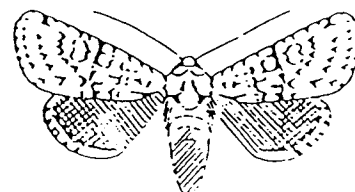


The Glamorgan Moth Recording Group

Founded 1995

President/Treasurer: Steve Moon
Recorder (West): Barry Stewart
Recorder (East): Dave Gilmore
Field Meetings Sec./Newsletter Editor: Mike Powell



Dichonia aprilina

NEWSLETTER NO. 19-APRIL 1998

FIELD MEETING, FRIDAY 24th APRIL

Our first field meeting of the year takes place on Friday 24th April to the Castell upon Alun area. Meet at 7.30pm at the lay-by in the village of Ewenny at the junction of the B4265 Bridgend to Llantwit Major road and the B4524 Ewenny to Ogmere by Sea road. A visit to the area on 8th May last year produced 20+ species from just one trap including Streamer, Least Black Arches and Oak-tree Pug and the area has been identified as having great potential for other unusual species. Please read the notes at the head of attached the 1998 Field Meetings sheet relating to weather.

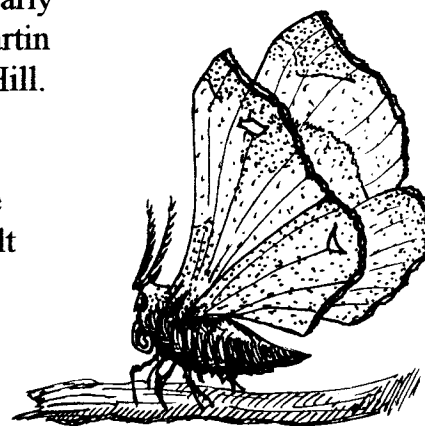
CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please note that David Slade has changed his address to :
7, Southey Street, Roath, Cardiff, CF2 1AP. Tel. (01222) 489532
David is also the first member of the group to advise of an Email address , which is david.slade@cableol.co.uk

RECENT REPORTS-MARCH 1998

Kevin Dupe and Martin White took an early Double striped Pug at Kilve Hill on 17th February. At Kenfig NNR Yellow Horned was recorded on 13th the first for the site, two Northern Drab's on 19th and one on 23rd and Pine Beauty on 21st.

At Draethen, at the very eastern end of the vice-county, Mike Powell recorded 14 macro sp. on 13th including Oak Beauty, Yellow Horned, Early Tooth Striped and Early Thorn. On the 15th, Kevin and Martin took a Satellite at Crymlyn and a Yellow Horned at Kilve Hill. The fine weather in mid month resulted in several records of Orange Underwing including 4 at Coed-y-Bedw and at least 9 at Taff Trail, Ty Rhiw, Nr. Taffs Well on 18th. Dave Gilmore and Mike Powell recorded 11 sp. at Coed-y-Wenallt on 15th including Yellow Horned, Oak Beauty and an early Brindled Pug. Dave and Mike took two Powdered Quaker's plus good numbers of Early Thorns at Aberthaw on 19th and at Tondy on the same night 13 Lead coloured Drab's were taken at light.



Early Thorn

Barry Stewart recorded Yellow Horned at Gelli-Hir on 13th and at Felindre on 17th. Barry also bred off a Small Chocolate-tip larva found at Penlleger on 27th September which emerged on 14th. He also found Neglected Rustic larva Nr. Merthyr on 19th.

BRISTOL MOTH GROUP

A reminder that the BMG have a field meeting at Weston Big Wood, Nr. Portishead, ST 452 750 (about 7 miles West of Bristol and fairly close to Gordano Services on the M5) on Friday 24th April at 8.00pm. Unfortunately this is the same night as our own meeting. Details appeared in Newsletter No.17, Feb.98.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

The steering committee, consisting of Steve Moon, Dave Gilmore, Barry Stewart, Martin White and Mike Powell met at Blackpill, Swansea on 23rd March.

The following points were discussed ;

Election of a committee

Until elections can be held later in the year, probably at the AGM planned for November, it was agreed that the steering committee would consist of the following,
President, Steve Moon

Recorder (East)/Secretary, Dave Gilmore

Recorder (West), Barry Stewart

Newsletter Editor/Field Meeting Secretary, Mike Powell

Treasurer/Membership Secretary, to be appointed

Committee member, Martin White (Butterfly Conservation Representative)

Committee member, to be appointed

Welsh Brewers support

Welsh Brewers have supported the group since it was formed in 1995 with an annual donation of £100 and until recently allowing the newsletter to be franked at their Ebbw Vale office free of charge. Support for 1998 is again expected but the use of the franking machine has ceased as the Ebbw Vale office has now closed. The committee wished to thank the company for their generous support to date.

Subscriptions

It was agreed that the subscription for 1998, which falls due in July, will rise by £1.00 to £4.00 to cover the additional postage costs mentioned above.

Indoor Meeting, 1999

It was proposed that the group contact the Bristol Moth Group with a view to arranging a joint indoor meeting in early 1999, probably in Chepstow. Hopefully a well known speaker could be invited to speak. More details on this will appear in a future newsletter.

AGM

It was hoped to arrange an AGM/Winter Indoor meeting in November, more details would appear in future newsletters.

Provisional Atlas

The provisional macro atlas is planned for publication in November of this year. It is hoped to include some colour plates. Micro species are likely to be in list form only. A cover charge will be necessary to cover the cost of printing and binding. The vision is to publish a book on the Moths of Glamorgan within 10 years.

Newsletter

Currently only a small number of members contribute to the newsletter on a regular basis. The newsletter is for all members to contribute towards and Mike Powell requested that everyone should be encouraged to provide articles for future use. Paul Parsons had provided some excellent line drawings which would be used in forthcoming editions.

Recording of species

The two recorders proposed that records should ideally be reported as follows;
Bradley & Fletcher (BNF) number
Name of species
Ordnance Survey grid reference
Number of individuals recorded

It was however agreed that whilst this was the ideal, records in any format would be acceptable.

BBC WILDLIFE MAGAZINE, Vol.16 No.3

An article on page 55 of the March issue of BBC Wildlife features an excellent photograph of a Broad-bordered Bee Hawkmoth (*Hemaris fuciformis*). The article discusses why some insects hover whilst others perch when visiting flowers to take nectar, studying the *H.fuciformis* in the process. The researcher suggests that the requirement by hoverers of large nectar supplies may have driven the evolution of flowers shaped to accommodate only certain pollinators. Honeysuckle, for example, have nectaries at the base of a very long tube which can only be accessed by hoverers such as Hawkmoths with equally long tongues. Plants then benefit as their pollinators only visit the one type of flower and therefore are more likely to transfer pollen to the correct species.

Finally we look forward to seeing as many members as possible at our first field meeting on 24th April.