

is asking us to assume too much, and in my opinion the name *ryei* must stand for the present.

It is to be regretted that Dr. Joy in his 'Practical Handbook of British Beetles' (p. 136) has for no apparent reason reverted to the name *rubidus* Rey for this species. If any reliance at all is to be placed on the description in the well-known Continental books, *rubidus* must be an entirely different-looking insect from *ryei*.

Strathmore, Totnes.

July 24th, 1932.

COLLECTING NOTES FROM MID-PERTSHIRE.

BY K. G. BLAIR, F.E.S.

The latter half of June was spent, in company with Messrs. R. B. Benson, W. H. T. Tams and my wife, at Killin, at the western end of Loch Tay. The varied type of country, from high mountain (Ben Lawers, 4,000 ft.) to richly-wooded valley, with rapid rivers and lake foreshore, looked most promising. Woods of birch, oak or alder are most general, but unfortunately the bit of old pine forest near the Lochay Bridge has now been felled. Unlike the Rev. C. E. Tottenham's experience of September last (*antea*, p. 45), the weather was remarkably hot and dry, so much so indeed that not only were many of the smaller burns completely dried up, but even the rivers Lochay and Dochart had but little water running and exposed large areas of rocky bed. On the hills one could walk anywhere over the bogs, and the peat holes were for the most part dried up. Notwithstanding, or perhaps because of, these abnormally dry conditions collecting, at least as regards the Coleoptera, was perhaps hardly up to expectation. The long warm, dry spell which had ruled throughout the month had probably brought things out earlier than usual and caused them to go over very rapidly. Thus many of the boreal or mountain species to be found round Rannoch which it was hoped might be met with, e.g. *Pytho depressus*, *Pyrochroa pectinicornis*, *Bolitophagus reticulatus*, *Acanthocinus aedilis*, etc., were never seen, while of *Eros aurora* the remains of a single example under a slab of wood on the site of an old saw-mill only encouraged hopes that were destined to disappointment.

Ben Lawers and other high ground around produced *Otiorhynchus dubius* in some numbers, but only a single example of *O. blandus*, also *Nebria gyllenhali*, *Patrobis excavatus*, *Miscodera arctica* (1), and *Cantharis paludosus* on the grasses; but all *Elaphrus* found proved to be *cupreus*, the only *Leistus* was *rufescens*, a nice-looking *Bembidion* was *tibiale*, and so on.

Among other less common species the following are perhaps worth noting :—

COLEOPTERA. *Carabus glabratus*, *Nebria gyllenhali* and its var. *balbii* on high ground, *Pterostichus oblongo-punctatus* and *adstrictus* on the site of the old saw-mill above mentioned, *Agonum ericeti* (1), *Calathus piceus*, *Agabus guttatus* and congener in boggy pools, *A. arcticus* in the lochans, *Platambus maculatus* in a small stream entering Lochan na Lairige, *Gyrinus edwardsi* in Lochan Feurach, *Anacaena limbata*, *Atheta mortuorum* (?), *Tachinus proximus*, *Mycetochara nana*, *Staphylinus erythropterus*, *Anthophagus testaceus* and *alpinus*, *Geodromicus globulicollis* (1), *Lesteva monticola* under stones beside Lochan nan Geadas, *Cytilus sericeus* beside the river Lochay, *Aphodius lapponum* in numbers in sheep's dung together with occasional *A. borealis* and *depressus* v. *atramentarius*, *Hoplia philanthus*, all ♂, on the same sandy patch among rocks with *Cytilus sericeus* and *Cryptohypnus dermestoides* and its var. *4-guttatus*; *Hypnoidus riparius* in stream beds, *Athous hirtus* on bracken in woods, *Corymbites cupreus* with its var. *aeruginosus* and *Cincanus* on all the hill-sides, *Helodes minuta*, *H. marginata* beside a bog-pool, *Cantharis abdominalis* v. *cyaneus* on the wing, *Plateumaris discolor* in boggy pools, *Chrysomela varians*, *Phytodecta pallida*, *Gastroidea viridula* in numbers on sorrel beside the Dochart. *Rhagium bifasciatum* and *mordax* were the only Longicorns seen. Fallen trees were plentiful, but either too rotten or too shrivelled by the drought to produce much, and tree stumps were in little better case.

