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# *LATISSIMUS*

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## THE BALFOUR-BROWNE CLUB'S 50th YEAR

Cover photograph: Fifty years ago the Balfour-Browne Club kicked off with a paper by Robert Angus adding two species to the British list. The illustration on our cover is of Carim Nahaboo finishing off his picture of *G. bilineatus*. Peter Sutton is thanked for arranging access to this image, which is “mixed media”, oils, acrylic and coloured pencils.

ANGUS R B 1976. A preliminary note on the British species of *Graphoderus* Sturm, with the addition of *G. bilineatus* Degeer and *G. zonatus* Hoppe to the British list. *The Balfour-Browne Club Newsletter* 1 1-3.



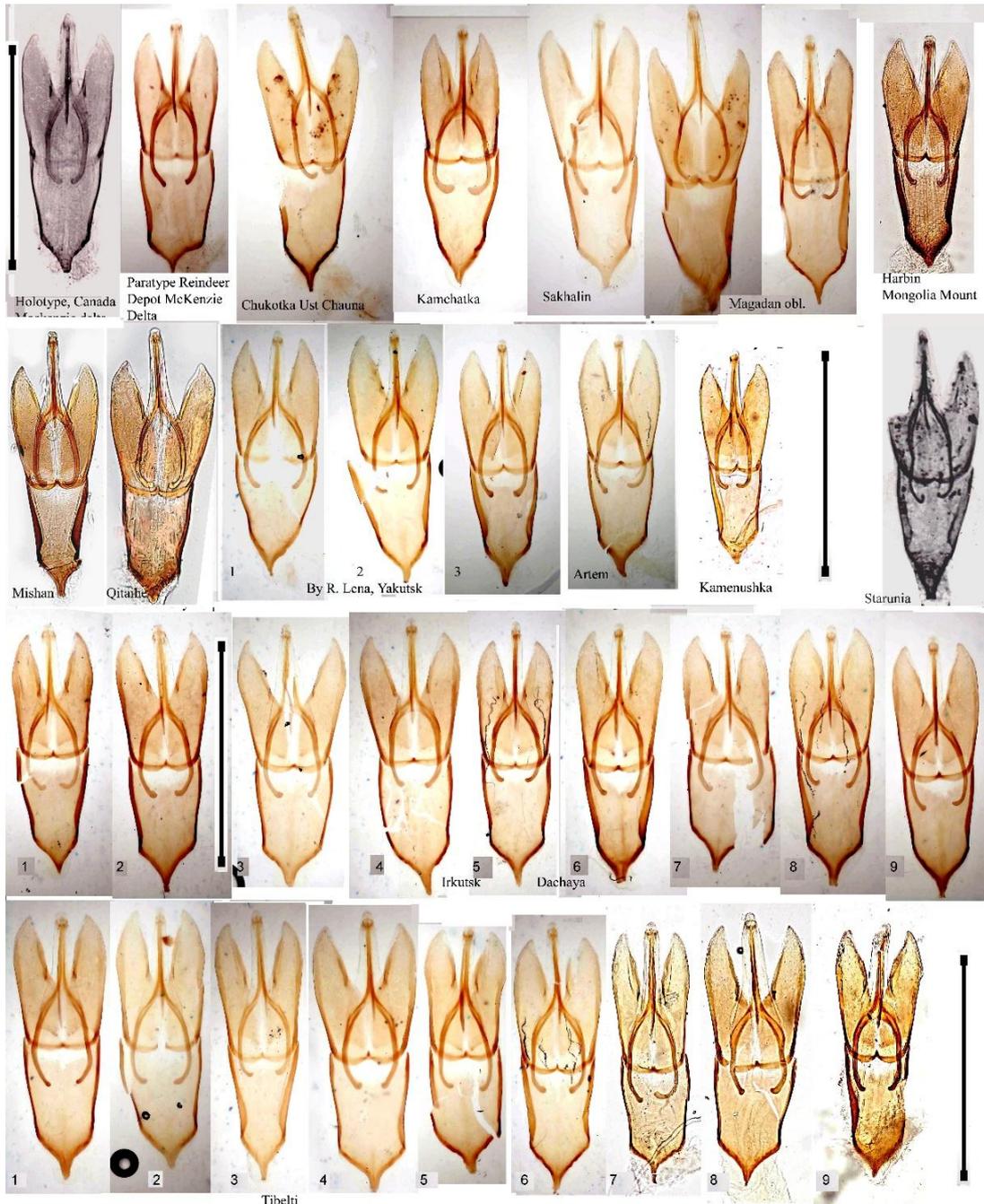
FREE ACCESS applies to the text. Most figures come from publications with the permission of the authors, who would need to be approached again if the images are to be reused.

ADDRESSES Contacts for articles and reviewed works are given at the end of this issue of ***Latissimus***. The address for other correspondence is: Garth Foster, 3 Eglinton Terrace, Ayr KA7 1JJ, Scotland, UK – [latissimus@btinternet.com](mailto:latissimus@btinternet.com)

## AN AEDEAGAL ANALYSIS OF *HELOPHORUS BROWNI* MCCORKLE

Robert Angus

**Introduction** *Helophorus browni* McCorkle, 1970 is a species with a very restricted distribution in North America, but with a range extending considerably further south in the eastern Palaearctic, ranging as far south as Vladivostok and Irkutsk in Russia, and in Heilongjiang and Nei Mongol in China (Angus, 1970, 2023). It shares this uneven distribution pattern with *H. parasplendidus* Angus, 1970, described from the Canadian tundra ranging from the Northwest Territories to Churchill, Manitoba, but later (Angus, 2016) found it in widely separated localities in Yakutia (Russia) and now from Buryatia (Russia, adjacent to the Mongolian border) (Angus, unpublished data).



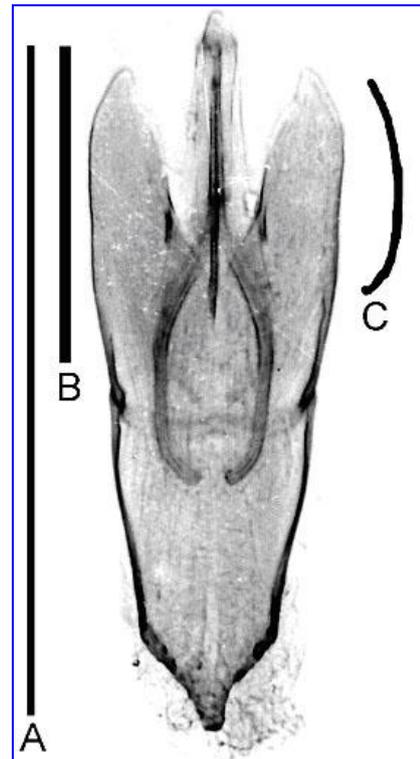
**Fig. 1** Montage of *Helophorus browni* aedeagi. Scales = 0.5 mm.  
For labelling of individual aedeagi see fig. 2

Beetle/Locality	PM+ PB	tube	Strut	Tube/strut		
HT NWT Mackenzie delta, Reindeer Depot	0.53	0.25	0.19	1.32	●	68.807°N 134.251°W
PT NWT Mackenzie delta, Reindeer Depot	0.54	0.24	0.18	1.33	●	
Chukotka, Ust Chauna	0.58	0.25	0.22	1.14	●	68.814°N 170.251°E
Kamchatka	0.56	0.26	0.21	1.24	●	56.3°N 159.4°E
Sakhalin	0.58	0.28	0.2	1.27		50.3°N 143°E
Magadan obi.	0.58	0.27	0.21	1.28	■	50.56°N
Magadan obi.	0.57	0.25	0.21	1.19		151°E
China Harbin "Mongolia Mountain"	0.50	0.23	0.17	1.35		46.368°N 127.738°E
China Harbin Mishan	0.52	0.22	0.16	1.38		45.532°N 131.850°E
China Harbin Qitaihe	0.53	0.24	0.2	1.2		43.771°N 131.004°E
Kamenushka, Ussuriysk	0.45	0.20	0.15	1.33	■	43.814N 171.935E
Artem	0.53	0.23	0.18	1.28	■	43.323N 132.199E
by R Lena Yakutsk 1	0.53	0.22	0.19	1.16	■	61.835°N
by R Lena Yakutsk 2	0.55	0.23	0.18	1.28		129.716°E
by R Lena Yakutsk 3	0.53	0.23	0.18	1.28		
Irkutsk obi. Dachnaya 1	0.54	0.23	0.21	1.1	■	52.118°N
Irkutsk obi. Dachnaya 2	0.59	0.26	0.21	1.24		104.084°E
Irkutsk obi. Dachnaya 3	0.56	0.25	0.21	1.19		
Irkutsk obi. Dachnaya 4	0.59	0.24	0.19	1.26		
Irkutsk obi. Dachnaya 5	0.55	0.24	0.18	1.33		
Irkutsk obi. Dachnaya 6	0.56	0.26	0.20	1.3		
Irkutsk obi. Dachnaya 7	0.54	0.25	0.20	1.25		
Irkutsk obi. Dachnaya 8	0.58	0.23	0.19	1.21		
Irkutsk obi. Dachnaya 9	0.57	0.25	0.20	1.25		
Irkutsk obi. Tibelti 1 (14)	0.59	0.26	0.21	1.24	■	51.768°N
Irkutsk obi. Tibelti 2 (15)	0.58	0.25	0.23	1.09		103.245°E
Irkutsk obi. Tibelti 3 (16)	0.58	0.25	0.18	1.39		
Irkutsk obi. Tibelti 4 (17)	0.60	0.25	0.21	1.19		
Irkutsk obi. Tibelti 5 (18)	0.54	0.24	0.20	1.20		
Irkutsk obi. Tibelti 6 (19)	0.56	0.23	0.20	1.15		
Irkutsk obi. Tibelti 7 (20)	0.56	0.26	0.23	1.13		
Irkutsk obi. Tibelti 8 (21)	0.58	0.25	0.19	1.32		
Irkutsk obi. Tibelti 9 (22)	0.55	0.24	0.18	1.33	●	
Starunia fossil	0.55	0.25	0.25/0.26	1/0.96		48.704°N 24.501°E

**Table 1** Material analysed, metric data, localities of origin with coordinates

The *H. browni* aedeagus is very distinctive, both in the shape of the long and slender aedeagal tube and in the shape and proportions of its parameres and phallobase (basal piece). It therefore came as something of a shock when Sasha Shatrovskiy (*in litt.*, 2023) reported a suggestion from Russian colleagues that material from the southern Primorye (near Vladivostok) had the struts both longer than and differently shaped from the norm. At the time I was concerned with reporting the karyotype of Chinese material (Angus, 2023) and thus needed to ascertain which form was involved. An assembly of aedeagus photographs, presented here as Fig. 1, showed fairly wide variation, including in extensive samples (nine specimens each) from Dachnaya near Irkutsk, and Tibelti in the Tunkinskaya Dolina, where more or less the whole gamut of the variation was found. I therefore concluded that there was no reason to believe that more than one species was involved. Nevertheless, I felt that a more thorough analysis was appropriate, and this is presented here.

**Material and methods** The analysed material is the aedeagus photographs shown in Figure 1. Other material I have seen, including more specimens from the southern Primorye, did not have any indication of size, so could not be used. It does not, however, show any deviation from the material analysed here. The measurements used (Fig. 2) are: 1 aedeagal length, measured from the apices of the parameres to the basal tip of the phallobase; The protrusion of the aedeagal tube beyond the apices of the parameres is always present, but to a variable extent and so could not be used in calculating aedeagus length. 2 length of aedeagal tube, from its apex to the basal tip of the dorsal spur. Sometimes the spur appeared to fade away towards its basal tip and occasionally the end was so abrupt as to suggest breakage; 3 length of one strut, from the point of divergence of the struts to the apex. Measurements were made using the straight line and freehand line drawing functions of the Image J program. The ratio of the strut length to the tube length was also calculated. The full data are shown in Table 2, which also gives the geographical co-ordinates of the localities and symbols use in the graph of tube/strut ratio plotted against aedeagal length.



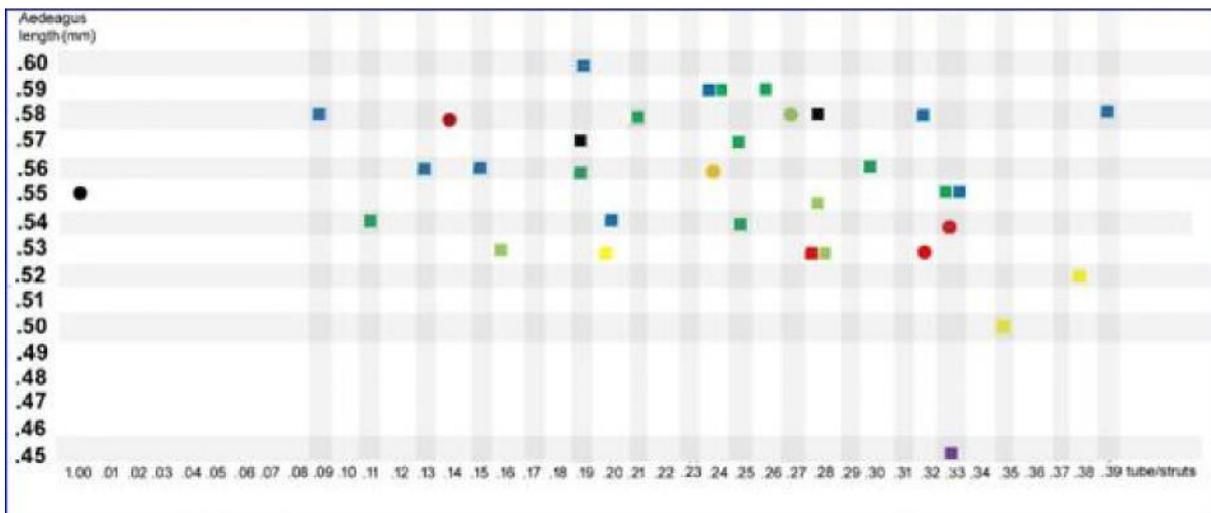
**Fig. 2** Scheme of measurements. A aedeagus length; B tube; C struts

### Results and discussion

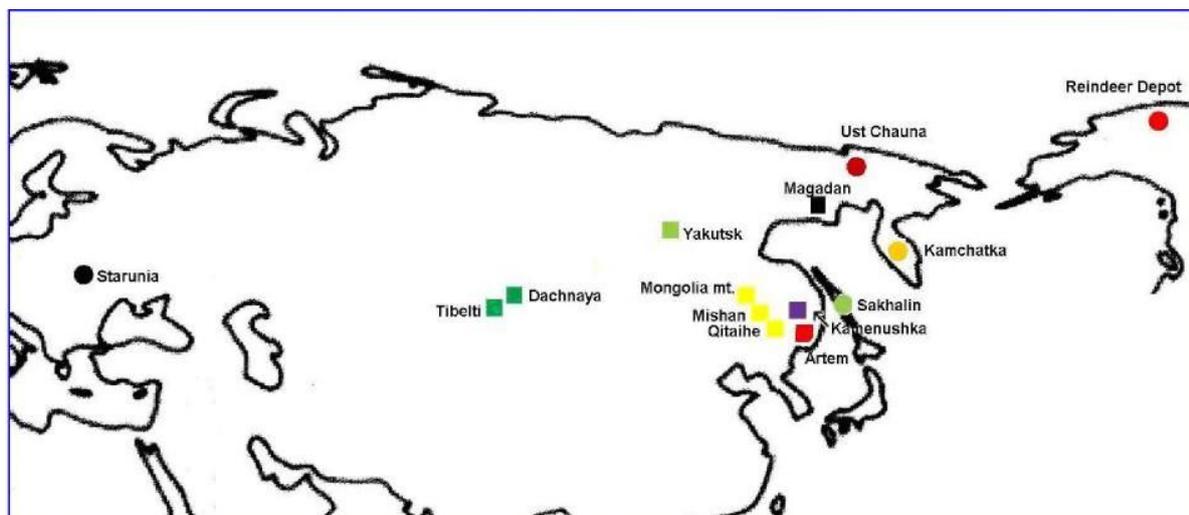
1 The type material: The holotype and paratype shown in Fig. 1 both have the aedeagal struts not very long, only weakly curved, and more or less parallel over most of their lengths. The specimen from Ust Chauna on the Siberian Arctic coast seems to conform to this pattern. However, this aedeagus is slightly larger than the types and the struts are relatively longer. This results in its being plotted far away from the types. This pattern of struts is shown by the Chinese specimen from "Mongolia Mountain", though the struts are shorter, and by the small Kamenushka (Primorye) specimen.

