

Fungus Gnats Recording Scheme

Newsletter 9 Spring 2016

The updated review of the conservation status of all species carried out in 2012-2013, mentioned in recent newsletters, has yet to be adopted at the time of writing. Its publication is, however, imminent for the early part of 2016, although it was not practicable to make full use of post 2011 data in the assessments of most species.

Further additions continue to be made to the British list and 2015 produced an interesting range of new records.

Numbers of species and individuals recorded in 2015 were generally lower than in other recent years, both on the Dipterists Forum field meetings and in my recording at other sites. This was attributed to climatic factors, including those prevailing in the latter part of 2014. In contrast to this general perception, good results were obtained at damp woodland sites in south-west England by Rob Wolton, Martin Drake and Keith Alexander, and Ivan Perry did well both in the Scottish Highlands in May and at the two English sites he regularly visited.

The total number of species for which records are so far available from all sources for 2015 is 356. Thus a little over 200 of the British species were not recorded, but this is not unexpected given the relatively small number of recorders and the coverage of sites visited.

Results of Field Meetings in 2015

There were three Dipterists Forum field meetings in 2015, all of which I attended.

The number of species recorded at each meeting were: Cromer, Norfolk 15-17 May (26); Nottingham 11-17 July (83); Swanage, Dorset & the New Forest, Hampshire 10-17 October (137: 109 in Dorset and 90 in the New Forest). The combined total for the four areas visited was only 176, compared to 231 for the four meetings in 2014 and 203 for the five meetings in 2013.

Cromer: Some of the sites visited, especially the coastal habitats, were not likely ground for gnats, but even the wooded and more inland localities produced remarkably few. Roger Morris and Alan Stubbs contributed to the records. Nothing uncommon was found.

Nottingham: In the report on the autumn 2014 field meeting held in Nottinghamshire, it was mentioned that the areas of Sherwood Forest and Clumber Park visited showed great potential for the 2015 summer field meeting. This was not totally reflected in the 2015 results, and in the case of Sherwood Forest



this was considered to be mainly because of the prevailing dry conditions.

There were gnat records for 38 sites across Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Leicestershire. Of the 83 species recorded, 40 were additional to the 110 species recorded on the 2014 autumn meeting. So the 150 species altogether recorded provide welcome additions to the records for this generally under-recorded part of the country.

Those participating in this meeting who contributed records of fungus gnats were Andrew Cunningham, Steve Crellin, Martin Drake, Andrew Halstead, John Kramer, Roger Morris, Alan Stubbs and Rob Wolton.

With gnats thin on the ground, Calke Park (SK3622) in Derbyshire was the most productive site, but with only 21 species recorded, mainly in the more humid wooded slopes near the ponds. Among the more interesting finds were *Ditomyia fasciata* at Bunny Old Wood NR (SK5828), near the northern fringe of its distribution, *Macrocera fascipennis* at Carvers Rocks (SK3372) and *Manota unifurcata* at Lathkill Dale (SK190158) (R. Wolton) and Ploughman Wood (SK414466) (C.M. Drake). Most surprising were the finds of *Mycomya pectinifera* at two Derbyshire sites, Miller's Dale (SK1573) and Priestcliffe Lees NR (SK1473) (R. Wolton); this is an extension into the Midlands of the range of a species that was at least till recently restricted to the south-west of England and Wales, but may have been spreading.

Dorset: Records obtained for 13 sites over the period 10-13 October comprised 733 specimens of 109 species. Contributions to this catch were made by Andrew Halstead, Roger Morris, Chris Spilling and Alan Stubbs.

Five sites produced 30 or more species with the largest total of 43 at Piple Wood, Studland (SZ0383) on 11 October. Among the species recorded at Piple Wood was the second British record of *Mycomya danielae*, added to the British list from a single male found in Surrey on the autumn meeting there in 2013 (Chandler 2014). That site also produced *Keroplatus testaceus*, *Allodia neglecta* and *Phronia forcipula*. On the same day we visited Wytch Heath (SY9784), where conifer plantations had produced a good catch on the previous spring meeting in this part of Dorset; it again produced *Mycetophila caudata* and *M. sublunata*, which occurred there on the earlier visit. *Mycomya pectinifera* was found at Puddletown Forest (SY7493), *Mycetophila deflexa* at Langton West Wood (SY9979) and *M. sigmoides* at Arne RSPB Reserve (SY9788).

