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WORLD HALIPLIDAE

Cover photograph: Bernhard van Vondel has produced *Adult Haliplidae of the World* in Brill's World Catalogue, Volume **18**. See page 30. By way of celebration our cover shows the Nearctic *Peltodytes* (*Neopeltodytes*) *roughleyi*, described by Bernhard (2021. Revision of the Nearctic Haliplidae (Coleoptera). *Tijdschrift voor Entomologie* **163** 101-298). This species is unique among Haliplidae in having a sharp tubercle in the middle of each elytron. Image courtesy of Bernhard.



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DO BERMS IMPROVE WATER BEETLE HABITAT IN FENLAND DRAINS?

Martin Hammond

Ditches are one of the most important wildlife habitats of the Fenland region of eastern England. This is a drained wetland landscape in which productive farmland is maintained by complex systems of water management, both for the avoidance of flooding and to retain water for irrigating crops in summer. Consequently, drains are ubiquitous. Steep-sided ditches with trapezoidal cross-sections, usually maintained by Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs), are particularly characteristic landscape features.

Collectively, these IDB drains are a rich wildlife resource. Where inputs of groundwater from gravel aquifers maintain water quality, the aquatic flora can be diverse while fish include the rare Spined Loach *Cobitis taenia* L. Wetland songbirds use emergent vegetation and, most importantly of course, aquatic Coleoptera feature prominently amongst the invertebrate fauna. Recent surveys of 280 agricultural drains in the Fens recorded 131 water beetle species, including 1 listed as Vulnerable in Great Britain (the reed beetle *Donacia dentata* Hoppe) and 5 categorised as Near Threatened (Hammond & Graham 2022 & unpublished data). Several water beetles have strongholds in Fenland drains including *Hydaticus transversalis* (Pontoppidan), *Agabus undulatus* (Schrank), *Hydrochus crenatus* (Fab.), *Berosus luridus* (L.), *Oulimnius major* (Rey) and *O. rivularis* (Rosenhauer).

Initial surveys of plants and water beetles (Graham & Hammond 2015) indicated that ditch width was positively correlated with ecological quality but that the marginal fringe, so important for wetland invertebrates, was often extremely restricted due to the severe profile of the drains.

One possible solution would be to create berms – shelves cut into the drain bank just below summer water level (which is relatively predictable because of the management of water levels). Given a stable slope, this could be an opportunity to extend marginal habitat without any loss of farmland and without impeding drainage functionality.

New Life on the Old West (NLOW) is a project funded by the Heritage Lottery with the aim of improving habitats in the Old West River catchment. In 2022-2023 a number of berms were included in a series of watercourse enhancements.

<https://www.newlifeoldwest.org.uk/>

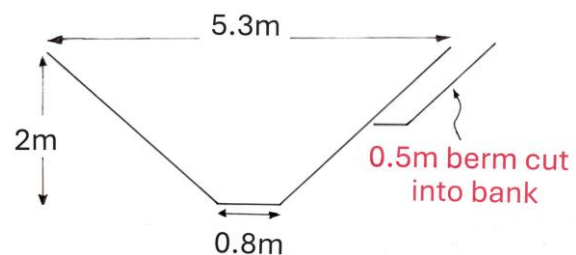


Fig 1 Specification for a berm proposed by the project *New Life on the Old West*

Results

I was commissioned to monitor water beetles at 4 sites in June 2025, all of which had been surveyed pre-intervention using the same methods. The results were probably influenced by improved accessibility, but remarkable nonetheless. Table 1 shows results expressed as three metrics: Number of Species (NoS), Species Quality Index (SQI) and Species Quality Score (SQS) (adapted from Foster & Eyre 1992); SQI is the mean of individual species scores based on regional status while SQS is the sum of individual scores. Pre-intervention (2021) data are shaded, post-intervention (2025) are not. At Smithey Fen Engine Drain, berms were constructed at either side of the original sampling point, so the 2021 results have been taken as the baseline for both.

Site	Grid reference	NoS	SQI	SQS
Queenholme	TL4371	5	1.2	6
Queenholme	TL4371	22	3.32	73
Smithey Fen Engine Drain (I)	TL4470	4	1	4
Smithey Fen Engine Drain (I)	TL4470	12	2.92	35
Smithey Fen Engine Drain (II)	TL4470	4	1	4
Smithey Fen Engine Drain (II)	TL4470	16	4.19	67
New Cut, Willow Grange Farm	TL4970	13	2.08	27
New Cut, Willow Grange Farm	TL4970	14	2.64	37

At Queenholme and Smithey Fen Engine Drain the results show a striking improvement in all metrics. These sites produced very mediocre baseline scores but are now outstanding. For SQS, the Queenholme berm site is the third highest scoring of 299 sites for which comparable data is available (jointly with 2 other sites) while Smithey Fen Engine Drain (II) is eighth. In other words, these can now be considered among the best drains in the farmed landscape of the Fens for water beetles.* No interventions to improve water quality have taken place, so these results likely reflect improved habitat structure alone.

At Smithey Fen Engine Drain (I), results were impressive though not as remarkable as at the second site nearby. This is likely because this berm had become densely overgrown by Common Reed *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) whereas the other retained patchy vegetation structure including small areas of exposed clay. This suggests ongoing vegetation management would be beneficial on a rotational basis.

At Willow Grange Farm, work left an embayment scooped out of the drain bank rather than a berm. This created a more extensive area of shallow water but the results here suggested only a modest improvement in the quality of the water beetle assemblage.

The increases in metrics observed at the berm creation sites reflect better representation of scarce species as well as an improvement in overall assemblage quality. All four sites produced the Near Threatened *Agabus undulatus* while *Hydrochus crenatus* was collected from two; Smithey Fen Engine Drain (II) also yielded two Nationally Scarce species, *Scarodytes halensis* (Fab.) and *Enochrus quadripunctatus* (Herbst).

While this is a small sample, the results suggest that creating berms just below summer water level can result in substantial increases in the conservation quality of the water beetle assemblage in Fenland drains without sacrificing agricultural land or compromising water management. Although aquatic Coleoptera may not be a direct proxy for other aquatic biota, the increase in water margin habitat is very likely to benefit a wider range of taxa.

*These sites surpassed 19 ditches on National Nature Reserves in terms of SQS but the dataset does not include comparable data for internal drains at Wicken Fen, which would score higher



Fig 2 The berm site at Queenholme Drain

FOSTER G N & EYRE M D 1992. *Classification and ranking of water beetle communities*. Joint Nature Conservation Committee: Peterborough.

GRAHAM J & HAMMOND M 2015. Investigating ditch biodiversity and management practises in the arable landscape of the Ouse Washes Landscape Partnership Area: a survey of vegetation and aquatic Coleoptera. Report to Cambridgeshire ACRE.

HAMMOND M & GRAHAM J 2022. Water beetles of drainage ditches in the Cambridgeshire Fens. *Nature in Cambridgeshire* **64** 58-63.

Originally received October 2025

SUPHISELLUS IN ARGENTINA

This paper is dedicated to Luis E. Grosso (1942-2025), a pioneer in the study of Noteridae. Unfortunately his 1979 PhD thesis was never formally published so his description of *S. cucuminoi* as a new species was invalid, rectified here. It is unusually small at 1.6 mm long and is most similar to *S. hieroglyphicus* Zimmermann.

URCOLA J I, FERY H & MICHAT M C 2026. A new minute species of *Suphisellus* Crotch, 1873 (Coleoptera: Noteridae) from South America, with new records and notes on other species of the genus. *Zootaxa* **5748** 561-574.

HELOCHARES PUNCTATUS IN THURINGIA

H. punctatus is newly recorded from Thuringia near Blankenhain along with eleven other species including *Hydraena melas* Dalla Torre and *Limnebius crinifer* Rey.

BELLSTEDT R 2025. Nachweise des Wasserkäfers *Helochares punctatus* (Sharp, 1869) (Insecta, Coleoptera: Hydrophilidae) in Thüringen. *Thüringer Faunistische Abhandlungen* **30** 231-232.

OBITUARY: FERNANDO PEDERZANI 1938-2026**Saverio Rocchi, Antonio Schizzerotto & Mario Toledo**

On April 25th in Ravenna, Fernando "Nando" Pederzani, one of the most prominent Italian entomologists, passed away at the age of 88. He was born in Chieti on 28 June 1938. He graduated in industrial engineering at Bologna University in the early sixties and worked in Ravenna as a plant manager for ENI, the Italian petroleum company. However, water beetles, particularly Dytiscidae, and their systematics had been his main interest throughout his life.



Photograph 1 From left to right: Armando Bilardo, Antonio Schizzerotto, Saverio Rocchi and Fernando Pederzani

Nando started to collect and study diving beetles from when he was at the classical high school in Rovereto in Northern Italy and continued to do so for about sixty years. Nando was part of the "historical nucleus" of Italian aquatic beetle scholars who significantly improved the knowledge of these insects in Italy since the late fifties. He began to work alongside people such as Fernando Angelini, Giovanni Binaghi, Aldo Chiesa, Cesare Conci, Alessandro Focarile, Nino Sanfilippo, Livio Tamanini, and Mario Franciscolo. He used frequently and fondly to remember most of them to friends and colleagues who became close to him thereafter (Armando Bilardo, Antonio Schizzerotto, Saverio Rocchi, and, more recently, Paolo Mazzoldi, Mario Toledo and Vincenzo Volpe). In addition to the network of Italian colleagues and friends, he maintained systematic and intense relationships with foreign colleagues such as Robert Angus, Michael Balke, Hans Fery, Garth Foster, Heinz Freude,

Kazimierz Galewski, Lars Hendrich, Mircea-Alexandru Ieniştea, Hans Schaefflein, Edward Tranda, Chris Watts, and Günther Wewalka.

Alone or in company with colleagues and friends, he carried out several surveys on the Dytiscidae fauna of Italy (Alps, Dolomites, Apennines, Trentino, Lombardy, Emilia-Romagna, Tuscany, Umbria, Lazio, Sicily, Sardinia) and several other European (Austria, Croatia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Slovenia, Spain), Asian (Lebanon), African (Algeria, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Morocco, Madagascar, Zambia), and Australian (Australia) countries.

Many of the surveys conducted in Italy were organised by him with the aim of making up a cohesive and cooperative community of people interested in Dytiscidae. He referred to these meetings as “Dytisco-gatherings”. According to their goal, they were a combination of serious field collecting with blissful and light-hearted events, arranged around good food and even better wines. Quite obviously, besides the Italian “Dytisco-gatherings”, Nando used to take part also in the Balfour-Browne Club meetings.

Following his constant purpose of making up cohesive entomological communities, he was one of the promoters and founders of the Società per gli Studi Naturalistici della Romagna (SSNR) and acted, up to his death, as the editor of the *Quaderno di studi e notizie di storia naturale della Romagna*, the journal of SSNR.

