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**Additional notable British barkfly (Psocoptera) observations**

This report summarises previously unpublished barkfly (outdoor Psocoptera) records from two sources: new observations made in 2005-6, and earlier records made by contributors to the newly launched national Psocoptera (outdoor species)/barkflies recording scheme (see BRC website - [www.brc.ac.uk](http://www.brc.ac.uk)).

KNAA made several notable finds while surveying sites in Northern Ireland in 2006 that will not be included in this paper. They will be published in the *Irish Naturalists' Journal* in due course.

**Amphipsocidae*****Kolbia quisquiliarum* Bertkau**

Keith P. Bland collected male and female specimens of this species in a malaise trap operating in dune slack grassland at Kilmory, Rum, Scotland (NG3603) between 27-31.viii.2000. Charles Lienhard (Geneva Natural History Museum) confirmed the identification of the specimens.

This species had previously been considered to be confined to southern England and its occurrence on a Scottish island shows that it has a far greater distribution range.

KNAA also found some specimens by sweep-netting herb-rich mesotrophic grassland at Coombeshead Farm, Arlington (SS6619), North Devon, 21.vii.2005.

**Ectopsocidae*****Ectopsocus axillaris* (Smithers)**

This recently established introduction appears to have rapidly spread across the country and is now regularly found amongst gorse and yew foliage, on aerial dead branches on open-grown trees, and other situations. It has been found by KNAA in: East Cornwall: Blisland (SX1075), 13.vi.2005; St Dominick (SX4167), 20.vii.2006; and Lansallos (SX1751), 24.viii.2006; West Gloucestershire: Brockweir (SO5300), 6.vi.2006; Monmouthshire: Brynmawr (SO1912), 7.ix.2005, and Clydach Gorge NNR (SO2212), 5.ix.2006; Worcestershire: Birlingham (SO929442); and County Durham: Waldrige Fell (NZ251489), 5.vii.2005. The species has also been found by RES in: Falkirk: Airth (NS897877), 15.v.2005; Lancashire: Marton Mere (SD3435), 17.vii.2005; Lincolnshire: Legbourne (TF367845), 23.vii.2006; and Fife: Kinghorn (NT270868), 10.ix.2006.

**Peripsocidae*****Peripsocus alboguttatus* (Dalman)**

RES collected a single female specimen from a goat willow *Salix caprea* bush in a small valley near Hartside in the Lammermuir Hills (NT474537 – vc81) on 14.viii.2006. A further search of the scattered bushes in this area of the valley bottom on 18.viii.2006 produced another female specimen, this time on grey willow *Salix cinerea*. A short amount of time was also spent sweeping the rough grassland in the area but no specimens were found. This is the second Scottish site for the species.

***Peripsocus milleri* (Tillyard)**

We have previously reported on the first outdoor records of this species in 2005 (Saville, B, Alexander KNA, Dolling WR & Kirby P, *Ent Rec* **117**: 35-39) but two earlier specimens have only recently come to light: KNA has one from Walcot Park in Shropshire (SO345859), 8.viii.1996, and Moseley Green, West Gloucestershire (SO632086), 18.vii.1998. These records suggest that the species was already spreading across the west of England (at least) well before its presence was first appreciated in 2004. Further records have also been forthcoming and it is clearly now well-established across much of the southern half of England. KNA found it at Duncombe Park NNR, North Yorkshire (SE6082), 28.vi.2005 & 2.x.2006; and Claverton, North Somerset (ST776645), 22.ix.2006. The majority of these records come from tapping aerial dead branches on old open-grown trees.

***Peripsocus parvulus* Kolbe**

A female specimen was beaten from a small yew bush at the entrance to South Darley church, Derbyshire (SK267615) by RES on 31.vii.2006. Another site for the species was found the next day (two kilometres away). A total of 42 specimens were found on a row of oak trees edging a road near Stanton in Peak (SK252639). 24 males and 15 females were found on the trunks of the trees while one male and two females were found by beating the branches. As is usual with this species, all of the males were macropterous while all the females were brachypterous.

KNA also found two females in Cwm Clydach NNR, Monmouthshire (SO2212), 5.ix.2006.

There has only been one previous record of this species in Britain (McLachlan, R, 1890, *Ent Mon Mag* **26**: 269-270) – McLachlan also found a substantial number together in the same area: about two dozen specimens on a paling on the outskirts of Lyndhurst, New Forest on 31.viii and 1.ix.1890. He also reported finding macropterous males and brachypterous females though he also thought he had a number of macropterous females.

**Trichopsocidae*****Trichopsocus clarus* (Banks)**

RES obtained one female specimen from elder/hawthorn scrub at the northern end of Hunstanton cliff, Norfolk (TF679424) on 27.vii.2006. This is the second published record for England (Saville et al, loc.cit.).

***Trichopsocus brincki* Badonnel**

One was found by KNA at South Penquite Farm, Blisland, East Cornwall (SX1075), 22.vi.2005, and Coombehead Farm, Arlington, North Devon (SS6139), 21.vii.2005. Two males were beaten from gorse on the open rough pastureland of Darren Ddu, Llanelly, Monmouthshire (SO223170), 4.ix.2006.

Three females were beaten from a yew in South Darley churchyard, Derbyshire (SK267615) on 31.vii.2006 (the same bush that *Peripsocus parvulus* was recorded from) by RES. On 4.viii.2006 a further two females were found on an introduced

conifer along the roadside near North Britain (SK302649) about four kilometres from the first location.

Twenty-seven cones of Douglas fir *Pseudotsuga menziesii* and spruce *Picea* sp., blown down in gales, were collected by JHB in Treborth Botanic Garden, Bangor (SH552710, vc49) on 3.xii.2006. They were kept indoors in a sandwich box at 10–15°C, and over the rest of the month four adults and one juvenile *T. brincki* were found among them, det. BS. This record is particularly interesting since it suggests that the species may be capable of over-wintering as an adult.

Our previous debate (Saville et al, loc.cit.) concerning whether this is an overlooked native or yet another recently establishing introduction appears to have been resolved. It is clearly rapidly spreading across the country.

### **Elipsocidae**

#### ***Prospocus pulchripennis* (Perkins)**

On 31.viii.2004 a visit by GMEO to the East Sussex SSSI/NNR at Newhaven's undercliff resulted in the capture of three specimens of this very distinctive species. The site is a chalky place with rockfalls strewn around, often reaching to the shingle. Because of the presence of brambles, collecting with a net was ineffective, and a simple (transparent) plastic 'sandwich' box was used instead, hitting over the vegetation with the lid and seeing what fell into the box. The specimens were found in a rather small area of rank vegetation where the shingle meets the major vegetation (TQ448000): one specimen on a *Chenopodium* species (possibly Good King Henry), the other two on nettle. All the specimens have been housed in the Booth Museum, Brighton.

This is the first record for mainland Britain, the only other records being from the Isles of Scilly (Saville et al, loc.cit.).

### **Psocidae**

#### ***Psocus bipunctatus* (Linnaeus)**

LC swept and beat several specimens from a lichen-encrusted Oak *Quercus robur* L. branch at Blaxland Farm, Broad Oak near Canterbury, Kent (TR161634) on 30.vii.2006. The identification of one of the specimens was confirmed by KNAA and RES. According to New (1974, 2005) this species had not been recorded in Britain since 1837. A further examination of the site on 9.ix.2006 revealed no further specimens.

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