
Miscellaneous invertebrates recorded from the Outer Hebrides, 2010

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While attending the Botanical Society of the British Isles field meeting on North Uist in August 2010, the opportunity was taken to collect invertebrates. The records presented here fall into two categories, being either the less common species found on North Uist, or lengthier species lists from two smaller and less well recorded islands. The three flies recorded from Hermetray may be the first records of Diptera from this island (Skidmore, 2009). The species' status are taken from Foster (2010) for aquatic beetles, Hyman & Parsons (1992) for other beetles, and Falk (1991) for flies.

Heteroptera

Halosalda lateralis: 2 in saltmarsh, Claggan Sollas, NF818758, 5 August. A shorebug found in saltmarshes.

Homoptera

Euconomelus lepidus: 1 male and 3 females swept from moss beside Loch a' Roe, NF69077045, 2 August. A small plant-hopper associated with rushes, *Juncus* spp.

Coleoptera

Chaetarthria simillima: 4 sieved from moss beside Loch a' Roe, NF69077045, 2 August. A tiny water beetle, Nationally Scarce, described new to science as a segregate of *C. seminulum* in 2003. See Levey (2005) for how to distinguish the species and Foster (2009) for distribution maps. *C. simillima* has been recorded previously from the southern end of the Outer Hebrides.

Cercyon littoralis: 2 in beach driftline, Traigh Iar, NF816767, 5 August. A small beetle, Nationally Scarce, found in coastal driftlines.

Gyrinus minutus: 2 males in a small peat pool near Loch Sgadabhagh, NF87136725, 3 August. A Nationally Scarce whirligig beetle.

Silpha tyrolensis: 1 on dunes, Machair Leathann, NF820772, 1 August; 1 dead on machair, Claggan Sollas, NF806761, 5 August. A Nationally Scarce carrion beetle, possibly a predator of molluscs according to Hyman & Parsons (1992). The specimen from Claggan Sollas was in a bucket part full of water which had acted as an insect trap and contained dozens of dor beetles *Geotrupes stercorarius*, many of them decomposing.

Diptera

Nemotelus uliginosus: female in saltmarsh, Claggan Sollas, NF818758, 5 August. A soldierfly which breeds in saltmarsh.

Gimmomera tarsea: two females swept from moss beside Loch a' Roe, NF69077045, 2 August. A Nationally Scarce scathophagid fly which breeds in the seed heads of marsh lousewort *Pedicularis palustris*.

Calliphora uralensis: 1 male and 2 females collected from a group of 10 bluebottles in the porch of Sheillaidh, Sollas, NF81957536, 11 pm, 4 August; 1 male on beach, Traigh Iar, NF816767, 5 August. A boreal blowfly or bluebottle, Red Data Book category 3, Rare, restricted in Great Britain to Scotland, and mainly coastal (Davies, 1987).

Hymenoptera

Bombus muscorum ssp. *liepeterseni*: worker dead on dunes, Machair Leathann, NF820772, 1 August; worker, machair, Balranald, NF697698, 2 August. We were told by the Balranald warden Jamie Boyle that the bumblebee *Bombus muscorum* is frequent on North Uist. However, the two collected specimens have black hairs on the abdomen, which indicates they should be *B. pascuorum* according to Edwards & Jenner (2009), a species not found in the Outer Hebrides. The issue was resolved by Dr Oliver Prys-Jones who identified them as this subspecies of *muscorum*, which does have black hairs, as explained in his recent book (Prys-Jones, Corbet & Hopkins 2011). In Britain, it is known only from the Outer Hebrides.

Hermetray, 4 August

Small pool in valley bog, NF98687412: *Agabus bipustulatus*, *Hydroporus gyllenhalii*, *H. pubescens*, *H. tristis*, *Enochrus fuscipennis* (aquatic Coleoptera). Lake, NF988741: *Ischnura elegans*, *Sympetrum nigrescens* det. R. Youngmann (Odonata). Same lake, NF989739: *Mystacides azurea*, 2 females (Trichoptera). Rocky shore, NF99047398: *Ligia oceanica* (Crustacea, Isopoda). Driftline of sand and shingle beach, NF98637367: *Fucellia tergina* male, *Scathophaga litorea* (Diptera). Freshwater spring by beach, NF98617371: *Hydroporus pubescens* (aquatic Coleoptera). Pool above north end of beach, NF98587371: *Gammarus duebeni* (Crustacea, Amphipoda). Bay, NF98557442: *Petrobius brevistylis* (Thysanura), *Forficula auricularia* (Dermaptera), *Clivina fossor*, *Ocypus ater* (Coleoptera), *Eristalinus aeneus* (Diptera), *Porcellio scaber* (Crustacea, Isopoda).

Ronay, 6 August

Seepage, NF88775593: *Agabus bipustulatus*, *Hydroporus nigrita*, *Anacaena globulus*, *Laccobius bipunctatus* (aquatic Coleoptera), Fox moth *Macrothylacia rubi* larvae (Lepidoptera). Under litter on turf, NF887559: *Forficula auricularia* (Dermaptera), *Philoscia muscorum* (Crustacea, Isopoda). Moorland, NF894558: Knotgrass moth *Acronicta rumicis* 2 larvae (Lepidoptera). Moorland, NF899557: Magpie moth *Abraxas grossulariata*, Garden Tiger *Arctia caja* (Lepidoptera). Small peaty

lake, NF90085566: *Sympetrum danae* larva (Odonata),
Agabus arcticus, *Enochrus fuscipennis* (aquatic
Coleoptera). Another small lake, NF89845569:
Hydroporus obscurus, *Gyrinus minutus*, *G. substriatus*
(aquatic Coleoptera). Shore of rocky lake,
NF89715537: Emperor moth *Saturnia pavonia* larva
(Lepidoptera).

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