

century would probably allow the Orange Tip to emerge towards the end of the month. The weather in April on the eastern side of the Pennines has always been very changeable and years when the month has yielded a spell of several warm and sunny days have been very few. By May, however, the weather has improved to the point where, even in unfavourable years, the month gives at least one spell of several warm sunny days and this is particularly true of the end of the month.

Assuming that the recolonising of Wharfedale by the Orange Tip has taken place by butterflies migrating up the valley from the Vale of York, where the species has always been present, it is reasonable to suppose that any tendency for this to happen prior to 1968 was prevented by the unsettled April weather. Since 1970, however, the low April mean temperatures have delayed the emergence of the Orange Tip until May, even in the most climatically favoured parts of N. England. This has probably been advantageous to the species, for it has meant that the flight period of the species has coincided with one or more periods of warm, sunny weather. Under such conditions individual butterflies would migrate from the Vale of York up the valley of the Wharfe and establish themselves, employing a life-cycle geared to a May emergence of the imagines. The same sort of thing has obviously occurred in other parts of Northern England and Scotland.

References

- Garrad, L. S. 1972. *The Naturalist in The Isle of Man*. David and Charles.
 Long, A. G. 1979. The Return of the Orange Tip. *Ent. Rec. J. Var.* **91** (1) 16-17. (2/3) 42-45, (6) 158-161.

Notes and Observations

BADONNELIA TITEI PEARMAN (PSOCOPTERA, SPHAEROP-SOCIDAE) IN HUNTINGDONSHIRE; A SECOND BRITISH RECORD. — A single female of this very distinctive psocid was recently brought in for identification, collected on 24th February 1980 by Mrs. R. Mason on a carrycot stored in a bedroom cupboard of a ten-year-old house at Hemingford Grey, Cambs. (TL 300701) in the old county of Huntingdonshire (V.C. 31). This monotypic genus was provisionally described in 1953 by J. V. Pearman (*Entomologist's mon. Mag.*, **89**: 262) following the discovery of a single female by Mr. G. E. Tite on an atlas in Tring Museum on 10th August 1953. A further seventeen specimens of both sexes were found in the museum during the next three years and Pearman published a well-illustrated full description in 1958 (*Entomologist's mon. Mag.*, **94**: 48-52). He was of the opinion that this species normally overwinters in the egg stage but recorded "quite young nymphs in September and a female in March".

Although the male could be mistaken for a species of *Liposcelis*, the female is unique in possessing elytriform wings which envelope the body almost meeting mid-ventrally. These possess only two veins, one of which forms the lateral margin. The wing surfaces are covered with a fine network of meshes which gives them a somewhat pearly appearance at low magnification using incident light.

On 4th March 1980 one of us (R.A.P.), accompanied by Mr. J. N. Greatorex-Davies, visited the house to search for additional specimens. Unfortunately the cupboard had been vacuumed and thoroughly cleaned at the time of the initial discovery and no Psocoptera were to be seen. However, when the adjacent carpet was pulled back a single female nymph, with partly developed wings, was found together with several *Liposcelis simulans* Broadhead. Further searching including examination of the loft failed to reveal any more specimens.

T. W. New (1974 *Handbk. Ident. Br. Insects*, I, Pt. 7, p. 45) describes the status of this species as "possibly native, more probably introduced". K. K. Günther (1974, *Die Tierwelt Deutschlands*, 61 *Staubläuse, Psocoptera*, 314 pp.) records *B. titei* from England, Belgium, France and Switzerland and regards it as a photophobic, cavernicolous or synanthropic species. He lists it as living among stones, gravel, paper objects, books, guano, etc., in cellars, libraries, zoological laboratories and grottos. In Britain this species is probably best regarded as synanthropic although these captures in a private house approximately 70 km from the type locality raises interest in its distribution and occurrence in this country. — R. COLIN WELCH & R. A. PLANT, Institute of Terrestrial Ecology, Monks Wood Experimental Station, Abbots Ripton, Huntingdon, Cambs. PE17 2LS.

DEILEPHILA ELPENOR L. IN CENTRAL SCOTLAND. — According to "The Moths and Butterflies of Great Britain and Ireland" Vol. 9, the Elephant Hawk Moth is local in southern Scotland but it is at present increasing its range. During the summer of 1979 this species was recorded from the following locations in central Scotland: —

5th July, Ford by Lochgilphead, Argyll, NR80, adult found dead by the roadside.

23rd July, Helensburgh, Dumbartonshire, NS28, adult caught alive.

11th August, Possil Marsh, Glasgow, NS57, one caterpillar.

23rd August, Tillicoultry, Clackmannanshire, NS99, two caterpillars.

28th August, Finnieston, Glasgow, NS 56, one caterpillar.

This species would appear to be quite well established in the Glasgow area perhaps due to the large amounts of *Epilobium* spp. growing on waste ground. Two further caterpillars were handed in to the museum during August from unrecorded localities in the Glasgow district. — IAIN MACGOWN, Natural History Department, Art Gallery and Museum, Kelvingrove, Glasgow G3 8AG.



Welch, R. Colin and Plant, R A. 1980. "Badonnelia titei Pearman (Psocoptera, Sphaeropsocidae) in Huntingdonshire, a second British record." *The entomologist's record and journal of variation* 92, 123-124.

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