The species collected during his surveys, together with others received by Italian and foreign colleagues, allowed him to create an impressive collection. It is made up of 250 entomological boxes, 225 of which are devoted to Dytiscidae, while the remainder are filled with Gyrinidae, Hygrobiidae, Haliplidae and Noteridae. The 250 boxes contain 2,109 species and around 80,000 specimens. In 2023, the collection was donated to the Ferrara Museum of Natural History, where it is currently kept.

Besides the entomological collection, he created an even more impressive bibliographical archive containing most of the papers about Dytiscidae and other families of adepagan water beetles published between the end of nineteenth century and the first decades of the twenty-first century. He was always ready to send copies of them, even scanning those not already digitalised or available in pdf, to any colleague who requested one or more of them. Because his wide collection, his big bibliographical resources and his even more large scientific competencies, Nando was a very important reference figure for several generations of entomologists who approached the study of aquatic beetles, and he did not fail to friendly and generously help the very young ones until shortly before his death.

Including those co-authored, he described 48 new species of Dytiscidae (including a pair that have been synonymised) and wrote 65 papers on them. One of the most interesting was a key to the genera of Dytiscidae and Noteridae of the world, still very useful and mentioned in several publications.

From an analytical perspective, he was not confident with cladistic and genomic approaches and preferred to rely on morphological systematics. In using it, he was very accurate, cautious, and thoughtful. So much so that his collection includes many specimens, mainly those of the genus *Copelatus* Erichson, 1832, left unidentified and labelled “*Copelatus* n.sp.?”.

Moreover, he was very concerned with nomenclatural stability. He did not appreciate synonymising the genus *Guignotus* Houlbert, 1934 with the genus *Hydroglyphus* Motschulsky, 1853, and even less so the substitution of the genus *Potamonectes* Zimmerman, 1917 with the genus *Nebrioporus* Régimbart, 1906. Nor was he inclined peacefully to accept the nomenclatural changes introduced in the tribe Hygrotini by Hans Fery (2017). This approach did not impede Fernando from

being – as said – a very competent scholar of Dytiscidae and other water beetles. His entomological expertise was widely acknowledged and the scientific prestige he enjoyed is clearly demonstrated by the 12 new species (11 Dytiscidae and 1 Noteridae) named after him.

Moreover, he was also a very cultivated man, interested in historical studies and symphonic music, particularly the baroque. Even more importantly, he was friendly and helpful to everybody. In sum, his death is a real loss for entomology, researchers on Dytiscidae and water beetles, his friends, and, above all, his wife, Teresa, his son, Giovanni, and his daughter, Annalisa, to whom we send our sincere condolences.

We end with some visual memories, three photographs of Fernando Pederzani taken, respectively, at the autumn 2011 edition of the biannual Entomodena, i.e. the Modena insect Bursa, (Photograph 1), and at the June 2018 international meeting – the last one he was able to attend - arranged by Mario Toledo in Sologno (at the Cerretani Lakes in the heart of the Northern Apennines), to celebrate Paolo Mazzoldi's retirement (Photographs 2 and 3).



Photograph 2 From left to right: Manfred Jäch, Albrecht Komarek, Paolo Mazzoldi, Elio Gentili, Michael Madl, Mario Toledo, Armando Bilardo, Saverio Rocchi, Fernando Pederzani, and Robert Angus



Photograph 3 Fernando Pederzani (right) talking to Elio Gentili

Received May 2026

ROMAN BIBLIOGRAPHY Nando's bibliography can be found in a great resource of the *Società per gli Studi Naturalistici della Romagna*, accessed at <http://www.ssnr>. Thanks to Antonio Schizzerotto for pointing this out.

GEORISSUS SUBSTRIATUS IN IBERIA

This paper was mentioned by Sasha Shatrovskiy *et al.* in **Latissimus 61** but was not available until recently. A specimen of *G. substriatus* Heer from Oliveira's collection is illustrated. It was originally assigned to *Georissus pygmaeus* (Fab.), a synonym of *G. crenulatus* (Rossi), and is from Coimbra in 1882. Also noted is something that GBIF should not be proud of as the mistake should have been picked up in a set-up dedicated to recording. This is a specimen in Wrocław University dated 1910 for "Portugal: Lusitania: Quellar, locality: Cuéllar" – which must refer to Cuéllar in the Spanish province of Segovia.

SHATROVSKIY A G 2025 *Georissus substriatus* Heer, 1841 (Coleoptera: Georissidae) in the Iberian Peninsula: rectification the records from Portugal. *The Kharkiv Entomological Society Gazette* **33** 5-7.

SHATROVSKIY A, RUFINO A C & GROSSO-SILVA J M 2026. Contribution to the Coleoptera of Portugal based on the collection of Manuel Paulino de Oliveira (Hydrophiloidea and Hydraenidae). **Latissimus 61** 17-22.

CYBISTER LARVAL FEEDING HABITS

The larvae of *C. lewisianus* Sharp are demonstrated to be generalist feeders but with preference and performance best on odonate nymphs. The larger the larva, generally the larger the average prey item, third instars tackling shrimps.

FUKUOKA T, WATANABE K, MATSUI E, SUMIKAWA T & OHBA S-y 2026. Feeding habits of the endangered diving beetle *Cybister lewisianus* larvae. *Limnology* doi.org/10.1007/s10201.026-00835-x. pp. 13.

SEARCHING ENGLISH FENLAND FOR WATER BEETLES IN SEPTEMBER 2025 AND MARCH 2026

Peter Sutton

Further to the unsuccessful search for *Agabus undulatus* (Schrank) and *Berosus luridus* (L.) in the fenlands of Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire in England (Sutton 2025), a search of ditches near Over in Cambridgeshire in September 2025 produced several records of other uncommon species.

The ditch where Long Lane meets Ouse Fen Road (TL380717) was visited on 20 September 2025 and produced, as it had done previously, many specimens of *Dytiscus marginalis* L., several *D. dimidiatus* Bergsträsser and *Hydaticus transversalis* (Pontoppidan), and a second male specimen of the Great Silver Water Beetle *Hydrophilus piceus* L.



Fig 1 Female *Dytiscus dimidiatus*



Fig 2 *Hydaticus transversalis*

Interestingly, these species, with the exception of a single specimen of *H. transversalis*, were not found in the ditches to the north of the bridge that ran alongside the RSPB Ouse Fen Nature Reserve. While both sections had in common generally ubiquitous species, e.g. *Hyphydrus ovatus* (L.), *Hygrotus inaequalis* (Fab.), *Hydroporus palustris* (L.) and *Noterus clavicornis* (De Geer), the ditches north of the bridge had a noticeably different assemblage of species including *Hygrobia hermanni* (Fab.) and two Nationally Scarce species: *Hygrotus parallellogrammus* (Ahrens) and *Rhantus frontalis* (Marsham), the former being a species that I had only previously encountered in the brackish water ditches of Canvey Island in Essex.



Fig 3 *Hyphydrus ovatus*



Fig 4 *Hygrotus parallellogrammus*

A possible reason for this was the presence of an active mineral extraction quarry located to the north of this site whose run-off undoubtedly affects the level of dissolved minerals in the water of its adjacent ditches, providing an attractive proposition for species like *H. parallelogrammus* whilst potentially excluding those species that are less tolerant of these conditions.



Figs 5 and 6 *Rhantus frontalis*, showing characteristic yellow and black underside

While *Berosus luridus* could not be found, several specimens of *Berosus affinis* Brullé were encountered in ditches on both sides of the bridge.



Fig 7 *Berosus affinis*



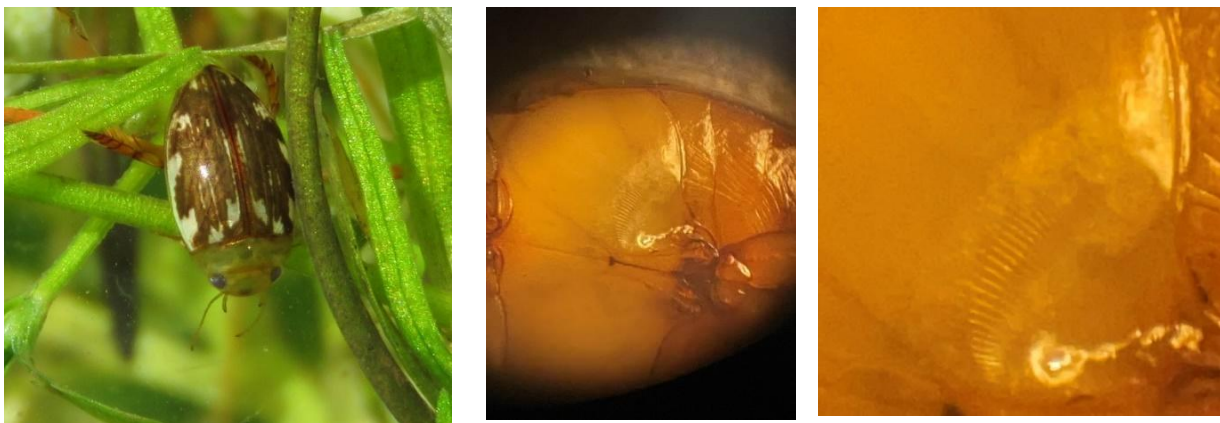
Fig 8 *Hygrobia hermanni*

I was also interested to find several specimens of *Ilybius fenestratus* (Fab.) in the ditches near the quarry, on account of its absence from an excellent survey of drainage ditch biodiversity (Hammond & Graham 2015) which recorded an impressive total of 122 species of water beetle from 175 sampling sites across the Ouse Washes Landscape Partnership Scheme area. In years gone by, prior to the permanent sabotage of my olfactory system by the Covid virus, I was able to recognise this species by the copious and pungent corticosteroid-laden (including testosterone) secretions that were produced from its prothoracic glands. These days, its familiar amber colouration, coupled with the distinctively thin 'wings' of the metasternal extensions that meet the epipleur on its underside (see Fig 9), are used to quickly separate it from similar species in the field.



Fig 9 *Ilybius fenestratus* showing the diagnostically thin ends to the metasternal extensions of its underside, the “metasternal wings”

Many Dinghy Skippers *Laccophilus hyalinus* (De Geer) were recorded alongside *I. fenestratus* and *H. parallelogrammus* (TL382724) and were identified by the stridulatory files on their hind coxae that separate this species from *L. minutus* (L.). This feature needs to be looked for carefully at the right aspect. This is exemplified in Fig 11, a stereomicroscope image captured using a mobile phone, which shows that while the stridulatory file is clearly visible on the right coxa, its mirror image on the left coxa is invisible and will only reveal itself when illuminated at the correct angle.



