

## INSECTS ON LUNDY, 1989

By

A.J. PARSONS

Barnfield, Tower Hill Road, Crewkerne, Somerset.

The following species were recorded between 22nd and 29th July, 1989. The weather was extremely good (July was the eighth hottest in 300 years) and an opportunity was taken to search particularly for small parasitic hymenoptera. In so doing, a remarkable number of insects (nearly 600 species) was recorded. This list details primarily those species which do not appear to have been recorded previously from Lundy (these being marked with an asterisk).

*Collembola* (springtails)

\* *Dicyrtomina saundersi* (Lubb.) St. John's Valley.

*Orthoptera* (grasshoppers & crickets)

*Leptophyes punctatissima* (Bosc) (Speckled Bush-cricket) one female in Millcombe.

There appears to be only one previous record.

*Psocoptera* (booklice)

\* *Cuneopalpus cyanops* (Rost.) common; pines, Millcombe.

\* *Elipsocus hyalinus* (Steph.) turkey oak, Millcombe.

\* *Elipsocus westoodi* McLach. frequent; various trees, south-east.

\* *Peripsocus phaeopterus* (Steph.) apple tree, Millcombe.

\* *Ectopsocus briggsi* McLach. pine, Millcombe.

\* *Graphopsocus cruciatus* (L.) sedges, St. John's Valley

\* *Caecilius flavidus* (Steph.) apple tree, Millcombe.

*Heteroptera* (shield-bugs)

\* *Myrmus miriformis* (Fall.) one; Acklands Moor.

\* *Nysius thymi* (Wolff) three males; clifftop, South West field.

\* *Nabis rugosus* (L.) male; Punchbowl Valley.

\* *Anthocoris confusus* Reut. common; turkey oak & sallow, Millcombe.

\* *Dicyphus pallicornis* (Meyer-Dur) frequent; grasses, SE slopes.

\* *Campyloneura virgula* (Herr.-Sch.) turkey oak; St Helen's Cope.

\* *Blepharidopterus angulatus* (Fall.) apple tree, Millcombe. One of the most important predators on the fruit-tree red-spider mite.

\* *Pithamus maerkeli* (Herr.-Sch.) several sites, southern half.

\* *Trigonotylus ruficornis* (Geoff.) several sites, southern half.

*Homoptera Auchenorrhyncha* (leafhoppers)

\* *Evacanthus interruptus* (L.) male; mint, Millcombe.

\* *Arthaldeus pascuellus* (Fall.) male; yellow water trap, Brambles.

\* *Streptanus sordidus* (Zett.) male; yellow water trap, Brambles.

\* *Ribautiana tenerrima* (Herr.-Sch.) male; turkey oak, Millcombe.

\* *Zyginidia scutellaris* (Herr.-Sch.) male; yellow water trap, Brambles.

\* *Cixius nervosus* (L.) male; pond below Millcombe.

\* *Stenocranus minutus* (Fab.) several (final instars); Millcombe.

\* *Euconomelus lepidus* (Boh.) common, Pondsburry and Quarterwall pond areas.

\* *Conomelus anceps* (Germ.) common; five sites over southern half.

\* *Muellerianella* species. One macropterous female. A complicated genus of three species in which only males can be reliably identified. In at least one of the three, males are uncommon, females having two different chromosomal 'biotypes'. Positive identification will have to await capture of a male.

\* *Javesella pellucida* (Fab.) several; damp area, South West Field.

*Homoptera Sternorhyncha* (psyllids and aphids)

- \* *Livia juncorum* (Latr.) frequent; three sites on west side.
- \* *Psylla foersteri* Flor common; alder, St Helen's Copse.
- \* *Psylla melanoneura* Forst. common; pines, Millcombe. A hawthorn psyllid, commonly found using pines as 'shelter hosts'.
- \* *Trioza urticae* (L.) male and female; nettles, Battery.
- \* *Triberolachmus salignus* (Gmel.) sallow, Millcombe.
- \* *Anoecia nemoralis* Born. one alate; yellow water trap, Brambles.

*Thysanoptera* (thrips)

- \* *Thrips major* (Uzel) common; creeping thistle, St John's Valley.

