



Het News

Newsletter of the UK Heteroptera Recording Schemes

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Announcements

County Recorder News

Several county recorders have requested access to data collected via iRecord, the popular online recording facility developed by the Biological Records Centre. Once a county recorder has created an account, BRC can set them with up the facility to download county datasets. Registered county recorders will also be able to verify submitted records, although there is no obligation to become involved with this. Please contact me for further details.

Tristan Bantock

IUCN Status Reviews for Heteroptera

IUCN status reviews are now complete for Terrestrial Heteroptera: Shieldbugs & allies and Aquatic Heteroptera. Both are available as PDF downloads from the Natural England website.

The data collation phase for the much larger group of Plant bugs & allies is now nearing completion, although publication of a final review is still a long way off and subject to further funding.

Dicyphini – Where are we going?

There does not at present appear to be a single published key for the identification of species of Dicyphid plant bugs of Europe. With the increasing use of 'alien' species in the control of glasshouse pests and the discovery of species new to both Britain and Europe current published works are fragmented and keys are in need of revision. This note is intended to stimulate those interested in the group to participate in the development of a key to those species likely to be encountered in Western Europe.

A current checklist of Dicyphini of Western Europe (excluding synonyms) is probably close to:

Campyloneura Fieber, 1858
Campyloneura virgula (Herrich-Schaeffer, 1838)

Campyloneuroopsis Poppius, 1914
Campyloneuroopsis fulva J. Ribes & E. Ribes, 2001
Canary Islands

Cyrtopeltis Fieber, 1860
Cyrtopeltis geniculata Fieber, 1861

Dicyphus Fieber, 1858
Sub-genus *Brachyceroea* Fieber, 1858

'globulifer' Group:

Dicyphus alluaudi Vidal, 1952

North Africa
Dicyphus cerutti Wagner, 1946
Dicyphus globulifer (Fallén, 1829)
Dicyphus geniculatus Fieber, 1858
Dicyphus heissi Ribes J. & Baena, 2006
Spain, Canary Islands
Dicyphus matocqi Ribes J. & Baena, 2006
Portugal
Dicyphus seleucus Seidenstucker, 1969
Turkey

'montandoni' Group:

Dicyphus montandoni Reuter, 1888

'annulatus' Group:

Dicyphus albonasutus Wagner, 1951
Dicyphus annulatus (Wolff, 1804)
Dicyphus botrydis Rieger, 2002
Dicyphus digitalidis Josifov, 1958

'thoracica' Group:

Dicyphus thoracicus Reuter, 1879
Kazakhstan
Dicyphus orientalis Reuter, 1879
Russia

Sub-genus *Dicyphus* Fieber, 1858

Dicyphus josifovi Rieger, 1995
Bulgaria, Crete (not attributed to a group)
Dicyphus poneli Matoq & J. Ribes, 2004
Madeira (not attributed to a group)

'hyalinipennis' Group:

Dicyphus alkannae Seidenstücker, 1956
Turkey
Dicyphus baezi J. Ribes, 1983
Canary Islands
Dicyphus bolivari bolivari Lindberg, 1934
Dicyphus bolivari atlanticus Wagner, 1951
Canary Islands
Dicyphus cerastii Wagner, 1951
Dicyphus eckerleini Wagner, 1963
Dicyphus escalerae Lindberg, 1934
Dicyphus hyalinipennis (Burmeister, 1835)
Dicyphus lindbergi Wagner, 1951
Cyprus
Dicyphus maroccanus Wagner, 1951
North Africa
Dicyphus stachydis stachydis J. Sahlberg, 1878
Dicyphus stachydis wagneri Tamanini, 1956
Dicyphus tamaninii Wagner, 1951
Dicyphus tumidifrons J. Ribes, 1997
Spain
Dicyphus umbertae Sanchez & Cassis, 2006

'pallidus' Group:

Dicyphus constrictus constrictus (Boheman, 1852)
Dicyphus pallidus (Herrich-Schaeffer, 1836)
Dicyphus flavoviridis Tamanini, 1949

Dicyphus rubicundus Blöte, 1929
Canary Islands

'errans' Group:

Dicyphus epilobii Reuter, 1883
Dicyphus errans (Wolff, 1804)

Sub-genus *Uhlerella* (Nearctic) Cassis, 198X
Dicyphus hesperus Knight, 1943
used in the biological control of tomato pests

Sub-genus *Idolocoris* Douglas & Scott, 1865
Dicyphus martinovi Josifov, 1958
Bulgaria
Dicyphus pallicornis (Fieber, 1861)

Macrolophus Fieber, 1858
Macrolophus melanotoma (A. Costa, 1853)
Macrolophus pygmaeus (Rambur, 1839)
Macrolophus rubi Woodroffe, 1957

Nesidiocoris Kirkaldy, 1902
Nesidiocoris tenuis (Reuter, 1895)
used in biological control of Tomato pests

Tupiocoris China & Carvalho, 1952
Tupiocoris rhododendri (Dolling, 1972)

The 'Group' clusters included above are based on Wagner's approach. This approach has generally been adopted by European workers as an aid to identification of species, but closer scrutiny is likely to challenge the validity of characters used by Wagner in separating the Groups, or the current association of species to those Groups.

If anyone is either interested in collaborating with me in this pursuit, or knows of anyone already engaged in such a pursuit would they please contact me.

Stuart Foster
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Species new to Britain

Mecidea lindbergi Wagner, 1954 (Pentatomidae)

Images of a strikingly elongate Pentatomid were posted on social media during December 2015 by Paul Harris, who had caught the bug in his Weymouth moth trap on 17.xii.15. On checking Derjanschi & Péricart (2005), it soon became obvious that it was a species of *Mecidea*, four of which are present in Europe where they are confined to the southern Mediterranean region and north Africa. Rather aptly, they are commonly known as 'Narrow Stink Bugs' in the USA.

The European species are difficult to separate and the specimen, a female, was posted to me for closer examination. Many morphological characters are apparently too variable to allow reliable species discrimination in this genus, including the form of the male genitalia. The most useful characters are rather subtle and comparative; the European key is based mainly on the proportions and relative size of the head and the

proportions and shape of the antennal segments (Derjanschi & Péricart, 2005).



Mecidea lindbergi ©T. Bantock

The bug keyed out tentatively to *Mecidea lindbergi* Wagner, the most widespread member of the genus in Europe, with a distribution extending from the Canary Islands across north Africa to the Middle East. The species is also known from parts of southern Italy and Greece, with a single record from the south coast of France in 2000 (Derjanschi & Péricart, 2005). Further south its range extends from the Cape Verde Islands to as far east as Pakistan. The bug feeds on grasses and like many such species, its colouration and shape afford excellent camouflage on the flower spikes. Reported host plants are species of Poaceae, including Marram Grass *Ammophila arenaria* (Carapezza, 1997).

Six further records of *Mecidea* followed in the period 18.xii.15 - 30.xii.15, including a second individual found by Paul in his garden, suggesting that large numbers of this relatively inconspicuous insect may have been involved in the influx. These records are detailed below; all were at or near the south coast of England, between Exeter (VC3) and Portsmouth (VC11) and were taken in moth traps, with the exception of one individual found on a garage wall.

