

rose and flew over a belt of firs. I should perhaps mention that in those days I could run down *hyale* on the wing and had not yet become in the graphic words of Surtees: "a worn out old devil that could do nothing but eat."

Isle of Canna Notes for 1970 and 1971

By J. L. CAMPBELL

Additions to "Macrolepidoptera Cannae", see Record September 1970 et seq.

268. *P. viridaria* Clerck (Small Purple Barred). One in m.v. trap on 9/6/70. (157a in list).
269. *C. ligustri* Schiff. (The Coronet). A worn specimen in m.v. trap on 20/7/71.
270. *S. costaestrigalis* Steph. (Pinion-streaked Snout). A worn specimen in the trap on 2/8/71. Identified by Mr E. C. Pelham-Clinton.
271. *L. viretata* Hübn. (Yellow Barred Brindle). One in trap on 25/5/71.
272. *P. comitata* L. (Dark Spinach). One in trap on 13/7/71. (Previously taken on Canna by Dr Michael Harper in 1957 and by J. L. C. on Barra).
273. *C. jubata* Thunb. (Dotted Carpet). One in trap on 31/7/71
274. *B. piniaria* L. (Bordered White). One in trap on 3/6/71.

Other records of interest

1. *P. brassicae* L. A freshly emerged male was found below the wood east of my house on 23/4/71. I do not remember seeing *brassicae* here in April before.
5. *V. io*. Still absent from Canna, but I was glad to see a specimen on the east side of Loch Awe in Argyllshire near the south end of the loch on 14/10/70.
9. *A. selene* L. was seen again in the Haligary gulley in June 1970 and 1971. In 1971 it also appeared in clearings in the wood planted between the gulley and my house in 1956-57 for the first time.
11. *P. aegeria* L. Not seen in 1970, but appeared again in 1971 on 30/7/71 in the wood behind my garden (in the same patch of sunlight where specimens were seen in 1968 and 1969) and in my garden on 2/8/71. An obviously different specimen was seen in my garden on 12/8/71. The woods were all searched around this time, but no other specimens were seen.
25. *N. dromedarius* L. Specimens were taken in the trap on 25/5/71 and 28/7/71, the first since 1956.
43. *E. irrorellq* L. Many larvae noticed sunning themselves on the low south-facing cliffs at Sgorr nam Ban Naomh on 14/4/71, several taken home, two emerged June 1st.
58. *A. strigula* Thunb. (*porphyrea* Hübn.) 262 specimens out of a total of 402 moths on 28/7/71; 169 specimens out

of 345 moths in the trap on 3/8/71. Total for 1971, 545, the highest yet. Is this species a migrant? compare earlier sudden large trap catches in 1956, 1963, 1964 and 1965.

- 64. *N. augur* (Fab). Another specimen in the trap on 31/8/71.
- 90. *D. caesia* (Borkh.). Nine specimens of the Grey turned up in the trap in 1971, the first on 25th May, the last on 24th August.
- 94. *T. cespitis* Fabr. One specimen on 21/8/71.
- 116. *N. typica* L. One specimen in the trap on 30/7/71, the first since 1964.
- 123. *C. lutosa* Hübn. The Large Wainscot turned up again on 16/9/71 and 3/10/71.
- 164. *P. interrogationis*. L. A very good specimen taken in the trap on 1/8/71. Only once before, in 1966.
- 210. *P. flavofasciata* Thunb. 15 specimens were taken in the trap in 1971, of which 8 on May 25th.
- 241. *E. prosapiaria* L. This turned up again in 1970, one being taken in the trap on July 27th and another seen outside (sitting in my car!) on the 31st. The moth was not seen at all in 1971.
- 263. *Z. purpuralis* Brun. In 1970 the weather broke on June 21st and was very bad until July 23rd. The burnets must have had a terrible time; the same period had bad weather in 1969. In 1971 I visited the isolated western colony at Iolasgor (accessible only by sea) on July 17th. Not a burnet was to be seen. The rabbits had increased and the ground was eaten bare, except for patches of ragwort and nettles. One can only hope that this interesting colony of *purpuralis* will revive eventually.