Figs 10-12 *Laccophilus hyalinus* showing stridulatory file on coxa

On 21 March 2026 I resumed my search for *Agabus undulatus* and *Berosus luridus* on the Cambridgeshire Fens and revisited the site near Over (TL380717). No *Dytiscus* were observed and several hours of sampling produced a number of the species that had been seen the previous autumn: *Hydroporus palustris*, *Hyphydrus ovatus*, *Liopterus haemorrhoidalis*, *Colymbetes fuscus* and *Berosus affinis*. A very pleasant surprise came in the form of several specimens of *Scarodytes halensis* (Fab.) (Fig 13), a Nationally Scarce species from a predominantly Mediterranean genus whose thermophilic requirements correspond well to its occupancy of an area of maximum ‘continentality’ in eastern England in the counties around the Wash (Foster *et al.* 2016).



Fig 13 *Scarodytes halensis*



Fig 14 *Agabus undulatus*

Finally, after another hour of sampling, a single overwintered adult specimen of *Agabus undulatus* (Fig 14) appeared in the net as I worked the organic debris laden margin of the ditch. The search for *Berosus luridus* continued at Over on 31 March. *Agabus nebulosus* (Forster) (Fig 15), *Berosus affinis*, and a Nationally Scarce species that I had not previously encountered, *Peltodytes caesus* (Duftschmid) (Figs 16 and 17) were located in the ditch at TL380717. *Hygrotus parallelogrammus* and *Laccophilus hyalinus* were again found in the ditch near the mineral quarry (TL389724), but *Berosus luridus* was not found anywhere along the length of the watercourse between these two points.



Fig 14 *Agabus nebulosus*



Fig 15 *Peltodytes caesus*



Fig 16 *P. caesus*

Using valuable information from the report by Hammond and Graham (2015), I decided to investigate ditches in the Haddenham district. No *Berosus* species were found in any of the main ditches, which had little in the way of vegetation. However, a smaller shallow ditch with a lot of organic debris at TL425734 (Fig 18), produced several *Hyphydrus ovatus* and a *Berosus* species that was positively identified as *luridus* based on pronotal markings (Fig 19) and the strongly raised projection of the mesosternal ridge in front of the coxae of the middle legs (Fig 20).



Fig 18 Ditch near Haddenham



Fig 19 *B. luridus*, to show the raised pronotal stripe



Fig 20 *B. luridus*, to show the metasternal ridge

The original version of this article featured *Hydrophilus piceus*, but there were so many changes to the distribution of this species early in 2026 that this commands a separate paper.

Acknowledgements Sincere thanks to Garth Foster and Martin Hammond for advice and support with these studies.

FOSTER GN, BILTON DT & NELSON BH 2016. *Atlas of the Predaceous Water Beetles (Hydradephaga) of Britain and Ireland*. Wallingford: Biological Records Centre.

HAMMOND M. & GRAHAM J 2015. Investigating ditch biodiversity and management practises in the arable landscape of the Ouse Washes Landscape Partnership Area: a survey of vegetation and aquatic Coleoptera. Final Report.

<https://www.fensforthefuture.org.uk/admin/resources/downloads/ouse-washes-lp-ditch-surveysgraham-hammondfinal-report2015.pdf>

SUTTON PG 2025. Fenland water beetles in July and August 2025. *Latissimus* 60 22-25.

Originally received April 2026

WESTMORLAND SURVEY

Lowick Common (SD28) is now a reserve of the Cumbria Wildlife Trust. It has five main water bodies of which it is clear that Roerigg Tarn (SD2884) has the greatest potential for water beetles, Fifty-four species were found in September 2025. These did not include *Hydroporus rufifrons* (Müller), though this was the species, first found there in 2016, that encouraged us to do the survey.

ROUTLEDGE S & FOSTER G N 2026. The water beetles (Coleoptera) of Lowick Common. *Lakeland Naturalist* 14 27-32.

BRITISH LEAF BEETLE RED LIST UPDATE

Assessments for the Donaciinae result in species being considered Endangered – *Donacia dentata* Hoppe, *D. sparganii* Ahrens, *Macrolea mutica* (Fab.), three being Vulnerable – *Donacia bicolora* Zschach, *Macrolea appendiculata* (Panzer), *Plateumaris rustica* (Kunze) and two being Near Threatened – *Donacia aquatica* (L.), *D. obscura* Gyllenhal. Other species listed as Nationally Scarce are *Donacia cinerea* Herbst, *D. crassipes* Fab., *D. impressa* Paykull and *Plateumaris braccata* (Scopoli). Other wetland leaf beetles with an IUCN threat status include *Prasocuris hannoveriana* (Fab.) – Vulnerable, *Chaetocnema aerea* (Lettner) – Regionally Extinct, *Longitarsus ferrugineus* (Foudras) – Vulnerable, and *Longitarsus nigerrimus* (Gyllenhal) – Vulnerable.

LANE S A 2026. A review of the status of the leaf beetles and allies of Great Britain. *Nature England Commissioned Report NECR702*.

IRELAND 2026, AND OTHER IRISH MEETINGS

Although Brian Nelson is now retired from the National Parks & Wildlife Service one occasionally got the impression that he was still in thrall to Áine O Connor and they, in association with Chris Peppiatt in a sort of commissarial role, reformed the NPWS-team to break with the tradition of relying on known sites. They had well chosen a poorly known area of the old Irish province of Connacht: we were based on the Shannon rather as in 2003 but more upstream at Carrick-on-Shannon, apparently now only second to Westport as a weekend partying centre.

Survey work had begun on the Friday (29 May) and everyone was present that evening for a practice runs of the Club Dinner at the Red Bank Restaurant, with an excellent menu that took a little time to arrive, reminiscent of the *Strelitzia* and the night lights provided by the Shannon Oaks in Portumna back in 2003. Partying went on deep into the night for some. Furthest travelled to the meeting was Wenfei Liao, from Helsinki, followed by Cédric Alonso, from the south of France, bringing with him the Ierse Kevers Trophy that he had looked after for a year: he advised that the box was full and further contributions should be flat as was his contribution, a group photograph. Cédric had also brought his drone, its initial task being to locate a path to the first site some of us visited, the Black Lake (G8604), the smallest blue dot in a forest not to be confused with the numerous drumlin loughs to the north-west nor with the neighbouring Black Lough (G8704). The first beetles included *Hydroporus scalesianus* Stephens always a good start, but we moved on as the treacherous edge proved to be.... treacherous. Cédric enthused about the *Donacia* of the other neighbour, Finn Lough (G8603), claiming *aquatica* Linnaeus, not realising the efforts to which the Club had gone to locate this species in Ireland in the past. The first award of an Ierse Kevers Trophy had taken place in Haarlem in 2004 to Áine and this was to celebrate the legendary Ierse Kevers recording *D. aquatica* at Lough Cutra (R4898, South-east Galway): on 25 May 2003: this record lingers on in the old version of the data-base. Cédric was keen to get to a mountain so we managed 230 metres above sea level in the Curlew Mountains, checking a watercress-choked ditch on the way up (G7805) and came near to having a species new to Ireland, the weevil *Drupenatus nasturtii*, that had recently been reported by Louise Garcia (see p. 15).



Black Lough – a drone view



Black Lough – perched on its edge

Our base, the Bush Hotel, is the oldest business in County Leitrim: it was frequented by Anthony Trollope when he worked for the Post Office. His portrait hangs outside the room dedicated to him, for ever luring in Brian at the thought of an old relative? The rest of us were around twenty strong – including Cédric Alonso, Roy Anderson, Robert Angus, David Bilton, Jeff Blincow, Ron Carr, Sue Foster, Helen James, Rachel and Alex Mackay-Austin, Annie Ross (with Ron), Steven Routledge, Kev Rowley, Matt Smith, and Will Watson. At the Club Dinner at the Bush Hotel on the Saturday the trophy was duly awarded to Brian (let's face it – it would have been quite a slap in the face to give it to anyone else), but just for once that ceremony was upstaged by a surprise award, an a.i.-generated image to celebrate fifty years of Club meetings, prominently Eyjafjallajökull in 2010, the Byelorussian wild boar in 2013 and the late Joja Geijer, plus a lot of Dutchmen.



Brian's copious notes did not include Narnia but we found a door when visiting Lough Allen that "is virtually unrecorded. However the lake is large and windswept and may prove unproductive. One site we hope to get access to is a farm in the south-west of the lake which is managed by a wildlife friendly farmer".

The door opened onto Mountallen, one of the stars of the meeting. The first pond (G949132) was more of a peaty morass in parts, and yielded at least 33 species principal of which was the dainty *Hydroporus neglectus* Schaum. Previously this species was known in Ireland from a single female taken by Matt Smith in Lough Graney (R5594), County Clare, on 24 May 2003 during the Club meeting: the Irish Red List has it as data-deficient. Cédric's drone illustrates two other ponds at Mountallen (G9523), mainly of interest because of the ease with which Will Watson hauled out *Dytiscus circumcinctus* Ahrens, raising the possibility that it is more complacent than other *Dytiscus*.



The *Hydroporus neglectus* pond at Mountallen



The *Dytiscus circumcinctus* ponds

On the Sunday Lough Erril (N0494) provided a reedswamp with *Laccornis oblongus* (Stephens) and a break in the long drive to an area of Longford where a lake had been formed at Corlea (N0494) when peat was industrially extracted to feed the now redundant power stations. At pH 6.2 this was in contrast to the limestone lakes, the fauna accordingly adding a few species to the overall list and giving Áine a chance to re-enact *Macrolea appendiculata* (Panzer) clinging to the net fabric enough to generate uncertainty about where and when it had been caught, as originally experienced by Eugenie Regan at Lough Kinlea (M5215) in July 2002. Unfortunately we did not find time to check out the Iron Age trackway but wouldn't it be great to have some subfossil work on the beetles associated with it on the lines of the late Maureen Girling's work in Somerset?

For those staying on to the Monday there was a chance to experience an Irish heatwave and to visit Annaghmore Lough (M9083), second on Brian's list and a site found of interest by other participants earlier. This was very much a limestone lake with marl deposits in reedfen and a hard edge on which the usual splashing produced not only *Chaetarthria seminulum* (Herbst) but also four *Ochthebius nilssoni* Hebauer!



Will Watson and Garth Foster at Lough Erril



Corlea – the reclaimed lough

A marly reedfen at
Annaghmore Lough*Ochthebius nilssoni*
Photograph: Will WatsonA hard shore to
Annaghmore Lough

There should be more than enough good finds to thank National Parks & Wildlife Service for the financial support that saw us through two evenings. And Brian has finally got his trophy. One of the dangers of having two meetings in the same year is that the Trophy can only be awarded once. In 2018 we simply had to give it to Will Watson for dancing in Morocco. Like it said in *Latissimus* 42 “Brian, if you saw the video you will see that the bar has been raised. Nothing short of swimming stark naked through a mosquito-infested Arctic lake will suffice for the next award.” Setting up Carrick 2026 will do very well instead.

Anon 2003. Irish Meeting May 2003. *Latissimus* 17 10-11

Anon 2010. Kilfenora. *Latissimus* 28 14-16.