DATE	LOCALITY	VC	GRID REF	METHOD	RECORDER
18/12/2015	Fareham	11	SU577071	MV light	Keith Wheeler
26/12/2015	Fareham	11	SU577072	MV light	Keith Wheeler
19/12/2015	Portchester	11	SU611051	Actinic	Jon Stokes
27/12/2015	Exeter	3	SX916924	Garage light	Matt Prince
30/12/2015	Exeter	3	SX906928	MV light	Nigel Pinhorn
17/12/2015	Weymouth	9	SY668828	MV light	Paul Harris
19/12/2015	Weymouth	9	SY668828	MV light	Paul Harris
27/12/2015	Walditch	9	SY482926	MV light	Mark Parsons

(Records highlighted in grey were confirmed as *M. lindbergi*)

Two further examples were sent to me (a male and a female), both of which also proved to be *M. lindbergi*. Interestingly, the three specimens showed great variation in the shape of the lobes of the head, a feature which was also apparent in the material standing under *M. lindbergi* in the collections of the Natural History Museum, London.



The three specimens of *Mecidea lindbergi* examined by the author ©T. Bantock

The appearance of *M. lindbergi* as a new migrant species of Hemiptera in Britain comes almost a year after *Nabis capsiformis* Germar, another migrant bug, was recorded for the first time (Bantock, 2015). Both these species would have doubtless gone undetected without the foresight of moth recorders who realised that other insects besides Lepidoptera may appear as long distance migrants when weather conditions are favourable, even very late in the year. Moth trappers, particularly those on the south coast of Britain, are ideally placed to monitor the arrival of species originating from the near continent and further afield. A recent case in point concerns the Western Conifer Seed Bug *Leptoglossus occidentalis*, a large and spectacular species, which was widely reported from coastal light traps as it colonised Britain (Malumphy et. al, 2008).

This influx of *M. lindbergi* coincided with an unprecedented arrival of immigrant Lepidoptera, during a period dominated by very mild southerly airflows from north Africa and the appearance of Saharan dust at many Met Office monitoring stations in southern Britain.

Tristan Bantock

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- Malumphy, C., Botting, J., Bantock, T. & Reid, S. (2008) Influx of *Leptoglossus occidentalis* Heidemann (Coreidae) in England. *Het News* 12: 7–9

***Dicyphus tamaninii* Wagner, 1951 (Miridae)**

This species was recently added to the British list by Mark Telfer, who found it at two sites in London (VC 16 & 18) during 2013 (Telfer, 2015). Two earlier London records by Pete Kirby have also come to light (2008 and 2012, both in VC17).

D. tamaninii most closely resembles *D. escalerae* and *D. bolivari* in general appearance (the latter is not known from Britain). A summary of the most useful features is given here; for a more comprehensive account see Telfer, 2015:

- Strong black upperside pubescence (fine and brown in *bolivari*)
- A1 with dark rings near base and apex (A1 uniformly dark in *escalerae*)
- Femora finely spotted (coarsely spotted in *escalerae*)
- Tibiae pale (with a basal ring in *escalerae*)
- Left clasper of male with a minutely dentate crest



Left: *Dicyphus tamaninii* Right: Left clasper of ♂ with dentate crest arrowed ©M.G. Telfer.

D. tamaninii is primarily predatory and is frequently used as a biological control agent on greenhouse crops, suggesting horticultural produce as a possible pathway of introduction. All British specimens have been found in open, ruderal situations and were associated with a variety of herbaceous plants, including Great Willowherb, Black Nightshade, Tomato, Bittersweet, Goosefoot, Dock and Knotgrass.

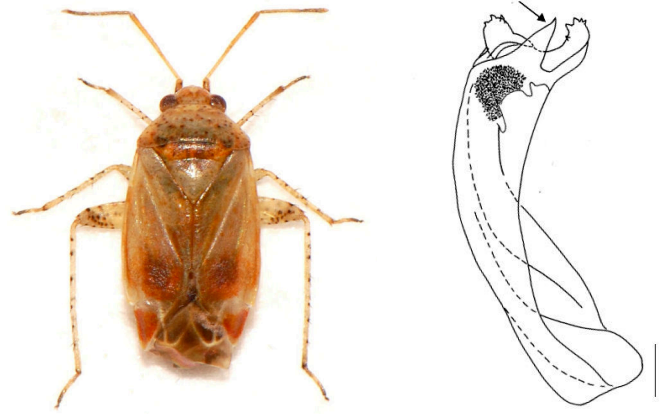
Tristan Bantock

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Telfer, M.G. (2015) *Dicyphus tamaninii* (Hemiptera: Miridae) new to Britain. British Journal of Entomology and Natural History 28(2): 71-74.

***Psallus lucanicus* Wagner, 1968 (Miridae)**

Bernard Nau and Rob Ryan found this species at a site in Bedfordshire during July 2015. It is the third *Psallus* species to be discovered in Britain on Turkey Oak. Full details will be published elsewhere.



Left: *Psallus lucanicus* female ©R. Ryan. Right: ♂ aedeagus (after Wyniger, 2004)

References

Wyniger, D. (2004). Taxonomy and phylogeny of the Central European bug genus *Psallus* (Hemiptera, Miridae) and faunistics of the terrestrial Heteroptera of Basel and surroundings (Hemiptera) (Doctoral dissertation, University of Basel).

Species notes

COREIDAE

Gonocerus acuteangulatus

First record for Dorset: Corfe Mullen (VC9 SY98849711). Single adult on 31.v.15 (Jane Adams)

PENTATOMIDAE

Dyrodere umbraculatus

Second British record and first for South Hampshire (VC11). One adult seen at Southampton Common (SU412141) on 16.vii.15 and 7.ix.15 (records via iSpot).



Dyrodere umbraculatus ©iSpot

Neottiglossa pusilla

First and second records for Wales:
Llandrindod Wells, (VC43, SO056608) One adult in sandy grassland on 15.vii.15. (Joe Botting)

Paradys Wen, Gwernargllwydd, (VC43 SO157596) One adult in regenerating clear-fell on south facing slope on 29.x.15 (Joe Botting)

Eurydema ornata

Second record for East Sussex (VC13): Adult at Seaforth Head (TV4997) on 28.8.15 (Paul Baker).

LYGAEIDAE

Arocatus longiceps

First record for Leicestershire (VC55): Adult found indoors after visiting Hinckley (SP434952) on 24.11.16 (Graham Calow). Location is an ASDA supermarket with London Plane.

Nysius huttoni

First record for Surrey (VC17): Moorhouse Sand Pit, Limsfield (TQ425538) on 18.vii.15. (Jovita Kaunang)

First record for Hertfordshire (VC20): Amwell NR (TL37401316) on 15.viii.15 (Phil Ball & Joe Gray)

***Nysius huttoni* on Doncaster Post-Industrial Site**



Nysius huttoni ©S. Foster

In August 2015 I visited a disturbed area of land adjacent to the River Don Navigation Canal to the North of Doncaster. The site had most recently been used to store old shipping containers and for the dumping of building waste, but was part of a much older corridor of stone cottages, gardens and waterside meadow which once backed onto the canal and railway which served manufacturing and mineral extraction industries in South Yorkshire. The site is now neglected and subject to re-colonisation by grasses, weeds and in parts by self seeding Lombardy Poplar. Its substrate is a mixture of sandy soil and clay with small water-filled depressions where heavy vehicles have rutted the clay.