LEPIDOPTERA. It was a pleasure to see *Erebia epiphron* and *Coenonympha typhon* flying in some numbers, but they were evidently only just out as nearly all were males. *Anarta melanopa* and *myrtilli* were seen on Ben Lawers, but the former much worn; *Cucullia umbratica* was not uncommon on fence posts. At moderate elevations *Malenydris salicata* was the commonest geometer, while *Eupithecia satyrata* var. *callunaria* was common over heather, *Xanthorhoë tristata* among the bracken in the open, with *Odezia atrata* where its food-plant occurred. In the hay-meadows *Perizoma albulata* was plentiful with occasional examples of *P. blandiata*. Of the Pyrales, *Scoparia alpina* was kicked up at about 3,000 feet. *Crambus margaritellus* was the only capture in its group worth noting. On the peat mosses the beautiful *Eucosma schulziana* was common and a single *Philedone gerningana* was secured. *Acompsia similella* and *Prays curtisellus* were the only Tineids taken. Of larvae the following among others were noted :—

Lasiocampa quercus var. *callunae* (from which a little yellow Tachinid, *Actia bicolor*, was bred), *Trichiura crataegi*, *Saturnia pavonia*, *Dasychira fascelina*, *Drymonia chaonia*, *Polia chi*, *Taenio-campa gracilis* on Sweet Gale but mostly parasited by the ichneumon *Spudastica krieckbaumeri*, and *Entephria caesiata*.

NEUROPTERA. *Sialis fulginosa* as well as *S. lutaria* occurred round the lochans of the high ground. *Hemerobius lutescens* was plentiful in the oak woods of Glen Lochay, and single examples of *Boriomyia quadrifasciata* and *Micromus paganus* were also taken. *Panorpa communis* was not uncommon, but *P. germanica* was not seen. A larva of *Boreus hiemalis* was discovered beneath moss on a boulder on an open hillside. The *Coniopterygidae* were represented by *C. pygmaea* and *C. tineiformis*.

TRICHOPTERA were somewhat neglected, but such as were secured will be recorded elsewhere. It must suffice now to note the occurrence of some interesting boreal or mountain forms, e.g. the blackish form of *Phryganea striata* characteristic of high elevations, the boreal *Molanna palpata*, of which there is only a single example in the British Collection at the Natural History Museum, and a small, broad-winged form of *Micropterna lateralis* not represented in that collection.

Of DIPTERA only some of the more striking species were noted by me. *Haematopota pluvialis* was unpleasantly numerous towards the end of the month, and was supported by *H. crassicornis*, but no other Tabanids were seen. The fine Oestrid *Cephenomyia rufibarbis* was taken near Lochan Feurach, while a specimen each of the grouse parasite, *Ornithomyia lagopodis*, and the sheep ked, *Melophagus ovinus*, were captured upon our clothing. Mosquitos fortunately were hardly seen; one specimen of *Anopheles plumbeus* was taken by the Falls of Lochay. The biting midges, *Culicoides*, on the other hand, were annoyingly in evidence.

ODONATA were represented by *Cordulegaster annulatus* along most of the burns down the hillsides, while the local *Aeschna coerulea* was not uncommon in the glens but difficult to capture. The smaller species were practically absent; reports were received of a *Pyrrhosoma* (probably *tenellum*) being seen, but no specimen was secured.

PLECOPTERA. The three large Perlids, *P. maxima*, *mortoni* and *recta* were found, though the first of these was represented only by the cast nymph-skins on the rocks. *Chloroperla*, *Isopteryx*, *Nemoura* and *Leuctra* were fairly common but were not collected.

To the EPHEMEROPTERA more attention was paid in the hope of

discovering the haunt of *Ameletus inopinatus* Eat. This hope was however but partially fulfilled, a single ♀ being taken near Lochan nan Geadas. This species has been only twice previously recorded from Britain, viz. a single ♂ from Loch Rannoch (E.M.M. 1899, p. 69), and another from Brothers Water, Westmorland (*ibid.* 1929, p. 182). Other species taken were *Siphonurus lacustris*, near the same lochan, *Ecdyonurus venosus* and *lateralis*, *Rhithrogena semicolorata*, *Cloëon simile*, *Centroptilum luteolum*, *Baetis pumilus* and *bioculatus*, *Leptophlebia vespertina* and *marginata* and *Ephemera danica*. *Leptophlebia vespertina* L. (*Meyeri* Eat.), first recorded from Britain from Loch Rannoch (*loc. cit.*), but now known to be widely distributed in the country, was in countless thousands near Lochan nan Geadas, the sunlight on the wings of the dancing insects giving almost the appearance of a snowstorm.

Of PSOCOPTERA the few noted were all common species, e.g. *Amphigerontia fasciata*, *Graphopsocus cruciatus*, *Mesopsocus unipunctatus*, *Stenopsocus immaculatus*, *Caecilius flavidus* and *obsoletus*.

