idea of what new species could be awaiting discovery here, especially in south east England. Clearly it is desirable to bear in mind the possibility of unrecorded species being present at any locality and to retain specimens which appear in any way unusual, however slight the deviation may be. Descriptions of much continental material are scattered in the literature and not readily available, but Collin (British Flies: (6) Empididae) gives some hints regarding non-British species which should help initially to point collectors in the right direction.

Roy Crossley

A NOTE ON CHELIFERA ASTIGMA

Chelifera astigma Collin 1927 is only known in Britain from the holotype male collected by J. H. Wood at Churchyard Dingle, Herefordshire on 4.7.1907 (Ent. Mon. Mag. 43:94 (1927)). However, C. spectra Vaillant 1981, which is apparently a synonym of C. astigma (see Wagner, Aquatic Insects 4:152 (1982)) occurs in Europe and has been taken near a mountain stream in the Tartras, and at four localities in the French Alps (Vaillant, F. (1981). Bonn zool. Beitr. 32: 351-408)

On 28.5.89 I swept a male C. astigma from streamside vegetation at Cwm Sere, Brecon (SO 0323). The site, which is an upland stream at 320m a.s.l. in a well wooded valley on the north side of the Brecon Beacons, has proved to be rich in Hemerodromiinae including C. trapezina, C. pectinicauda, C. precabunda and C. precatoria. As Collin (British Flies 6: Empididae) did not figure the genitalia of C. astigma, I take this opportunity to provide an illustration and point to some of the major differences between C. astigma and C. flavella, the species with which it is most likely to be confused in Britain.

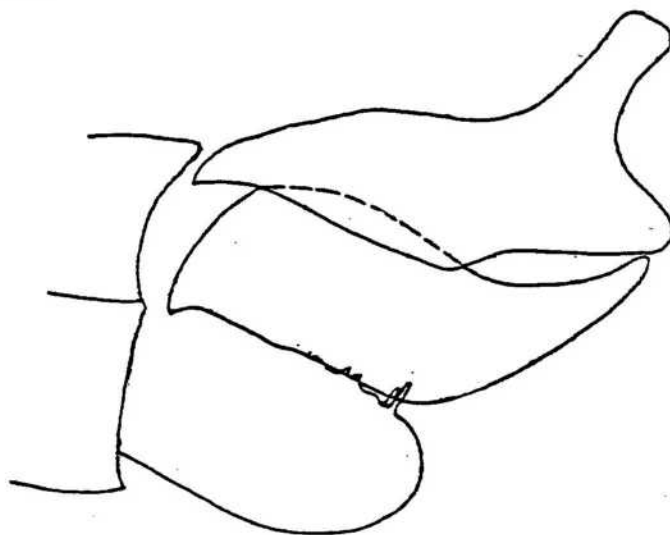
The lower lobe of the upper genital lamellae is blunter and more equal in size to the upper lobe and the ventral lamella is more rounded in profile than in C. flavella. The thorax is entirely lemon-yellow and pale in C. astigma and is thus rather similar to C. trapezina but lacks the black spot on the pronotal collar of that species. In C. flavella the thorax is darker and more brownish yellow with the margins of the scutellum tending to be still darker. The legs of C. astigma are paler and more slender than those of C. flavella and there is no concavity beneath the middle femora. The femoral formulae for my British specimens are:-

<u>C. astigma</u>	6/20/19/5	(cw 4/19/25/6 given by Vaillant)
<u>C. flavella</u>	6/21/23/5	(cw 6/24/20/5 given by Vaillant)

(Note the femoral formula refers to the arrangement of stout spines and minute black points on the ventral surface of the front femur. The formula is given as:-

No of spines in anterior row
 No of minute points in anterior row
 No of minute points in posterior row
 No of spines in posterior row

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Chelifera astigma

THE TWO FORMS OF EMPIS TESSELLATA

The sight of the preliminary maps for empids at the meeting on November 11th at the British Museum reminded me that, for Empis tessellata, it would be very interesting if all recorders could note if their specimens were the dark legged form of this species, or the form with the four posterior femora entirely pale brown (see Collin, British Flies: (6), Empididae pp. 507-508).