New Forest: From 14 to 17 October visits were made to 22 sites, and 484 specimens were obtained of 90 species. Again these included contributions by Andrew Halstead, Roger Morris and Alan Stubbs.

In general gnats were more thinly spread than was the case in Dorset, which was attributed to various factors, including the mainly dry conditions. Many of the sites visited were subject to high levels of grazing, the closely cropped vegetation reducing the amount of cover around fallen dead wood. It was also apparent that commercial collecting of fungi was having an effect in the more publicly accessible areas. The highest site total was 27 species at Denny Wood (SU3305-3306), which was subject to all these factors. Pondhead Inclosure (SU3007), which had both less grazing pressure and a greater diversity of terrestrial fungi than seen elsewhere in the Forest, produced 22 species but much of the area was dense coppice less accessible for recording.

There were new records for the New Forest of two species that have recently spread widely in southern England. These were *Greenomyia mongolica*, of which Alan Stubbs caught a female at the Rufus Stone (SU2712) on 14 October, and *Mycetophila sublunata*, of which Andrew Halstead caught a male at Anderwood Inclosure (SU2406) on 17 October.

Gnats new to Britain

Like other recent additions to the British list, the three species introduced here can presently only be treated as Data Deficient; one of them was found towards the end of 2014. The second British records of *Mycomya danielae*, *Ectrepesthoneura tori* and *Exechia spinigera* are reported elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Two of the three new additions of which details are given below were discovered by Ivan Perry during his trip to Scotland in May. Like several other species recently added to the British list from Scotland, they can so far only be recorded on the basis of single specimens, which gives no indication of their present status or the extent of their distribution. This suggests that there is still considerable potential for finding previously overlooked species in the Scottish Highlands. The extent of deforestation in recent centuries may have resulted in some impoverishment compared to comparable habitats in northern Europe. Nevertheless, isolated populations of many species have evidently managed to hang on and may have recently had the opportunity to increase again with reforestation.

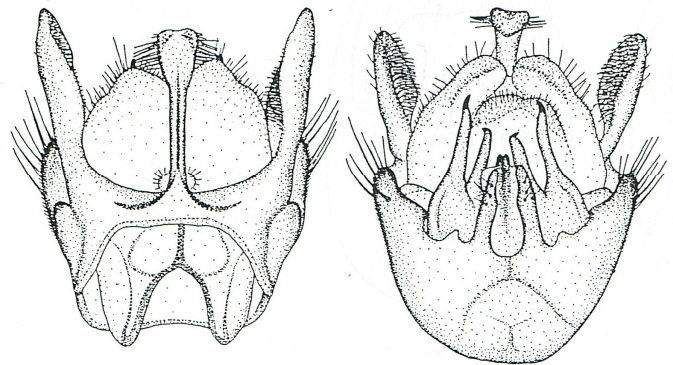
Mycomya (*S. Mycomya*) *bicolor* (Dziedzicki, 1885)

One male was caught by Ivan Perry at the Carie Burn (NN614565), a stream in mixed, mainly coniferous, woodland in the Rannoch Forest on 29 May 2015. This is a Holarctic species that is widespread in Europe and in the northern parts of North America and which has been frequently recorded throughout its range. It is also a moderately large species with distinctive genital structure, so it is surprising that it has not been noticed previously in the British Isles.

The thorax is yellow with three brown scutal stripes, the abdomen brown with narrow yellow hind margins to the tergites, and the legs yellow. It runs in the key by Hutson *et al.* (1980) to the couplet including *M. winnertzi* and *M. wankowiczii*, which it

resembles in size and coloration. Both those species differ distinctly in the form of the tergal part of the genitalia, in particular in having a short broad and apically emarginate median processus and relatively short lateral appendages. In *M. bicolor*, the processus is for the most part long and narrow with a broad apical part, while the lateral appendages are also elongate. All three species have the lateral appendages longer than the processus.

The biology is unconfirmed but Plassmann (1971) mentioned that he had reared a male in Germany from a larva found under an unnamed polypore fungus in January.

