

all out and a fixed pattern of behaviour will emerge. Meanwhile, I would like to see the job of sorting out the tangle to be undertaken by a lepidopterist scientifically better qualified than I, and to whom I would willingly give all the help I could from information at my disposal.

### Acknowledgement

I am grateful to Dr. J. D. Bradley for checking a genitalia slide which I made of a female *milvipennis*.

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ARHOPALUS RUSTICUS L. (COL.: CERAMBYCIDAE) IN KENT AND ESSEX. — Dr. G. A. Neil Horton's record of this longicorn beetle (as *Criocephalus*) from Monmouthshire (*antea*: 52) reminds me that my friend the late G. Shephard obtained the species in the vicinity of St. Margaret's and West Langdon, near Dover, and at Hatfield Forest, near Bishop's Stortford, in the 1970s — both occurrences, as far as I know, being new county records. In the former area it was found repeatedly in their house (having presumably flown to light) by relatives of Mr. Shephard, and passed to him; one of these, dated 16.viii.68, he kindly presented to me. At Hatfield Forest he took a single example on a Scots pine log (July or August).

This insect, formerly confined with us as a native to the old pine forests of Strathspey, has within the last 3-4 decades colonized parts of southern England\*, where it appears to have been first found at Canford Heath, Dorset, in 1958, by Mr. F. A. Hunter. The Dover record shows it to have now reached the extreme south-east. *A. rusticus* is said to be now more frequent than the very similar *A. tristis* F. (= *Criocephalus fesus* Muls.) in some southern districts, but I understand that they do not normally occur in the same localities.

*Arhopalus rusticus* requires careful differentiation from its congener *A. tristis*. The shorter tarsi of the former is generally the first thing to strike the eye when similar-sized individuals of the two species are placed together; but perhaps the most reliable character and the least dependent on comparison lies in the hairy eyes of *rusticus*. Duffy (1952, *Handb. Ident. Brit. Ins.*, 5 (12):9) gives size as one of the differences, assigning to *rusticus* a length of only 12-16 mm. This however must be a mistake (overlooked in my review of this work, *Ent. Rec.* 64: 363), for in fact both species have a size-range up to 30 mm.; cf. Fowler & Donisthorpe, 1913, *Col. Brit. Isl.*, 6: 152-3. — A. A. ALLEN.

\*In this it is closely paralleled by an allied Cerambycid, *Asemum striatum* L., and by the Staphylinid *Nudobius lentus* Grav., both likewise exclusively Highland insects in earlier days. Further, it seems extraordinary that the two *Arhopalus* spp., *Tetropium gabrieli* Weise, and *Melanophila acuminata* Deg. — all conspicuous beetles of coniferous woodland — were entirely unknown in Britain until about the turn of the century.



Allen, Anthony Adrian. 1981. "Arhopalus rusticus (Col., Cerambycidae) in Kent and Essex." *The entomologist's record and journal of variation* 93, 166–166.

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