

This record constitutes a third emergence at Yarner Wood during that year, possibly as a result of the mild winter of 1988/89. A single male *O. brumata* (Winter Moth) was caught at the same site on 29.vi.1988. This species usually flies between mid-November and mid-February at Yarner Wood, though one late capture was recorded on 2.iii.1979.

A single male *C. multistrigaria* (Mottled Grey) was caught at Rowardennan, Stirling (Site No. O.S. Grid Ref. NS 378 958) on 5.vii.1989. This species is usually recorded during March and April at Rowardennan, with occasional specimens in late January and early May.

These unusual records may be of particular interest considering the current discussions on climatic change which may affect the life cycles of moths as well as their distribution and abundance. Thanks are extended to P. Page and his staff at Yarner Wood and to R. McMath at Rowardennan for their continuing support in operating Rothamsted light traps.—ADRIAN M. RILEY, Dept. Entomology and Nematology, AFRC Inst. Arable Crops Research, Rothamsted Exp. Stn., Harpenden, Herts AL5 2JQ.

#### ***Evergestis extimalis* (Scop.) (Lep.: Pyralidae) in the Isle of Wight.**

On 18th July 1990 I took a specimen of this species at light at Freshwater which was presumably a migrant. According to Goater the last date given for this species for the island was at Bembridge on 11.vi.1858 by Wall. The only other migrant worthy of note taken in June or July 1990 was *Mythimna vitellina* (Hübner) which I took on 26th June 1990.—S.A. KNILL-JONES, 2 School Green Road, Freshwater, Isle of Wight.

#### **Abundance of *Leptura livida* F. (Col.: Cerambycidae) in a S.E. London locality**

This season, 1990, the small but attractive longhorn beetle *Leptura livida* L. has been extraordinarily plentiful in suitable spots on Woolwich Common (barely ten minutes' walk from my house). An idea of its numbers will be given by the fact that, on an isolated plant of *Heracleum sphondylium* in a bush area (24.vi) the average count of *L. livida* was a dozen to each of several umbels. This profusion, admittedly, was not quite equalled elsewhere on the Common, and the distribution though wide was not uniform over the area; but still it occurred copiously in other parts too, affecting chiefly (besides hogweed) rose, blackberry, and thistle flowers — more especially in sheltered bushy spots.

This singular abundance bears all the marks of a temporary "outbreak" and may well prove a one-year phenomenon, perhaps paralleled by an immense quantity of familiar Cantharid *Rhagonycha fulva* Scop. in a neighbouring locality, to be seen as a rule only sparingly in this district. The *Leptura* first appeared on the Common in 1987 when, and up to this year,



it was noted very sparsely. My only previous record for the district is of singletons twice in my former garden at Blackheath on golden-rod flowers, both in 1952. Its seeming absence, hitherto, from wholly suitable habitats at Shooters Hill, almost adjacent to Woolwich Common and well-worked by me, is not easy to explain.— A.A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, Charlton, London SE7 8QG.

***Tyria jacobaeae* L. (Lep.: Arctiidae), the Cinnabar moth larvae on colt's-foot**

Whilst working waste ground locally on 7th August 1990 I noticed larvae of the Cinnabar on colt's-foot (*Tussilago farfara*).

Having in previous years seen larvae on this foodplant, normally in close proximity to their normal pabulum, I thought little of it until I chanced upon a soil-tip some two meters high, sparsely vegetated with, at the top, a clump of grass and a few plants of colt's-foot attended by larvae of the Cinnabar. Although there were examples of grasses, *Polygonum* species and goosefoot, neither ragwort nor groundsel were present.

My curiosity aroused, I began to search other colt's-foot plants, well away from ragwort or groundsel, and found larvae commonly in this situation.

This record, along with those of Minnion, Wallace and Birkett (*Ent. Rec.* 92: 26, 144) lends support to the suggestion that colt's-foot is a natural alternative foodplant for the Cinnabar.— A.S. BOOT, 38 Balmoral Road, Colwick, Notts NG4 2GD.

**A *Convolvulus* Hawk-moth in West Sussex**

The night of 29th August 1990 was very humid, the temperature around 18°C with heavy rain and thunderstorms. At 23.45 hours a *Convolvulus* Hawk (*Agrius convolvuli* L.) flew into the house and settled on an oleander plant in the conservatory. This was my first example of this fine Hawk, despite many years of operating a light trap.— J.K. KNOTT, 9 The Brook, Southwater, West Sussex.

**Two interesting Carabid captures (Col.) in S.E. London (W. Kent)**

Single examples of the two following ground beetles, seldom recorded, occurred at my m.v. lamp recently, the first on the night of 15th July, the second on that of 3rd August, 1990. Both species seem new to the Greater London area.

*Acupalpus brunnipes* Sturm. — This species, which I had never previously taken, is a very local rarity recorded apparently only from Dorset (Studland and Bournemouth), Hants (Woolston and Hartley



Allen, Anthony Adrian. 1990. "Abundance of *Leptura livida* F. (Col.: Cerambycidae) in a S.E. London locality." *The entomologist's record and journal of variation* 102, 304–305.

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