Hoverfly Newsletter

No. 8 - Oct. 1988

After the mild winter a bumper harvest of hoverflies was in prospect. Unfortunately, the season doesn't seem to have lived up to its promise. But Peter Follett did well with Brachyopa, as his note describes. In Scotland, there was the usual surge in numbers of E. balteatus, M. corollae and P. albimanus in August and E. grossulariae was abundant again after a year or so's scarcity. It really is curious how species abundances vary so dramatically from year to year, but at least it makes fieldwork interesting. Where was S. pyrastri this year for instance?

Studies on early stages have gone rather better. We now have larval records of Callicera rufa from all over Scotland and there are reports of Brachyopa and Ferdinandea larvae in this issue of the Newsletter. With another winter about to start no need to stop fieldwork! Larvae can be sought and some adults, as Rupert Hastings' article points out, are active too.
Contributions for the next issue by 1 March 1989 please.
Graham E. Rotheray, Royal Museum of Scotland, Chambers St., Edinburgh, EH1 1JF.

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The first British record for Dasysyrphus fruiliensis ?

Adam Wright, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry, CV1 5RW

Whilst checking through the R.C. Bradley collection of syrphids housed at Birmingham Museum, I came upon a specimen under D. venustus with extremely hooked tergite markings reminiscent of D.fruiliensis. When critically examined the specimen was confirmed as this species. The third antennal segment is entirely dusky, although the specimen is badly faded.

The interesting point is that this specimen (a female) was taken by Bradley in Sutton Park (SP09/SP19) on 26th May 1895! This is 80 years before the first previously notified British record. Perhaps other old Dasysyrphus series should be examined for the presence of D. fruiliensis.

When the Bradley collection was last checked it was with Coe (1954) which does not include D. fruiliensis. Thanks are due to Mike Bryan at Birmingham City Museum for allowing me access to the collections.

Hoverflies in light traps

Joan Morgan, School of Animal Biology,
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Gwynedd, LL57 2UW.

Having read the note by Tim Lavery in Hoverfly Newsletter 7, I thought it would be interesting to see how many species of hoverfly I have taken in the Rothamsted light trap on the roof of the School of Agriculture, Bangor, and in a Robinson MV trap at four localities in the Bangor area. Over the last 26 years I have recorded a total of 16 species, though these do not include Meliscaeva cintella reported by Lavery. Those recorded are mostly common species which occasionally must be active at dusk or later. A total of 47 specimens over 26 years is less than two individuals a year on average. Of this total, 15 were Metasyrphus corollae, indicating that this species is more likely to be still on the wing after dusk - or before dawn. The complete list is as follows:

Eristalis pertinax
Melanostoma scalare
Platycheirus sticticus
Scaeva selentica
Episyrphus balteatus
Metasyrphus latifasciatus
Syrphus torvus
Tropidia scita
Melanostoma mellinum
Platycheirus scutatus
Scaeva pyrastri
Sericomyia silentis
Metasyrphus corollae
Syrphus ribesii
Syrphus vitripennis
Xylota segnis

Further nocturnal records of Meliscaeva species

Steve Christmas, 6 Holly Road, Swinton, Manchester M27 3DY

Further to the note by Tim Lavery in Hoverfly Newsletter 7 on a record of Meliscaeva cinctella in a MV trap I trapped 2 specimens of Meliscaeva auricollis in my suburban garden in July.

This is not a common species in my area. The only other record from the trap (which has been run from April to October each year since 1985) is a single specimen of Syrphus ribesii.

More on nocturnal Hoverflies

Colin Plant, Passmore Edwards Museum, 29 Romford Road, Stratford, London E15 4LY.

Tim lavery's record of Meliscaeva cinctella at MV light prompts me to dig out the list I have been compiling since 1979 of hoverflies recorded at my moth traps in various localities. I divide these into two groups - those labelled "T" were in a static trap and may have been genuinely attracted to light, and those marked "S" taken under a lamp suspended over a white sheet, where the probability of the insects being disturbed from adjacent vegetation is very high. In all cases the lamp was a 125 watt "white" MV bulb, made by GEC and sold by Watkins & Doncaster.

