

RANDOM HERTS & MIDDX MOTH STUFF

27 is not, historically, a good number. Think Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin, Jim Morrison, Brian Jones, Robert Johnson, Kurt Cobain, Amy Winehouse, Ron "Pigpen" McKernan, Alan "Blind Owl" Wilson and others! However, 27th July, was a busy one for moths and so far nobody died!

Graeme Smith writes (27th July 2020):

After Simon Knott's recent addition to the Herts list with *Stenoptinea cyaneimarmorella*, just over the border in Essex, Andrew Raybould caught a tineid to HYL lure on 15vii2020 which was confirmed by genitalia dissection as another *cyaneimarmorella*. This represents the third confirmed record for Essex after one each from 2006 and 2019. With only around a dozen or so UK records, the possibility that this species is drawn to the "HYL" clearwing lure is something that should be investigated, as there may be potential to extend our knowledge of the UK distribution of this rarely seen species.... especially as Andrew caught a second similar specimen two days later to the same lure which was not retained but *probably* correct. If anyone who has this lure could try for this species, ideally by running all through the night as well as in daylight, please keep hold of the specimen and send photos to your CMR until confirmed. Worn specimens, or photographs lacking detail could still prove problematic and specimen may need to be retained for identification.

[I put my HYL lure out last night at 23.00 hours, but by 18.00 today all I have for my effort are three Raspberry Clearwings!]

Mark Hammond writes (27th July 2020):

Five sites for **Sallow Clearwing** in VC32 [Northamptonshire] so far – woods near Silverstone, Brackley, Brington, Northampton and Pitsford Reservoir. I've not tried yet in the east of the county around Thrapston but hope to do so tomorrow if the sun comes back out.

[Mark is compiling lists of by-catch (non-target species) attracted to pheromone lures. **Please send him your information.**

mark.hammond1966@hotmail.co.uk

In due course he will summarise it all for the journal Entomologist's Record.]

David Hunt writes (27th July 2020):

I thought you might be interested in another record of the **Dark Crimson Underwing** in Harpenden. One very nice specimen came to my garden BLB light at about 3.50am on 23 July. Only 3 days difference from last year's record and settled on the same wall behind the trap....and at about the same time. Migration from Europe, the New Forest or maybe a more local colony? It will be interesting to see if others have trapped the beast

Bill Last telephoned (27th July 2020):

Lunar Hornet Clearwing (*S. bembeciformis*) attracted to the newly available lure at Rye Meads Nature reserve, 26th July 2020.

[Elsewhere (other counties) there are many reports from areas where the foodplant (Sallow) is growing in DRY ground – nowhere near wetland habitat. If you have the lure it is worth using it in a variety of places.]

Rob Edmunds (Leaf Miner Recording Scheme) writes (27th July 2020):

The August newsletter is now available: <http://leafmines.co.uk/pdfs/newsletter40.pdf>

[There are several leaf-mining moths in this issue and the time to look for these mines is NOW.]

Keep stuff coming.

Colin W. Plant
Herts & Middx Counties Moth Recorder
14 West Road
Bishops Stortford
Herts CM23 3QP
01279 – 507697