*Neuroptera* (lacewings)

- \* *Hemerobius humulinus* L. Millcombe
- \* *Hemerobius micans* Oliv. Millcombe.
- \* *Kimminsia subnebulosa* (Steph.) St John's Valley and Battery.
- \* *Micromus variegatus* (Fab.) Millcombe and St John's Valley.

*Coleoptera* (beetles)

- \* *Phosphuga atrata* (L.) one found dead in a spider's web on gorse on the southern cliff-top.
- Cypha laeviuscula* (Mann.) creeping thistle, St John's Valley. A tiny rove beetle, recorded once before, in 1906 (N.H.Joy).
- Tinotus morion* (Grav.) one swept, south-west cliff-top. A tiny beetle, recorded twice before (R.C.Welch & M.J.D.Brendell).
- \* *Apion minutum* Germ. one (a particularly large specimen, being 4.6 mm from base of rostrum) on broad-leaved dock by Brambles.
- \* *Pissodes castaneus* (Degeer) one; young *Pinus radiata*, Millcombe.
- Sibinia sodalis* Germ. one; south-west cliff-top. A tiny weevil living on thrift, recorded once before, in 1913 (R.S.Mitford & H.Donisthorpe).

*Hymenoptera Symphyta* (sawflies)

- \* *Athalia circularis* (Klug) male; Millcombe.

*Hymenoptera Parasitica* (ichneumons, etc.)

(*Ichneumonidae*)

- \* *Acrodactyla degener* (Hal.) female; Millcombe. A parasite of linyphiid spiders.
- \* *Lysibia nana* (Grav.) one female emerged from *Apanteles villanus* cocoon (see below).
- \* *Gelis areator* (Panz.) female; yellow water trap, Brambles. Male and female; turkey oak, St Helen's Copse.
- Gelis instabilis* (Foerst) seven females emerged from cocoon of *Apanteles villanus* (see below).
- \* *Glypta fronticornis* (Grav.) female; Punchbowl Valley.
- \* *Lissonota femorata* Holm. female; St John's Valley.
- \* *Barycnemis harpurus* (Schränk) male and female; Battery.
- \* *Homotropus dimidiatus* (Schränk) female; stream N of Millcombe.
- \* *Tymnophorus rufiventris* (Grav.) males; Punchbowl Valley and St John's Valley.
- \* *Diplazon laetatorius* (Fab.) females; Punchbowl Valley, North End and Millcombe.
- \* *Sussaba dorsalis* (Holm.) male; Punchbowl Valley.
- \* *Sussaba pulchella* (Holm.) female; Punchbowl Valley.
- \* *Dicaelotus pumilus* (Grav.) female; pine, Millcombe.

(*Braconidae*)

- \* *Synaldis distracta* (Nees) male and female; swept, Millcombe.
- \* *Coelinidea niger* (Nees) female; yellow water trap, Brambles.
- \* *Chorebus esbelta* (Nixon) female; Punchbowl Valley.  
(These three species are parasites of various flies).

\* *Apanteles sicarius* Marsh. two females; swept, Millcombe.

A parasite of caterpillars of several moth species..

*Apanteles villanus* Rein. on 23rd July, a white cocoon was found on *Juncus articulatus* in Punchbowl Valley. On 25th July, fourteen parasites had emerged, these being five male and three female *A. villanus* (the primary parasite), and seven female *Gelis instabilis* and one female *Lysibia nana* (these being secondary parasites - 'hyperparasites' on the *Apanteles*). *A. villanus* is known to be a parasite of arctiid moths and the host may well have been a Cream-spot Tiger Moth (*Arctia villica*) caterpillar. *A. villanus* and the little, wingless *G. instabilis* (which resembles an ant) have both been found before on Lundy and it seems likely that this particular host/primary parasite/hyperparasites relationship may be well established on the island.

\* *Macrocentrus infirmus* (Nees) female; pond below Millcombe. A gregarious parasite of noctuid moth larvae on low vegetation.

\* *Macrocentrus linearis* (Nees) male; sallow, Millcombe. A gregarious parasite of many different caterpillars (usually concealed in spun or rolled leaves).

\* *Meteorus abdominalator* (Nees) female; depression by Rocket Pole. Probably a parasite of beetle larvae.