Melanostoma mellinum	- 2 females only (S)
Melanostoma scalare	- single male (S)
Platycheirus albimanus	- 3 occasions totalling 5 males (T)
Platycheirus clypeatus	- single female (T)
Platycheirus scutatus	- 2 occasions totalling 4 females (S)
Chrysotoxum cautum	- single female (T)
Episyrphus balteatus	- numerous occasions totalling 23 males/ 21 females (T&S)
Meliscaeva auricollis	- single male (T)
Metasyrphus corollae	- single female (S)
Metasyrphus luniger	- 2 occasions totalling 2 males (T)
Syrphus ribesii	- single male (T)
Syrphus torvus	- 1 occasion totalling 1 male/1 female (S)
Syrphus vitripennis	- 3 occasions totalling 8 females (T&S)
Helophilus pendulus	- single male (S)
Volucella zonaria	- 4 occasions totalling 4 females (T)
Xylota sylvarum	- 2 occasions totalling 1 male/1 female (S)

This is not quite the impressive list it appears when one considers that the 79 individuals were obtained from 2,475 nights worth of trapping! This represents only 0.03191919 recurring flies per night. Most of the flies were probably disturbed from nearby vegetation. As judged by MV trapping, adult hoverflies are probably not very active at night.

Capture of a mud-encrusted Cheilosia antiqua specimen

Graham E. Rotheray, Royal Museum of Scotland, Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1JF

On 24.v.1986 I captured a male Cheilosia antiqua feeding on a dandelion flower at Vogrie Country Park, Midlothian. On a recent close inspection, I noticed a well encrusted layer of mud

all over this specimen - on the insides of the antennae, the sides of the thorax, the anterior faces of the femora, coxae and trochanters, the anterior part of the thoracic dorsum, on the sides of the abdominal tergites and on the genitalia. The face and eyes were, however, clean. Where could this mud have come from? Could the fly have fallen into mud somewhere? The most likely explanation is, I think, that mud was picked up by the fly on its passage through the soil following emergence from the puparium - if it is true that this species overwinters in the soil. The puparium was perhaps in very sticky mud which adhered to the teneral fly. As the fly hardened, the mud dried and the poor insect was then unable to clean itself.

Xanthogramma citrofasciatum in Clwyd

David Heaver, NCC, Penrhos Road, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2LQ

On 14.v.1988 I visited the old limestone quarries which lie outside the small village of Llandulas in western Clwyd. The weather was extremely hot and I confined my initial searches to the southern face of a spoil heap. Whilst watching the many Rhingia campestris and Eoseristalis pertinax which were drawn to the site by the Cotoneaster and Crateagus flowers my attention was caught by a fly with a low, wasp-like flight. It was zig-zagging it's way over a grassy path at the base of the spoil heap and the rank grassland to one side. I managed to secure it in the net after an initial miss plus a certain amount of panic.

From its general appearance it was obviously a Xanthogramma but it did not quite look like X. pedissequum and only later did I confirm its identity as X. citrofasciatum. Joan Morgan (U.C.N.W., Bangor) could find no record for this species and so it may be the first for North Wales. Any evidence to the contrary would be most welcome.

Microdon mutabilis (L.) in Cromarty

E. Geoffrey Hancock, Art Gallery & Museum, Kelvingrove, Glasgow G3 8AG.

While on the 1988 Scottish Entomologist's Weekend based in Ross and Cromarty I captured a single specimen of this species on the edge of Monadh Mohr on 18th June. A slightly unusual aspect was that it was taken in flight, whereas most Microdon species are found while on fallen logs or similar resting places.

Previous records of mutablis from Scotland were from Perthshire until recorded from Mull as reported in the appendix to the reprint of Stubbs & Falk [also see Barr, B. Hoverfly Newsletter 5 - Ed.]. Another possibly unusual aspect is that Monadh Mohr is a very wet bog with much standing water and although there was a small knoll nearby of solid ground with mature pines it is a very different habitat from that described by Barr on Mull. Indeed, the Mull records are based on larvae and puparia and under other circumstances one might question

whether or not this is a population of M. eggeri which would accord more with the habitat described.

