

THE GENERA *CLYTUS* LAICH. AND *ANAGLYPTUS* MULS. (COL.: CERAMBYCIDAE) IN THE BRITISH ISLES

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Clytus arietis L.

THIS IS still a common species encountered almost everywhere but becoming rarer in Scotland. There are hardly any Irish records, about which Dr Speight (1988) expresses some reservations.

ENGLAND: BD BK BX CB CH CU DM DT (DY) EC EK EN ES EX EY GE GW HF HT HU IW L LN LR LS MM MX MY ND NE NH NM NN NO NS NW NY OX SD SE SH SL SN SP SR SS ST SW SY WC WK WL WN WO WS WW WX WY.

WALES: BR CD CR DB FT GM MN PB.

SCOTLAND: AM BW ED EL KB IA SG.

IRELAND: AN SK.

An injurious pest with liberal tastes, the larva of this beetle perforates with its tunnellings the following trees and shrubs:- apple, bay, beech (greatly favoured), birch, broom, cherry, chestnut, crab-apple, dogrose, elm, false acacia, fig, hawthorn, hazel, hornbeam, juniper, laurel, lime, maple, oak, of which it is also very fond, pear, plum, *Pyrus malus*, raspberry canes, sallow, sour cherry, spindle, spruce (occasionally), willow, *Wistaria*, wych elm. It is doubtfully associated with aspen.

The larva is parasitised by the Hymenopterons, *Aspidogonus diversicornis* Wesm., *Helcon annulicornis* Nees, *Neoxorides nitens* Grav., *Pyracmon austriacus* Tschek. and *P. xoridoides* Strobl.

It also falls prey to the beetle, *Lygistopterus sanguineus* F. and has been devoured by these spiders:- *Aranea sexpunctata* L., *Ciflio similis* Bl. and *Segestria florentina* Ross.

Metamorphosis usually lasts two years but may extend to three; pupation occurs either in August and September, the pupa overwintering, or during spring in March and April. The adult beetle emerges then and from May onwards and is about until July.

Popularly known as the Wasp Beetle, which insect it mimics in coloration and movements, it runs rapidly and readily takes to wing in sunshine. The beetle is found by sweeping grasses and aquatic vegetation. It is not often taken off flowers, settling only momentarily on *Angelica*, *Anthriscus*, brambles, currant bushes, dogrose, dogwood, ferns, hawthorn, hogweed, *Lonicera*, nettles, *Spiraea*, *Viburnum* and in flowering pea and bean fields, and seems to prefer dead hedgerows, old logs and branches, posts and railings.

C. arietis has long been known to our early entomologists, and was illustrated by both Martyn and Donovan in 1792.

A dozen colour varieties of this beetle are found in Europe, one of

which, the var. *cloueti* Thery, closely resembles Allen's (1959) medianly black form below and distinguished from the latter by having the sub-humeral elytral band broken into two maculations.

v. *medioniger* Allen.

ENGLAND: L SH.

Extremely rare on brambles, only two examples have so far been recorded. Listed by Kloet & Hincks (1977).

Anaglyptus mysticus L.

A widely distributed beetle in England as far north as mid-west Yorkshire. There are hardly any records from the Principality and it is unknown in either Scotland or Ireland.

ENGLAND: BD BK BX CB CH DT DY EK EN ES EY GE GW HF HT HU L LN LR LS MM MX MY ND NH NM NO NS NW OX SD SE SH (SL) SR SS ST SY WK WO WS WW WX WY.

WALES: DB (MG).

An equally injurious beetle whose larva is more eclectic than that of *C. arietis*. It attacks the boles and branches of dry or fresh hardwoods, especially those that have been fire scorched, including alder, almond, aspen, beech, birch, dogwood, elder, false acacia, hawthorn, hazel, holly, hornbeam, lime, maple, oak, pear, persimmon, plum, rowan, snowbell, spindle tree, sycamore and wych elm.

Its only parasite is the Braconid, *Aspidogonus diversicornis* Wesm.

The life cycle lasts two years, with the pupa forming in autumn and overwintering. Imagines emerge in April and are found until July. As ovipositing takes place in the host tree, recurring infestations eventually riddle it completely.

A local, sometimes fairly common beetle which settles on dogwood, hawthorn, hogweed, nettles, *Spiraea*, *Viburnum* and old posts and faggots. It is figured by Donovan (1794). Villiers (1978) illustrates seven varieties, only one of which has been recorded with us. It is very rarely found on hawthorn blossom with the type.

v. *albofasciatus* Deg. (a. *hieroglyphicus* Hbst.).

ENGLAND: BK CH HU LR NO OX SH SR WK WO WS.

First catalogued as *hieroglyphicus* by Beare & Donisthorpe (1904) and again by Beare in 1930, this variety is omitted by Kloet & Hincks in their two Check Lists (1945, 1977).

Brownean symbols are used (Kaufmann, 1989), those italicised indicating a commonly recorded species and bracketed letters standing for those still requiring confirmation.

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A satyrid butterfly in a light trap

On 3rd September 1989 I switched on my m.v. trap (Skinner) at 21.40 hours local time (= 19.40 GMT). It was completely dark, mainly overcast. The afternoon temperature had been 28°C, while the night minimum was 11°C. The trap is situated on my small balcony about 30 metres above street level, overlooking a main road. The altitude is 920 metres above sea level.

In the morning, I found the trap to contain its normal number of 20 - 30 "macro" moths and also a fresh looking male *Brintesia circe* (Fab.). This is the largest European satyrid, with a wing span of up to about 65 mm, and looks rather like a gigantic White Admiral. It is a common species in this southern part of Andorra, but September is a late date — June/July is its usual flight period. And what was it doing flying about in the dark — not merely dusk?

I have had personal experience of penumbral Satyridae in Nigeria, North Borneo and the Seychelles; I did not know that it is a habit of European species; and this was not merely penumbral, but completely nocturnal.— PATRICK ROCHE, Av. Verge de Canolich, 97, Sant Julià de Lòria, Andorra.

Migrant butterflies in 1989

1989 appears to have been a good year for only one species of immigrant butterfly, *Vanessa atalanta*. My first sightings for the year came whilst on holiday in Scotland, when on 17th June two were seen at Kyle of Lochalsh, Wester Ross. Three days later, another was seen at Bettyhill, West Sutherland, on the north coast. Returning home, two more were seen at Princes Risborough, Bucks, on 27th June and after this they were to be seen from time to time throughout the rest of the season, becoming more common as autumn approached. On 30th September a dozen or so were seen at Dale, Pembs, mostly on ivy blossom; in the same locality two *Colias croceus* Fourc, were also noted, one male and one female (another was seen shortly afterwards but could have been one of the original two) and in glorious warm sunshine there were large numbers of presumably third brood *Lycaena phlaeas* and *Lasiommata megera* and two *Polyommatus icarus*.— A.J. SHOWLER, 12 Wedgwood Drive, Hughenden Valley, High Wycombe, Bucks HP14 4PA.



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