LEICESTERSHIRE & RUTLAND ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The status of Diptera in VC55

Syrphidae

Hoverflies on *Solidago*

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PREFACE

The hoverflies (Syrphidae) are amongst the most familiar of the Diptera to the amateur naturalist. Their ability to demonstrate extreme agility in flight makes them easily noticed. Many are colourful with well-marked abdomens such that the more common species have been given English names although the author finds most of these inexplicable! They are familiar from early spring to late autumn with the summer months being particularly favoured. The adults can often be found hovering over flowers occasionally dipping down to take nectar, while males can be seen patrolling a fixed path in search of possible mates,

This LESOPS aims to establish a baseline for these insects (based on adult records located up to 2020) in Leicestershire & Rutland (VC55) so that future work can encourage recognition of new species entering our area and also build up information on favoured habitats which may aid conservation efforts.

While many of the more recent records currently available in the VC55 database come from citizen recording projects (e.g. bioblitzes, NatureSpot), a good proportion preceded such effort with active recording occurring since the mid-1900s.

This LESOPS reports on the occurrence of 189 species on the current British list of 285 (DF, 2023)

CONTENTS

1. HOW TO RECOGNISE A HOVERFLY

Figure 1: False vein in a typical hoverfly

The presence of a false vein ("*vena spuria*") is a firm indication that this is a hoverfly (Figure 1). However, it should be noted that some other fly families e.g. Keratoplatidae (Figure 2) may have such false veins although not as consistently obvious as in the Syrphidae.

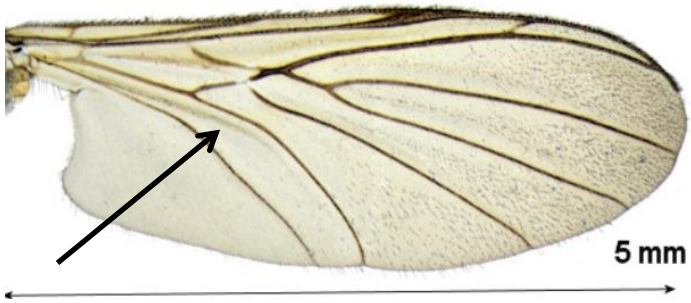


Figure 2: False vein in Keratoplatidae

2. A BRIEF HISTORY OF HOVERFLY RECORDING

Hoverflies were known to Linnaeus but were certainly around for millennia before as evidenced by fossil remains (e.g. Kotthoff & Schmidt, 2005).

Initially, it seems entomological classification assigned the hoverflies to the "*Musca*" with Berkenhout (1769) listing 21 species with surprisingly detailed descriptions. Moses Harris, a well-known and respected 18th century illustrator, produced sheets of insect pictures with an example of his hoverfly illustrations being shown in Figure 3 particularly showing wing venation. In 1830 the German entomologist Johann Wilhelm Meigen produced detailed illustrations of many diptera including Syrphidae (Meigen 1822; Figure 4). Further illustrations appeared in the early 19th century e.g. Curtis (1823-40) accompanied by descriptions of the illustrated fly (Figure 5).

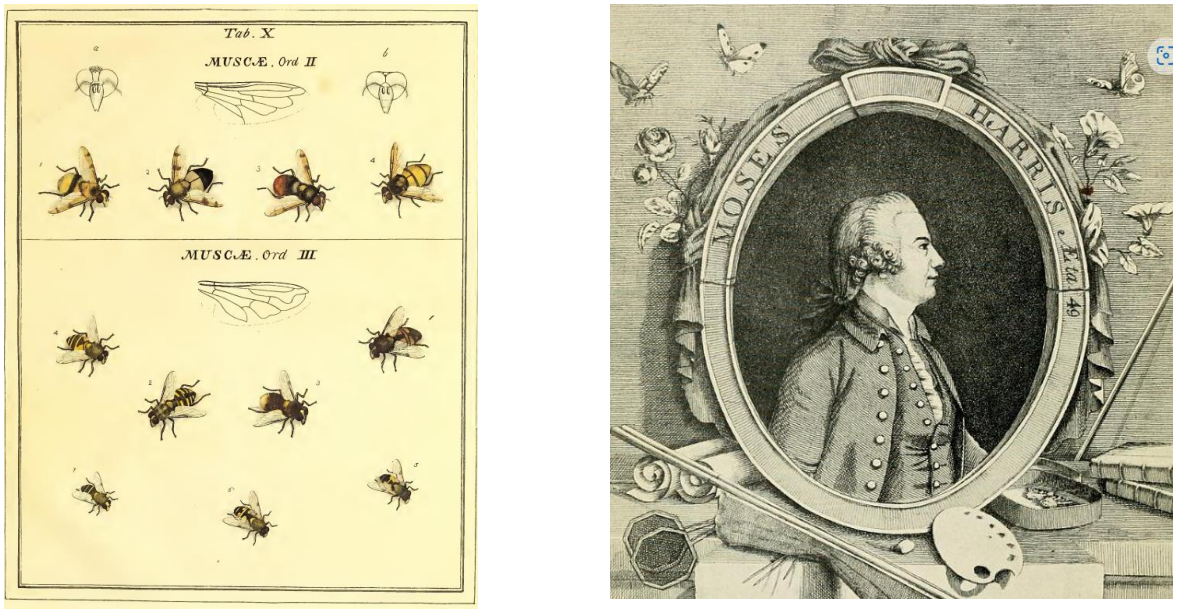


Figure 3: *An Exposition of British Insects* (1776) by Moses Harris (1730-1787)

By the end of the 19th century studying the dipteran fauna of Britain had reached great heights with many records from across the country appearing in entomological journals e.g. *Entomologists Monthly Magazine* and *The Entomologist* (access to early issues can be reached using the Biodiversity Heritage Library website www.biodiversitylibrary.com.

Since that time, a range of sources have appeared, predominantly as a result of publications by local and national natural history societies. Eventually this gave rise to specific entomological publications such as the *Dipterists Digest* and the *British Journal of Entomology and Natural History*. The advent of the Leicestershire Entomological Society (LES) in 1988 (now the Leicestershire & Rutland Entomological Society, LRES) focusses attention locally!

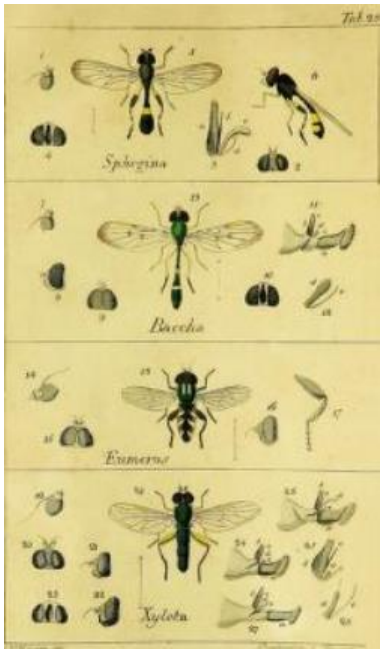


Figure 4: Hoverfly illustrations from *Systematische Beschreibung* (1822) 3 by Johann Wilhelm Meigen (1764-1845)

RHINGIA CAMPESTRIS.

ORDER Diptera. FAM. Syrphidæ *Lat.*, *Leach.*

Type of the Genus Conops rostrata *Linn.*

RHINGIA *Scop.*, *Fab.*, *Lat.*, *Meig.*, *Panz.*—Conops *Linn.*—Musca *DeGeer.*

Antennæ inserted in front on an elevated portion of the head, porrected; 5-jointed, basal joint small, 2nd larger subclavate pilose, 3rd the largest subcordiform, 4th minute, inserted on the side of the 3rd near the base producing a long slightly pubescent bristle (fig. 3).

Labrum long broad, hollow thin transparent, trilobed at the apex (1, b).

Tongue nearly as long as the labrum, thin transparent, lanceolate (c).

Mandibles none.

Maxillæ as long as the tongue, slender acute (e). *Palpi* long, united to the maxillæ at their base, detached towards the extremity, which is bent clavate and slightly hairy (f).

Lip retractile long fleshy pilose, terminated by 2 long lobes (g).

Proboscis *very long.* (2 g). Head *subtrigonate.* Nasus *produced, forming a long conical horn, hollow to receive the proboscis.* Eyes *contiguous in the males, remote in the females* (2 *). Ocelli 3 *in triangle at the base of the head.* Thorax *globose.* Scutellum *semiorbicular.* Abdomen *ovate shorter than the* Wings, *which are horizontal and incumbent when at rest, containing about* 13 *cells.* Halteres *small clavate.* Legs *simple.* Tarsi 5-*jointed, basal joint the longest and robust in the hinder pair, 4th joint minute.* Pulvilli *and* Claws *distinct* (8, a fore leg).

CAMPESTRIS *Meig. Syst. Besch. v. 3. p. 259. n. 2.*—rostrata *DeGeer, v. 6. tab. 7. f.* 21—23.

Nose ochraceous black at the apex. Eyes rosy black. Thorax æneous black, with 2 pale abbreviated lines on the back. Scutellum dull castaneous. Abdomen bright ochre; basal joint, margins of the segments, a line on each side, and another down the back tapering to the apex, dark brown. Wings slightly iridescent, yellowish fuscous, darkest at the costa, nervures brown. Legs dull ochre. Thighs black at the base: tibiæ with a dark ring in the middle most distinct in the hinder pair: tarsi blackish above.

In the Author's and other Cabinets.

Figure 5: *Rhingia campestris* (Curtis 1823-40)

An avid enthusiast for the Diptera was George Henry Verrall who, at the end of the 19th century, produced probably the first comprehensive keys to the identification of British Syrphidae (Verrall, 1901; Figure 6). A supplementary volume listed the names with their synonyms – an excellent tool for researching earlier records when the nomenclature was unsettled.

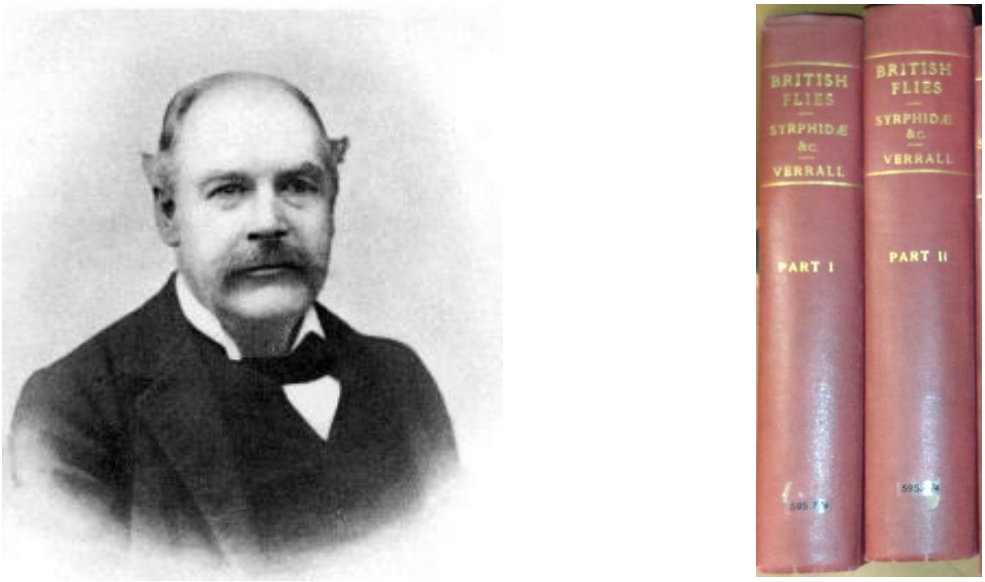


Figure 6: George Henry Verrall

However, following Verrall's work, there were few, if any, keys capable of being used with confidence for recognition of British hoverflies, apart from notes that appeared in the entomological literature of the time. It is possible that reliance was placed on the use of continental publications (as well as Verrall) and it was well into the twentieth century before updated keys appeared. No doubt the use of museum and personal collections also facilitated recording at this time.

3. HOVERFLIES IN VC55

The first published mention of entomological recording in our area came with the George Crabbe study of wildlife in the Vale of Belvoir (Crabbe, 1795) which included a few references to Diptera but surprisingly with no hoverflies. It was not until the latter half of the 19th century that a more considered recording effort was made by William Armiston Vice (Figure 7; Kramer, 2011). He collected mostly in the Blaby area (having been brought up at Blaby Mill adjacent to the River Sence (East) and the Grand Union Canal) with occasional excursions to Longcliffe (near Loughborough), Owston Woods and other relatively local sites. He was an active member (including Chair) of the entomological section of the Leicester Literary & Philosophical Society producing a list of 54 hoverflies that he had seen (Vice, 1885). Later, his records of 85 species formed a major part of the Diptera section of the Victoria County History of Leicester (VCH-L, 1907). The companion Rutland volume (VCH-R, 1908) had no records of the Syrphidae with the exception of *Eristalis tenax* and *Scaeva* (as *Catabomba*) *pyrastri*.

In Leicestershire it appears that the VCH-L hoverfly notes were based upon a series of record cards, produced and co-ordinated by F.R. Rowley of Leicester Museum, which have survived with the originals being deposited at the County Resources Centre (CRC) at Barrow upon Soar as well as having been scanned by the Leicestershire & Rutland Environmental Records Centre (LRERC reference SO-80-20-009/010/011/012). Unlike the VCH-L, these cards have more detail including where and when species were recorded (Figure 9). In addition, letters at the Leicestershire & Rutland Records Office showed that Vice was in contact with Verrall who may have verified some of Vice's sightings (Leicestershire & Rutland Record Office, ref 13D56/4). The CRC collections contain a handful of Vice's hoverfly specimens with only one being directly linked to a VCH-L record card (Figure 10).

Figure 7: W.A. Vice

Figure 8: E.E. Lowe

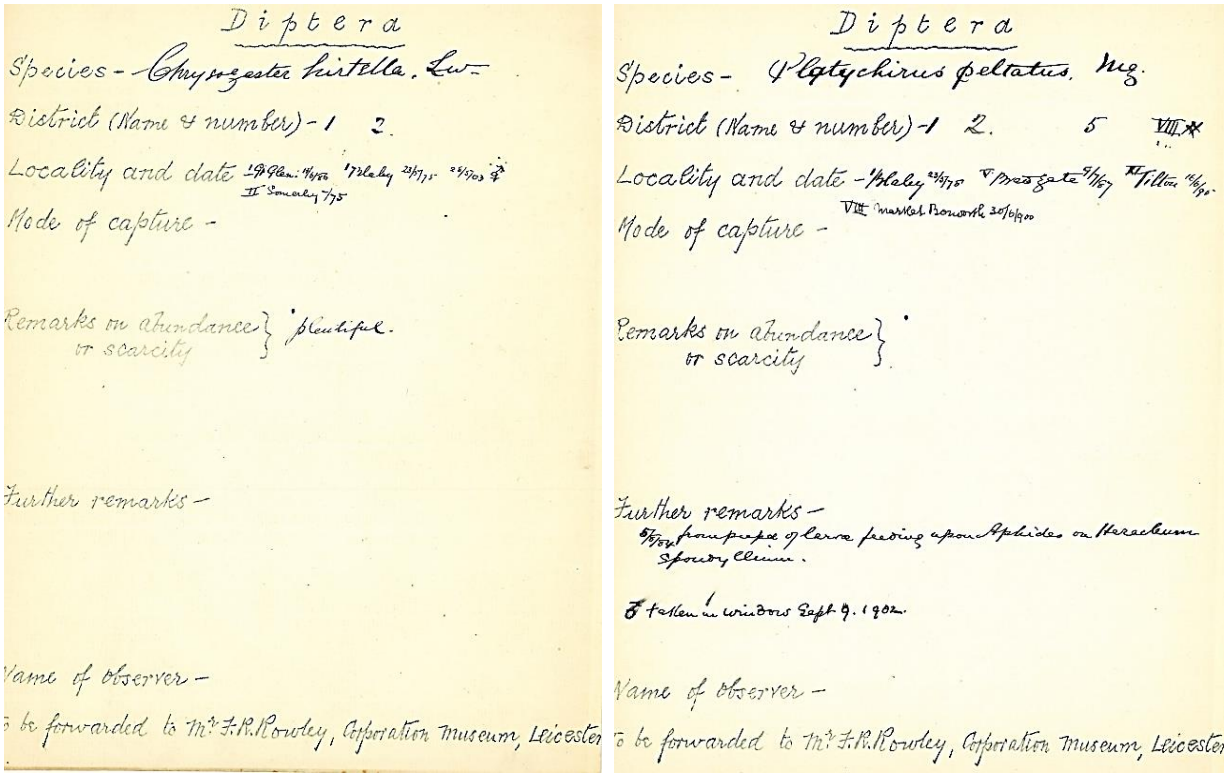


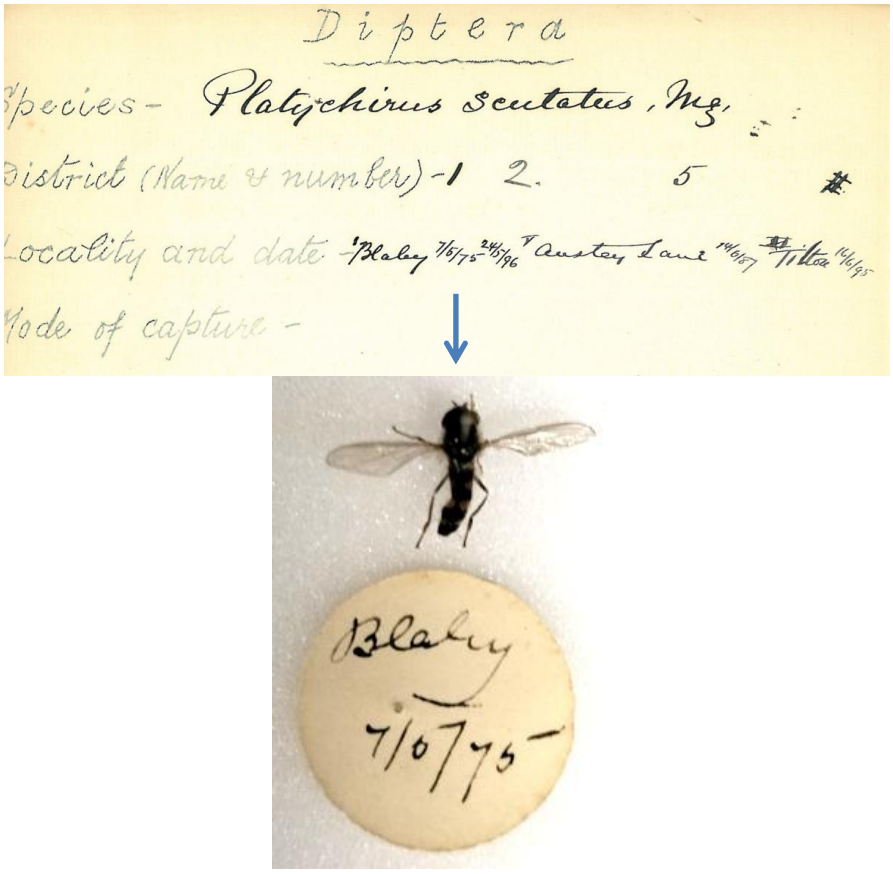
Figure 9: Examples of Vice hoverfly record cards used for VCH-L (1907)

The early 20th century showed that there was occasional recording of hoverflies. Edwin E. Lowe (Figure 8), curator at Leicester Museum 1907, lived at Thurmaston for a few years and later moved to the Humberstone area of Leicester before retiring to the Bristol area 37 years later. He contributed dipteran records from the area and specimens of hoverflies to the county collections. After retirement he continued to record in his new locality and donated many specimens to the Leicester collections.

A well-known Coventry-based entomologist, John (Jack) William Saunt, visited the county in the 1920s on a handful of occasions and his records are archived at the CRC. Additionally, some of his Leicestershire specimens are now in the entomological collections of the Herbert Art Gallery & Museum at Coventry (Morris, 1998).

Between 1930 and 1950, P.A.H. Muschamp was a prolific recorder of diptera but was appallingly poor at keeping detailed records of his catches. Indeed, his most detailed records came from when he spent his summer months in the Swiss Alps with several papers appearing in the entomological press although many were published (in French) in continental journals. He was fortunate in being related through his sister's marriage to E. d'Assiz-Fonseca of Bristol, a nationally recognised entomologist of some renown having been responsible for the preparation of the, still widely-used, keys for identifying the Dolichopodidae. Assiz-Fonseca checked the identities of many of the specimens in the CRC at that time. Muschamp was also in regular contact with Lowe after the latter's retirement to Bristol.

Development of the county insect collections was enhanced by the purchase and donation of collections which, perhaps unfortunately, at first glance gives an impression that we have a very rich dipteran fauna. However, a closer examination shows a preponderance of insects from such areas as the Ashdown Forest in Sussex and the Bristol area. An example of how such acquired collections can give a false impression of the insects of a locality. is the eight VC55 examples of the very common syrphid *Episyrphus balteatus* out of the 37 specimens in the collection.



***Platycheirus scutatus* (CRC 41/3/1A/23)**

***Helophilus pendulus* (CRC 40/6/1B/1)**

***Leucozona lucorum* (CRC 40/7/1B/15)**

Figure 10: Examples of hoverflies found by W.A. Vice from the Blaby area in the County Resources Centre

However, these collections are useful in aiding identification of locally-obtained specimens but it was not until the 1970s that any co-ordinated effort at recording/collecting local hoverflies was undertaken when Darwyn Sumner, John Mousley, Neil Frankum and John Kramer took up the challenge. Reports of their exploits appeared in local natural history publications including the Newsletter of the Leicestershire Entomological Society. Visiting

contract entomologists (Alan Stubbs, Peter Chandler, Steve Falk, to name a few) also contributed records at this time often associated with single site surveys whilst present day ecological contractors (Andy Godfrey, Andy Jukes, David Gibbs *et al*) continue to contribute to our local entomological knowledge.

It was not until 1979 that a new local listing of hoverflies was produced (Owen, 1979) concentrating on Leicestershire alone with an updated list twenty years later (Sumner, 1998) the latter including a preliminary assessment of the occurrence of these flies in the area. A provisional listing of the Syphidae of both Leicestershire and Rutland was produced in 2016 with about 170 species being noted (Morris, 2016b). Many records from a single site came from Jenny Owen's long-term (30 years) malaise trapping in her suburban garden on Scraptoft Lane, Leicester (Owen, 2010).

Further malaise trapping in 2014-2016 added records from the Rutland Water Nature Reserve (Morris, 2016a) while contributors to NatureSpot have added immensely to our knowledge of the distribution of many species in VC55. More focussed reports of hoverflies have appeared including, as examples, John Kramer's examination of the hoverflies of some Leicestershire woodlands (Kramer, 1989), Neil Frankum's observations in his Knighton (Leicester) garden (Frankum, 1989) and Brian Wetton's results of his recording at Rutland Water (Wetton, 2015) as well as at many of the nature reserves of the Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust (Wetton, 2022).

4. IDENTIFICATION OF HOVERFLIES

It is assumed that many of the early 20th century records for VC55 used the keys that Verrall included in his review of the Syrphidae (Verrall, 1901). It is likely that identifications in mid-century would have been based on this and also referral to the Leicester Museum (and other) collections. In the case of recorders from out of county e.g. Alan Stubbs, a variety of sources may have been used with referral to a range of national collections as required. In the 1970s test keys were being produced, primarily by Stubbs and made available to members of the blossoming Dipterists Forum.

This resulted in the publication of the first modern description of the British Syrphidae, complete with colour illustrations and drawings to aid identification, now in its 2nd edition (Stubbs & Falk, 2002) (Figure 11). Coverage of the European species, some of which may appear in Britain, is given in Speight (2014) with a guide to genus recognition in Speight (2020, Figure 11). The recognition and identification of the larvae of the Syrphidae has been issued by the Dipterists' Forum as part of their Dipterists' Digest series (Rotheray, 1993; Figure 11) although this LESOPS considers only adult occurrences in the two counties.

Figure 11: Identification guides

By the beginning of the present century technology had advanced sufficiently to allow the posting of photographs on the internet to be identified by national experts. The establishment of the Hoverfly Recording Scheme (www.hoverfly.uk/hrs) under the guidance of Stuart Ball and Roger Morris further enhanced access to identification. There followed the publication of a highly illustrated handbook (Figure 11) for hoverflies covering species that the enthusiastic amateur could use with confidence (Ball & Morris, 2013). It did not include rarer or more difficult to identify species thus requiring referral to Stubbs & Falk (2002). The combination of these aids has encouraged a greater interest in the hoverflies leading to a massive increase of the number, and greater distribution, of records from within Leicestershire & Rutland.

The effect of climate change and increased awareness of hoverflies may result in new species from Europe turning up in Britain and it is worth noting that identification keys (available in English) have been recently published covering European genera, e.g. Speight (2020).

5. THE COUNTY COLLECTIONS

The CRC has an area where the entomological collections, along with associated library and document files, can be accessed. Specimens (usually pinned and in many cases, well labelled) are housed in a series of cabinets and drawers and are, in the main, in reasonable condition some being better than others. In the Diptera section many of the specimens originate from acquired non-local collections. However, the activity in the late 1900s did add significant numbers of locally obtained examples.

The author has catalogued the specimens (although still to be written up!) which allows recovery of an individual record in the catalogue (see schematic below). The hoverfly collection is summarised in Appendix 1.

Cabinet number/Drawer number/Tray number/specimen number L to R for each row
e.g. CRC 45/3/2B/15

1A	**2A**	**3A**	**4A**	**5A**	**6A**
1B	**2B**	**3B**	**4B**	**5B**	**6B**
1C	**2C**	**3C**	**4C**	**5C**	**6C**

The CRC has quite an extensive run of entomological publications (both as books and journals) although many are now available to extract/download from the Biodiversity Heritage Library.

At the CRC, of particular importance are the various files which have useful documentation, not just about insects, but also about local collectors.

6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Most of the insect images presented in this LESOPS originate from contributors to NatureSpot which has allowed reproduction as indicated by *.

Maps have been prepared using MapMate®.

National distribution data and notes have been obtained from a number of sources in particular the NBN Atlas and the Hoverfly Recording Scheme websites.

Access to VC55 data in the Leicestershire & Rutland Environmental Records, the County Resources Collection at Barrow upon Soar and NatureSpot is gratefully recognised as are records received directly from local recorders and gleaned from the NBN Atlas.

Notes about EE Lowe were kindly provided by Helen Ikin.

7. THE SPECIES OF VC55

While the two current identification aids for adults (Stubbs & Falk, 2002; Ball & Morris, 2013) follow classic taxonomic arrangement, for the ease of species referral, this LESOPS presents the data by the alphabetical listing of genus/species with Table 1 summarising the list for the two counties to 2020 based on current genera as listed by the Dipterists' Forum March 2023 (DF, 2023).

Publications (both local and national) have also been perused to locate records from the two counties as has been the internet where references to the Syrphidae has turned up useful information.

Table 1: VC55 genera (species) to 2020

Genus (Page)	UK species[1]	VC55 species	Genus (Page)	UK species	VC55 species
Anasimyia (15)	5	3	*Meligramma* (71)	3	1
Baccha (17)	1	1	*Meliscaeva* (72)	2	2
Blera	1	0	*Merodon* (74)	1	1
Brachyopa (18)	4	1	*Microdon*	4	0
Brachypalpoides (19)	1	1	*Myathropa* (75)	1	1
Brachypalpus	1	0	*Myolepta* (76)	2	1
Caliprobola	1	0	*Neoascia* (77)	6	6
Callicera	3	0	*Neocnemodon* (81)	5	1
Chalcosyrphus (20)	2	2	*Orthonevra* (82)	4	3
Cheilosia (21)	37	25+2[2]	*Paragus* (83)	4	1
Chrysogaster (30)	3	3	*Parasyrphus* (84)	6	3
Chrysotoxum (32)	8	6	*Parhelophilus* (85)	3	0+2[2]
Criorhina (35)	4	4	*Pelecocera*	2	0
Dasysyrphus (37)	8	5	*Pipiza* (86)	7	5
Didea (39)	3	1	*Pipizella* (89)	3	3
Doros	1	0	*Platycheirus* (91)	25	19
Epistrophe (40)	7	4	*Pocota* (100)	1	1
Episyrphus (42)	1	1	*Portevinia* (101)	1	1
Eriozona	1	0	*Psilota*	1	0
Eristalinus (43)	2	1	*Rhingia* (102)	2	2
Eristalis (44)	10	8	*Riponnensia* (104)	1	1
Eumerus (49)	5	3	*Scaeva* (105)	5	2
Eupeodes (51)	9	7	*Sericomyia* (107)	3	2
Ferdinandea (55)	2	1	*Sphaerophoria* (108)	11	8
Hammerschmidtia	1	0	*Sphegina* (112)	4	3
Helophilus (56)	5	3	*Syritta* (113)	1	1
Heringia (58)	2	1	*Syrphus* (114)	5	3
Lejogaster (59)	2	1	*Trichopsomyia* (117)	1+1[3]	1
Lejops	1	0	*Triglyphus* (118)	1	1
Leucozona (60)	3	3	*Tropidia* (119)	1	1
Mallota (62)	1	1	*Volucella* (120)	5	5
Megasyrphus (63)	1	1	*Xanthandrus* (124)	1	1
Melangyna (64)	9	5+2[2]	*Xanthogramma* (125)	3	2
Melanogaster (68)	2	2	*Xylota* (127)	7	5
Melanostoma (69)	3	2			

[1]List current to March 2023 (Dipterists Forum)
[2]Complex of two species
[3]Possible additional British species

Detailed, up-to-date information for each species can be found on the Hoverfly Recording Scheme (www.hoverfly.uk/hrs). In addition, where there are European publications which aid the separation of difficult species these have been referenced.

Where a species has more than 100 records, a phenology diagram has been included.

Where a national status of a species is given this has been based on Ball & Morris (2014).

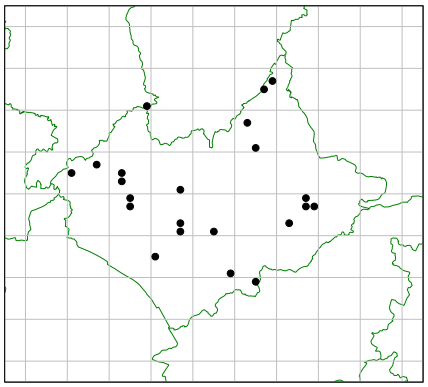
ANASIMYIA

A genus of wetland flies with aquatic larvae. Five British species with three having been recorded from VC55. Similar to some *Helophilus* but with a narrower build. Stubbs & Falk (2002) has a diagram which compares the heads and abdominal markings of the British species which will aid identification.

Anasimyia contracta Claussen & Torp (44 records)

This species was originally confused with *A. transfuga* so that older records may be suspect: VC55 records coming after 1980 are considered reliable. The two species can be separated by noting the shape of tergite 2 of males (Stubbs, 1981). A lowland species associated with beds of emergent vegetation growing at the edges of ponds and slow moving rivers throughout much of England and Wales; scarcer elsewhere.

First noted from a subsidence pond at Bagworth by John Mousley in 1987 with a specimen in the county collections (CRC 39/7/1C/1); records have been more frequent since 2012.

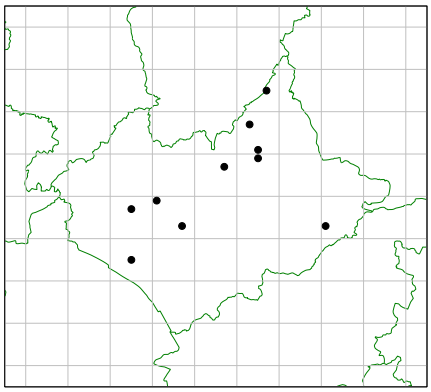


Aylestone Meadows, 2016 ♂
David Gould*

Anasimyia lineata Fabricius (27 records)

A lowland species associated with damp areas scattered across Britain. Abdominal markings in the male tend to be orange and triangular in shape but in the females the markings can be orange or grey.

First noted from VC55 in the Groby Pool area in 1989 and then sporadically from across the area. There are no specimens in the CRC.

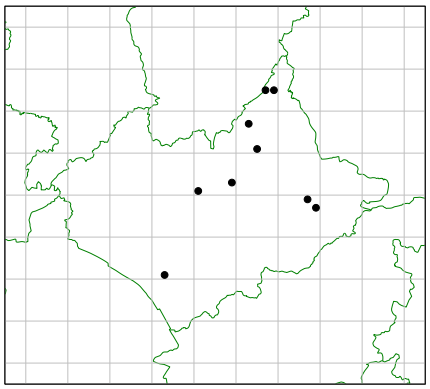


Long Clawson, 2015 ♂
Barbara Cooper*

Anasimyia transfuga Linnaeus (12 records)

Nationally a scattered species from similar habitats as the previous species. The abdominal markings are tick-like.

Identified in VC55 from the Plungar area in 1991 but only sporadically since. Not yet found to the west of VC55. The malaise trapping survey at Rutland Water NR (2014-2016, Morris, 2016b) showed the fly to be present across this site.



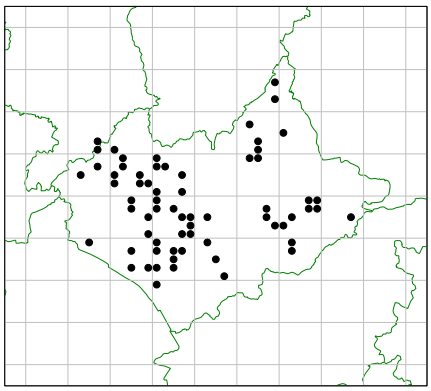
Melton Country Park, 2014 ♂
Paul Ruddoch*

BACCHA

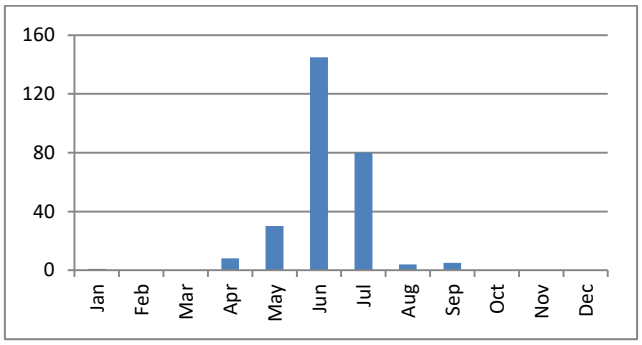
Originally, the genus was thought to be made up of two species but careful examination of specimens over the years has resulted in the British genus being of one species only.

Baccha elongata Fabricius (197 records)

An unmistakeable fly found throughout Britain. Regularly noted in VC55 being first recorded by Vice in the Blaby area in 1873. Regularly taken at Jenny Owen's malaise trap at Scraptoft Lane (Leicester) in the 1970s. Since seen across the area, mainly as singletons, predominantly in the summer months.