Anon 2018. Morocco 2018. *Latissimus* 41 3.

Anon 2018. Ireland 8-11 June 2018. *Latissimus* 42 1-2.

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.
GARCIA L.2025. *Drupenatus nasturtii* (Germar, 1824) (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) a weevil new to Ireland. *Irish Naturalists' Journal* 42 127-128.

[drone images courtesy of Cédric Alonso, other images by Susan or Garth Foster unless otherwise stated]

MORE COELOSTOMA

Armand d'Orchymont was the first to use the aedeagus to differentiate *Coelostoma* species, exposing several misidentifications. Thirty-two species are now known from China with the description as new of *change* and *yi*.

JIA FL & MAI Z-Q 2026. Two new species of *Coelostoma* Brullé, 1835 from South Zizang, China (Coleoptera: Hydrophilidae: Sphaeridiinae). *Zootaxa* 5786 pp. 8.

BALFOUR-BROWNE CLUB COMING OF AGE

Kev Rowley



This Balfour-Browne Club's 50th birthday party was a joint event with ColSoc held at in a one day event on 20 June 2026 in Rutland Water, England. This 1,555 ha water body is also celebrating 50 years, in this case since the lake was created by damming the River Gwash in 1975. The reserve has subsequently expanded and matured greatly: the lagoons next to the main water body were looking superb. Tim Sexton and Beth Fox from Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust were great

hosts setting traps, creating events and driving us around the reserve in style.

The morning was spent out on the Meadow of lagoon 1 (SK880067) which has been improved with lots of ditches and ponds and is starting to mature well. We found many ditch and pond species including *Hydraena testacea* Curtis, *Haliphus obliquus* (Fab.), *Ilybius fenestratus* (Fab.), *Eulagius filicornis* (Reitter), *Cryptorhynchus lapathi* (L.) and *Hydaticus transversalis* (Pontoppidan) which is well outside of its main range and must be moving westwards.

We moved onto lagoon 8 (SK881063) which was a shallow lake with islands and promontories looking really pretty with wild flowers and reeds on the margins. This was the site of the first party game checking the water beetle trap. Tim had set it the night before and it caught one Great Silver Water Beetle (*Hydrophilus piceus* L.), which is also extending its range dramatically in England this year.

The reed margins were in great shape and a *Donacia* hunt found *D. cinerea*



(Schönherr) and *Aleochara stichai* Livoský.

Herbst, *D. vulgaris* Zschach, *D. marginata* Hoppe and *D. thalassina* Germar Here there was the rare aquatic brittlestem fungus *Psathyrella typhae* (Kalchbr.) Pearson & Dennis, a saprotrophic species found on reed-mace.

A terrestrial beetle hunt was also underway and Clive Washington and Charlie Barnes found some rare beetles including *Planeustomus palpalis* (Erichson), *Conopalpus testaceus* (Olivier), *Cryptolestes pusillus*

Lunch at the birdwatching centre was the usual sandwiches but no jelly and ice cream [did I have the last *Magnum*? ed.]. However, this was the location for the next party game hunt the *Macroplea*. Everyone took part sifting through many trays of Fennel Pondweed (*Potamogeton pectinatus* L.) that the reserve staff had collected for us. Robert Aquilina was the winner with a superb specimen of *Macroplea mutica* spotted crawling out of the weed and across the tray. Garth came away a close second with part of a corpse.



In the afternoon we moved to the other side of the reserve and looked at the series of ponds in the woodland rides (SK887082). Some had partial clearance done recently. On the muddy, and in some areas moss-covered, banks we found *Helophorus griseus* Herbst, *Helochares lividus* (Forster), *Neobisnius procerulus* (Gravenhorst) and six species of *Bembidion* including the nationally scarce *B. octomaculatum* (Goeze).



The party bags were made up of all the samples still needing identification under the microscope. The reserve had set a target of another 500 species this year to achieve their target of 5,000 in 50 years and with everyone's full list still to be finished we will help them reach that target, 63 new species at the time of writing.

Happy birthday one and all!

Received July 2026

[photographs 1, 2 and 4 by GNF, photographs 3 and 5 by the author]

URBANICITY

Thirty-two ponds were surveyed in the north-east of the USA from 2019 to 2024. "Urbanicity", as measured by a combination of surrounding land cover, light levels at night and numbers of roads, changed the community composition of macroinvertebrates and amphibians, but did not reduce biodiversity. The distribution of some larger dytiscids was not correlated with urbanicity, but *Dytiscus* and *Hydaticus* could be related to pond area, and in the case of *Acilius* to canopy cover.

PORTMANN J M, SKELLY N K, FREIDENBURG L K, BILLET L S, RUBINSTEIN A & SKELLY D K 2026. Urbanisation restructures but does not reduce freshwater pond biodiversity. *Diversity and Distributions* **32** e70175.

PADDY/FOREST INTERACTIONS

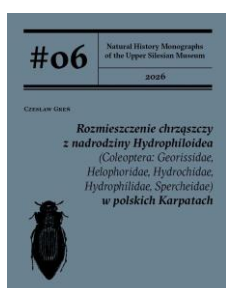
Abandoned paddy fields are regarded as important in the conservation of insect biodiversity. Demonstrated here, using netting, night-stalking, bottle-trapping and mark-and-recapture, is the seasonal change in interaction between paddy field and neighbouring forest. The beetles specifically covered are *Agabus conspicuus* Sharp, *A. japonicus* Sharp, *Rhantus suturalis* (Macleay), *Cybister brevis* Aubé, *Graphoderus adamsii* (Clark), *Hydaticus bowringii* Clark and *H. grammicus* (Germar).

WATANABE R, OHBA S-y & SAGAWA S 2026. Seasonal and scale-dependent effects of paddy-type diversity and forest cover on aquatic insect diversity in fallow field biotopes. *Biodiversity and Conservation* **35** pp. 26.

CRETAN CHECKLIST

This survey begins with an intriguing history of biological recording in Crete, going back to 2000 BCE on the basis of scarab-like artefacts, medicinal herbs being written up in about 300 BCE by one of Aristotle's students, Theophrastus, but not getting to grips with insects until a scientific expedition followed on Napoleon's Egyptian Campaign. Sadly, water beetles do not feature in this account and the fauna appears to be limited, no doubt because water is scarce. Sixteen per cent of the 2,201 taxa are endemic, including two of the 39 Dytiscidae, five each of the 18 Hydraenidae and ten Scirtidae. These are *Bidessus cretensis* Fery, *Nebrioporus amicorum* Toledo, *Hydraena subinura* d'Orchymont, *Limnebius gridellii* Pretner, *L. mucus* d'Orchymont, *Ochthebius annae* Ferro, *O. minoicus* Hernando, Villastrigo & Ribera, *Contacyphon difficilis* (Klausnitzer), *Elodes creticus* (Klausnitzer), *E. novocreticus* (Klausnitzer), *E. secondocreticus* (Klausnitzer) and *Hydrocyphon minous* Nyholm.

CHATZIMANOLIS S, BOLANAKIS G, DEDOVIC T, HANKINS K A F, PAVLOU C & TRICHAS A 2026. An annotated checklist of Coleoptera (Insecta) from the island of Crete, Greece. *Zootaxa* **5774** 1-319.



POLISH CARPATHIAN HYDROPHILOIDEA

Ninety-seven species of Hydrophiloidea are known from the Polish Carpathians. Two species are recorded for the first time, *Helophorus aequalis* Thomson and *Limnoxenus niger* (Gmelin). Two species are rejected as Carpathian, *Georissus substriatus* Heer and *Hydrochus angustatus* Germar, and another, *Berosus spinosus* (von Steven), is considered unlikely. Old records of the latter probably refer to *B. frontifoveatus* Kuwert. Almost all species

are mapped, given some insight even if you cannot read Polish.

GREŃ C 2026. *Rozmieszczenie chrząszczy z nadrodziny Hydrophiloidea (Coleoptera: Georissidae, Helophoridae, Hydrochidae, Hydrophilidae, Spercheidae) w polskich Karpatach*. Natural History Monographs of the Upper Silesian Museum **6** pp. 102.

DANIEL KUBISZ 1957-2025



Dr Kubisz was associated with the Institute of Systematics and Evolution of Animals in Kraków. He headed the Collections Department there for many years and was well known as an organiser of field meetings. He published over 150 items including many surveys that have been featured in *Latissimus*, including the Polish Red List. Hydrophilids were one of his specialities. The photograph is by Lucasz Kajtoch.

MAZUR M A, KAJTOCH L, ŚCIBIOR R, GUTOWSKI J M, PALACZYK A & KLASA A 2025. Pamięci dr. hab. Daniela

Kubisza (1957-2025). *Rocznik Muzeum Górnośląskiego w Bytomiu Przyroda* **31** 1-34 [in Polish with English abstract]

MEGASTERNUM IN ISRAEL

The title of this paper says almost everything, the trouble being it appears that this is *concinnum* sensu lato.

FRIEDMAN A-L-L & FURTH D G 2025. First record of *Megasternum concinnum* (Marsham, 1802) – a minute coprophagous water-scavenger beetle (Coleoptera: Hydrophilidae) from the dung of the water buffalo (*Bubalus bubalis*) (Mammalia: Bovidae) in the Hula Valley, Israel. *Entomologia Hellenica* **35** 21-25.

BEAVERING AWAY

The interpretation of survey results for beaver introductions vary on the extent to which they increase macroinvertebrate biodiversity, but, judging on paper authorships, they have surely improved human employment. Neither of these papers admits to the existence of beetles but the Swiss one finds no difference in macroinvertebrate diversity with and without beaver whereas the English one notes increases in odonates in response to beavers.

MOSER V, MINNIG S, CAPITANI L, BOCH S, CRAMER N, EDMAN O, HOFMANN P, HÜRBIN A, OBRIST M K, ROBINSON C, TINNER D, ZEHNDER L, ANGST C, POMATI F & RISCH A C 2025. Rewilding beyond the wilderness: Beavers can restore stream biodiversity from urban to agricultural to natural landscapes. *Journal of Applied Ecology* doi 10.1111/2025.09.03.674048.

SMITH M W, PUTTOCK A, KLAAR M J, THOMAS H, HANDLEY L L, BRAZIER R, BRADBURY G, BAKER A, HANSON A, GIBBONS N, GITTENS K, SPENCER, T & BASHFORTH C 2026. Whole system ecohydrological change following natural flood management and a five-year beaver reintroduction trial. *Ecohydrology* **19** doi 10.1002/eco.70238.