2 The longest and most strongly curved struts are shown by the specimens from Kamchatka, the first Yakutsk specimen, several of the Dachnaya specimens as well as some of the Tibelti material. However, Tibelti specimen 3 has distinctly shorter struts, and those of specimen 9 approach the more parallel form shown by the types. The struts of the Starunia fossil appear strikingly long, but this may be due to the partial shrivelling *post mortem*.

Two general conclusions stand out. First, the variants are widely distributed in the material studied, and second, very minor differences may result in specimens which appear very similar visually plotting as widely separated on the graph. The graph is useful in helping to order the specimens, but the differences shown are probably not important.



**Fig. 3** Graph of tube/struts plotted against aedeagus length. ● Holotype, paratype. Canada, Northwest Territories, Reindeer Depot; ● Chukotka, Ust Chauna; ● Kamchatka; ● Sakhalin; ● Magadan obl., ■ China, Heilongjiang, Mongolia Mountain scenic spot, Mishan, Qitaihe; ■ Kamenushka, Ussurijsk; ■ Artem (Artyom); ■ by R. Lena, Yakutsk; ■ Irkutsk obl., Dachnaya; ■ Irkutsk obl. Tibelti ● Starunia fossil



**Fig. 4** Localities of the material studied. For details see Table 1.

**Acknowledgements** I thank Sasha Shatrovskiy for drawing my attention to this topic, and for supplying various photographs. I thank the Royal Society and the (then) Soviet Academy of Sciences for accepting me on their exchange program which enabled me to collect the Siberian material. I also thank various Russian friends and colleagues for their continued help with information. I thank my daughter Lizzie (Dr E. M. Angus) for help and advice with the Image J analysis. Finally, I thank the Natural History Museum, London, for the research facilities, including photographic, stemming from my continuing position as a Scientific Associate in the Insects section of the Division of Life Sciences.

### References

- ANGUS R B. 1970. Revisional studies on East Palaearctic and some Nearctic species of *Helophorus* F. (Coleoptera: Hydrophilidae). *Ergebnisse der zoologischen Forschungen von Dr. Z. Kaszabin der Mongolei* (No 226). *Acta Zoologica Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae* **16** 249–290.
- ANGUS R B 2016. In the Land of the Great River. *Latissimus* **37** 8–13.
- ANGUS R B 2023. An updated Atlas of *Helophorus* chromosomes. *Comparative Cytogenetics* **17** 295–326.
- MCCORKLE D V 1970. Description of *Helophorus browni*. pp. 280–281 in ANGUS R B 1970.

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### **DYTISCUS LATISSIMUS & GRAPHODERUS BILINEATUS IN POLAND**

Two new sites for the *Dytiscus* and five for the *Graphoderus* are described in north-east Poland. Shown here are Ślepe Jeziorka (left), a site for *G. bilineatus*, and the Pómiski mire for *D. latissimus* (right), photographed by Piotr Mikołajczuk.



MIKOŁAJCZUK P & GÓRAL N 2025. Nowe stanowiska kreślinka nizinnego *Graphoderus bilineatus* (De Geer, 1774) i pływaka szerokbrzeżka *Dytiscus latissimus* Linnaeus, 1758 (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae) na Suwalszczyźnie. *Acta entomologica silesiana* **33** 1-5.

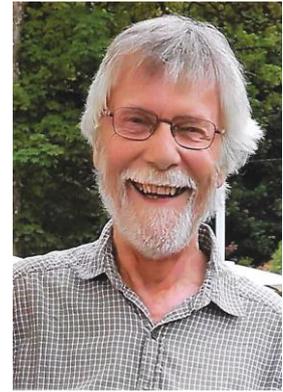
### **PRIONOCYPHON IN NORTHERN IRELAND**

*Prionocyphon serricornis* (Müller) is noted from all five Northern Irish counties in this study of saproxylics, which includes some beautiful photographs of some of the more striking species.

ANDERSON R 2025. Annotated checklist of saproxylic Coleoptera in the Counties of Northern Ireland. *Bulletin of the Irish Biogeographical Society* **48** 24-97.

**DAVE SHIRT 1945 - 2025**

David Bryan Shirt was born on 7 September 1945. He graduated from University of London at Royal Holloway College where he then took up a Ph D opportunity with Robert Angus, tackling the *Nebrioporus elegans/depressus* complex. And complex it still is - if only we could have made more of what must have happened after the hydropower works in the 1930s, when the Kirkcudbrightshire Ken and the Ayrshire Doon became interconnected, and perhaps their *Nebrioporus* met up. His thesis describes the problems: we have Jack Balfour-Browne's copy of the thesis in the Club Library, the North American story in it having been published (Shirt & Angus, 1992). Dave made some impact in the brief period 1977 to 1986. For someone more interested in mammals and birds he had a good eye for the smaller things in the field, generating 403 records of 154 water beetle species in 14 vice-counties, with great contributions at our meetings in Islay, Leicester, Norfolk and East Sussex. He initiated the first Scarabaeoidea Recording Scheme at one of the Monks Wood meetings of coleopterists in 1986. Dave's commitment to entomology largely ended with his working for the Nature Conservancy Council to edit the first insect Red Data Book for Great Britain (Shirt, 1987). Thereafter he took on a variety of work, principally being a science editor at Oxford University Press, working on the multi-volume Oxford English Dictionary, and a range of single volume dictionaries.



Norfolk 1983 - Dave on the left at East Walton



Leicester 1985 - Dave second from right

Coming close to the study of wildlife was his enjoyment of a good pub and his once serving as President of the Real Ale Society. Keith Alexander notes Wadworth's 6X and the Who'd A Thought It pub in Lockeridge, where his mother lived. Andy Foster recalls the Star Tavern in Belgravia, London and the Tuesday Call at the Old Still in Peterborough. He also liked a good joke. Naming *Telmatophilus brevicollis* Aubé the Shirt was a natural choice if you saw its aedeagus (see below), but it was really intended to honour Dave. Keith recalls one missed opportunity for a joint paper with the ornithologist Nigel Collar, but should be thanked more for most of the other recollections here. Thanks also for image from the celebration of a life. But who needs such obituaries when one can get the real thing on *BBC Sounds*? Thanks again to Andy for noting his contribution, 19 minutes in, to "Mark Steel's in Town (Chipping Norton)" on BBC Radio 4 in 2013.



⇔ *Telmatophilus brevicollis* Monks Wood 1980, with Dave in red

Dave died on 2 August 2025, having suffered from bowel cancer: his funeral was at North Oxfordshire Crematorium on 4 September. Thanks also go to Sandy Vaughan for helping me get the detail right.

SHIRT D B 1983. Studies on the *Potamonectes depressus* (Fabricius) complex of aquatic Coleoptera (Dytiscidae). Unpublished PhD thesis, Royal Holloway College, University of London.

SHIRT D B (ed.) 1987. *British Red Data Book 2 Insects*. Nature Conservancy Council, Peterborough, 402 pp.

SHIRT D B & ANGUS R B 1992. A revision of the Nearctic water beetles related to *Potamonectes depressus* (Fabricius) (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae). *The Coleopterists Bulletin* **46** 109-141.

## HOTSPOT IDENTIFICATION

The current approach to identifying key freshwater sites in England and Wales is criticised on the basis of its failure to restore biodiversity. The Freshwater Network is proposed to identify freshwater hotspots at national and regional levels. This is based on areas supporting invertebrates and plants with conservation status. The data sources listed include "Macroinvertebrates (including semi-aquatic beetles)" in England and in Wales WFD (= Water Framework Directive). If one Googles "England WFD data" one can be taken through an awesome government website that might end with the procedure on how to order a large data-set or go for a Freedom of Information Request. At the time of writing a government message dated 5 September 2025 states that that the Water Quality Archive API will be intermittently disabled through October, being replaced by a new system "to deliver a better experience". That sort of thing is normal but what I find odd is why one might single out "semi-aquatic beetles" among macroinvertebrates. We have been through what constitutes a water beetle so many times, with Manfred Jäch's definitions (1998) probably the most cited. Presumably a semi-aquatic insect spends only part of its life under water so this would include mayflies, stoneflies and odonates. There are very few wholly aquatic insects among holometabolous insects, perhaps a few flightless weevils that can pupate under water. Sam Tasker is the correspondent.

BIGGS J, EWALD N, NICOLET P, CASE P, WILLIAMS P & TASKER S 2025.

Building the freshwater network: a new approach to the identification of freshwater biodiversity hotspots and restoration opportunities in England and Wales.

*Ecological Solutions and Evidence* doi.org/10.1002/2688-8319.70089 pp. 10.

JÄCH, M.A. 1998. Annotated check list of aquatic and riparian/littoral beetle families of the world (Coleoptera). In: M.A. Jäch & L. Ji (eds) 1998. *Water Beetles of China*. Volume **2**. Vienna, Austria. 25-42.

## THE FLUCTUATING FORTUNES OF *GRAPHODERUS CINEREUS* (L.) AT STANWELL MOOR, MIDDLESEX, ENGLAND (COLEOPTERA, DYTISCIDAE)

Peter Sutton

In 2008, I wrote a small book about the larger water beetles of the British Isles (Sutton 2008) which described, with keys, illustrations and distribution maps, 11 species including the six *Dytiscus*, *Cybister*, two *Acilius*, *Hydrophilus* and *Hydrochara* species to be found in Britain. This was followed by an article in *British Wildlife* magazine (Sutton 2017) describing my efforts to



Fig. 1 *Graphoderus cinereus* larva. Staines Moor SSSI,

update this work by attempting to photograph all of the larger species of British water beetle, the list of which now included the three *Graphoderus*, two *Hydaticus*, and our single *Colymbetes* species. This article highlighted the trials and tribulations of this quest, and the fact that after many years of searching, despite hints, tips and locations from those who had been lucky enough to find it, I had still not been able to find a specimen of *Graphoderus cinereus* (L.) to photograph. I had

travelled across the country from Moccas Park in Herefordshire and Studland in Dorset, to Rye Harbour in East Sussex without success, and kept returning, year after year, to Staines Moor SSSI in Middlesex, to Butts Pond and its adjacent pools where, over ten years previously, Jonty Denton had found this species in good numbers. Eventually, this paid off and on 24 July 2020, I finally located a larva of *G. cinereus*, whose identity was confirmed using the single median extension of the labium (Sutton 2020).

The following year I returned to Staines Moor on 30 May to find the well-vegetated pools adjacent to the main pond dominated by large dragonfly larvae and the larvae of *Acilius sulcatus* (L.). Not a single *Graphoderus* larva could be found. Nevertheless, and after much careful sampling, that magical moment finally arrived when, after almost twenty years of searching, a single adult female appeared, flamboyantly flaunting its golden-orange belly as it kicked around in the bottom of the net.

A visit on 2 June with talented entomologist and epic pan-lister, Mark Telfer, failed to reveal any more specimens, perhaps highlighting the difficulty of locating this rare and elusive species. However, when I returned over a month later on 10 July, on a day when the site echoed to the quacking chorus of green water frogs (*Pelophylax* sp.), I experienced a day like the one Jonty must have had all those years ago, and after much hard work, seven adult specimens of *G. cinereus* were located, along with several other species of interest including *Hydaticus seminiger* (De Geer) and *Hygrotus impressopunctatus* (Schaller).

This year I decided to see how the site was faring and visited Staines Moor on 10 May. It was clear that the ponds had been significantly affected by the conservation grazing programme that had been established at the site (which was historically grazed by cattle) in an attempt to improve its biodiversity (RCCAN 2020). The grassy stonewort-rich pools had been replaced by cattle poached mud pits that were devoid of aquatic vegetation, but they were not without life and were teeming with vast numbers of corixids. The water beetle and other fauna, however, was virtually non-existent and all of the species of interest had disappeared, with the interesting exception of two *Berosus* species, *B. affinis* Brullé and *B. signaticollis* (Charpentier), which I took to be pioneer species among the masses of lesser water boatmen.

**Fig 2** *Graphoderus cinereus*. female at Staines Moor SSSI, 30 May 2021



**Fig 3** *Graphoderus cinereus* was found in Butts Pond and its peripheral pools at Staines Moor, which were richly vegetated with stoneworts (*Chara* spp.) and other macrophytes 10 July 2021



**Fig 4** (left) The cattle grazing programme at Staines Moor has resulted in the eradication of aquatic vegetation and its associated biodiversity. 10 May 2025

Will *G. cinereus* be found at the site again? Probably. It has previously persisted through what I would consider to be worse conditions at the site, but it is clear that current management strategy is not conducive to the rich aquatic biodiversity of which this site is capable.

RCCAN (River Colne Catchment Action Network) 2020.

<https://www.colnecan.org.uk/index.php/all-news/25-colne-valley-park-south-news/597-conservation-grazing-at-stanwell-moor>

SUTTON P G 2008. *The Larger Water Beetles of the British Isles*. Orpington: Amateur Entomologist's Society.