Melton Country Park, 2015
Paul Ruddoch*



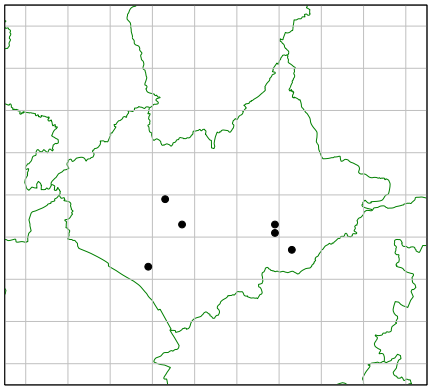
BRACHYOPA

The orange-brown abdominal coloration is unusual in the hoverflies; the antennae, face and legs are yellow orange-brown. The larvae are usually encountered at sap-runs or in decaying sap. Only one of the four British species has been found locally to 2020 although the CRC has specimens of *B. insensilis* but not from local sites.

Brachyopa scutellaris Robineau-Desvoidy (8 records)

Needs careful examination, including genitalia examination, to identify with certainty. Scattered occurrence across England and Wales.

Muschamp noted this fly in Leicester in 1943 at the canal near the end of Upperton Road with examples in the collections (CRC 39/7/4A/8,9). Spotted at Great Merrible Wood NR by Neil Frankum in 1994 (Frankum, 1994a) but only seen locally on rare occasions since with four examples from Sheet Hedges Wood in the collections (CRC 39/7/4A/10-13).



Sapcote, 2009
Graham Calow*

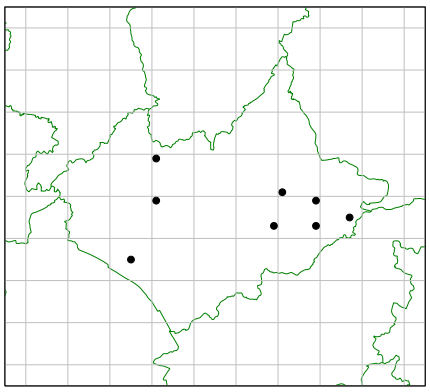
BRACHYPALPOIDES

The single British species of this genus has a black abdomen with a red belt and is easily recognised.

Brachypalpoides lentus Meigen (13 records)

Scattered across much of England and Wales and occasionally in Scotland.

The first local record came when Alan Stubbs found it in 1986 at Burley Wood. It has only been recorded sporadically since. A single example is in the collections taken by John Kramer in 1991 at Holywell Wood near Loughborough (CRC 37/7/4B/1).



Elmesthorpe Plantation (Burbage), 2018
Graham Calow*

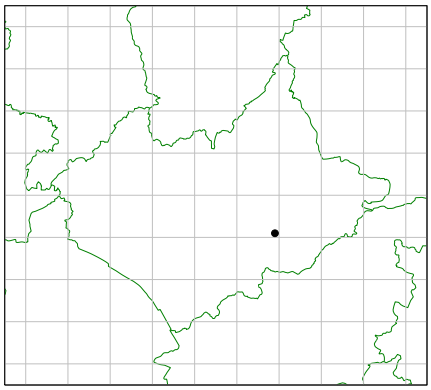
CHALCOSYRPHUS

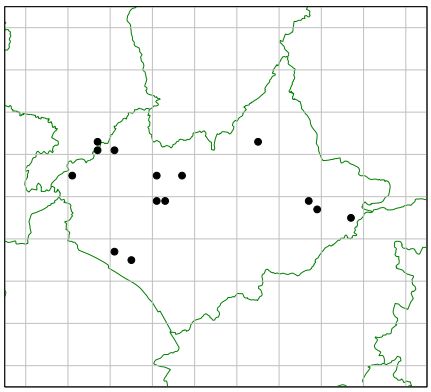
The underside of the thorax of this genus has long hairs between the mid and hind coxae. Both British species have been seen in VC55.

Chalcosyrphus eunotus Loew (1 record). Nationally Scarce

A species seemingly confined to The Marches (England and Wales border).

Found only once in VC55 when a female was identified by John Szczur near East Norton on the Rutland/Leicestershire border in April 2009 (image).





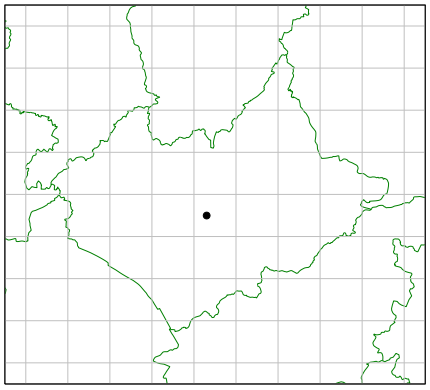
Chalcosyrphus nemorum Fabricius (37 records)

A species well scattered throughout England and Wales but less so elsewhere.

First recorded at Wytcheley Warren, Rutland by Peter Kirby in 1979 as part of survey work of sites associated with the Ketton Quarry complex and again at the same site in 1989. Other records have come sporadically from across VC55 including during malaise trapping (2014-2016) at Rutland Water NR as well as the author's Dadlington garden. John Kramer provided two specimens for the County Collections from 1984 (CRC 39/7/5B/6&7).

CHEILOSIA

The most numerous of the hoverfly genera in Britain with currently 37 species on the British list. VC55 has 25 distinct species and, until identifications have been checked, also the *C. albitarsis/ranunculi* complex. Many can be readily keyed out with care. Ball & Morris (2013) suggest that several of the species of this genus may be under-recorded as there seems to be little interest in recording them because of perceived identification issues. It is recommended that all species are keyed using Stubbs & Falk (2002) wherever possible.

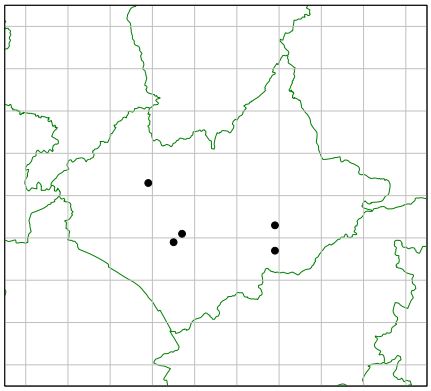


Cheiloisa ahenea von Roser (1 record) Vulnerable

A species with few national records according to the NBN Atlas with one reported from the malaise trapping carried out by the late Jenny Owen at her Scraptoft Lane (Leicester) garden in 1973.

However, the Hoverfly Recording Scheme website reports that this fly is probably only reliably known from Islay off Scotland and western Ireland where it is associated with the machair habitat.

Accordingly the VC55 record should be treated with caution,



Cheilosia albipila Meigen (6 records)

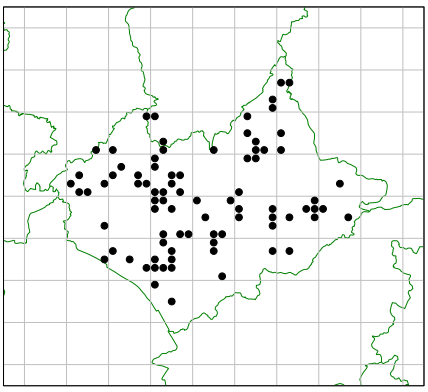
Scattered throughout much of England and Wales and also into Scotland.

Locally the fly was first noted by John Kramer during a visit to Narborough Bog NR in 1983 (CRC 39/7/5C/1). Further records came from scattered localities in VC55.

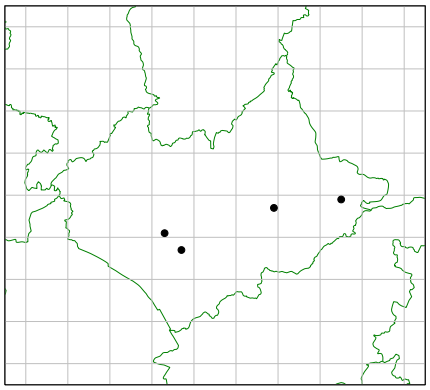
Cheilosia albitarsis Meigen/***ranunculi*** Doczal (261 records)

Until about 2000, records of these flies were considered to be *albitarsis*. However, Doczal (2000) noted that they could be separated by examination of the male genitalia although females could not be separated at that time as is still the case. Further aids to separation came from Gibbs & Plant (2001) who noted that *albitarsis* had at least one black hair on tergite 2 and the top of the thorax was entirely black-haired. In contrast, *ranunculi* had only pale hairs on tergite 2 and the top of the thorax had a narrow band of pale hairs to the front. However, such characters may well be missed unless carefully examined under magnification, or may be absent having rubbed off, making the character unreliable for sound identification. Gibbs & Plant (2001) included sketches on the male genitalia which clearly showed the difference between the species and for secure identification, examination of the genitalia is recommended. This was emphasised by Ball & Morris (2013 page 167) who also offered a further identification aid relating to the shape of the last part of the front tarsus which has parallel sides in *albitarsis* but sloped towards the claw in *ranunculi*. It is not clear if this character can be applied to both sexes. However, sexes are readily separated as the males have hairy eyes which is not the case with females.

As a consequence of the problems separating the two species it is recommended that all VC55 records of both species prior to 2000 should be considered as an aggregate. Many post-2000 records do not indicate which sex was observed and so have also been considered as the aggregate. If a male has been genitalia examined then local records of either of species have been accepted. Examination of images for identification do not usually indicate the front tarsal arrangement thus not enabling differentiation of species even when the sex has been recorded As a result there are relatively few confirmed identifications that can be accepted at this time for either species and consequently this report only maps the aggregate. The County collections have examples of "*albitarisis*" but these would need to be re-examined to see whether identification is reliable. There are no specimens of "*ranunculi*".



Melton CP, 2016 (note front tarsus shape = *albitarsis*?) Paul Ruddoch*

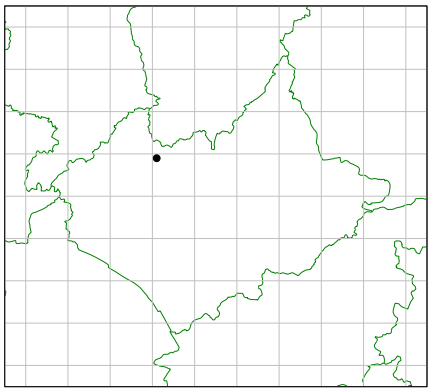


Cheilosia antiqua Meigen (4 records)

Not included in Ball & Morris (2013) so that identification needs use of the Stubbs & Falk (2002) keys. Seems to be predominantly recorded from Wales & Scotland with scattered records from England.

Noted by Vice in the Blaby area in 1895 but not again until 1976 (Enderby, David Lewis). The only other records came from John Kramer (Owston 1984 and Empingham 1998). All sightings came in May. No specimens in the collections.

Older records may be suspect.

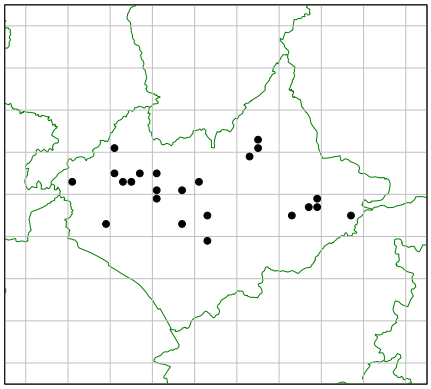


Cheilosia barbata Loew (1 record). Nationally Scarce

A species tending to be found in calcareous situations. Scattered throughout England and Wales.

The sole VC55 record came from Snells Nook near Loughborough University being found by John Kramer in 1981.

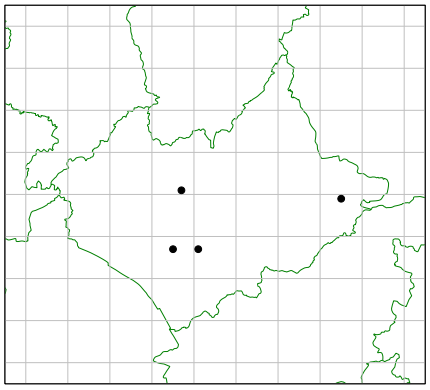
The three specimens in the collections all came from Woking, Surrey.



Cheilosia bergenstammi Becker (44 records)

Scattered across Britain but seems to be sparser in the Midlands. One of the larger *Cheilosia* with orange antennae and black-ringed orange tibia being considered likely to be this species (Stubbs & Falk, 2002).

Scattered records across VCC55 although not recorded until 1972 from Jenny Owen's malaise trap at Scraptoft Lane. Seems to be widespread in Burley Wood. Specimens from Acresford were donated by Darwyn Sumner having been taken in 1999 (CRC 39/8/2C/11-14).



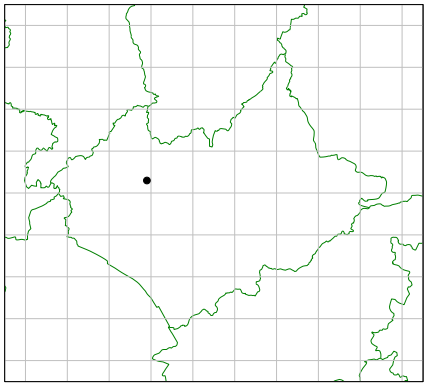
Cheilosia caerulescens Meigen (9 records)

Not recorded in Britain until 2008 (Collins & Halstead, 2008) when mining damage of Houseleek *Sempervivum* leaves was noted (figure). Probably associated with imported plants.

While the fly has few NBN records it was regularly noted in 2019 & 2020 at Empingham (Andrew Dejardin confirmed by Roger Morris). Seen again in 2020 at Wigston, Whetstone & Cropston associated with the host plant.

(ex Royal Horticultural Society)

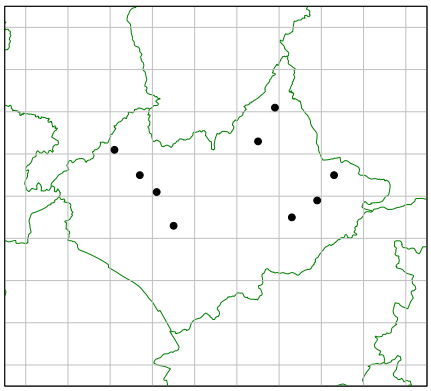
Empingham, 2019
Andrew Dejardin*



Cheilosia chrysocoma Meigen (1 record) Nationally Scarce

A species of Wales & Scotland being scarce in England, An attractive hoverfly having fox-red coloration of the thorax & abdomen. Tends to be associated with damp woody areas.

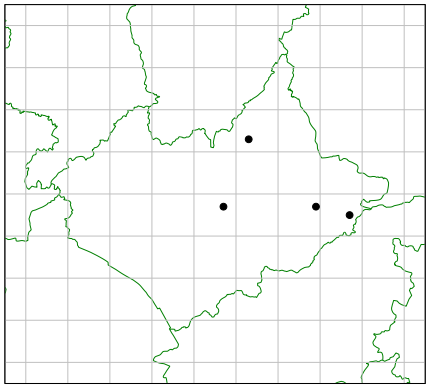
The sole VC55 record came from Poultney Wood in the Ulverscroft Valley in 1997 when found by Darwyn Sumner with a specimen being deposited in the County Collections (CRC 39/8/3B/1).



Cheilosia fraterna Meigen (10 records)

Scattered throughout Britain. Tends to be found in damp buttercup meadows particularly in upland areas.

Scattered in VC55. Muschamp added a specimen to the County Collections (CRC 39/8/4A/6) that he had found at Braunston (Leicester) in 1935. Since recorded across VC55 particularly by Brian Wetton (2014-2020).



Cheilosia griseiventris Loew (5 records)

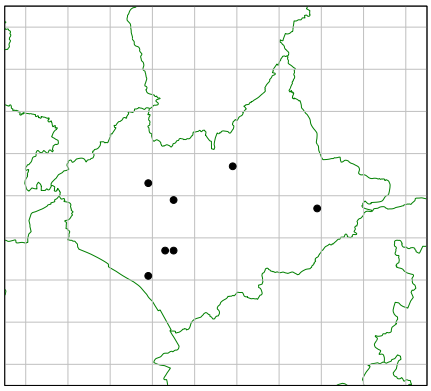
Shows a scarce distribution south of Teeside. Originally confused with *C. latifrons*.

Brian Wetton has noted the species at Rutland Water (Egleton) and Holwell NRs both in 2012 with a further record coming from Ketton Quarry NR in 2015. John Szczur located the fly at Keyham in 2013. Not represented in the collections.

Cheilosia grossa Fallén (7 records)

A large furry hoverfly with orange tibiae and black antennae that makes it easy to recognise. An early flying species so may be overlooked. Scattered across Britain.

Noted in 1983 at Narborough Bog NR (John Kramer; CRC 39/8/4B/13). Since taken sporadically at several locations during March-April although it did turn up on a single occasion during malaise trapping at Rutland Water NR (Egleton) in June 2015.

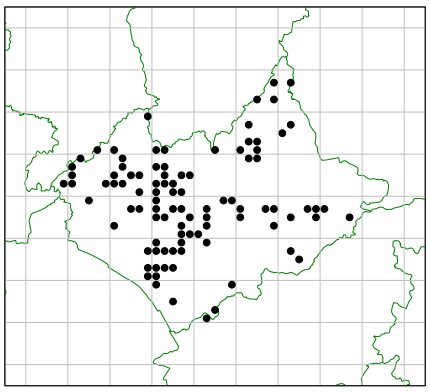


Fosse Meadows, Sharnford 2011
Graham Calow*

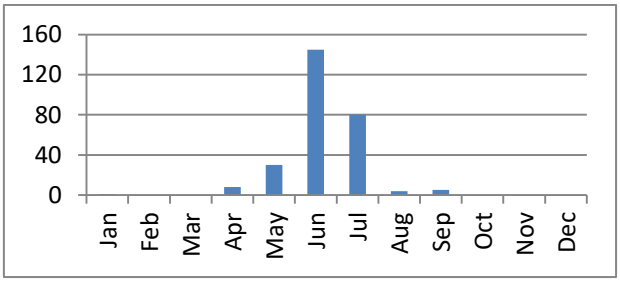
Cheilosia illustrata Harris (271 records)

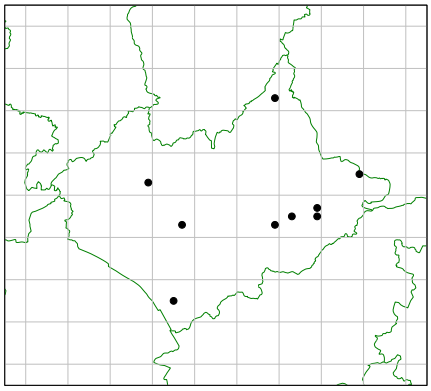
A common species throughout Britain often associated with Hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium*: adults are attracted to the flowers while the larvae feed on the rootstock.

Widely occurring in VC55. First recorded in our locality in 1897 at Owston Wood by GB Dixon followed by sightings from the Mountsorrel area in 1911 and 1913. However, emphasising the lack of interest in many Diptera during the earlier part of the 20th century, no further records came until 1976 but numerous since. A few specimens appear in the collections originating from Muschamp but, typically, have incomplete data. A single example was taken at Dimminsdale NR by Graham Finch in 1985 (CRC 39/8/5C/2).



Ratby, 2014
David Nicholls*

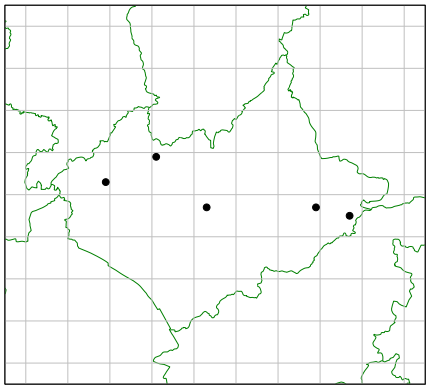




Cheilosia impressa Loew (13 records)

Predominantly a southern species in Britain usually found in damp situations where umbellifers can be found. Base of wings tend to be yellow which is an aid for identification. Sound specimens show black legs and hairy eyes.

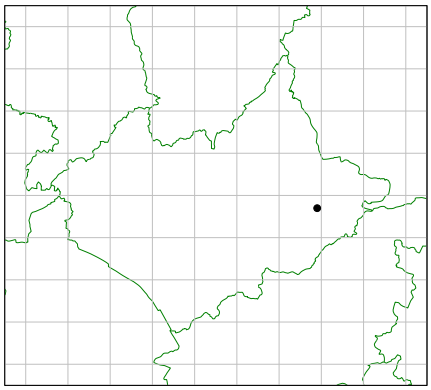
First seen in VC55 when John Kramer recorded the fly at Pickworth Wood in 1982. Noted from LRWT nature reserves by Brian Wetton 2014-2017 (and into the 2020s). A specimen came from Darwyn Sumner in 1997 from Ulverscroft NR (CRC 39/8/6A/7).



Cheilosia lasiopa Kowarz (7 records)

Scattered in England and Wales to Humberside – scarcer elsewhere. Found in a range of habitats but needs careful identification.

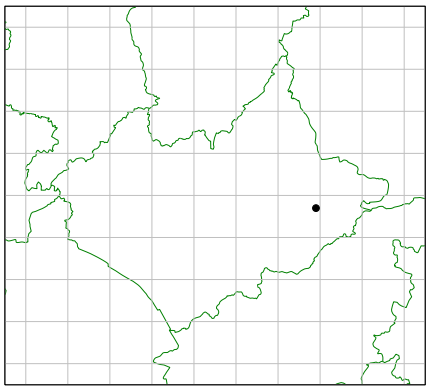
Noted at Snells Nook (Loughborough) in 1981 and at Normanton le Heath 1984 (both by John Kramer). Howard Bradshaw saw it at Barkby (2010) while Brian Wetton has noted it at both the Egleton and Ketton Quarry NRs between 2013 and 2020. No specimens in the collections



Cheilosia latifrons Zetterstedt (4 records)

A widespread but variable species being found in a variety of habitats,

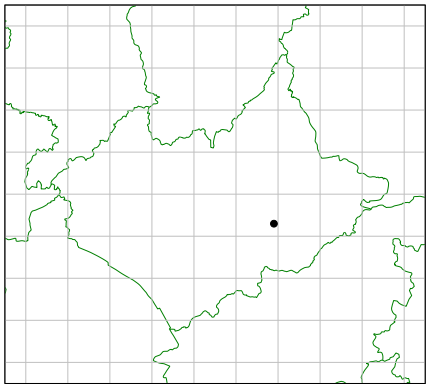
All VC55 records came from Rutland Water Egleton NR. Noted during malaise trapping in 2016 (author) and in 2016 and 2020 by Brian Wetton (and into the 2020s since). No specimens in the collections.



Cheilosia longula Zetterstedt (1 record)

Regarded as being a widespread species, usually from acidic and sandy habitats, which may explain the paucity of records from the Midlands. Larvae feed on fungi.

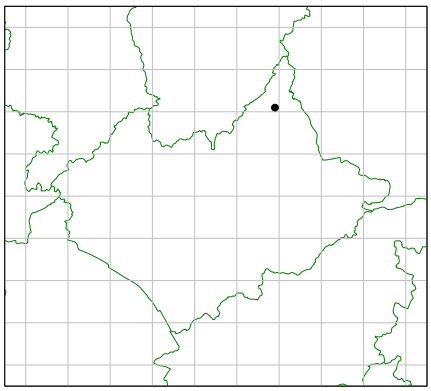
The only VC55 records came from a malaise trap at Egleton NR Rutland Water in 2015. No specimens in the collections.



Cheilosia mutabilis Fallén (2 records) Nationally Scarce

A widespread species in Britain but relatively poorly recorded possibly due to lack of interest in the *Cheilosia*?

The only local records came from Launde Big Wood NR in 1988 and 1989 when found by John Kramer. No specimens in the collections.



Cheilosia nebulosa Verrall (1 record) Nationally Scarce

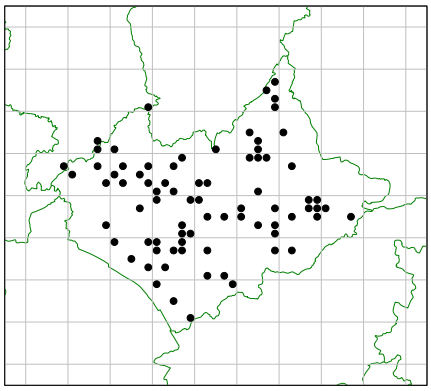
An uncommon but widely scattered species associated with marshy ground in wooded areas.

The only VC55 record located to date was found at Stathern Wood in 1982 by John Kramer.

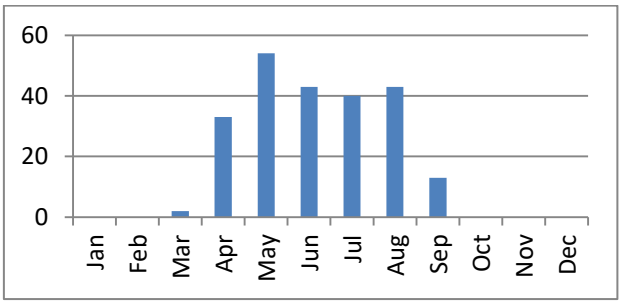
Cheilosia pagana Meigen (239 records)

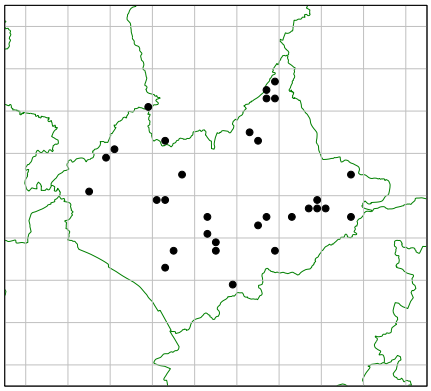
One of the commoner of the the *Cheilosia* genus occurring throughout Britain. The orange antennae with black tips helps identification. Frequents Lesser Celandine flowers in spring.

VC55 records are widespread with records coming throughout the spring and into the summer months. Noted by WA Vice in the late 1800s from the Blaby and Longcliffe areas and seen by John Saunt in 1925 at Quorn. Frequently noted from 1973 to date with specimens in the collections.



Melton CP, 2015 ♀
Paul Ruddoch*

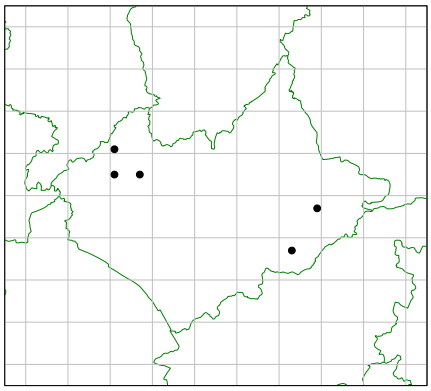




Cheilosia proxima Zetterstedt (57 records)

A widespread species in Britain apparently having a spring and summer form. Regularly visits umbellifer flowers. Larvae are reported as being stem miners of Creeping Thistle.

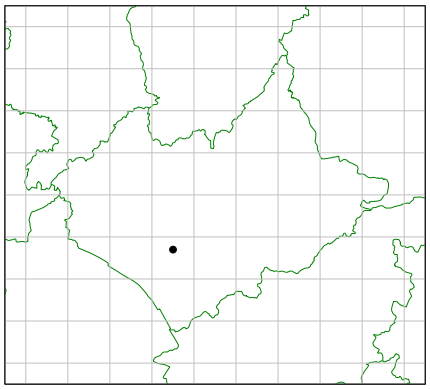
VC55 records are scattered throughout the area, Noted by WA Vice from Broughton Astley (1881) and Great Glen (1887). Regularly recorded since 1976 but no records have come from regular NatureSpot observers. Many of the recent records originate from Brian Wetton. Specimens in the collections.



Cheilosia scutellata Fallén (8 records)

A species with a distinct bulging 'nose' mainly found in wooded areas frequenting umbellifers in summer months. Predominantly found in England and Wales.

Few records come from VC55 being first noted by Brian Wetton at Great Merrible Wood NR in 2008. Taken at a malaise trap at Egleton NR in 2015. Most subsequent records come from several LRWT reserves, especially Cloud Wood NR, by Brian Wetton. No local specimens in the collections.

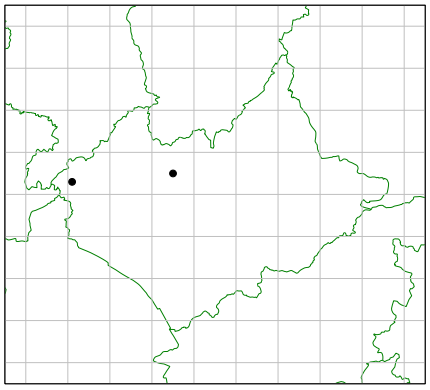


Cheilosia soror Zetterstedt (1 record)

Mainly a southern species mostly found in calcareous situations.

Found by Muschamp in the Narborough area in 1925 with a specimen in the County Collections (CRC 39/9/4B/2).

No further records in the review period but has since been noted by Brian Wetton at both Ketton Quarry and Egleton NRs since 2020.



Cheilosia urbana Meigen (2 records)

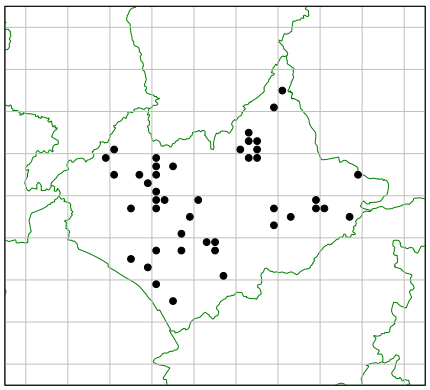
A small slender fly with legs almost totally orange However, needs careful examination to separate from some more recent additions to the British list. Widespread but local in Britain.

Darwyn Sumner provided the only records of this species in VC55 (Buddon Wood, 1996; Acresford sandpit 1999). Specimens were deposited into the County Collections under its previous name of *C. praecox* (CRC 39/9/2C/5&6).

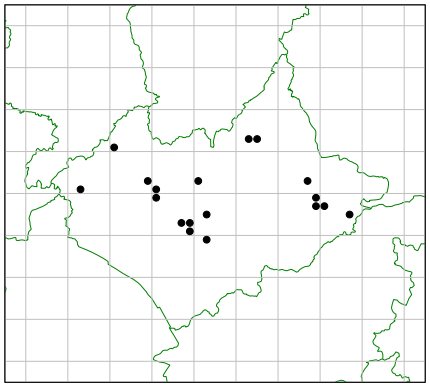
Cheilosia variabilis Panzer (84 records)

A widely occurring hoverfly which is large and very black. The wings extend beyond the abdomen often held in a delta-fashion. The face has noticeable erect bristles on its sides. Usually found in damp situations.

Widely occurring in VC55. Noted by Vice in the late 19th century from scattered locations (Blaby & Charnwood areas, Great Glen, Burbage Wood) and by John Saunt in 1924 at Quorn. Further records did not emerge until 1981 since when the fly is now being regularly noted across the area mostly in early summer.



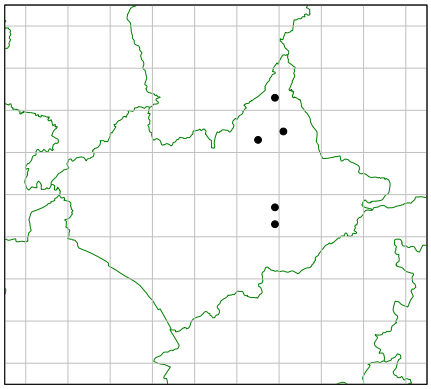
Sapcote, 2009
Graham Calow*



Cheilosia vernalis Fallén (32 records)

A relatively easy member of the genus to recognise having tibiae with strongly orange bases and tips. A widespread but local species in Britain.

Not noted in VC55 until taken at Jenny Owen's malaise trap in her garden at Scraptoft Lane, Leicester over several years. Regularly seen since across VC55 although not to the south. No local examples in the collections



Cheilosia vulpina Meigen (6 records)

A bivoltine species with a southern distribution. The spring varieties are larger than those later in the year.

VC55 has few records of this insect the first being from 1897 when WA Vice noted it at Owston Woods. It was not until 2013 that subsequent records were made, all by Brian Wetton, mainly from sites in the Melton area. All records come from summer months. No local specimens in the collections.

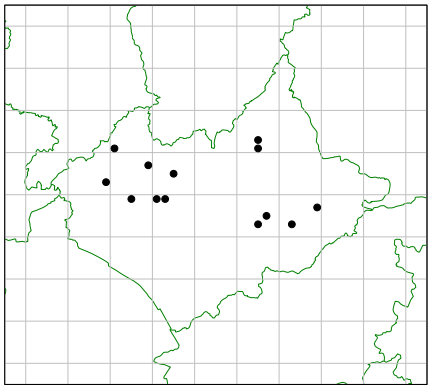
CHRYSOGASTER

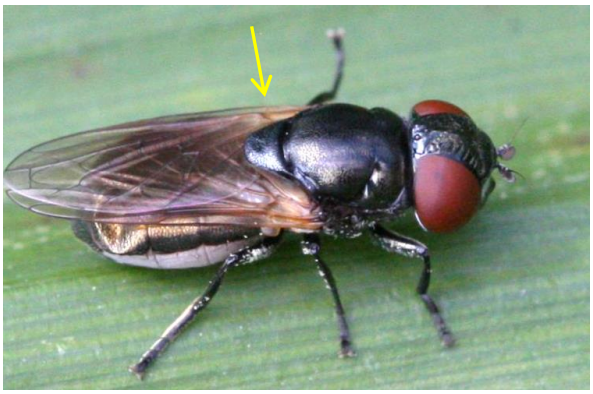
The flies of this genus tend to be small and black with a few metallic reflections. The larvae are aquatic living in mud and vegetation debris at water's edge. May be mistaken as a *Cheilosia* but the latter species show no metallic effects. All three British species have been noted in VC55.

Chrysogaster cemiteriorum Linnaeus (19 records)

A fairly easily recognised hoverfly possessing a slightly metallic sheen and with markedly yellow wing bases. A woodland species favouring umbellifer flowers in summer. Scattered throughout Britain.

Recorded by Vice at Woodhouse (1878) and Groby Pool (1880) and by Muschamp at Longcliffe (Loughborough) in 1938 with the fly in the County Collections (CRC 39/10/1B/18). Sporadically recorded since 1989 from scattered localities.



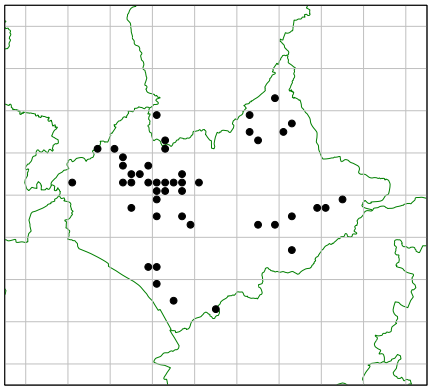


Burbage Common, 2011
David Nicholls*

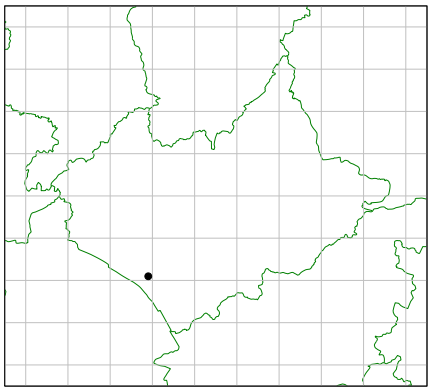
Chrysogaster solstitialis Fallén (98 records)

This small hoverfly is very dark looking and occasional purplish reflections may be seen. Found throughout most of Britain and is the most common of the genus found in VC55.