Among the het-bugs present were several interesting and unexpected finds:

Acalypta parvula – 20 known Yorkshire sites, 6 added since 2000

Berytinus montivagus - 11 known Yorkshire sites, 5 added since 2000

Chlamydatus pullus - 9 known Yorkshire sites, 2 added since 2000

Conostethus venustus – Rapidly spreading across South Yorkshire

Corizus hyoscyami - 7 known Yorkshire sites, all added since 2011, spreading westwards

Lygus pratensis – first verified Yorkshire record

Nysius huttoni – second Yorkshire record, but first colony, on an extensive patch of Black Meddick *Medicago lupulina*.

Nysius senecionis - 5 known Yorkshire sites, all added since 1996, first inland site

Stuart Foster

***Eremocoris fenestratus* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1839) (Hemiptera, Lygaeidae) new to Berkshire (VC22)**

While lamping at night (21.00 approx.) on 31 October 2015 (Halloween!) in the churchyard of St. Paul's, Wokingham, Berkshire, OS grid ref. SU805689, a single male of the ground bug *Eremocoris fenestratus* was found by IRS on a gravestone (identified by JFHC). The conditions were warm for the time of year at 8.2°C and very humid. The gravestones were very wet with condensation and densely populated with very small juvenile woodlice. As lygaeids are not generally considered to be predatory it's possible that the bug was simply drawn to the moisture on the stone.

Members of this genus in the UK are relatively large for Lygaeidae at around 7 mm in length, there being four species all of which have a limited distribution and are quite rare; the two pale spots at the base of the membrane are reasonably diagnostic for the genus. This specimen of *E. fenestratus* (Figure 1) was 7.2 mm. The species can be distinguished from other UK members of *Eremocoris* by the fairly shiny upper side and the single large spur on the front femora coupled with hairs on the hind tibiae being roughly equal to the tibial width. In the specimen recorded here many of these hairs are at least x1.5 the tibial width (Figure 2).



Fig. 1 (L): Dorsal view of *Eremocoris fenestratus*
Fig. 2 (R): Right hind tibia showing long hairs

This species is currently designated as RDB1 Kirby (1992) and prior to 2010, had not been seen in Britain for 50 years, when it was last recorded in the Chilterns. The rediscovery of *E. fenestratus* in the UK and its association with Cypresses was reported by Bantock (2010).

The current British distribution of *E. fenestratus* (prior to this record) can be found in the UK Hemiptera Atlas (Ryan, 2014). It is considered to be mainly a southern European species on the edge of its range in Britain (Kirby, 1992). There are only about 30 UK records between the period 1861-2014, of which about a dozen or so are from the nineteenth century; there may be others but none is from Berkshire (VC22) (Jim Flanagan, pers. comm.). These originate from eight vice counties (Buckinghamshire, Surrey, Middlesex, West Kent, East Kent, West Norfolk, South West Yorkshire and South East Yorkshire). Bantock (2010) speculated that its reappearance in Britain was due to importation of horticultural plants from overseas, which the current authors agree seems highly likely.

Eremocoris fenestratus is usually associated with Juniper (*Juniperus communis*). In Britain, however, it seems to be more likely found at the base of Cypress trees (*Cupressus* spp.) (Tristan Bantock, pers. comm.) of which there are a number in the churchyard. Subsequent searches of litter and soil beneath these trees, however, has not, revealed additional specimens. The authors agree with Tristan that what makes this story so interesting is that it is perhaps the only example of an exceptionally rare insect species going extinct as a native, before reappearing as an introduction and feeding on a non-native host-plant.

Acknowledgements

The authors are extremely grateful to Tristan Bantock, Jim Flanagan and Rob Ryan for confirming the identification and supplying information on the British distribution and reappearance of *E. fenestratus*.

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Jon Cole & Ian Sims

Scolopostethus pictus apparently well-established in urban London

PB writes:

My second trip (to London) was to see Patrick Marber's 'The Red Lion' starring the excellent Daniel Mays at the National Theatre on 29th September. We timed this around my birthday at the end of September. For my entomological task I chose the slither of park bordered by Embankment Tube Station, the Embankment Road and the block of buildings that includes the Savoy Hotel. My principal targets were Collembola but again there was virtually no leaf litter to sift so I produced my small white plastic tray from my rucksack and started to vigorously

shake a stand of very thick ornamental grasses towards the eastern flank of the park (TQ30578063) to see what they might contain. Instantly a good number of bug nymphs appeared into the tray and eventually an adult which I potted, before proceeding to the meet my friend on the other side of the river. I used to be terribly self-conscious about entomologising in such a public place but London has an advantage in that most people are so tied up with their own lives (via their mobile phones) that no one bats an eyelid to such seemingly strange behaviour. That said one person did come over and ask what I was doing and didn't run away when I told him, but unprompted used the word "entomologist" so I knew I had a kindred spirit. The bug turned out to be uncommon ground bug *Scolopostethus pictus* (Schilling, 1829) keyed out using Kirkby, 2015 on the pale antennal colour. The specimen was checked by Keith Fowler (VC40 recorder) and a photograph was sent to Jim Flanagan for final confirmation.



Scolopostethus pictus ©P. Boardman

JF writes:

A further report of this bug was from a small park in the City of London, a few minutes walk from the Museum of London and St Paul's Cathedral, which I came by chance to visit during a trip to London in early (6th) December 2015. Postman's Park (TQ3281) is a small garden, long ago the site of a cemetery (on the north side of the park is the parish church of St Botolph without Aldersgate), containing a somewhat odd mixture of plants from a well-established banana tree about six or seven metres high, a fruiting fig tree, and several tree ferns along with some fine specimens of London plane and more conventional park shrubs such as *Mahonia*. I was curious about the tree ferns and noticed they were only 3-4 feet high. The stumps from where the leaf bases grew from were covered in dead leaves and I thought there was potential for some bugs and other invertebrates to be wintering under the leaves and within the dense hairs covering the stump (Plate 1 below shows two of the five tree ferns that were sampled)



Searching resulted in many woodlice (mainly *Porcellio scaber*), springtails and at least two species of true bug being found. The first tree fern yielded, unsurprisingly, a couple of adults of the ground bug *Arocatus longiceps*, preferring this niche rather than the usual situation of sheltering under the bark of its nearby host (London plane). From another tree fern I found two specimens of a *Scolopostethus*, one of which was large (5.0mm), brightly marked, fully-winged and female (Plate 2 below).



Scolopostethus pictus ©J. Flanagan

The other was a late stage nymph also quite brightly patterned and I assumed this to be a nymph of the same species. These were both taken. The adult was identified using Kirby (1984 & 2015) and was determined (tentatively) as *S. pictus*, although the apical segments of the antennae were a little darker than normal. In all other respects (including lack of a mesosternal tubercle) it seemed to fit well the characters of *S. pictus*. From an examination of the adult female Tristan Bantock was uncertain and thought the antennae colouration was slightly atypical (the apical segments were more contrastingly darker than the basal segments) but nevertheless intrigued by the find. Butler, in *A Biology of the British Hemiptera-Heteroptera* (1923) suggests that not too much reliance should be placed on the colouration of the antennae because this feature is subject to variation. A form (var. *antennalis* Horv.) with the two apical segments black is mentioned but without reference to its occurrence in Britain. This form does not appear to be mentioned at all by Pericart (1998) in his Volume 2 of *Hémiptères Lygaeidae Euro-Méditerranéens* (Faune de France 84b).