When I collected flies at Fancott in Bedfordshire, in the 1940s-50s, there was a clear difference in the proportions of the two forms inside and outside of the two woods in the area (1949, Ent. mon. Mag., 85, 23; 1958 Ent. Rec., 70, 213-216). Parmenter also found the pale legged form only in woodland in Buckinghamshire (1951, Ent. mon. Mag., 87, 41-44). Hobby & Smith (1961, Ent. mon. Mag., 97, 2-10) recorded only one mixed mating amongst several hundred pairings (a pale legged male x dark legged female). Both pale and dark legged forms emerged from soil under oak in Wytham Wood, Berks, but we do not appear to have any more information about the ecology or distribution of these two forms of what appears to be the same species.

Hobby and Smith collated the records of the pale legged form from Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Dorset, Hampshire, Sussex and Worcestershire, so that it appears to have a southerly distribution in Britain. E. tessellata is a common and easily recognised species which extends right up to Unst, the most northerly of the Shetland Isles, but I have encountered only the dark legged form in the exposed islands of Orkney and Shetland. Does anyone in the south want the challenge of explaining what these two forms of E. tessellata represent? Or do we know already?

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RHAMPHOMYIA MORIO - A PLEA ANSWERED

Following the note in Newsheet No. 7 Steven Falk kindly sent me a list of British records of R. morio from 1884 onwards. These include one from Westmorland (Moor House NNR). This is reported by J M Nelson 1971 in Trans. Soc. Brit. Ent. 19:2, an entry which I had overlooked and to which Dr Birkett had also drawn my attention. There are also in NCC files two records from Durham in the 1970's by Dr Coulson, these being Langdon Common and Grass Common. If anyone has knowledge of additional English records of this northern species I would be pleased to learn of them.

Roy Crossley

A NEW SYNTORMON?

We learn that Marc Pollet has discovered what is probably a new species close to Syntormon sulcipes. Marc is requesting the loan of material, and anyone who is able to help is asked to send specimens of S. sulcipes to him c/o Dept. of Entomology, Royal Belgian Institute for Natural Sciences, Vautierstraat 29, B-1040 Brussels, Belgium.

Roy Crossley

THE IDENTIFICATION OF CAMPSICNEMUS DASYCNEMUS

Peter Chandler has very kindly provided off-prints of his paper which added C. dasycnemus to the British list. These are circulated with this Newsletter.

RECENT LITERATURE

MEUFFELS, H., and GROOTAERT, P., 1989. The relatives of Dolichopus plumipes (Scopoli, 1763), with the description of a new species from Belgium (Diptera Dolichopodidae). Bull. Anns Soc. R. Belge Ent. 125:83-98.

D. plumipes and D. wahlbergi are redescribed together with a new species D. polleti which differs from both in having the third antennal segment entirely brownish yellow, mid-tibia of male hardly 3 times as long as mid basitarsus, and female mid-tibia bearing 3 ad preceded by a bristlet instead of 5 ad. Genitalia and other differences are illustrated. So check those long series of trapped D. plumipes for specimens with all-pale antennae.

COLE, J. H., 1989. Two species of Medetera Fischer (Diptera, Dolichopodidae) new to Britain. Brit. J. Ent. nat. Hist. 2:115-118.

M. parenti Stack. and M. veles Loew are formally reported from Britain, with a new variety of the latter, var. scotica Cole being erected for the British specimens which are all from Scotland. See Jonathan's notes in Newsheets 3 and 5, and Ivan Perry's comment on rearing one of these species in No 4.

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(Brief notes from authors or readers of recently published papers will be welcomed by the editors)

Copy for the next issue should be submitted before the end of August to either of the Editors:-

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