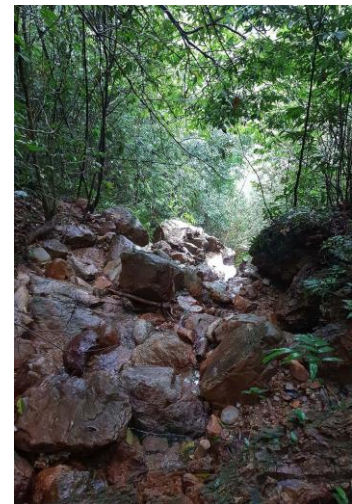
ASIAN HYDROPHILID RECORDS



Asiacyon derunkovi is newly described from Vietnam, where *Cercyon laminatus* Sharp is also reported for the first time along with five other hydrophilid species. Other records are for Afghanistan, India and Laos. The habitat of *A. derunkovi* is depicted courtesy of Sergey Ryndevich and the image of the beetle itself was

prepared by A.V. Zemoglyadchuk.

RYNDEVICH S K, MAI Z, JIA F, TRUONG X L & SALUK S V 2026. New species and new records of water scavenger beetles (Coleoptera: Hydrophilidae) from Asia. *Russian Entomological Journal* **35** 186-194.



JAPANESE ENDEMIC ELMID GENETICS

Zaitzeviaria ovata (Nomura) is a riffle beetle endemic to Japan. Nuclear DNA revealed very little whereas five major genetic groups were identified using mitochondrial DNA, the splits occurring in the Pleistocene. Subclades could be recognised within centres based on Eastern Japan and Kyushu Island. The genetic structure of the clades can be related to the presence of two ancient river systems during the Ice Age and to volcanic activity in Kyushu. This description barely does justice to a remarkable overview of a water beetle. We often infer from distributions that some specimens must be able to fly: here we know from an earlier work by Masakazu Hayashi – 0.4%. The author for correspondence is Koji Tojo.

HAYASHI M, SONG S D & SOTA T 2013. Patterns of hind-wing degeneration in Japanese riffle beetles (Coleoptera: Elmidae). *European Journal of Entomology* **110** 689-697.

YOSHIDA T, HAYASHI M, TAKENAKA M & TOJO K 2026. Influence of the dynamic geological history of the Japanese Archipelago on the molecular phylogeography of the riffle beetle *Zaitzeviaria ovata* (Coleoptera: Elmidae). *Freshwater Biology* **71**:e70255

FAR EAST OF RUSSIA

This paper is mainly concerned with water beetles, of which *Ilybius subaeneus* Erichson and *Cercyon emarginatus* Baranowski are new for the Russian Far East, while *Hydroporus sibiricus* Sahlberg, *Hygrotus novemlineatus* (Stephens) and *Cercyon borealis* Baranowski are new for Kamchatka. *C. borealis* and *C. emarginatus* had earlier been found in Primorsky Krai and mistaken for *C. terminatus* (Marsham). The male genitalia of the three species are illustrated comprehensively. Other species found in Kamchatka were *Hydroporus fuscipennis* Schaum, *H. morio* Aubé, *H. umbrosus* (Gyllenhal), *Agabus arcticus ochoticus* Poppius, *A. clypealis* (Thomson), *A. coxalis ermaki* (Zaitzev), *A. discolor* (Harris), *Ilybius angustior* (Gyllenhal), *Colymbetes dolabratus* (Paykull), and *Rhantus suturellus* (Harris).

SAZHNEV A S, PROKIN A A, NETSVETAEV V A, RUCHIN A B & ESIN M N 2026. New records of Coleoptera (Insecta) from Kamchatka Krai and other regions of the Russian Far East. *Acta Biologica Sibirica* **12** 461–473.

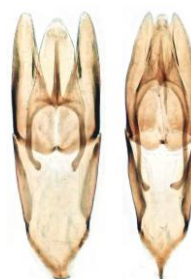
DYTISCID ORIGIN EARLIER THAN PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT

The Bayesian Brownian Bridge produces a model based on a process that begins at an unknown point in the past and ends with the known number of extant genera. It has previously been used for Angiosperms, mammals, Hymenoptera, Hemiptera and Scolytinae, with some robust results. This analysis excludes for various reasons some of the oldest claimed fossils, *Angarabus jurassicus* Ponomorenko, *Schistomerus californiense* Palmer and a Miocene fossil from Australia. Also excluded is *Platambus* from the final data-set of 158 occurrences of 155 species. The root age of the model is reckoned at a maximum of 230 million years old (mya) in the early Jurassic with *Palaeodytes* dated at 176.2 mya. The results indicate an origin 195–188 mya, about 20 million years before three other recent phylogenetic studies.

FERREIRA J, JOUAULT C, CONDAMINE F L & PERIS D 2026. A deep dive into the fossil record of diving beetles (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae): Bayesian inferences elucidate their origin and pulsed diversification at the genus level. *Palaeontology* **69**(3) e70074.

NEW TIBETAN AND NEW SIBERIAN HELOPHORUS

This paper somehow got left out of the papers in *Koleopterologische Rundschau* **95** listed in *Latissimus* **61**. Newly described are *H. orientalitibeticus*, based on a study of material taken by Jaroslav Turna in eastern Tibet in 1997, and, from Yakutsk, *H. kasparyani*, a sibling of *H. poppii* Angus, 1970, differing from it mainly in having shorter aedeagal struts, the one on the left in these images kindly provided by Robert.



ANGUS R B 2025. Two new species from the East Palearctic Region (Helophoridae). *Koleopterologische Rundschau* **95** 113–120.

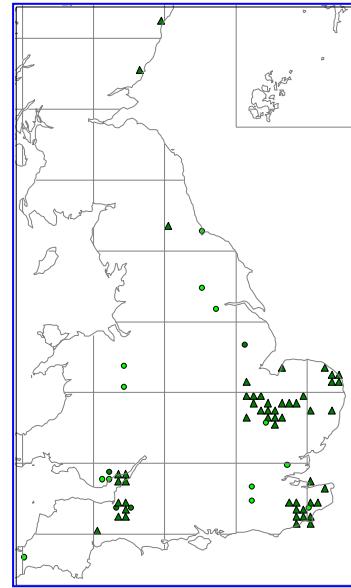
PROTOSTERNUM AND ARACEAE

Protosternum abnormale d'Orchymont is like a small, brown version of *Dactylosternum abdominale* (Fab.). It has been found to be associated with rotting *Alocasia* in the lily family Araceae. Japanese and Taiwanese populations are identical morphology but the mitochondrial Cytochrome oxidase 1 genes differ by 3.8% between the Japanese island of Iriomote-jima and Taiwan.

MINOSHIMA Y K, ÔNO T, SHIMONAKA J & FIKÁČEK M 2026. First record of plant-associated water scavenger beetle genus *Protosternum* Sharp (Coleoptera, Hydrophilidae) from Japan. *Elytra* **16** 163–170.

DYTISCUS DIMIDIATUS REACHES SCOTLAND (AGAIN)

In 2023 Rachel Mackay-Austin caught a female *Dytiscus* in Angus (NO6554), fortunately video-recording it before letting it go. There was enough evidence to satisfy most that it did indeed constitute the first record of *dimidiatus* in Scotland, but there will always be a question mark about identifications based solely on a view of the upper side of many *Dytiscus*. Rachel Bicker came to our aid in 2025 with a photo of the underside of a male light-trapped 66 km further north in South Aberdeenshire. This encouraged me to check out photographs of *Dytiscus* on iRecord and the realisation that *dimidiatus* was on the move. This map is different from that published in *The Coleopterist* in that the symbols are black triangles for 2000 onwards, black blobs for 1980-1999, and green blobs for the rest. However, the main difference is that the supposed record for Cheshire is missing, GNF having misidentified a *D. circumcinctus* Ahrens, being pulled up by Stephen Oldfield. Apologies to my coauthors.



Given that there were those who were less than convinced about *dimidiatus* being in Scotland based on the Angus record, plus a now flawed record of misidentification of *circumcinctus*, these photographs of the Aberdeenshire specimen by Rachel Bicker may restore a little confidence!

FOSTER G N, BICKER R, BREWSTER P, MACKAY-AUSTIN R & PENRHOSSE W 2026. *Dytiscus dimidiatus* Bergsträsser (Dytiscidae) in Scotland, and other observations on the iRecord database. *The Coleopterist* **35** 32-35.

BELGIAN ADDITIONS

The find of *Heterocerus fossor* was originally reported in **Latissimus 58**, page 5 under a different pagination, 60-62. Other rediscoveries are *Ochthebius pusillus*, *H. fuscus* and *Pomatinus substriatus*, with *Megasternum immaculatum* an addition to the Belgian list. An earlier report of *O. pusillus* (Thys & van Nunen, 2022) turned out to be an inland record of *O. viridis* Peyron.

THYS N 2023. *Heterocerus fossor* Kiesenwetter. 1843 (Coleoptera: Heteroceridae): rediscovered in Belgium. *Bulletin de la Société royale belge d'Entomologie* **159** 44-46.

THYS N 2023. *Heterocerus fuscus* Kiesenwetter. 1843 (Coleoptera: Heteroceridae) and *Ochthebius pusillus* Stephens, 1835 (Coleoptera: Hydraenidae) two species of water beetles rediscovered in Belgium. *Bulletin de la Société royale belge d'Entomologie* **159** 173-176.

THYS N 2025. *Megasternum immaculatum* (Stephens, 1829), a new hydrophilid beetle for Belgium. *Bulletin de la Société royale belge d'Entomologie* **161** 30-33.

THYS N 2025. *Pomatinus substriatus* Müller, 1806 (Coleoptera: Dryopidae) rediscovered in Belgium. *Bulletin de la Société royale belge d'Entomologie* **161** 144-147.

CENTRAL ENGLAND IN THE LATE GLACIAL AND LATER

Beetles and caddis flies are used to recreate the climates of the Trent Valley in the Late Glacial period and in the subsequent warmth of the early Holocene. Deposits going back to 13,700 years before present are mostly associated with running water, including *Riolus nitens* (Müller) and *Georissus crenulatus* (Rossi), also *Ochthebius lenensis* Poppius additional to records for it in Shropshire, Oxfordshire and Lincolnshire. Species indicative of wetlands include *Macrolea appendiculata* (Panzer) and *Lixus paraplecticus* (L.). *Helophorus pallidus* Gebler indicated steppe habitat with cold winters but also much sunshine. Later samples in the Late Glacial had the usual *Oreodytes alpinus* (Paykull), *Helophorus obscurellus* Poppius and *H. sibiricus* Motschulsky, but with species such as *Hydraena pulchella* Germar indicating a previously a more temperate climate. The early Holocene fauna, as found in the Shardlow Quarry, included *Laccornis oblongus* (Stephens), *Macronychus quadrituberculatus* Müller, *Pomatinus substriatus* (Müller), *Hydronomus alismatis* (Marsham) and *Bagous nodulosus* Gyllenhal, and, not known in Britain before, *Esolus angustatus* (Müller). Malcolm Greenwood and Paul Buckland are joint contacts.