On another trip to London I made further visit to the park on March 13th 2016. This time three adult specimens of a *Scolopostethus* species similar to the specimen taken in December were obtained from two tree ferns these comprising of two males and a female, also all macropterous. These were examined by Jim and Tristan at the Natural History Museum the next day and compared with material held there. The specimens exhibited more typical colouring in the antennal segments (where these were more or less unicolourous pale only slightly and progressively darkening to the apex, so were judged to be good for *S. pictus* in this respect. Using the key to continental *Scolopostethus* in Pericart (1998) two of the

specimens were identified with reasonable confidence as *S. pictus* by both Tristan and Jim.

TB writes:

On 17th March 2016 a further visit to Postman's Park yielded large numbers (c20) of adult *S. pictus*, both in the litter of the crowns of the tree ferns and under the bark of nearby logs. All were macropterous and their antennae varied from entirely pale to gradually darkened towards the apex. In fact, the key by Pericart stresses the length of the antennae over their colouration, with the length of A2 at least as long as the width of the head across the eyes. The male parameres were consistent in shape with the figure in Pericart.

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Pete Boardman
Jim Flanagan
Tristan Bantock

Peritrechus nubilis

First record for Norfolk: Acle (VC27 TG4010). Single adult on 24.ii.16 (Tim Hodge)

MIRIDAE

Psallus anaemicus

First record for South Essex (VC18). Numerous specimens collected by Jim Flanagan and Tristan Bantock from beating a young Turkey oak during a visit to Wanstead Flats (TQ4086) on 27.vi.2015.

Around the British Isles

Cornwall (VC1)

A nymph of either *Salda morio* or *S. muelleri* had been found on valley mire at Carkeet Farm, St Cleer, Bodmin Moor (SX27), by myself, 28.v.2010, and had left us wondering which species it might be. Follow-up searching for adult bugs by Paul Gainey failed to find any more on that site, so it is good to finally be able to report the discovery of a genuine adult *S. muelleri* in the county, albeit at a different site. Paul found adults at another Bodmin Moor valley mire site, Crowdy Marsh, Davidstow (SX15) during the year. I can also report another new county record, *Lasiosomus enervis*, from Sandy Mouth (SS2010), 3.x.2015. This is another problematic record as it was picked up during a public Bioblitz event organised by the local National Trust ranger and the precise spot not noted as it was thought to just be a *Stygnocoris* at the time. The area is a coastal valley with habitats ranging from wind-blown sand grasslands through to valley mire. The most likely source was the *Carex paniculata* tussocks of the valley mire where my memory has a vague

recollection of a *Stygnocoris* falling into my sweep-net after a session of beating one of the tussocks.

John Brock visited the county at the end of June and succeeded in finding many of our local rarities, notably *Emblethis griseus* and *Geotomus punctulatus* at Sennen Cove, and *Trapezonotus ullrichi* at Port Gaverne.

Keith Alexander

Sussex (VC 13 & 14)

This is my second article as county recorder for Heteroptera. I made my first article full of facts and figures so that I could compare future year's records to, so one year on, how have things changed?

In 2014, we had 12,011 records. In 2015, at the time of writing this had risen to 14,370 records, an increase of about 20%. The species list has also risen from 413 to 424. I'm not currently in a position to say what these 11 species were however, as they may have come in from historic records via iRecord. It's made me realise that I need a county checklist so that when I write this next year, I can report on all the additional species recorded in the county.

Of the 424 species recorded in Sussex, 145 (34%) were recorded in 2015. A whopping 368 (87%) have been recorded since 2000 which is really encouraging. There are only eight species that have not been recorded since 1950. So it would seem that bug recording in Sussex is actually entering an exciting new phase and this is simply because of having an active county recorder and the use of iRecord to collate records. Brilliant stuff.

Table 1. The most prolific recorders in 2014 and 2015.

Rank	2014	No. of records	2015	No. of records
1	Peter Hodge	5249	Peter Hodge	5420
2	Gordon Jarvis	774	Marcus Oldfield	1181
3	Philip Bance	749	Graeme Lyons	1116
4	Graeme Lyons	736	Gordon Jarvis	774
5	Dave Monk	563	Philip Bance	749
6	Kathleen Goldie-Smith	322	Dave Monk	659
7	EA	288	Kathleen Goldie-Smith	332
8	Mark Telfer	284	Mark Telfer	302
9	Patrick Roper	281	EA	299
10	Peter Kirby	156	Patrick Roper	281

As can be seen from the above table, Marcus Oldfield has steamed in at number 2 and this is all down to iRecord! I'm really pleased that so much active recording is going on. I still have lots of records to enter from Knepp too.

How have I done? My Heteroptera list has risen by 11 from 208 to 219 (52% of the county fauna). I really focused on mirids (plant bugs) last year and of course caught up with *Plagiognathus chrysanthemii* (this is a VERY common bug I've just not been recording until now!).

iRecord has been a great tool for collating bug records. We have added 1415 records this year just from iRecord (10% of all Heteroptera records have now come from iRecord and account for over half of the new records added this year – many have come from Marcus Oldfield).

I act as verifier for the records (along with Tristan Bantock) and this is a great way to see new recorder's efforts.

I would like to create a shieldbug atlas, a little like what they did in Shropshire but rather than a book, it's perhaps much better to create a website. I would think something like the Sussex Moth Group site or the Essex Field Club site would work really well but this is miles away at this stage. The first phase of this atlas though is to encourage a new wave of shieldbug recorders. These species are large, charismatic, photogenic and easy to identify but still quite under-recorded in the county. We even have a few rarities that have not been seen for many years. Running off the back of the success of iRecord, I'd like to encourage all of you to submit records of shieldbugs WHEREVER they might be, using iRecord to compile and verify. Here are a few rare and scarce bugs to look for in addition to the more common species. Happy hunting!

Down Shieldbug *Canthophorus impressus*.

I found this at Southerham but it could be elsewhere on Bastard-toadflax. Look for the adult in the spring (before the foodplant is in leaf) or the nymphs later in the summer feeding directly on the foodplant.

Scarlet Shieldbug *Eurydema dominulus*.

This species has been recorded six times with the latest record being 1992. It is recorded in the Seddlescombe/Battle area of East Sussex and could well be present out there. I intend to run a trip to look for this striking bug next year.

Ornate Shieldbug *Eurydema ornate*

One record in 15/05/2007. Verified by Peter Hodge from a photo taken in a Steyning garden. It was recorded on *Erysimum* sp. A single further record in August 2015.

Boat Bug *Enoplops scapha*

Only one record given as 1905 in the Fairlight area. Is this bug still present in the county? (*Eds. A recent record from Hastings undercliff*)

Heath Shieldbug *Legnotus picipes*

Recorded only from the Crumbles once in 1972 and once in 1988. Could this species still be present on this unusual East Sussex site? I will be looking for this species there in 2016. (*Eds. A recent record from Climbing Beach*).

Rambur's Pied Shieldbug *Tritomegas sexmaculatus*

There are no records for this newcomer in Sussex yet but it's present in Kent so it's most likely to turn up in the East. Look for it on Black Horehound and see britishbugs.org.uk to separate from *T. bicolor*.

Vernal Shieldbug *Peribalus strictus*

There is one record so far for this species in East Sussex.

Southern Green Shieldbug *Nezara viridula* and Mottled Shieldbug *Rhaphigaster nebulosa*

These species are recent introductions but have not made it to Sussex yet. Most records are in the London area so they may turn up in the north of the county.

