



## *Liriomyza congesta* (Dip:Agromyzidae)–a new host plant in the UK



Photo © Ian Thirlwell

Ian Thirlwell found a leafminer he did not recognize on *Lotus tenuis* (Narrow-leaved Bird's-foot-trefoil) at Hilsea Lines, Portsmouth, VC11 on 15.vii.2011.

He photographed the mines and sent them to Rob Edmunds for identification. He thought they were dipterous and looked like those of *Liriomyza congesta*.

Willem Ellis confirmed this diagnosis saying 'the 'smeared' frass and the colour is typical for *congesta*. It lives on all sorts of Fabaceae'.

Although this leaf miner is known from *Vicia* species in Europe we believe that this is the first time it has been recorded on this host in the UK.

## *Calybites hauderi* (Lep:Gracillariidae) is the spring generation of *Caloptilia semifascia*

John Langmaid found lots of spinnings in early June (2008) on *Acer campestre* (Field Maple) on common land in Portsmouth. He bred these through and what was thought to be *Calybites hauderi* adults emerged. In August large numbers of spinnings appeared in the same place and these were bred through and *Caloptilia semifascia* adults emerged!

DNA barcoding was undertaken and all the moths were *Caloptilia semifascia*.

It was concluded that *Caloptilia semifascia* is increasingly bivoltine (especially in Southern England) and that what was previously thought to be *Calybites hauderi* is in fact the spring generation of *Caloptilia semifascia*.

*Calybites hauderi* has now been removed from the British List

**Reference:** Langmaid, Sattler & Lopez-Vaamonde (2010) Morphology and DNA Barcodes show that *Calybites hauderi* does not occur in the British Isles. *Nota Lepid.* **33** (2):191–197

## *Pseudodineura mentiens* (Hym:Tenthredinidae) – known only from one site in the UK

**Andrew Liston** looked this year for *Pseudodineura mentiens* in the Edinburgh area, where it was first found in the UK in 2005.

He said 'It still hasn't been noticed anywhere else in the UK, as far as I know.'

Although I could not find it in the part of the gardens where it occurred in 2005, I eventually found many mines on a patch of *Hepatica transsilvanica* growing near the main entrance on 20.vi.2011.

So my fears that the gardeners had eradicated this sawfly were unfounded!

The leafmines are shown below.

Perhaps others will be able to locate this sawfly leafminer in the UK?



Photo © Andrew Liston

## *Bucculatrix ainsliella* (Lep: Gracillariidae – is it a British species?)

*Bucculatrix ainsliella* is a North American species feeding there on a group of Oaks addressed as Red Oaks; the only species of the group in Holland is the ubiquitous, introduced, *Quercus rubra*.

*B.ainsliella* was trapped in Holland in July 2011.

A search of the locality provided a number of mines of this species, and a more extended search revealed several more localities in the neighborhood. But then, when pictures were sent out so some friends, it turned out *B.ainsliella* had been photographed (and misidentified) from a number of localities in Holland and even Belgium!

In the USA the species is known as the Oak Skeletonizer, and is a forestry pest. It remains to be seen if the species here too will reach similar densities.

As it happens, *Bucculatrix ulmella* can also mine on *Quercus rubra* (but *ainsliella* cannot mine on *Q. robur*).

The mines of *ainsliella* are a bit larger and less compact than *ulmella*, but this does not allow for a certain identification.

But the free living larva is quite different: *ainsliella* larvae are white, instead of grey, mottled with white as in *ulmella*.

More details:

[http://www.microlepidoptera.nl/nieuws/art\\_2011.7.11.php](http://www.microlepidoptera.nl/nieuws/art_2011.7.11.php)

<http://www.bladmineerders.nl/minersf/lepidopteramin/bucculatrix/ainsliella/ainsliella.htm>

Perhaps this leafminer is already resident in the UK?