Despite the attention of several others on the following day, no other specimens were found.

Recording Brachyopa adults...

Peter C Follett, 24 Medoc Close, Pitsea,
Basildon, Essex, SS13 1NR

May 1988 was a marvellous month for recording adult Brachyopa insensilis and Brachyopa scutellaris in Essex! The technique I used was to wait by sap runs, mostly on Horse Chesnut trees, and net the flies as they arrived:

date	locality	no.caught
B. insensilis		
9.v.88	Dagnem Park	5
13.v.88	Weald Park	49*
14.v.88	Thorndon Park	28*
14.vi.88	Thorndon Park	12
B. scutellaris		
8.v.88	Dagnem Park	3
9.v.88	Dagnem Park	4
13.v.88	Weald Park	25*
14.v.88	Thorndon Park	39*
14.vi.88	Thorndon Park	4

* each specimen was held in tubes for up to two hours while the survey took place and then released

Recording Brachyopa larvae...

Simon Grove, NCC., Foxhold House, Crookham Common,
Newbury, Berks., RG15 8EL

It is not unusual to go through the entire summer without seeing a single adult Brachyopa. However, hunting for larvae has the advantage of being a year round activity and, in the case of Brachyopa larvae, is made easier since their habitat is known - sap runs on trees.

I first tried looking for larvae in November 1987 at Bernwood Forest, Bucks and was lucky. There were about 10 larvae in blackened sap that was running a few centimetres down the bark from where the small lower branches of some hybrid poplars had died and dropped off. The larvae were tucked into crevices and were only visible when I gouged the material out on to my hand with a twig.

On a second occasion, I found larvae in late April 1988 at Welford Park, Newbury, Berks. There was a "classic" sap run about a metre up an old horse chesnut where the bark had split vertically for a distance of perhaps 10 cms. This time the larvae were visible as oval blobs just below the surface of the

sap with their stiff posterior breathing tubes poking through. Larvae were at various positions in the sap run - from the point of extrusion where the sap was gelatinous and translucent, to a point where it was solidifying and becoming tarry further down.

The only problem is that I don't know the identification of the larvae yet. They seem able to withstand desiccation, starvation and freezing which should make them ideal subjects for rearing! Watch this space!

The larva of Ferdinandea ruficornis found!

A. Adrian Allen, 49 Montcalm Road, Charlton, London SE7 8QG

In June last I was lucky enough to come upon a flourishing (but doubtless ephemeral) colony of the above scarce hoverfly in Oxleas Wood SSSI, Shooters Wood, S.E.London. A fair-sized solid oak had been blown down across a path in well-grown but hardly dense woodland, and was found to be infested near the root end by larvae of the goat moth - the characteristic beery effluvium being very marked and the species of beetles attracted to the sappy areas affording further proof. This of course is the classic Ferdinandea habitat [see Hartley, 1961. Procs. Zoo. Soc. Lond. 136: 507-73 - Ed.]. Low down on one side, the oosing sap had accumulated to a depth of 1" or so (probably mixed with rainwater) in a crevice a few inches long and half an inch wide, forming a sort of reservoir in which were a fair number of submerged larvae of Ferdinandea.

Adults of F. ruficornis, with a single cuprea - all females, were seen about this spot on suitable afternoons in June and July; males were not found at all, even on nearby bramble flowers (but I have noticed this non-appearance of males to be a common phenomenon among lignicolous flies, strange as it may seem). I managed to catch six ruficornis, and probably as many more were missed. The flies settled mainly near the crevice described above but none were seen to oviposit there. That area of the trunk was seldom in direct sunlight, and at other times they scarcely appeared. The surprising preponderance of the rarer over the less rare species is probably the first such experience in Britain, to judge from the records.