SUTTON P G 2017. In search of the larger water beetles of Britain and Ireland. *British Wildlife* **29** 106-112

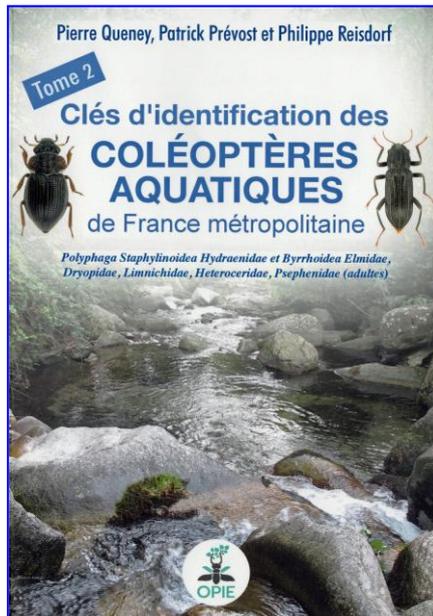
SUTTON P G 2020. Observations on the recolonisation by water beetles of three previously desiccated habitats. *Latissimus* **47** 6-14.

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## ICE AGE PONDS IN HEREFORDSHIRE

The retreat of the glaciers of the ice Age 115,000 to 11,700 years ago left clusters of "ice age ponds" on the Welsh/English border. It is proposed that they can be characterised by plant species such as Greater Bladderwort, *Utricularia australis* L., Tubular Water-dropwort, *Oenanthe fistulosa* L. and Water-violet, *Hottonia palustris* L., the equivalent water beetles including *Graphoderus cinereus* (L.), *Helochares obscurus* (Müller), *Enochrus nigrinus* (Sharp) and *Agabus undulatus* (Schrank) the latter recently discovered and holding out the hope that other rarities might be found.

WATSON W, KING-SALTER G & ANDREWS E 2025. Herefordshire's Ice Age ponds: ecology and geological origins. *British Wildlife* **37** 20-27.



## COLÉOPTÈRES AQUATIQUES TOME II

📖 QUENEY P, PRÉVOST P & REISDORF P 2025. *Clés d'identification des Coléoptères aquatiques (adultes) de France métropolitaine. Tome 2. Polyphaga Staphylinoidea Hydraenidae et Byrrhoidea Elmidae, Dryopidae, Limnichidae, Heteroceridae, Psephenidae (adultes)*. Guyancourt: Opie. €45 + postage - Pierre suggests telling Opie ([opie@insectes.org](mailto:opie@insectes.org)) your full postal address. You will then be told the full price which you can pay by bank transfer.

At times like this one rejoices that "metropolitan" France covers so much ground - and water. Pierre Queney's brainchild, combined with the expertise of Patrick Prévost and Philippe Reisdorf, is the first modern identification guide for the greater proportion of the European Hydraenidae, Elmidae,

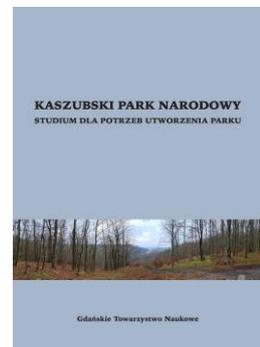
Dryopidae, Limnichidae, Heteroceridae and Psephenidae. For example there need to be covered 47 *Hydraena* species and 19 Heteroceridae. It makes one look forward to those gloomy winter afternoons when one might use the book to reappraise the collection. Even if you cannot read French there are 460 illustrations, the majority as photographs, plus another 22 in a supplement on pages 211-214, which includes recognition of *Megasternum immaculatum* (Stephens) as French in Viane by François Salamé (2023).

SALAMÉ F 2023. Découverte de *Megasternum immaculatum* (Stephens, 1829), espèce nouvelle pour la faune de France (Coleoptera Hydrophilidae Sphaeridiinae). *L'Entomologiste* **79** 41-44.

## NORTHERN POLISH LIST

This book is about the fauna and flora of the proposed Kaszubski National Park. The invertebrates chapter lists 187 species of beetles including 38 Dytiscidae and twenty other water beetles.

JĘDRO G, JĘDRO M & TOŃCZYK G 2025. pp. 172-200 Chapter 11. Fauna bezkręgowców. In: Kaszubski Park Narodowy, Studium dla potrzeb utworzenia Parku. Gdańsk: Bugucki Wydawnictwo Naukowe.



## FEATHER WING MATHS

No water beetles were harmed in this study but it is of interest in that we have groups in which membranous wings are replaced by bristles. Light and scanning electron microscopy and high speed videography were used in combination with some heavy-looking calculations to show that mechanical optimality can be achieved in very small insects by membrane reduction, but that bristle shape is determined by the need for stiffness. The introduction ends with "similar mechanical arguments are likely applicable to other miniature animals that propel through fluids", and that would apply to the mymarids that use their wings to swim to seek the diving beetle egg host.

KOLOMENSKIY D, FARISENKOV S E, PETROV P N & POLILOV A A 2025. Scaling and mechanical optimality of bristled wings in microinsects. *PNAS* **122** e2506403122 pp. 7.

### MUSA MLAMBO 1985 – 2025

Musa was Head Researcher for freshwater invertebrates in the Albany Museum, Rhodes University, South Africa. Originally from KwaZulu Natal, he had studied at the Universities of Cape Town and Oulu in Finland. On 28 July 2025 Musa tragically died in a road accident whilst en-route to a research engagement in Gauteng. He had an enthusiastic interest in a range of groups, including large branchiopod crustaceans, but as his email handle 'dytiscid1'



suggests, had a particular love of water beetles. Musa was the force behind many freshwater projects in South Africa and beyond, was always keen to involve different groups of people, including students and interns, and approached everything with enthusiasm and good humour. In recent years he collaborated with David Bilton on numerous field trips, many of which resulted in joint publications. He had a few freshwater species named in his honour during his lifetime, including one beetle, the rockpool dwelling *Ochthebius mlamboi* Bilton, first recognised from Mkambati Nature Reserve on the Eastern Cape Wild Coast – a site now protected as a Ramsar Wetland partly as a result of water beetle discoveries there. His water beetle-related papers are listed below.

BILTON D T & MLAMBO M C 2022. A new *Copelatus* with small eyes from the Eastern Cape Wild Coast, South Africa (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae). *Acta Entomologica Musei Nationalis Pragae* **62** 15-21.

BILTON D T & MLAMBO M C 2022. A new species of *Coelometopon* Janssens from the Wild Coast of South Africa (Coleoptera: Hydraenidae). *Suplemento del Boletín de la Asociación española de Entomología* **4** 3-6.

BILTON D T & MLAMBO M C 2023. A revision of *Delevea* Reichardt, 1976: a Southern African endemic water beetle genus including the largest known extant myxophagans (Coleoptera: Myxophaga: Torridincolidae). *Zootaxa* **5285** 311-324.

BILTON D T & MLAMBO M C 2024. A distinctive new species of *Protozantaena* Perkins, 1997 from lowland Namaqualand, South Africa (Coleoptera, Hydraenidae). *Zootaxa* **5424** 383-388.

BILTON D T, MLAMBO M C & BALKE M 2025. A new species of *Anacaena* Thomson, 1859 from the Cederberg Range, South Africa) Coleoptera: Hydrophilidae). *Zootaxa* **5613** 165-170.

BILTON D T, TURNER C R & MIAMBO M C 2024. The phylogenetically isolated South African endemic diving beetle *Caperhantus cicurius* (Fabricius, 1787): redescription and range extensions (Coleoptera, Dytiscidae, Colymbetinae). *Check List* **20**(5) 1149-1156.

BIRD M S, BILTON D T, MLAMBO M C & PERISSINOTTO R 2023. Water beetles (Coleoptera) associated with Afrotropical Forest patches in the Garden Route National Park, South Africa. *ZooKeys* **1182** 237-258.

BIRD M S, MLAMBO M C, WASSERMAN R J, DALU T, HOLLAND A J, DAY J A, VILLET M H, BILTON D T, BARBER-JAMES H M & BRENDONCK L 2018. Deeper knowledge of shallow water: reviewing the invertebrate fauna of southern African temporary wetlands. *Hydrobiologia* **827** 89–121.

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### BEROSUS FULVUS IN PORTUGAL

Specimens caught in the Algarve in light traps operated by Artur Serrano in the 1980s have proved to be this species, new for Portugal. Distribution maps shows it ranging to Finland, eastern Mongolia and Marrakesh.

SHATROVSKIY A & SERRANO A 2025. A new beetle species for the fauna of Portugal: *Berosus (Enoplurus) fulvus* Kuwert, 1858 (Coleoptera, Hydrophilidae). *Boletín de la Sociedad Entomológica Aragonesa* **76** 185-187.

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## AN ILLUSTRATION OF *MELADEMA CORIACEA* LAPORTE, 1835 FROM CORFU (KERKYRA) Peter Sutton

In 2013, Robert Angus provided an excellent platform for the study of Corfu water beetles by producing a checklist of 82 species for the island (Angus 2013). This work was updated by Zoltan Csabai *et al.* (2017), who added a further 18 of a potential 20 species from literature resources after justifiably removing *Hydraena pulchella* Germar and *Ochthebius laevisculptus* Reitter from the list. A further ten previously unrecorded species from their own studies were also added to the list, bringing the total number of water beetle taxa for the island to 112.



**Fig. 1** *Colymbetes fuscus* (L.) February 2015

*Colymbetes fuscus*, present in the pools at Linia, can also be added as a Corfu species, as can *Meladema coriacea* Laporte, which was recorded from Crete (Wewalka 1977) but not Corfu in the revised list. The latter, apparently restricted in Corfu to a few mountain streams to the north-west of the island, was studied as part of a complete revision of *Meladema*, which includes the discovery of a new cryptic species, *M. lepidoptera* Bilton & Ribera, with material from Corfu (Zigos 19 July 2008) being provided by Manfred Jäch (Bilton & Ribera 2017).

It is interesting to observe the role reversal that has taken place regarding *Dytiscus mutinensis* Branden, a species that was formerly regarded to be a subspecies of *D. dimidiatus* Bergsträsser. The identity of both species has previously been discussed (Sutton 2012) and it is clear that subsequent authors (Angus 2013; Csabai *et al.* 2017) now consider the seldom seen sulcate form and the otherwise typically smooth specimens to be forms of *D. mutinensis*.



**Fig. 2** Sulcate and non-sulcate female forms of *Dytiscus mutinensis*, near Vatos, May 2007 (Sutton 2012)

There is certainly scope for the further study of the water beetle fauna of Corfu in order to answer unresolved questions. For example, in the absence of records of *Gyrinus paykulli* Ochs from the region, it is likely that *G. caspius* Ménétries is present in Corfu, as photographed by the author near Sidari in October 2015?



**Fig. 3** Possible *Gyrinus caspius* near Sidari, October 2015

A more pressing matter concerns the fate of the aquatic fauna of Corfu in the wake of a warming climate and the pressure exerted on all Mediterranean islands, where there is an ever-increasing demand for water resources.

In 2016, I had the great privilege of sharing a platform with Dr Lee Durrell, where I spoke to the Corfiots about their role as custodians of a globally unique assemblage of aquatic species. The message was simple. I spoke about the species that were still present (including critically endangered aquatic insects such as the Greek Red Damselfly *Pyrrhosoma elisabethae* Schmidt and vertebrates such as the Corfu Toothcarp *Valencia letourneuxi* (Sauvage), and the species that had already been lost including the Corfu Chub *Squalius* sp. and, in all probability, the Freshwater Blenny *Salaria fluviatilis* (Asso).



**Fig. 4** Addressing conservation issues in Corfu Town, 2016. left to right – Spiros Giourgas, the author, Eleni Stambogli, and Lee Durrell

One of the most striking and much-repeated comments about the lecture was that the delegates claimed “We did not even know that we had this here in Corfu!”. This led to a decision to convey this message to a

wider audience and find a way to promote these threatened species in a manner that would hopefully stimulate an interest in trying to support their continuing existence on the island. I decided to design a set of illustrations to include the species of conservation concern, and also include the Greek mythological figure, *Corcyra* (the guardian of springs and streams, after whom the island of Corfu is named) in each picture as a figurehead for the protection of Corfu’s aquatic biodiversity.

Over a period of five years, Carim Nahaboo completed four exquisite illustrations depicting Corfu’s aquatic biodiversity. The first three revealed all of the fishes of Corfu, including those that had become extinct in recent years, together with other species of interest, including the water beetles, *Dytiscus mutinensis* and the Corfu endemic *Scarodytes savinensis cercyrae* Fery & Štastný. The focal point of the fourth illustration was a specimen of *Meladema coriacea* that Clive Turner and I had located in a stream running down from the mountains near Zigos, and other aquatic and terrestrial species of interest that we had found in the immediate vicinity including *Agabus dilatatus* (Brullé). The first two illustrations were subsequently

published, with the appropriate conservation message (translated into Greek), in the journal of the Hellenic Society for the Protection of Nature (Sutton 2022a, 2022b). The third and fourth illustrations will follow the same pathway, hopefully bringing the plight of the aquatic biodiversity of Corfu to a wider audience.



**Fig. 5** The water beetles, *Meladema coriacea* (centre and right) and *Agabus dilatatus* (left) in a mountain stream in Corfu (Carim Nahaboo)

**Acknowledgements** Sincere thanks to Robert Angus and Clive Turner for their continuous expertise and support throughout, and Carim Nahaboo for his outstanding ability to translate thoughts into desired scenes.

ANGUS R B 2013. Towards a list of the water beetles of Corfu. *Latissimus* **33** 1-6.

BILTON D T & RIBERA I 2017. A revision of *Meladema* diving beetles (Coleoptera, Dytiscidae), with the description of a new species from the central Mediterranean based on molecules and morphology. *ZooKeys* **702** 45–112.

CSABAI Z, LÖKKÖS A, PAP Z & MÓRA A. 2017. Aquatic beetle fauna of Greek holiday islands (Rhodes, Crete and Corfu) (Coleoptera, Hydradephaga, Hydrophiloidea, Hydraenidae). *Spixiana* **40** 41-60.

SUTTON P G 2012. *Cybister tripunctatus* ssp *africanus* Laporte, 1855, *Dytiscus mutinensis* (Pederzani, 1971), and other large water beetles in Corfu (Kérkyra). *Bulletin of the Amateur Entomologists' Society* **71** (501) 50-55.

SUTTON P G 2022a. Η απώλεια του Παράδεισου, Η απειλούμενη υδρόβια βιοποικιλότητα της Κέρκυρας (μέρος Β'), Η ΦΥΣΗ, **173** 21-25.

SUTTON P G 2022b. Η απώλεια του Παράδεισου, Η απειλούμενη υδρόβια βιοποικιλότητα της Κέρκυρας (μέρος Α'), Η ΦΥΣΗ **172** 9-13.

WEWALKA G 1977. Die Verbreitung von Dytisciden (Coleoptera) im östlichen Mittelmeerraum. pp. 55-61 in: H. Malicky (ed.). Verhandlungen des Sechsten Internationalen Symposiums über Entomofaunistik in Mitteleuropa. Den Haag: Junk.