Not noted by Vice with the first local record coming from Swithland when found by John Saunt in 1925. Further records and specimens came from Muschamp in 1936 (Longcliffe, CRC 39/10/2A/23; Bradgate ?Park CRC 39/10/2A/24) and 1943 (canal near Upperton Road, Leicester, CRC 39/10/2B/4,5). Recorded fairly regularly since the 1980s.



Whirlybones Wood (Ratby), 2011
David Nicholls*



Chrysogaster virescens Loew (1 record)

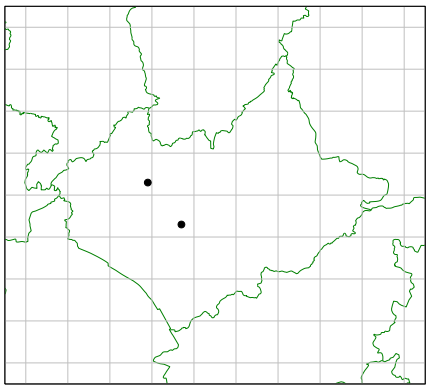
A local species associated with boggy ground in scattered locations across Britain although the Midlands appears to be a poor area for this fly.

The only record of this fly came from Fosse Meadows Country Park (near Sharnford, south west Leicestershire) when found by Darwyn Sumner in June 1996 (CRC 39/10/2C/2).

CHRYSOTOXUM

This genus of these wasp-mimics is probably one of the easiest to identify. Many are colourful and often have distinctly patterned abdomens. The presence of porrect antennae (Figure 12) is distinctive. Of the eight British species six have been recorded from VC55.

Figure 12: Porrect antennae of *Chrystoxum* genus



Chrysotoxum arcuatum Linnaeus (2 records)

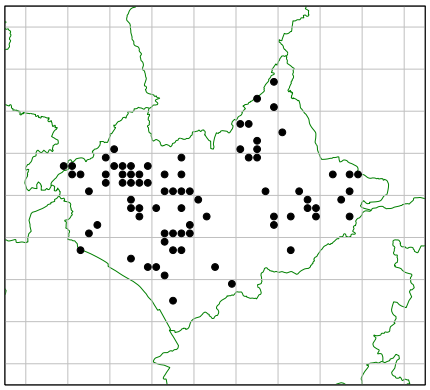
A species usually found in Wales, Scotland and northern England. Identifiable by the long dark brown hairs on the eyes. The third antennal segment is longer than segments 1 & 2 together.

Only two records have been located for VC55. Muschamp took a specimen in his Leicester garden in 1939 (CRC 39/10/3A/3) while Steve Falk found it at Ulverscroft NR in 1987.

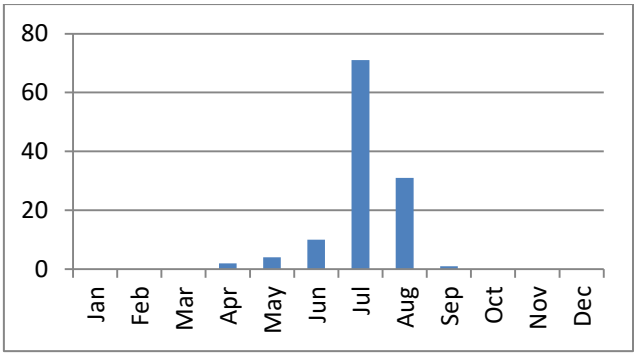
Chrysotoxum bicinctum Linnaeus (164 records)

A distinctively patterned member of this genus (abdominal stripes, darkened area of wing). Found throughout Britain.

A summer hoverfly occurring across VC55. Seen by Vice at Somerby (1875), Thurmaston (1878) and Longcliffe (1886). Not recorded again until found in malaise trap samples at Scraptoft Lane (Leicester) 1972-1988. Seen widely from the 1970s and is regularly noted by Brian Wetton at Rutland Water Egleton NR.



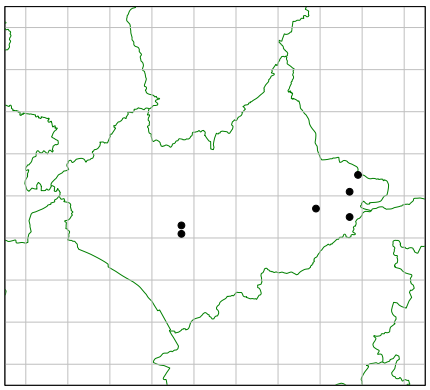
Coalville Nature Alive, 2012
David Nicholls*



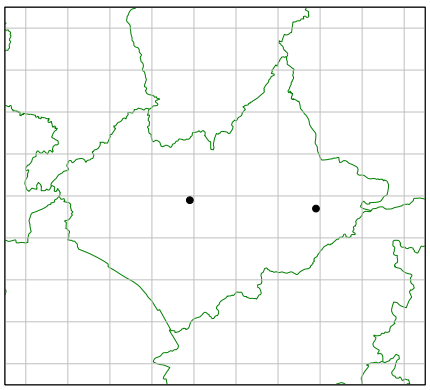
Chrysotoxum cautum Harris (15 records)

The largest of the predominantly yellow *Chrysotoxum* genus with the large genitalia being particularly obvious in the male. Predominantly found in the southern half of Britain.

First noted in our locality by LS Box who found it at Aylestone (Leicester) in 1908 with the insect added to the County Collections (CRC 39/10/4B/1). Not recorded again in VC55 until found at St Mary's Mill (Leicester) by Howard Bradshaw in 2007. Since noted regularly at Ketton Quarry NR and other LRWT reserves in the east and north-east of VC55.



Ketton Quarry, 2014
Mark Skevington*



Chrystoxoum elegans Loew (2 records) Nationally Scarce

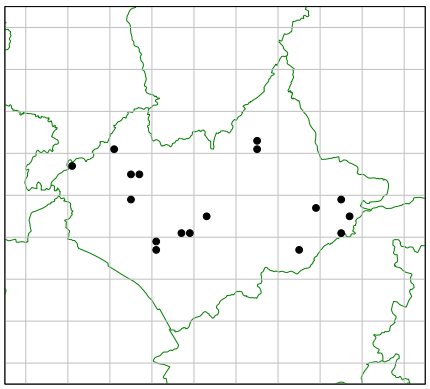
Nationally a scarce hoverfly predominantly found in southern Britain. Needs careful examination to achieve correct identification.

The two VC55 records came from Birstall Locks in 1997 (Darwyn Sumner; CRC 39/10/5C/7) and during malaise trapping at Rutland Water Egleton NR in 2015 (author).

Chrysotoxum festivum Linnaeus (38 records)

A colourful species more or less confined to England and Wales. The down-turned bar ends are distinctive.

Not recorded in VC55 until taken almost annually between 1972 and 1988 at Jenny Owen's Scraptoft Lane (Leicester) malaise traps. Regularly recorded across VC55 since 2013 but no examples in the county collections.

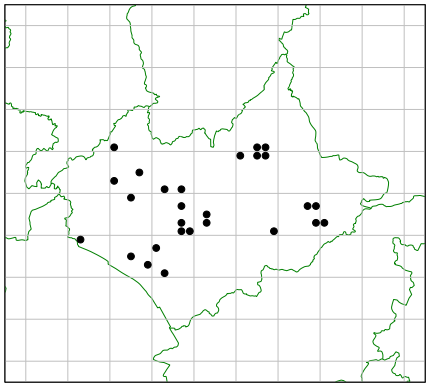


Empingham, 2017
Andrew Dejardin*

Chrysotoxum verralli Collin (57 records)

Needs careful examination to separate from *C. cautum* and *C. elegans*. Predominantly recorded in England but scattered.

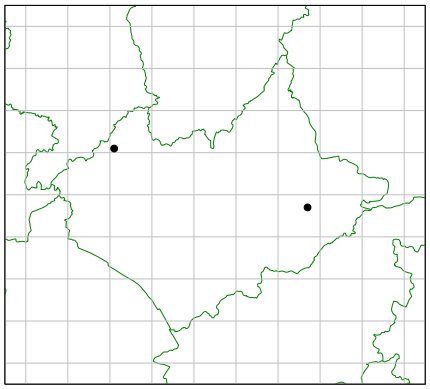
The hoverfly seems to have a wide distribution in our area. A frequent visitor to the Scraptoft Lane malaise trap (1973-1988). No specimens in the collections.



Sapcote, 2009 ♀
Graham Calow*

CRIORHINA

Medium to large hoverflies which mimic honeybees and bumblebees; many species with a densely furry thorax. Just four British species all of which have been found locally.



Criorhina asilica Fallén (2 records)

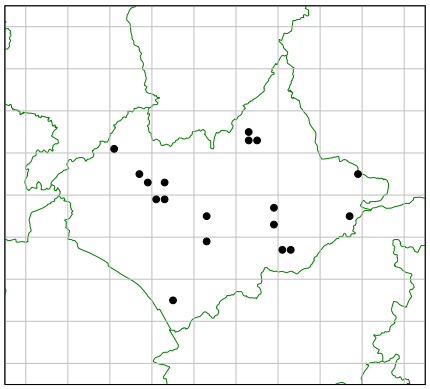
A hive bee-mimic with the abdomen sparsely haired. Predominantly a southern species of woodland. Needs careful identification.

A mating pair was noted by Neil Frankum at Cloud Wood NR in 1994 (Frankum, 1995) and then in the Rutland NHS Annual Report of 2013 as having been seen at Rutland Water Egleton NR although no details of the recorder/identifier have been found to date.

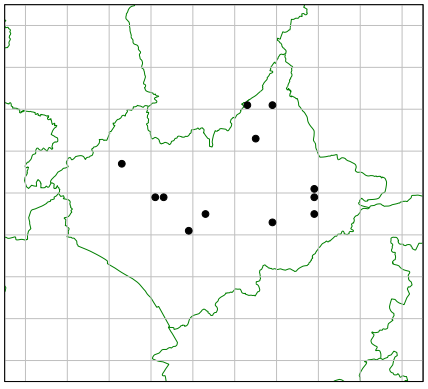
Criorhina berberina Fabricius (26 records)

A very bumblebee-like fly being scattered throughout Britain although mainly to the south.

First noted locally in 1895 at Owston Wood by GB Dixon but then not again until taken at a malaise trap at Scraptoft Lane (Leicester) by Jenny Owen in 1976. Most VC55 records came after 1980 from scattered localities across the area.



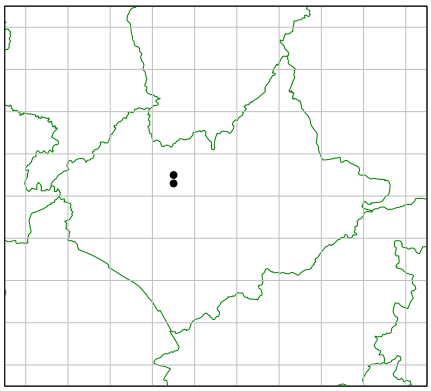
Rough Hill, 2016
Barbara Cooper*



Criorhina floccosa Meigen (18 records)

Mainly found in England and Wales usually away from wooded areas.

Not recorded in VC55 until taken at malaise traps at Scraptoft Lane in 1972. Seven of the VC55 records came in 1989 but intermittingly since. A specimen taken at Sheet Hedges Wood in1996 by Darwyn Sumner appears in the collections (CRC 40/1/3A/10).



Criorhina ranunculi Panzer (3 records)

The largest of the genus with a swollen, strongly-arched hind femur enabling recognition. An early-flying species mainly from southern Britain.

Noted in the Woodhouse (Charnwood) area by Vice in 1897 and around the same time in the Swithland area by GB Dixon. The only other record came from Stocking Wood (Swithland) when seen by Steve Woodward during a field outing by the Leicester Literary & Philosophical Society (Natural History Section) in 2015.

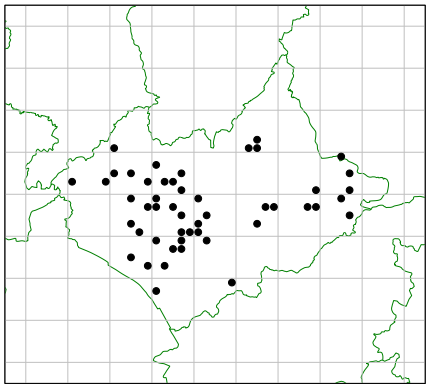
DASYSYRPHUS

Black and yellow hoverflies with hairy eyes and a distinctive long stigma at the front of the wing. Many are relatively easy to identify. A woodland fly mostly seen in spring. Eight British species of which five have been recorded in VC55.

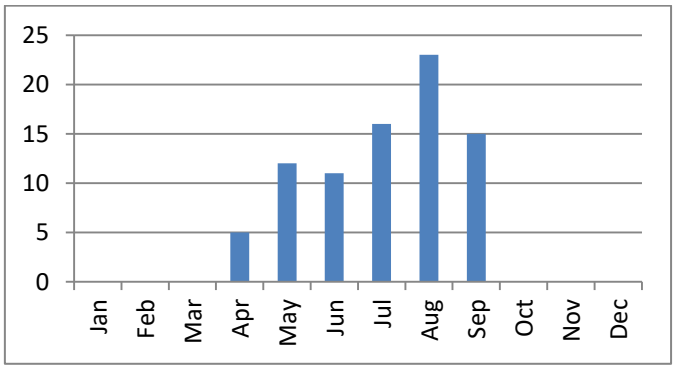
Dasysyrphus albostriatus Fallén (103 records)

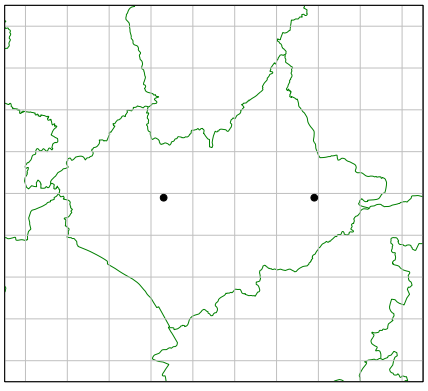
Easily recognised from the sloping bars on the abdominal tergites 3 & 4. Widespread in Britain.

Found by Vice in the Blaby district in 1875 and at Swithland in 1896. Lowe took the fly at Thurmaston in 1908 which is in the County Collections (CRC 40/1/4B/14). Found nearly every year during malaise trapping at Scraptoft Lane by Jenny Owen (1972-1988). Regularly seen across VC55 to date.



Narborough Bog NR, 2014
David Gould*

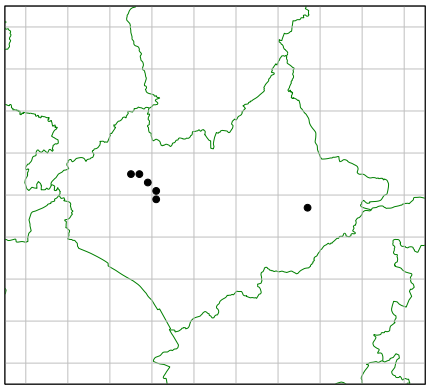




Dasysyrphus friuliensis van der Goot (2 records)

First noted in Britain in 1980 (Crossley, 1981) now regarded as widespread but not common (possibly due to under-recording?). Antennae are black as are the hairs on the scutellum.

Both VC55 records came in June1989 when Alan Stubbs noted it at Burley Wood while Austin Brackenbury & Derek Whiteley found it at a plantation near Groby Pool.



Dasysyrphus pinastri De Geer (7 records)

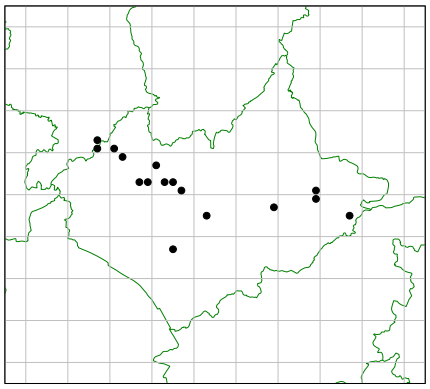
Scattered throughout Britain.

With one exception all VC55 records came from the Charnwood Forest area. First noted at Ulverscroft NR in 1982 (John Kramer) and again in 1987 (Steve Falk). Seen by Brian Wetton at Charnwood Lodge NNR (2018) who had previously noted the fly at Rutland Water Egleton NR in 2000. The other Charnwood area records came from a plantation near Groby Pool (1989) and Lea Meadows NR (1990) by Austin Brackenbury. Not in the collections.

Dasysyrphus tricinctus Fallén (26 records)

Easily recognised by the three abdominal bands.

Vice saw this species in 1875 at Bardon Hill and again at Owston Wood (1901). Seen on two occasions in the 1970s at the Scraptoft Lane malaise traps. Sporadically seen across the area since 1982 with many of the records coming from the Charnwood area. Not yet noted from Rutland Water NR.

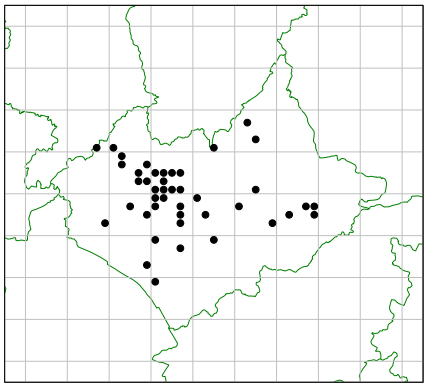


Swithland, 2017
Kate Nightingale*

Dasysyrphus venustus Meigen (73 records)

The bars on tergites 3 and 4 reach the margins without narrowing and the antennae are partly yellow.

Seen by Vice on several occasions between 1875 and 1900 at varied sites (Blaby, Bardon Hill, Longcliffe, Great Glen). Noted by Saunt at Quorn (1925) and by Muschamp at Leicester (1935; CRC 40/1/6B/4). Since the mid-1970s widely recorded across VC55 during the May-June period,



Holwell NR, 2017
David Gould*

DIDEA

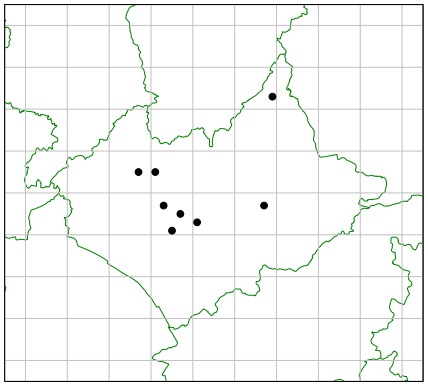
The deep dip of vein R_{4+5} is distinctive (Figure 13). Only one of the three British species of this genus has been noted in the Leicestershire & Rutland area.

Figure 13: Venation of *Didea*

Didea fasciata Macquart (13 records)

The abdominal marking are usually orange and the yellow halteres separate this species from the other two of the genus in Britain. Nationally, seems to be a widespread species.

First seen locally in 1993 when a female was found at Beacon Hill by Neil Frankum (Frankum, 1994b). A second was at Terrace Hills (near Belvoir Castle) in 1994 (Frankum, 1995). Occasionally seen at scattered locations since although not yet from Rutland. Two examples are in the collections from Darwyn Sumner (Martinshaw Wood, 1996; CRC 40/2/1B/14 & CRC 40/2/1C/1).



Leicester, 2015
Karen Conway*

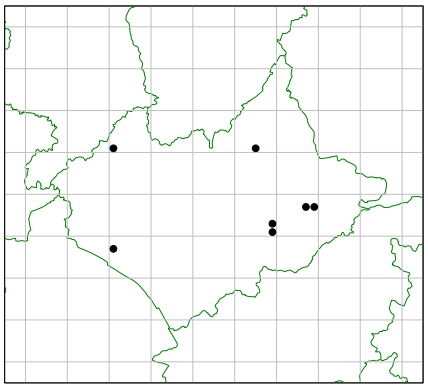
EPISTROPHE

Yellow and black coloured hoverflies that need careful examination to achieve correct identification to separate from e.g. *Syrphus*. Seven British species with four noted to date in VC55.

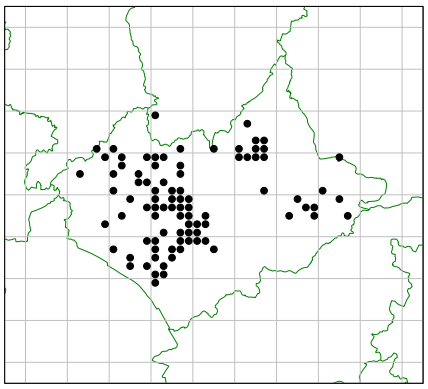
Epistrophe diaphana Zetterstedt (14 records)

The broad bands on tergites 3 & 4 help to distinguish this species. Antennae are entirely black. Mainly a southern species extending into the Midlands.

A scarce species in VC55 with the first local record having come in 2000 when seen by Brian Wetton at Rutland Water Egleton NR where it has been noted in succeeding years. Noted at Loddington (2007, 2011), Launde Big Wood NR (2014), Melton CP (2015, 2016), Cloud Wood NR (2018) and the author's Dadlington garden (2019).



Melton CP, 2016
Paul Ruddoch*



Epistrophe eligans Harris (288 records)

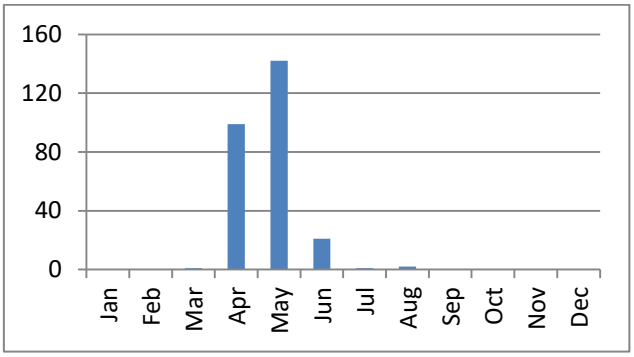
A variable species but easy enough to key out. Males tend to be darker with less in the way of markings than females. A spring species found across England and Wales less so elsewhere.

Seen at several places in VC55 by Vice between 1875 and 1896. Regularly taken of Jenny Owen's malaise traps. VC55 records suggest under-recording of this common hoverfly in some parts of the area. Several examples in the county collections.

Prestwold Natural Burial Ground, 2008 David Nicholls*

Gilroes (Leicester), 2012
HA Peacock*

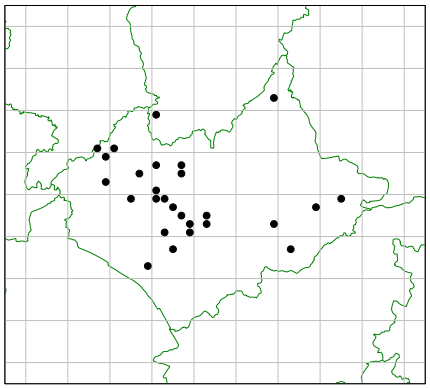
Anstey, 2017
Mike Higgott*



Epistrophe grossulariae Meigen (45 records)

One of the few hoverflies with parallel bands on the abdomen. Widespread throughout Britain.

Surprisingly not recorded in VC55 until 1973 when taken at a malaise trap at Scraptoft Lane, Leicester. Taken fairly regularly since mainly to the west of the region. A single example is in the collections contributed by John Kramer obtained from Martinshaw Wood in 1986 (CRC 40/2/4C/4).

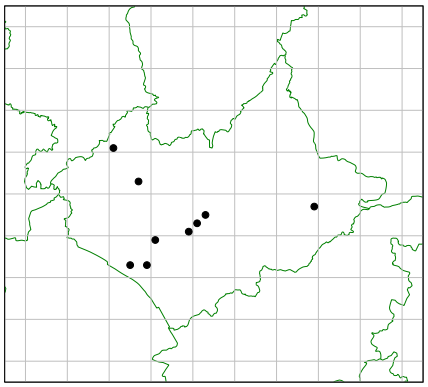


Welford Rd cemetery (Leicester), 2009
David Gould*

Epistrophe nitidicollis Meigen (21 records)

A species similar to *E. grossulariae* but has orange antennae. Records are scattered in England and Wales.

First noted by Vice at Bardon Hill in 1895 but not again until regularly taken at the Scraptoft Lane malaise traps 1973-1988. Seen at Egleton NR (Rutland Water), Leicester gardens and Sapcote areas. Does not appear in the collections.



Burbage, 2017
Graham Calow*

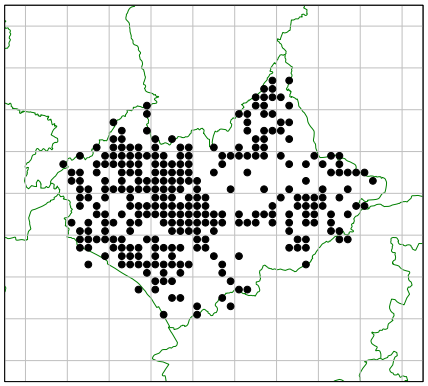
EPISYRPHUS

Just a single species of this highly recognisable genus in Britain.

Episyrphus balteatus De Geer (1499 records)

Possibly the most readily identifiable of the hoverflies being found throughout Britain often reported in large numbers in the summer months. Most specimens give the appearance of multi-striped abdomen although in reality this can be easily seen to not be the case. Occasionally a dark version may be found.

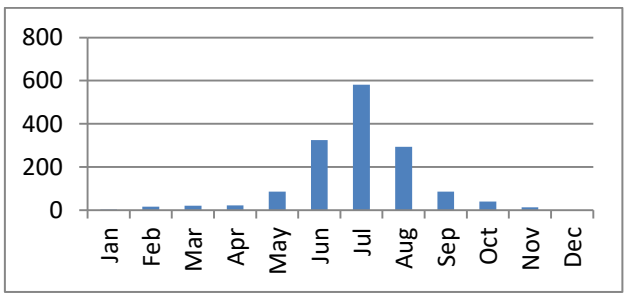
As nationally, VC55 records are both numerous and widespread. In the review period the fly has been seen in all months except December (peaking in July) with earlier records probably being associated with exceptionally warm weather which may have promoted some early emergents. Historically, Vice noted the fly on only two occasions – Blaby (1881) and Narborough Bog (1886). Further records for the species seemingly did not occur until 1972 but regularly each year since. Few examples in the collections.



Sapcote, 2009, dark form
Graham Calow*

Asfordby Hill, 2014
Paul Ruddoch*

Eastwell, 2013
Alan Semper*



ERISTALINUS

A black-bodied genus with two British species with just one in VC55 to date. A diagnostic feature is the spotted eyes. *E. aeneus* is a coastal species which is not expected to be found in our region.

Eristalinus sepulchralis Linnaeus (69 records)

Easily separated from the other member of the genus by the possession of grey thoracic stripes. Widely noted in England and Wales and to the west of northern areas.

Seen by Vice in the late 1800s (Blaby 1896, 1900 and Anstey Lane 1898) then not again until at the Scraptoft Lane (Leicester) malaise traps set by Jenny Owen. Since seen regularly over VC55 although there is a lack of records from the south-eastern area. Just three examples in the collections all contributed by Darwyn Sumner 1996-7 (CRC 40/3/1B/11-12).

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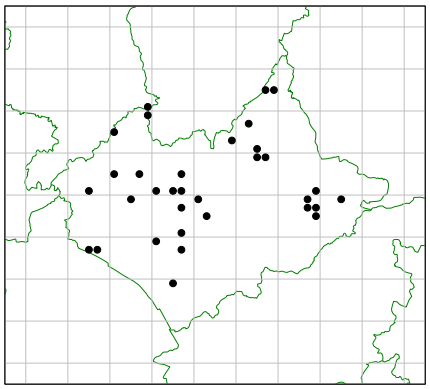


Spearwort Fields (Aylestone), 2018
David Gould*

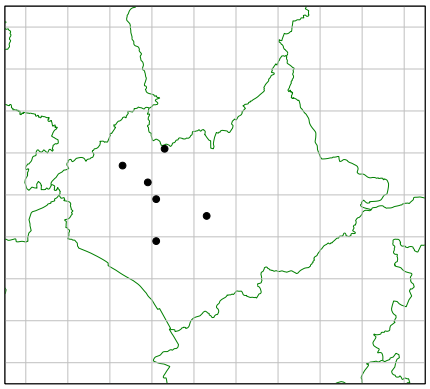
ERISTALIS

Many are bumblebee mimics. The members of this genus can be numerous where found and can often be seen patrolling a regular path in a favoured area. The British list has ten species of which eight have been seen locally.

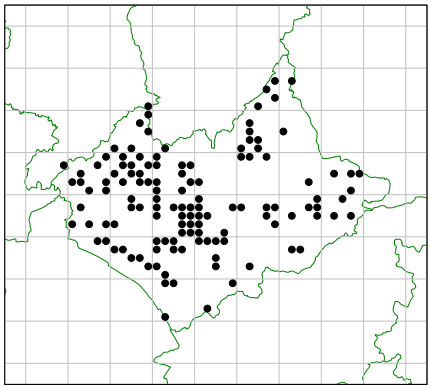
Eristalis abusivus Collin (8 records)

Needs to be critically examined in order to separate from *E. arbustorum* and *E. interruptus*. However, the mid tibia of this species is usually entirely pale along with faint thoracic stripes. Scattered throughout Britain.

Not noted in VC55 until taken at a 1973 malaise trap at Scraptoft Lane (Leicester) by Jenny Owen. Survey work at Loughborough Big Meadow NR in 1993 showed its widespread presence at the site. Then recorded at Cademan Wood (2006), Ulverscroft NR (2008), Groby Pool (2009) and Thurlaston (2018). No collections specimens.



Thurlaston, 2018
Ted Gaten*



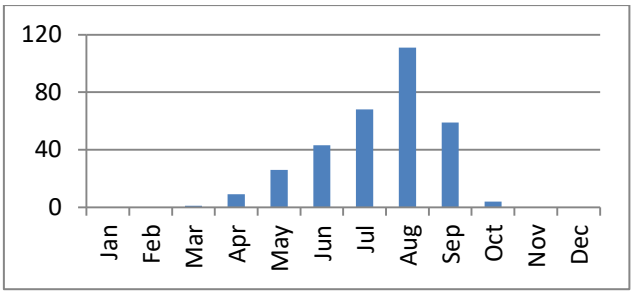
Eristalis arbustorum Linnaeus (350 records)

The pale-dusted face easily separates this species from others in the genus. Common throughout Britain.

Noted by Vice at several locations in the late 1800s and at Longcliffe and Leicester in the 1930s by Muschamp. Regularly seen across VC55 since 1970 with a summer peak of occurrence. Examples appear in the collections.

Long Clawson, 2012
Barbara Cooper*

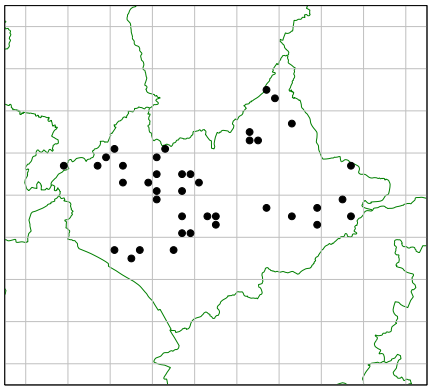
Empingham, 2021
Andrew Dejardin*



Eristalis horticola De Geer (81 records)

Commonly recorded throughout Britain. Easily keyed out to separate from similar species.

First noted in VC55 by GH Storey in 1885 at Buddon Wood and by Muschamp at Longcliffe in 1936 (CRC 40/4/4A/2). Not noted again until taken at Jenny Owen's malaise traps at Scraptoft Lane, Leicester. Seen regularly at many locations across the area.

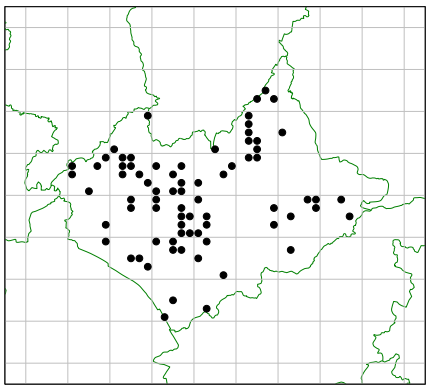


Aylestone Meadows (Leicester), 2018
David Gould*

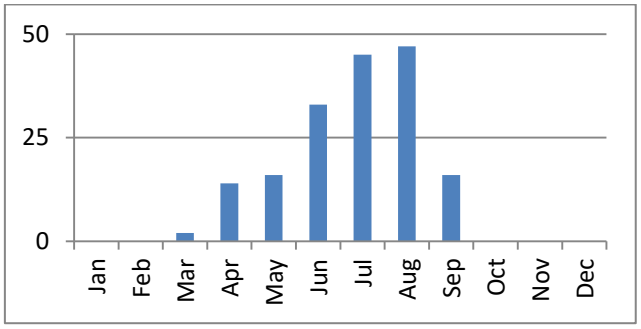
Eristalis intricaria Linnaeus (192 records)

When compared to others of the genus, the body is distinctly furry. The end of the abdomen can vary in colour and whilst thoracic hairs can vary widely from red to black, those on the scutellum are always orange. Recorded throughout Britain.

Occasional VC55 records occurred from 1881 (Blaby area, Vice), Aylestone 1908 (LS Box; CRC 40/4/5B/3,5), Cropston (LS Box 1980; CRC 40/4/5B/6) and through to 1945 (Leicester, Muschamp). Regular noting of the species commenced in 1973 (Scraptoft Lane malaise traps) to the present day from widely distributed locations. Specimens of some more recent sightings have been added to the county collections.



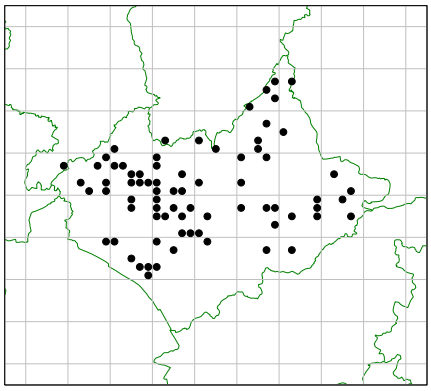
Cropston, 2016 ♂
Kate Nightingale*



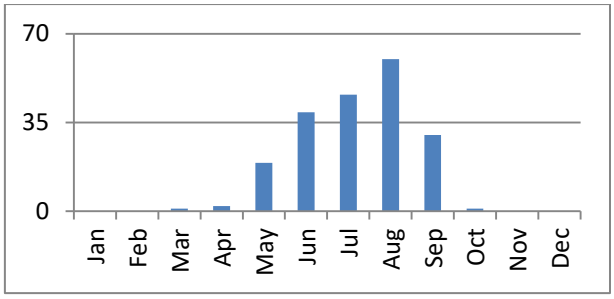
Eristalis nemorum Linnaeus (214 records)

The behaviour of the male is characteristic for this species with hovering over a female in a "guarding" posture (image). The wing stigma is usually well-defined. Scattered throughout Britain particularly in Wales.