Graeme Lyons

Kent (VC15 & 16)

Pied Shieldbug (*Tritomegas bicolor*) and Rambur's Pied Shieldbug (*Tritomegas sexmaculatus*) in Britain – Is there a conflict of interests?

Rambur's Pied Shieldbug (*Tritomegas sexmaculatus*) is an attractive insect, superficially similar to the native Pied Shieldbug (*Tritomegas bicolor*). It was first recognised in Britain from two sites in Kent in 2011; however, both the number of recorded sites and individuals that have been found during the first two years survey work of *The Atlas of Shieldbugs & allies of Kent* strongly suggests that this species has been in the county for a longer period and simply went undetected before first being noted at the Kent Wildlife Headquarters at Tyland Barn.

Rambur's Pied Shieldbug is a native of southern Europe but, due to the effects of climate warming, it has been spreading steadily northwards during the past few years. (The British Trust for Ornithology in their *Bird Atlas 2008-11* suggest that the northerly rate of movement of fauna across Europe is at a very rapid rate of as much as 1500metres or 1.5 kilometres per annum). Both species share the same food plants of White Dead-nettle (*Lamium album*) and Black Horehound (*Balotta nigra*).

The native Pied Shieldbug is known to have two generations a year, the first generation usually being found on White Dead-nettle whereas the second generation is very often found on the later-flowering Black Horehound. Early *Atlas* survey results have shown records of this insect in all months from January through to November with the majority of records being from early April to early June and nymphs being recorded predominantly from late July until the end of August.

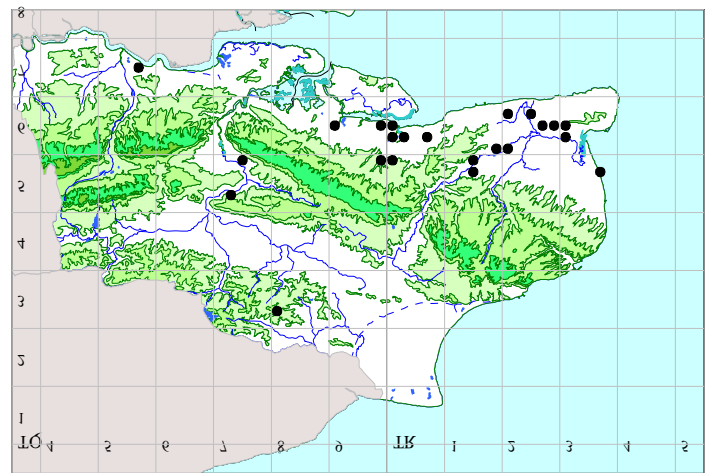
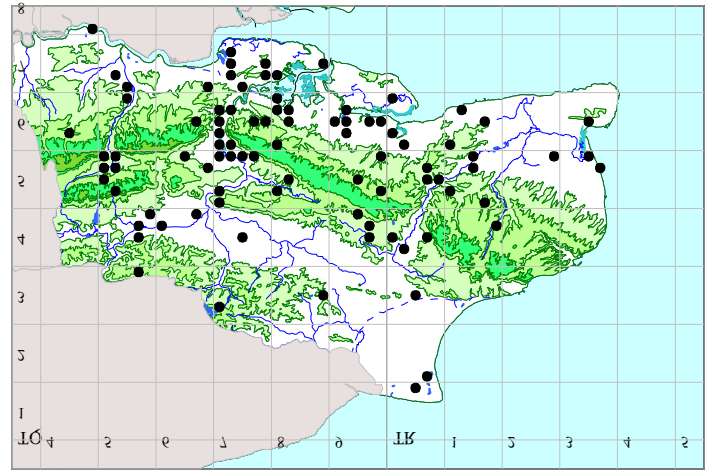
By contrast, Rambur's Pied Shieldbug in the UK emerges later in the year, with early records from late April to mid-June with nymphs being found from late July to mid-October and records peaking from late September to early October. Whereas this insect has two generations a year on the continent, in the UK, due to the colder conditions than in southern Europe, it emerges later in the year and so far is known only to have a single generation.

With both species sharing the same food plants (albeit, apparently, with different preferences) one must wonder whether the newcomer poses any threat to the native bug and, as the *Atlas* project continues, this may become clearer. However, early indications show that there may well be a conflict of interests between the two species.

The distribution maps (below) show that whilst *T. bicolor* is widely distributed across the county, including records from higher altitudes, *T. sexmaculatus* has only so far been recorded from the warmer, low-lying areas of the county. Although the data so far gathered cannot yet be regarded as conclusive the distributions maps show that in the 'stronghold' areas of Rambur's (the Isle of Thanet, Stour Valley and South Swale regions) the native Pied Shieldbug is either absent or declining, with fewer recent records from these areas.

Field work also shows that Rambur's Pied Shieldbug occurs in much larger colonies than Common Pied Shieldbug with counts of 15-40 being very common and huge colonies of 1,400 – 2,500 individuals being found at a few localities in the county, whereas records of Common Pied rarely exceed six individuals at a site. So it is not inconceivable that through sheer weight of numbers

Rambur's will become the dominant species in areas where they occur together, possibly eliminating Common Pied Shieldbug.



Up until 2014 Rambur's Pied Shieldbug in the UK had only been found on Black Horehound (its main food plant on the Continent) but in 2015, at a large colony of at least 2,000 individuals on the warm south-facing slopes of Darland Banks (TQ782664), flightless early instar nymphs were found, for the first time, on White Dead-nettle. The nearest plants of Horehound were a little over one metre away from this patch of Dead-nettle, indicating that the nymphs almost certainly hatched from eggs laid on Dead-nettle rather than having migrated there from Horehound.

Given the warmth of this site it seems likely that these bugs emerged early enough from hibernation to be able to take advantage of the earlier-flowering plant. With the possibility of the climate continuing to get warmer early emergence of *T. sexmaculatus* may become more common with the result of greater competition for White Dead-nettle

In conclusion, early survey findings from *The Atlas of Shieldbugs & allies of Kent*, indicate that there is probably a significant conflict of interest between these two species. The continued spread of Rambur's Pied Shieldbug across the country should be carefully monitored to determine any effect that it may have on the native species.

Jonathan Barnard

Gloucestershire (VC33 & 34)

This was an average year for this group of insects in Gloucestershire. As compared with the previous year the weather was cooler and wetter with less sunshine hours and consequently there was a reduction in the number of records for some species, although this may have been influenced to some extent by less fieldwork being carried out. However, one species which continues to increase irrespective of these factors is the Box Bug *Gonocerus acuteangulatus*, which, since the first county record in 2010, has become common and widespread. The highlight of the year was Rob Ryan's discovery of the grass bug *Notostira erratica* which is new for the county and was only confirmed with any certainty as a mainland British species as recently as 2013.

A summary of the more interesting observations follow, together with a comment as to current status within the county:-

Pentatomidae

Aelia acuminata Bishop's Mitre

County scarce

Only one record in 2015 when Colin Twissell found five at the Horsebere Brook Flood Alleviation site, Barnwood (SO8619) on 10th June.

Eurydema oleracea Brassica Shieldbug

County scarce

Following the highest annual total of records in 2014, this year saw only two, both on 16th May. Maris Midgley found it at Sherborne Water Meadows (SP1815) and it was also reported by David Iliff at Windrush Airfield (SP1812). These were only the second and third records for 10km square SP11.

