

has been present all the time in Gloucestershire? It could never be proved, but one can reflect on cases like the discovery of *Carterocephalus palaemon* Pallas in North Scotland in 1939, when everyone thought it was confined to the East Midlands.

It is perhaps of interest to list the other species originally found at the site, which caused us to pause awhile on that memorable afternoon. They were: *Aglais urticae* L., *Callophrys rubi* L., *Pyrgus malvae* L., *Erynnis tages* L., *Hamearis lucina* L., *Coenonympha pamphilus* L., *Gonepteryx rhamni* L., *Anthocharis cardamines* L., *Pieris napi* L., *Aricia agestis* D. & S., *Polyommatus icarus* Rott., *Ectypa glyphica* L., *Euclidimera mi* Clerck and *Ematurga atomaria* L. We look forward eagerly to a visit next year.

In conclusion, it is worth noting that no specimens have been taken and that photography has proved a valuable aid in assessing the colony.

A RECENT OCCURRENCE OF *PHYLLOTRETA VITTATA* F. (= *SINUATA* AUCT. BRIT.) (COL.: CHRYSOMELIDAE). — This "turnip flea" is, as Fowler (1890, *Col. Brit. Isl.*, 4: 367) states, a rare species with us; though at least one instance is known of its occurrence in plenty, when the eminent coleopterist just mentioned found it commonly at Eskdale, Cumb., in 1911 (Fowler & Donisthorpe, 1913, *ibid.*, 6: 292). Donisthorpe himself never took the species, despite being—as he told me—particularly desirous of so doing in order to complete his series of the *Phyllotretae*. Yet the records are comparatively numerous, except for the last half-century for which period there are hardly any; the former fact may, I think, be due to its having long been known as a rarity to collectors who therefore took the trouble to publish their captures, which could give the impression that it is commoner than it really is. For the extreme southern counties there are only two quite old records (N. Kent and N. Cornwall); the bulk are for East Anglia and Wales across the Midlands and through the north of England.

I was pleased to find *P. vittata* for the first time at Foulden, near Swaffham in W. Norfolk, at the beginning of September 1973, while spending a few days with my friends Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Gould. It was in their kitchen garden, then only just "reclaimed" from the fallow state and overrun with horseradish (*Armoracia*). I was unable to decide whether the flea-beetles—obtained by general sweeping—were coming off that or other equally suitable crucifers present (cabbage, charlock, etc.) or from all indifferently; it was distinctly uncommon, and patient work was needed to secure a fair series. Its close relative *P. undulata* Kuts. occurred with it in similar numbers. Under a lens, the *P. vittata* were easily discriminated by the form of the yellow elytral stripes, which is its chief characteristic. It should be noted that this species has always been ascribed in our literature to the *sinuata* of Stephens, whereas the latter is now ascertained to be synonymous with *flexuosa* Ill. — A. A. ALLEN.



Allen, Anthony Adrian. 1977. "A recent occurrence of *Phyllotreta vittata* F. (= *sinuata* auct. Brit.) (Col.: Chrysomelidae)." *The entomologist's record and journal of variation* 89, 332–332.

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