Widespread in VC55 being first noted in 1973 in the Scraptoft Lane malaise traps. Very much a summer species. Does not appear in the county collections!



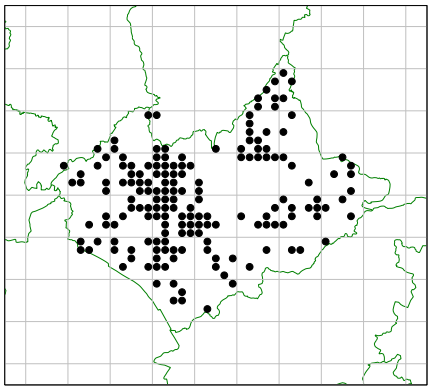
Spearwort Fields (Aylestone), 2018)
David Gould* – "mate guarding"



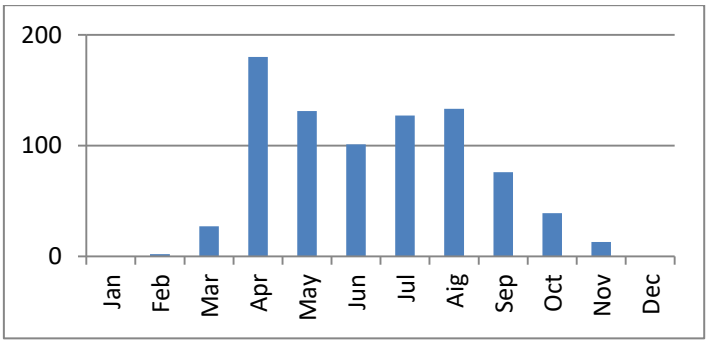
Eristalis pertinax Scopoli (860 records)

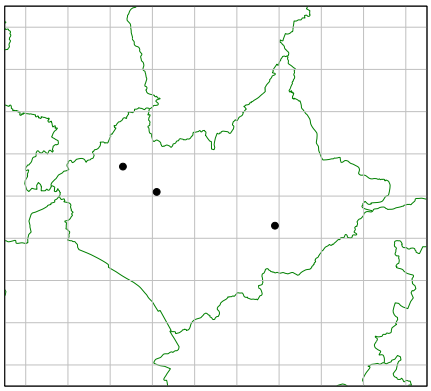
Common throughout Britain. Often one of the first hoverfly species to be seen in the spring with an extended presence until late in the year. The yellow tarsi on the front and middle legs are diagnostic.

One of the earliest VC55 records of a hoverfly having been noted by Vice in 1875 at Bardon Hill. Recorded from across VC55. Several examples are in the collections.



New Lount, 2012
David Nicholls*





Eristalis similis Fallén (3 records)

Needs careful examination to separate from *E, pertinax* and *E. tenax*. Front tarsus is black (yellow in *pertinax*) and the hind leg tibia is broadly pale at the base (like *pertinax* but not *tenax*). First noted in Britain from Warwickshire by Steve Falk in 1990.

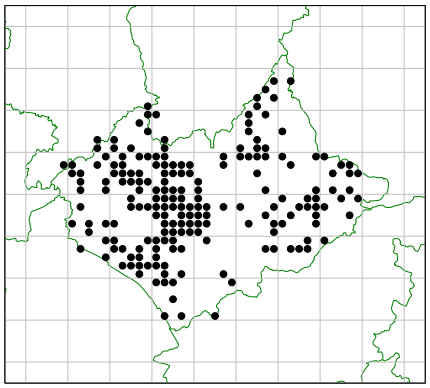
Located VC55 records up to 2020 have indicated the hoverfly at Lea Meadows NR and the Grace Dieu complex (Helen Ikin & Steve Woodward, 2010) and Launde Big Wood NR (Brian Wetton, 2014).

However, the NBN Atlas has less than ten records and the Hoverfly Recording Scheme considers this to be a species that has only recently appeared in Britain and may be expanding its range here. It may be the occasional migrant and could well be over-looked.

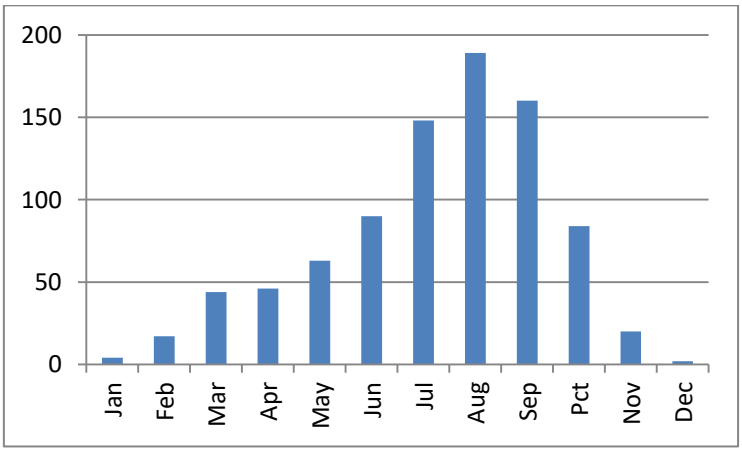
Eristalis tenax Linnaeus (890 records)

This large honeybee mimic can be readily identified thanks to the long wide face stripe, an expanded and curved hind tibia and a long row of vertical dark hairs on the eye. Extremely common across Britain from early spring to well into the autumn.

Locally, not unexpectedly, commonly recorded. The fly has been seen in all months of the year particularly peaking in late summer and into autumn. Only four records for the species have been located prior to 1970 after which date records became numerous.



Ratby, 2014
David Nicholls*



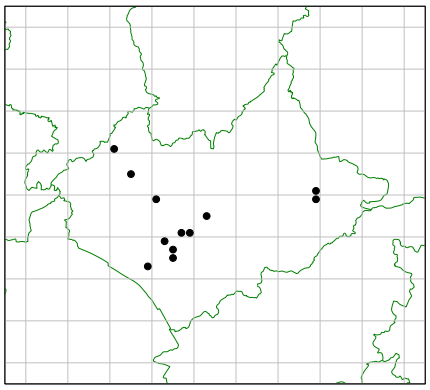
EUMERUS

One of the more numerous of the hoverfly genera in Europe but with just five species in Britain. The wing venation is a useful pointer to the genus with characters of the hind legs aiding speciation. Just three of the British species seen in VC55.

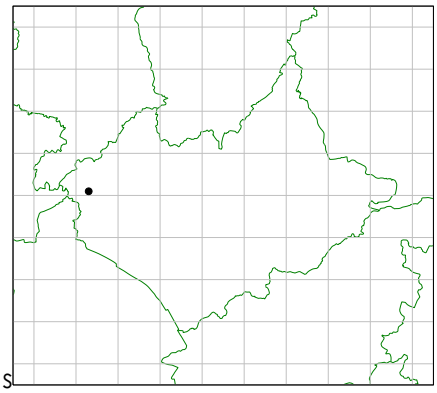
Eumerus funeralis Meigen (31 records)

The hind femur is strongly swollen and is slightly arched (strongest in male). Near the base of the hind femur there is hairless area. Widely distributed in England and Wales but scattered elsewhere.

Locally the first records came regularly from Jenny Owen's malaise traps at Scraptoft Lane, Leicester (1972-1988) and then from scattered locations but not seen in some years. No examples of this species appear in the collections.



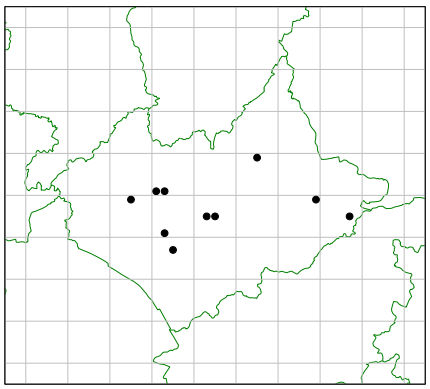
Sapcote, 2019
Graham Calow* (id Tony Irwin)



Eumerus ornatus Meigen (3 records)

Scattered in England and Wales. Tends to be slightly larger than other *Eumerus* species. The hind femur is slightly swollen having long white hairs. The males have distinctive orange "globes" on the underside of the genitalia.

The only VC55 records came from Andy Godfrey during survey work at a Measham brickworks in 2006.



Eumerus strigatus Fallén (26 records)

The swollen hind femur along with white hairs beneath enable identification of this species. Found across England and Wales but rare elsewhere.

First noted by Muschamp in 1933 at Bradgate ?Park with specimens in the County Collections (CRC 40/4/5B/7-10). Regularly seen at the Scraptoft Lane malaise traps with further sightings coming from scattered locations. Within the review period it was last noted at Melton CP in 2015 by Paul Ruddoch. ?Possibly mistaken as *E. funeralis*.

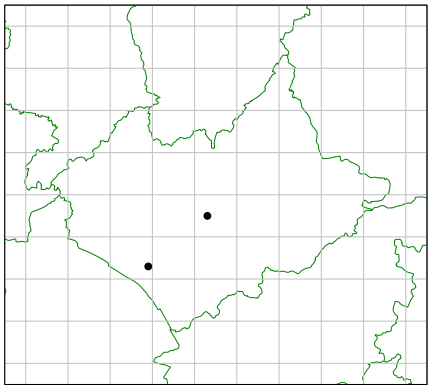
EUPEODES

A highly variable genus with species showing abdomens with spots, lunules and bands thus necessitating careful identification. Hairs on the lateral part of the abdomen tend to be black whereas with similar syrphini species these are usually pale. Two species (*E. corollae* and *E. luniger*) are predators of ground-dwelling aphids whilst all others attack conifer aphids. Of the nine British species seven have been seen locally.

Eupeodes bucculatus Rondani (6 records)

Scattered across England and Wales into southern Scotland. Strong sexual differences. Considered by Stubbs & Falk (2002) as being common in open habitats and can be numerous in some years.

In the review period the hoverfly has only been recorded from two sites: malaise traps at Scraptoft Lane, Leicester (1975-1979) and from the Granitethorpe area of Sapcote in SW Leicestershire by Graham Calow in 2009.

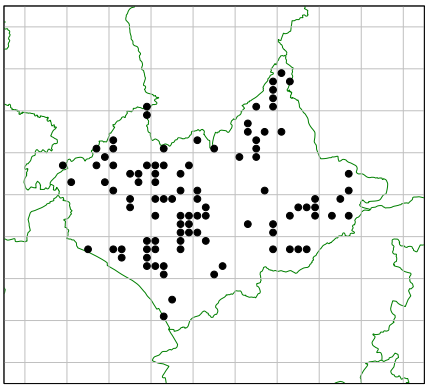


Sapcote, 2009
Graham Calow*

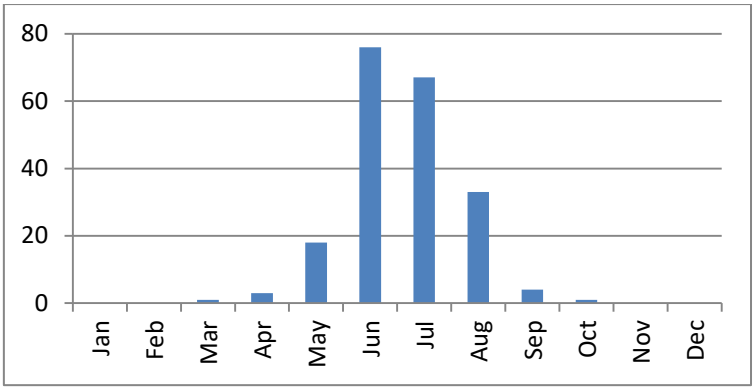
Eupeodes corollae Fabricius (225 records)

One of the commonest of the genus both in Britain and locally. Predominantly a summer species that may on occasions be enhanced by migrants from Europe.

Early VC55 sightings were made by Vice (1874-1893) from several sites and then by Muschamp in 1936 at Longcliffe (CRC 40/5/1A/1). However, regular recording of the species did not occur until the 1970s when it was seen regularly at the Scraptoft Lane malaise traps. Since seen across VC55 even being attracted to light traps on occasions. Just three examples in the county collections.



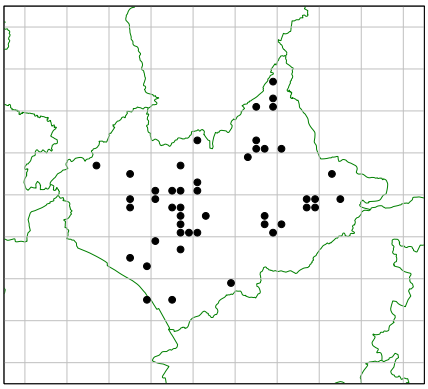
Spinney Hill, Leicester, 2020
Saharima Roenisch*



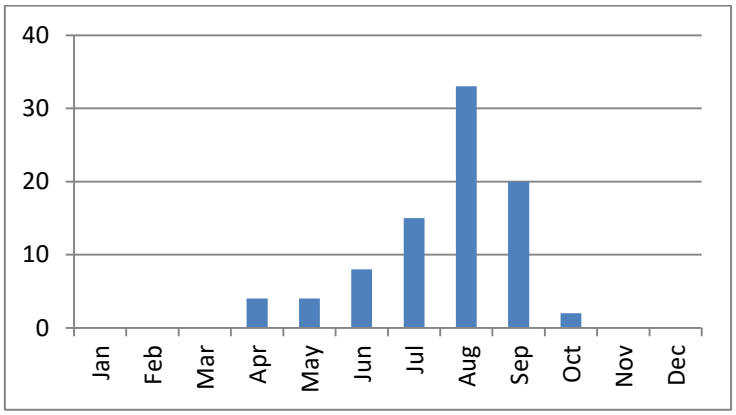
Eupeodes latifasciatus Macquart (100 records)

Needs careful examination to separate from *E. corollae*. Common throughout Britain and well recorded across VC55.

Prior to the 1970s malaise traps run by Jenny Owen, it had been recorded just once by Vice in the Blaby area in 1883. Seen regularly in recent years from sites across VC55. No local specimens in the county collections with clear data.



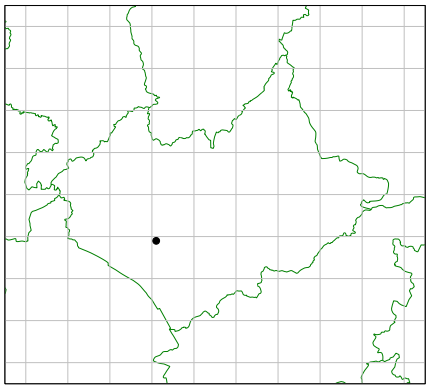
Melton CP, 2014
Paul Ruddoch*



Eupeodes lundbecki Soot-Ryen (1 record)

A rare hoverfly in Britain with few records; first noted in Scotland in 1976 and then eventually added to the British list in 1990 (Watt & Robertson, 1990). Considered to be a migrant species.

The specimen noted at Thurlaston in 2019 was verified by several national experts and is considered valid.

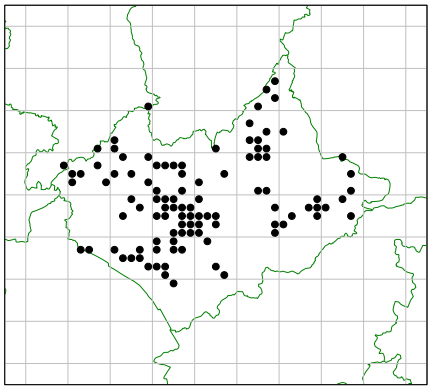


Thurlaston, 2019
Ted Gaten (id Roger Morris *et al*)*

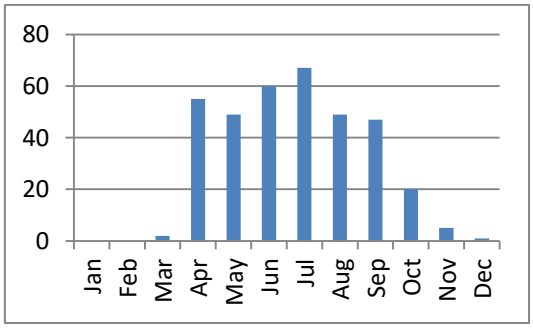
Eupeodes luniger Meigen (378 records)

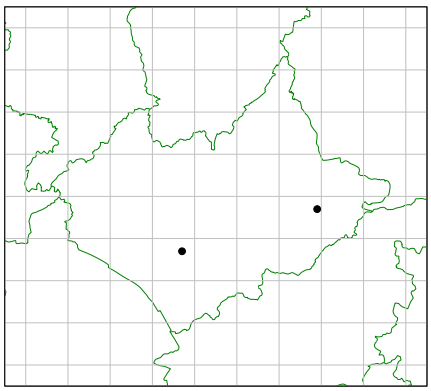
A highly variable species requiring careful identification. Occurs across much of Britain and commonly noted in VC55.

Vice found the species in the Blaby area in the late 1800s whilst Lowe noted it regularly at Thurmaston during 1908 with several specimens contributed to the collections (CRC 40/5/3B/8-11,14) Commonly seen since the 1970s.



Empingham, 2017
Andrew Dejardin*

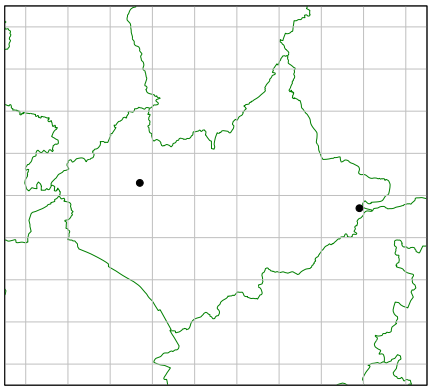




Eupeodes nielseni Dušek & Láska (3 records) Nationally Scarce

An unusual hoverfly with a few scattered records in southern Britain but a little commoner in the Scottish Highlands having not been fully described and added to the British list until 1976.

Vice recorded this fly in the Blaby area as *Syrphus arctuatus* but with the absence of any specimens the record must be treated as unconfirmed. A female was noted in each of 2013 and 2014 at the Egleton NR at Rutland Water by Brian Wetton.



Eupeodes nitens Zetterstedt (2 records) Nationally Scarce

Another variable species being relatively uncommonly found at scattered locations in Britain.

Noted in 2008 at Bardon Hill during survey work by visiting entomological consultants. The fly was reported from Ketton Quarry NR in 2009 by an unidentified member of the Rutland NHS being reported in the Society's "*Fieldfare*" publication.

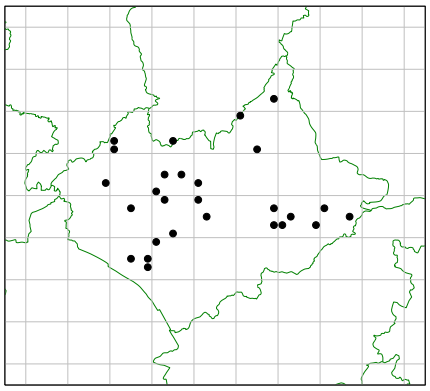
FERDINANDEA

An easily recognised genus having greyish stripes along the top of the dark thorax. Only two British species with just one in VC55.

Ferdinandea cuprea Scopoli (39 records)

The tibia have small thick spines and the thorax seems to have a brassy appearance although actually black. Common in England and Wales and also northern Scotland.

First recorded in VC55 at the Scraptoft Lane (Leicester) malaise traps (1972, 1981) and then regularly (but not overly commonly) since the 1980s from scattered locations. A single specimen was deposited into the county collections by Darwyn Sumner collected from Sheet Hedges Wood in 1996 (CRC 40/5/5C/9).



Wood Close Plantation (Braunstone), 2019
David Gould*

HELOPHILUS

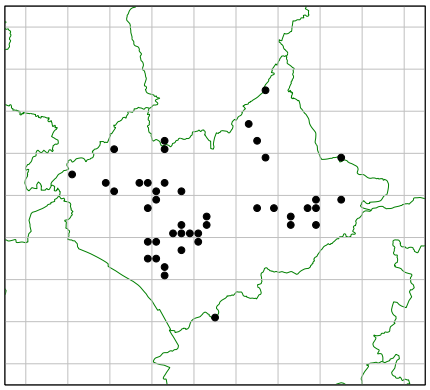
Largish flies easily recognised by the looped R4+5 venation typical of the Eristalini (Figure 14), yellow and black striped thorax and yellow abdomen with black markings. Of the five British species three have been recorded in VC55.

Figure 14: *Helophilus* wing venation

Helophilus hybridus Loew (97 records)

Common throughout England and Wales scattered elsewhere.

Found across VC55 having been first recorded locally at Broughton Astley (1881) and the Blaby area (1900) by Vice. Recorded twice in 1928 by Muschamp at John O'Gaunt (near Loseby) with specimens in the collections (CRC 40/5/6A/15, CRC/40/5.6B/1). Since noted fairly regularly since the 1970s with a further specimen in the collections from Darwyn Sumner (Swithland Wood, 1998; CRC 40/6/1A/2).

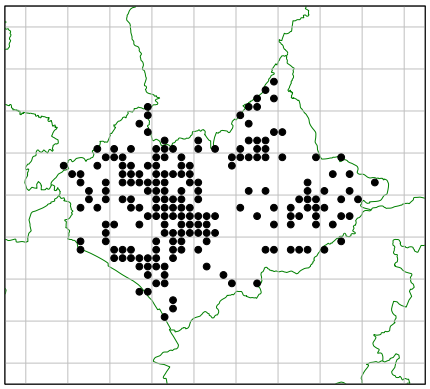


Leicester, 2006 ♂
David Gould*

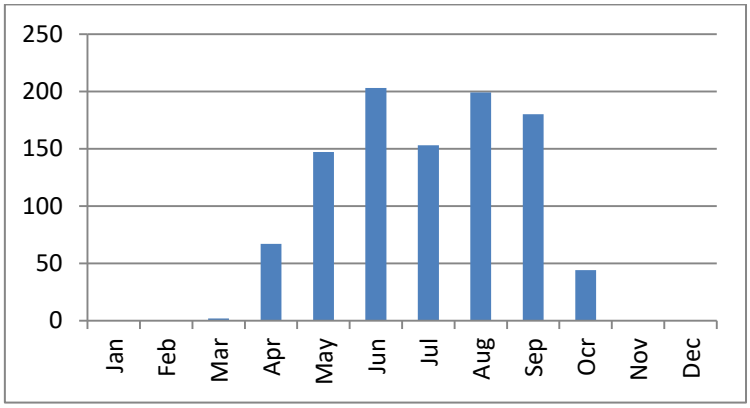
Helophilus pendulus Linnaeus (1000 records)

Extremely common across all of Britain and also in VC55. An easily recognised member of the genus as the black on the hind tibia is restricted to the distal end.

Noted by Vice at several sites in the late 1800s with the earliest known specimen of a hoverfly in the collections taken in 1873 (CRC 40/6/1B/1). A further specimens came from the Thurmaston area by Lowe in 1908 (CRC 40/6/1B/2) and from the Narborough area (possibly Narborough Bog NR) in 1930 (CRC 40/6/1B/9-13). Sporadically recorded to the mid-1900s but since has been commonly recorded across the area since the 1970s.



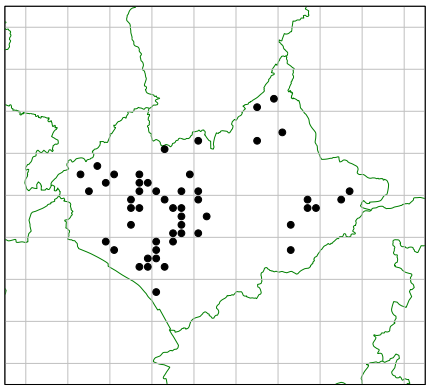
Spearwort Fields (Aylestone), 2013
David Gould*



Helophilus trivittatus Fabricius (83 records)

Readily recognisable by the entirely yellow face (including the central stripe). Common in England and Wales, less so elsewhere.

Noted at Anstey Lane in 1898 (Vice) with several specimens in the collections from Thurmaston taken in 1908 by Lowe (CRC 40/6/3C/1,8,9). Noted only once at the Scraptoft Lane malaise traps (1973). Seen annually across the area since 2005 although with some gaps in distribution.



Stoney Stanton, 2016
Graham Calow*

HERINGIA

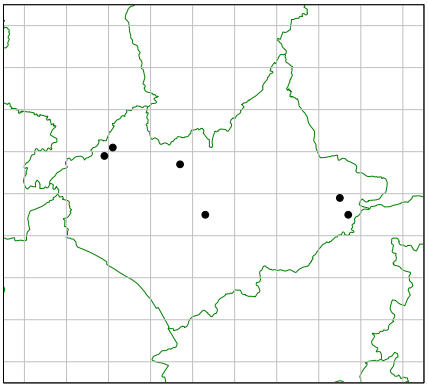
Stubbs & Falk (2002) considered the *Heringia* genus as including two sub-genera – *Heringia* and *Neocnemodon* – which, according to the latest taxonomic review (DF, 2023), has the latter now considered a genus in its own right. Accordingly the *Heringia* genus as reported here consists of two species the remainder of the Stubbs & Falk species being assigned to *Neocnemedon*.

Black flies with antennae placed low on the head with the larvae being associated with gall-inducing and other aphids.

Heringia heringi Zetterstedt (11 records)

Males are usually mostly covered by black hairs whilst the females have whitish hairs on the thorax and legs. Scattered in England and Wales.

Six of the VC55 records came from Jenny Owen's malaise traps at Scraptoft Lane (Leicester) 1975-1988 with the remainder from scattered locations since. Specimens in the county collections came from Barrow upon Soar by Derek Lott with identifications by Stubbs (CRC 40/6/4B/3) and another from Anona Finch found at Lount LNR in 2000 (CRC 40/6/4B/4).



Empingham, 2019
Andrew Dejardin

Note: a single observation noted as Heringia heringi/senilis came from John Szczur when seen at Horninghold in 2006. As senilis has entirely white hairs on much of the body it is odd that this was not a confirmed identification and accordingly the record has not been included in this review.

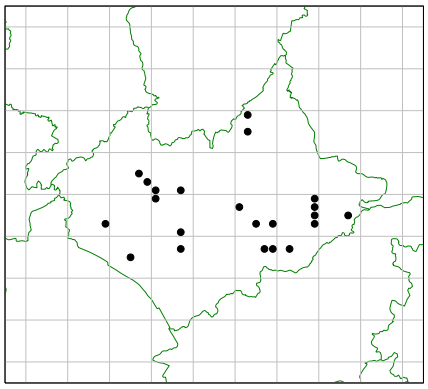
LEJOGASTER

Hoverflies that are entirely metallic green, bronze or blue with concave faces. Males have separated eyes on top. Only one of the two British species has been recorded from VC55.

Lejogaster metallina Fabricius (56 records)

Small green (often with a metallic appearance) hoverfly found across much of Britain.

Noted from the Blaby area by Vice (1883, 1896) with a specimen in the County Collections (CRC 40/6/5A/1). Noted at the Scraptoft Lane (Leicester) malaise traps (1972-1985) and then from scattered localities. Particularly well-recorded in 1989.



Spearwort Fields (Aylestone), 2013
David Gould*

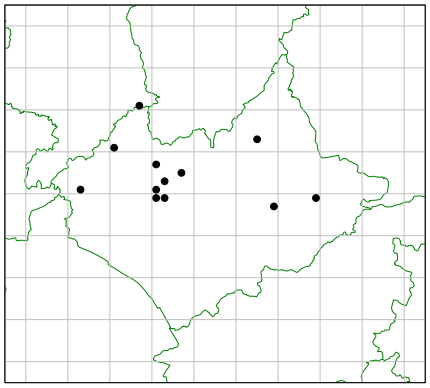
LEUCOZONA

Blue-grey abdominal markings help to identify this genus. All three British species have been noted in Leicestershire & Rutland.

Leucozona glaucia Linnaeus (15 records)

Identifiable by the yellow scutellum and front legs and narrow bars on the abdomen. Found throughout much of Britain but apparently not often seen in eastern England.

Scattered records in VC55 being first seen at Buddon Wood in 1885 by GH Storer. Other local records are from random sites with recording of the species being sporadic. Records come mid- to late-summer. No examples in the collections.

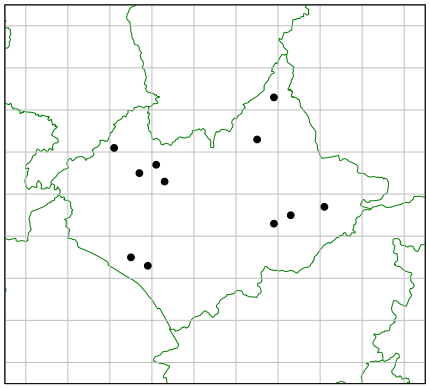


Lea Meadows NR, 2003
David Gould*

Leucozona laternaria Müller (25 records)

Scutellum is darkened as are the front legs and with narrow abdominal bars. Randomly scattered across much of Britain but apparently more commonly recorded in Wales.

First noted in 1986 by John Kramer at Martinshaw Wood with a specimen in the County Collections (CRC 40/7/1A/9) then seen frequently at other sites. Predominantly a mid-summer fly.

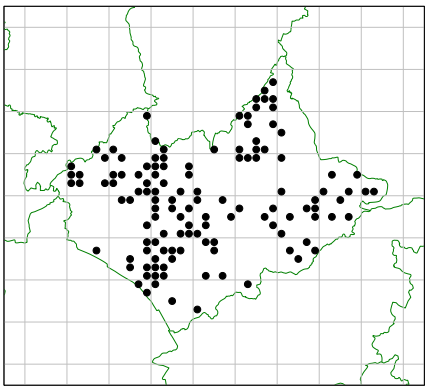


Burbage Common, 2011 ♀
David Nicholls*

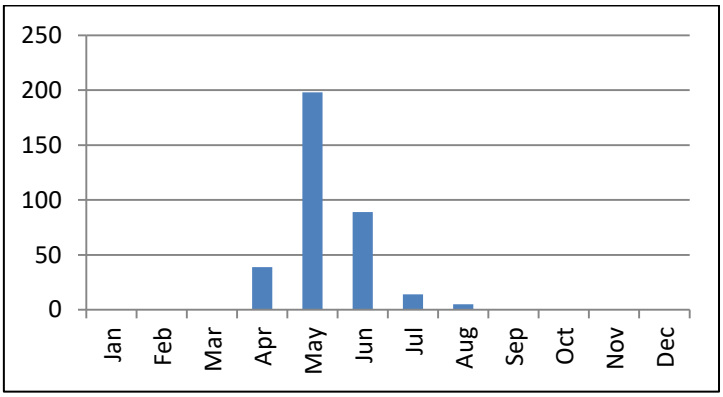
Leucozona lucorum Linnaeus (356 records)

The commonest of the three British species being easily recognised because of the broad creamish abdominal band. The wings also have noticeable clouds. Found across Britain.

In line with the national trend, local distribution covers much of the area, Regularly noted by Vice in the late 1800s at a variety of locations (e.g. Blaby area 1883; CRC 40/7/1B/15). Not recorded again until seen at Saddington Reservoir in 1960 (CRC 40/7/2B/18) and Burbage Wood in 1962 both by Derek Foxwell. Regularly recorded since the 1970s including the Scraptoft Lane malaise traps. A spring to early summer species.

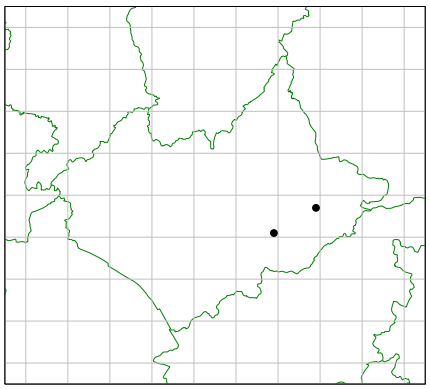


Watermead CP, 2017
Steve Mathers*



MALLOTA

Bee and bumblebee mimics with several western European species. Britain has only a single species.



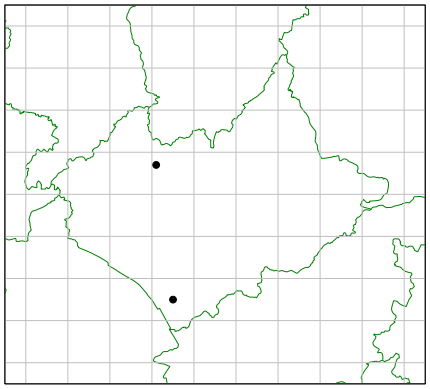
Mallota cimbiciformis Fallén (2 records) Nationally Scarce

An excellent hive-bee mimic separable from the larger *Eristalis tenax* by the swollen hind femur. Scattered over England Wales but rare. The rat-tailed larva resides in rot holes on trees.

First reported from the Egleton NR at Rutland Water in 2000 by Brian Wetton with a second record from Loddington in 2016 by John Szczur.

MEGASYRPHUS

Bumblebee mimic with the larvae feeding on tree-dwelling aphids. The single British species of this genus has been rarely seen in VC55. Over the years the species has changed its taxonomy. Stubbs & Falk (2002) reported the species as *Eriozona erratica* but currently it has been elevated to the current genus (DF, 2023). Records held in the local database use the old name.



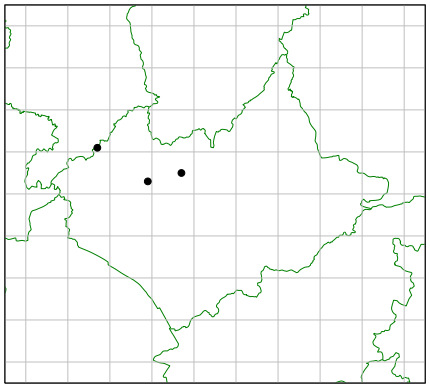
Megasyrphus erraticus Linnaeus (2 records)

A northern and western species in Britain usually associated with coniferous woodlands. However, the fly is seemingly slowly spreading south where the habitat is suitable.

The two records for VC55 come from areas with conifers. Noted by Neil Frankum at the Misterton Marsh complex in 1989 and then by Darwyn Sumner in 1996 when seen at Martinshaw Wood with a specimen (under the old name) in the collections (CRC 40/2/6C/3). Where the conifers at this latter site are slowly being removed, by the Woodland Trust, this may result in the species' toehold at the site being threatened.

MELANGYNA

A genus that needs careful examination to establish valid identification. Some species are rare and others are difficult to key out. Of the nine British species seven have been reported from VC55. Small narrowly built flies most having rectangular or oval abdominal spots. Whilst Ball & Morris (2013) give useful guidance on morphological characters it is often wise to use the keys of Stubbs & Falk (2002) to confirm identity.