Neottiglossa pusilla Small Grass Shieldbug

County rare

I got a single record of this scarce species at one of its known sites at Crabtree Hill, Forest of Dean (SO6213) on 7th June.

Zicrona caerulea Blue Shieldbug

Local and difficult to find

Whilst not regarded as a nationally scarce species, this is a not easy to find and records are far and few between. I found a final instar at Spoonley Wood, near Winchcombe (SP0425) on 23rd July and David Iliff had one in his garden at Woodmancote (SO9627) on 15th and 18th June. These were the first records since 2011.

Coreidae

Coreus marginatus Dock Bug

Widespread but populations fluctuate annually

Only eight records in 2015 as opposed to 20 the previous year but this may be due to less recording activity. Special mention must be made of the incredible numbers found by Maris Midgley at Lydney, The Cut (SO6302) for the second successive year. In 2014 she found 200+ adults & nymphs here on 31st August and followed this up in 2015 with a find of c.100 adults & nymphs on 1st September. I am unaware of such large numbers being reported for this species nationally.

Coriomeris denticulatus

County scarce

I found a nymph of this species on 16th September near Great Rissington (SP1916). This was only the second record since 1999.

Gonocerus acuteangulatus Box Bug

New colonist in 2010 – now common

This species continues to spread, it being found at five new sites during 2015, four of these at Twynning (SO8936), Snowhill (SP0933), Cowley (SO9614) and Upper Rissington (SP21) were new 10km square records. Historically, it has been associated with Box *Buxus sempervirens*, but in recent years has increasingly been recorded on other host plants. An example of this came from David Iliff who recorded it's whole life-cycle on the Rose *Rosa rugosa* in his garden at Woodmancote (SO9627). David not only observed a mating pair on this shrub on 30th May but then found eggs on 4th June and recorded the emergence of nymphs on 24th & 25th June. It is quite remarkable that within a period of only five years since the first record, the status of species has moved from rare to common which demonstrates the speed of change that is currently happening within our fauna.

Rhopalidae

Corizus hyoscyami

Widespread but populations fluctuate annually

This was another species for which there was a decline in records in 2015 with reports from only six sites, two of which were within the village of Woodmancote. This compares with ten sites in 2014.

Lygaeidae

Peritrechus geniculatus County scarce

Not recorded since 2003, but I found it at two sites both of which were new 10km square records. The first was on 18th August at Crabtree Hill, Forest of Dean (SO6313) and the second near Sherborne (SP1915) on 28th September. These two sightings were only the fifth and sixth modern records, all since 1998.

Miridae

Chlamydatus evanescens Nationally rare

This rare species is very specialised, being only found on stonecrops *Sedum* sp. It was discovered for the first time in Gloucestershire on English Stonecrop *Sedum anglicum* at Chedworth in 2012 and since then has only been found in the county at Waterhatch, near Winchcombe (SP0325). I found it again at Waterhatch on 23rd July but the patch of stonecrop here is deteriorating and is now very small, so it is doubtful it will survive at the site for much longer. This insect is very small (c.2.5mm) and is probably overlooked. There has been an increase in records nationally recently with it also being found on *Sedum acre* and *S.album* and it may well be found elsewhere in the county in any reasonably substantial patch of stonecrop.

Miridius quadrivirgatus

County scarce but increasing

Found in good numbers at long-standing site near Bishop's Cleeve (SO9628). Two new 10km square records

were obtained when I got it near Winchcombe (SP0327) on 23rd July and Maris Midgley found it at Tewkesbury NR (SO8931) on 15th August.

Notostira erratica

New to county – status yet to be determined

This species was found for the first time in the county by Rob Ryan at two sites near Southrop (SP2103 & SP1802). Its status in the UK has always been open to some doubt and until recently reliant on a suspect record in 1977. Superficially it is almost identical to the ubiquitous *Notostira elongata* and can only be reliably identified by differences in the male genitalia. The first confirmed British mainland record was in 2013 and Rob has since been searching for it in several counties. In his first foray into Gloucestershire with this purpose he found it in small numbers together with the common *N.elongata* along the grass verges of two of the minor roads in the Southrop area. Because of the difficulty in identification, it has probably been overlooked. A full summary of Rob Ryan's finds of this species both in Gloucestershire and elsewhere can be found in the "British Journal of Entomology and Natural History" Vol.28, Part 4 (December 2015).

Oncotylus viridiflavus

County scarce but increasing

Common Knapweed *Centaurea nigra* is the host for this species and as this plant is fairly widespread in Gloucestershire, it is surprising that this insect is relatively scarce in the county. Formerly, this was largely a southern and South-eastern species and Gloucestershire was at the northern edge of its range but in the last decade or so it has been expanding its range and can now be found as far north as a line roughly stretching from the Humber to the Mersey. Whilst still generally scarce here I have noticed that it has been slowly increasing in the county since my arrival in 2006. I did find it again in 2015 around the Great Rissington area (SP1916) on 16th July very near to where it had been found the previous year and also nearby on the same day, close to Great Barrington (SP1915). I also got a new 10km square record adjacent to West Wood (SP0123) and in the nearby Wontley Farm area (SP0024) on 8th August.

Pachytomella parallela

County scarce

Whilst scarce in Gloucestershire, where it does occur this grassland species is usually found in good numbers. Most records are from the Cotswold hills. A single record was obtained this year at Snowhill (SP0834) on 26th September.

Strongylocoris leucocephalus

County rare

This insect is widespread nationally and as it is a species of dry calcareous grassland, it is surprising that it is listed as rare in Gloucestershire. There are several modern records, all of these coming from the Cotswold hills. There is a concentration of records around Cleeve Common and the adjacent Noverton Hill, but this may be due to observer bias. Robert Homan found it this year at its known site on Cleeve Common (SO9926) on 19th June.

John Widgery

Shropshire (VC40)

Whilst the number of recorders actively seeking out shieldbugs and their allies has waned following the publication of "A provisional atlas of the shieldbugs and allies of Shropshire" several recorders have maintained their interest in these and other heteropteran bugs. This has resulted in a good flow of records from around the county although the remoter areas remain under recorded.

The year started with the confirmation at the Hemipterists' Day of two new species for the county *Scolopostethus pictus* (Schilling, 1829) found in Shrewsbury and *Lygus maritimus* Wagner, 1949, collected at Callow Hill. *L. maritimus* was found recently at a second heathland site, Catherton Common.

During the year around 1600 records were made covering 170 species. However there were very few species recorded for the first time. Subject to acceptance by the National Recorders those that were recorded for the first time were:

Orthotylus adenocarpus (Perris, 1857) (Hemiptera: Miridae) was beaten by Keith Fowler from gorse at Bury Ditches, on 22 July 2015. A second record was made at Nipstone Rock, Stiperstones on 2 September

Tupiocoris rhododendri (Dolling, 1972) (Hemiptera: Miridae) was found Pete Boardman as he relaxed in his garden of his home in Abdon on 23 July 2015.

Parapiesma quadratum (Fieber, 1844) (Hemiptera: Piesmatidae) was swept from marginal vegetation around one of the pools at E.on's ash disposal site at Devil's Dingle, Buildwas by Keith Fowler on 26 August 2015.

