

Britain, but particularly from some of the less well populated regions. We would be pleased to hear from anyone who might be able to help to increase our knowledge of this attractive group.

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SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

***Ptinus subpilosus* Sturm (Coleoptera:Ptinidae) rediscovered in Gloucestershire.**—It is many years now since *Ptinus subpilosus* was last seen in Gloucestershire. The only records in Atty (1983) are from the Forest of Dean area in the western Vice-County: Dean, 1880, A.E. Hodgson; Speech House and Newnham, E.W. Morse (pre-1900). Atty (pers. comm.) knows of no more recent records.

Two specimens were found beneath loose webby bark on an ancient oak pollard in Rendcomb Park (SP 0110), E. Glos., in company with larvae of *Ctesias serra* (F.) on 17.iv.90. Rendcomb is an old deer park, in existence by the 16th century, and has a large number of such oaks. It is already known to have an interesting deadwood fauna, from the records of I.S. Menzies, E.G. Neal and H.K. Airy Shaw in the 1940s (detailed in Atty, 1983). A visit by the Gloucestershire Invertebrate Group in 1988, organized by I.S. Carter, found species such as *Platyrhinus resinosus* (Scop.) and, in the adjoining Cliffterdine Wood, *Selatosomus bipustulatus* (L.). The latter had been found in the Park previously by Menzies, in 1946.

My thanks to J. Tolputt for permission to record insects at Rendcomb, to I.S. Carter for his records from the G.I.G. Meeting, and to D.B. Atty for keeping me up to date on Gloucestershire's Coleoptera.—Keith N.A. Alexander, 22 Cecily Hill, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 2EF.

REFERENCE

Atty, D.B. 1983. *Coleoptera of Gloucestershire*. Published privately. Cheltenham.

***Trachys troglodytes* Gyllenhal (Coleoptera: Buprestidae) in Cornwall.**—This beetle was first discovered in Cornwall by R.T. Bannister, who swept it at Selena, St Buryan (SW 4023), in September 1927. This is the only record held by the Cornish Biological Records Unit.

The tell-tale shiny black spot and leaf-mines on the foodplant, devil's-bit scabious (see Alexander, 1989) were found at a number of sites in West Penwith and on the Lizard Peninsula in West Cornwall, and at one site on Bodmin Moor in the East, during a 9-week visit to the county in 1989. The first sighting was made by Miss M.E. Scruby, the rest by S.J. Grove and myself. The details are as follows: Lower Predannack Cliff, Lizard (SW 669157), 21.v.1989, immature mines on foodplant in patch of wet heath on clifftop (MES). Boswednack Farm, W. Penwith (SW 441382), 22.v.1989, immature mines frequent in area of wet heath and flush within unimproved coastal farmland (KNAA). Zennor Head, W. Penwith (SW 449394), 22.v.1989, egg-spots on foodplant foliage in slightly flushed clifftop grassland (SJG). Tregerthen Cliff, W. Penwith (SW 462397), 23.v.1989, egg-spots on foodplant foliage in sedgey flush within short turf, clifftop grassland (SJG). Pen Enys Point, W. Penwith (SW 493408), 24.v.1989, egg-spots on foodplant foliage in short turf, grazed clifftop grassland and wet flushes (SJG). Pendeen Cliff, W. Penwith (SW 384358), 27.v.1989, egg-spots on foodplant foliage in cattle-grazed sedgey flush (KNAA). Portheras Cliff, W. Penwith (SW 389357), 27.v.1989, egg-spots and immature mines in area of close-turf wet heath (KNAA). Kynance Cliff, Lizard (SW 679135), 29.v.1989, egg-spots and adults in sedgey flushes on cliff slopes (KNAA). It is remarkable that there are no earlier records from this well-recorded site. Pedn-myin, Coverack Cliffs, Lizard (SW 793192), 3.vi.1989, eggspots and immature mines in area of cattle-grazed flushed grassland (MES). Witheybrook Marsh, Bodmin Moor (SX 252726), 2.vii.1989, egg-spots and failed mines in one small area of an extensive valley mire with abundant foodplant—at 285 m altitude, the highest site I know (KNAA). The species is clearly widespread on the clifflands in the west of the county, but no cliff sites were found in the east despite visiting many with devil's-bit plentiful. However, many of these sites are no longer grazed by domestic stock, and it may be that the suitable short turf conditions are only being maintained in the west through exposure, and that the species has been lost from the more sheltered eastern cliff sites.

My thanks to Stella Turk for access to the records held by the Cornish Biological Records Unit.—K.N.A. Alexander, 22 Cecily Hill, Cirencester, Glos. GL7 2EF.

REFERENCE

Alexander, K.N.A. 1989. *Trachys troglodytes* Gyllenhal (Coleoptera: Buprestidae) widespread in the Cotswold limestone grasslands of Gloucestershire. *Br. J. Ent. Nat. Hist.* 2: 91–92.



Alexander, Keith N. A. 1990. "Ptinus subpilosus Sturm (Coleoptera: Ptinidae) rediscovered in Gloucestershire." *British journal of entomology and natural history* 3, 165–166.

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