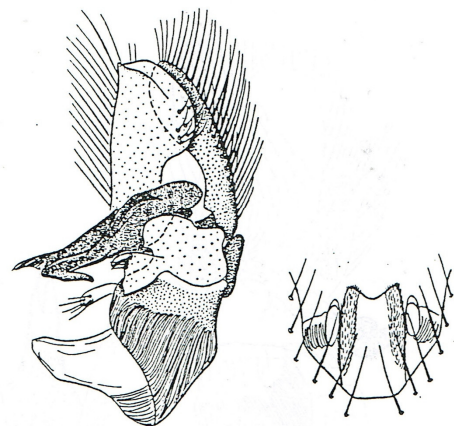


Mycomya bicolor, male genitalia: left, tergal view; right, sternal view (from Väisänen 1984)

Brevicornu improvisum Zaitzev, 1992

One male was caught by Ivan Perry at the Birks of Aberfeldy (NN853475), Perthshire on 23 May 2015. The site is broad-leaved woodland in a gorge with a fast-flowing stream. This is also a Holarctic species that was described from Alaska and is widespread in northern and central Europe, with records from Corsica, mainland France, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Switzerland and northern Russia (Karelia). There is no obvious reason why a single specimen should now turn up in the Scottish Highlands other than Ivan's diligent recording over many years. The biology of this species is unknown.

It is, like most species of *Brevicornu*, separable only on details of the structure of the male genitalia, in particular the form of the gonostylus and gonocoxal process as illustrated.



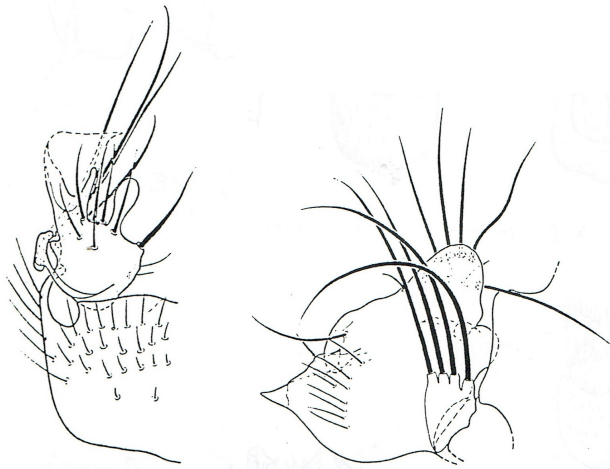
Brevicornu improvisum, male genitalia: left, internal view of gonostylus; right, ventral view of median gonocoxal process (from Zaitzev 2003)

Mycetophila hyrcania Laštovka & Matile, 1969

Three males were obtained by Martin Townsend in an aerial trap at Chalkhills Farm (SU640780), Buckinghamshire. These were from a sample collected from 10 November to 6 December 2014 in an area of calcareous woodland.

This is an unexpected addition to the British list. It was described from Iran by Laštovka & Matile (1969), but has since been found to be widespread in central and southern Europe with records from Bulgaria, Italy, Malta, Spain, the Czech Republic, Germany and southern France.

It is small mainly dark brown species, with yellow legs and unmarked wings. It thus resembles *M. immaculata* but lacks the anterodorsal bristles on both mid and hind tibiae that are present in that species. It also has very distinct genitalia, bearing a comb of long bristles on the dorsal lobe of the gonostylus.



Mycetophila hyrcania, male genitalia: left, ventral view of gonocoxite and gonostylus; right, dorsal view of dorsal lobe of gonostylus (from Laštovka & Matile 1969)

New findings on *Macrocera*

Last year (Chandler 2015a) it was reported that specimens of *Macrocera pusilla* caught by Martin Drake at two sites on the Devon coast, showed variation in wing venation which suggested that *M. propleuralis* might be synonymous. The latter species was described from a single female caught by F.W. Edwards (1941) on the window of a beach shelter at Sidmouth, Devon on 11 June 1938, and had not been recognised more recently. This synonymy has since been formally proposed by Chandler (2015b), reducing the British Keroplatidae to 51 species.

Macrocera longibrachiata. A female found at Hollies Wood (SJ5313), Shropshire on 18 September 2015 by Nigel Jones, is considered to belong to this species. It was hitherto known in Britain only from two males, from Clovelly, Devon on 3 August 1927 (H. Womersley) and Weston Big Wood, Somerset on 1 September 2001 (D. Gibbs). I found a male in a limestone gorge in Belgium in 1990 but it is uncommon in Europe, with records otherwise only from France, Germany, the Czech Republic, Italy and Estonia.