Teratocoris saundersi Douglas & Scott, 1869 (Hemiptera: Miridae) swept from wet grassland by Keith Fowler in the Upper Unk wildlife site on 9 September 2015.

Coranus subapterus (DeGeer, 1773) (Hemiptera: Reduviidae) found by Ben Waddams whilst investigating sundews on Whixall Moss on 8 October 2015. It had been recorded previously a few hundred yards away in Wales in the neighbouring Fenns Moss.

Keith Fowler

Caernarvonshire (VC49) and Anglesey (VC52)

The following may not be first vice-county records, they may not even be my first records from these vice-counties as not all my records are on computer, but they do fill some gaps in the county distribution table presented by Ryan (2014).

Caernarvonshire, VC49:

Chilacis typhae: Morfa Madryn LNR, SH66207386, 4 Aug. 2006.

Chartoscirta cincta: Sedge bed by Llyn Crafnant Reservoir, SH745608, 16 June 2000.

Saldula c-album: Afon Llafar, SH651652, 400 m. alt., 2 April 1999, and cliff seepage over clay, Gwydir Bay SSSI, SH38214713, 8 Aug. 2003, both confirmed by P. Kirby.

Saldula opacula: wet pasture, Foryd, SH455589 (outside LNR), 8 April 2000, and Sphagnum pool, Cwm Uchaf, Snowdon, SH62295547, 710 m. alt., 27 May 2004, both conf. P. Kirby.

Ranatra linearis: Treborth lake, SH552706, 31 May 2010.

Anglesey, VC52:

Chilacis typhae: Pandy Pools, Newborough plantation, SH412658, 21 June 1997.

Pachycoleus waltii: moss lawn at edge of Pandy Pools, SH412658, 25 July 1999, and saltmarsh behind beach, Red Wharf Bay, SH536799, 5 April 2000, both confirmed by P. Kirby.

Chartoscirta cincta: Llyn Llywenan, SH347821, 31 Aug. 2001.

Salda littoralis: Menai Strait saltmarsh by Coed Mor, SH54147121, 14 June 2010.

Saldula opacula: saltmarsh behind beach, Red Wharf Bay, SH536799, 5 April 2000, conf. P. Kirby.

Ranatra linearis: Cors Bodeilio NNR, SH502775, 4 July 2008, one juvenile, and Dune Slack Pool, Newborough plantation, SH39776510, 15 May 2012, two adults.

Notonecta maculata: plastic horse trough, Fedw Fawr, SH60248162, 29 Sept. 2014, several, and newly dug pool in Cytir Mawr Llandegfan LNR, SH57867508, 28 June 2015, immatures abundant, one reared to adult.

John H. Bratton

Reference

Ryan, R.P. 2014 . The county distribution of the Hemiptera-Heteroptera of the British Isles, fourth edition. The Hemipterist, 1: 38-103.

South and West Yorkshire (VC63)

Podops inuncta

A further record of this distinctive shieldbug, first recorded in Yorkshire during July 2014 from a location near to Thorne in Doncaster, was obtained late in the season by Stuart Foster from sweeping a mixture of dried grasses, clovers (including black medick) by the roadside of the West Moor Link Road (A630) at Edenthorpe (SE622060) on 9.x.2015.

Coreus marginatus

A single adult specimen of the dock bug was observed by Ashley Watson on 2.viii.2015 whilst taking out his recycling box for emptying outside his house at Bevercotes Road, Firth Park in Sheffield (SK3791). The specimen was not taken and no photograph was obtained but the observer is considered experienced in recording this and other shieldbug/Heteroptera species.

Chlamydatius evanescens

A first record for Yorkshire (& VC 63) was obtained from the former Elsecar colliery site in Barnsley, South Yorkshire (SE3900) on 04.vii.2015 by Jim Flanagan. Many nymphs and adults were suction sampled from areas of stonecrop, comprising four species including English stonecrop (*Sedum anglica*) and biting stonecrop (*Sedum acre*). The captures included a single adult macropterous male found on reflexed stonecrop (*Sedum rupestre*).

Lygus pratensis

An adult female was collected by Stuart Foster from an area of brown-field adjacent to the River Don Navigation (SE 604068) at Long Sandall, Doncaster on 6.viii.2015. This is new to VC63 and South Yorkshire.

Neides tipularius

A 2nd Yorkshire record of a single specimen was obtained at Rossington Bridge, Doncaster in South Yorkshire (SE6301) on 06.ix.2015 by Jim Flanagan. The site was a small area of disturbed ground of various substrates and hard standing over which a wide range of plants (50+ species) characteristic of arable cultivation and brownfield were growing. The bug was found underneath the rosette of a large bushy plant of common stork's-bill which also harboured a few *Corizus hyoscyami*. This was previously reported for Yorkshire by Peter Skidmore in 2005 from Lindholme in Hatfield Moor.

Nysius huttoni

A single specimen from an area of brownfield adjacent to the River Don Navigation at Long Sandall, Doncaster (SE604068) was taken by Stuart Foster on 6.viii.2015. Another three specimens (comprising a brachypterous male and brachypterous female in copula and a lone macropterous female) were obtained from the same site on 12.viii.2015 (the former pair were quite darkly marked, the latter quite pale and similar to *N. thymi* apart from the hirsute dorsum). These are the 3rd and 4th Yorkshire (& 2nd and 3rd VC 63) records. A further VC63 record, this time in West Yorkshire was obtained from a location near Mirfield (south-west of Dewsbury), close to the River Calder, on a brownfield site (SE195200) where a male and female were found by Jim Flanagan on 10.ix.2015. It can be safely concluded that the species seems well established in this part of Yorkshire now.

Mid-west Yorkshire (VC64)

Physatocheila dumetorum

This increasingly frequent lacebug was found new to Mid-west Yorkshire with one specimen swept from rough grassland and tall herb from the edge of Cockshot Wood, east of Wetherby and the A1 (M) at SE414493 on 13.v.2015 by Jim Flanagan

Derbyshire (VC57)

Nysius huttoni

A second VC57 record of a single adult of this relatively new arrival to Britain was obtained from within Gillfield Wood (SK3079) just within the VC (but lying on the southern margins of Sheffield within the City Council boundary) on 8.viii.2015.

Megalonotus antennatus

This groundbug was found new to Derbyshire (VC57) from near to the former Oxcroft colliery site. An adult female was swept from rough grassland on the edge of an ex-railway line on north side of the former colliery site (SK467744) on 07.vi.2015 by Jim Flanagan. Last year this bug was found new to Yorkshire from another ex-colliery site in the Doncaster area.

South Northumberland (VC67)

Deraeocoris flavilinea

Recorded new to South Northumberland (VC 67) from St Nicholas Park (Northumberland Wildlife Trust Activity

Centre), Newcastle upon Tyne (NZ235683) during an identification workshop on Het bugs. One adult female was collected by Geoff Dobbins and one adult male by Jim Flanagan on 31.vii.2015. A further four adult specimens were found by Jim Flanagan on 01.viii.2015 by beating a Turkey oak at Hexham Park, Hexham at NY934639. These appear to be the most northerly records of this species so far. Given the ease with which these specimens were obtained it might not be unreasonable to consider it also probably present in Scotland.

