



The Tanyptera Project



www.northwestinvertebrates.org.uk



The Tanyptera Project / North West Invertebrates



@tanyptera



@tanyptera_project

North West Invertebrates Monthly Notes - September 2020

A selection of notable records brought to the attention of Tanyptera Project staff via email, social media etc. These records should be submitted, if not already, to relevant data collators. [iRecord](#) is recommended. Listed alphabetically by order, family and species. Some records received late may be included next month. All images are under copyright from the original recorder unless stated.

Araneae (Spiders)

Aytpus affinis (Atypidae) – Thurstaston Common, VC58, 8/9, L. Anderson

- 1 x mature female, 1 immature female, c.6 pursewebs.

Coleoptera (Beetles)

Cercyon nigriceps (Hydrophilidae) – Port Sunlight River Park, VC58, 11/9, C. Washington

- The last time this was recorded in VC58 was in 1937, and never on the Wirral. Notable B.

Oxystoma cracca (Apionidae) – Port Sunlight River Park, VC58, 11/9, C. Washington

- Only 2 previous records from VC58.

Aspidapion aeneum (Apionidae) – Port Sunlight River Park, VC58, 11/9, C. Washington

- The only other VC58 record for this being from Dibbinsdale, next door.

Orchestes quercus (Curculionidae) – Cragg Wood, VC60, 4/9, G. Hedges

- New to VC60. A leaf miner on Oak. One of the 'flea' weevils.

Otiorhynchus craetegi (Curculionidae) – Port Sunlight River Park, VC58, 11/9, C. Washington

- New for VC58. From the ivy growing on the containers in the car park.

Anthonomus brunnipennis (Curculionidae) – Port Sunlight River Park, VC58, 11/9, C. Washington

- New to VC58. The smaller and less common relative of the ubiquitous *Anthonomus rubi*.

Hieroglyphic Ladybird - *Coccinella hieroglyphica* (Coccinellidae)

Cragg Woods, VC60, 4/9, G. Hedges, R. Hedley
Gull Moss, VC60, 1/9, G. Hedges
Winmarleigh Moss, VC60, 1/9, P. Brighton

Heather Ladybird - *Chilocorus bipustulatus* (Coccinellidae) - Winmarleigh Moss, VC60, 1/9, G. Hedges

- Swept from Heather. One of the less frequently recorded of the 'conspicuous' ladybirds.

Diptera (Flies)

Metalimnobia bifasciata (Limoniidae) – Winmarleigh, VC60, 1/9, P. Brighton.

- Regional checklist says there are a couple of dozen records, but Kidd and Brindle considered it "apparently scarce". The larvae feed on fungi. It is quite large and could be mistaken for a *Nephrotoma*.

Sturmia bella (Tachinidae) – Houghton Green Pool, VC59, Sept, P. Brighton (image right)

- A single male of this large and obvious fly. There was great concern a decade that the arrival of this species was responsible for a crash in the numbers of small tortoiseshells but was never proven and is one of several parasitoids that attack the butterfly. This record is at the Northern end of it's currently range limit in the UK.



Locust Blowfly - *Stomorhina lunata* (Calliphoridae)

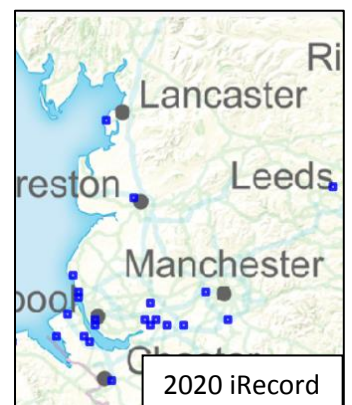
Crosby Marine Park, VC59, 19/9, P. Kinsella (image right)
Croft, VC59, 9/9, M. Pettipher

- This migrant appears to be having a good year with 77 records on iRecord this year, which is almost twice as many as the next highest.



Volucella zonaria (Syrphidae)

Heysham, VC60, 6/9, K Eaves
Crosby, VC59, 14/9, P. Smith (image right)
Crosby Marine Park, VC59, 9/9, 15/9 & 7/9, P. Kinsella
Preston, VC59, 16/9, S. Palmer
Warrington, VC59, 14/9, P. Durell
Warrington, VC59, 5/9, E. Dawber
Bebington, VC58, 12/9, R. Lowry



Volucella inanis (Syrphidae)

Ravenmeols, Formby, VC59, 6/9, P. Smith
Festival Gardens, Liverpool, VC59, 1/9, P. Smith

Mikiola fagi (Cecidomyiidae)

Wilmslow Carrs, VC58, 7/9, S. Hind **(image right)**
Wilmslow, VC58, 2/9, S. Hind

- Within Cheshire, apparently very localised in the Bollin Valley and Styal Bank. Gall is distinctive.



Hemiptera (True Bugs)

Southern Green Shieldbug - *Nezara viridula* (Pentatomidae) – Port Sunlight River Park, VC58, 11/9, L. Dixon **(image right)** & K. Fowler

- Very few records for VC58-60 of this northward expanding species. However, perhaps well established at the River Park, as these records come 4 years after the first.