Melangyna arctica Zetterstedt (3 records)

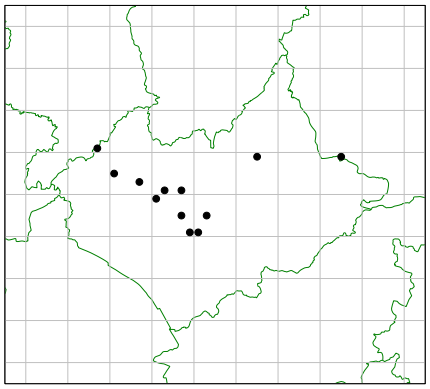
A useful feature to aid identification of this species is the dusky brown halteres. A species mainly of western Britain.

Only three reports of the fly have been found to date all coming from experienced entomologists. Found at Ulverscroft (1982) and Dimminsdale NRs (1984) by John Kramer. A specimen was collected at Buddon Wood in 1996 by Darwyn Sumner (CRC 40/7/2C/1).

Melangyna cincta Fallén (28 records)

Scattered in England and Wales, less often reported from elsewhere. Relatively easy to identify thanks to the parallel yellow bands on tergites 3 & 4.

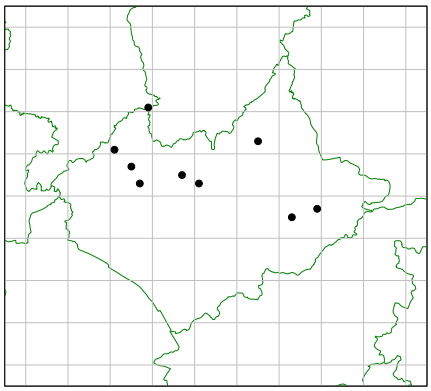
Regularly taken at the Scraptoft Lane malaise traps 1972-1988 having not been previously noted elsewhere. Since recorded at scattered sites in VC55 but often just a few records in some years but none in others. No local specimens in the collections.



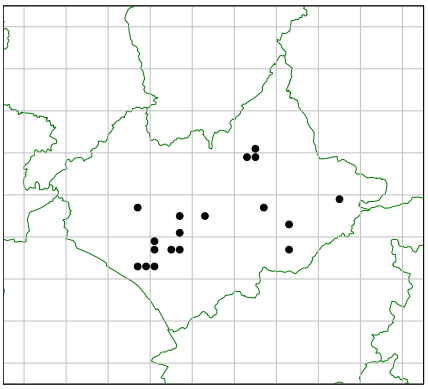
Cropston, 2016
Kate Nightingale*

Melangyna compositarum Verrall and ***Melangyna labiatrum*** Verrall aggregate

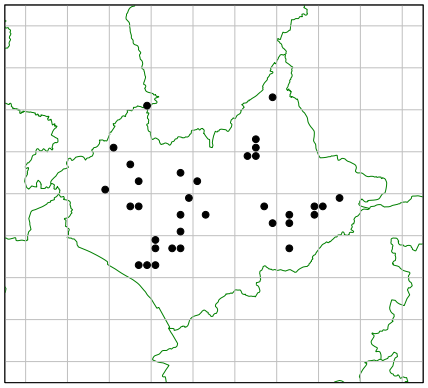
The separation with certainty of *M. compositarum* and *M. labiatrum* remains problematic. The eyes of males of the former species tend to be quite hairy whereas with the latter species they are virtually bare. According to Stubbs & Falk (1982) *M. compositarum* seems to have a more northerly distribution than *M. labiatrum* but this cannot be relied upon as a true indication of which species is present at a location. Accordingly the two species presence in VC55 cannot be definitively elucidated unless identifications have been attributed to experienced entomologists using currently available keys using males for the determination. There are no specimens of either in the county collections which may have allowed establishment of either (or both) existing in our area.



Melangyna compositarum (12 records accepted)



Melangyna labiatarum (30 records accepted)



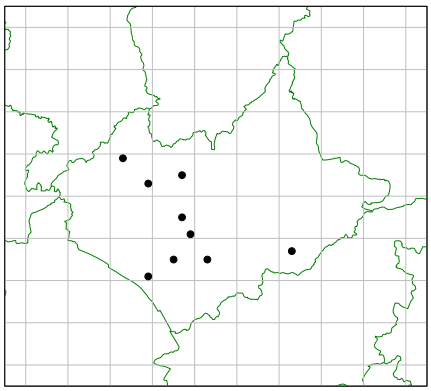
Melangyna compositarum/labiatarum (38 records undifferentiated)

***Putative Melangyna labiatarum* Sapcote, 2009**
Graham Calow*

Melangyna lasiophthalma Zetterstedt (9 records)

An early flier which may aid correct identification. Males have pale thoracic hairs. Scattered across Britain.

Muschamp provided the first local record of this hoverfly when he observed it at Wistow Park in April 1939. Other spring records came from several sites although usually only one record in a year with none is many years. The only specimens of this species in the collection came from Darwyn Sumner – Buddon Wood 1996 (CRC 40/7/4C/8) and Ulverscroft Lodge 1999 (CRC 40/7/42/9,10).

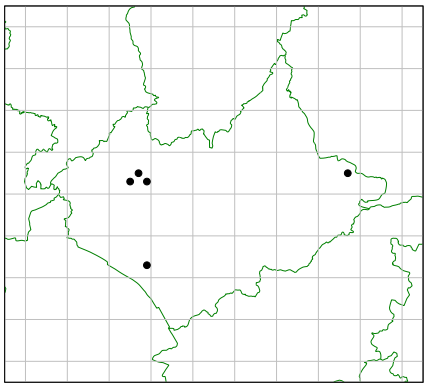


Leicester, 2015
Karen Conway*

Melangyna quadrimaculata Verrall (6 records)

Another spring species. Scattered in England and Wales, sporadic elsewhere. Requires careful examination to establish correct identity.

Noted at Bardon Hill in 1903 by GB Dixon but not again until 1988 when observed during an Invertebrate Site Register visit to Pickworth Great Wood. Four further records came between 2008 and 2015 three of which originated from Sapcote. Local examples do not appear in the county collections.

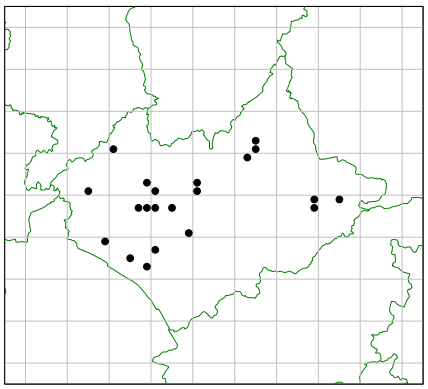


Fosse Meadows CP, 2011 ♂
Graham Calow*

Melangyna umbellatarum Fabricius (22 records)

A fly with a strongly shiny thorax and the abdominal markings being much paler, than may be expected with other members of the genus, being almost white. Scattered in England and Wales but less frequent elsewhere.

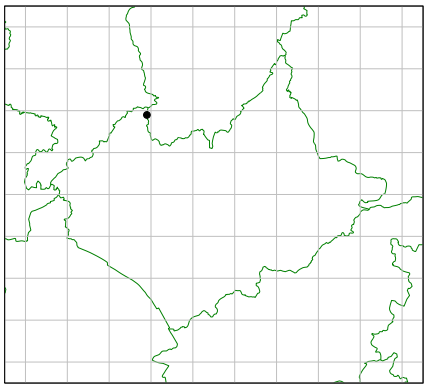
The first local record came from Alan Stubbs who noted the fly at Burley Wood in 1989. Neil Frankum found it in the Polly Botts Lane (Ulverscroft) area in 1992. Since 2005 the species has been noted at scattered sites across VC55. No specimens in the collections.



Melton CP, 2015
Paul Ruddoch*

MELANOGASTER

Small black hoverflies originally included with the *Chrysogaster* genus but differ in that they are smaller and darker lacking much of the iridescence of the latter. Only two species are listed in the genus and can be difficult to separate.



Melanogaster aerosa Loewe (1 record)

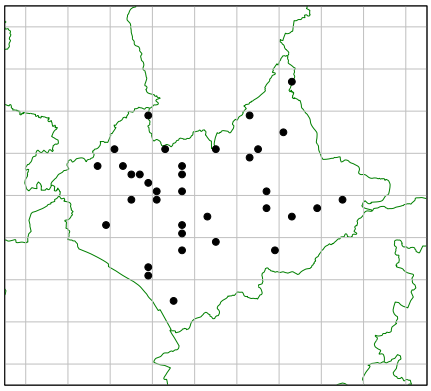
Slightly larger than the other member of this genus. The male has dense black hairs on the top of the thorax whereas in the female the hairs are short and pale yellow. Records are scattered across Britain but the fly is not common.

The sole VC55 record came from Alan Stubbs during survey work at the Lockington Marshes SSSI site in 1991.

Melanogaster hirtella Loew (63 records)

Unusually for hoverflies, the females of this genus are easier to identify than males having no "nose" but with, black antennae and upright yellowish hairs on the thorax. Because of a slight "nose" the male is harder to separate from similar species of other genera. Widespread throughout Britain.

Generally distributed in VC55. First records come from the Blaby area in 1875 (and again in 1903) as well as from Great Glen (1886). Not then noted until taken at the Scraptoft Lane malaise trap in 1982. Since 1986 the insect has been seen fairly regularly across VC55. Darwyn Sumner deposited specimens from Fosse Meadows CP near Sharnford (CRC 40/7/6A/18,20,21; CRC 40/7/6B/1) and Ulverscroft NR obtained in 1996. CRC 40/7/6A/19; CRC 40/7/6B/2,3)



Spearwort Fields (Aylestone), 2016
Alan Cann*

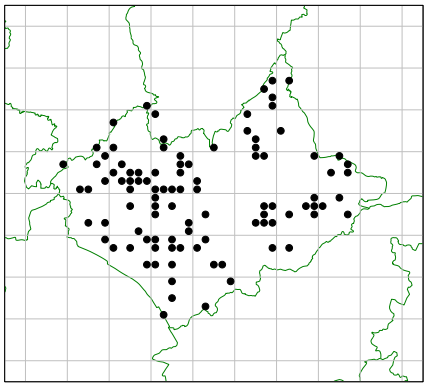
MELANOSTOMA

Small black and yellow flies with a totally black face and scutellum. The pattern on the female abdomen allows ready identification but males may be confused with *Platycheirus* although not having modified front legs. Three British species two of which have been noted locally the third being rarely recorded anywhere.

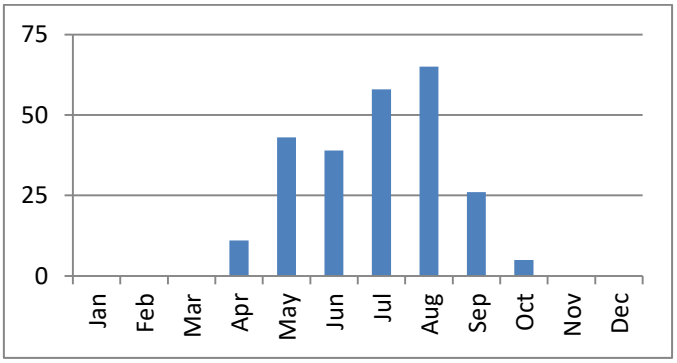
Melanostoma mellinum Linnaeus (269 records)

A summer species which is common throughout Britain.

Recorded at several sites by Vice in the 1883-1896 period (specimen from the Blaby area 1896 CRC 40/8/1B/4) but not again until taken at the Scraptoft Lane (Leicester) malaise traps in the 1970s. Regularly seen every year since from across VC55. Just a few other examples of the fly in the collections.



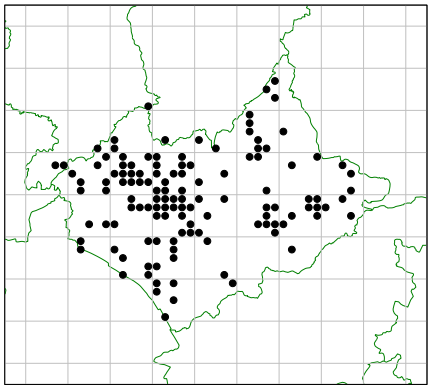
Sapcote, 2009 ♂
Graham Calow*



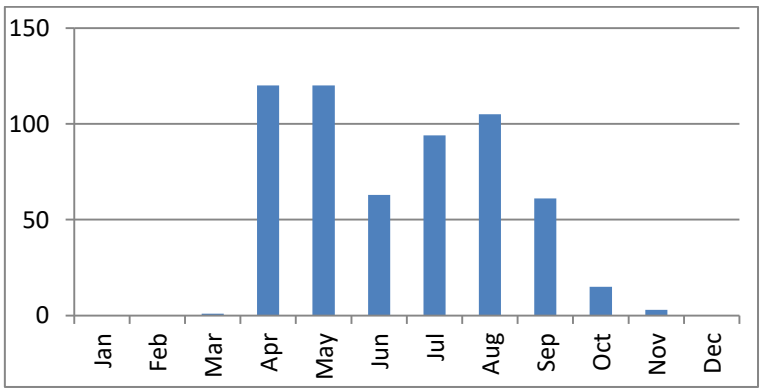
Melanostoma scalare Fabricius (606 records)

Widespread and commonly recorded across Britain.

Noted in VC55 throughout spring, summer and into autumn. Surprisingly the first records only came in the 1970s when taken at malaise traps at Scraptoft Lane. Since that time recorded frequently in most years. Examples in the collections came from Barrow upon Soar (Derek Lott, 1981; CRC 40/8/2C/9) and from Loughborough in 1985 (E. Pearson, CRC 40/8/2C/6-8).



Bardon Hill, 2006 ♀
David Nicholls*



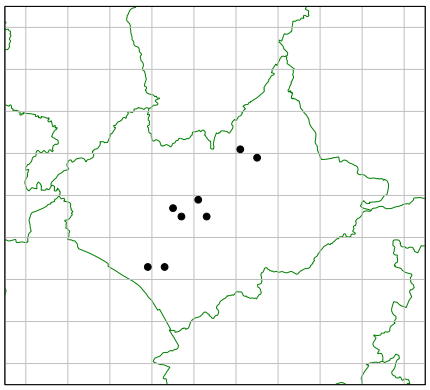
MELIGRAMMA

Small flies having a yellow scutellum and face. May resemble *Melangyna* or *Meliscaeva*. Larvae feed on aphids. Three species on the British list with just one locally.

Meligramma trianguliferum Zetterstedt (13 records)

Abdominal markings are triangular-like hence its Latin name. Scattered in England and Wales. May well be overlooked due to identification issues.

Taken in the 1980s in the Scraptoft Lane malaise traps then occasionally between 1996 and 2019 from scattered locations. Darwyn Sumner contributed specimens to the collections from Watermead CP (CRC 40/8/3C/4) and Melton Mowbray (CRC 40/8/3C/5) taken in 1996.



County Hall (Glenfield), 2019
Mike Higgott*

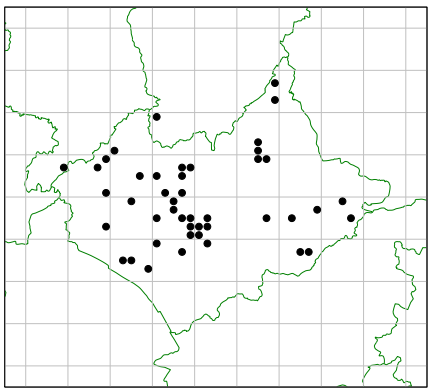
MELISCAEVA

The two British species (both recorded in VC55) are narrow-bodied black and yellow hoverflies with elongated wings.

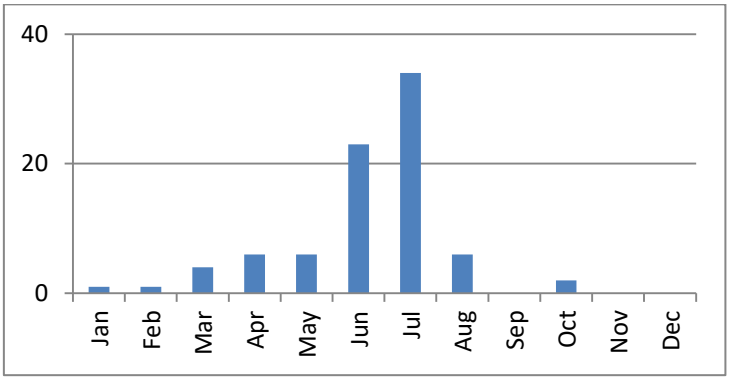
Meliscaeva auricollis Meigen (103 records)

The markings on tergite 2 are elliptical in contrast to the broader-blunt-ended ones in *M. cinctella*. Distributed throughout Britain.

Seen by Vice in the Blaby area (1873-1900) and by Muschamp at Bradgate (?Park) in 1936 (CRC 40/8/4B/15). Taken annually at the Scraptoft Lane malaise trap and from across the area to date. Further specimens in the county collections came from Wigston Triangle in 1996 (CRC 40/8/4C/8,9) and Lount Tip in 1997 (CRC 40/8/4C/14) donated by Darwyn Sumner.



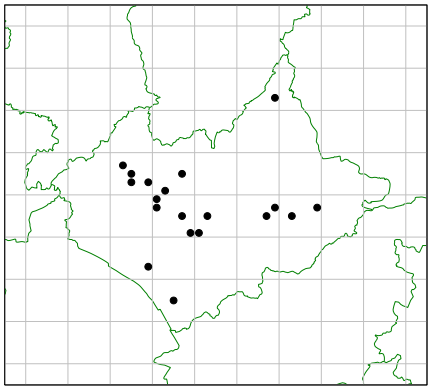
Melton CP, 2015
Paul Ruddoch*



Meliscaeva cinctella Zetterstedt (35 records)

Found throughout Britain.

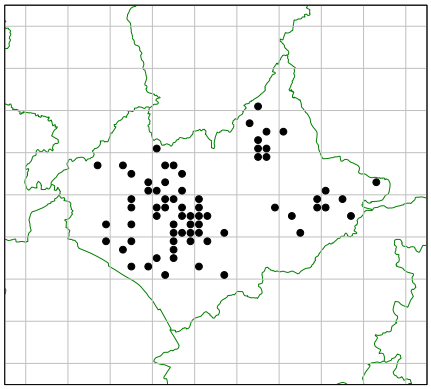
Seen by Vice at Charnwood Lodge in 1898 but not again until taken at the malaise trap at Scraptoft Lane in 1973. Seen occasionally from across VC55 subsequently but not as common as the previous species. No local specimens in the collections.



Martinshaw Wood, 2013
David Nicholls*

MERODON

Quite large bumble-bee mimics with just one member of this genus in Britain. Densely haired and with several forms. Tibia are entirely black and appear quite robust whilst the hind femur has a triangular projection.



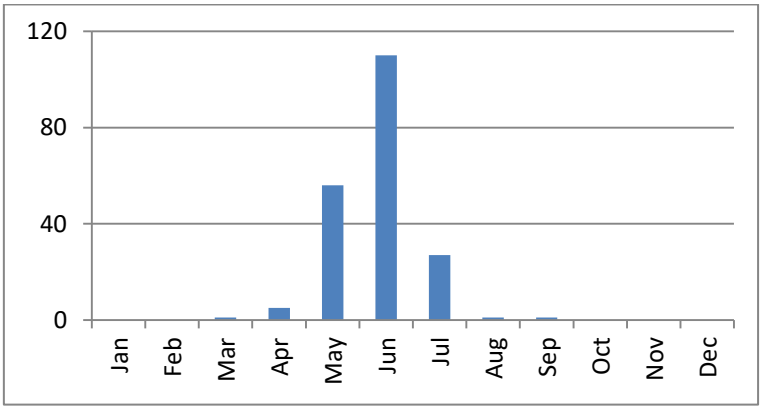
Merodon equestris Fabricius (221 records)

The larvae of this hoverfly can be pests of *Narcissi* species. Found throughout much of Britain. Very much a summer species.

Early VC55 records came from Owston Wood (1895), Thurmaston (1909 e.g. CRC 40/9/1A/5)) and Aylestone (1910). Seen frequently since the 1970s possibly associated with increased growth of Daffodils etc in gardens? The collections have 102 specimens with only 11 originating from VC55.

Sapcote 2009, f *bulborum*
Graham Calow*

Sapcote, 2013, f *validus*
Graham Calow*



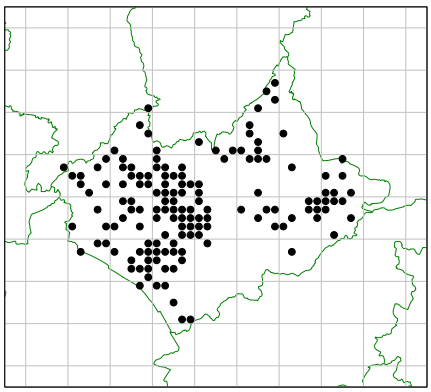
MYATHROPA

The sole British species of this genus has a distinctive black and yellow coloration and is considered by some to be a wasp-mimic. Its rat-tailed maggots inhabit damp rotting situations.

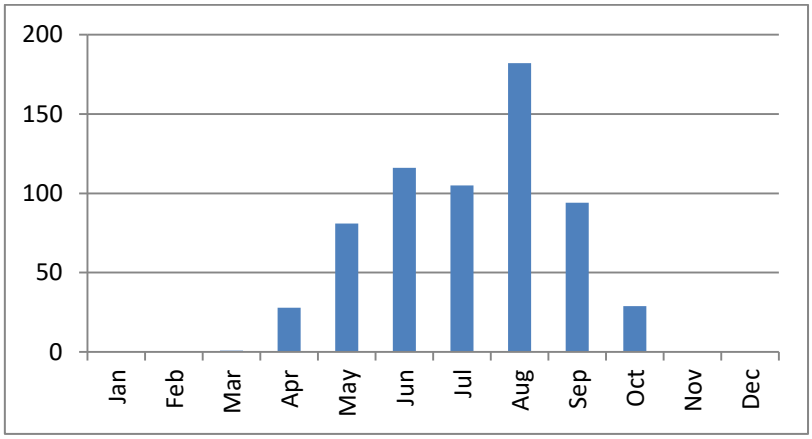
Myathropa florea Linnaeus (650 records)

Commonly noted across Britain, the abdominal marks allow easy identification.

Found in VC55 for much of the spring and summer whilst also occurring in some years in the autumn. Seen by Vice in the late 1800s at several locations (e.g. 1887 Blaby; CRC 40/9/3C/14) and John Saunt at Quorn in 1925. Regularly recorded in the area since the 1970s although there seems to be a lack of records from the south-east of VC55 (?lack of recording effort).



Bradgate Park, 2006
David Nicholls*



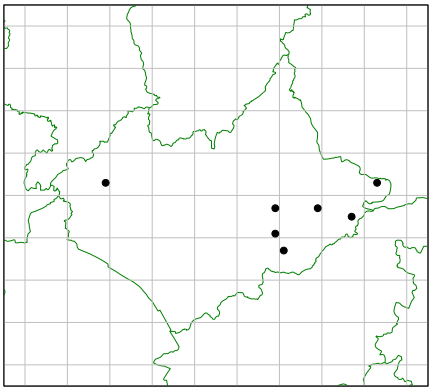
MYOLEPTA

The two British members of this genus are easily recognisable by the broad yellow margins on tergites 1-3 resulting in a dark central stripe. Both species are unusual in Britain with *M. potens* being particularly rare. It is possible that other members of the genus may reach us from the near continent and a useful key for the identification of these can be found in Reemer & Speight (2004).

Myolepta dubia Fabricius (7 records) Nationally Scarce

Very much a southern species and perhaps, until recently, not expected to be found in the East Midlands.

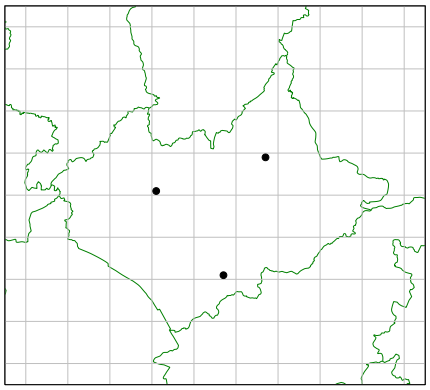
In VC55 the few records have mostly come from the east of our area with the first being from John Szczur seen at Horninghold in 2008. The fly was photographed by Ted Gaten at the Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Wood near Heather in 2020 (verified by iNaturalist online). Perhaps a species that may expand into VC55 as a result of global warming?



QEII Diamond Jubilee Wood (nr Heather), 2020
Ted Gaten*

NEOASCIA

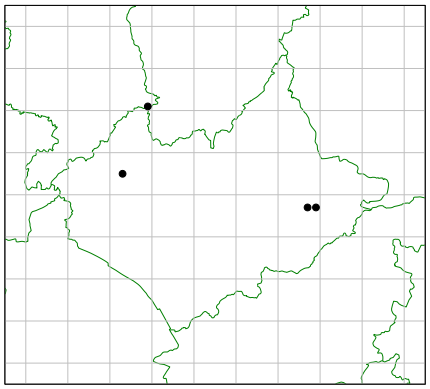
A genus of small flies showing a waisted appearance with recognition being aided by the swollen hind femur and concave face. Outer cross-veins are sharply bent. To date six species have been recorded in Britain but there is a possibility that some European species may occur in the future. All six have been seen in VC55.



Neoascia geniculata Meigen (3 records)

British records of this species are scattered across the country. Needs to be examined carefully to establish identity.

As a consequence of identification difficulties the fly has rarely been seen in VC55 being only recorded by experienced local entomologists. First noted in 1989 at Saddington Reservoir by John Mousley then by Neil Frankum at Melton Mowbray (1990) and Lea Meadows NR (1982)



Neoascia interrupta Meigen (12 records) Nationally Scarce

A species seemingly limited to the eastern half of England. Unlike others of the genus, tergite 4 has spots although sometimes these may not be obvious especially in the male. The species appeared on the British list in 1981 although based upon retrospective examination of a 1951 specimen from Kent.

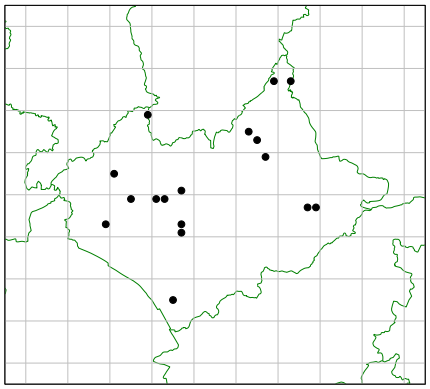
All but two of the VC55 records came from the Egleton area of the Rutland Water NR by Brian Wetton It has also been taken at a malaise trap in the same area in 2016 by the author.

Other records came from the Coalville Nature Area (1996, Darwyn Sumner; CRC 4/40/1B/1) and Lockington marsh (2003, Darwyn Sumner; 2011 Brian Wetton).

Neoascia meticulosa Scopoli (30 records)

A species found throughout England and Wales but less so in Scotland. Front legs predominantly yellow.

First noted in VC55 by Alan Stubbs at Muston Meadows SSSI (1996). Found in 1989 in the Groby Pool area during site surveying (Austin Brackenbury & Derek Whitely). Since 1990 has been seen across VC55 although never in any numbers but seeming to be regular at the Egleton area of Rutland Water NR. No examples in the county collections.

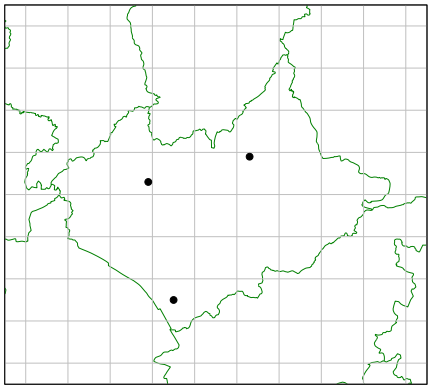


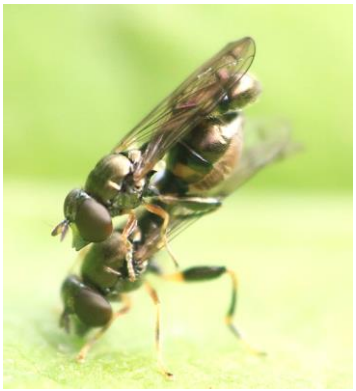
Spearwort Fields (Aylestone), 2016
David Gould*

Neoascia obliqua Coe (6 records)

First recognised as a British species when collections were being checked for accuracy (Coe, 1940). Initially the first records seem to have come from Lanarkshire in 1906 but further investigation showed that the fly was present in Britain when collected by George Verrall in Kent during 1868 although not identified as *N. obliqua* at that time having been noted as *N. podagrica*. Scattered in Britain with the central and eastern parts of England having few records.

Usually associated with Butterbur *Petasites hybridus* although, despite the plant being quite widespread in VC55, we currently have only three locations for the fly. Paul Ruddoch observed the fly in some numbers at Rhubarb Island adjacent to the River Wreake near Melton Mowbray in 2015 which supports a healthy Butterbur population with initial confirmation by national expert Steve Falk. Single reports then came from Ulverscroft NR (2016, Alan Cann) and Thornborough Spinney (Misterton) during survey work by David Gibbs in 2018. The slanted bars on tergite 2 easily confirm identity.





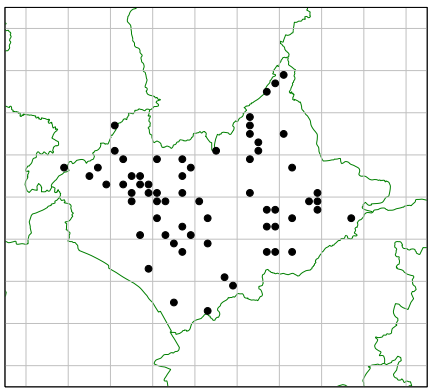
Rhubarb Island, 2015, *in cop*
Paul Ruddoch*

***Neoascia obliqua* on Butterbur at Rhubarb Island**
Paul Ruddoch*

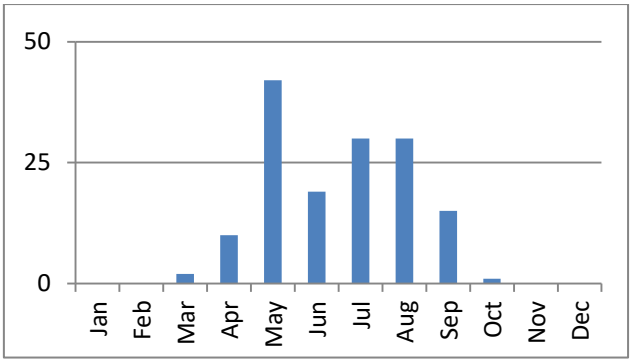
Neoascia podagrica Fabricius (168 records)

The commonest recorded of the genus in Britain having clouded outer cross veins. Widespread through most of Britain.

Noticed in the Blaby area and at Bardon Hill in the 1870s (Vice) with further early sightings by Lowe at Thurmaston in 1908 (CRC 40/9/6A/22) and John Saunt at Willesley (1920). Not recorded again until the 1970s when seen at Jenny Owen's malaise trap at Scraptoft Lane (Leicester) and then more or less regularly to date across VC55.



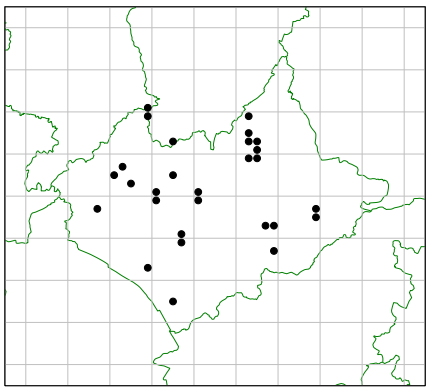
Sapcote, 2016
Graham Calow*



Neoascia tenur Harris (45 records)

Despite needing to be carefully checked this species is recorded across much of Britain particularly in damp habitats.

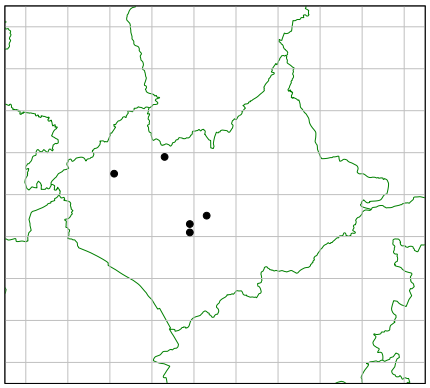
Scattered across VC55 with the first records coming in 1989 from a handful of sites. Seen in most years since. A local specimen of the fly appears in the county collections having been donated by Darwyn Sumner in 1996 (Watermead CP; CRC 40/10/1A/3).



Melton CP, 2015
Paul Ruddoch*

NEOCNEMEDON

Stubbs & Falk (2002) included this genus as a sub-genus of *Heringia* but it has been elevated back to its earlier genus status (DF, 2023). Searching the NBN Atlas (June 2023) shows that all the species are still referred to as members of the *Heringia* genus. Species identification using the females is considered difficult although differentiation of the males has been described by Speight & Smith (1975). The males have strong spurs on the mid and hind coxae and trochanters. Currently the genus includes five British species of which just one has been noted in VC55. The remaining species seem to be scarcely reported from widely scattered locations in Britain.



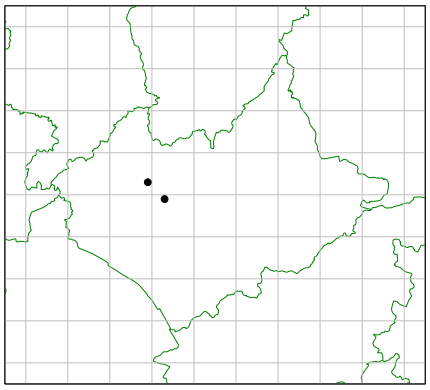
Neocnemedon vitripennis Meigen (20 records)

Scattered throughout England and Wales. Front metatarsus has a hollow beneath when viewed under magnification. A spur beneath the hind coxa occurs in the male and the third antennal segment tends to be round.

All VC55 records were referred to as *Heringia vitripennis.* Recorded in most years from 1972 to 1986 at Jenny Owen's malaise traps at Scraptoft Lane. Noted several times by Neil Frankum in his Knighton (Leicester) garden as well as a few other locations. Survey work in 2018 by Andy Jukes showed the fly present in the Swannington area near Coalville.

ORTHONEVRA

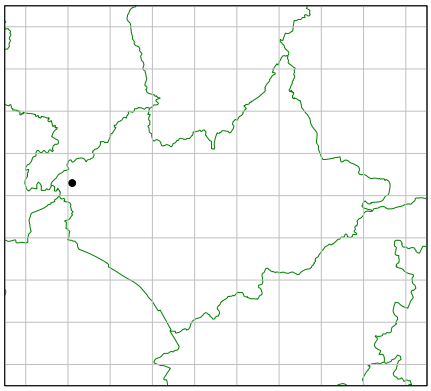
Small, slightly metallic-looking flies with a somewhat flattened abdomen. Of the four species on the British list, three have been seen in VC55. Use of keys is recommended for the correct identification of species.



Orthonevra brevicornis Loew (2 records)

Widely scattered in England and Wales and apparently restricted to the northern Highlands in Scotland. Third antennal segment is short and orange. Seems to prefer damp habitats.

