

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE FAUNA COMMITTEE.—No. 122.

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RECORDS OF SOME SIPHONAPTERA (FLEAS)  
FROM LANCASHIRE.

By RICHARD S. BAGNALL.

According to Dr. Tattersall (*in litt.* Nov. 23rd, 1915), *Ceratophyllus gallinae* is apparently the only species of flea recorded from the Lancashire and Cheshire area—see *Lanc. & Ches. Nat.*, May, 1915, p. 53—and I therefore take this opportunity of publishing further records most of which have been known to me since Nov., 1915. I have just completed for publication an account of the Northumberland and Durham *Siphonaptera*, dealing with thirty-two species, and there is no doubt that a little attention to this group locally would produce similar results. Further there is now no excuse for neglecting such an interesting branch of insect life as a few shillings will secure all the literature necessary to a beginner.

Three memoirs may be recommended, all published during the past few years; firstly Mr. Harold Russell's little book "The Flea," published in the Cambridge Manuals of Science and Literature series (1913); secondly, the Hon. N. C. Rothschild's "Synopsis of the British *Siphonaptera*" published in the *Entomologist's Monthly Magazine* (1915) and which can be obtained from the publishers for eighteen pence, and lastly the Rev. J. Waterston's brochure published by the British Museum (1916) on "Fleas as a menace to Man and Domestic Animals, their Life-history, habits and control." Mr. Rothschild, to whom I am indebted for the identification of the three mole fleas now recorded, is ever ready to identify material or offer advice and encouragement to those consulting him. So here is a subject that should no longer be neglected by our local zoologists.

**Order SIPHONAPTERA.**

SUB-ORDER INTEGRICIPITA.

Family PULICIDAE.

***Pulex irritans* L.** Common Flea. I shall not attempt to enumerate records!

***Spilopsyllus cuniculi* (Dale).** The rabbit flea; examples from rabbit-burrows, Ainsdale and Freshfield, August 1916.

Family CERATOPHYLLIDAE.

***Ctenophthalmus agyrtes* Heller.** Seven in a mole's nest Silverdale, Nov., 1915.

## SUB-ORDER FRACTICIPITA.

## Family LEPTOPSYLLIDAE.

*Palaeopsylla minor* (Dale). One only in a mole's nest, Silverdale, Nov. 1915.

## Family HYSTRICHOPSYLLIDAE.

*Hystrichopsylla talpae* (Curtis). Also in the same mole's nest, Silverdale, Nov. 1915.

## Family ISCHNOPSYLLIDAE.

All the members of this family are attached to various bats and I owe the following record to Mr. Waterston's courtesy.

*Ischnopsyllus simplex* Roths. 2 ♀ ♀ "on bats"; Randapike, Windermere, Lancs. 13-20th Aug., 1912 (J. F. Cormack).

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LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE FAUNA COMMITTEE.—No. 122a.

REPORT ON THE FALSE-SCORPIONS  
(CHELIFERS), 1918.

By R. STANDEN.

Very few specimens of this group have been brought to me during the year. *Cheiridium museorum* (Leach) is the only addition to the locality records, it being new to Lancashire. Mr. J. R. Hardy found it in an old collection of local land and freshwater shells at Levenshulme, collected in the "sixties" by the late Mr. Thos. Peace, which had lain untouched for many years.

It may also be of interest to note the capture of *Chelifer* (*Chernes*) *dubius* (Camb.) by Mr. H. Wallis Kew at Arnside, in July last, in its usual situation under firmly embedded stones on the wooded hillside. There are many suitable localities within our Faunal area where this species may be expected to occur. It is a small species, and resembles so closely the stones under which it lives that a careful search is necessary to find it, but I hope some of our workers may be fortunate enough to add it to our list.

[Fauna Committee—No. 122a.]