

- Knill-Jones S.A. 1986. Courtship display between a Peacock and a Small Tortoiseshell (Lepidoptera: Nymphalidae) *Entomologist's Gazette* 37 : 82;
- Tennent W. J. 1984. Fresh mountain air . . . . .? *Ent. Rec.* 96 : 131-132;
- Winter D. 1985. Misdirected Monarch mating behaviour (*Danaidae: Danaus plexippus*) or *Noblesse oblige*? *Journal of the Lepidopterist's Society* 39(4) : 334.
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LOPHOSIA FASCIATA MG. (DIPT.: TACHINIDAE) IN THE LONDON SUBURBS, AND AN APPARENTLY NEW HOST RECORD. — A specimen of this elegant and distinctive Tachinid emerged (2.vii.86) from a puparium voided on or about 18th June by a hawthorn shieldbug, *Acanthosoma haemorrhoidale* L., taken on the 13th at Oxleas Wood SSSI, Shooters Hill. (As appears usual in such cases, the bug showed no sign of being troubled by the parasite and remained alive several more days.) Van Emden (1954, *Handb. Ident. Brit. Ins.* 10(4a): 10) does not include *Acanthosoma* at all in his list of host-list of British Tachinidae, stating under *L. fasciata* (p. 21) only that it has been bred from the shieldbug *Aelia*. The latter has never occurred to me in this district, nor do I think it was present in the vicinity when my friend Dudley Collins found an example of the fly inside a window of his house at Carshalton Beeches (Surrey) several years ago. A possible host there might have been either of two other Pentatomoids, *Elasmucha grisea* and *Cyphostethus tristriatus*, both having occurred close by. *Lophosia fasciata* is always a scarce insect, which has probably been more often taken in the New Forest area than elsewhere; there, at least, it has been said to favour the flowers of parsnip. The present record is likely to be the first for Greater London, and perhaps also for West Kent. — A. A. ALLEN.

THE BRIMSTONE, GONEPTERYX RHAMNI L. EGG-LAYING ON DOCK. — During field work for the butterfly atlas project in Hertfordshire, at Westmill near Buntingford, on 12th June 1986, observations were made on a female brimstone which was exploring rough vegetation at the edge of a horse paddock near the River Rib. The butterfly eventually circled a small patch of curled dock (*Rumex crispus* L.) and appeared to be inspecting for egg-laying sites on both stems and leaves. This activity was watched for some five minutes, at which point an examination was made of the plants being used and newly-laid brimstone eggs were found. It was estimated that at least 10 eggs were laid in this time, almost entirely on one clump of the plants. These were in semi-shade but not near any other rough vegetation. In particular, no bushes of buckthorn *Rhamnus catharticus* L., the only one of the



Allen, Anthony Adrian. 1987. "Lophosia fasciata MG. (Dipt.: Tachinidae) in the London suburbs, and an apparently new host record." *The entomologist's record and journal of variation* 99, 83–83.

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