Received August 2025

## The Kever Hunters Ride Again



Monkswood in 1982

Now long ago I did attend  
A meeting in the eastern fens  
And there I met some learned  
men  
Who'd formed a beetle club back  
then



Islay in 1984



an Irish bar in 2018

They quaffed their beer and cursed and  
swore  
And slaughtered beetles by the score  
They searched in ditches, ponds and  
rivers  
And baited traps with rotting livers



trap in Sweden in 2011



travelling to Poland in 1993

Much work was done and more  
inspired  
New beetles found as they  
desired  
From Wealden pond and  
upland mire  
To northern moors where  
singed with fire



Norfolk Broads in 1983



trays in Troyes 1989

And Europe then they did invade  
With boots and nets and tubes  
and trays  
They came by car and boat and  
plane  
To France, Den Hague and  
sunny Spain



Léon in 1990



a Dutch bar in 2004

So many joined this world-wide club  
The eastern block was their next hub  
The arctic north and far Atlas  
Mosquito bog and mountain pass



convoy in Morocco 2018



death of a boar in Byelorussia  
2013

But then a plague did them beset  
Their boots and nets now far less  
wet  
For two long years they were apart  
But soon more conquests were to  
start



President in Poland in  
2016



Double vision in The Hague in 1988

And now they're old and some have gone  
The eastern trips no longer on  
Yet others limp with bolted joints  
To sift through dung with metal points



The Earl of Moray's horse for Sphaeridiinae in 2022

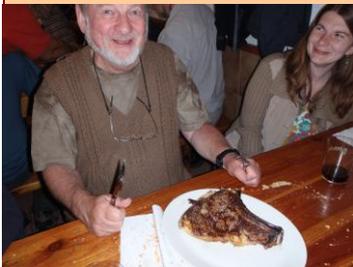


Medway at Yalding in 2006

The rivers now are full of sludge  
The ponds are parched, too far to trudge  
And soon the dung will disappear  
There's too much methane – let's be clear



a clean river at Buèges in 2025



The Basque Country in 2012

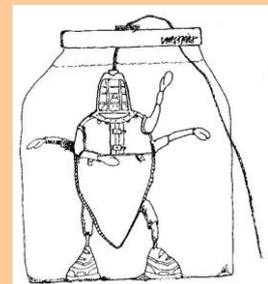
And where will all my beetles go?  
It could be in the bin I know  
It's DNA you just need now  
Or chromosomes - if you know how



eDNA-ing in 2023



Though fifty years have now passed by  
Their quest for kevers will not die  
They drink and feast and jest as yore  
And mend their nets to capture more!



Ronnie the Diver

September 2025

**GEESE AND MACROINVERTEBRATES**

Exclosures were used to assess the effects of browsing geese on shoreline vegetation in Sweden. There was 27% more biomass in the exclosures than in the open control areas but significantly lower macroinvertebrate numbers as measured in activity traps, the greatest number being observed at moderate (as opposed to low or high) geese density. The commonest of the macroinvertebrates were "Coleoptera-Dytiscidae" at  $78.5 \pm 100.9$  SD individuals per site. So far so good, but the strangest thing is that the section entitled "Aquatic Macroinvertebrate Sampling" is concerned with naming to species only the bycatch of amphibians and fish. Ornithologists and entomologists still live in different worlds....

KJELLER E, ARZEL C, ELMBERG J, SÖDERQUIST P & GUNNARSSON G 2025. Effects of goose herbivory on littoral vegetation and aquatic macroinvertebrates during breeding season. *Freshwater Biology* 70:e70114.

## CONTRIBUTION TO THE COLEOPTERA OF PORTUGAL BASED ON THE COLLECTION OF MANUEL PAULINO DE OLIVEIRA (HYDROPHILOIDEA AND HYDRAENIDAE)

Alexander Shatrovskiy, Ana Cristina Rufino & José Manuel Grosso-Silva

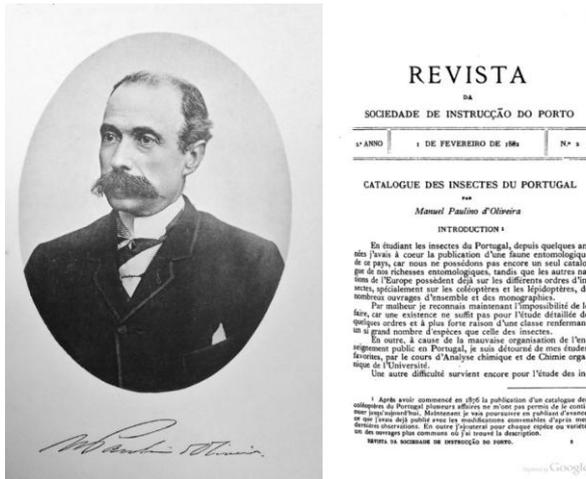
**Abstract** Manuel Paulino de Oliveira (1837-1899) produced the first catalogue of Portuguese Coleoptera, and this review of the Hydrophiloidea and Hydraenidae (Staphylinoidea) was prepared based on his collection, held in the University of Coimbra. The collection contains 64 species, with the original identification confirmed for 37 of them, including the use of junior synonyms and names in infraspecific status. Oliveira was the first to record 24 species in Portugal, but for another 23, Oliveira's priority claimed by others has been found in error. Two species from the collection are recorded for the first time in Portugal: *Hydrobius rottenbergii* and *Sphaeridium lunatum*. A redefined list of Hydrophiloidea and Hydraenidae specimens from Oliveira's collection is provided, including those who first reported the beetles in Portugal.

Manuel Paulino de Oliveira, professor of the University of Coimbra, authored the first Catalogue of the Portuguese Coleoptera, *Catalogue of Insects: Coleoptera*, in parts starting in 1882 in the journals *Revista da Sociedade de Instrução do Porto* and in the journal of the Coimbra Institute *O Instituto*. All separate parts were later combined into a single volume without a publication date (“*omisso anno*”), later established as 1893 by Nobre (1893) and Diniz (1966). Oliveira's scientific legacy is not only this catalogue, but also his collection stored in good condition in the Science Museum of the University of Coimbra. This study of the collection allowed us to establish the species of which Oliveira might claim to be the first publisher of a Portuguese record. Oliveira had used labels attached beneath specimens, and during rearrangement, some identification labels were lost. We restored Oliveira's original identifications, aligning them with current taxonomy. The collection had also been examined by Jack Balfour-Browne (1979) for its Hydraenidae and Elio Gentili for *Laccobius* (Gentili & Chiesa 1975).

Based on modern systematics, Oliveira (1882, 1893) mentions 64 species of Hydrophiloidea (Przewoźny 2022) and Hydraenidae (Jäch 2004). This catalogue remains the only comprehensive treatment of the Coleoptera for Portugal and includes original data on species distribution.

José Maximiano Correia de Barros (1868-1937) published several updates to the Catalogue (Barros 1916), and we found some specimens collected by Barros in the collection. Anthero Frederico de Seabra (1874–1952) also published supplementary notes (Seabra 1942, 1943) but his data are based on published sources rather than on examining Oliveira's collection and some of his conclusions are not corroborated by us. João Miguel Ladeiro (1891–1960) expanded and revised Oliveira's collection, his *Hidrocântaros e Hidrofilídeos* (Ladeiro 1949) being the most relevant publication to the present study. All these publications recorded the number of specimens available at the time, distinguishing between those originally studied by Oliveira (labelled 'P. O.' as collector) and later acquisitions (labelled by the same 'E.').

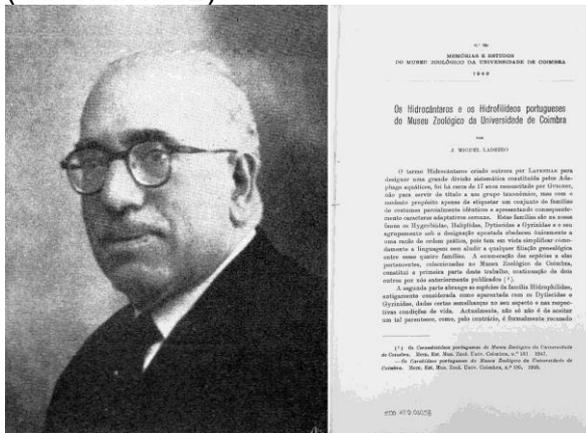
Significant progress was made thanks to the work of Maria Esmeralda Pereira Lobo Bonifácio (1934-2014). She organised the collection, assigned inventory numbers to each specimen and entered corresponding data into the museum's records. She began working at the Zoological Museum, guided by Professor Maria Manuela Gama de Assalino and Dr Manuel Assunção Diniz. In her report (Bonifácio 2010), she expressed her wish for the collection to be preserved and studied. Her efforts left a remarkable legacy, making the collection accessible for future research and her wish is being fulfilled, as this work attests.



**Plate 1** Manuel Paulino de Oliveira (1837–1899) photograph: E. Biel & C<sup>a</sup>, Porto, in: Tavares (1913) and the first page of Catalogue of Insects of Portugal (Oliveira 1882)



**Plate 2** Anthero Frederico de Seabra (1874–1952) photograph: Xavier da Cunha 1954) and facsimile of the first page of his review (Seabra 1943)



**Plate 3** João Miguel Ladeiro (1891–1960) photograph: Gama 1961, and facsimile of the first page of his article about Hydrophilidae from Oliveira’s collection (Ladeiro 1949)



**Plate 4** Professor Manuela Gama, Dona Esmeralda Bonifácio and Dr Assunção Diniz. Delivery of the collection reviewed by Dona Esmeralda (2010) photograph © Ana Cristina Rufino

Table 1 is a checklist based on Oliveira’s material. The full data based on his collection are available at [www.waterbeetles.info](http://www.waterbeetles.info), with taxa listed following the sequence of Oliveira’s Catalogue. Later additions to the museum’s collection are not included. Each specimen/pin is assigned by locality and date of collecting, if present, and an inventory number. Exclamation marks provided by Oliveira confirm the first records of the collection place (Oliveira 1882, 1883). The names of species absent from the Catalogue but seemingly studied by Oliveira post-publication (Ladeiro 1949) lack order numbers in the catalogue and are included in brackets. Modern species names are listed in the penultimate column. Ladeiro’s redefined names, with their ordinal numbers according his publication (Ladeiro 1949) are listed in the preceding column. The last column provides reference to the first mention of the species in Portugal. Oliveira’s use of junior synonyms maintains his priority. However, incorrect assignments or the absence of specimens of several species, usually not discovered by Ladeiro at the time, make this priority untenable.

The Catalogue originally listed 64 species' level names of the Hydrophiloidea and Hydraenidae: 58 species and 6 infraspecific taxa. The collection also contains 15 species and two varieties not mentioned in the catalogue, mostly supplied by Oliveira after publication of the Catalogue: Oliveira cannot be considered as their first recorder in Portugal. Eleven of the 64 mentioned are based on reports by Oliveira's colleagues, and they are represented in the collection only by labels rather than actual specimens. These are *Enochrus melanocephalus*, *Helochares dilutes*, *H. melanophthalmus*, *Laccobius striatulus*, *Berosus spinosus*, *Limnebius truncatulus*, *Helophorus glacialis*, *H. griseus*, *H. obscurus*, *Ochthebius corrugatus*, and *Coelostoma orbiculare*. Seabra (1943) justified Oliveira's priority in recording 55 species for Portugal, based on catalogue mentions only, and mistakenly for two that are in neither the Catalogue nor in the collection, *Enochrus hispanicus* Kuwert and *E. bicolor* Fab. We have confirmed data for 23 of them in the collection and also include *Cercyon haemorrhoidalis*, erroneously claimed priority. There are 24 species that were first recorded by Oliveira in Portugal: *Hydraena testacea*, *Ochthebius exaratus*, *O. nanus*, *Helophorus rufipes*, *H. porculus*, *H. nubilus*, *H. schmidtii*, *H. alternans*, *H. aquaticus*, *Hydrochus foveostriatus*, *H. angustatus*, *Georissus crenulatus*, *G. costatus*, *Berosus signaticollis*, *Laccobius femoralis mulsanti*, *L. sinuatus*, *Hydrobius fuscipes*, *Limnoxenus niger*, *Anacaena bipustulata*, *Sphaeridium bipustulatum*, *S. marginatum*, *Cercyon haemorrhoidalis*, *C. quisquilius*, and *C. analis*.

For the next nine species, priority was established in earlier works by von Heyden (1870), Rottenberg (1874) and with the participation of Sharp (Sharp 1878; Bates & Sharp 1882). *Ochthebius bifoveolatus*, *Limnohydrobius convexus*, *Anacaena globulus*, *Enochrus nigrinus*, *Helochares lividus*, *Laccobius gracilis*, *L. revelieri*, *Berosus affinis*, and *Coelostoma hispanicum*.

These works, except that of von Heyden, were not analysed by Seabra and were not in his list of references. But von Heyden mentioned *Enochrus nigrinus* for Portugal before its description (Sharp 1878).

For the following 12 species noted by Seabra (1943), Oliveira's priority is not confirmed because of incorrect identifications: *Hydraena gracilis*, *Ochthebius dilatatus*, *Limnebius evanescens*, *L. furcatus*, *L. nitidus*, *L. sericans*, *Helophorus granularis*, *Laccobius scutellaris*, *Enochrus ochropterus*, *E. politus*, *Cercyon lateralis* and *C. ustulatus*.

Oliveira's collection contains 67 species of Hydrophiloidea and Hydraenidae, of which 33 species were identified correctly by him. It seems likely to assume that the specimens of *Enochrus nigrinus* were misidentified as *Philhydrus melanocephalus*. Oliveira's "*Berosus spinosus*" refers to either *B. fulvus* or *B. guttalis* (Shatrovskiy & Serrano 2025).

Two species from Oliveira's collection are recorded here for the first time in Portugal, *Hydrobius rottenbergii* and *Sphaeridium lunatum*, *Ochthebius nanus* having been rejected. *H. rottenbergii*, previously synonymised with *H. fuscipes*, was substantiated as a distinct species by Fossen (2014) and Fossen *et al.* (2016), confirmed genetically by Pentinsaari *et al.* (2014). Material on *Helophorus minutus* from Oliveira's collection supported the first record of this species in Portugal (Shatrovskiy & Angus 2024). Also of interest is the record of *Georissus substriatus* in Portugal and mention of it in Spain (Shatrovskiy 2025).

