

INSECTS ON LUNDY, 1990

By

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The following species were amongst those recorded between 21st and 28th July, 1990. The weather was good (another hot, dry summer) but insects were less plentiful than in 1989. Species which do not appear to have been recorded previously from Lundy are marked *.

Heteroptera (shield-bugs)

Scolopostethus decoratus (Hahn) Terraces.

* *Piesma quadratum* (Fieb.) two, Battery, 26th.

Calocoris norvegicus (Gmel.) Millcombe.

Homoptera Auchenorrhyncha (leafhoppers)

Philaenus spumarius (L.) Millcombe walled garden.

Neophilaenus lineatus (L.) frequent; several sites in south-east.

* *Elymana sulphurella* (Zett.) female, Jenny's Cove, 22nd.

Muellerianella sp. Last year, I reported the finding of females of this genus. In 1990, I found numerous females in Millcombe and St John's Valley but was unable to find any males. Close examination leads me to believe that the species is probably *M. fairmairei* (Perris), but I cannot be absolutely certain. It may well be that the species is parthenogenetic on Lundy and the identity of the species may have to remain tentative.

Homoptera Sternorrhyncha (psyllids and aphids)

Trioza urticae (L.) the nettle psyllid was very common in Millcombe and St John's Valley.

Neuroptera (lacewings)

Kimmisia subnebulosa (Steph.) male, at light, Brambles Villa, 26th.

Trichoptera (caddis-flies)

(all these were captured at light at Brambles Villa)

Plectrocnemia geniculata McLach. three males.

Limnephilus hirsutus (Pict.) two males

Limnephilus marmoratus Curt. one female

Limnephilus sparsus Curt. two males, two females

Limnephilus vittatus (Fab.) male and female

* *Stenophylax lateralis* (Steph.) male, 26th.

* *Crunoecia irrorata* (Curt.) male, 26th.

Coleoptera (beetles)

Cicindela campestris (L.) only one tiger beetle was seen during the week - remarkably scarce this year.

Notiophilus biguttatus (Fab.) common: V.C. Quarry, Battery, Jenny's Cove.

Trechus obtusus Erich. Terraces.

Pterostichus versicolor (Sturm) near Quarterwall Pond.

Harpalus rufipes (Degeer) Brambles Villa.

Bradycellus harpalinus (Serv.) Terraces.

Bradycellus verbasci (Duft.) Terraces. V.C. Quarry.

Cercyon haemorrhoidalis (Fab.) above Battery (in mass insect flight movement).

Cercyon pygmaeus (Illig.) above Battery (in mass insect flight movement).

Nicrophorus investigator Zett. Quarries.

Proteinus brachypterus (Fab.) Millcombe walled garden.

Oxytelops [= *Anotylus*] *tetracarimatus* (Block) above Battery (in mass insect flight movement).

Cafius xantholoma (Grav.) at least twelve under seaweed, Landing Beach.
Tinotus morion (Grav.) above Battery (in mass insect flight movement).
Aleochara lanuginosa Grav. seven, above Battery (in mass insect flight movement).
Serica brunnea (L.) at light, Brambles Villa.
Cetonia aurata (L.) the rosechafer, although widespread (Castle, St John's Valley, Millcombe, Gannets' Coombe), was only present in small numbers (day maximum seven).

Kateretes rufilabris (Latr.) Millcombe walled gardens.
Brachypterus glaber (Steph.) Millcombe walled gardens.
Brachypterus urticae (Fab.) Millcombe walled gardens.
Meligethes viridescens (Fab.) above Battery (in mass insect flight movement).
Micrambe vini (Panz.) frequent, Beach Road.
Corticaria gibbosa (Herbst.) Millcombe walled gardens.
Cylindronotus laevioctostriatus (Goeze) East Sidelands, Jenny's Cove.
Ctenopus sulphureus (L.) 100+ on yarrow, Castle area.
Apion frumentarium (L.) [= *miniatum* Germ.] on broad-leaved dock, Brambles Villa.
Otiorhynchus rufifrons (Gyll.) Jenny's Cove.
Otiorhynchus sulcatus (Fab.) at light, Brambles Villa.

Hymenoptera Symphyta (sawflies)

* *Zaraea fasciata* (L.) female, on angelica, Quarry Pond, 28th.

Strongylogaster lineata (Christ) female, on bracken, Terraces.

Aneugmenus padi (L.) female, Gannets' Coombe.

Hymenoptera Parasitica (ichneumons, etc)

(*Ichneumonidae*)

Pimpla flavicoxis Thoms. female, St John's Valley.

Gelis sp. (probably *curtis* (Fab.)) two males which are tentatively identified as this species were captured at light at Brambles Villa on 26th.

Exetastes illusor Grav. male and female, St John's Valley.

Acroricinus stylator (Thun.) two females, both on angelica in St John's Valley.