It is possible that the female has not previously been recognised. It runs to this species in the key by Hutson *et al.* (1980) in having the abdominal tergites dark on at least the apical half, but the

dark areas are broadly extended forwards medially and narrowly on the side margins, leaving a pair of yellow lateral patches on each tergite.

Recording at Windsor Forest and Great Park in 2015

Having made fourteen visits during 2014 to the Highstanding Hill and Badger's Brook area of Windsor Forest, I made three further visits to that area in April and May 2015. Gnats were considerably less numerous than on the 2014 visits at that time of year and only 57 species were recorded on those three visits, compared to 70 over the three 2014 visits in those months. Only five were additional to that total, including *Tetragoneura sylvatica* which had been noted as curiously absent from the 2014 catch.

Then I transferred attention to the east side of Windsor Great Park, concentrating on areas accessible from the Bishops Gate entrance, and made seven visits from June to October. Initially the areas to the south were sampled, including those around the Cow Pond (SU9771) and to the south of it. Then on the last three visits the enclosed Deer Park (SU9772) to the north of Bishops Gate was visited. Again fungus gnats were sparse and altogether 67 species were recorded, providing an overall total for the Royal Estate of 90 species during 2015, compared to 161 species in 2014. Of those 90 only 16 (including the five mentioned above) were additions to the previous year's total of 161 species.

Of these 16 species, 6 are new records for the Windsor Forest and Great Park area (hectad SU97), bringing the total of fungus gnat species recorded for this hectad to 255. These additions are *Bolitophila glabrata*, *Macrorrhyncha hugoi* (see below), *Macrocera lutea*, *M. maculata*, *Cordyla fusca* and *Exechia bicincta*. Species found during 2014 that occurred again included *Mycetophila lastovkai* (10 males, all three areas, 5 dates iv-ix), *M. lubomirskii* (1 male Badger's Brook 7.v and 1 male, near Cow Pond 28.viii) and *M. sublunata* (1 male near Cow Pond 28.viii).

Both the newly visited areas include many old partly decayed trees, with some secondary growth. Cow Pond is fairly formal but mainly surrounded by woodland. A nearby area with old beeches has large logs, both on the ground and strapped vertically to the trunks of standing trees to provide a habitat for saproxylic Coleoptera, as has been done with the tree to the right of centre in the photograph below.



The open areas of the Deer Park are closely cropped grass with scattered trees, which appears to be preferred grazing for the deer. A large part is, however, more wooded with bracken ground cover and a good quantity of fallen dead wood. A significant number of standing dead trees are present.



Views of the Deer Park at Windsor Great Park: above – a more open area, with a standing dead tree on the left; below – along a ride through the woodland, with several standing dead trees.



Although only 36 species of fungus gnats were recorded on the three visits to the Deer Park, further investigation of this area is invited. There is a small stream, but the habitat is generally dry, so it is not anticipated that results comparable to those from the vicinity of Badger's Brook at Highstanding Hill could be achieved.

Macrorrhyncha hugoi. A male was found by sweeping the vegetation on the slopes of a deep ditch beside the path alongside the Cow Pond on 23 June 2015. This species was only previously known in Britain from Hampshire, with records from five ancient woodland sites in the New Forest (in the period 1988-2000) and from Whitmoor Vale in the north of the county (1990). It is only otherwise known from Jersey in The Channel Islands and from Sweden (Kjærandsen & Chandler 2011).

Its biology is unknown but I found a female around a standing dead beech trunk at Mark Ash Wood in the New Forest, suggesting a saproxylic association. Keroplatid larvae spin webs

on various substrates and are either carnivorous or feed on fungal spores. Adults of most *Macrorrhyncha* species, including the common British species *M. flava* Winnertz, feed at flowers, especially of umbels (Apiaceae), for which their elongate proboscis is adapted. It is not known whether *M. hugoi*, which has a shorter proboscis than *M. flava*, also has this habit.

Other recording in 2015

Batches of fungus gnats were received from Keith Alexander, Andrew Cunningham, Jonty Denton, Martin Drake, Adrian Dutton, Andrew Foster, Nigel Jones, Roger Morris, Ivan Perry, Alan Stubbs, Martin Townsend and Rob Wolton. Several species reared from reliably named fungi were received from Richard Fortey.