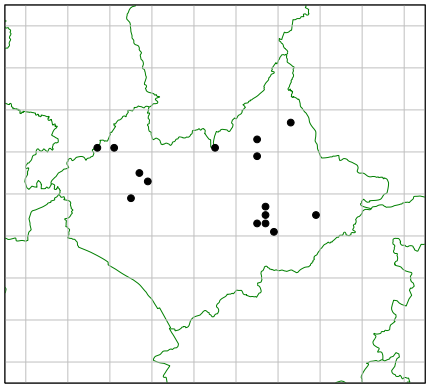
Seen at Groby Pool by Adrian Sanderson in 1989 with the only other record coming from Ulverscroft NR when spotted by Darwyn Sumner in June 1996 with a specimen added to the County Collections (CRC 40/10/2B/2).



Orthonevra geniculata Meigen (1 record)

A small insect with partly yellow legs with the tibia having orange bases and the hind tarsus is usually very pale. Scattered throughout Britain but particularly scarcely reported in the Midlands.

The single VC55 record came from the Acresford area when found by Darwyn Sumner in 1996 and deposited into the County Collections (CRC 40/10/2C/2).



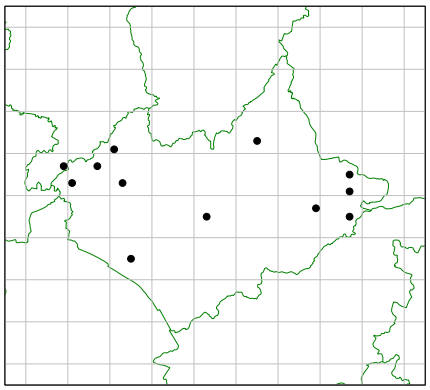
Orthonevra nobilis Fallén (19 records)

A species with black legs and the third antennal segment being twice as long as wide. Well scattered across much of Britain.

First recorded in VC55 by John Kramer in 1986 at a sandpit at Dunton Bassett. Since taken intermittingly from sites across the area. A specimen taken by Darwyn Sumner in the Melton Mowbray area (1996) was added to the County Collections (CRC 40/10/3A/15).

PARAGUS

Very small hoverflies (up to 5mm) usually being entirely black but occasionally have some red on the abdomen. Legs are extensively yellow. Identification requires careful examination using accepted keys. A worldwide examination of the taxonomy of the genus (Tot *et al*, 2018) gave 54 species for the Palaearctic of which just four currently appear on the British list. Haarto (2014) provided illustrations for three of the British species which aids identification of our local species. Just one species in VC55 so far.



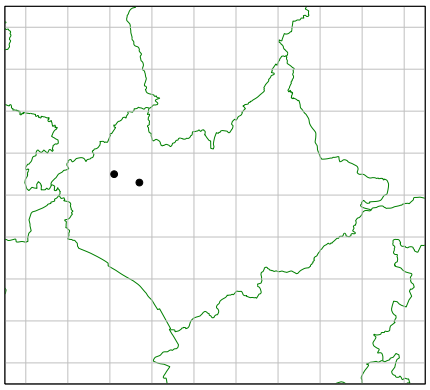
Paragus haemorrhous Meigen (27 records)

Well recorded in England and Wales less so elsewhere needing to be carefully examined to confirm identity.

Regularly taken at the Scraptoft Lane malaise traps (1972-1987). Noted sporadically since. Darwyn Sumner added a specimen to the County Collections (CRC 40/10/3B/3 which he found in the Acresford area in 1999. The other species in the genus are nationally rare but may have been overlooked.

PARASYRPHUS

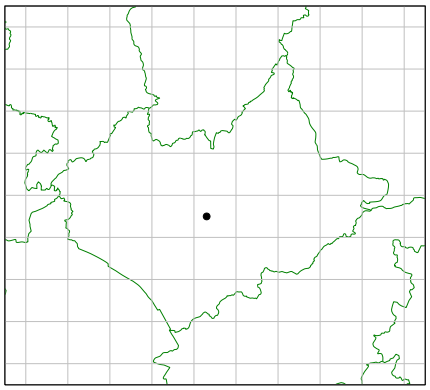
Yellow and black hoverflies with mainly dark hind legs. Examination of the squama, which have no hairs on the upper surface, separates the genus from *Syrphus*. These hoverflies need careful examination to achieve correct speciation. Six species on the British list three having been seen in VC55.



Parasyrphus annulatus Zetterstedt (2 records)

Apparently a widespread species nationally but rather local in occurrence. The hind femur is yellow at the base.

Vice noted the fly in 1875 at Bardon Hill (as *Syrphus annulatus*) with the only other record coming from Andy Jukes from the Swannington area in 2019.



Parasyrphus malinellus Collin (1 record)

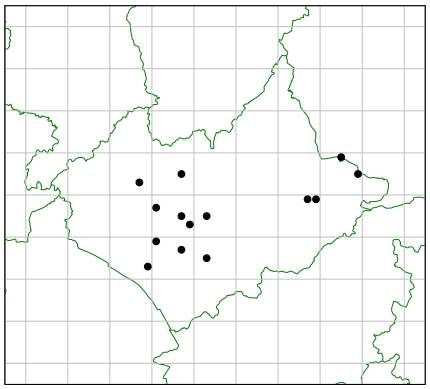
An uncommonly recorded species being scattered throughout Britain. The hind femur and tibula are mainly black with "*a little yellow around the knee*" (Ball & Morris, 2013).

The sole VC55 record came from a malaise trap run by Jenny Owen at Scraptoft Lane (Leicester) in 1980.

Parasyrphus punctulatus Verrall (20 records)

Separated from the other members of the genus by not having "moustache" banding on tergites 3 and 4. Commonly found throughout Britain.

Noted by Vice in the Blaby area and Bardon Hill in 1875 (CRC 40/10/5B//1) and at Buddon Wood in 1896. Muschamp added specimens to the County Collections which he had collected at Wistow in 1939 (CRC 40/10/5C/3-4,10). Taken in three years at Jenny Owen's malaiase traps with further widespread records coming since but never numerous.



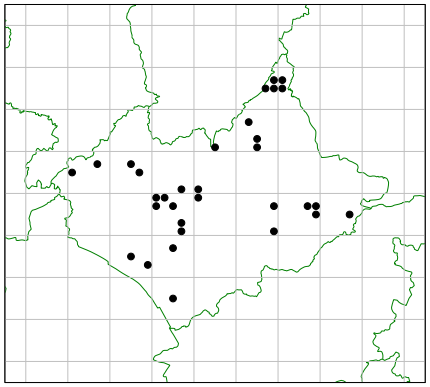
Sapcote, 2013
Graham Calow*

PARHELOPHILUS

As with *Helophilus* species, members of the present genus also have stripes on the upper thorax. The commoner species have a more orange, rather than yellow, appearance and have black antennae. Two of the three British species have been found locally although as separation of the two is difficult it is not possible to be certain of the veracity of records for either species. Ball & Morris (2013) indicate that males of *P. frutetoruim* have a small tubercle on the hind femur which is absent in *P. versicolor*. Separation of the females is very difficult. Mainly recorded in England and Wales. Accordingly the records for the two species in VC55 have been combined until it is possible to do detailed examination of specimens to ascertain correct speciation. A possibly useful tool for the separation of the three female British species based upon facial and leg patterns appears in Barendregt (1980) and a key to European species (Reemer, 2000) could be used when checking speciation of specimens.

Parhelophilus frutetorum Fabricius/***Parhelophilus versicolor*** complex (74 records)

The complex has been found across VC55 with the first record (as *versicolor*) coming from Muschamp (Narborough Bog, 1930; CRC 41/1/1A/3,4) with a specimen described as *frutetorum* coming from Darwyn Sumner captured at Sheet Hedges Wood in 1997 (CRC 40/10/6B/5). Neil Frankum noted the fly at the Furnace Planation (Moira) and at Twenty Acre Piece both in 1994 (Frankum, 1994b) with sightings from across VC55 since. The specimens in the County Collections could be usefully examined to further understand the occurrence of the two species locally.



Putative *P. frutetorum* Watermead CP, 2006
David Nicholls*

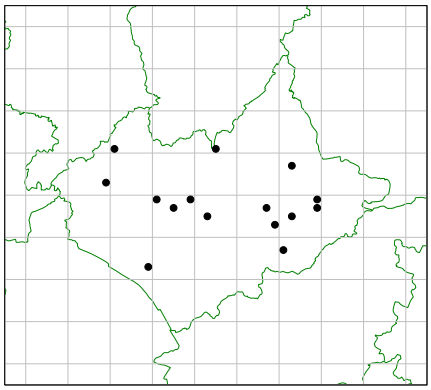
PIPIZA

These small black hoverflies can be very varied making correct identification critical. It seems that there is some disagreement about what species belong to the genus and only some are relatively easy to identify with certainty. The latest Dipterists Forum British listing (DF, 2023) for the genus gives seven British species at this time of which five have been found locally. Ball & Morris (2013) considers the genus to be tricky because of the variability of member species despite recognition of the genus being relatively straightforward and the flies are often found around woodland edges. A relatively recent paper by Milić *et al* (2019) examined the possible effects on the genus of climate change.

Pipiza austriaca Meigen (24 records)

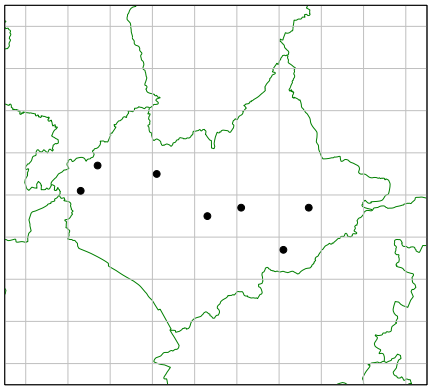
Scattered throughout England and Wales.

VC55 identifications have come from experienced dipterists or have been verified by national experts. The undersides of the hind femora show thickened ridges which aids identification. The first records for VC55 came from malaise trapping (Scraptoft Lane) then from scattered sites across the two counties often in wooded situations. However, records are not forthcoming every year with the most recent (for the review period) being from the grounds of County Hall (Glenfield) in 2017 (Mike Higgott confirmed by Ian Andrews). A specimen appears in the collections collected at Birstall Lock in 1997 (CRC 41/1/1B/3).



Sapcote, 2009
Graham Calow*

It is worth noting that, as a consequence of the perceived difficulty in achieving correct identification of the other members of this genus, the following VC55 records should be considered provisional at this time.



Pipiza fenestrata Meigen (10 records)

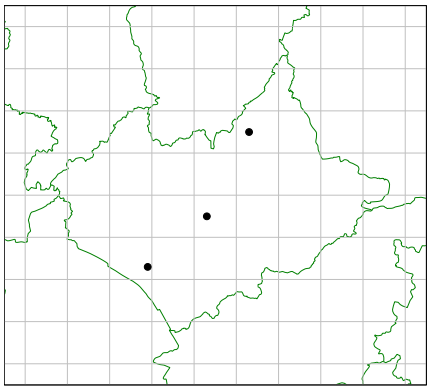
Previously known as *P. fasciata* being found at scattered locations in England and Wales. May be confused with *P. noctiluca*.

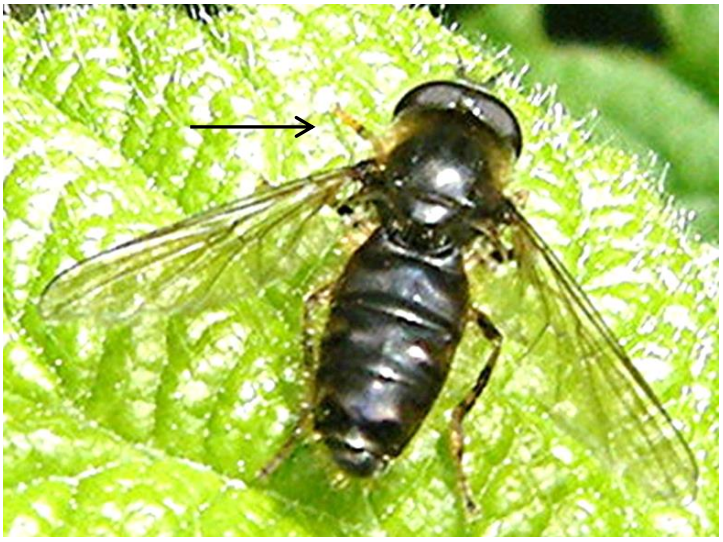
Taken in three years at Jenny Owen's malaise traps and then occasionally over the next 30 years from scattered locations.

Pipiza luteitarsis Zetterstedt (6 records)

The yellow front and middle tarsi aids identification of this species.

Four of the six VC55 records came from the Scraptoft Lane malaise traps (1975-1982). Found by Alan Stubbs at Holwell Mouth (1989) but not again until found by Graham Calow in the Sapcote area in 2009.



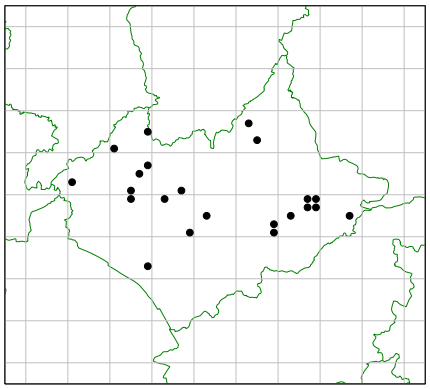


Sapcote, 2009
Graham Calow*

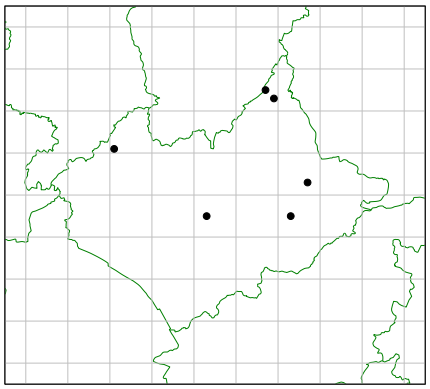
Pipiza noctiluca Linnaeus (61 records)

A highly variable species that may be part of a complex with other species in the genus. The male has no abdominal spots but the female usually has a pair of spots on tergite 2. Scattered across Britain.

The commonest of the genus recorded in VC55 (although take note of identification issues!) with Vice having noticed the fly at Longcliffe (near Loughborough) in 1880. Reported annually from the Scraptoft Lane malaise traps. Peter Kirby noted it at Ketton Quarry NR in 1979 with fairly regular annual records coming from across the area since. Particularly noted from several parts of the Rutland Water NR. Specimens from Sheet Hedges Wood (1996; CRC 41/1/3B/19), Acresford (1999; CRC 41/1/3C/1-3) appear in the county collections.



Bagworth, 2020 ♀
Sue Timms*



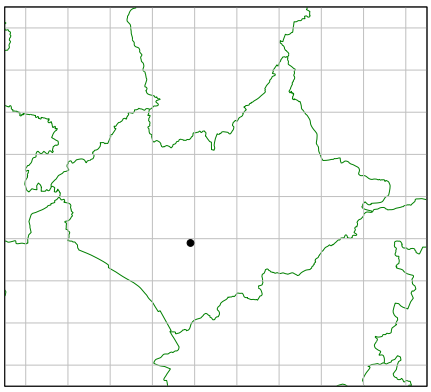
Pipiza notata (= *bimaculata*) Meigen (7 records)

May be confused with *P. noctiluca* needing careful examination to separate the species. Males (unlike *noctiluca*) have two abdominal spots and are clear-winged (which in the female show a slight darkening). Scattered mostly in southern Britain.

Locally, records have come from Jenny Owen's malaise traps (1977, 1978), Ashwell (1981, John Kramer), Priors Coppice NR (1992, Neil Frankum) then from the Grantham Canal at Plungar (2013), Stathern Wood (2014) and Cloud Wood NR (2016) all by Brian Wetton. Specimens from the Swans Nest area of Melton Mowbray have been donated by Darwyn Sumner collected in 1999 (CRC 41/1/1C/2-5).

PIPIZELLA

Small hoverflies which do not have any markings on the abdomen. Three species are included on the current British list with all appearing in VC55. Identification can be challenging being achievable with certainty by examination of male genital capsules. In addition, it is possible that European species may appear in the future in Britain and use of the keys in Steenis & Lucas (2011) may be useful.



Pipizella maculipennis Meigen (1 record)

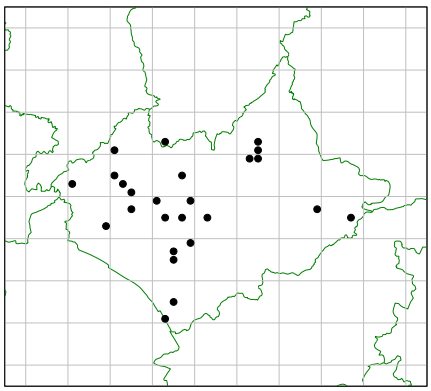
A species needing careful examination to ascertain identity with possible confusion with *P. virens*. Very rare in Britain with records scattered in the south of England.

The sole VC55 record came from Wigston Triangle when collected by Darwyn Sumner in 1996 which has been deposited into the county collections (CRC 41/1/4A/1). In light of the species apparent rarity it would be prudent to check that the specimen has been correctly identified.

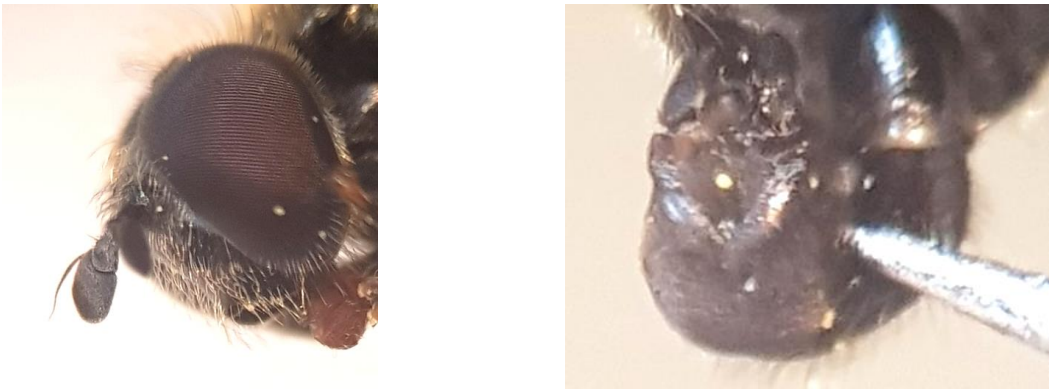
Pipizella viduata Linnaeus (51 records)

This species may be confused with *P. virens* but can be separated by checking the appearance of the 3rd antennal segment with that of *virens* being longer while for *viduata* it appears more "stubby". Additionally, males can be separated by the configuration of the genital capsule. A widespread species across much of Britain.

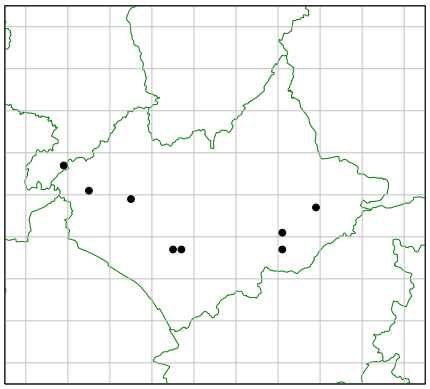
The Scraptoft Lane malaise traps produced the first records for this species in VC55 in 1973 with occasional others up to 1986. Noted in 1976 at Narborough Bog NR by David Lewis and at Ketton Quarry NR in 1979 by Peter Kirby. Found scattered across Leicestershire with Rutland Water NR at Egleton being a favoured locale. Darwyn Sumner contributed specimens to the County Collections from Acresford (1996), Wigston Triangle (1996) and Birstall Lock (1997).



Bagworth Heath, 2011
David Nicholls*



Whetstone. 2020, Mark Skevington*
Left "stubby" 3rd antennal segment; Right, male genital capsule



Pipizella virens Fabricius (14 records)

Less common than the previous species being mainly recorded from England.

Noted by Vice in the Blaby district in the 1880s but not again until seen at Narborough Bog NR in 1976 (David Lewis) and at this site in 1981 by John Kramer. Further records came from scattered locations with the most recent coming from Sue Timms' Bagworth garden in 2019. No examples in the county collections.

PLATYCHEIRUS

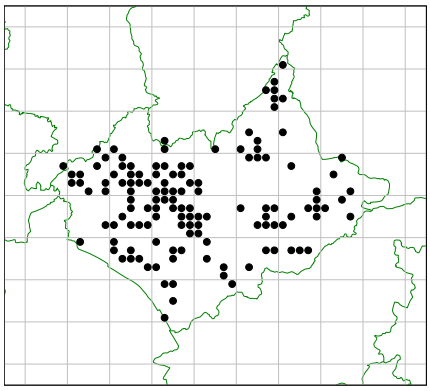
Platycheirus species are slender to robust flies with a completely black face, thorax and scutellum. The abdomen may have paired yellow, silver-greyish or bluish spots although sometimes entirely black or yellow to orange. Male, especially front, legs are characterised by distinctive hair tufts and modified hairs or distinct bristles and may also have modified tarsi and femurs. The genus has always posed problems with several complexes having been identified where speciation relies on small differences.

One of the larger of the hoverfly genera in Britain with 25 species of which 19 have been seen in Leicestershire & Rutland. Identification of species is best achieved by use of keys with Ball & Morris (2013) giving useful tips to separation of many but there is a need to use the more detailed work of Stubbs & Falk (2002) for the more difficult specimens.

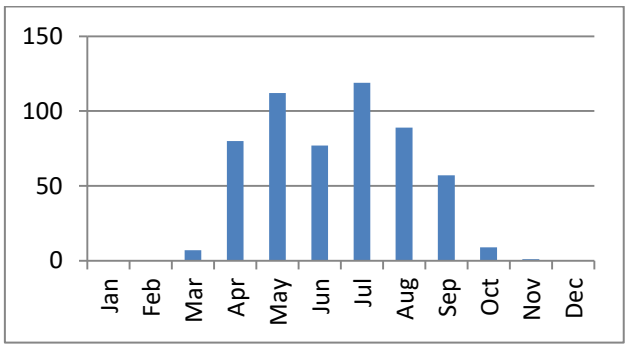
Platycheirus albimanus Fabricius (575 records)

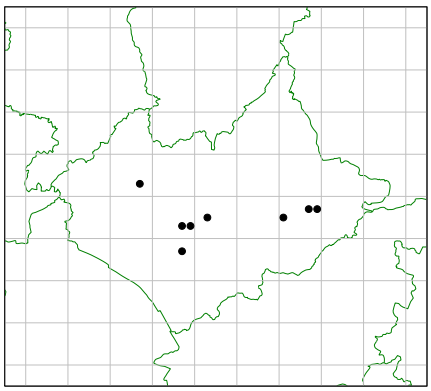
A common hoverfly which is found across Britain. Females show the silver abdominal spots clearly.

Common in VC55 being first noted by Vice at Woodhouse (1878) and the Blaby area (1883). Noted near Rothley in 1908 by Edwin Lowe then by Muschamp at Wistow in 1939 (CRC 41/1/5B/12,13) and at Church Langton by TW Tailby in the 1950s. Recorded widely across VC55 since the 1970s. Several other specimens in the county collections.



Leicester, 2013
HA Peacock*





Platycheirus ambiguus Fallén (24 records)

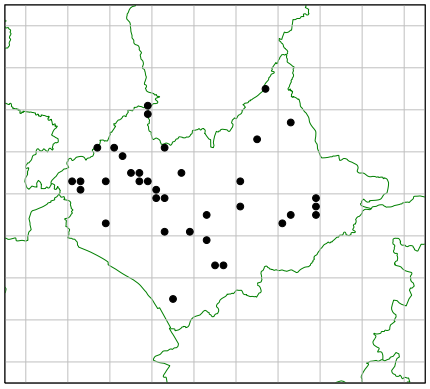
May be overlooked due to similarity to the previous species but with female abdomen markings being grey bands. Close examination of the front leg of the male should show the presence of a curled hair at the base of the femur. Sporadically recorded across England and Wales less so in Scotland. May be confused with similar European species (termed the *ambiguus* group) from which it can be separated using Nielsen (2004).

Vice found the species at Bardon Hill (1895) and the Blaby area (1896). Specimens attributed to Muschamp appear in the collections as having been found in the Blaby area but with no details. Recorded annually 1973-1988 from the Scraptoft Lane malaise traps. Surprisingly, not again found until at Aylestone Meadows in 1990 by Neil Frankum who saw the fly a year later at Freeman's Common, Leicester. John Szczur noted the insect at Withcote in 2009 with remaining records having coming from Egleton NR, Rutland Water by Brian Wetton (2002, 2018).

Platycheirus angustatus Zetterstedt (90 records)

A widespread species in Britain especially in damper conditions. A small member of the genus with a slim appearance. Identification reqires careful examination in order to separate from similar species.

The county collections have specimens taken at Narborough Bog NR and the Bradgate area by Muschamp but with no details. A further example came from Enderby in 1976 (CRC 41/2/1B/8). Noted at the Scraptoft Lane malaise traps each year of operation (1972-1986) with regular sightings. Since that time seen across many parts of the area.

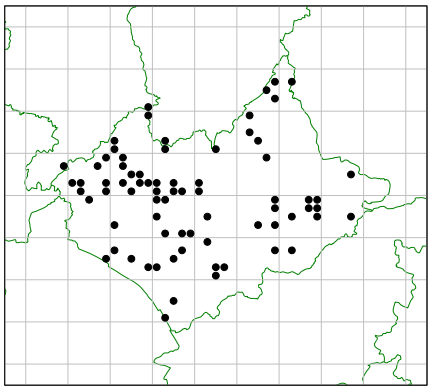


Evington, Leicester, 2022
CA Pochin*

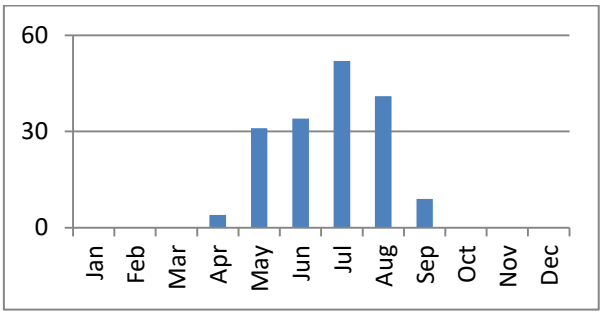
Platycheirus clypeatus Meigen (194 records)

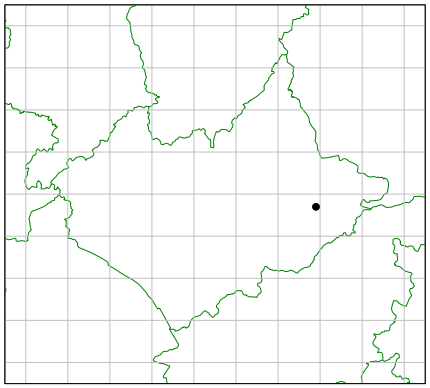
Relatively more broad-bodied than others of the genus. The male tarsus has an elongated basal segment with a groove beneath. The hind femur of the female is yellow at both ends with rectangular spots on the abdomen. Occurs in most parts of Britain.

Found across VC55 being first noted by Vice near Blaby in 1875 and then at Swithland (1896), Saddington (1897) and Burbage Wood near Hinckley (1901). John Saunt saw it at Rothley (1919) while Muschamp found it at Blaby (1938). Regularly taken at the Scraptoft Lane malaise traps and across the area since. Only four specimens in the collections.



Broughton Astley, 2015 ♀
Graham Calow

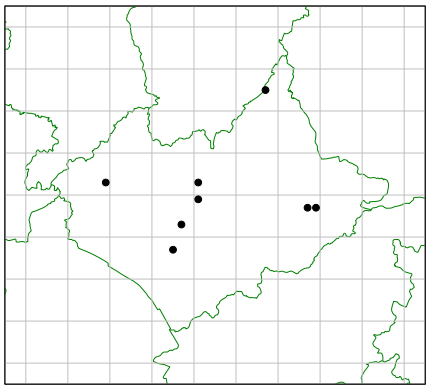




Platycheirus europaeus Goeldlin de Tiefenau (1 record)

A species that needs careful discrimination from the previous species. Males have a narrow abdomen while the females often seem to be long-bofied with rounded spots on tergite 2. British records are scattered over the country.

The sole record from our area came when Brian Wetton noted it at the Egleton area of Rutland Water NR in 2002.



Platycheirus fulviventris Macquart (15 records)

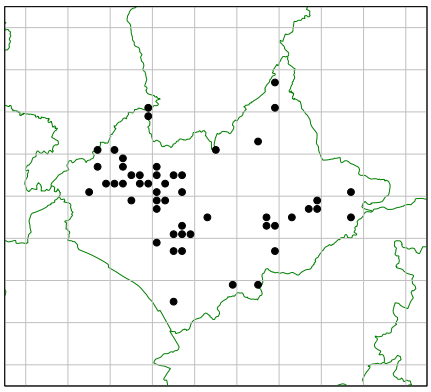
A species scattered across England Wales but not so in Scotland. The abdomen is extensively orange with black areas being much reduced especially In the male. Females are usually darker. Care needs to be taken to arrive at the correct identification of this species.

David Lewis first noted the fly at Narborough Bog NR in the mid-1970s where it was seen again in 1983 by John Kramer. Darwyn Sumner added a specimen from Watermead CP (1996; CRC 41/2/2C/2) to the collections. Seen on six occasions in the period 2002-2015 by Brian Wetton and the author at Egleton NR, Eutland Water. No records since 2015.

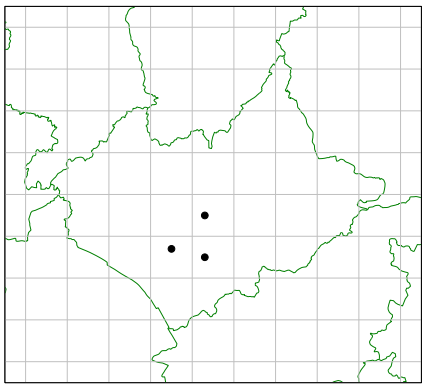
Platycheirus granditarsus Forster (76 records)

A fly with an extensively orange abdomen with differing black-banding in the sexes. The front and middle tarsi of the males are modified with the male front tarsus having a "thorn-like" protuberance. Found across Britain especially in Wales.

A species mostly recorded from the west of VC55 (although probably under-recorded in the east). Vice noted the hoverfly in the Blaby district, Braunston (Leicester) and Narborough Bog (1880-1903). Muschamp added an example to the collections obtained from the canal area near Upperton Rd (Leicester in 1946 (CRC 41/3/2C/1 but not then recorded again until at a malaise trap at Scraptoft Lane in 1973. Since seen more or less in every year since, although never numerous, with specimens from Narborough Bog appearing in the collections (CRC 41/3/2B/20,21).



Spearwort Fields, Aylestone, 2017 ♂
David Gould*



Platycheirus immarginatus Zetterstedt (7 records)

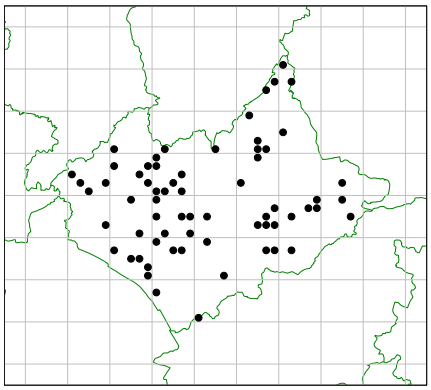
Found scattered across Britain but especially along the Welsh coast.

Only noted from three sites in VC55. Muschamp noticed the fly at Wistow Park in 1939 with further records coming from the Scraptoft Lane malaise traps in the 1970s. Found at Narborough Bog NR by David Lewis (1976) and again by John Kramer in 1983. No sightings reported since.

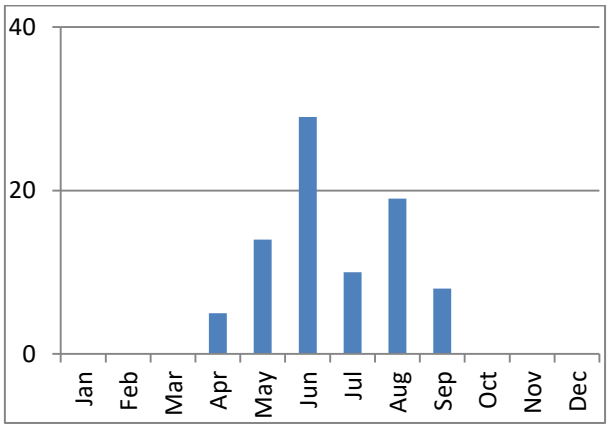
Platycheirus manicatus Meigen (141 records)

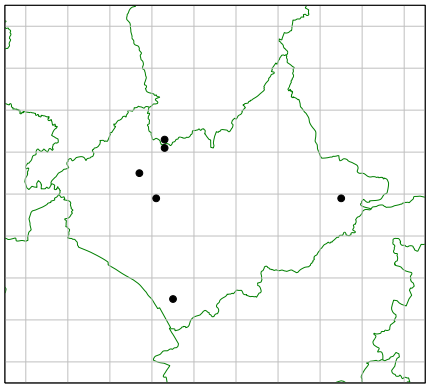
A relatively large robust member of the genus with dostonctive spots on tergite 2. Found throughout Britain.

VC55 records are scattered across the area. Vice reported the species in the Blaby area, Longcliffe (near Loughborough), Swithland and Owston Wood (1978-1907). Edwin Lowe collected the fly the fly at Longcliffe in 1906 (CRC 41/2/3B/3) and Muschamp noted it at Bradgate (?Park) in 1936 (CRC 41/2/3B/7). Regular at Jenny Owen's malaise traps at Scraptoft Lane (1972-1987) with further records coming from across the area.



Ullesthorpe, 2011
David Nicholls*





Platycheirus occultus Goeldlin de Tiefenau (10 records)

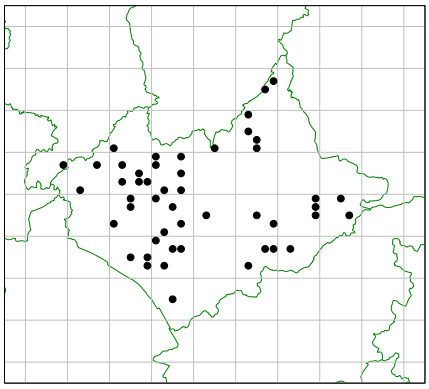
Another of the genus that needs careful examination to identify with certainty. Seen scattered across Britain.

Half of VC55 records come during survey work carried out by Derek Lott at Loughborough Big Meadow NR in 2004. Other locations for this fly were Groby Pool area (1989; CRC 41/2/4B/1), Egleton NR (1990), Misterton Marshes SSSI area (2018), and Charnwood Lodge NNR (2020).

