

Newsletter: July 2009

**Phyllonorycter coryli (Lep: Lithocolletinae) - a new foodplant**

Ian Barton found a Phyllonorycter-type mine on Ribes sanguineum (Flowering Currant) at Kingfisher Bridge, Cambridgeshire on 29.vi.2009 (photo below).

Using a combination of features of the adult and the pupal cremaster it was identified as Phyllonorycter coryli.

This is a very unusual sighting as P.coryli is known only as a miner of Corylus avellana (Hazel) and this food plant is, as far as we are aware, the first for this species in the UK and possibly Europe.



Images © Ian Barton

**Cameraria ohridella (Lep: Gracillariidae) - a new foodplant?**

David Manning was surveying Horse Chestnut trees in Yardley Chase woodland, Northamptonshire when he noticed that Aesculus carnea (Red Horse Chestnut) had been mined (photo below - note the smooth skinned 'conkers'):

There were no listed leafminers for Ribes on the leafmine site ([www.leafmines.co.uk](http://www.leafmines.co.uk)) and the only Phyllonorycter-type miner was P.ulmifoliella on the Leafmines of Europe site ([www.bladmineorders.nl](http://www.bladmineorders.nl))



He bred through the mine and the adult emerged on 30.vi.2009 (see below).



There do not appear to be any sightings on this plant in the UK (as far as we are aware) and so this may constitute the first record.

A.carnea is only mentioned on the Cameraria ohridella website saying that the leaves of this tree (although closely related to Aesculus hippocastanum (Horse Chestnut)) are more or less unaffected by ohridella ([http://www.cameraria.de/MAIN/menu\\_cameraria\\_e.html](http://www.cameraria.de/MAIN/menu_cameraria_e.html)).

David noticed that the leaves of both A.hippocastanum and A.carnea were heavily mined.

Image © David Manning

## Is this *Amauromyza verbasci* (Lep: Agromyzidae) on *Phygelius*?

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There is only one leaf miner tentatively recorded on *Phygelius* (Cape Figwort) in the UK and Maggie Frankum spotted four mines on this plant in her garden in Leicester on 14.vii.2009.



The larva proved to be dipterous:



Attempts are being made to rear this leaf miner to confirm its identity.

It is forming a puparium:



Images © Maggie Frankum