As mentioned above, Ivan Perry's visit to Scotland from 23 to 30 May 2015 proved very productive of fungus gnats, which often predominated in his catches resulting in records of 177 species, including the two species new to Britain discussed above. Since it was a late season and cold conditions persisted throughout his stay, he was surprised that gnats were as numerous as during his visit in the previous September, when he recorded 180 species. In 2015 he made ten visits to six sites, in the Rannoch and Aberfeldy areas of Perthshire. The highest total for a single site visit was to Dall Burn (NN590560) in Rannoch Forest on 30 May, with 80 species found, including *Dynatosoma nigromaculatum*, *Phronia electa* and the second British record of *Ectrepesthoneura tori* (one male). That species was only previously recorded from Britain on a male in a Malaise trap sample from Bognacruie in the Abernethy Forest in 1999 (Chandler 2006). Other finds included *Bolitophila nigrolineata* and *Allodia angulata* (Linn of Tummel, 24 May), *Gnoriste bilineata* (Pass of Killiecrankie, 27 May) and *Exechiopsis dryaspagensis* (Dall Burn, 28 May).

Ivan was quickly followed to Scotland by Roger Morris and Stuart Ball on their way to run a hoverfly course on Orkney. They collected on their journey up (3-4 June, Spey Valley) and while returning (9-12 June, northern areas). Roger provided samples from 17 sites, which comprised 84 species, but reported that fungus gnats were generally sparse, suggesting a sudden change in populations since Ivan's recent visit, although a direct comparison is not possible as different regions were visited. The highest site catch was 28 at Loch Maree (NG907710) on 11 June, which included *Rymosia setiger*.

The combined total for the two Scottish trips (May and June 2015) was 198 species.

Ivan Perry also made seven visits to the **Warburg Reserve** (SU715879), Oxfordshire, which is mixed woodland on chalk, from 10 May to 4 October, and recorded 142 species of fungus gnats, continuing to add to the inventory for this rich site. The additions to his previous fungus gnat records brought the total for his visits from 2010 onwards to 254 species. New 2015 records included *Dynatosoma thoracicum* and *Mycetophila dziedzickii* (both on 8 August). Among species also recorded by Ivan in previous years were *Neoempheria bimaculata*, *Exechiopsis davatchii* (both 4 October), *Dynatosoma cochleare* (8 August), *Mycetophila sublunata* (11 July and 4 October) and *Sceptonia tenuis* (10 May).

Some of Ivan's finds in his local area are reported elsewhere here. He also made five visits to **Flitwick Moor**, Bedfordshire,

from 7 May to 26 September, adding to his previous records for that site, which comprises both wet alder wood and oak and birch woodland. These visits produced 116 species, which on 7 May included *Sciophila buxtoni* and *Phronia portschinskyi*. The latter was also found here by Ivan in 2013 and 2014. All other British records of *P. portschinskyi* are from wetlands in Wales and East Anglia.

Keith Alexander had a good catch of 1123 specimens comprising 127 species of fungus gnats from four flight interception traps deployed at **Clayhidon Turbary** Devon Wildlife Trust Reserve (ST1515) from 18 August to 17 November 2015. These included *Exechiopsis dumitrescae*, *Mycetophila lastovkai*, *Mycomya pectinifera*, *Sciophila geniculata* and *Trichonta nigrifera*. The site includes heathland and mires, with some old trees and wet woodland. The largest of his four catches was 99 species from a trap placed at the edge of wet birch and willow woodland above a recently cleared area reverting to mire. A trap suspended from an oak tree adjacent to a *Molinia* mire and a pile of cut logs produced 66 species.

Samples trapped by Keith at four sites in **Kedleston Park**, Derbyshire included 53 species. *Ditomyia fasciata*, from Vicars Wood (SK318396) in the period from July to October was near the northern limit of its known range, like the record of *D. fasciata* from the Nottingham Field Meeting (see p. 1 above).

Rob Wolton ran two Malaise traps at **Scadsbury Moor**, Rutleigh, on his Devon farm, and again obtained a considerable catch of gnats, which were pooled for each trap for the entire collection period. The total catch comprised 183 species. The larger one was from April to November at a wet woodland and *Molinia* grassland interface (SS520015), comprising 1531 specimens of 172 species. These included *Epicrypta fumigata* (see below), as well as *Exechia dizona*, *Exechiopsis ligulata* and *Mycetophila sigmoides*.