\* *Centistes cuspidatus* (Hal.) two males; apple tree, Millcombe.

\* *Praon abjectum* (Hal.) female; Millcombe. A parasite of aphids.

Cynipoidea (gall-wasps, etc)

(Charipidae)

\* *Alloxysta macrophadna* (Hart.) female; swept, rushes north of Rocket Pole.

(Eucolidae)

\* *Cothonaspis longula* Nordl. female; swept, damp area South West Field at 21/132439 on 24th July. There is one previous British record of this species (which was described in 1976).

\* *Kleidotoma caledonica* Cam. female; swept, rushes north of Rocket Pole. A parasite of sphaerocerid flies of the genus *Leptocera*.

\* *Trybliographa rapae* (Westw.) male; rushes north of Rocket Pole. A parasite of the cabbage root fly, *Erioischia brassicae*, and probably other species.

(Figitidae)

\* *Anacharis immunis* Walk. female; turkey oak, St Helen's Copse. A parasite of lacewings.

\* *Aegilips nitidula* (Dalm.) three males; swept, Millcombe. A parasite of lacewings of the family Hemerobiidae.

*Sarothrus tibialis* (Zett.) female; sallow, Millcombe. Possibly a parasite of anthomyiid flies.

Chalcidoidea (chalcids - tiny, mostly metallic, parasitic species).

(Ewrytomidae)

\* *Tetramesa hyalipennis* (Walk.) grasses, lower eastern slopes. A gall maker on grasses of *Agropyron* species.

(Torymidae)

\* *Torymus pulchellus* Thoms. female; sallow, Millcombe. A parasite of cecidomyiid gall midges on willows.

(Pteromalidae)

\* *Asaphes vulgaris* Walk. abundant; Millcombe, St John's Valley and St Helen's Copse.

\* *Plutothrix scenicus* (Walk.) two females; turkey oak, St Helen's Copse. Possibly a parasite of woodworm beetles.

\* *Cyrtogaster vulgaris* Walk. frequent; Millcombe. A parasite of agromyzid, opomyzid and chloropid flies.

\* *Rhincocoelia constans* (Walk.) male; damp area, South West Field. Hosts unknown but probably small flies.

- \* *Xestomaster chrysochlorus* (Walk.) male; apple tree, Millcombe. A parasite of tephritid and agromyzid flies.
- \* *Semiotellus mundus* (Walk.) female; yellow water trap, Brambles. Hosts unknown.
- \* *Homoporus febriculosus* (Gir.) female; swept, Millcombe. A parasite of numerous hymenoptera.
- \* *Homoporus luniger* (Nees) male; swept, Millcombe. A parasite of *Tetramesa* species chalcids.
- \* *Hobbya stenonota* (Ratz.) female; swept, St John's Valley. A parasite of cynipids, primarily on oak.
- \* *Stenomalina gracilis* (Walk.) female; apple tree, Millcombe. A parasite of agromyzid and chloropid flies.
- \* *Stenomalina illudens* (Walk.) female; swept, Millcombe. Possibly a parasite of chloropid flies.
- \* *Mesopolobus graminum* (Hardh) male & female; different areas of South West Field. A parasite of various chalcids and other insects in grassy areas.
- \* *Mesopolobus incultus* (Walk.) female; South West Field. A primary or secondary parasite of weevils.
- \* *Mesopolobus prasinus* (Walk.) (su Graham) female; creeping thistle, St John's Valley. Probably a parasite of chloropid flies.
- \* *Meraporus graminicola* Walk. common; pines, Millcombe (using these as 'shelter host'). A parasite of cecidomyiid midges in grasses.
- \* *Coelopisthia extenta* (Walk.) female; swept, Millcombe. A parasite of tortrix moths of Archips and possibly related genera.
- \* *Pachyneuron concolor* (Forst.) male; swept, Millcombe. Probably a secondary parasite of chalcids on various chamaemyiid and chloropid flies.

