

LITHOPHANE LEAUTIERI BOISD. AT WOKING. — It was indeed a pleasant surprise to find a female specimen of Blair's Shoulder-knot in my m.v. trap on the morning of 31st October, 1976. This insect is spreading steadily inland throughout the south of England since its original discovery by Dr. Blair in the Isle of Wight in 1951, and is now north of London and widespread in Surrey wherever there are large *macrocarpa* trees. — C. G. M. DE WORMS, Three Oaks, Woking, Surrey.

A PALE CLOUDED YELLOW (*COLIAS HYALE* L.) (?) RESTING ON THE SEA. — I am writing of an unusual incident concerning what I believe to have been a Pale Clouded Yellow (*C. hyale* L.), but cannot be certain of the species because I did not have enough time to observe it in detail. I was fishing some two-three miles west of the Isle of Portland from a boat lying at anchor in a fair tide running from the S.E. Suddenly, I noticed the butterfly drifting quickly past, lying on the water with its wings open and enabling me to see the markings. I attempted to lift it from the sea with the tip of my fishing rod, at which the butterfly took off and flew away strongly towards land and into the light northerly breeze. The incident occurred on the 17th July, 1976 in fine sunny weather. I have no more to add except that it did not appear to move until I tried to catch it. I am puzzled as to how it could lie with wings open yet not get them wet and when I first saw it, I believed it to be in the water and not resting on it. — FRANK POLLARD, 57 St. Johns Road, Tackley, Oxfordshire.

IS *ERIOPTYGODES IMBECILLA* (FABR.) (LEP.: NOCTUIDAE) A REDISCOVERED BRITISH SPECIES? — Whilst recently thumbing through my copy of Wood's *Index Entomologicus* (1839), I at once recognised *Eriopygodes imbecilla* (Fabr.) in the section at the back of the book dealing with species that Wood considered doubtfully British. The text reads: —

Linn. names	Engl. names	Synonyms and new genera	Remarks
44 <i>imbecilla</i>		<i>Curtis's Guide</i> , p. 180. GRAPHIPHORA	Supposed to be British by Mr. Curtis.

Of the 57 doubtful species listed in this section, a large number is connected with the names of Stewart, Dr. Turton or Martyn, who appear to have added species without authority. Most of the other species are dismissed as British on grounds of known importation, admitted mistakes or a complete lack of positive evidence. Eight are now on the British list, with no asterisk denoting doubtful status. These are now known as *Adscita globulariae* (Hübner), *Drymonia ruficornis* (Hufner), *Phyllodesma ilicifolia* (Linn.), *Eugnorisma depuncta* (Linn.), *Actinotia polyodon* (Clerck), *Cucullia gnaphalii* (Hübner), *Ennomos autumnaria* (Wern.) and *Oecophora bractella* (Linn.). Wood writes of the last mentioned species "*Curtis's Guide*, p. 208", "Supposed by Curtis to be British".



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