The other trap was in alderwood (SS517014) and sited over a rotting stump from May to November; it produced 253 specimens of 69 species. Among these were *Ectrepesthoneura colyeri* and *Trichonta pulchra*. The presence of both *Brachypeza armata* and *B. bisignata* indicated *Pleurotus* in the vicinity.

It was reported last year that there were by then records of 204 species of fungus gnats for Locks Park Farm, of which these sites are a part. The 2015 catches have added 32 species, bringing the total to 234 species for the farm (all within hectad SS50). In 2015 Rob also provided records for 12 sites elsewhere in Devon, amounting to 70 species, of which 16 were additional to those found on his farm, giving him a total for the year of 199 species.

Martin Drake provided, in addition to his catches from the Nottingham Field Meeting discussed above, numerous samples collected by him in 2015 in Devon and Somerset. These related to 67 visits to 58 sites on 42 days, with wet woodland habitats predominating. The overall species total of fungus gnats was 190. Some of the more interesting finds are detailed below under "Other Significant Records". Some localities and dates were in common with specimens examined for Rob Wolton and Andrew Cunningham, relating to excursions by the Devon Fly Group.

The samples supplied by Martin Townsend from **Chalkhills Farm** (SU640780), Buckinghamshire, comprised 55 species collected in 2014. In addition to the first British records of *Mycetophila hyrcania* reported above, there were *Mycetophila deflexa*, *M. sigmoides* and *Rymosia spinipes*.

Material received from Andrew Foster was mainly from various parts of **Horner Wood NNR**, Somerset, with records of 64 species boosting knowledge of the gnats of that rich site. These included *Mycomya insignis* and *Mycetophila immaculata*, both from a bottle trap on oak (SS899430), in the period 2-29 September 2015. Although within the southern part of its scattered distribution, this is the first British record of *M. immaculata* in the present century; there are previous records from ten hectads, the latest being from Scotland in 1999.

Samples from **Hollies Wood** (SJ51), Shropshire were examined for Nigel Jones. These included 62 species; the most interesting find *Macrocera longibrachiata* is reported on above. A male of *Mycetophila sublunata* was caught on 13 October. He also reared *Ditomyia fasciata* from *Meripilus giganteus* at this site.

Richard Fortey reared several species from fungi collected at **Grim's Dyke Wood** (SU738843), his own woodland in the Chilterns. These included *Bolitophila oclusa* from a *Postia* species, and *Trichonta vitta* from *Schizopora paradoxa*.

On 20 September 2015, I attended the inaugural meeting of the BENHS Saprophytic Group at **Shotover Hill** and **Brasenose Wood**, Oxfordshire, led by Keith Alexander and Ivan Wright. Fungus gnats were sparse with only 13 species recorded, but these included *Sciophila thoracica* from Shotover Hill (SP5606), which was also among the samples from this site examined for Ivan Wright in 2013. Its occurrence at Aston Rowant NNR was mentioned in Newsletter 7 (Chandler 2014) – it has a scattered distribution in S England, with records now from 13 hectads.

In addition to the fieldwork mentioned above, I made four visits to **Bushy Park**, Middlesex in 2015. Dry conditions still prevailed with gnat numbers even lower compared to other recent years. All records to date were included in an account of the Diptera fauna of the Park (Chandler 2015c), which listed 168 species of fungus gnats that had been recorded in the period 2010 to 2015.

I reported last year that in September 2014, I began to visit the **Fleet Pond** Nature Reserve, Hampshire, with diverse woodland and wetland habitats in the 1km squares SU8154, SU8254 and SU8255. Six afternoon visits were made from 9 September to 3 December 2014. In 2015 I made 5 visits from 12 May to 2 September. Only 40 species of gnats were found, including 9 new to the site, bringing the total for the reserve to 83 species.

Other significant records (mostly for 2015)

Macrocera estonica

Lampert Mosses, Northumberland, 9.ix.2015: 1 male NY701761; 1 male, 1 female NY700770; 1 female NY691745 (A. Dutton). Scottish records were reported in Newsletter 8 (Chandler 2015a); these new records are within the Pennines part of its known distribution.

