

***Ectoedemia turbidella* (Zell.) (Lep.: Nepticulidae) at Castle Ashby, Northamptonshire**

On 15 November 1995 I found several hundred leaf-mines in fallen leaves of grey poplars at the estate access between Grendon Quarter Pond and Scotland Pond (grid reference SP 866601).

I collected leaves for further study, 46 having a single leaf-mine and ten having two leaf-mines. A further six leaves had an egg deposited on each side of the petiole but with only one larva surviving to the stage of making a blotch in the leaf-blade.

The eggs were deposited on the side of the petiole at the following distances from the leaf base:

mm	6	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	unclear
number	1	11	14	12	18	11	5	1	5

Most of the leaves were kept outdoors over the winter and nine moths emerged between 4 May and 15 May 1996. These were confirmed as *Ectoedemia turbidella* by making genitalia slides.

In *The Moths and Butterflies of Great Britain and Ireland*, Volume 1, this species is recorded from VCs 18, 21 and 29. Maitland Emmet now has further records from VC 19, North Essex; VC 20, Hitchin (1985); VC 22, Faringdon (1976); VC 23, Oxford; VC 30, Stotfold (1986).— D.V. MANNING, 27 Glebe Rise, Sharnbrook, Bedford MK44 1JB.

**Holly Blue *Celastrina argiolus* (L.) (Lep.: Lycaenidae) ovipositing on cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus* L.**

On 31.v.1996 at Manor Wood, Rothamsted, Harpenden, Hertfordshire (TL 124132), I noticed that a number of individuals of *C. argiolus* were paying particular attention to shrubs of cherry laurel, which grow abundantly at the site. I followed one female which eventually alighted on a flowering spike of the plant and promptly laid an egg on a young fruit.

The first generation of *C. argiolus* lays its eggs mainly on Holly *Ilex aquifolium* L. but a number of other foodplants have been recorded including gorse *Ulex* spp., spindle *Euonymus europaeus* L., dogwood *Cornus* spp. and snowberry *Symphoricarpos* spp. (Thomas & Lewington, 1991, *The Butterflies of Britain and Ireland*, Dorling Kindersley, London). However, I can find no reference to the species using cherry laurel, or any other *Prunus* spp., as a foodplant.— IAN R. WYNNE, 151 Riverside Road, St. Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 1RZ.



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