Glypta vulnerator Grav. female, Millcombe.

Banchus volutatorius (L.) males and females frequent along east side from Castle to Gannets' Coombe; on west side above Battery and west Acklands Moor.

Encospilus ramidulus (L.) frequent and widespread in Millcombe, Quarterwall Copse, Terraces, Brazen Ward and Gannets' Coombe.

* *Polyblastus* (*Labroctonus*) *nanus* Kasp. female, at tungsten-halogen light, Brambles Villa (21/139439), 26th. This species was described in 1973 from ten specimens from eastern Siberia and the Leningrad region. My identification of the Lundy specimen has been confirmed by Dr Michael Fitton and the specimen is in the British Museum collection. This is the first record for Britain of this species. *Polyblastus* species are parasites of sawflies.

Heteropelma amictum (Fab.) six females, Millcombe, northernmost quarry and East Sidelands.

Homotropus elegans (Grav.) female, Terraces.

Diplazon laetatorius (Fab.) females, St John's Valley, Beach Road and Terraces.

* *Coelichneumon purpurissatus* Perk. On 27th August, 1985, a female which I identified as this species was captured on angelica flowers in Millcombe. This species was described in 1953 although there were apparently only nine specimens known (interestingly, six of these came from Cornwall and one from Devon). The specimen was placed in the British Museum collection. The record was not published at the time as I was unable to obtain confirmation from the Museum. On 23rd July 1990, an undoubted male of the species was found on angelica in St John's Valley.

(*Braconidae*)

* *Microplitis mediator* (Hal.) male, East Sidelands, 24th.

* *Pygostylus sticticus* (Fab.) female, at light, Brambles Villa, 24th.

* *Phaenoglyphis villosa* (Hartig) two females, Millcombe walled gardens, 23rd. (A parasite of anthomyiid flies of the genus *Pegohylemyia*).

(Torymidae)

- * *Torymus socius* Mayr female, swept Millcombe, 27th. (A parasite of the midge *Kiefferia pimpinellae* K. in seed heads of wild carrot, hogweed, ground elder, etc.).

(Pteromalidae)

- * *Miscogaster rufipes* Walk. female, above Landing Beach, 23rd.

Meraporus graminicola Walk. female, St John's Valley.

Pachyneuron concolor (Forst.) female, North End (in flight).

(Eulophidae)

- * *Elachertas isadas* (Walk.) female, St John's Valley, 23rd.

(Proctotrupidae)

- * *Exallonyx* [= *Codrus*] *trichomus* Townes female, upper Beach Road, 23rd. A parasite of staphylinid beetles, described in 1981.

(Dryinidae)

- * *Lonchodryinus* [= *Prenanteon*] *ruficornis* (Dalm.) (su Olmi, 1984) male, St John's Valley, 27th. A parasite of leafhoppers, including *Psammotettix confinis* (Dahl.).

(Chrysididae)

Chrysis rutiliventris Ab. de Perr. female, Millcombe.

(Formicidae)

Myrmica scabrinodis Nyl. frequent, Jenny's Cove.

Tetramorium caespitum (L.) Battery and Jenny's Cove.

Formica fusca L. Beach Road.

Lasius alienus (Forst.) frequent, upper Beach Road.

Lasius flavus (Fab.) Jenny's Cove.

(Eumenidae)

- * *Ancistrocerus trifasciatus* (Mull.) female, Millcombe, 22nd.

(Vespidae)

Dolichovespula sylvestris (Scop.) occasional workers of the 'tree wasp' were found between Castle area and Gannets's Coombe on the east side and near Squire's View on the west side. This is undoubtedly a resident species.

Vespula vulgaris (L.) a single worker of this, the commonest of the social wasps, in St John's Valley.

(Sphecidae)

Crossocerus elongatulus (v.d.Lind.) male, Terraces.

(Apidae)

Lasioglossum calceatum (Scop.) two, Millcombe walled gardens.

Diptera (two-winged flies)

Nephrotoma flavipalpis (Meig.) female, Millcombe.

Tipula cava Ried. male, Millcombe.

Tipula maxima Poda female, St John's Valley.

- * *Psychoda alternata* Say female, Millcombe walled gardens, 22nd. A species which is generally rare away from sewerage beds (note the site).

Macrocera phalerata Meig. frequent, St John's Valley and Millcombe.

Macrocera stigmoides Eds. male, lower Beach Road.

Macrorhyncha flava Winn. two males, on angelica, Quarry Pond.

- * *Reichertella pulicaria* (Loew) female, St John's Valley. Only recorded previously from Cornwall, Norfolk and Clear Island.

Rhagmoclema collini Cook female, St John's Valley.

Rhagmoclema coxendix (Verr.) male, St John's Valley.

Chloromyia formosa (Scop.) frequent, St John's Valley, Millcombe, above St Helen's Copse and Gannet's Coombe.