GREENWOOD M T, BUCKLAND P C, BUCKLAND P I, COOPE G R, GEAREY B, HOPLA E, HOWARD D J, MONCKTON A & WOOD P J 2026. Reconstruction of Lateglacial and early postglacial climates and palaeoenvironments from the Trent Valley of Central England. *Proceedings of the Geologists' Association* doi.org/10.1016/j.pgeola.2026.101178.

KERALA BEETLES

This paper came to attention in 2026 simply because it cites a paper by Ignacio Ribera and GNF inappropriate to the statement being made. The intention of the paper was to characterise the water beetle fauna of the Periyar River in the Western Ghats, sampling at five places by netting, baited bottle traps and use of Surber samplers. The 927 individuals were classified into 37 species in seven families. Numbers of beetles were highest in the pre-monsoon months of March and April when water levels were low: beetle numbers dropped sharply during the monsoon period in July and August. The authors' analysis showed that flow regime and habitat diversity drove water beetle populations. No species is named, possibly just as well looking at the guidance listed for identification The first is a paper by Olof Biström reviewing the genera of Bidessini: no Indian species could be identified using this paper any more than any hydrophilid could be identified using the paper by Andrew Short and Martin Fikàček, which is about molecular phylogeny!

NAIR A K, SURESH D & RAVINDRAN M 2024. Population dynamics of aquatic beetles along the Periyar River basin in Kerala. *Acta Entomology and Zoology* **5** 68-72.

IRAQI BEETLES IDENTIFIED BY DNA

The mitochondrial Cytochrome oxidase 1 enzyme sequence was used to identify four species, *Rhantus suturalis* Macleay, *Eretes sticticus* (L.), *Berosus spinosus* (von Steven) and *Hydrobius fuscipes* (L.), collected in southern Iraq. An excellent set of photographs for each species has been distorted by the journal's editors failing to use a locked aspect ratio.

AL-ABADI M A & HATEM A N 2025. Morphological and Molecular Identification of Four Species of Aquatic Beetles (Coleoptera: Hydrophilidae, Dytiscidae) in Thi Qar Governorate, Southern Iraq. *Egyptian Journal of Aquatic Biology & Fisheries* **29** 1397-1412

CROATIAN HYDRAENIDAE

This is a most welcome contribution to our knowledge of the fauna of the Balkans. Sixty-five species of Hydraenidae are confirmed as Croatian, 26 of them in *Hydraena*, nine in *Limnebius* and 30 in *Ochthebius*. Forty-seven can be regarded as Mediterranean, 28 Continental and 14 Alpine. Four species are newly recorded: *Hydraena assimilis* Rey, *Limnebius aluta* Bedel, *Ochthebius flavipes* Dalle Torre, and *O. pedicularius* Kuwert. *O. bicolon* Germar is not Croatian. *Hydraena angustata* Sturm may be currently regarded as endemic to Croatia, but is almost certainly found elsewhere. Lectotypes are designated for *Hydraena croatica* Kuwert and *Ochthebius narentinus* Reitter. The correspondent is Michaela Brojer.

JÄCH M A, BROJER M, LUGIĆ E & STANKOVIĆ V M 2025. Annotated checklist of the minute moss beetles (Insecta: Coleoptera: Hydraenidae) of Croatia, with two lectotype designations. *Natura Croatica* **34** 199-240.

IRANIAN RECORDS

Eight sites were surveyed in central Semirom. Identifications appear to be based on European identification works. Several of the ten colour photographs suffer from distortion but *Peltodytes caesus* (Duftschmid) and *Hydroglyphus geminus* (Fab.) can be identified with certainty, others being not so sure. Ten species were listed, all of which have previously been reported from Iran. The authors thank Robert Angus, Hans Fery, Anders Nilsson and Bernhard van Vondel for assistance in species identification and documentation, but this assistance cannot be recalled by them. Saeed Heydarnejad is the author for correspondence.

REBIEE A & HEYDARNEJAD S 2026. Notes on aquatic beetles (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae, Hydrophilidae; Dryopidae; Haliplidae, Noteridae) from Semirom (Isfahan Province, Iran). *International Journal of Insect and Animal Diversity Research* **2** 7-13.

ALGERIAN CHECKLIST UPDATE

Mario Toledo draws attention to this paper. It was provided with a supplementary checklist that contained errors that were detected at the proof stage but the editors nevertheless produced the incorrect version. A new list is available from Mario.

MAHMOUDI K, TOLEDO M E, BENDALI-SAOUDI F & NEGRI I 2025. Water beetles of northeastern Algeria: new records for the country and faunistic updates (Coleoptera, aquatic Adephaga, Dryopidae, Hydrophiloidea, Hydraenidae). *ZooKeys* **1248** 225-243.

HYDROCHARA DIVERSITY

Fifty-one *Hydrochara* adults were analysed morphometrically and genetically from south-east Europe, mostly in the Danube floodplain. Forty-seven were *H. caraboides* (L.), three were *H. flavipes* (Steven) and one, from the Drava floodplain, was uncertain, with a mitochondrial lineage and aedeagal characters between *caraboides* and *H. dichroma* (Fairmaire). Haplotype analysis including published Cytochrome oxidase I sequences indicated a single dominant haplotype shared by most *caraboides* individuals and several rarer variants. Goran Vignjević is the author for correspondence.

TURIĆ N, VIGNJEVIĆ G, BUŠIĆ N, TEMUNOVIĆ M & MAĐARIĆ B B 2026. Hidden Lineage Diversity in *Hydrochara* (Coleoptera: Hydrophilidae): An Integrative Study from Floodplain Ecosystems of South-Eastern Europe. *Environments* **13** pp. 17.

DAVE SHEPPARD 1952-2025

These reminiscences, which include those of Adrian Spalding and Dave himself, are steeped in Dave's irreverence for authority. At one time he was mad enough to consider a PhD under my guidance but common sense prevailed. Before he concentrated on moths and aculeates he managed to generate 137 records of water beetles from all over England. Reminded here is the impact of that clutch of entomologists on the Tyne Valley, in particular NZ16, claimed as one the best recorded hectads in Great Britain (at least 112 water beetle species in over 1,300 records). **GNF**



BALL S, EDWARDS M, KEY R & MOORE R 2026. Obituary Dave Sheppard 1952-2025. *British Journal of Entomology and Natural History* **39** 50-52.

DICYRTOCERCYON GANGLBAUER RAISED TO A GENUS

Dicyrtocercyon was introduced as a subgenus of *Cercyon* in a Czech study with only the species *ustulatus* Preyssl. The paraplidity of *Cercyon* is well known with *C. ustulatus* standing out as a species with the elytra and pronotum separately domed. No DNA work is presented here but it is assumed that it will result in further changes, in particular the *Cercyon dux* group, the *Cercyon littoralis* group and the *Cercyon tristis* group. *D. ustulatus* is comprehensively illustrated with an account of its occurrence in Belarus. It is described as inhabiting decaying plant material near water. It is noted as using burrows of voles for winter refuge and muskrat lodges for breeding and is also to be found associated with the nests of waterfowl, any records of its association with dung to be treated with suspicion.

RYNDEVICH S K, SHATROVSKY A G, MAI Z, JIA F & TRUONG X L 2026. *Dicyrtocercyon* Ganglbauer, 1904 (Coleoptera: Hydrophilidae) in Belarus and its taxonomic status. *BarSU Herald* **1** (19) 85-95.

LACCOPHILUS NAKAJIMAI

L. nakajimai Kamite, Hikida & Satô is a species endemic to Yonaguni Island and is listed as Vulnerable in Japan. Larvae and pupae were reared at 18 to 34°C, demonstrating that development rate peaked at 30°C, body size was greatest at 22°C and survival rate was highest at 26°C. The interplay indicated a trade-off between development and body size, and the likely results of climate change are discussed.

UCHIYAMA, R, WATANABE K, TANINO A & SATO Y 2026. Potential impacts of climate change on phenology and fitness in the endangered diving beetle *Laccophilus nakajimai*. *Entomologia Experimentalis et Applicata* <https://doi.org/10.1111/eea.700> pp.10

**MIKE MORRIS 1934-2025**

Mike's death was noted in *Latissimus* **61**, page 30. A full obituary is published in the EMM with contributions by Howard Mendel, Paul Harding, John Sheail, Jeremy Thomas, and Max Barclay, plus Mike's own bibliography.

Obituary. *Entomologist's Monthly Magazine* **162** 127-147.

THE *NEOBIDESSUS* LARVA

The second and third instars of this *Neobidessus* are described from northern Brazil. The larvae do not have a small spine ventrally on antennal segment 3, distinguishing them from *Liodessus* in the key to Argentinian bidessines provided. Other characters are the relatively long siphon and short urogomphus.

MICHAT M C, BENETTI C J & ALARIE Y 2025. Description of larvae of *Neobidessus alvarengai* Young, 1981 from Brazil and key to the Argentine genera of Bidessini (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae). *Revista de Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales* **27** 351-360.

LACCORNIS OBLONGUS IN BELGIUM

This enigmatic species is reported from two sites in Oost-Vlaanderen and Antwerpen, ponds some of recent origin in association with reedfen. Earlier records are for West-Vlaanderen, Vlaams-Brabant, and Luxembourg. Forty other species of Dytiscidae are recorded.

SCHEERS K & VERMIERE T 2025. New records of *Laccornis oblongus* (Stephens, 1835) (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae), a rarity amongst Belgian water beetles. *Bulletin de la Société royale belge d'Entomologie* **161** 118-125.

CERCYON LAMINATUS IN PORTUGAL

Records are reported for Belarus, Georgia, Russia, Ukraine and Uzbekistan, as well as the first records in Portugal, from Braga and Porto. This species is already known from Iberia in Granada and Andalusia. The world distribution is mapped, including the first record in Japan, with the European distribution mapped in greater detail.

SHATROVSKIY A, MOREIRA-PINHAL T C & BIRG J 2025. New distributional data on the coprophilous beetle *Cercyon* (*Paracycreon*) *laminatus* Sharp, 1873 (Coleoptera: Hydrophilidae), with the first Record from Portugal. *Boletín de la Sociedad Entomológica Aragonesa* **77** 81–83.

TORFIANKI

📖 BUCZYŃSKI P, STANIEC B, BUCZYŃSKA E, OŁDAK A, TAŃCZUK A, WAGNER G K & SOJA J 2026. *Peat excavations as habitats and tools for protection of insects associated with raised and transitional peat bogs: a case study*. [in Polish and English] Uniwersytet Marii Curie-Skłodowskiej w Lublinie.