Of the several larvae collected at various times from the sap 'reservior', or from under pieces of bark near it, only three have survived to produce puparia. The first fly was found emerged on 21st August, a female cuprea. (Ferdinandea larvae unfortunately tend to suffer high mortality once removed from their habitat, unless taken fully fed, when they must be given relatively dry conditions for pupation.) For some weeks the sap 'flows' have been drying up, as is inevitable in the case of a fallen tree. A very recent inspection revealed no trace of larvae, puparia, or adults; hopefully, the remaining larvae have dispersed for pupation. Where this takes place has not been discovered; raking the ground debris and surface soil under the trunk has drawn a blank. Some autumnal adults may be about in the ensuing weeks, but it seems very unlikely that they will be

able to continue the brood at this site, and Cossus infected trees are extremely rare in the district.

Winter-active Hoverflies at Kew Gardens

Rupert Hastings, 33 Bracken Gardens, Barnes, London SW13 9HW

Alan Stubbs used to be a regular visitor to Kew Gardens in late December. His success in finding hoverflies on Hammellis led him to recommend Kew as a 'particularly favourable locality in winter' (see Stubbs & Falk, 1983). I work at Kew Gardens and have made observations of the winter appearances of adult hoverflies since 1984. The three species I record most frequently are Episyrphus balteatus, Meliscaeva auricollis and Eristalis tenax. However, I have seen males of Syrphus torvus on two occasions, 6.xii.1984 and 17.ii.1988, and a male Metasyrphus luniger on 30.xi.1984. On that exceptional November day I saw over 41 individual hoverflies which illustrates their ability to stay active late in the year.

There are only occasional spells of weather fine enough to bring out dormant hoverflies and a site should provide all three of the following features: exposure to sunlight, shelter from the wind and presence of flowering plants. Kew Gardens offers a number of spots with these characteristics and being well into London no doubt provides additional warmth and shelter.

The winter of 1987/88 was exceptionally mild and February 1988 was the sunniest for over a hundred years. The favourable conditions resulted in hoverflies being recorded every month from December to February. For example, from 22.xii.1987 - 23.ii.1988 I recorded 12 M.auricollis, 28 E. balteatus and 64 E. tenax. Sex ratios were interesting. In E balteatus males were rare whereas in M. auricollis they were commoner than females but no male E. tenax were recorded at all.

Colour patterns also deserve comment. The "dark form" of E. balteatus, illustrated in Stubbs & Falk, predominated. In M. auricollis the males had bright orange markings whereas females had duller grey-silver markings. This obvious difference is not commented on by Stubbs & Falk. Dark forms of E. tenax were much the commoner. Presumably the dark colouration is an adaptation to help absorb heat.

All the hoverflies I saw showed a preference to rest on sun-lit leaves. E. tenax will also rest on dead leaves on the ground. Otherwise winter flowering plants are favoured with the star attractants being Virburnum tinus, Virburnum x bodnantense and Sarcococca confusa - make a note if year round hoverflies are wanted in your garden! Watching hoverflies in winter is fun and there is much to be found out. For example, the biggest question of all - where exactly do adult hoverflies go when the when the weather is too cold for activity? For most species overwintering sites have yet to be discovered. My thanks to Laura Fitt for helping me with her sharp eyes and to Alan Stubbs who set me off looking for hoverflies in winter.

Botley Wood Syrphid List - a National Record?

Ian Hudson, Eaglehurst, 7 Ladram Road, Alverstoke, Gosport, Hants.

Dave Appleton and I have been recording hoverflies from this Hampshire site, owned by the Forestry Commission and the Economic Forestry Group, for several years and we hope to produce a complete list soon. However, we are confident it will be close to 150 species which makes it an extraordinarily rich wood especially as it is only just over one square mile in area and is situated a few miles from Southampton. Unfortunately it is under pressure from out of town development along the M27 corridor. Species recorded so far include all four Criorhina, Callicera aenea, Cheilosia carbonaria, Cheilosia nebulosa, Xanthandrus comtus, Microdon eggeri and Microdon mutablis.