Migrants In 1970 *V. atalanta* L. made a very early appearance on May 9th (one specimen seen in my garden and another on Sanday) and was seen a number of times between then and June 8th. In July I found a number of full-grown larvae on nettles amongst the trees in my garden; some of these were reared. *Atalanta* was around in the Autumn again, the last date being September 22nd. *Cardui* did not appear until the middle of June, four or five specimens being seen then and again in September. *Gamma* first appeared on June 10th and not again until August. Only a few specimens were noticed. *Noctuella* appeared in the trap on June 2nd and not again until September 16th, four on the 18th bringing the season's total up to seven.

General Notes. Except for two and a half weeks of brilliant weather prior to midsummer, the summer of 1970 was a very bad one. May is noted in my diary as the wettest, foggiest May I could remember. July was no better; there were a few fine days in August, but September was wet and stormy. I only found it worth while putting the trap on on 26 nights, the total caught being 1,813.

There was far more dry weather in 1971, but also a great

deal more wind. A consequence of the bad autumn of 1969 and bad summer of 1970 was that, apart from the whites, butterflies were scarce again. The trap was on on 55 nights catching a total of 4,309 moths, but the ten nights the trap was used in June produced only 236 of these, the June nights being cold and clear with northerly winds. Of the total of 4,309 moths, six common species produced 2,348 — *T. pronuba* 965, *A. strigula* 545, *A. secalis* 264, *X. monoglypha* 208, *T. stabilis* 197 (April was fine and warm) and *T. ianthina* 179. The most remarkable thing about 1971 was the fact that the trap produced six new species. I may add that Canna too has been colonized by the collared dove in the last two years.

In 1971 here was a total absence of migrants until July 10th, when the first *P. gamma* appeared. *Gamma* was thereafter much commoner than in 1970, a total of about 67 being seen or taken in the trap in which *E. hortulata* (Small Magpie) made its first appearance on July 13th. *Noctuella* did not return up until August 21st, *atalanta* not until September 26th and *cardui* not until October 4th. During several days of warm weather and strong southerly winds between October 24th and October 29th, single specimens of *atalanta*, and *cardui* were seen, usually around veronica at Tighard. This is unusually late, though in 1955 *atalanta* was seen in early November. *C. lutosa* Hübn. and *P. interrogationis* L. mentioned earlier are probably to be classed as migrants.

Heiskeir. Expeditions were made to Heiskeir on 6/6/70, when no lepidoptera were seen, though the number of wild flowers on this low and rocky isolated islet was impressive; on 28/7/70, when a pair of *P. icarus* Rott. was seen in cop., as well as several specimens of *O. limitata*; and on 23/8/70, when a specimen of *V. atalanta* was seen, and a large number of *P. lutealis* Hübn. The Head lighthouse keeper this year produced specimens of *M. oleracea* L., *D. conspersa* Esp., *X. monoglypha* Hufn., *A. xanthographa* D. & Shiff., *P. gamma* L., and a large number of *C. graminis* L., also a specimen of *Ischnura elegans* of which he said there had been an invasion in June.

In 1971 an expedition was made there on August 17th, when the Head Lighthouse keeper produced specimens of *X. monoglypha*, *C. graminis*, *L. impura*, *P. gamma* and *O. limitata*.

WARWICKSHIRE ODONATA—I am engaged, in conjunction with Warwick Museum, in evaluating the status of all dragonflies found in Warwickshire. Their distribution in the county is being plotted on a 1 km. square grid. Owing to the size of this task, I am appealing to readers with Warwickshire records of all species to send them to me at my address below, giving the 4 or 6 figure grid reference, the date, and whether the record is for specimen or sighting, larva or imago.—G. S. VICK, 93 Manor House Lane, South Yardley, Birmingham 26. 9.v.1972.



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