This study of the Bagno Forest in the Poleski National Park was made possible by funding associated with the Lublin Coal Basin. Three hundred and eighty-seven insect species were recorded including about ninety species of water beetle, thirty of which are reported from the Park for the first time. Thirty-three species are specifically associated with peat, including *Bidessus grossepunctatus* Vorbringer, *Agabus biguttulus* (Thomson), *Agabus pseudoclypealis* Scholz, *Hydroporus elongatulus* Sturm, *Hydrochus megaphallus* van Berge Henegouwen, and *Contacyphon kongsbergensis* (Munster). It was also noted that *Contacyphon* larvae constituted 41.4% of the total catch. Multivariate analysis showed *Hydroporus gyllenhalii* Schiødt to be the only species preferring warmth, and *H. scalesianus* Stephens and *Hydrochus megaphallus* were associated with a high oxidation-reduction potential. Many species were associated with shallow water, exceptions being *Halipus lineatocollis* (Marsham), *Ilybius similis* Thomson, *Hydroporus erythrocephalus* (L.), *H. figuratus* (Gyllenhal), *Hydrochus crenatus* (Fab.) and *H. ignicollis* Motschulsky. Numbers of species and individuals were strongly correlated with high oxygen concentration, as was the spatial heterogeneity of the habitat.



CAPE VERDE RECORDS

Sal is a 216 km² island in the Windward Islands group of the Cabo Verde Archipelago. The island has no permanent water but it does have saltpans that were worked in 2025 to find the species listed in the paper's title. The hydrophilids are additional to the already recorded *Enochrus wollastoni* (Sharp) and *Paracymus phalacroides* (Wollaston).

GREŃ C, KOMOSIŃSKI K, LASOŃ A & MILKOWSKI M 2026. First records of *Paracymus aeneus* (Germar, 1823) and *Enochrus segmentinotatus* (Kuwert, 1888) (Coleoptera: Hydrophilidae) from the Cabo Verde Archipelago and confirmation of the occurrence of *Ochthebius hesperides* Balfour-Browne, 1976 (Hydraenidae) on Sal Island. *Annals of the Upper Silesian Museum in Bytom. Entomology* **35** 1-2.

AGNOSHYDRUS LARVA

Agnoshydrus is a genus of small globular diving beetles endemic to south-east Asia. The larva of *A. thailandicus* is described for the first time, and has that familiar stubby and banded look of a few hydroporines. *Agnoshydrus* looks to be linked to *Desmopachria* and *Hovalhydrus*.

OKADA R, ALARIE Y & MICHAŁ M C 2026. Larval morphology of *Agnoshydrus* Biström, Nilsson & Wewalka, 1997: description of *A. thailandicus* Okada, 2024 and phylogenetic comparison with other known Hyphydrini (Coleoptera: Adephaga, Dytiscidae). *Zootaxa* **5768** 57-72.

DYTISCUS AND CYBISTER IN TROUBLE IN ITALY

Declines in *Dytiscus marginalis* L., *Cybister lateralimarginalis* (De Geer) and *C. tripunctatus* (Olivier) were observed between 1920-2020 and 2021-2025 in 35 sites in Latium. Persistence was greatest in natural sites and markedly lower in artificial and temporary water bodies. Decline was attributed to water abstraction for agriculture, drainage and the spread of alien fish and crayfish, plus the restocking of fish ponds. The authors also observed marked declines in green frogs (*Pelophylax*), the tadpoles of which are of course important in the diet of the larger diving beetles.

LUISELLI L, DI GIUSEPPE R, RUGIERO L, DENDI D & AMORI G. 2026. Decline of large dytiscid beetles in Central Italy: a previously overlooked conservation concern. *Journal of Insect Conservation* **30** 20 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10841-026-00755-2>

POLISH REED BEETLES

The Kampinos National Park in central Poland includes a remnant of the primeval forest and supports nineteen species of reed beetle:- *Donacia aquatica* (L.), *D. bicolora* Zschach, *D. brevicornis* Ahrens, *D. cinerea* Herbst, *D. clavipes* Fab., *D. crassipes* Fab., *D. dentata* Hoppe, *D. impressa* Paykull, *D. marginata* Hoppe, *D. semicuprea* Panzer, *D. sparganii* Ahrens, *D. thalassina* Germar, *D. tomentosa* Ahrens, *D. versicolore* (Brahm), *D. vulgaris* Zschach, *Plateumaris braccata* (Scopoli), *P. consimilis* (Schrank), *P. rustica* (Kunze), and *P. sericea* (L.).

MARCZAK D 2025. Notes on leaf beetles of the Kampinos National Park in Poland – Donaciinae (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae). *Fragmenta Faunistica* **68** 53-61

PAGODA-ANTENNAED DRYOPOID IN AMBER

The specimens of *Pagodocerus* were found in the amber mines of northern Myanmar. The body is clearly dryopoid with distinctive antennae with a flagellum likened to a pagoda, the segments tapering to the tips. This is claimed as “likely unique among all Coleoptera”, quite a challenge. Professor Che-Yang Cai is the correspondent.

LI Y-D, HUANG D-Y & CAI C-Y 2026. *Pagodocerus*, a new beetle genus of Mastigocoleidae from mid-Cretaceous Kachin amber (Coleoptera: Dryopoidea). *Papéis avulsos de Zoologia, Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de São Paulo* 66 pp. 7.

PETER S MAITLAND 1937-2025

Peter made his name as the leading researcher of his time on fish biology but his early experience, based on his PhD studies of the River Endrick in the west of Scotland, led him to develop his own version of the River Continuum Concept before such things became fashionable among ecologists. This required detailed studies of water beetles, in particular elmids. He generated about 200 records of water beetles in Scotland, including some of the first – and often the last – records for remote places such as Fetlar, Unst, Yell and the Isle of May.

ADAMS C & REID G M 2026. Obituary – Peter S. Maitland FRSE (1937-2025). *Glasgow Natural History Society Newsletter* February 2026 1-2.

BEAN C 2025. Obituary: Professor Peter Maitland FRSE (1937-2025). *Freshwater Biological Association Voice*.

<https://www.fba.org.uk/fba-voice/obituary-professor-peter-maitland-frse-1937-2025>



BIAŁOWIEŻA FOREST FLOOR

Martin Hammond has drawn attention to the supplementary information for this paper in which *Hydrobius fuscipes* L. and *Megasternum concinnum* (Marsham) are recorded from the nest of the wood warbler, *Phylloscopus sibilatrix* (Beckstein), on the floor of this famous forest.

MAZIARZ M, BROUGHTON R K, FOSTER C W, LEŚNIEWSKA M, MAZUR M A, RUTKOWSKI T, TRIGOS-PERAL G, WITEK M & HEBDA G 2026. Bird nests support a diverse, dynamic and distinctive macroarthropod community on the forest floor. *Insect Conservation & Diversity* <https://doi.org/10.1111/icad.70067>.

NEW IRISH RECORDS

A review of Irish ladybirds not only notes recent records of *Anisosticta novemdecimpunctata* (L.) from Cork City but also intriguingly shifts J.N. Halbert's Kenmare record in 1898 of it from V99 to V85. The weevil *Drupenatus nasturtii*, associated with watercresses, is recorded new in Ireland from Mid Cork, South Tipperary, Clare and Carlow

GARCIA L 2026. *Drupenatus nasturtii* (Germar, 1824) (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) a weevil new to Ireland. *Irish Naturalists' Journal* 42 127-128.

van der NOLL, L., HAMILTON J. & POWER B 2024. Water ladybird (*Anisosticta novemdecimpunctata*) (Coleoptera, Coccinellidae) in Co. Cork, the first Irish records since 1898. *Irish Naturalists' Journal* 41 121-122.

POWER B, BECKETT O, BYRNES C, HAMILTON J & MITCHELL R 2026. A critical review and updated checklist of the Irish ladybird (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) fauna. *Irish Naturalists' Journal* 42 94-102.

LACCOSTERNUS AND LACCOPHILINI

Only two species of *Laccosternus* are known, *L. grouvellei* (Régimbart) and *L. krausi* Brancucci & Vongsana, photographed below left and right by Ryohei Okada, reproduction thanks to Mario Toledo. Both species are here recorded from Thailand for the first time, but in different areas. The genus is given a new description, now including for the first time the male of *grouvellei*. A re-analysis of the Laccophilini recovered three main clades, with a strong link between *Laccosternus* and the New World *Lacomimus* Toledo & Michat. A revised key to Laccophilini is provided. This re-examination included the realisation that there the hind legs have only a single claw, and extension of the last tarsal segment having been previously been interpreted as the other claw.



TOLEDO M , OKADA R & NEGRI I 2026. New data on the genus *Laccosternus* Brancucci, 1983, with description of the male of *L. grouvellei* (Régimbart, 1895) and a revised phylogeny of the tribe Laccophilini (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae: Laccophilinae). *Zootaxa* **5862** 105–126

POLISH DYSTROPHIC LAKES

This is a survey of the beetles of the Wigry National Park in north-east Poland. The lakes of this area are known to support 117 water beetles species, 87 of which were found in a survey in 2025. Of particular interest was *Graphoderus bilineatus* (De Geer) with a stable population in Lake Widne. Other notable species are *Hydrovatus cuspidatus* (Kunze), *Ilybius crassus* Thomson, *I. similis* Thomson and *Dryops anglicanus* Edwards.

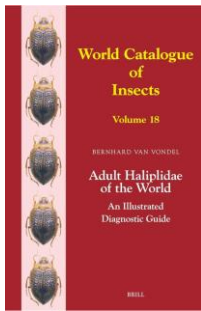
GREŃ C & SUĆKO K 2026. Chrząszcze wodne (Coleoptera: Noteridae, Dytiscidae, Gyrinidae, Haliplidae, Hydraenidae, Helophoridae, Hydrochidae, Hydrophilidae, Dryopidae) jezior dystroficznych Wigierskiego Parku Narodowego. *Rocznik Muzeum Górnośląskiego w Bytomiu Przyroda* **32** 1-40.

MACROPLEA IN POLAND

Macroplea appendiculata has been found in the Odra River in Wrocław.

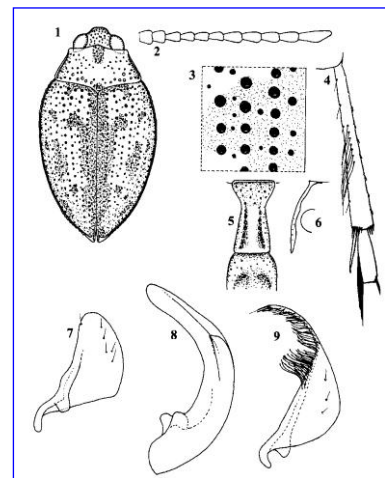
LEWEK G, DZIECHCIŃSKA M, KILIAN A & KADEJ M 2026. Kolejne stwierdzenie jeziornicy rdestnicowej *Macroplea appendiculata* (Panzer, 1794) (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Donaciinae) w południowo-zachodniej Polsce. *Rocznik Muzeum Górnośląskiego w Bytomiu Przyroda* **32** 1-6.

HALIPLIDAE OF THE WORLD



📖 VAN VONDEL B J 2026. *Adult Haliplidae of the World. An illustrated diagnostic guide.* World Catalogue of Insects **18**. Brill. ISBN 978-90-94-75967-1. As with many books it pays to shop around not just on price (£150-180 in the UK, for example) but also on whether the book is really in stock.