(Encyrtidae)

- \* *Dinocarsis hemiptera* (Dalm.) females abundant; short turf, South West Field. A parasite of mealy bugs on grasses.
- \* *Aphidencyrtus aphidivorus* (Mayr) female; swept, Millcombe. A secondary parasite of aphids.
- \* *Trechmites fuscitarsis* Thoms. male; sallow, Millcombe. A parasite of psyllids: perhaps of *Psylla saliceti*, which is common here.
- \* *Copidosoma filicorne* (Dalm.) female; swept, Millcombe. A parasite of micro-moths of the genus *Gelechia*.

(Eulophidae)

- \* *Hemiptarsenus unguicellus* (Zett.) male & female; rushes north of Rocket Pole. A parasite of agromyzid flies and elachistid moths.
- \* *Diglyphus isaea* (Walk.) male; swept, Millcombe. A parasite of various agromyzid flies.
- \* *Tetrastichus amethystinus* (Ratz.) female; rushes, South West Field. A primary parasite of micro-moths, particularly *Lithocolletidae* and *Lyonetiidae*, or a secondary parasite of these through other chalcids.
- \* *Pediobius foliorum* (Geoff.) two males; swept, Millcombe. Probably a secondary parasite of certain moths through the chalcid *Eulophus*.

Proctotrupoidea (proctotrupids - small, usually black, parasites)

(Diapriidae)

- \* *Aclista filicornis* (Kieff.) male; yellow water trap, Brambles.
- \* *Platymischus dilatatus* Westw. males abundant (thousands), females common (hundreds) at and near high water mark on Landing Beach. A tiny wingless parasite of shore-flies.
- \* *Trichopria sequester* (Nixon) male; swept, Millcombe. A species described in 1980.

Hymenoptera - Aculeata (ants, wasps & bees)

(Formicidae)

- Leptothorax acervorum* (Fab.) one queen; east side. There is a record in the Biological Records Centre for this species, from Lundy, since 1960, but I am not aware of the source.

(Sphecidae)

- \* *Mellinus arvensis* (L.) two males; Battery.

(Apidae)

- \* *Lasioglossum albipes* (Fab.) male; Punchbowl Valley. (The family Halictidae is now given subfamily status).

Diptera (two-winged flies)

- \* *Nephrotoma flavipalpis* (Mg.) female; Millcombe.
- \* *Tipula luteipennis* Mg. male & female at light; Brambles.
- \* *Erioptera fuscipennis* Mg. male; pond below Millcombe.
- \* *Halocladus varians* (Staeg.) males abundant at light; Brambles. One male; Punchbowl Valley.
- \* *Chironomus anthracinus* Zett. male at light; Brambles.
- Platosciara brachyptera* (Kieff.) thirty-five males; yellow water trap, Brambles.  
Recorded in 1913 from a nest of *Lasius alienus* (Donisthorpe).
- \* *Bradysia aprica* (Winn.) male; Punchbowl Valley.
- \* *Dolichopus trivialis* (Hal.) female; St John's Valley.
- \* *Medetera micacea* Loew male & female; short turf, Battery.
- \* *Chrysotus gramineus* (Fall.) female; yellow water trap, Brambles.
- \* *Diploneura funebris* (Mg.) nine females; yellow water trap, Brambles.
- \* *Metasyrphus latifasciatus* (Macqu.) female; Punchbowl Valley.
- \* *Sphaerophoria philanthus* (Mg.) male; Acklands Moor. A female, egg-laying in a damp patch on the south west cliffs, was probably also this species.
- \* *Platycheirus clypeatus* (Mg.) females; Punchbowl Valley & South West Field.
- \* *Platycheirus manicatus* (Mg.) female; Punchbowl Valley.
- \* *Neoascia tenur* (Harr.) males; Punchbowl & St John's Valleys.
- \* *Lyciella pallidiventris* (Fall.) two females; Millcombe.
- Themira annulipes* (Mg.) male; Quarterwall Pond.
- \* *Sepsis flavimana* Mg. female; pond below Millcombe.
- \* *Tetanocera punctifrons* Rond. female; St John's Valley.
- \* *Hydrellia ranunculi* (Hal.) female; Punchbowl Valley.
- \* *Cerodontha geniculata* (Fall.) female; Punchbowl Valley.
- \* *Tricimba cincta* (Mg.) male; yellow water trap, Brambles.
- Oscinella hortensis* Coll. males & females; Brambles & Battery.