

ENTOMOLOGICAL RECORD FOR DERBYSHIRE, 1939.

By N. BLACKWELL WOOD.

Judging by the records received the season 1939 has not produced anything very startling in entomological finds. The most interesting record is the capture by Mr. G. H. Storer, F.Z.S., of a specimen of *Poecilostola punctata* (Schrk). This insect was taken on June 10th at Repton Shrubs, on the occasion of a field day of the Derbyshire Entomological Society, and is now recorded for the first time in the county.

The season was rather cold and backward in the early part of the year, and the outbreak of war in the first days of September put an end to any night collecting afterwards. When at the Shrubs at the beginning of June, 1938, large numbers of trees and shrubs were denuded of their leaves, but at the same time this year there was hardly any evidence of larvae in this district. I have missed *hastata* the last few years at Repton and *T. rubi* at Little Eaton and Holymoorside. A few years ago these were common insects in the localities named. *A. sylvata*, on the contrary, has become increasingly plentiful at Repton, and this insect and *E. punctaria* were both commonly in evidence there this year on June 10th.

The following dates of emergence of bred specimens may be interesting:

A number of larvae of *P. machaon* were taken by Mr. F. Larkin and myself on the Broads one evening last summer. These were fed in Derby on carrot leaves, and the first two emerged on February 6th this year, whilst a further specimen remained in the chrysalis until June 6th.

A number of pupae of *E. lanestris* hatched on April 16th and after; a late emergence for this insect.

A large number of *verbasci* larvae taken near Morley last year all pupated within two days. The first two hatched on April 28th and no more till June 5th, during which week the remainder hatched.

Jacobae hatched May 30th, June 5th *et seq.* *L. quercus ab callunae* and *elpenor* commenced emergence June 6th and during the following fortnight.

The first emergence of a large number of bred specimens of *P. rapae* was April 28th.

An interesting capture is reported by Mr. C. S. Garnett of *T. batis*, taken in City Road, Derby, the first week of June.

Petraria was plentiful at Black Rocks, Cromford, on June 4th, but less plentiful at Repton than the previous season when it was particularly abundant. It was also well in evidence together with *atomaria* at Holymoorside on June 6th.

The first week of June produced large numbers of *B. brassicae*, *H. lupulina* and *montanata*, together with immigrant *gamma* at Allestree.

Although large numbers of imagines, and also eggs of the six-spot burnet were turned loose on wild vetch at Allestree in 1938, there was no evidence of any larvae in the area this year, so presumably there is something unsuitable to this species in the district.

A field day to Repton, on June 10th, proved disappointing for lepidoptera, although it was the occasion of the noteworthy capture of *P. punctata* already mentioned in these notes. The only other specimens noted that day were *pusaria*, *montanata*, *piniaria*, *petraria*, *varieta*, *sylvata*, *liturata*, and *punctaria*.

Early in August *B. perla* appeared at Allestree. This sitting side by side with *P. chi* used to be plentiful at Allestree years ago, but seldom seen there now.