Anatella ankei

Bewley Wood (ST291064), Devon, 13.v.2015, 1 male; Radish Plantation (SY184920), Devon, 25.vi.2015, 1 male (C.M. Drake). Of the 5 previously recorded British hectads, the only English record was Cogley Wood, Somerset in 1986. There are more recent records from Scotland, Wales and Ireland.

Epicrypta fumigata

Scadsbury Moor (SS520015), Rutleigh, Devon, iv-xi. 2015, 7 males in Malaise trap (R. Wolton). This species was new to Britain when recorded by Rob Wolton in 2013 (Chandler 2014)

and was found by him again in 2014 (Chandler 2015a). It has yet to be found elsewhere in Britain.

Exechia spinigera

Newton Wentlooge levels (ST2378), Monmouthshire, 4-6.viii.2014, 1 male (D. Gibbs). This species was recorded as new to Britain by Gibbs (2011) on a single male from the Gwent levels and this is the second British record, from a nearby site.

Exechiopsis dryaspagensis

Knapp Copse (SY1595), Devon, 18.iv.2015, 1 male (C.M. Drake). A Scottish record is cited above.

Greenomyia mongolica

Lode (TL531626), Cambridgeshire, 16.viii.2015, at *Bupleurum fruticosum* flowers in garden (I. Perry); Wimpole Hall (TL335515), Cambridgeshire, 3.ix.2015, at ivy *Hedera helix* flowers in parkland (I. Perry); Woodwalton Fen, Cambridgeshire, 10.xi.2015, 1 male (A.E. Stubbs). The biology, distribution and recent spread of this species were discussed in the previous Newsletter (Chandler 2015a).

Manota unifurcata

Sycamore Farm Wood (ST290058), Devon, 30.vi.2015, 1 male (C.M. Drake). Records from two sites, respectively in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, are also reported above. This species was discussed in some detail in Newsletter 7 (Chandler 2014), including a distribution map showing scattered records in S England north to Cambs, and in S Wales. It was mentioned that it is possibly too secretive in behaviour to be detected more frequently. In Newsletter 8 (Chandler 2015a) records from Surrey and N Wales were added.

Mycetophila lastovkai

Further records of this species are mentioned elsewhere in this Newsletter. It was also recorded at several sites in Devon by Rob Wolton and Martin Drake. It is now being recorded regularly at sites in southern England, so is evidently well-established albeit with as yet unknown biology.

Mycetophila lubomirskii

Mid Holmwood Common (TQ1646), Surrey, 8.x. 2015 (J. Denton). A Windsor record is cited above.

Mycetophila strigatoides

Marsland Nature Reserve (SS222172), Welcombe, Devon, 30.ix.2015 (R. Wolton).

Mycetophila sublunata

Burridge Common (ST316063), Devon, 16.v.2015, 1 male (C.M. Drake); Wadenhoe (TL0083), Northamptonshire, 22.x.2015, 1 male (A.E. Stubbs); Morkery Wood (SK9418), Lincolnshire, 11.vi.2015, 1 male (A.E. Stubbs). Five widely scattered 2015 records from other sites are reported above. These reinforce the conclusion from other records since it was first recorded in Britain in 2011 that it is now well established in the southern half of England.

Mycetophila uliginosa

Charlton Musgrove (ST731204), Somerset, 11.vi.2015, 1 male (C.M. Drake); Wordley Wood (SK895003), Leicestershire, 29.vi.2015, 1 male (A.E. Stubbs).

Mycomya collini

Clipsham Park Wood (SK976171), Northamptonshire, 11.vi.2015, 1 male (A.E. Stubbs). This species is widely distributed in England north to Cumbria, but with previous

records from only 5 hectads it remains very little known, and nothing is recorded of its biology.

Acknowledgements

I thank all those who have provided records and specimens for examination, and in particular Keith Alexander, Jonty Denton, Martin Drake, Adrian Dutton, Richard Fortey, Andrew Foster, David Gibbs, Andrew Halstead, Nigel Jones, Roger Morris, Ivan Perry, Alan Stubbs, Martin Townsend and Rob Wolton for the opportunity to include their records here.

I am indebted to Colin Gray and Rachel Jones for enabling me to continue surveys at Fleet Pond. I thank Natural England and the Crown Estates for permission to continue with surveys of Windsor Forest and Great Park, and the Royal Parks ecologists for enabling my further visits to Bushy Park.

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