**Table 1** Checklist of beetles identified in Oliveira's collection and publications. **Species coloured yellow** were originally brought forward as Portuguese by Oliveira. Names here follow modern usage. The full data have been placed on [www.waterbeetles.info](http://www.waterbeetles.info)

## HELOPHORIDAE

*Helophorus alternans* Gené, 1837*H. aquaticus* (L., 1758)*H. flavipes* (Fab., 1792)*H. minutus* (Fab., 1775)*H. nubilus* (Fab., 1777)*H. occidentalis* Angus, 1983*H. porculus* Bedel, 1881*H. rufipes* (Bosc, 1791)*H. schmidtii* (Villa & Villa, 1839)*H. seidlitzii* Kuwert, 1885)

## GEORISSIDAE

*Georissus costatus* Laporte, 1840*G. crenulatus* (Rossi, 1798)*G. substriatus* Heer, 1841

## HYDROCHIDAE

*Hydrochus aljibensis* Castro & Delgado, 1999*H. angustatus* Germar, 1824*H. foveostriatus* Fairmaire, 1858

## HYDROPHILIDAE

*Berosus affinis* Brullé, 1835*B. signaticollis* (Charpentier, 1825)*Laccobius femoralis mulsanti* Zaitzev, 1908*L. gracilis* Motschulsky, 1855*L. revelieri* Perris, 1864*L. scutellaris* Motschulsky, 1855*L. sinuatus* Motschulsky, 1849*L. ytenensis* Sharp, 1910*Paracymus aeneus* (Germar, 1824)*P. scutellaris* (Rosenhauer, 1856)*Hydrobius fuscipes* (L., 1758)*H. rottenbergii* Gerhardt, 1872*Limnohydrobius convexus* (Brullé, 1835)*Limnoxenus niger* (Gmelin, 1790)*[Hydrophilus pistaceus* Laporte, 1840

- published only]

*Anacaena bipustulata* (Marsham 1802)*A. globulus* (Paykull, 1798)*Cymbiodyta marginella* (Fab. 1792)*Enochrus fuscipennis* (Thomson, 1884)*E. nigritus* (Sharp, 1872)*Helochares lividus* (Forster, 1771)*Coelostoma hispanicum* (Küster, 1848)*Dactylosternum abdominale* (Fab., 1792)*Cercyon analis* (Paykull, 1798)*C. haemorrhoidalis* (Fab., 1775)*C. nigriceps* (Marsham, 1802)*C. obsoletus* (Gyllenhal, 1808)*C. quisquilius* (L., 1760)*C. terminatus* (Marsham, 1802)*C. unipunctatus* (L., 1758)*Cryptopleurum minutum* (Fab., 1775)*Megasternum concinnum* (Marsham, 1802)*Sphaeridium bipustulatum* Fab., 1781*S. lunatum* Fab., 1792*S. marginatum* Fab., 1781*S. scarabaeoides* (L., 1758)

## HYDRAENIDAE

*Hydraena barrosi* d'Orchymont, 1934*H. lusitana* (Berthélemy, 1977)*H. testacea* Curtis, 1830*Limnebius gerhardti* von Heyden, 1869*L. nanus* Jäch, 1993*L. papposus* Mulsant, 1844*L. truncatellus* Thunberg, 1794*Ochthebius bifoveolatus* Waltl, 1835*O. dilatatus* Stephens, 1829*O. exaratus* Mulsant, 1844*O. heydeni* Kuwert, 1887*O. nanus* Stephens, 1829*O. viridis* (Peyron, 1858)

**Conclusions** The Catalogue of Beetles of Portugal compiled by Manuel Paulino de Oliveira (1882, 1883, 1893) listed 64 names of the Hydrophiloidea and Hydraenidae: 58 species and 6 infraspecific taxa. Eleven names in the catalogue were listed based on information from other authors and were not verified by specimens from the collection. Seabra (1943) justified Oliveira's priority in recording for Portugal 55 species, one species being missed by him. Thus, Oliveira for the first time indicated 24 species of Hydrophiloidea and Hydraenidae for Portugal. The remaining 32 species in Seabra's work could not be confirmed. The total number of redefined species in Oliveira's collection is 67, of which two species are recorded by authors for the first time in Portugal.

BALFOUR-BROWNE J 1979. Studies on the Hydraenidae (Coleoptera) of the Iberian Peninsula. *Ciência biológica (Ecology & Systematics)* **4** [1978] 53–107.

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- BARROS J M C 1913. Adições ao Catálogo dos Coleópteros de Portugal. *Brotéria série Zoológica* **11**105-118.
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- BARROS J M C 1927. Notas entomológicas. *Brotéria série Zoológica* **24** 141-143.
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- FOSSÉN E I 2014. *Species boundaries in northern European water scavenger beetles in the genus Hydrobius (Coleoptera: Hydrophilidae)*. Master's Thesis, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim.
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SHATROVSKIY A G 2025. *Georissus substriatus* Heer, 1841 in the Iberian Peninsula; rectification the records from Portugal. *The Kharkiv Entomological Society Gazette*. **33** 5-9.

SHATROVSKIY A G & ANGUS R B 2024. The first record of *Helophorus minutus* Fabricius, 1775 (Coleoptera, Helophoridae) for Portugal with some notes about *H. calpensis* Angus, 1988. *The Kharkiv Entomological Society Gazette* **32** 3-12.

SHATROVSKIY A & SERRANO A 2025. A new beetle species for the fauna of Portugal: *Berosus (Enoplurus) fulvus* Kuwert, 1888 (Coleoptera, Hydrophilidae). *Boletín de la Sociedad Entomológica Aragonesa (S.E.A.)* **76** 185-187.

TAVARES J S 1913. Rerum naturalium in Lusitania cultores, Dr. Emmanuel Paulinus d'Oliveira. *Brotéria série Zoológica* **11** 4-14.

The catalogue of de Oliveira's collection is available in the website

<https://waterbeetles.info/books-publications/>

Finalised November 2025

## PORTUGUESE AQUATIC SYSTEMS - THE FUTURE

This is a good example of horizon-scanning, taking in possibilities such as the impact of floating solar panels, of lithium mining and the great expansion of intensive olive production. Why worry about these when we have the immediacy of eucalyptus plantations, droughts caused by watering golfcourses and the impoundment of virtually all the rivers? And there are still plenty of gaps in our knowledge of the beetles!

SOUSA R + 17 others 2025. Scanning the horizon: anticipating future changes in Portuguese aquatic ecosystems. *Environmental and Sustainability Indicators* **28** 100876 pp. 13.

## WATER HYACINTH BIOCONTROL



This is an entertaining account of controlling water hyacinth in an urban lake in Argentina. The weevil *Nechetina bruchi* Hustache has been used in over thirty countries with varying degrees of success, and the experience of working in the El Ojo lake is recounted here. Weevil density peaked at 34 insects/m<sup>2</sup>, hyacinth coverage being brought down but allowing invasion by water lettuce, *Pistia stratiotes* L. A second biocontrol agent for the hyacinth, the planthopper *Megamelus scutellaris* Berg was released in 2019. Covid-19 prevented further work until 2022 when mechanical harvesting was needed again. In 2023 the lake dried up as a result of El Niña! The correspondent is Alejandro Sosa, who kindly arranged access to photographs by Ana Faltlhauser.

RIGHETTI T, FALTLHAUSER A C, JIMENEZ N L, GUALA M, CABRERA-WALSH G, GALLARDO A, AMARILLO S, SILVA J, BRUZZONE O A & SOSA A J 2025. Beyond conventional control: integrated and adaptive management of water hyacinth (*Pontederia crassipes* Mart. (Pontederiaceae)), a multiple stakeholders' approach. *Biocontrol Science and Technology* doi:10.1080/09583157.2025.2563734

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### **HYDROVATUS CUSPIDATUS IN GERMANY**

*H. cuspidatus* is recorded from north-east Bavaria for the first time, having first been found in south Bavaria in 1851. The opportunity is taken to discuss the invasion of Bavaria by ten other beetle species.

DETTNER K 2025. Erstnachweis des Gespitzten Schlammschwimmkäfers *Hydrovatus cuspidatus* (Kunze, 1818) in Nordostbayern und Oberfranken – ein Profiteur des Klimawandels. *Naturwissenschaftliche Gesellschaft Bayreuth* **31** 33-54.

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### **THEY DON'T WRITE THEM LIKE THAT ANYMORE**

Thomas John Bold (1816-1874) was a seedsman in Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Writing in 1853 from Angas' Court in the Bigg Market he made these observations on what he knew as *Hydroporus* species, including the first observation on the Soupspoon *Nebrioporus depressus* (Fab.) from Talkin Tarn.

"I take a strongly marked variety of this common insect in Talkin Tarn, Cumberland. At first sight they much resemble *H. 12-pustulatus*, being much larger and darker coloured than the specimens of *elegans* from running water. Some have the elytra wholly black, except a narrow yellow margin: others are more or less lineated with yellow; and scarcely any of them have the spotted characteristic of the species."

"*H. rufifrons*, Duftschm ..I have, at different times, taken about a dozen of this conspicuous species. It frequents deep pools, and when secured in the net, marches from amidst the debris with a slow and steady gait."

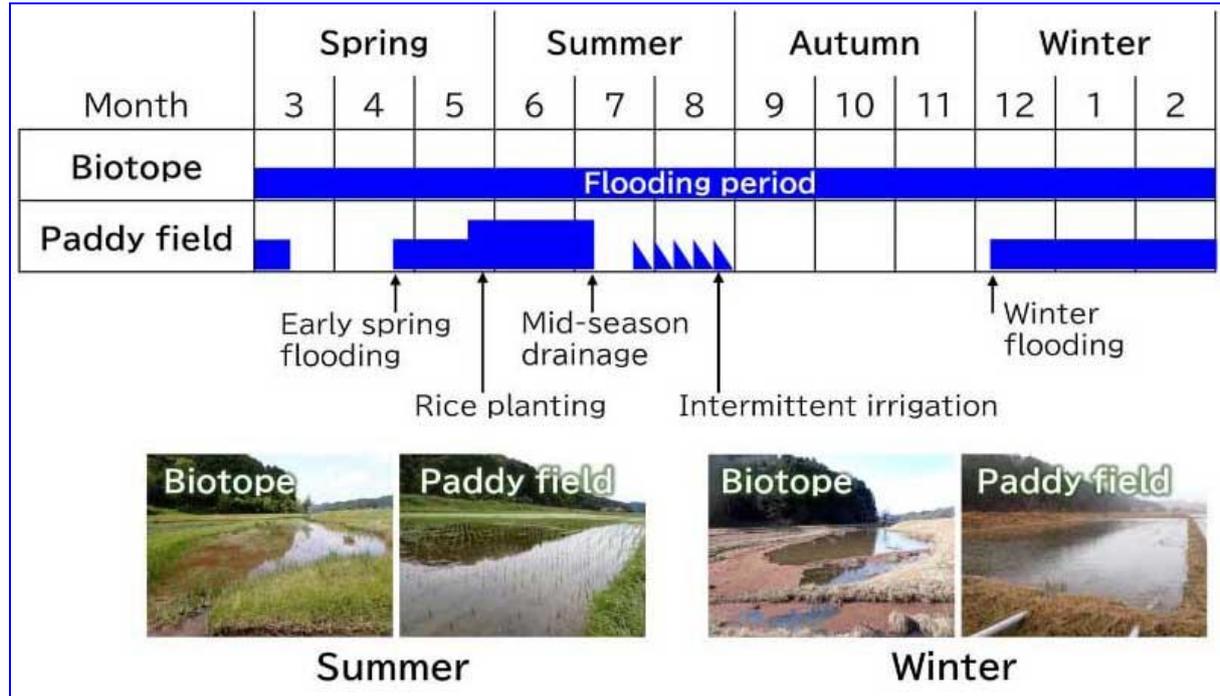
"*H. nigrita*, Fab.".....When broiling under an unclouded sun, on one of the wild Cumberland moors, my friend and I drew towards a spring, with the bibbing intentions of thirsty sportsmen; but our dogs having like propensities (though not so alcoholic), and a better local knowledge, getting there before us, soon rendered the water unfit for consumption. On trying my net, I found that the well was tenanted, almost exclusively by *H. nigrita*..."

Dave Shirt quoted the comment about the Talkin Tarn beetle in the introduction of his Ph.D. thesis.

BOLD T J 1869. Notes on certain British Hydropori recently brought forward by Dr. Sharp. *Entomologist's Monthly Magazine* **6** 161-162.

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### PADDY FIELDS FOR MORE THAN RICE



This work has been covered in *Latissimus* before but here there is a useful illustration of what the beetles are up against if they are to breed and overwinter. Fallow paddy fields, here termed biotopes are important for species with low mobility such as *Ilybius apicalis* Sharp whereas the paddy fields have a greater amount of potential prey for the larvae of Dytiscidae such as *Graphoderus adamsii* (Clark) and *Hydaticus bowringii* Clark.

WATANABE R, OHBA S-y, TAWA K & SAGAWA S 2025. The roles of fallow-field biotopes and winter-flooded paddy fields as breeding and overwintering sites for aquatic insects. *Insect Conservation & Diversity* DOI: 10.1111/icad.70030.

### SIERRA NEVADA DYNAMICS

This is another paper concerning four diving beetle species – *Agabus nevadensis* Sharp, *Boreonectes ibericus* (Dutton & Angus), *Hydroporus marginatus* (Duftschmid), *H. sabaudus sierranevadensis* Shaverdo - living in the ponds and lakes of the Sierra Nevada in Spain. Genomic analysis showed different levels of connectivity among the four species, with genetic fragmentation apparent at down to 4 km in one species and either no change or very subtle changes in structure at such scales in the other three. All of these species must fly to disperse and differences in flight capacity likely explain their relative ability to recolonise habitats subject to occasional desiccation. Species with higher wing loading – heavier relative to their wing size – showed greater levels of genetic divergence between populations. The genetic data suggest all species have been declining in abundance in this region since the last glaciation, as climate warmed and suitable habitats shrank. Genetic diversity within species was not correlated with species diversity in sites, suggesting that different factors affect these two aspects of mountain lake biodiversity.

ORTEGO J, FRANCO-FUENTES E, PALLARÉS S, CARBONELL J A, CABALLERO-FERNÁNDEZ D & ABELLÁN P 2025. Dispersal capacity rather than shared environmental constraints determines taxon-specific demographic dynamics in an Alpine lake network.

*Molecular Ecology* doi.org/10.1111/mec.7173

## INSIGHT INTO THE FRESHWATER BIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Catherine Duigan used the familiar image of Frank Balfour-Browne in her study of the founding figures, the facilities and finances of the Freshwater Biological Association in England. The following is extracted from the website entry.

