SOME ADDITIONS TO THE SPIDERS & HEMPITERA OF LUNDY

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Since publishing lists of these two invertebrate groups for the island (Alexander, 1990 & 1992), my attention has been drawn to a publication by Delany (1956) describing the animal communities of pioneer heath at a number of sites in south-west England and including Lundy. The paper includes lists of the animals recorded during fieldwork in 1951, and these include five Hemiptera and one spider new to the island lists. The full lists from this paper are as follows (an asterisk denotes the new island records):

HEMIPTERA - HETEROPTERA

Family Pentatomidae

* Zircrona caerulea (Linne)

Family Lygaeidae

- * Rhyparochromus pini (Linne)
- * Trapezonotus arenarius (Linne) Scolopostethus decoratus (Hahn)

Family Nabidae

* Nabis ericetorum Scholtz.

Family Miridae

* Dichrooscytus rufipennis (Fallen)

HEMIPTERA - HOMOPTERA

Family Cicadellidae Ulopa reticulata (Fabricius)

SPIDERS

Family Oonopidae Oonops pulcher Templeton

Family Thomisidae

Xysticus cristatus (Clerck)

Oxyptila trux (Blackwall)

Family Lycosidae

* Pardosa amentata (Clerck)

Family Tetragnathidae

Pachygnatha degeeri Sundevall

In my spider paper I drew attention to the presence on Rat Island of the scarce spider Atypus affirus in 1928, but unfortunately missed a 1981 record (Anon., 1982). It is not entirely surprising to learn that the spider has survived on Rat Island all this time, but welcome news nonetheless.

The additions to the Hemiptera list are of some interest in being characteristic species of lowland heath in southern Britain.

Zicrona caerulea is the predatory Blue Bug, which specialises on feeding on the larvae of chrysomelid beetles where they occur in great abundance. On heaths it favours heather beetle (Lochmaea suturalis Thomson, C.G.) and Altica spp., while in marshes Galerucella spp. and again Altica spp. are major food items. The third habitat type inhabited by the bug is calcareous grassland, where a wide range of chrysomelid larvae are to be found.

Rhyparochromus pini is the scarcest of the Heteroptera to be reported on Lundy - rare enough to be included in Kirkby (1992). While it is a species of sheltered heathland in south-weat England, it tends to be a more coastal species in the south-west, living on sand-dunes and seacliffs, and only occasionally found on true heaths. It is a seed-feeder.

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