Book Review by Francis Gilbert: The Hoverflies (Diptera, Syrphidae) of Belgium and their faunistics: frequency, distribution, phenology. By Verlinden, L. & Decleer, K. (1987). Institut Royal des Sciences naturelle de Beligique. Documents de travail # 39, 170pp.

There is a pressing need to gather information about the abundance and distribution of invertebrates since their habitats are disappearing fast. Recent guides to hoverflies of the UK, Benelux, Denmark, W. Germany, E. Germany and Sibera have provided a superb base from which to make detailed distribution maps and studies of communities resting on reasonably secure identification. One of the first products of this immensely useful stimulus is Verlinden & Decleer's detailed and painstaking review of Belgian syrphids. We should be grateful to the authors for writing in english, thus making the work immediately accessible to UK enthusiasts.

The book analyses the distribution patterns of all 314 species recorded from Belgium from more than 67000 records. The scale on which recording is done is the Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) 10x10km square, devised for the European Invertebrate Survey. This scale naturally allows some types of analyses but not others, but overall the results are a real treat and the authors have analysed and interpretated their data in great depth.

There are three main results that are exhaustively documented for all 314 species: distribution, relative abundance and phenology. A final section is devoted to conclusions about the main aim of the project, namely the conservation of hoverflies.

The majority of Belgian hoverflies have distributions restricted to certain parts of the country and to certain habitats within this range - although there are some widely distributed species. Four types of distribution are recognised: generally distributed (most common species), eastern (many Chrysotoxum, Microdon and Parasyrphus), southern (Arctophila,

Erizona) and northern (Anasimyia & Tropidia). There is a good general discussion of the notion of "rarity" and this has important conservation lessons: of the ten richest UTM squares, six are mainly urban or suburban in character! The impact of an experienced collector is also abundantly clear: one square has "only" 90 species recorded from it, but of these, 22 are rareties - nearly all collected by J.A.W. Lucas in six spring excursions! Seasonal patterns are collated for all species: as the author's note, capture data from different years obscure rather than clarify true emergence patterns. However, there is a very interesting figure that compares the phenologies of 23 common species in four countries (Norway, Germany, The Netherlands and Belgium): the contraction in lenght of flight period as you go north is beautifully clear. Also shown is the prounced early-summer slump in numbers, familar to all field workers. Another fascinating fact to emerge is that after mid-July, not a new single species appears in a season - all have emerged earlier with a strong peak of first emergers in early May.

Finally the authors tentively propose a rough-and-ready "method" for assessing sites in terms of the sum of the average frequencies of each species, which they say, will need modifying if it is to be used successfully. I agree with Martin Speight (1986 Proceedings 3rd Europ. Congr. Ent. 3: 485-8) that syrphids show great potential for use in assessing conservation value and could be very useful in boosting conservation of our pitifully few really first class sites. This book lays some of the vital groundwork. We, in the UK, have always had first place as the country whose insect fauna is best known of all. This book challenges us to regain that position as far as syrphids are concerned. Go for it! [Details on how to obtain this important work are given in Diptera Recording Schemes Bull. No.24, Dec. 1987 - Ed.]

REPORTS FROM THE MEETINGS

EAST HAMPSHIRE HANGERS FIELD MEETING 28/29 MAY 1988 - Ian Hudson (Eaglehurst, 7 Ladram Road, Alverstoke, Gosport, Hants.). This meeting was arranged by Matthew Oates. Sites around Selborne were visited on the Saturday followed by Ashford Chace and The Warren on Sunday. The weather was a little mixed for the seven people involved. Diptera in general were collected and although some groups did particularly well hoverflies were a little thin on the ground. One interesting find was Dasysyrphus lunulatus which was unexpected on the chalk. On the Sunday Dave Clements and his wife joined us from Cirencester. Despite the morning rain some notable finds were made including Cheilosia nigripes found in some numbers in one meadow and Microdon devius on the more open chalk grassland.