Woundwort Shieldbug - *Eysarcoris venustissimus* (Pentatomidae) – Chadkirk, Marple, VC58, 9/9, A. Bissitt **(image right)**

- Established in Cheshire in recent years but seemingly still uncommon. This is the only NW record submitted to iRecord so far in 2020.



Heather Shieldbug - *Rhacognathus punctatus* (Pentatomidae) – Beacon Fell Country Park, VC60, 16/9, T. Hunter.

- An elusive shieldbug, even on known sites. Few records per year in the North West.

Bishop's Mitre Shieldbug - *Aelia acuminata* (Pentatomidae) – Bickershaw, VC59. 4/9, R. Hedley Formby (inland), VC59, 8/9, M. Dean & R. Hill

- One of the more recent Pentatomids to arrive in the NW. Very well established along the coast and increasingly seen inland in South Lancashire and Cheshire.

Reuteria marqueti (Miridae) - Court Hey Park, VC59, 11/9, B. Deed (image right)

- New to VC59 and the most northerly UK record to date. New to Britain in 2006. A potentially invasive species. Can be identified from an image and worth looking out for anywhere. This one landed on the recorder's arm in a park.



Trichopsocus brincki (Trichopsocidae) – Port Sunlight River Park, VC58, 11/9, K. Fowler

- Scarce in England and Wales according to the Barkfly Recording Scheme.

Hymenoptera (Bees, Wasps, Ants, Sawflies)

Ivy Bee - *Colletes hederæ* (Colletidae)

Jenny Brown's Point, VC60, 29/9, N. Garnham
Ravenmoels, VC59, 15/9 & 20/9, P. Smith
Range Lane, Formby, VC59, 19/9, P. Smith
Crosby, VC59, 14/9, P. Smith
Crosby, VC59, 17/9, P. Kinsella
Blundellsands, VC59, 5/9 & 18/9, P. Kinsella
Crosby Marine Park, VC59, 9/9 & 15/9, P. Kinsella
Southport, VC69, 21/9, N. Hunt
Wallasey Village, VC58, 13/9, A. Bound
Bebington, VC58, 12/9 & 28/9, R. Lowry
Lower Bebington, VC58, 23/9 & 28/9, R. Lowry



- The northern expansion of Ivy Bee since the first UK record in 2001 has been very well documented in recent years but still appears to be very scarce away from the coast. Has continued expansion into the West coast of Cumbria this year.

Platycampus luridiventris (Tenthredinidae), Danes Moss VC58, 9/9, S. Hind (image right)

- A very distinctive 'flattened' Sawfly larva that can be found on the underside of Alder leaves late in the season. This is only the 2nd record submitted to iRecord for NW England.



Odonata (Dragonflies & Damselflies)

Small Red-eyed Damselfly - *Erythromma viridulum* (Coenagrionidae), Festival Gardens, VC59, 1/9, P. Smith

- Many seen at this location in August

Orthoptera (Grasshoppers and Crickets)

House Cricket - *Acheta domesticus* (Gryllidae), Trawden, VC59, 29/9. K. Sutcliffe

- Found indoors. Just 2 records on iRecord for NW England, the other from St Helens in 2017.

Roesel's Bush-cricket - *Metrioptera roeselii* (Tettigoniidae)

Highfield Moss, VC59, 16/9, A. Hankinson **(image right)**

Little Woollen Moss, VC59, 1/9, A. Hankinson

- Apparently very few NW records despite being known from Fleetwood since 2012. Found in Leigh in 2019. These 2020 records likely represent two new sites for the species.



Speckled Bush Cricket - *Leptophyes punctatissima*

(Tettigoniidae) Formby (National Trust), VC59, 18/8. T. Hunter

(image right)

- Well known from a few spots in Formby and most records are coastal in the NW. Several records from Morecambe Bay.



Lepidoptera (Butterflies & Moths)

Moths are reported upon for VC59&60 biannually and VC58 annually via Lancashire moth group and Cheshire moth group respectively. Butterfly records are summarised annually by local branches of Butterfly Conservation. This summary will therefore only share observations reported to Tanyptera staff or posted on the North West invertebrates Facebook group.

Phyllocnistis saligna (Gracillariidae)

Whitegate (by the River Weaver), VC58, Sept, S. Hind

Haslington (in a hedgerow), VC58, Sept, Hind

Near Middlewich (Trent & Mersey Canal), VC58, Sept, S. Hind

(Image right from S. Hind)

- New for VC58. Leaf mines found in Crack Willow.



Box-tree Moth - *Cydalima perspectalis* (Crambidae), Woolton, VC59,

6/9, S. McWilliam **(Image right)**

- A species expanding northward rapidly. Native to Asia. At MV light trap in garden.



From August

Jasmine moth - *Palpita Vitrealis* (Crambidae) - Woolston Warrington, 19/08, T. Eagan **(image right)**

- A migrant from southern Europe where it is widespread but numbers arriving to the UK fluctuate annually. Most often seen in the southern coastal counties.