Bernhard's *magnum opus* was published in July 2026. It covers 233 species known globally, and is in his inimitable style. Central is a kit of illustrations including as a minimum a dorsal view, an antenna, some of the elytral punctures, a prosternum and metasternum, a hind tibia, the penis and the left and right parameres, as seen below with the African *Haliphus watsoni* van Vondel. Photographs are provided for all 233 species, inevitably some images better than others but all will help in identification. Finally, all species are mapped, problems that might appear to some as nitpicking being the assumption that some species range over the whole of Great Britain where they get no further than southern England, the opposite applying to *Haliphus guttatus* Aubé in Iberia. In the foreword Rolf Beutel highlights the uniqueness of the family within the Adephaga in that their larvae are exclusively algivorous with mouthparts developed to suck out individual cells, with the fore legs adapted for climbing and with their own forms of gill. Water beetles have dominated Brill's *World Catalogue of Insects*, with Volume 1 on Hydraenidae and 2 on Hydrophilidae by Michael Hansen, 3 on Dytiscidae by Anders Nilsson, 7 on the rest of the Hydradephaga by Anders and Bernhard, and 14 on Elmidae and Protelmidae by Manfred Jäch *et al.* This Volume **18** in the series is the first to go well beyond the original checklist approach.



“LA SPECOLA” UPDATE ON ACQUISITIONS

Seventy taxa of hydrophiloid beetles are reported in this review of new material in the Florence museum. They include *Hydrochus tuberculatus* Hansen from Sierra Leone, three *Amphiops*, two *Anacaena*, six *Berosus*, eight *Coelostoma*, six *Enochrus*, two *Helochares*, four *Hydrophilus*, five *Sternolophus*, and four *Spercheus*.

ROCCHI S 2025. Nuovi dati faunistici di Coleoptera Hydrophiloidea delle regioni zoogeografiche Afrotropicale, Orientale, Nearctica, Neotropica e Paleartica (Coleoptera: Hydrochidae, Hydrophilidae, Spercheidae). *Quaderno di Studi e Notizie di Storia Naturale della Romagna* **60** 305-320.

BRITISH ELMID LARVAE

Jason Doe has produced a fully illustrated key to elm mid larvae to be found in Britain. Although it is still not possible to identify *Oulimnius* larvae to species, the three members of *Riolus*, now including *R. nitens* (Müller), all with distinctive abdominal lateral spiracles, are differentiated. This note took some finding in the KeyNote earlier but it is worth persevering – and it may be easier to find in a later version.

DOE J 2025. Identifying Elmidae larvae. *Freshwater Biological Association KeyNote* **11** 1-9.

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/621616256950454546689e6d/t/695d023f90d95c625473bcb4/1767703103973/KeyNote11+-+Elmidae+Larvae_FINAL.pdf

IT TAKES TWO TO TANGO - DYTISCID POLYMORPHISMS

The main concern of this paper is to show that different forms are not confined to the males of the species, based largely on aggression, but can also exist as female phenomena. That may well be true but the trouble is that the authors have cited Dytiscidae as an example of “female-limited polymorphisms” without appreciating how these might be directly linked to distinct male forms. Thus the matt form of the female of *Hydroporus memnonius* Nicolai, known for convenience as *castaneus* Aubé, is found in association with a male form that can be recognised by sucker hairs on the mid-tarsi additional to what can be found in the males associated with the type form of female. Nor do the authors acknowledge the range of features that can be modified in females, not just microreticulation, but hairy grooves, slashes and warts against which the male offers only more and/or larger sucker cups. The paper is also a vehicle for a conceptual model to explain the origin of female-limited polymorphisms, but this would be premature for diving beetles for which the key paper remains Hardling & Bergsten (2006). Finally, “who started all this?”

HÄRDLING R & BERGSTEN J 2006 Nonrandom mating preserves intrasexual polymorphism and stops population differentiation in sexual conflict. *The American Naturalist* **167** 401-409.

SVENSSON E I, FALK J J, IVERSEN L, LAVANCHY G, ROBERTS N S, TUNSTRÖM K & LANCASTER L T 2026. The origin, genomics and evolution of female-limited polymorphisms. *Royal Society Philosophical Transactions B* **381** 2025.0175.

MEXICAN BEETLE CHECKLIST

This is a compilation of what has been reported for Mexico. Of the 21,755 species of beetle known 25 are Gyrinidae, 26 Haliplidae, 18 Noteridae, 194 Dytiscidae, 1 Hydroscaphidae, 18 Scirtidae, 66 Elmidae, 17 Dryopidae, 42 Limnichidae, 22 Heteroceridae, 15 Psephenidae, 35 Ptilodactylidae, 4 Helophoridae, 8 Epimetopidae, 1 Georissidae, 20 Hydrochidae, 181 Hydrophilidae, 90 Hydraenidae, and many other wetland specialists.

NAVARRETE-HEREDIA J L *et al.* 2026. Coleoptera of Mexico: a summary of families and account of the number of recorded species. *Zootaxa* **5858** 1–111

MONGOLIAN HELOPHORUS

Notes are provided on the occurrence of the following in Mongolia:- *Helophorus aspericollis* Angus, *H. bergrothi* Sahlberg, *H. browni* McCorkle, *H. carsoni* Angus, *H. crinitus* Ganglbauer, *H. hammondi* Angus, *H. jaechi* Angus, *H. kaszabianus* Angus, *H. kerimi* Ganglbauer, *H. khnzoriani* Angus, *H. kryzhanovskii* Angus, *H. limbatus* Motschulsky, *H. mongoliensis* Angus, *H. obscurellus* Poppius, *H. orientalis* Motschulsky, *H. parajacutus* Angus, *H. praenanus* Łomnicki, *H. shatrovskyi* Angus, *H. sibiricus* Motschulsky, *H. similis* Kuwert, and *H. timidus* Motschulsky. *H. parasplendidus* Angus was originally described the Arctic tundra in Canada: but a specimen has turned up in Siberia near the Mongolian border.

ANGUS R B 2026. A further contribution to knowledge of the Mongolian fauna of the genus *Helophorus* Fabricius, 1775 (Coleoptera: Hydrophiloidea, Helophoridae). *Aquatic Insects* doi: 10.1080/01650424.2026.2662900

ZAITZEVIA IN CHINA

Six species are known from Shaanxi province, five of them being newly published here. New records are given for *Zaitzevia* in other provinces.

BIAN D-J & JÄCH M A 2025. The species of the genus *Zaitzevia* Champion, 1923 (Coleoptera, Elmidae) from Shaanxi Province, China. *ZooKeys* **1264** 129-157.

HYDERODES LARVAE

Hyderodes is the Australian representative of the Dytiscini. The two species, *crassus* Sharp, rare in the south-west, and *shuckardi* Hope, common in the south-east, are endemic to Australia. All instars of the two species are described. They differ from those of *Dytiscus* in several features including their bifid first maxillary segment and the absence of swimming hairs on the inside edges of the urogomphi. Other features indicate a link to the Cybistrinae.

MICHAT M C, DETTNER K, ALARIE Y, HENDRICH L & WATTS C H S 2026.
Larval morphology of the Australian endemic diving beetle genus *Hyderodes* Hope, 1838 (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae). *Austral Entomology* 65:e70097.

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CONTENTS			
DO BERMS IMPROVE WATER BEETLE HABITAT IN FENLAND DRAINS? M Hammond		1	
SEARCHING ENGLISH FENLANDIN SEPTEMBER 2025 AND MARCH 2026 P Sutton		8	
Editorial and miscellanea			
contacts	32	contents	34
Book		HALIPLIDAE OF THE WORLD	30
Papers			
AGNOSHYDRUS LARVA	27	JAPANESE ENDEMIC ELMID GENETICS	20
ALGERIAN CHECKLIST UPDATE	24	KERALA BEETLES	23
ASIAN HYDROPHILID RECORDS	20	LACCOPHILUS NAKAJIMAI	25
BEAVERING AWAY	20	LACCORNIS OBLONGUS IN BELGIUM	26
BELGIAN ADDITIONS	22	LACCOSTERNUS AND LACCOPHINI	29
BIAŁOWIEŻA FOREST FLOOR	28	"LA SPECOLA" UPDATE ...	30
BRITISH ELMID LARVAE	30	MACROPLEA IN POLAND	29
BRITISH LEAF BEETLE RED LIST UPDATE	12	MEGASTERNUM IN ISRAEL	19
CAPE VERDE RECORDS	27	MEXICAN BEETLE CHECKLIST	31
CENTRAL ENGLAND IN THE LATE GLACIAL...	23	MONGOLIAN HELOPHORUS	31
CERCYON LAMINATUS IN PORTUGAL	26	MORE COELOSTOMA	16
CRETAN CHECKLIST	19	NEW IRISH RECORDS	28
CROATIAN HYDRAENIDAE	24	NEW TIBETAN AND NEW SIBERIAN	
CYBISTER LARVAL FEEDING HABITS	7	HELOPHORUS	21
DICYRTOCERCYON GANGLBAUER ...A GENUS	25	PADDY/FOREST INTERACTIONS	18
DYTISCID ORIGIN EARLIER THAN ...THOUGHT	21	PAGODA-ANTENNAED DRYOPOID	28
DYTISCUS AND CYBISTER ...IN ITALY	27	POLISH CARPATHIAN	
DYTISCUS DIMIDIATUS REACHES SCOTLAND	22	HYDROPHILOIDEA	19
FAR EAST OF RUSSIA	21	POLISH DYSTROPHIC LAKES	29
GEORISSUS SUBSTRIATUS IN IBERIA	7	POLISH REED BEETLES	27
HELOCHARES PUNCTATUS IN THURINGIA	3	PROTOSTERNUM & ARACEAE	21
HYDERODES LARVAE	32	SUPHISELLUS IN ARGENTINA	3
HYDROCHARA DIVERSITY	24	THE NEOBIDESSUS LARVA	26
IRANIAN RECORDS	24	TORFIANKI	26
IRAQI BEETLES IDENTIFIED BY DNA	23	URBANICITY	18
IT TAKES TWO TO TANGO - DYTISCID		WESTMORLAND SURVEY	12
POLYMORPHISMS	31	ZAITZEVIA IN CHINA	31
Losses		MIKE MORRIS 1934-2025	25
DANIEL KUBISZ 1957-2025	19	FERNANDO PEDERZANI 1938-2026	4
PETER S MAITLAND 1937-2025	28	DAVE SHEPPARD 1952-2025	25
Meetings			
BALFOUR-BROWNE CLUB COMING OF AGE RUTLAND WATER		17	
IRELAND 2026, AND OTHER IRISH MEETINGS CARRICK-ON-SHANNON		13	
2027 – PROBABLY VIENNA			