Durham (VC66)

Conostethus venustus

The first possible record of this bug in VC66 was from an un-specified location in Teeside by Mike Lush during 2012. Jim Flanagan found an adult female from sweeping a mix of scented and scentless mayweed within a margin of a field of oil seed rape close to a mineral extraction site near Hepburn and within 2km distance of the River Tyne (NZ3162) on 30.vi.2015. This second occurrence of the bug is at the northern end of the vice county and suggests a further incursion north to have taken place. It may now also be found within South Northumberland (VC67) if looked for.

Deraeocoris flavilinea

Two reports of this Mirid were received during 2015 from Daphne Aplin that appear to be VC firsts. The first record concerned an adult female found on items hung out to dry on a washing line in Billingham, Teeside (NZ42) on 7.vii.2015. The second was also by Daphne of another female found at Maidendale Nature Reserve in Darlington (NZ133312) on 8.viii.2015.

Ischnodema sabuleti

A large number of adults was recorded from Cowpen Bewley Woodland Park in the Stockton on Tees area (NZ481253) by Daphne Aplin on 9.iv.2015. This is the third consecutive year that this species has been reported from the site with few other reports from the vice county.

Jim Flanagan

Ireland

Another year to summarise and rather surprisingly given the weather, 2015 was one of the most memorable recent years for Irish Heteroptera. The headline news was that two species were added to the Irish list, two species were seen for the first time in many decades and a record of another 'lost' species surfaced. The credit for these go to Leon van der Noll, Ciaran Byrne and Martin Cawley. Full details of the records will be published elsewhere so only brief details are provided here.

New species

Deraeocoris ruber — adults were seen at several sites in Cork City by Leon van der Noll. There have been previous claims of this species but none were fully verified. Given that this species is common in southern England, the arrival in Ireland is perhaps not surprising.

Closterotomus trivialis — Another Leon van der Noll find in Cork City and totally unexpected. Leon

photographed several adults on a piece of undeveloped land in Cork City. Given its wide foodplant preferences and widespread appearance in England, a natural spread is quite likely but accidental introduction cannot be ruled out.

Rediscoveries

Aradus depressus — This flatbug is recorded from just two Irish sites (Co Kerry and Galway) and it has remained persistently unrecorded since the 1930s. It has been a target but with little understanding of its specific habitat, none have been seen. So the finding of one by Ciaran Byrne at night on an outside wall of a house in Co Carlow was a surprise. But it confirms it is still present in Ireland (although it could conceivably be a migrant) but the circumstances do little to help rediscover established populations.

Sehirus luctuosus Forget-me-not Shieldbug — Ciaran Byrne's second rediscovery, also in Co Carlow, was of the Forget-me-not Shieldbug on a sparsely vegetated bank at the side of an abandoned quarry. I joined Ciaran at the site to look for adults in July but we had no luck where he first found it. However numerous adults were present at a nearby site found by gentle excavation around the shrivelled remains of forget-me-not plants growing in bare gravelly soil. Previous Irish records were from Co Kildare and Kilkenny in the 1920s.

Thyreocoris scarabaeoides The Scarab Shieldbug — Not seen in Ireland since the 1930s. Like *Aradus* it has been looked for without success. A record from 2004 has just been published by Martin Cawley from Co Waterford which is a new county record. The site is a sand dune habitat.

Other notable records

Limnopus rufoscutellatus — seen in Co Armagh and Antrim

Macrolophus pygmaeus — specimens swept from a cultivated Geranium in my Co Armagh garden.

Leptoglossus occidentalis — Third Irish record in September in Co Down

Halodapus rufescens — taken in a pitfall trap on Scragh Bog a transition mire and fen in Co Westmeath

Brian Nelson

COUNTY RECORDERS

Vice County No.	Vice County Name	Scope	Contact	Contact address
1 & 2	Cornwall, W & E	Inc. Scilly Is.	Keith Alexander	keith.alexander@waitrose.com
3 & 4	Devon, N & S		Keith Alexander	keith.alexander@waitrose.com
9	Dorset		Ian Cross	I.Cross@dorsetcc.gov.uk
10	Isle of Wight		David Biggs	Plum Tree Cottage, 76 Albert Rd, Gurnard, Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO31 8JU
11 & 12	Hampshire, S & N		Jonty Denton	JontyDenton@aol.com
13 & 14	Sussex, E & W		Graeme Lyons	graemelyons@sussexwt.org.uk
15 & 16	Kent, E & W		Jonathan Barnard	KentshieldbugAtlas@gmail.com
16-21,24pt	LNHS recording area	20 mile radius from St Pauls	Tristan Bantock	tristanba@googlemail.com
17	Surrey		Jonty Denton	JontyDenton@aol.com
18 & 19	Essex, S & N		Peter Kirby	peter.kirby7@ntlworld.com
20	Hertfordshire	Terrestrial hets	Joe Gray	joegrays.uk@googlemail.com
20	Hertfordshire	Aquatic hets	Stuart Warrington	stuart.warrington@nationaltrust.org.uk
22 (part) & 23	Berkshire & Oxfordshire		John Campbell	campbell397@btinternet.com
25 & 26	Suffolk, E & W	Aquatic hets	Adrian Chalkley	adrian@boxvalley.co.uk
25 & 26	Suffolk, E & W	Terrestrial hets	Nigel Cuming	nigelcuming330@btopenworld.com
27 & 28	Norfolk, E & W		Robert Coleman	mail@rob-coleman.co.uk
30	Bedfordshire		Bernard Nau	nauhet@btinternet.com
32	Northamptonshire		Tony Cook	tony.cook20@btinternet.com
33 & 34	Gloucestershire, E & W		John Widgery	johnwidgery@waitrose.com
37	Worcestershire		John Partridge	records@wbrc.org.uk
40	Shropshire		Keith Fowler	keith.c.fowler@blueyonder.co.uk
53 & 54	Lincolnshire, S & N	Shieldbugs & allies	Annette Binding	allan.binding@ntlworld.com
53 & 54	Lincolnshire, S & N	Other terrestrial hets	Colin Smith	Csmith@countrywidefarmers.co.uk
53 & 54	Lincolnshire, S & N	Aquatic hets	Richard Chadd	richard.chadd@environment-agency.gov.uk
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56	Nottinghamshire		Dave Budworth	dbud01@aol.com
57	Derbyshire		Dave Budworth	dbud01@aol.com
58	Cheshire		Steve Judd	Steve.Judd@liverpoolmuseums.org.uk
59 & 60	Lancashire, S & W		Steve Judd	Steve.Judd@liverpoolmuseums.org.uk
61 & 62	Yorkshire, SE & NE		Stuart Foster	stuart@blackdan6.plus.com
63	Yorkshire, SW		Jim Flanagan	jimflanagan@btopenworld.com
64	Yorkshire, Mid-W		Stuart Foster	stuart@blackdan6.plus.com
65	Yorkshire, NW		Steve Hewitt	SteveH@carlisle-city.gov.uk
69 & 70	Westmorland		Steve Hewitt	SteveH@carlisle-city.gov.uk
70	Cumberland		Steve Hewitt	SteveH@carlisle-city.gov.uk
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GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING RECORDS

- Records are welcomed via iRecord (www.brc.ac.uk/irecord)
- Or in spreadsheet format (e.g. MS Excel), with one record per row
- Essential columns:
 - 1-species name | 2-date (dd/mm/yyyy) | 3-site name | 4-grid ref(XX#####) | 5-VC | 6-recorder | 7-determiner |
- Desirable columns:
 - abundance | age | sampling method | habitat | plant associations