

ENTOMOLOGICAL NOTES AND RECORDS
FOR 1950.

N. BLACKWELL WOOD.

The year has been a poor one for Entomology generally, owing to the weather. The summer was one of the wettest and dullest on record and the sunless days and frequent rain kept many insects under cover and helped to keep the number of records down below the normal.

One outstanding feature has been the number of cases reported concerning the Death's Head Hawk and with a single exception these have all been of the occurrence in the larval stage.

Another very interesting record comes from Mr. W. H. Hanbury, who reports a specimen of the Dark Green Fritillary (*A. aglaia*), seen in the garden at 16, Woodland Road, Derby, on August 27th.

No other reports of rarities have been received but there are a few notes supplied by Messrs. D. C. Hulme, W. Bullock and C. E. Brown giving data of place and date observed in connection with several species and these are referred to in the following list, the references being the initials of the person reporting.

BUTTERFLIES.

Wall (*P. megaera*). Many about on June 4th at Littleover (C.E.B.); seen from May 31st to September 14th but in less numbers than previous year (D.C.H.); fairly frequent at Allestree during the season (N.B.W.).

Meadow Brown (*E. ianira*). Earliest date at Repton was May 20th (W.B.); abundant at Allestree (N.B.W.) and Littleover, June 18th-August 19th (D.C.H.).

Red Admiral (*P. atalanta*). Seen only during September at Littleover (D.C.H.); but "Many at Littleover,

August 10th" (C.E.B.); less plentiful at Allestree (N.B.W.).

Comma (*P. c-album*). Littleover Hollow, March 26th (C.E.B.); again at Littleover, August 8th (C.E.B.); Chatsworth House, gardens, on April 7th (D.C.H.).

Peacock and Small Tortoiseshell seem to have been less plentiful than usual.

Holly Blue (*C. argiolus*). At Robins Wood, Repton, May 11th (W.B.); two at Hulland, August 19th (D.C.H.); several at Allestree, July 29th (N.B.W.).

Common Blue (*L. icarus*). Two at Stenson, June 25th (D.C.H.); earliest date at Repton, June 4th (W.B.).

Orange Tip (*E. cardamines*). Earliest record, Repton, May 8th (W.B.); abundant, June 4th, at Ingleby (D.C.H.).

Brimstone (*G. rhamni*). Robins Wood, Repton, May 11th (W.B.); Repton, June 5th (W.B.).

Small Copper (*C. phlaeas*). Repton, July 20th (W.B.); one only at Hulland, August 19th (D.C.H.); none seen in garden or other usual haunts at Allestree (N.B.W.).

Green Hairstreak (*C. rubi*). At Holymoorside, end of May (N.B.W.).

Large Skipper (*A. sylvanus*). June 10th, Sudbury Coppice; June 25th, two at Littleover; and four Stenson (D.C.H.).

MOTHS.

Death's Head Hawk (*A. atropos*). September 1st, reported from Boulton Avenue, Derby; September 13th, Uttoxeter Road, Derby, both larvæ taken to Derby Museum; October 4th, another taken in Derby and sent me by Mr. Thorpe; September 17th, two larvæ feeding at Shardlow Hall in care of Mr. A. Roebuck, to whom they had been sent from different parts of the County. Mr. Roebuck commented on other reports from the

County this year which seem to put this a record year for this insect. A specimen of the perfect insect was picked up by the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary in September (N.B.W.).

Leopard (*Z. pyrina*). A female found at Littleover, July 20th (D.C.H.).

Dusky Thorn (*D. fuscantaria*). Stenson, September 16th (D.C.H.).

BETLES.

Colony of Small Stag Beetles at Repton, June 18th (W.B.).