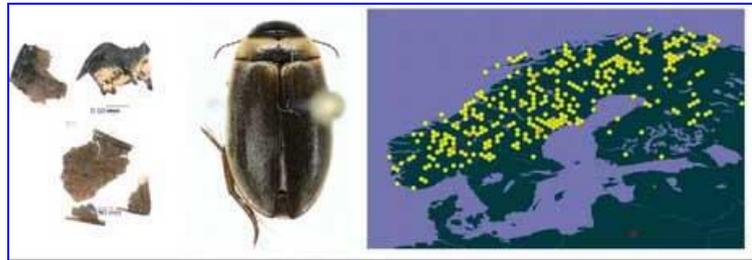
<https://www.fba.org.uk/articles/the-freshwater-biological-association-of-the-british-empire-a-colonial-story-of-ambition-and-changing-names>

“The documentation which accompanied the company registration application reveals some of the key individuals, organisations and resources supporting the FBA during its early years. Recently retired water beetle expert William (Frank) Balfour-Browne (1874–1967....was uniquely qualified to lead the application process on the FBA’s behalf, assembling the supporting evidence and communicating with solicitors. In 1896, he graduated from Oxford with a BA in botany but then went on to qualify as a barrister, returning to science in the late 1890s.”



## LATE GLACIAL LITHUANIA

Radiocarbon dating put three samples at between 15,000 and 11,300 years before present. The fauna has many cold-adapted species common in Late Glacial deposits elsewhere but truly arctic species are lacking.



Water beetles include *Gyrinus marinus* Gyllenhal, *G. substriatus* Stephens, *Hygrotus novemlineatus* (Stephens), *Hygrotus inaequalis* (Fab.), *Hydroporus angustatus* Sturm, *H. nigrita* (Fab.), *H. palustris* (L.), *H. rufifrons* (Müller), *Agabus arcticus* (Paykull), *A. sturmii* (Gyllenhal), *Ilybius fenestratus* (Fab.), *Hydrochus brevis* Herbst, *Helophorus minutus* Fab., *Hydrobius fuscipes* (L.), *Cercyon marinus* Thomson, *C. tristis* (Illiger), *Coelostoma orbiculare* (Fab.), *Ochthebius minimus* (Fab.), *Limnebius aluta* Bedel, *L. crinifer* Rey, *Dryops griseus* (Erichson), *Donacia aquatica* (L.), *D. cinerea* Herbst, *D. obscura* Gyllenhal, *Plateumaris sericea* (L.), *Bagous glabrirostris* (Herbst), *Tournotaris bimaculatus* (Fab.), and *Phytobius leucogaster* (Marsham). The four beetle species depicted that no longer occur in Lithuania include *A. arcticus*, Figure 6D reproduced here courtesy of Nick Schafstall.

SCHAFSTALL N, STANČIKAITĖ M, FERENCA R & ŠEIRIENĖ V 2025. First records of beetle fauna (Insecta: Coleoptera) from Late Glacial sediments of Lithuania: novel environmental reconstructions. *Diversity* **17** 820.

## FIRST AMBER WATER-PENNY

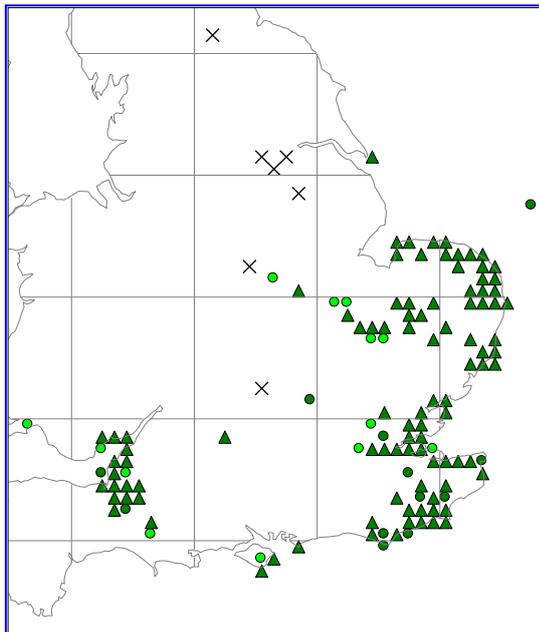
An unmistakable adult psephenid is described from amber found in the Kaliningrad area of the Baltic coast. It dates to the middle-late Eocene and is named *Macroebria groehni* for an amber specialist, Carsten Gröhn. A critical check-list is provided for the eleven species of Dryopoidea known from Baltic amber.

ALEKSEEV V & BUKEJS A 2025. The first water-penny beetle (Coleoptera: Psephenidae) in Baltic amber, with a list of Dryopoidea described from the mid-late Eocene European ambers. *Palaeoentomology* **8** 402-411.

**HYDROPHILUS PICEUS REACHES YORKSHIRE****Mike Denton & Martin Hammond**

A single *Hydrophilus piceus* L. found in a moth trap in the garden of Mark Andrews at Kilnsea, South-east Yorkshire (TA408159) on 20 September 2025 got the water beetle world buzzing. A photograph (right) taken by Mark of the beast was forwarded to Mike Denton due to his interest in the beetle fauna of the area and this was then sent to Martin Hammond and, subsequently, to Garth Foster.

*H. piceus* has never been recorded reliably as a living species in Yorkshire but has appeared occasionally as subfossil remains. A *Hydrophilus* sp. was recovered from Late Glacial sequences at Barmston in North Holderness (Allen 1980), while *H. piceus* has been identified from late-prehistoric peat deposits at Hatfield Moors (Whitehouse 2004), an Iron Age ditch at Sutton Common near Doncaster (Roper & Whitehouse 1997) and deposits at Stanwick near Richmond dated to ca. 50 AD (Kimmins 1954). Further material has been retrieved from post-medieval deposits at Shirley Pool, adjacent to the Sutton Common site (Dinnin 1991), suggesting that *H. piceus* may well have been a species of the region's wetlands prior to the major drainage efforts of the Enclosure era.



Post-glacial map of *Hydrophilus piceus*. Black triangles 2000 onwards; black circles 1980-1999 including the oil rig; × subfossils; green circles, the rest

**STOP PRESS – or almost.** Tim Sexton has drawn attention to two records for Rutland Water in vc55 in 2025, by Beth Fox and Joshua Kirk.

ALLEN J D 1980. Aspects of late-glacial environments in Northern England. Unpublished dissertation, University of Hull.

DINNIN M H 1991. The sub-fossil occurrence of the Greater Silver Water-beetle *Hydrophilus piceus* (L.) (Col.: Hydrophilidae) at Shirley Pool, South Yorkshire. *The Naturalist* **116** 57-59.

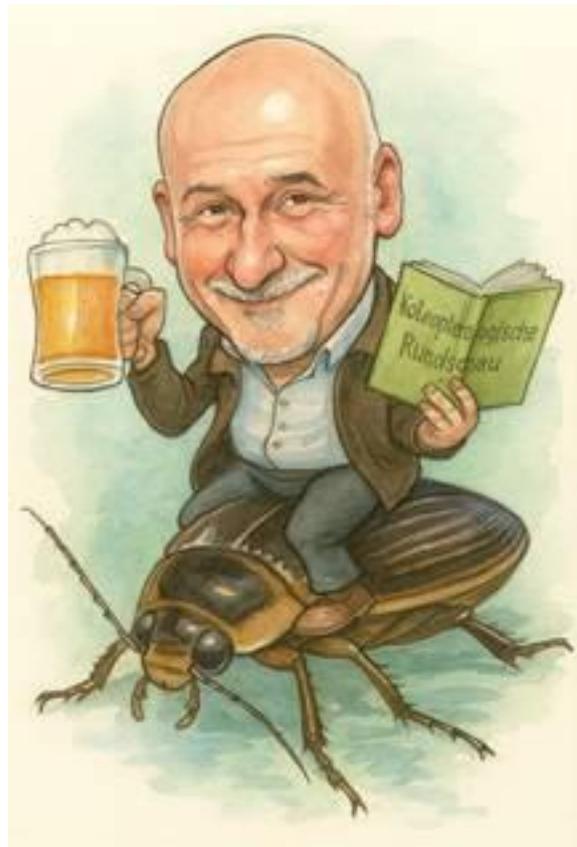
KIMMINS D E 1954. Coleoptera. In: R.E.M.

Wheeler (ed.) The Stanwick fortifications, North Riding of Yorkshire. *Reports of the Research Committee of the Society of Antiquaries of London* **17**.

ROPER T & WHITEHOUSE N 1997. Beetle remains. In: M. Parker Pearson & R.E. Sydes. Iron Age enclosures and prehistoric landscape of Sutton Common, South Yorkshire. *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society* **63** 238-245.

WHITEHOUSE N J 2004. Mire ontology, environmental and climatic change inferred from fossil beetle successions from Hatfield Moors, eastern England. *The Holocene* **14** 79-93.

Received November 2025



## KOLEOPTEROLOGISCHE RUNDSCHAU 95

Manfred rides again!

### ALLOPACHRIA & MICRODYTES

Seven species of *Allopachria* and *Microdytes* are newly described from Laos and China. *A. wangi* Wewalka & Nilsson is newly recorded from Guangdong, and there are other new records including *Microdytes* from two Indian states

WEWALKA G, JIANG Z & HÁJEK J 2025. New species and new records of *Allopachria* Zimmermann, 1924 and *Microdytes* Balfour-Browne, 1946 from China, India, Laos, and Vietnam (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae). *Koleopterologische Rundschau* **95** 13-34.

### HYDROVATUS IN ASIA

*Hydrovatus keralensis* is newly described from Kerala State, India. *H. maai* Biström is newly recorded from China, Thailand, and Vietnam, as well as from two provinces of Indonesia and one state in Malaysia.

WEWALKA G, BISTRÖM O & HÁJEK J 2025. A new species of *Hydrovatus* Motschulsky, 1853 from India, and new records of *H. maai* BISTRÖM, 1997 (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae). *Koleopterologische Rundschau* **95** 35-43

### MONGOLIAN DYTISCIDAE

Thirty-two species of Dytiscidae species are reported taken in north-western and central-southern Mongolia. *Agabus conspersus* (Marsham) is newly recorded and *Oreodytes alpinus* (Paykull) is confirmed as Mongolian. First province records of 13 species are presented. *Hygrotus chinensis* (Sharp) is not accepted as Mongolian.

ROLKE D, D. LKHAGVASUREN D & SHAVERDO H 2015. New faunistic data and notes on Mongolian diving beetles (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae). *Koleopterologische Rundschau* **95** 45-61

**ITALIAN HYDRAENA**

*Hydraena lombardica* is newly recorded from Italy in Lombardy and Piedmont as a member of the *Hydraena rufipes* group. It is closest to *H. andreinii* d'Orchymont, which it displaces north of the Po. The type locality of *andreinii* has been attributed to Arezzo Province in Tuscany in the original description but actually it lies in Perugia Province, Umbria. *H. andreinii* is newly recorded from the Piacenza and Rimini.

JÄCH M A & TOLEDO M E 2025. *Hydraena lombardica*, a new species from northern Italy (Coleoptera: Hydraenidae). *Koleopterologische Rundschau* **95** 63-82.

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**HANS MALICKY 1935–2025**

Professor Dr Hans Malicky died on 24 September 2025. He was a Trichopterist, his light trap often bringing in good beetles, some of which are named in his honour - *Scarodytes malickyi* Wewalka, 1977, *Hydraena malickyi* Jäch, 1989, *Ancyronyx malickyi* Jäch, 1994, *Graphelmis malickyi* Čiampor, 2005, *Schinosthetus malickyi* Lee, Jäch & Yang, 1998, *Sinopsephenoides malickyi* (Jäch & Jeng, 1995, *Elodes malickyi* (Klausnitzer, 1976), and *Mescirtes hansmalickyi* Klausnitzer, 2010.

JÄCH M A 2025. Nachruf. *Koleopterologische Rundschau* **95** 102.

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**AFROTROPICAL HETERO CERIDAE**

*Heterocerus haladai* is newly described from Tanzania. Nine other species are recorded from various Afrotropical countries for the first time.

SKALICKÝ S 2025. New species and new faunistic records of Heteroceridae from the Afrotropical Region (Coleoptera: Heteroceridae), *Koleopterologische Rundschau* **95** 135-142

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**TRIPLOID HELOPHORUS AQUILA**

An old microscope slide preparation revealed a dividing triploid nucleus from this Chinese species, now joining *H. brevipalpis* Bedel and *H. orientalis* Motschulsky as the *Helophorus* known to have a triploid form.

ANGUS R B & JIA F 2025. Triploidy in parthenogenetic Chinese *Helophorus aquila* Angus et al., 2014. *Comparative Cytogenetics* **19** 167-169.

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**MACROPLEA IN SWEDEN**

This concerns the occurrence in Nordmaling of all three *Macroplea* species – *M. appendiculata* (Panzer), *M. mutica* (Fab.) and *M. pubipennis* (Reuter).

NILSSON A N 2025. Strimbockar i Nordmalings skärgård (Chrysomelidae, *Macroplea*). *Skörvnöpparn* **17** 1-6.

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**ERETES GRISEUS IN FRANCE**

François Clément wishes to draw attention of the Balfour-Browne Club to the expanding range of *Eretes griseus* (Fab.). He has published papers in 2021 and 2023, and expects to publish another recording further northward expansion in 2024 north of the Massif Central into the department of Indre.

CLÉMENT F 2021. Le point sur la distribution ancienne et récente d'*Eretes griseus* (Fabricius, 1781) en France et dans sa périphérie. (Coleoptera, Dytiscidae, Dytiscinae). *Le Coléoptériste* **24** 148-166.

CLÉMENT F 2023. Mise à jour de la répartition d'*Eretes griseus* (Fabricius, 1781) en France et dans le nord de l'Espagne (Coleoptera, Dytiscidae, Dytiscinae). *Le Coléoptériste* **26** 30-40.

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## MULTIBARRELLED

These two papers are coupled if only because they became available on the same day and have similarly awesome arrays of authors. But there is more – both state the blindingly obvious, in one case that much of the world's freshwater fauna is on the verge of extinction the other that the fauna and flora of running waters are not safeguarded by formal protection systems. And further, these statements are backed up by mesmerising amounts of data. Unfortunately, another feature they share is that water beetles do not get a look-in, despite which these papers remain citable.

SAYER C A + 42 others. 2025. One-quarter of freshwater fauna threatened with extinction. *Nature* **638** 138–145.

SINCLAIR J S + 26 others. 2025. Current protected areas provide limited benefits for European river biodiversity. *Nature Communications* **16**11146.

## PERTSHIRE RECORDS

Historically, Perthshire is the fourth largest county in Scotland. For recording purposes it is split into three Watsonian vice-counties of which the east one has been poorly recorded in the past. This is a pity as “something is going on” with the fauna, but we don't have enough old data to be sure. This paper was occasioned by Callum Dunleavy's PhD work centred on the Bamff Estate where Paul Ramsay had pioneered the introduction of beavers. The area to the west of Bamff and south of the mountain massif has produced some interesting records, in particular *Dytiscus lapponicus* Gyllenhal. Possibly the weirdest site was at Dalmunzie in 2025. At 368 metres above sea level, its golf course was once claimed the highest in Scotland: the water hazard of the 6<sup>th</sup> hole yielded *Hydroporus longulus* Mulsant & Rey and *Agabus arcticus* (Paykull).