The HEMIPTERA, though but sampled, also include some interesting records. For the determination of those noted and the particulars given I am indebted to my colleague, Mr. W. E. China. The northern *Gerris costae* occurred on some of the nearly dried up bog-pools, together with *Callicorixa wollastoni* (now regarded as distinct from *praeusta*) and a melanic form of *Sigara* (*Arctocorisa*) *nigrolineata* (*borealis* D. & S. ?). *Acanthia scotica* was running on the rocks of R. Lochay, *A. saltatoria* on Beinn a Creachain (*F. W. Edwards*), and *Teloleuca pellucens* F. (*Salda riparia* Fall.) in the bed of the Caillich burn. Besides Rannoch and Aviemore, the only British localities known for the latter are Cumberland, Durham and Snowdon. Another good capture was *Pachytomella parallela* Mey. (♂ and ♀), this being the first British record for the ♀. The species was introduced as new to the British list by Butler (*Ent. Mo. Mag.* 60, 1924, p. 8) on a ♂ example taken by him at Theydon Bois, Epping Forest, and another by D. Bacchus at Wimborne, Dorset, both by promiscuous sweeping. A third ♂ has been taken this year by J. N. Halbert in the Santry Demesne near Dublin. Butler also took the species in Switzerland on spruce. The habitat is given by Reuter as mountainous or alpine regions. The specimens now recorded were found on rather short grass on a sandy meadow beside the R. Lochay with no spruce, only scattered alders, in the vicinity. They were rather difficult to capture owing to their habit of dropping to the ground as soon as

approached, and the turf was too short for sweeping. Other species noted were *Pithanus maerkeli*, *Cyllocoris histrionicus*, *Calocoris ochromelas*, *Phylus melanocephalus*, *Plagiognathus arbustorum*, *Monalocoris filicis* and *Psallus betuleti*.

Of the HOMOPTERA the only captures were *Cixius nervosus* and *cunicularis*, *Delphacodes* (*Liburnia* auct.) *forcipata* and *discolor* and *Deltocephalus abdominalis*.

British Museum (Natural History).

August 12th, 1932.

Staphylinus aeneocephalus De Geer and *S. cupreus* Rossi.—Now that the specimens formerly standing in British collections under the name *cupreus* have been shown (Ent. Mo. Mag., 1931, p. 108) to belong to the two above distinct species, it is desirable from the point of view of the geographical distribution of our beetle fauna to put on record definite localities for each of these. I found I had nine specimens standing in my collection under the name *cupreus*; four of these proved to be the true *cupreus*, all taken in the Isle of Portland, in April, 1897 and 1898. The other five were *aeneocephalus* from the following localities: Aviemore, Richmond Park, Deal, Dorchester (Dorset).

From the records so far published it looks as if *aeneocephalus* was widely distributed all over the kingdom, while *cupreus* is a southern insect only. My four specimens of the latter species are strikingly larger and brighter-looking than any of the five *aeneocephalus*.—T. HUDSON BEARE, Edinburgh: August 10th, 1932.

Strategus titanus Fab. in Edinburgh.—It is perhaps desirable to put on record that a fine living ♂ specimen of this large West Indian Dynastid was brought to me in June, 1931. It was found in a large bunch of bananas which had just been unloaded at Leith Docks and sent to the Leith Goods Station of the L.N.E. Railway. Mr. G. Tweedie, a foreman at the Goods Station, knowing I was a Coleopterist, very kindly brought it up to my house on the evening of the day it was captured. I was able to keep it alive for some time.—T. HUDSON BEARE: August 10th, 1932.

Hemiptera-Heteroptera in the East Midlands in 1932.—*Sehirus bicolor* L., on potatoes in Nottingham (May) and on *Stachys sylvestris* at Elvaston, Derby, in July. *Palomena prasina* L., on *Betula*, Sherwood Forest, June 7th, and on *Betula* at Potter Hanworth (Lincs.) on June 25th. *Pentatoma rufipes* L., on ash near Exton (Rutland) on May 14th. *Acanthosoma haemorrhoidale* L., on sallows on the banks of the River Soar (Leics.) in July. *Elasmosteethus griseus* L., on *Betula* at Pickworth (Rutland), May 13th, and at Potter Hanworth on June 25th.

Nysius thymi Wolff., South Luffenham (Rutland), amongst grasses on May 13th. *Ischnorhynchus geminatus* Fieb., in Sherwood Forest on June 7th. *Stygnocoris pedestris* Fall., in garden hedge at Kegworth (Leics.), in April. *Peritrechus sylvestris* Fab., on *Centaurea nigra*, Kegworth, July. *Drymus sylvaticus* Fab., at the base of plants in Barnsdale Avenue (Rutland), May 14th, and on August 4th at Ashford Dale (Derby). *Notochilus contractus* H.S., at the base of plants in the garden at Kegworth (Leics.), July. *Scolopostethus affinis* Schill., on nettles near Rockingham (Northants.), April 14th.

Piesma maculata Lap., on sugar beet and *Chenopodium album* in North Lincolnshire, June 22nd, and near Ashby-de-la-Zouch (Leics.), July 8th. *Dere-*

Bibliography of the Neuropterida

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