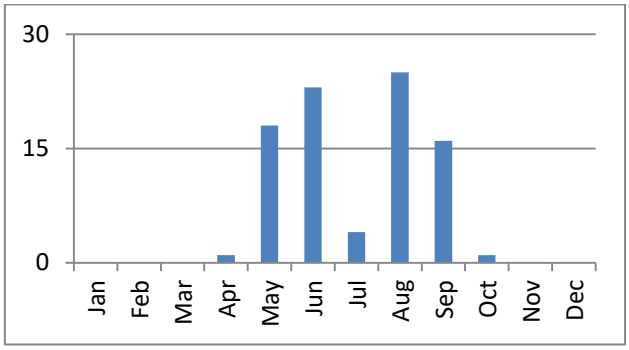
Platycheirus peltatus Meigen (108 records)

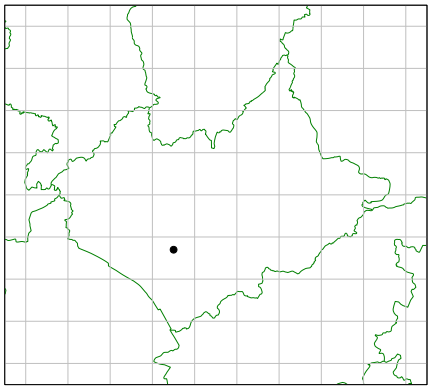
One of the larger members of this genus. The abdomen of both sexes is quite broad although the sexes are obviously different. Males have a distinctly-shaped front metatarsus (see Ball & Morris, 2013) but females need careful identification using keys e.g. Steenis & Tiefenau, (1998) for illustrations. Scattered throughout Britain.

Found by Vice at several locations (Blaby area, Bradgate, Tilton, Market Bosworth 1878-1900). Lowe noted the fly near Rothley in 1908 (CRC 41/2/5A/10) with a further example coming from Church Langton (1954) which is in the collections although not attributed to a recorder (identification by Steve Lane 2011, CRC 41/2/5A/14). Occurred annually at the Scraptoft Lane malaise traps and from the 1907s to date usually by experienced dipterists.



Marsh nr Old Fosse (Sharnford), 2009
Graham Calow*

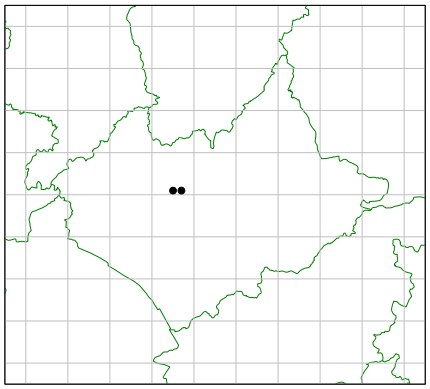




Platycheirus perpallidus Verrall (1 record) Nationally Scarce

An extensively orange-coloured species with hind femur and tibia wholly yellow or with a dark ring for 25% of its length. Nationally the fly is relatively scarce with sightings from over much of the whole country but with little in the way of the East Midlands and east of England.

The single VC55 record came from Narborough Bog NR in 1976 seen by David Lewis.



Platycheirus podagratus Zetterstedt (2 records)

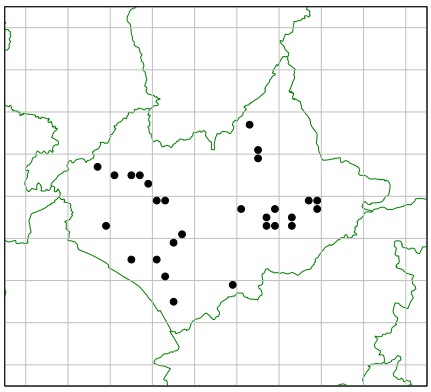
A rather dark member of the genus with oval or rounded spots. As with others the male front tibia are distinctive. Needs careful keying to identify. Scattered throughout Scotland and western England and Wales, scarce elsewhere.

Vice made the first observation of this fly in VC55 when seen near Cropston Reservoir in 1896 with the only other local record coming from Andy Jukes when seen at the Glebelands area near the A46 Leicester Western Bypass in 2018 during a site survey.

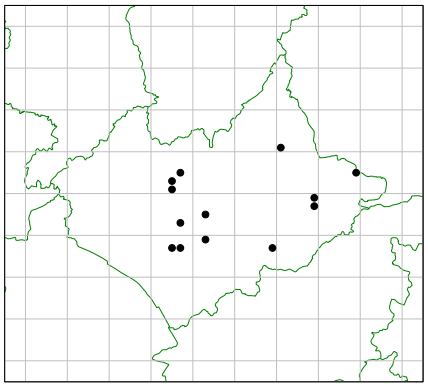
Platycheirus rosarum Fabricius (58 records)

A widely occurring hoverfly in Britain being an easily recognised member of the genus.

Not noted in VC55 until 1987 until spotted by Steve Falk at Ulverscroft NR. Seen at scattered locations since and on a regular basis since 2011.



Croft Glebe, 2016
David Gould*



Platycheirus scambus Staeger (19 records)

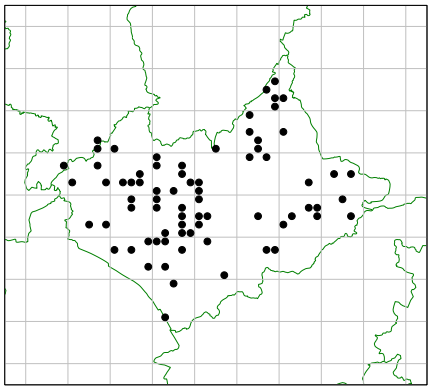
A widely occurring British species although seemingly scarcer in southern England. A largish fly with extensive orange markings. Needs careful examination to identify with certainty.

Vice noted the fly at Blaby (1881), Cropston Reservoir area and Swithland (both 1896). Lowe noted the species near Rothley with specimens in the collections (CRC 41/2/6B/2,4-6). There were no further records until 1973 (Scraptoft Lane malaise). During the 1980s this species was noted at a handful of sites but with only three sightings since 2012 – Mountsorrel Quarry area (2012) and at Egleton NR during malaise trapping (2015 & 2016).

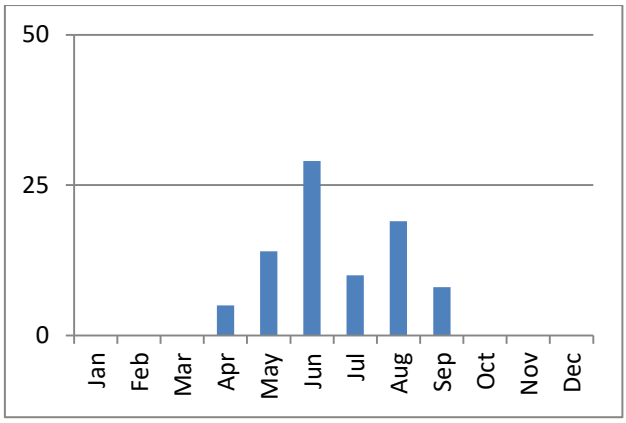
Platycheirus scutatus aggregate Meigen (194 records)

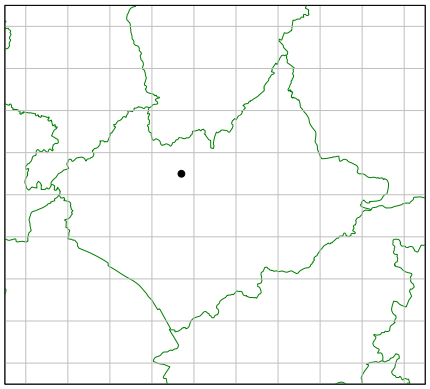
Recognised as being a complex of species which require careful examination to arrive at a correct identification. To a certain extent this complex has been considered by Doczkal *et al* (2002). The image below indicates the type of hoverfly that has been recorded as part of the complex. A widespread group in Britain.

Examples of this complex have been found throughout VC55 being regularly noted in the Blaby area by Vice with specimens dated 1875, 1883 and 1896 in the collections Since regularly reported.



Thurlaston, 2018
Ted Gaten*

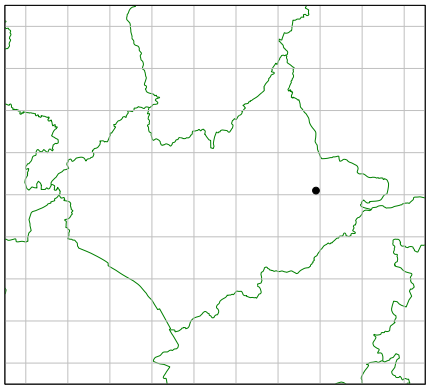




Platycheirus splendidus Rotheray (1 record)

Scattered records with the Shropshire area being favoured. Originally included as part of the previous complex but still needing careful identification.

The sole VC55 record came during survey work carried out by Andy Godfrey in 2012 at the Mountsorrel Quarry complex.



Platycheirus sticticus Meigen (2 records) Nationally Scarce

A widely occurring species in Europe but unusual in Britain. One of the darker species of the genus with spots not always obvious.

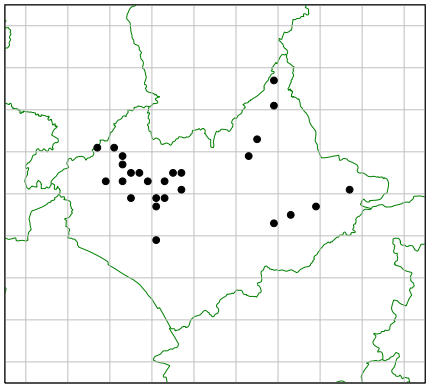
The single VC55 records came from Burley Wood in 1989 when found by Alan Stubbs.

(*Since seen at Cloud Wood NR in 2021 by Brian Wetton*).

Platycheirus tarsalis Schummel (46 records)

Very much a species of England and Wales with few records from Scotland. Males having obvious ornamentation of the front legs (figure)

Not recorded from VC55 until seen by Derek Lott in 1982 from Swithland (CRC 41/3/2A/2). Since seen fairly regularly across the area.



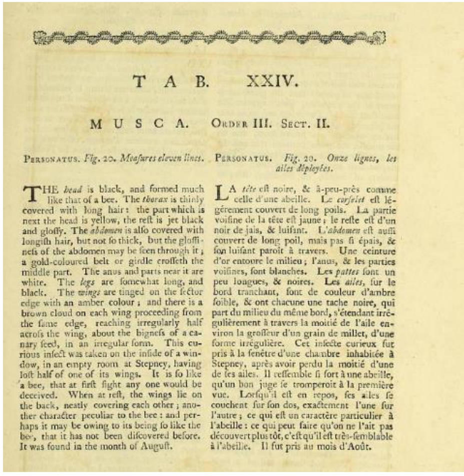
Charnwood Lodge NNR, 2017
Annie Smith*

POCOTA

The genus has only three species worldwide of which just *Pocota personata* is present in Britain.

Pocota personata Le Peletier & Serveille (1 record) Nationally Scarce

Illustrated by Moses Harris (Harris, 1776) along with a description of the insect (Figure 15). Hobby (1940) assessed the national status of this fly including records known at that time – unfortunately none came from our area! An international review of its conservation status regarded the species as not being under threat but emphasised that whilst populations seem stable much more work remains to be done (Pennards *et al*, 2021).



T A B. XXIV.

M U S C A. ORDER III. SECT. II.

PERSONATUS. *Fig.* 20. *Measures eleven lines.*

THE *head* is black, and formed much like that of a bee. The *thorax* is thinly covered with long hair: the part which is next the head is yellow, the rest is jet black and glossy. The *abdomen* is also covered with longish hair, but not so thick, but the glossiness of the abdomen may be seen through it; a gold-coloured belt or girdle crosseth the middle part. The anus and parts near it are white. The *legs* are somewhat long, and black. The *wings* are tinged on the sector edge with an amber colour; and there is a brown cloud on each wing proceeding from the same edge, reaching irregularly half across the wing, about the bigness of a canary seed, in an irregular form. This curious insect was taken on the inside of a window, in an empty room at Stepney, having lost half of one of its wings. It is so like a bee, that at first sight any one would be deceived. When at rest, the wings lie on the back, neatly covering each other; another character peculiar to the bee: and perhaps it may be owing to its being so like the bee, that it has not been discovered before. It was found in the month of August.

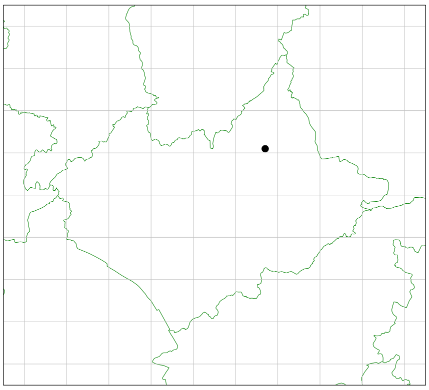
PERSONATUS. *Fig.* 20. *Onze lignes, les ailes déployées.*

LA *tête* est noire, & à-peu-près comme celle d'une abeille. Le *corselet* est légérement couvert de long poils. La partie voisine de la tête est jaune; le reste est d'un noir de jais, & luisant. L'*abdomen* est aussi couvert de long poil, mais pas si épais, & son luisant paroît à travers. Une ceinture d'or entoure le milieu; l'anus, & les parties voisines, sont blanches. Les *pattes* sont un peu longues, & noires. Les *ailes*, sur le bord tranchant, sont de couleur d'ambre foible, & ont chacune une tache noire, qui part du milieu du même bord, s'étendant irrégulièrement à travers la moitié de l'aile environ la grosseur d'un grain de millet, d'une forme irrégulière. Cet insecte curieux fut pris à la fenêtre d'une chambre inhabitée à Stepney, après avoir perdu la moitié d'une de ses ailes. Il ressemble si fort à une abeille, qu'un bon juge se tromperoit à la première vue. Lorsqu'il est en repos, ses ailes se couchent sur son dos, exactement l'une sur l'autre; ce qui est un caractère particulier à l'abeille: ce qui peut faire qu'on ne l'ait pas découvert plustôt, c'est qu'il est très-semblable à l'abeille. Il fut pris au mois d'Août.

Figure 15: *Pocota personata* by Moses Harris

At first glance the fly can be mistaken for a bumble-bee but the possession of one pair of membranous wings readily identifies it as a dipteran. The male is much smaller than the female. The national scarcity of records may be explained by the insect's habit of being aboreal i.e. preferring to loiter amongst the higher parts of trees although occasionally may be seen nectaring lower down. It seems that the larvae may be fungus-feeders especially in the vicinity of rot holes of several tree species. Previously thought to be associated with wooded areas, it now appears that urban parks may also harbour the species particularly those with a variety of habitats. Their behaviour and mimicry may explain the apparent scarcity of this hoverfly and it has been suggested that searching for the larvae at suitable feeding sites may be productive in establishing a more reasoned assessment of its national distribution.

The sole VC55 record came in 2012 when a mating pair was spotted by Paul Ruddoch at Melton Country Park (image NatureSpot) – one of the habitats now known to be important for its survival. Previously, this hoverfly has been noted near to VC55 at Calke Abbey, Derbyshire (Alexander, 2005).



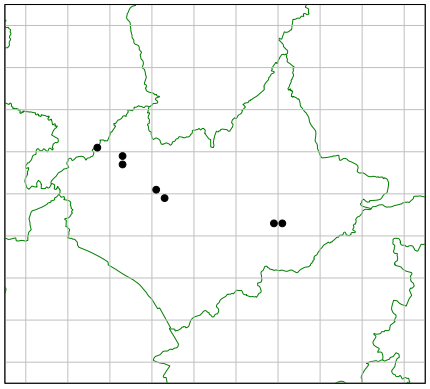
PORTEVINIA

Only one European species of this genus the larvae of which feed on Ramsons. The face lacks a knob but is somewhat extended instead.

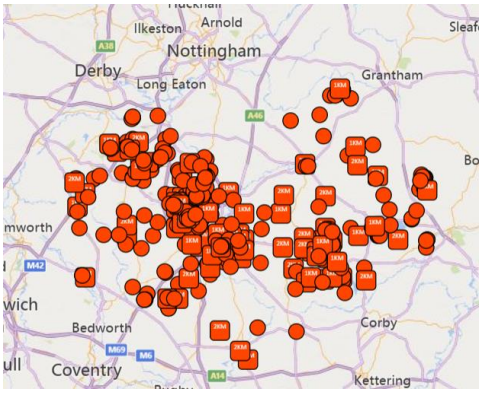
Portevinia maculata Fallén (19 records)

A robust species with greyish spots on the abdomen. Legs are black and the antennae are orange. Occurs throughout England and Wales but scattered elsewhere usally in the vicinity of beds of Ramsons *Allium ursinum*.

Despite the occurrence of Ramsons in VC55 there are relatively few records of the adult with no records located to date prior to 1982. Examples are deposited in the collections – Launde Big Wood (1985, John Kramer; CRC 41/3/3C/9,10) and Sheet Hedges Wood (1997, Darwyn Sumner; CRC 41/3/3C/11).



Nr Lea Meadows NR, 2018
Barbara Cooper*



Ramsons in VC55 (ORCA)

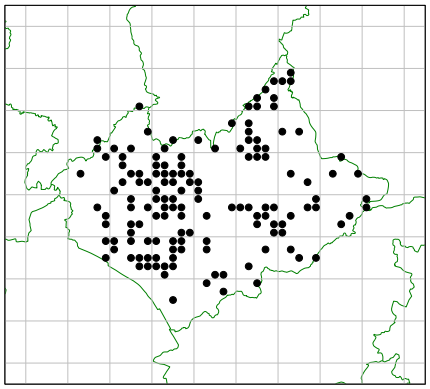
RHINGIA

An unmistakeable genus where the long rostrum allows the flies to feed on nectar out of reach of other hoverflies. There are only two British species which are easily identified. Larvae are mainly associated with dung but it thought that other rotting substrates may also support them.

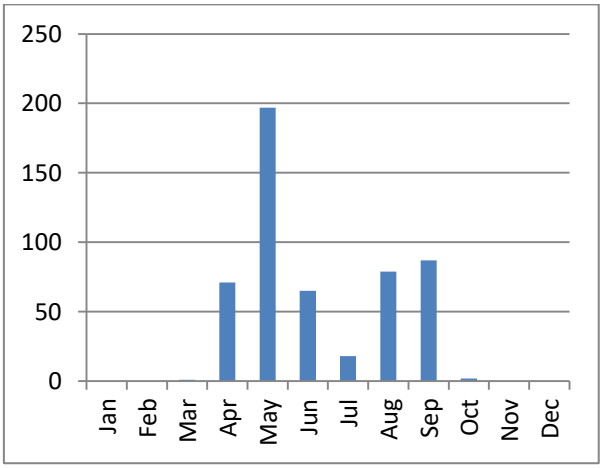
Rhingia campestris Meigen (540 records)

The rostrum is longer than in its companion species. In addition the abdomen is darkly edged. Found across Britain. A spring species often seen at Red Campion flowers although it seems that there may be a late summer emergence as well.

Commonly seen in VC55 being recorded at several locations in the late 1800s by Vice. It was noted at Thurmaston by Lowe (1908; CRC 41/3/4A/3) and by TS Tailby at Church Langton in 1955 (CRC 41/3/4C/7,12). Regular recording in the 1970s to date show the fly to be common in our area.



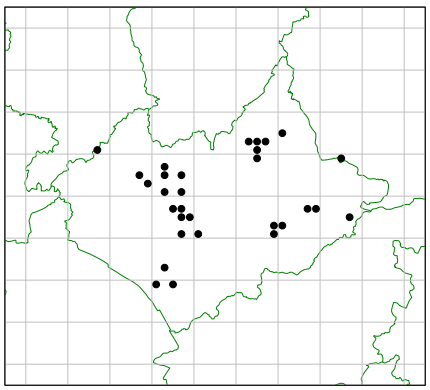
Cropston, 2015
Kate Nightingale*



Rhingia rostrata Linnaeus (88 records)

First noted in Britain in 1895 with the "second" coming in 1939 (Coe, 1939) although there was an unverified report of the fly at the New Forest in 1898 (Thornley, 1899). Since then it seems that the species is slowly spreading across England and Wales.

Not recorded in VC55 until 1992 when found by Neil Frankum at a Dunton Bassett quarry. The number of records have since slowly increased with sightings from across VC55. Often flies in the company of the previous species with a similar occurrence pattern. There are no examples in the county collections other than one from Snowdonia!



Cropston, 2015
Kate Nightingale*

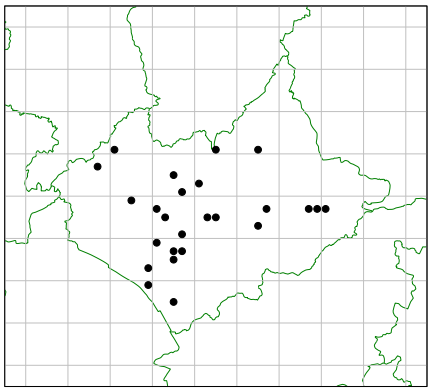
RIPONNENSIA

Hoverflies with broad flattened faces. Microscopic examination will reveal the bristles present on the stem vein of the wing. Just one of the three European species of the genus is currently found in Britain as well as locally.

Riponnensia splendens Meigen (35 records)

Quite easily identified with the broad white dusting across the face being distinctive. Found across England and Wales but sparser elsewhere in Britain.

Seen at Woodhouse, Blaby and Scraptoft in the late 1800s by Vice with a specimen in the collections taken by Muschamp in 1931 but no location details (CRC 41/3/5B/1). Not seen again until 1976 when spotted at Narborough Bog by David Lewis with intermittent records in subsequent years from across our area since.



Spearwort Fields, Aylestone, 2018
David Gould*

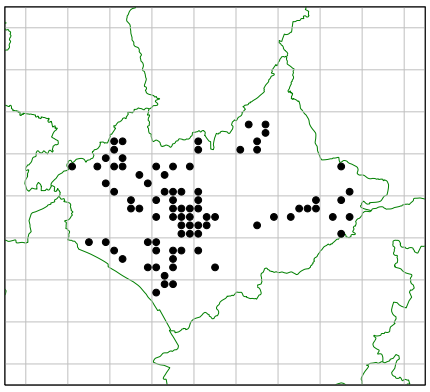
SCAEVA

Largish hoverflies with inflated frons and hairy eyes. Abdominal markings are white or yellow. Stubbs & Falk (2002) and Ball & Morris (2013) list four British species but a fifth, *S. dignota*, has been added (Wright, 2013). Members of the genus have been shown to have migratory habits so it is possible that other European species may arrive in this country. Only two species have been noted in VC55.

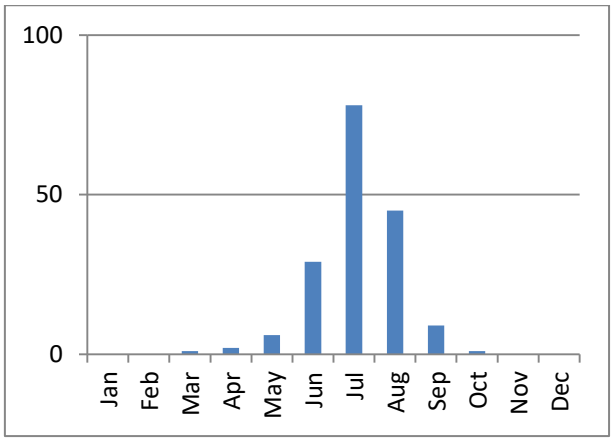
Scaeva pyrastri Linnaeus (189 records)

A conspicuous hoverfly with characteristic abdominal markings. The middle of the white bars on tergites 3 and 4 are narrowed in the middle and the bars do not reach the lateral edge of the abdomen. Found throughout much of Britain.

A common fly in VC55 having been noted in the Blaby area by Vice in the late 1800s. The VCH-R (1908) lists the species as occurring in Rutland but without any details while John Saunt saw it at Croft in 1930. Taken at Jenny Owen's malaise traps in the mid-1970s and seen on a regular basis across much of the area since. Surprisingly, of the 64 specimens in the county collections only four are from locations in VC55; three came from Loughborough in 1985 (E Pearson; CRC 41/4/1A/6-8) with the other was donated by H. Broughton in 1985 from the Leicester General Hospital (CRC 41/4/1A/5).



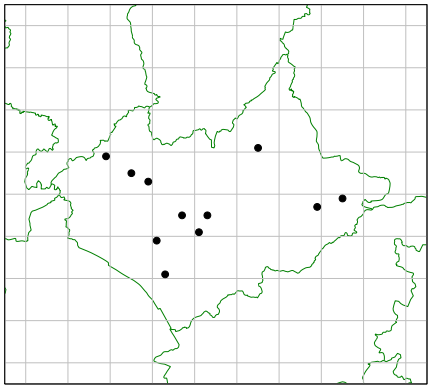
Dunton Bassett Quarry, 2015
Graham Calow*



Scaeva selenitica Meigen (16 records)

Similar to the previous species but with bars that are more yellow. It may possibly be misidentified as *S. dignota* but the latter species is currently rare in Britain. Less common in Britain than *S. pyrastri* but has been noted across the country.

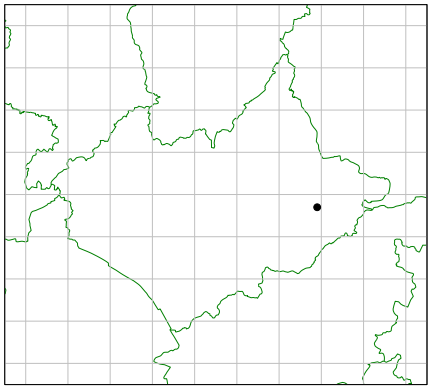
First noted locally at the Scraptoft Lane malaise traps in 1975 but found at locations across the two counties since but not annually. The sole local example of the hoverfly in the county collections came in 2000 when taken at Lount NR by Anona Finch (CRC 41/4/1C/10).



Leicester, 2012
HA Peacock*

SERICOMYIA

Quite large hoverflies with three British species (two noted in VC55) being wasp-mimics. The antennal arista is plumose as with *Volucella* but can be separated from that genus by not having a re-entrant upper cross vein. The third species, *S. superbiens,* is very much restricted to the west of Britain only occasionally turning up elsewhere.



Sericomyia lappona Linnaeus (1 record)

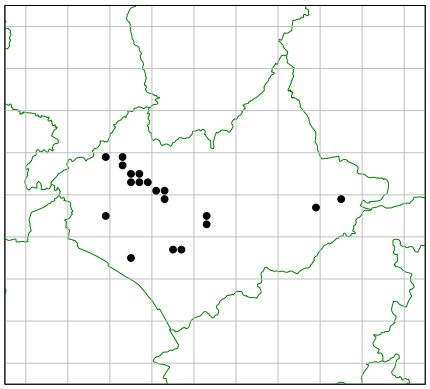
A species widely recorded in Wales & Scotland but rarer in England particularly in the Midlands and the east. Smaller than the other members of this genus with the bars on the abdomen being narrow and whitish.

A single record came during malaise trapping at Egleton, Rutland Water NR in May 2016 identified by the author.

Sericomyia silentis Harris (38 records)

Found throughout much of Britain but apparently less so in the middle of England. The abdominal bands are wedge-shaped and yellow enabling easy distinction from the previous species.

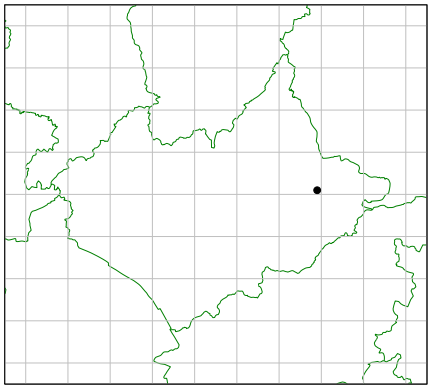
Vice found this fly in the Blaby district in 1880 and Muschamp deposited specimens into the County Collections that had been taken in the Narborough (?Bog) area in 1932 (CRC 41/4/2B/1,2). It was only taken in one year (1987) at Jenny Owen's malaise traps at Scraptoft Lane, Leicester. Since 2007 the hoverfly has been regularly seen primarily to the west of VC55 but it has been noted at Rutland Water NR and near Empingham.



Ulverscroft NR, 2016
Kate Nightingale*

SPHAEROPHORIA

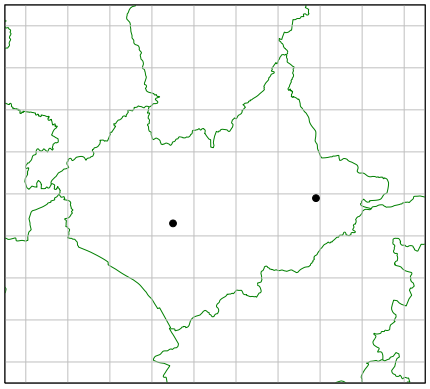
The genus is easily recognised as the species are slim elongated flies with variable abdominal markings. However identification of females is very difficult at this time and only males can be recognised with any conviction by examination of the large genital capsules. Accordingly species records are based upon sex determination with females being collated together as *Sphaerophoria* sp. Only *S. scripta* males can be identified with ease in the field as the abdomen exceeds the length of the closed wings this not being the case with the other species. For the purpose of this LESOPS it is assumed that where a species has been reported that the records relate to males only. Even so, some of the earlier records could be erroneous and more recent sightings often do not report the sex of the observed fly.



Sphaerophoria batava Goeldlin de Tiefenau (1 record)

A species usually associated with healthlands and woodland rides occurring across Britain especially in the Scottish Highlands.

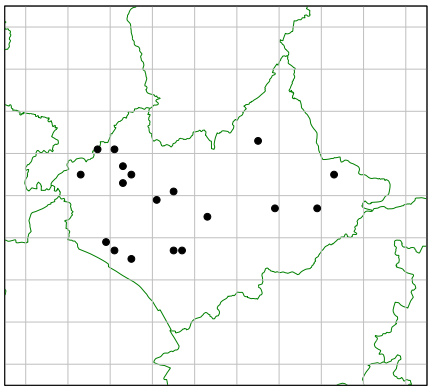
The sole VC55 record came from Burley Wood when seen by John Kramer in 1989.



Sphaerophoria fatarum Goeldlin de Tiefenau (2 records)

Similar in distribution and habitat preferences to the previous species.

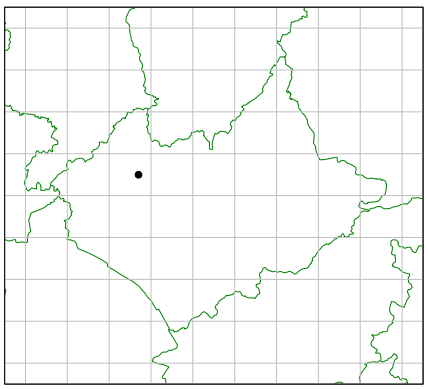
The first of the two VC55 records came from Burley Wood in 1989 when spotted by Alan Stubbs. Subsequently seen at Braunston (Leicester) by J. Saddington in 2012 although the veracity of this identification unclear as the recorder is unknown to the author.



Sphaerophoria interrupta Fabricius (45 records)

A variable species where the hairs on the scutellum can be pale or dark. Widespread across Britain with a distinctive male genital capsule.

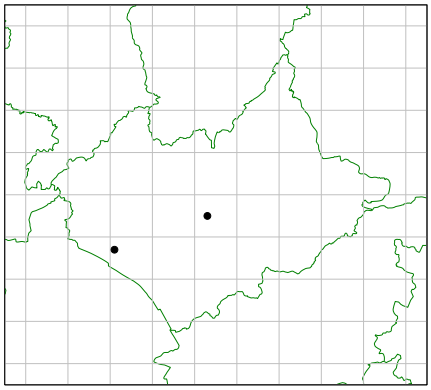
Quite well recorded in VC55 with Vice having noted it at several scattered locations in the late 1800s. A specimen taken at Cropston Reservoir in 1896 is attributed to Lowe (CRC 41/4/3B/4). Regularly taken at Jenny Owen's malaise traps and since occurring in a range of habitats including the author's Dadlington garden in 2019.



Sphaerophoria philanthus Meigen (1 record)

One of the smaller members of the genus being somewhat darker than the others. A species of heathlands and similar habitats mostly to the west of Britain.

The only record for our area came from Charnwood Lodge NNR when seen by Neil Frankum in 1989. Parts of the reserve are a suitable habitat and it is possible that a remnant population may still exist there?



Sphaerophoria rueppellii Wiedemann (8 records)

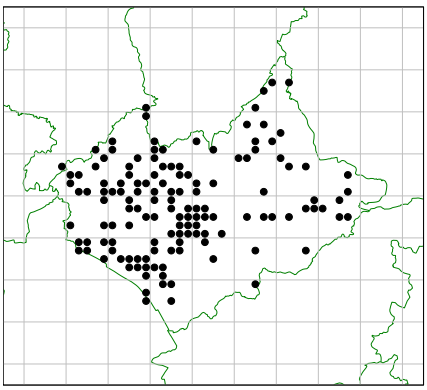
A species scattered through England and Wales. A very short bodied fly but broadening to its apex almost appearing as a bulge in the male. Usually yellow-legged as are the antennae.

A regular at the Scraptoft Lane malaise traps (1973-1982) with the only other record for VC55 from Dadlington when a male was seen by the author in 2019.

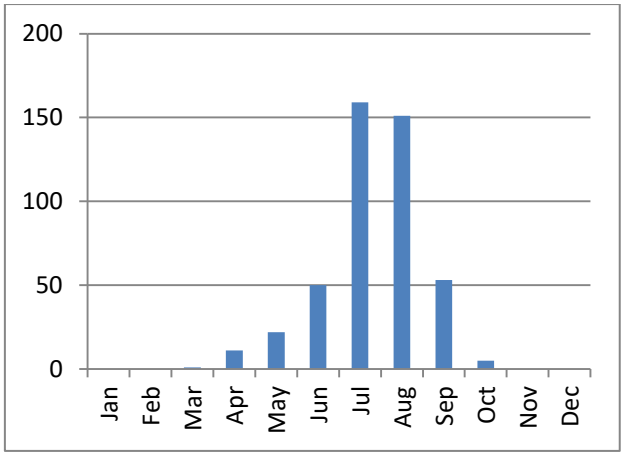
Sphaerophoria scripta Linnaeus (470 records)

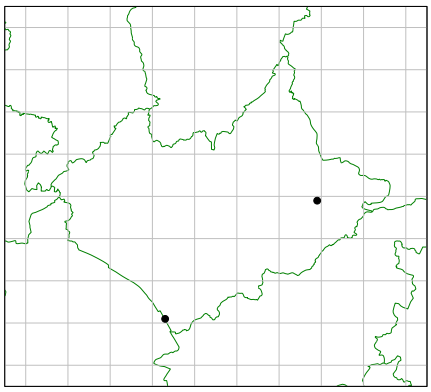
The males of this species are easily recognisable as a member of the genus as the abdomen protrudes beyond the closed wings. Accordingly well recognised across England and Wales but less so elsewhere.

Found across much of VC55 with the first records coming from Vice at the end of the 1800s from the Blaby area. Regularly seen at many of the recorded sites being very much a summer species. The county collections, surprisingly, has only two fully identified specimens – Bushey 1960 by Ian Evans (CRC 41/4/5B/2) and Narborough Bog NR in 1975 by David Lewis (CRC41/4/5B/1).