FOSTER G N & DUNLEAVY C 2025. Records of some water beetles and their allies in East Perthshire (VC89). *The Coleopterist* **34** 108-110.



## LOMBARDY WATER BEETLES

📖 CORNACCHIA P & SCAGLIONI G 2024.

Coleotteri della provincia di Mantova (Lombardia, Italia settentrionale). I. (Coleoptera: Adephaga, Polyphaga 1: Hydrophiloidea, Staphylinoidea, Scarabaeoidea, Scirtoidea, Buprestoidea, Byrrhoidea). *Monografie dell'Associazione Romana di Entomologia* **2** 642 pp.

Mario Toledo has recommended this work by

Paolo Cornacchia and Gianluca Scaglioni. Page 600 (right) gives you a flavour.



## MORE ON ROCKPOOL OCHTHEBIUS

In this genetic analysis of the three western Mediterranean species, *O. quadricollis* Mulsant, *O. lejolisii* Mulsant & Rey and *O. subinteger* Mulsant & Rey, it was accepted that geographic distance was more important in establishing connectivity than marine current, as originally theorised. The Ibiza Channel was shown to be a barrier to gene flow in *quadricollis*.

GARCÍA-MESEGUER A J, MUÑOZ I, ABELLÁN P, VILLASTRIGO A, MIRÓN-GATÓN J M, MILLÁN A & VELASCO J 2025. Gene pools in rockpools: coastal *Ochthebius* beetles across the western Mediterranean. *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society* **205** pp. 12.

**MIKE MORRIS 1934 – 2025**

Professor Mike G. Morris died in October. He was a weevil expert, particularly contributing four Royal Entomological Society Handbooks. Our data-base suggests that he generated only about 150 records of water beetles, but these included 85 for 26 species of wetland weevil including eleven *Bagous* species, quite an impact on our continually slender data-base in Britain and in Ireland. No doubt there will be a full appreciation of his life in due course. Thanks go to Max Barclay for circulating this image of Mike.



MORRIS M G 1997. *Broad-nosed weevils. Coleoptera: Curculionidae (Entiminae)*. Handbooks for the identification of British Insects **5 (17a)**. Royal Entomological Society of London.

MORRIS M G 2002. True weevils (Part I). Coleoptera: Curculionidae (Subfamilies Raymondionyminae to Smicronychinae). *Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects 5 (17b)*. London: Royal Entomological Society.

MORRIS M G 2008. True weevils (Part II) (Coleoptera: Curculionidae, Ceutorhynchinae). *Handbooks for the identification of British insects 5, Part 17c*. St. Albans: Royal Entomological Society.

MORRIS M G 2012. True Weevils (Part III) (Coleoptera: Curculioninae, Baridinae, Orobittidinae). *Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects 5 (17d)*. St Albans: Royal Entomological Society.

**RUTLAND REED BEETLES**

Rutland is the smallest county in England, combined for recording purposes with Leicestershire as vice-county 55. Much of it is now under water as one of the largest lakes in England. Seven species of *Donacia* are recorded from Rutland Water along with a review of other species found in vc 55.

SEXTON T J 2025. New records of Donaciinae (Chrysomelidae) from Rutland Water Nature Reserve and all known records from VC 55. *The Coleopterist 34* 100-104.

**AGABUS BRUNNEUS IN THE NEW FOREST**

The “brown diving beetle” was found at two of the usual sites in the New Forest in 2023, and the authors report a new site found in 2022.

DODD S G & DENTON J 2023. *Targeted survey and habitat assessment for the brown diving beetle (Agabus brunneus) at selected streams in the New Forest*. Forestry England: report for project 4060-A.

**CHAETARTHRIA, NOT STENUS**

There ought to be a newsletter dedicated to *Stenus* alone. Unfortunately *Latissimus* is not it so this paper gets an airing only for the first post-Millennial record of *Chaetarthria simillima* Vorst & Cuppen in North Devon, England.

LUFF M L & CUNNINGAM A 2025. *Stenus circularis* Gravenhorst and *S. solutus* Erichson. *The Coleopterist 34* 116-118.

**LINCOLNSHIRE LIGHT**

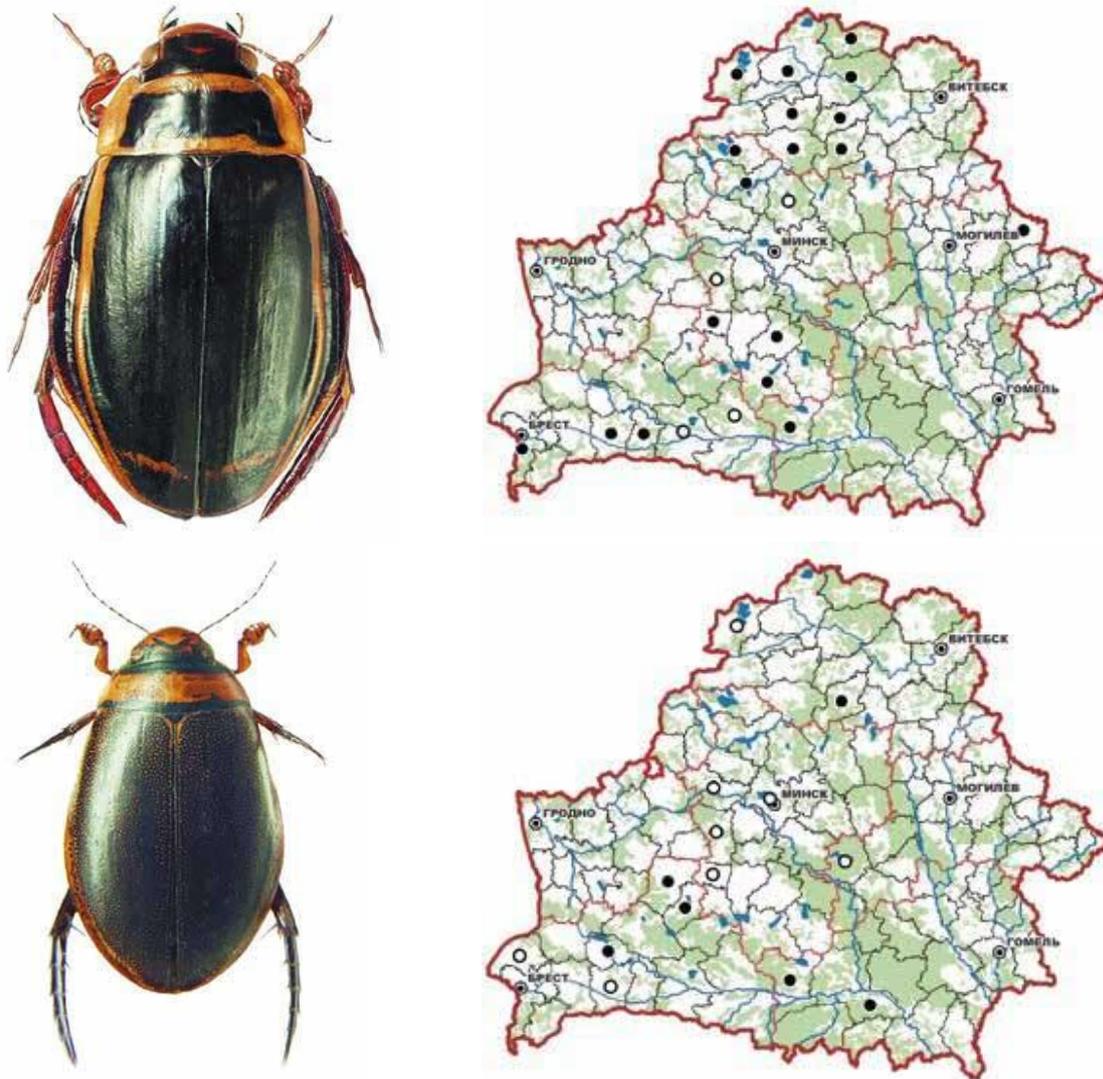
Nineteen species of water beetle were caught at light over rather more than the one day of the title.

BARNES C 2025. A night of unprecedented activity: light trapping for beetles in South Lincolnshire. *The Coleopterist 34* 111-115.

## BELARUS RED BOOK

📖 Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus 2025. *Rare and endangered species of wild animals*, 5th edition. National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, Minsk ISBN 978-985-01-1968-1

Paweł **Buczyński** has sent on a copy of the Fifth Edition of this Red Book, which includes our two almost traditional beetles.



## THURINGIAN MEETING

Saint-Rachelsberg nature reserve is mainly wooded and with rugged limestone hills. The Thuringian group included many entomological experts producing an enormous list of insects in 2025. Water beetles and their allies were scarce but with a few of some interest: *Halplus laminatus* (Schaller), *Megasternum immaculatum* (Stephens), *Hydrobius rothenbergii* Gerhardt, *Elodes pseudominutus* Klausnitzer, *Contacyphon ruficeps* (Tournier), *Limnius perrisi* (Dufour), *Heterocerus fuscus* Kiesenwetter, and *Plateumaris rustica* (Kunze).

KOPETZ A, KREBS D, MÜHLFEIT M & WEIGEL A 2025. Gemeinschaftsexkursion des Thüringer Entomologenverbandes e. V. (TEV) 2025 in das NSG "Stein-Rachelsberg" (Landkreis Eichsfeld). *Mitteilungen des Thüringer Entomologenverbandes e. V.* **32** 112-245.

## YORKSHIRE MESOLITHIC

The modern list for Seamer Carr in North-East Yorkshire is made up of quite ordinary pond species, more interesting ones indicative of naturally enriched fen being taken by the Reverend W.C. Hey in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century – *Agabus uliginosus* (L.), *A. unguicularis* (Thomson), *Graptodytes granularis* (L.), *Hydroporus rufifrons* (Müller), and *Laccornis oblongus* (Stephens). The beetles detected in the Mesolithic deposits reported here largely indicate acid fen and seepage – *Hydroporus gyllenhalii* Schiødte, *H. longicornis* (Sharp), *H. longulus* Mulsant & Rey, *H. melanarius* Sturm, and *Enochrus affinis* (Thunberg): *Cercyon granarius* Erichson is unexpected and unlikely. An earlier analysis of material from a landfill site at Seamer (Kenward & Large, 1997) included *Hydraena britteni* Joy, *Hydrochus brevis* (Herbst) and *Coelostoma orbiculare* (Fab.). Thanks to Martin Hammond for drawing attention to this paper.

KENWARD H & LARGE F 1997. Technical report. Insect remains from the Seamer Carr landfill site: ecological reconstruction of a Mesolithic shore. *Reports from the Environmental Archaeology Unit, York* 97/30.

PANAGIOTAKOPULU E, HADDON C & EAST S 2025, Chapter 18. Fossil insects from Seamer Carr. in P. Lane, T. Schadla-Hall & B. Taylor (eds). *Hunter-gatherers in the landscape: Surveys and excavations in the eastern Vale of Pickering, 1976-2000*. McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research Monograph, University of Cambridge, pp. 349-356. <https://doi.org/10.17863/CAM.119991>

## PASTORAL NEOLITHIC FRANCE

Beetle remains are used to indicate watery coastal grazing land from the Neolithic to Antiquity in Gironde. The main interest is in the dung beetle fauna of the Middle Neolithic, with some comparison of fragments and the modern beetles, but the following are also unequivocally recorded: *Gyrinus minutus* Fab., *G. substriatus* Stephens, *Agabus bipustulatus* (L.), *Ilybius ater* (De Geer), *Colymbetes fuscus* (L.), *Acilius canaliculatus* (Nicolai), *Hygrotus inaequalis* (Fab.), *Laccophilus hyalinus* (De Geer), *Helophorus alternans* Gené, *Hydrochus angustatus* Germar, *Georissus crenulatus* (Rossi), *Chaetarthria simillima* Vorst & Cuppen, *Cymbiodyta marginella* (Fab.), *Enochrus affinis* (Thunberg), *Berosus affinis* Brullé, *Hydrobius fuscipes* (L.), *Limnoxenus niger* (Gmelin), *Hydrochara caraboides* (L.), *Paracymus aeneus* Mulsant & Rey, *Coelostoma orbiculare* (Fab.), *Cercyon pygmaeus* (Illiger), *Megasternum concinnum* s. lato, *Ochthebius dilatatus* Stephens, *O. punctatus* Stephens, *Oulimnius rivularis* (Rosenhauer), *Pelochares versicolor* (Waltl), *Bothriopterus atomus* Mulsant & Rey, *Donacia marginata* Hoppe, and *Bagous tubulus* Caldara & O'Brien.

RICHELMI L, HUCHET J-B, SANTOS F & VERDIN F 2025. Rolling through time: scarab remains reveal 4,000 years of coastal pastoralism and biodiversity dynamics in western France. *Journal of Archaeological Science* doi.org/10.1016/j.jas.2025.106442

## SULAWESI RHANTUS NEAR SRI LANKA

*Rhantus procul* is described from 2000 metres above sea level in Sulawesi, and found to be most similar to *R. interclusus* (Walker) which is endemic to highlands in Sri Lanka. The only other *Rhantus* on Sulawesi is the Supertramp *R. suturalis* (MacLeay) with nine species overall in Indonesia. Michael Balke is the correspondent.

NARAKUSUMO R P, FAHRI F, HENDRICH L & BALKE M 2026. *Rhantus procul* sp. nov., a new diving beetle from Central Sulawesi – sister to a species from Sri Lanka (Coleoptera, Dytiscidae, Colymbetinae). *Alpine Entomology* 10 19–24

### ARGENTINIAN WETLAND DIVERSITY

This is a highly illustrated celebration of the Hydradephaga of the Iberá wetlands, a natural reserve in the province of Corrientes, Argentina. Eighty taxa were recognised. Five are new for Argentina: *Haliplus nieseri* van Vondel & Spangler, *Copelatus* cf. *inornatus* Sharp, *Bidessodes* cf. *evanidus* Young, *Neobidessus trilineatus* (Zimmermann), and *Suphisellus* cf. *pereirai* Guignot. The correspondent is Patricia Torres.

URCOLA M R, URCOLA J I, MICHAT M C & TORRES P L M 2025. The Hydradephaga (Coleoptera, Dytiscidae, Gyrinidae, Haliplidae, Noteridae) of the Iberá wetlands, the second largest wetland area of South America. *ZooKeys* **1259** 287-307.

### CLYPEODYTES NICOLAI

This species is dedicated to Nicolai Wendlandt, father of Leopold. It is the first *Clypeodytes* to be known from the Philippines. It was found in 2001 in puddles on limestone rock in the Cabaguan River floodplain of Palawan Island in association with *Hydaticus confusus* Boheman and an abundance of *Hydraena palawensis* Freitag & Jäch.