Chrysopilus cristatus (Fab.) female, St John's Valley.

Platypalpus pallidiventris (Meig.) several, above Battery (in mass insect flight movement).

Hybos culiciformis (Fab.) several, Terraces and East Sidelands.

* *Leptopeza flavipes* (Meig.) female, East Sidelands, 24th.

Dolichopus atripes Meig. two males, St John's Valley.

* *Dolichopus brevipennis* Meig. male and two females, yellow water traps, St John's Valley, 24th.

Dolichopus plumipes (Scop.) female, St John's Valley.

Dolichopus unguilatus (L.) frequent, St John's Valley.

* *Aphrosylus ferox* Hal. female, Hell's Gates, 23rd.

* *Achalcus flavicollis* (Meig.) two females, southern side of Millcombe, 23rd.

Chrysotus gramineus (Fall.) two males, two females, St John's Valley.

Campsicnemus loripes (Hal.) two males, St John's Valley.

* *Pipunculus campestris* Latr. male, to light, Brambles Villa, 26th.

Syrphus ribesii (L.) male, St John's Valley.

Eupeodes [= *Metasyrphus*] *corollae* (Fab.) male, St John's Valley.

Scaeva pyrastris (L.) several, Millcombe.

Episyrphus balteatus (Degeer) common, St John's Valley.

Sphaerophoria philanthus (Meig.) male, St John's Valley.

Sphaerophoria scripta (L.) frequent, St John's Valley.

Platycheirus albimanus (Fab.) frequent, St John's Valley.

Platycheirus angustatus (Zett.) male, St John's Valley.

Platycheirus clypeatus (Meig.) this hoverfly, which has proved to be common on Lundy, has been suspected of consisting of more than one closely related species. In July, I collected a small number of males and females in St John's Valley, to examine closely. In 1990, Goeldlin de Tiefenau, Speight and Mailbach published descriptions and keys to species in the *clypeatus* group, including three species new to Britain. My specimens were all *P. clypeatus* and there is no evidence, so far, of any of the newly described species on Lundy.

Platycheirus scutatus (Meig.) female, Gannets' Coombe.

Pyrrophaena granditarsa (Forst.) two females, St John's Valley.

Syriza pipiens (L.) common, Millcombe walled gardens.

Eristalis arbustorum (L.) male, St John's Valley.

Eristalinus aeneus (Scop.) common, Jenny's Cove.

Sepsis cynipsea (L.) common, above Battery (in mass insect flight movement).

Sepsis duplicata Hal. male, above Battery (in mass insect flight movement).

Sepsis fulgens Meig. male, Millcombe walled gardens.

Sepsis orthocnemis Frey common, above Battery (in mass insect flight movement).

Sepsis thoracica (Rob.-Desv.) male, above Battery (in mass insect flight movement).

Lotophila atra (Meig.) frequent, St John's Valley.

Thorachochaeta zosteræ (Hal.) male, Hell's Gates.

Anthomyza sordidella (Zett.) female, St John's Valley.

Hydrellia griseola (Fall.) very common, several damp sites.

* *Paraphytomyza cornigera* Griff. mines common on honeysuckle, just below Millcombe, 27th.

* *Phytomyza nigra* (Meig.) male, yellow water trap, St John's Valley, 24th.

* *Theilara nigripes* (Fab.) three females, St John's Valley, 26th.

Limnaemya vulpina (Fall.) female, Gannets' Coombe.

* *Eurithia anthophila* (Rob.-Desv.) male, Millcombe, 23rd.

Tachina grossa (L.) frequent and widespread. A total of sixty sightings during the week, between the Castle and Gannets' Coombe on the east side and between Aclands Moor and Squire's View on the west side. Two of these were on a wall, one on sallow and three on bracken. The rest were on the flowers of ten different plants, as follows:- angelica (30); creeping thistle (7); bramble, thrift and hemlock water dropwort (4 each); marsh thistle, bog pimpernel, yarrow, thyme and hydrangea (1 each).

Scathophaga stercoraria merdaria (Fab.) male, St John's Valley.

Fannia canicularis (L.) male, Landing Beach.

Phaonia incana Weid. three females, St John's Valley.

Coenosia femoralis Rob.-Desv. male, Millcombe.

REFERENCES

- Goeldlin de Tiefenau, P., Maibach, A. and Speight, M.C.D. 1990. Sur quelques especes de *Platycheirus* nouvelles ou meconnues. *Dipterists Digest*, 5, 19-44.
- Speight, M.C.D. and Goeldlin de Tiefenau, P. 1990. Keys to distinguish *Platycheirus angustipes*, *P. europaeus*, *P. occultus* and *P. ramsarensis* from other *clypeatus* group species known in Europe. *Dipterists Digest* 5, 5-18.