BEAULY FIRTH Nr INVERNESS 17-19 JUNE & BEINN EIGHE NNR, WESTER ROSS 20-25 JUNE - Ken Watt (Zoology Dept., Univrsity of Aberdeen,

Tillydrone Av., Aberdeen, AB9 2TN). About 30 Entomologists enjoyed the customary fine June weather and the comforts of Tarradale House on the shores of Beauly Firth for the 7th annual Scottish Entomologists Meeting. Ian MacGowan arranged access to many interesting sites from wooded gorges and high moorlands to wet bogs. Over the two days the most noteworthy species taken were Platycheirus melanopsis & Platycheirus immarginatus from the lochside at Achnacloich; Ferdinandea cuprea from oak woods at Drummondreach; Platycheirus tarsalis & Pyrophaena rosarum at L. Achilty; Chrysogaster virescens & Sphaerophoria abbreviata from Strathrory, a mixed moorland and woodland site. Undoubtedly the most notable find was Microdon mutablis by Geoff Hancock at Monadh Mohr. [Details above -Ed.].

After Beauly several Dipterists went over to Beinne Eighe NNR and stayed at Anancuan Field Centre, a very pleasant facility recently opened by the NCC. We were going to try and find larvae of Callicera rufa in rot-holes on the pines. After half a days search armed with a ladder we were rewarded by finding a few early stage larvae in a small rot-hole, thereby considerably extending the known distribution of this magnificant hoverfly. Later that week, while returning from a midsummer night's stroll up Beinn Eighe (!) we were driving back to the field centre when hawk eyed Graham Rotheray spotted a suitable tree by the roadside. At 11 pm we were back at the tree with a ladder and Graham had his arm into the rot-hole - a strange sight for passing motorists! However, handful after handful of rotting pine needles and dozens of squirming C. rufa larvae was more than ample reward!

RODDLESWORTH, LANCASHIRE, 16 JULY 1988 - Chris Palmer (Liverpool Museum, William Brown St., Liverpool, L3 8EN). Eleven dedicated hoverfly enthusiasts survived a day of torrential rain in the Pennines aided by the sustenance provided at our meeting place, The Royal Arms Hotel. To oue amazement 15 bedraggled species were recorded by sweeping and diligent searching and a few of these, notably all 3 Syrphus spp., Leucozona glaucia, Metasyrphus corollae, M. luniger and Platycheirus albimanus were seen flying in the rain! On a previous occasion at this site, I have taken Parasyrphus lineolus, Chryogaster virescens, Brachypaloides lenta, Xylota coeruleiventris and Epistrophe nitidicollis among a total of 35 species.

WYRE FOREST 6/7 AUGUST 1988 - Colin Plant (Passmore Edwards Museum, 29 Romford Road, Stratford, London E15 4LY). There was a good turnout for this joint weekend meeting with the BENHS, in spite of at least one person encountering initial confusion between Wyre and Wye! Part of Saturday was spent along the disused railway track which runs parallel to Dowles Brook and then along the valley bottom, taking in several ancient meadows. Sadly, insects were not numerous but we did manage Metasyrphus nitens, a Wyre Forest speciality and several Chrysotoxum arcuatum, surely at the southern edge of its British range here?

However, by far the most useful records were Xylota florum and X. coeruliventris in the same region of the forest! It's been suggested that these two species have mutually exclusive distributions - clearly there is overlap at Wyre Forest. In the afternoon, at a newly annexed satellite wood, Rock Coppice, a male Sphegina verecunda was taken in a marshy area.

Refreshed by beer (and a night's sleep) we set off on Sunday to examine the Forestry Commission part of the forest at Hawkbatch. Here we took Sphaerophoria virgata, S. batava, S. menthastri and S. philanthus. Other species taken included Cheilosia scutellata and C. bergenstammi. A Didea specimen issued a challenge by sitting momentarily on a flower but vanished before nets could be lifted. It was probably fasciata, a species already known from the forest. In summary it seemed a lot of work for only a few flies, but quality made up for quantity.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MALAISE TRAPPING - Peter Follett (24 Medoc Close, Pitsea, Basildon, Essex, SS13 1NR) has tabulated daily catches of hoverflies from a Malaise Trap in his garden run for the past two years. This data is available to anyone interested. Peter would welcome correspondence with anyone using a Malaise Trap for recording syrphids, with a view to correlating migratory movements across the UK and for comparison on species abundance etc.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS - M.C.Aldridge (Local recorder for Herts & Middlx) will be in France from 17.ix.1988 to 30.ix.1989 at Parc des Aigles, Batiment 1C, 60270, Gouvieux, France.