HENDRICH L, FREITAG H, BALKE M & WENDLANDT L 2026. A new species of *Clypeodytes* Régimbart, 1894 from Palawan, Philippines (Coleoptera, Dytiscidae, Bidessini). *Zootaxa* **5741** 173–180

### TUCHOLA FOREST IN POLAND

📖 PAKULNICKA J 2025. Chapter 10, pp 229-251 in Jacek Wendzonka, Jerzy Błoszyk & Karolina Lubińska (eds) 2025. *Przyroda ożywiona Parku Narodowego „Bory Tucholskie” Część II – zwierzęta bezkręgowce* [Living nature in the “Bory Tucholskie” National Park, Part II – invertebrate animals]. Bogucki Wydawnictwo Naukowe, ul. Górna Wilda 90, 61-576 Poznań [www.bogucki.com.pl](http://www.bogucki.com.pl)

The Tuchola Forest National Park is a coniferous forest in Pomerania. Joanna Pakulnicka lists 78 species of water beetle occurring there, including the “topień”, *Cybister lateralimarginalis* (De Geer), illustrated here by Marek Przewozny, *Agabus undulatus* (Schrank), *Dytiscus lapponicus* Gyllenhal, *Graphoderus bilineatus* (De Geer), *Hydroporus scalesianus* (Stephens), and *Rhantus latitans* Sharp.



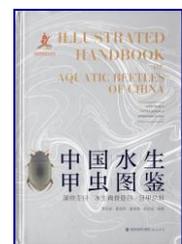
### CORRECTIONS & COMMENTS

#### CHINESE CHARACTERS

Manfred Jäch has noted that the citation of the book on the water beetles of China in *Latissimus* **59** 1 was wrong, not really surprising when it seems that, all bar the cover was, against the authors' advice, entirely in Chinese (and Latin of course). Apologies to Fenglong Jia's coauthors for the faults in all of their names. The citation in Manfred's review includes noticing that *Graphoderus austriacus* (Sturm) is new for China.

JIA F, MAI Z, JIANG Z & LIANG Z 2024. *Illustrated handbook of aquatic beetles of China. Myxophaga Hydradephaga Hydrophiloidea*. Fuzhou: The Straights Publishing House, 28 + 316 pp.

JÄCH M A 2025. Buchsprechung. *Koleopterologische Rundschau* **95** 88.



**MAGNUS SINCLAIR'S IMPROVED PUBLICATIONS LIST**

David Hutchins has noted some omissions from Magnus Sinclair's bibliography, as produced in **Latissimus 60** in August 2025. Here is an update, with additions in blue.

Foster G N & Sinclair M 1982. Some wetland Coleoptera from Lurgie Loch Moss, Berwickshire, including *Dryops anglicanus* Edwards new to Scotland. *Entomologist's Gazette* **33** 41-42.

Foster G N & Sinclair M 1990. Aquatic Coleoptera on Little Cumbrae Island. *Glasgow Naturalist* **21** 615-517.

Lyszkowski R M, Owen J A & Sinclair M 1994. *Dyschirius angustatus* (Ahrens) (Carabidae) in Scotland and northern England. *The Coleopterist* **3** 22.

Owen J A & Sinclair M 1991. Two modern records of *Carpelimus schneideri* (Ganglbauer) (Col., Staphylinidae). *Entomologist's Monthly Magazine* **127** 144.

Sinclair M 1976. *Laccornis oblongus* (Stephens) (Col., Dytiscidae) in four Border counties. *Entomologist's Monthly Magazine* **111** 82.

Sinclair M 1976. *Hydroporus glabriusculus* Aubé (Col., Dytiscidae) new to the British Isles. *Entomologist's Monthly Magazine* **111** 117-121.

Sinclair M 1976. A day's collecting in Surrey. *Balfour-Browne Club Newsletter* **1** 3-5.

Sinclair M 1976. *Hydroporus longicornis* Sharp in Mid-west Yorkshire. *Balfour-Browne Club Newsletter* **1** 7-8.

Sinclair M 1977. The water beetles of the Malham Tarn area, Yorkshire. *Balfour-Browne Club Newsletter* **3** 4-8.

Sinclair M 1982. Freshwater invertebrates recorders' meeting. *Balfour-Browne Club Newsletter* **25** 5-6.

Sinclair M 1983. Some Scottish records of *Stenus nitens* Stephens (Col., Staphylinidae). *Entomologist's Monthly Magazine* **119** 220.

Sinclair M 1984. Water beetles in Orkney, 1982. *Balfour-Browne Club Newsletter* **29** 7-9.

Sinclair M 1985. *Coeliodes nigratarsis* Hartmann (Col., Curculionidae) in S.-W. Scotland. *Entomologist's Monthly Magazine* **121** 61.

Sinclair M 1987. A check-list of the aquatic Coleoptera of the vice-counties of Selkirk (79) and Roxburgh (80). *Scottish Naturalist* **1987** 33-45.

Sinclair M 1988. Coleoptera. *Orkney Field Club Bulletin* **1** (1988) 31.

Sinclair M 1988. Some species of Coleoptera not previously recorded from the vice-counties Berwick (vc 81) and Selkirk (vc 79). *History of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club* **44** 108-111.

Sinclair M 1989. Two Coleoptera (Lathridiidae, Derodontidae) records from Roxburghshire (VC 80), Scotland. *Entomologist's Monthly Magazine* **125** 198.

Sinclair M 1991. Records from a Scottish moss. *Balfour-Browne Club Newsletter* **49** 11.

Sinclair M 1991. Two beetles (Staphylinidae) from Islay (vc 102). *Glasgow Naturalist* **22** 87-88.

Sinclair M 1992. *Atheta* (A.) *heymesii* Hubenthal (Staphylinidae) in Ayrshire. *The Coleopterist* **1** 2.

Sinclair M 1992. On the tibial band character of *Phytobius quadrituberculatus* (Fabricius) (Curculionidae). *The Coleopterist* **1** 22.

Sinclair M 1993. A record of *Elodes pseudominuta* Klausnitzer (Scirtidae) in southern Scotland. *The Coleopterist* **2** 41.

Sinclair M 1993. Initiative for Scottish Insects - Coleoptera Section. *The Coleopterist* **2** 37-40.

Sinclair M 1994. Some post-1970 Scottish records of *Aclypea opaca* (L.) (Silphidae). *The Coleopterist* **2** 81.

Sinclair M 1996. *Calathus cinctus* Motschulsky (Carabidae) in south-east Scotland. *The Coleopterist* **5** 18.

Sinclair M 1997. Initiatives for Scottish insects - Coleoptera: corrigenda. *The Coleopterist* **5** 83-84.

Sinclair M 1997. *Furcipes rectirostris* (Linnaeus) (Curculionidae) in southern Scotland. *The Coleopterist* **6** 90.

Sinclair M 1997. Some minor Scottish beetle swarms. *The Coleopterist* **6** 75.

Sinclair M 1997. A few recent Scottish records. *The Coleopterist* **6** 100-101.

Sinclair M 1997. Some additions and corrections to the list of Orkney. *The Coleopterist* **6** 104-105.

Sinclair M 1998. *Gabrius piliger* Mulsant & Rey (Staphylinidae) in Scotland. *The Coleopterist* **7** 26.

Sinclair M 2000. *Epiphanis cornutus* Eschscholtz (Eucnemidae) in East Lothian (VC 82). *The Coleopterist* **9** 64.

Sinclair M 2003. *Stenus fossulatus* Erichson (Staphylinidae) in Scotland. *The Coleopterist* **12** 39.

Sinclair M 2004. Scottish record of *Dorytomus filirostris* (Gyllenhal) (Curculionidae). *The Coleopterist* **13** 30.

Sinclair M 2009. *Lilioceris lillii* (Scopoli) (Chrysomelidae) in the Scottish Borders. *The Coleopterist* **18** 157.

Sinclair M 2013. *Mecinus pascuorum* (Gyllenhal) (Curculionidae) in East Lothian. *The Coleopterist* **22** 24.

Sinclair M & Hutchins D 2009. *Aphthona pallida* (Bach, 1856) (Chrysomelidae) is a British species. *The Coleopterist* **18** 155-157.

Sinclair M & Owen J A 1998. *Schistoglossa aubei* (Brisout, 1860) (Staphylinidae) in Roxburghshire (VC 80), with notes on the species in Britain. *The Coleopterist* **7** 77-79.

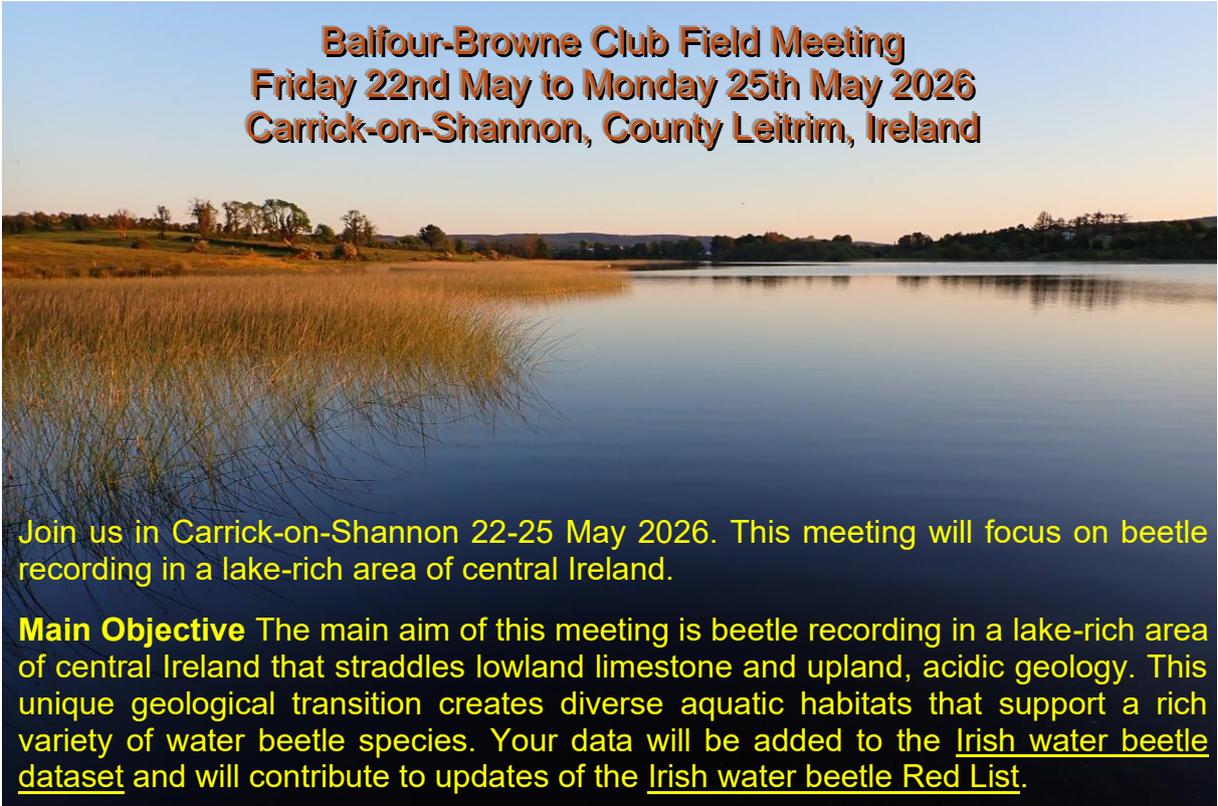
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### WHAT'S IN A NAME?

An enquiry from Mészáros Ádám suggests that he may have spotted some duplication of common names. He was asking why it had been proposed that *Hydroporus glabriusculus* Aubé be named The Three Bs Beetles (**Latissimus 24** 12, etc). This was on the basis of its British distribution, in the **B**orders, the **B**recks and the **B**roads, considered better than “Little Baldy”, but not helpful when including it in the Irish fauna (Foster *et al.* 2008). Then, of course, came The Magnus (**Latissimus 60** 18).

Anon. 2008. More on Common Names. **Latissimus 24** 12.

FOSTER G N, NELSON B H & O CONNOR A, 2008. *Ireland Red List No. 1. Water Beetles*. National Parks & Wildlife, Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government, Dublin.



### Balfour-Browne Club Field Meeting Friday 22nd May to Monday 25th May 2026 Carrick-on-Shannon, County Leitrim, Ireland

Join us in Carrick-on-Shannon 22-25 May 2026. This meeting will focus on beetle recording in a lake-rich area of central Ireland.

**Main Objective** The main aim of this meeting is beetle recording in a lake-rich area of central Ireland that straddles lowland limestone and upland, acidic geology. This unique geological transition creates diverse aquatic habitats that support a rich variety of water beetle species. Your data will be added to the [Irish water beetle dataset](#) and will contribute to updates of the [Irish water beetle Red List](#).

**Location & Accommodation** Carrick-on-Shannon sits strategically on Ireland's longest river, the Shannon, in the heart of County Leitrim's distinctive drumlin landscape. For information on the town and accommodation options, please visit: [Visit Carrick-on-Shannon](#). The location is about 2 hours north-west of Dublin Airport and 2½ hours from Belfast, with regular train services from Dublin and comprehensive coach network connections making it easily accessible for all participants.

The meeting location has been carefully selected for its remarkable variety of aquatic beetle habitats, many of which remain largely unexplored from a water beetle perspective.

**Drumlin belt wetlands** Carrick-on-Shannon lies in the middle of the drumlin belt that runs east to west across this part of Ireland. These small hills of glacial material create a distinctive landscape where the hollows between the drumlins typically contain small lakes or wetlands that have barely been studied for their water beetle

fauna. Beetles recorded near to Carrick include *Haliphus variegatus* (Sturm), *Dytiscus circumcinctus* Ahrens and *Bagous lutosus* (Gyllenhal).

**Turloughs and Limestone Lakes** The area features fascinating turloughs, seasonal lakes on limestone, alongside large limestone lakes such as Lough Gara and Lough Arrow, which are particularly rich in *Donacia* species. These habitats offer excellent opportunities for both research and field study.

**Upland Opportunities** A challenge is that the surrounding uplands should support species like *Boreonectes multineatus* (Falkenström) and *Agabus arcticus* (Paykull) neither of which currently appears on the species list for County Leitrim - presenting this and other exciting possibilities for new county records.

**Research and Conservation Impact** This meeting offers opportunities for both experienced researchers and newcomers to the field. The diverse range of habitats means participants can expect to encounter a wide variety of species and ecological situations. The relatively unstudied nature of many local water bodies presents genuine opportunities for significant discoveries and contributions to our understanding of Irish aquatic beetle distribution and ecology. All records collected will contribute to national biodiversity monitoring and conservation efforts.

**What to do now** Simply tell Brian Nelson ([bensentomologybrian@gmail.com](mailto:bensentomologybrian@gmail.com)) of your interest in attending, your most likely way of getting there and where you intend to stay. We will need your mobile telephone number for sharing with other participants as we shall try to share travel to field sites.

**Club Dinner** Saturday 23rd May location to be announced.

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