HAMPSHIRE HOVERFLY RECORDING GROUP - Is there anyone in Hampshire's neighbouring counties who collects hoverflies or who would like to collect hoverflies from Hampshire? If so, Ian Hudson (Eaglehurst, 7 Ladram Road, Alverstoke, Gosport, Hants.) would like to hear from you. Ian is setting up a recording group with newsletter, meetings etc.

WYRE FOREST HOVERFLIES - Colin Plant and Nigel Jones (Passmore Edwards Museum, 29 Romford Road, Stratford, London E15 4LY) are now in the final stages of producing a list of Wyre Forest hoverflies. If anyone has records from Wyre, old or new of any species, common or rare, Colin and Nigel would be pleased to hear of them.

HOVERFLY RECORDS WANTED - Ken Watt (Zoology Dept. Nat. Hist. Museum, University of Aberdeen, Tillydrone Avenue, Aberdeen, AB9 2TN) is compiling a list of hoverflies from the Grampian Region of Scotland ie. Aberdeenshire, Kincardineshire, Banffshire & Morayshire. If anyone has records of hoverflies from these areas please pass them on to Ken.

HOVERFLY WORKSHOP - Following the workshop in April this year which was devoted to coping with identification problems, a follow up workshop is being planned for 1989. This time, among other things, we hope to have Steven Falk and Graham Rotheray as invited speakers talking about Cheilosia. Details from Steven Judd, Liverpool Museum, William Brown St., Liverpool, L3 8EN.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

d'Aguilar, J. & Coutin, R. 1988. Cheilosia caerulescens Meigen, ravageur des Joubarbes [C. caerulscens Mg., a destroyer of houseleek - Ed.]. Bull. Soc. ent. Fr. 92: 307-309.

Burbidge, A. Owen, J. & Fowler, J.A. 1988. Some records of Hoverflies (Dipt., Syrphidae) in Shetland. Entomologist's mon. Mag. 124: 44.

Clements, D.K. 1988. Dasysyrphus friuliensis van der Goot (Dipt., Syrphidae) in Northumberland. Entomologist's mon. Mag. 124: 144.

Drake, C.M. 1988. Diptera from the Gwent Levels, South Wales. Entomologist's mon. Mag. 124: 37-44.

Ebejer, M.J. 1988. Some records of hoverflies (Diptera, Syrphidae) from Malta. Entomologist's Gaz. 39: 160-164.

Little, C., Payne, R.M., Aaldhous, A. & Scott, P. 1988. The insect fauna of saltmarshes in the Severn Estuary: a preliminary survey. Entomologist's Gaz. 39: 235-246.

Plant, C.W. 1988. Sphaerophoria virgata (Dipt., Syrphidae) in the Wyre Forest, with notes on other Sphaerophoria at this locality. Entomologist's Rec. J. Var. 100: 73-74.

Rotheray, G.E. 1988. Third stage larvae of six aphidophagous Syrphidae (Diptera). Entomologist's Gaz. 39: 153-159.

Rotheray, G.E. 1988. Morphology and feeding behaviour of the leaf-mining larva of Cheilosia semifasciata (Diptera: Syrphidae). J. nat. Hist. 22: 865-873.

Thorpe, E. 1988. Another Look at Flowers. Derbyshire Ent. Soc. Quart. J. pp 7-12.

Torp, E. 1987. Syrphidae (Diptera) from the Skallingen Penninsula, western coast of Jutland, Denmark. Entomol. Medd. 54: 63-65.