Cropston, 2014
Kate Nightingale*



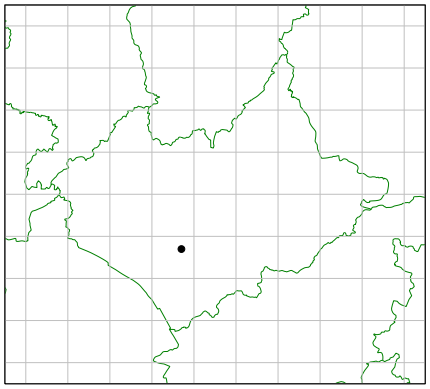


Sphaerophoria taeniata Meigen (4 records)

A largish species with undivided bands on the abdomen with yellow hairs on the scutellum. Very much a species of southern England into the Midlands.

All VC55 records come from experienced dipterists. First noted at Burley Wood in 1989 by Alan Stubbs. Seen several times at Shawell Quarry during survey work by Andy Godfrey in 2014.

(Since seen at Cloud Wood NR and Egleton NR, Rutland Water by Brian Wetton).

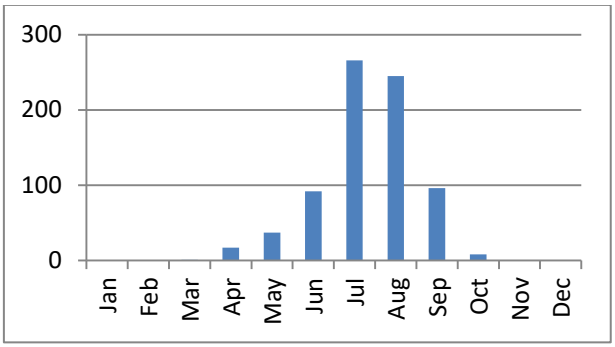


Sphaerophoria virgata Goeldlin de Tiefenau (1 record) Nationally Scarce

A small dark species with dark tarsi. Only added to the British list in 1976 (Speight, 1976). There are relatively few scattered records from across Britain with none noted for the Midlands.

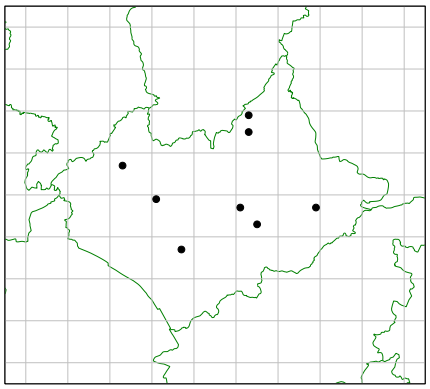
Vice reported this fly in the Blaby area in 1896 but as the fly seemed to be unknown in Britain until much later the record must be considered unreliable as it could well have been *S. philanthus* which has similar characteristics.

The *Sphaerophoria* genus occurs widely across VC55 and the following plot summarises the occurrence of the genus regardless of species or sex based on 763 fully dated records.



SPHEGINA

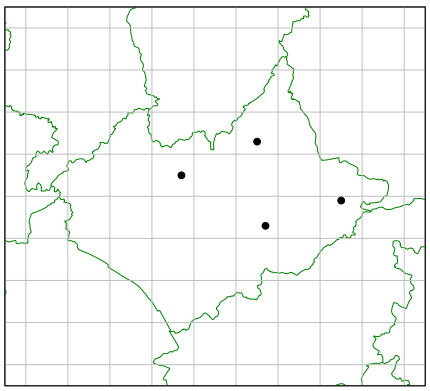
Of a similar form as *Neoascia* although the "waist" is somewhat longer. Four British species three of which have been recorded in VC55. The absent species, *S, sibirica*, is very much limited to Wales and Scotland with no records from England (NBN atlas). Separation of the three VC55 species can be aided by examining the shape of the abdomen with useful illustrations for both sexes in Stubbs & Falk (2002). When in flight there is a propensity to dangle the legs with the fly preferring dappled light conditions. Careful examination and using keys is recommended to ensure separation of the species.



Sphegina clunipes Fallén (12 records)

Predominantly found in Wales, Scotland and north-west England with scattered records elsewhere in England. Females are difficult to identify due to similarity with *S. verecunda.*

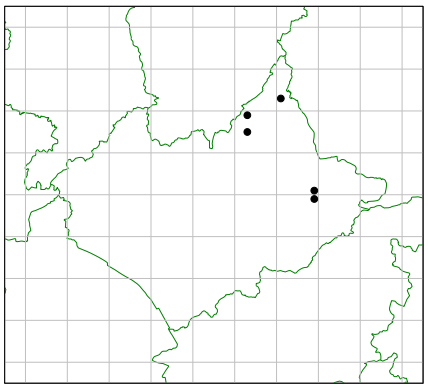
Noted in the Blaby area by Vice in 1887 and then not again in VC55 until a century later. Several of the records came from the Groby Pool area (1989) with other records coming from Howell Mouth, Charnwood Lodge, Rutland Water etc the most recent record being 2014. Not in the collections.



Sphegina elegans Schummel (8 records)

The national distribution is similar to the previous species.

Apart from a single record from the Mountsorrel Quarry complex (Andy Godfrey, 2011) all records have come from the east of the area especially from Holwell NR (2013-2016, Brian Wetton). Alan Stubbs found it at Skeffington Wood (1998) whilst John Kramer recorded it at Empingham (1998)



Sphegina verecunda Collin (7 records)

A similar national distribution pattern as the previous species.

Local records have come from Holwell NR and Burley Wood by national expert Alan Stubbs in 1989. Neil Frankum also noted the fly at both sites (1989, 1991) and also at Terrace Hills, Croxton Kerrial in 1991.

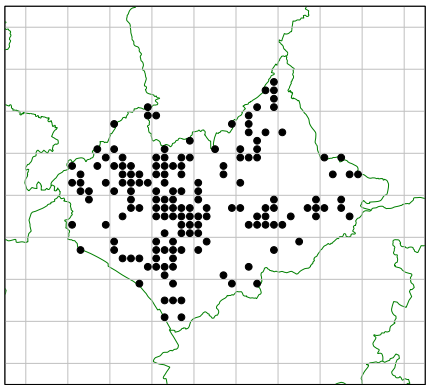
SYRITTA

Worldwide there are about 60 species belonging to the *Syritta* genus with just one being found in Britain. They are small, narrowly-built flies usually with black and yellow-orange to brown coloration with, importantly, an enlarged hind femur. The adults feed at flowers (hence known as "flower flies" in some countries) with saprophagous larvae.

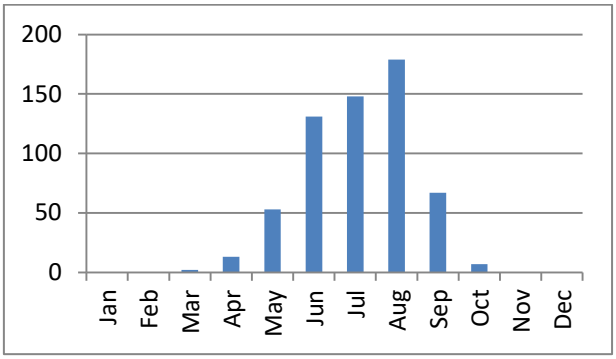
Syritta pipiens Le Peletier & Serville (626 records)

The unmistakeable enlarged hind femur with an orange band makes identification of this species easy. Found throughout Britain.

Locally a commonly recorded hoverfly having been recorded in most areas of VC55. In the late 1800s Vice regularly noted it in the Blaby district along with Tilton, Great Easton, Burbage Wood and Bardon Hill. Since the 1970s it has been recorded annually to date with the sole exception of 1997! Examples of the fly appear in the county collections.



Conkers, Moira, 2012
Mark Skevington*



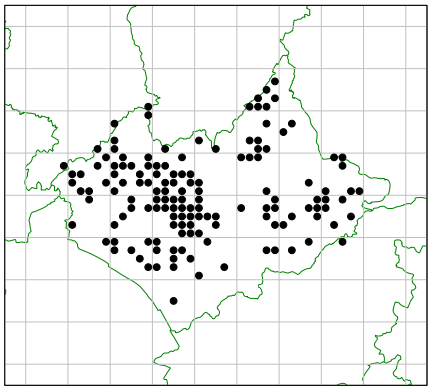
SYRPHUS

The genus is one of the commonest encountered but often specimens need careful checking for long hairs on the dorsal surface of the squama to confirm that a specimen belongs to this group. The abdomen has "moustache-shaped" banding on tergites 3 and 4 according to Stubbs & Falk (2002). Only five of the ten current European species have been seen in Britain to date; just three have been identified in VC55.

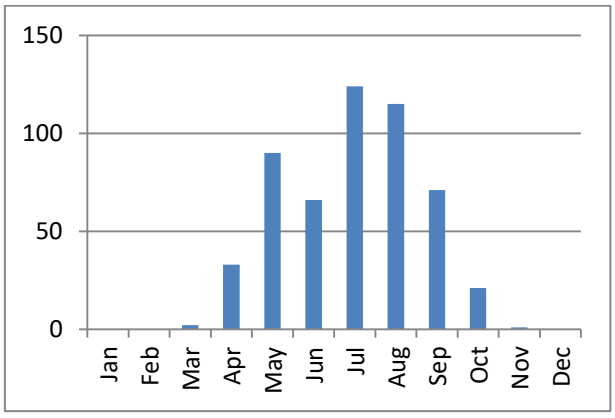
Syrphus ribesii Linnaeus (545 records)

Found throughout much of Britain being readily identified from others in the genus by the completely yellow hind femur. Basal wing cells are covered by microtrichia. Apparently multi-brooded with a long season.

First noted in VC55 in 1875 in the Blaby area by Vice with other records up to 1936. Subsequently the number of records of the fly reflected the greater interest in the hoverflies. Only a handful of local specimens amongst those in the collections the earliest being from Longcliffe by Muschamp in 1936 (CRC 41/5/2B/5).



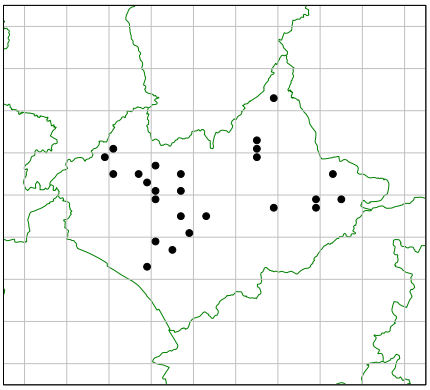
Rutland Water NR, Egleton, 2004
David Nicholls*



Syrphus torvus Osten Sacken (38 records)

Distinguishable from other species in the genus by having hairy eyes. Found throughout much of Britain but with some areas having no records particularly in southern Scotland and parts of the Midlands.

The first VC55 record located to date came from a Scraptoft Lane malaise trap in 1973 (the only time it was seen at this location) and then in many years to date although annual records are not numerous. The only example of the fly in the county collections came from Burley Wood (Darwyn Sumner) in 1997 (CRC 41/5/4B/3).

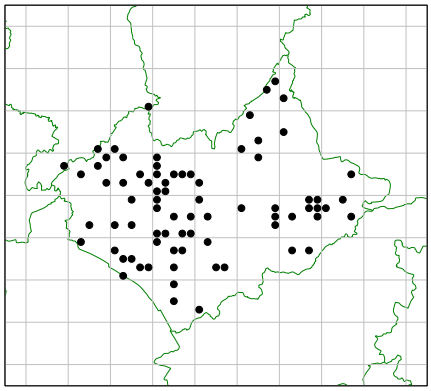


Sapcote, 2008 ♂
Graham Calow*

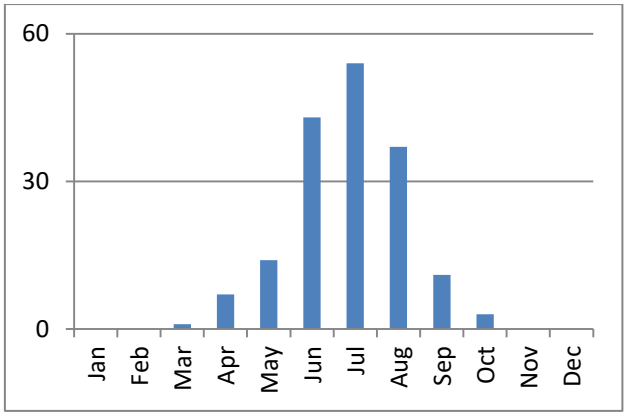
Syrphus vitripennis Meigen (193 records)

The female hind femur is always black which separates it from the similar *S ribessii* as does the scarcity of microtrichia on the wing basal cells. Common throughout Britain.

Local records are well-scattered over the area with Vice noting the species in the Blaby area (1873) and Woodhouse (1878). Not then recorded until appearing in the Scraptoft Lane malaise traps and now noted in most years since. Only three specimens in the county collections (from Loughborough 1985 and Dimminsdale NR 1987).



Sapcote, 2007
Graham Calow*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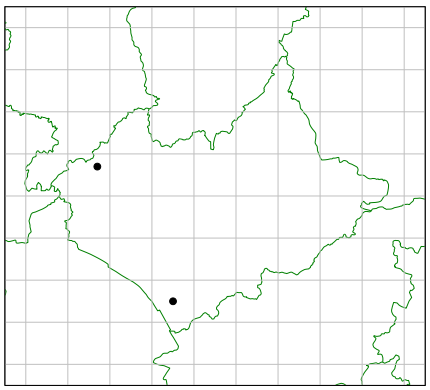
TRICHOPSOMYIA

All hoverflies show four segments of the abdomen being visible. Uniquely, the *Trichopsomyia* genus is the only grouping that shows just two segments making it easy to identify these small flies. Males have eyes that meet which is not the case with females. There are several European species but only two are currently considered to occur in Britain (DF, 2023) with just one locally. A useful aid to identification of the genus (including non-British species) is Speight (2006) which includes reference to *T. lucida* as a British species. However, there is uncertainty about the British status of this latter species which has been thought to be a variant of a *Heringia* species.



Trichopsomyia flavitarsis Meigen (2 records)

Can be separated from similar-looking *Pipizella* species by the anterior surface of the hind tibia being black. Scattered across Britain.

The species has only been recorded in the last couple years of the current review period in both cases as part of contracted survey work. Noted in 2018 in the Misterton Marsh SSSI area survey by David Gibbs and then by Andy Jukes during a mitigation investigation near Ashby de la Zouch in 2020.

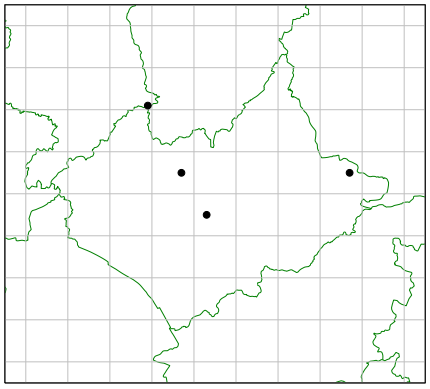
TRIGLYPHUS

Identifiable as being the only small black hoverflies where tergites 2 and 3 are large and the tergite 4 is minute (often not being visible). Only one British species.

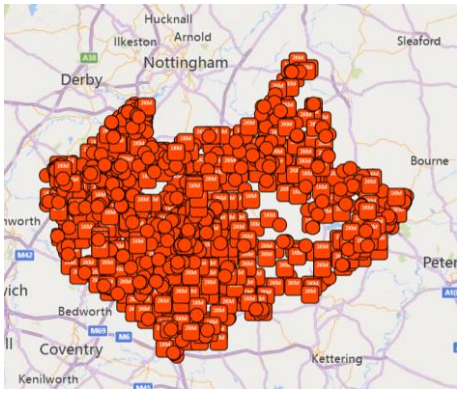
Triglyphus primus Loew (4 records) Nationally Scarce

Scattered across southern Britain. Can be found in a range of habitats but especially in brownfield areas with Mugwort present. It appears that larvae of this fly is a predator of the larvae of the aphid *Cryptosiphon artemisiae* which cause galls on the leaves of this plant.

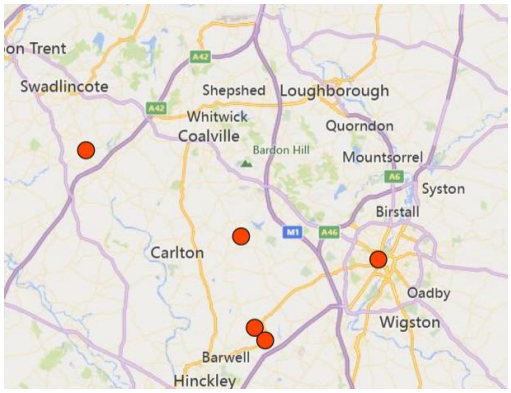
The adult fly was first noted at Mountsorrel by M.G. Jefferies in 1973 with a specimen in the County Collections (CRC 41/5/5C/1; Jeffries, 1975). Since seen at the Scraptoft Lane malaise trap (1985), Clipsham Big Pit (1992) and Lockington Marsh (2011). The occurrence of the gall is shown below along with the VC55 distribution of the host plant. It is obvious that closer examination of the plant should probably provide plenty more records of the gall and, hopefully of any associated hoverflies.



Galls on Mugwort at Bagworth CP 2020 Sue Timms*



Distribution of Mugwort (ORCA)



Records of galls (ORCA)

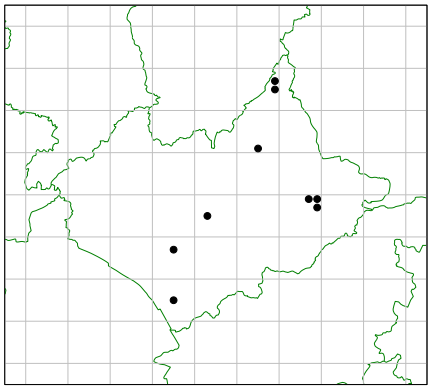
TROPIDIA

There are two European species of this genus with just one known in Britain.

Tropidia scita Harris (32 records)

Developmental examination of this species has been described by Decleer & Rotheray (1990). The swollen hind femur has a distinct "tooth" thus enabling easy recognition.

Despite ease of identification, there are relatively few VC55 records and those that have been located are scattered across the area. Found across much of England and Wales but less so elsewhere, Not noted from our area until turning up at a malaise trap at Scraptoft Lane in 1973. Regularly seen at Rutland Water NR in the last two decades and at other scattered sites. The single collections specimen came from Narborough Bog NR when taken by Derek Lott in 1984 (CRC 41/5/6A/1).

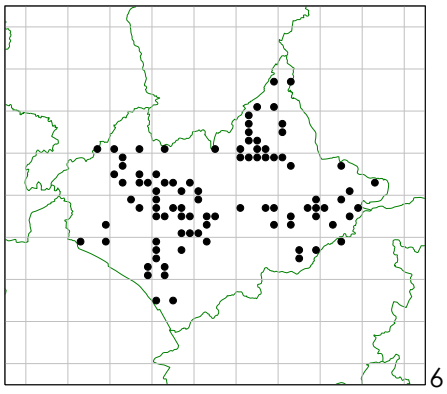


Kelham Bridge NR, 2022
Ian Harding*

VOLUCELLA

The *Volucella* are the largest of the British hoverflies and have a generally robust appearance. They may, at first glance, be mistaken for bumblebees (or even hornets) although the presence of a single pair of wings will rapidly dispel that notion! The antennae have strongly plumose arista (Figure 16) and the upper outer cross-vein is re-entrant. Of the six European species five have been found in Britain and VC55.

Figure 16: Plumose antennae of *Volucella*



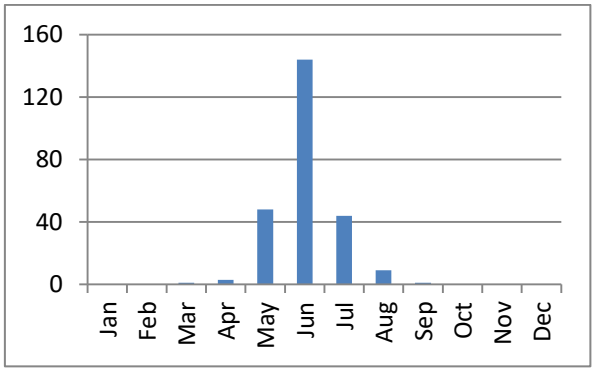
Volucella bombylans Linnaeus (262 records)

This species may show various forms (see figures for the two most common examples). Found throughout Britain.

Widely noted by Vice in the late 1800s and is now commonly noted in VC55. Specimens taken by Lowe appear in the collections – Thurmaston 1907 (CRC 41/5/6B/2) and Owston Wood 1915 (CRC 41/6/1B/11).

Spearwort Fields (Aylestone), 2017 var plunata David Gould*

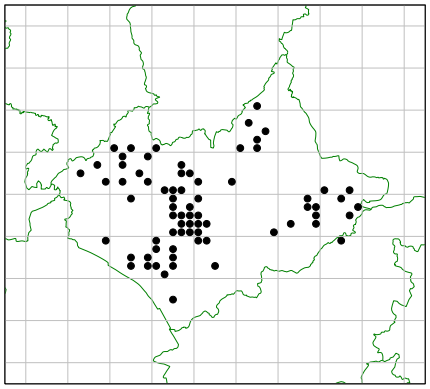
Spearwort Fields (Aylestone), 2018 var bombylans David Gould*



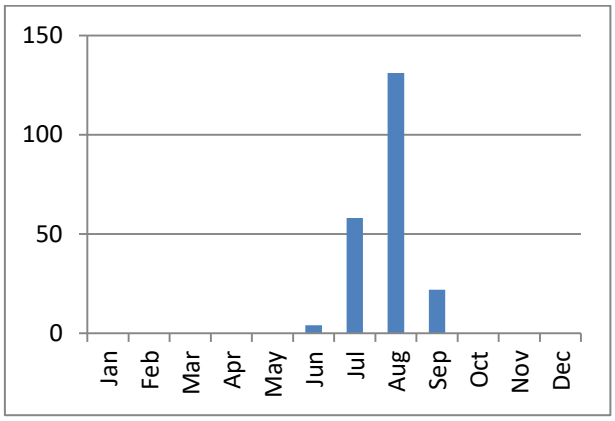
Volucella inanis Linnaeus (215 records)

Along with *V. zonaria*, this fly shows a different abdominal pattern to others of the genus. A species mainly in England to Yorkshire and starting to appear in Wales. A review of the spread of the species was produced by Morris & Ball (2003) showing that there seemed to be contraction of its occurrence in the 1960s until the 1990s when records were confined to the London area. Since then there has been a remarkable expansion.

The species reached VC55 in 2003 when it was noted by David Gould in a Leicester garden but it was not until 2008 that the number of records started to increase noticeably now coming from much of the area. No examples in the county collections.



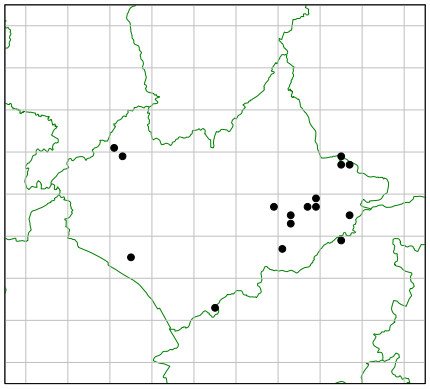
County Hall (Glenfield), 2014
Mike Higgott*



Volucella inflata Fabricius (30 records)

The smallest of the genus even though it is still a large fly! Very much found south of the Wash and just spreading into eastern Wales.

The least common of the *Volucella* species in VC55 being first seen by Darwyn Sumner in 1997 at Burley Wood (CRC 41/6/3C/8). Records suggest a bias of distribution to the east of VC55 but occasionally turning up to the west. Graham Calow has seen the species at the Burbage Common & Woods complex near Hinckley in the south-west on several occasions.

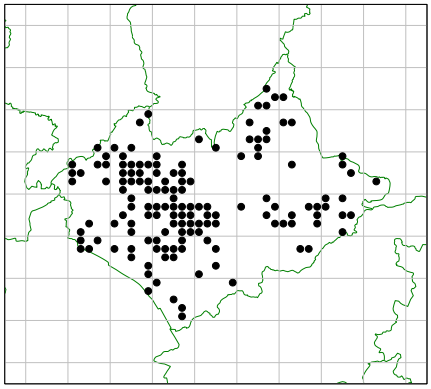


Ketton Quarry NR, 2013
Mark Skevington*

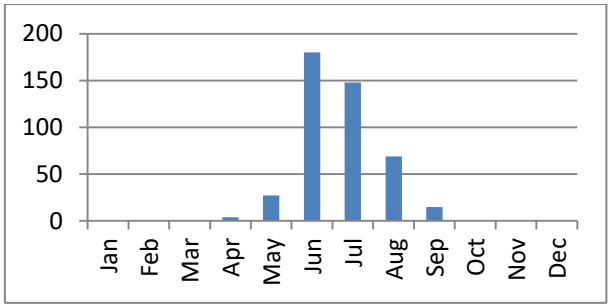
Volucella pellucens Linnaeus (460 records)

An unmistakeable hoverfly found throughout Britain being predominantly black with tergite 2 white.

Widespread in VC55 being first noted at Whitwick in 1884 and then with subsequent records to 1936. Not then recorded locally until 1973 since when it has been noted in nearly all years to 2020. An example of the fly was provided by LS Box which had been taken at Swithland in 1908 (CRC 41/6/4C/9) with a few others in the collections from a variety of locations.



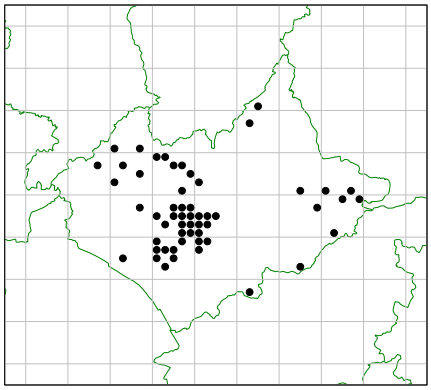
Broughton Astley, 2011
Graham Calow*



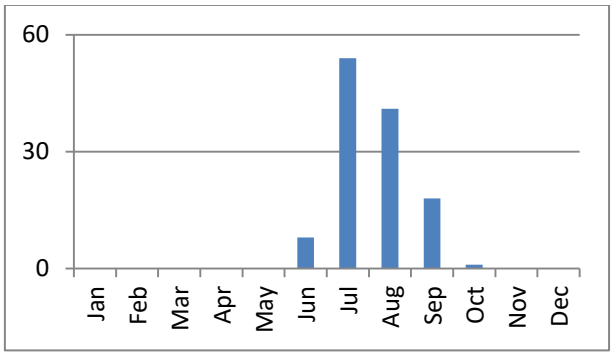
Volucella zonaria Poda (122 records)

Morris & Ball (2004) reviewed the status if this unmistakable hoverfly based on wide range of sources. The species was initially regarded as an occasional migrant with no evidence of an established presence in Britain. In the 1940s the species started to appear in southern England with possible breeding at Bournemouth in 1946 when larvae were discovered in the nest of the wasp *Vespula vulgaris*. Since then records have shown a wider distribution in the south but it was not until the 1990s that it seemed the fly was well established in the south.

At the start of the 2000s there was evidence of some northward movement of the species but it is apparent that local records did not appear until 2008 at a Knighton (Leicester) garden when spotted by Maggie Frankum. Records have been regularly made since, especially since 2015, with scattered sightings elsewhere but with an obvious north-east to south area with none to date probably due to lack of recording effort. Leicester gardens seem to be favoured!.



Knighton (Leicester), 2015
Alan Cann*



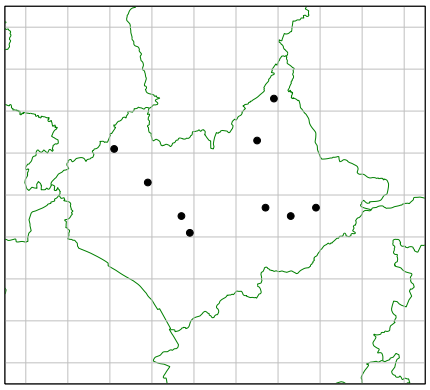
XANTHANDRUS

The single species of this genus in Britain can be readily identified. The larvae are reputed to feed amongst colonial micro-moths caterpillars and the like.

Xanthandrus comtus Harris (16 records)

A largish hoverfly showing distinctive black and yellow abdominal markings along with a black face and scutellum. Scattered across England and Wales, less frequent elsewhere.

The few VC55 records come from across the two counties. Probably the first local record came from Muschamp who spotted it at Blaby but, typically, with no further information (CRC 41/7/1A/1). With two exceptions all records come from Neil Frankum (1989-1993) and Brian Wetton (since 2012). John Szczur found the fly at Owston (2007) while Karen Conway saw it in her Leicester garden in 2014.



Leicester, 2014
Karen Conway*

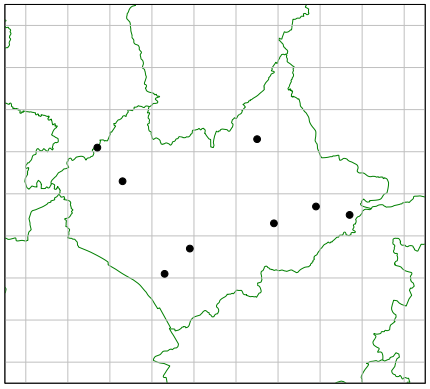
XANTHOGRAMMA

Very smart-looking hoverflies that can be readily identified in the field. Three species appear on the current British list although it has been suggested that *X, pedissequum* may be a complex which, for our purposes, will be considered as a distinct species with a possibility of a complex being kept in mind. A third species, *X. stackelbergi*, has only been seen at a few sites in Britain with none from our region.

Xanthogramma citrofasciatum De Geer (11 records)

The abdominal markings of this species are narrower than in the following species ensuring clear distinction between the two. Despite the ease of identification the fly has only been recorded at scattered sited in England and Wales as it has been in VC55.

Vice noticed this hoverfly near Wigston railway station in 1903 with a further record not appearing until 1985 when found by Graham Finch at Dimminsdale NR (CRC 41/7/1B/5). Seen occasionally since 2009 with no records in some years.

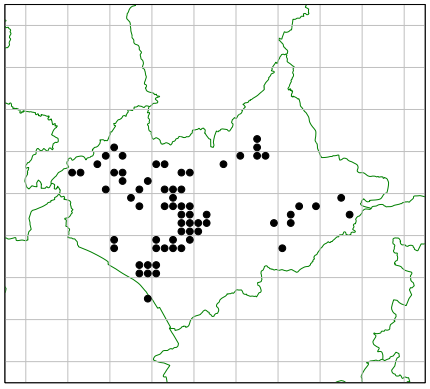


Broughton Astley Quarry, 2017
Craig Mabbett*

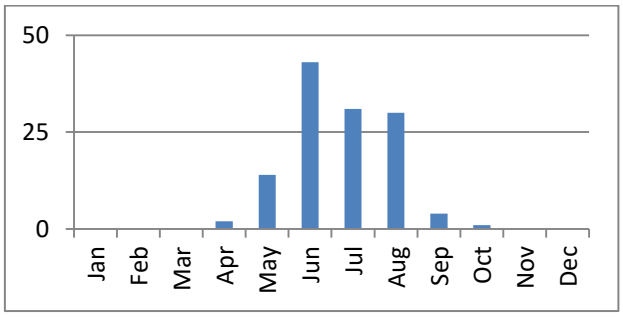
Xanthogramma pedissequum Harris (130 records)

The abdominal bands are broader than in the previous species. Commonly noted throughout England and Wales but rarely elsewhere.

Most VC55 records come from Leicestershire but numbers from Rutland seem to be increasing. Seen in the Blaby area by Vice (1882, 1899) but not again until taken at a 1972 malaise trap at Scraptoft Lane, Leicester. A regular visitor to Neil Frankum's garden at Knighton, Leicester in the 1990s. A single addition to the collections came from Darwyn Sumner who collected the fly at Swithland Wood in 1998 (CRC 41/7/2A/7).



Narborough Cricket Club, 2014
David Gould*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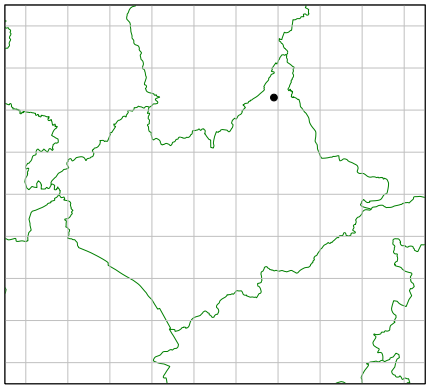
XYLOTA

Some members of this genus tend to wander around on leaves feeding on pollen whilst others visit flowers to feed on nectar. The larvae are saprophagous often being associated with sap runs. The adults are elongate flies that show a fast-walking behaviour resembling that of sawflies (Stubbs & Falk, 2003). Some have a red area on the abdomen whilst in others this may show grey to yellow spots. There are seven species currently on the British list with five currently recorded locally. A useful key first appeared in Speight (1981) since superceded by Stubbs & Falk (2003).



Xylota florum Fabricius (1 record)

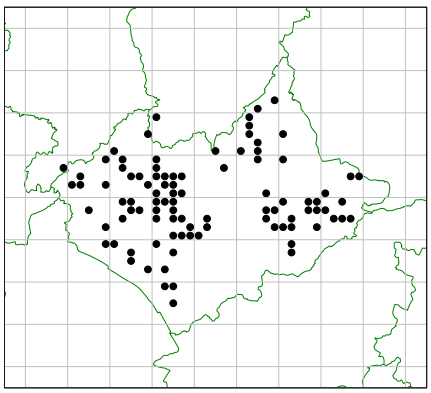
Tergites 2 & 3 each have a pair of spots with a black tergite 4. Scattered records from across England and Wales.

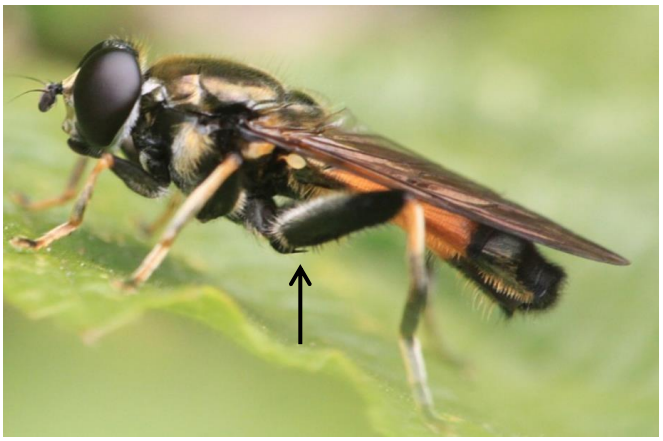
Only recorded once in VC55 when seen by Brian Wetton at Stathern Wood in 2014.

Xylota segnis Linnaeus (296 records)

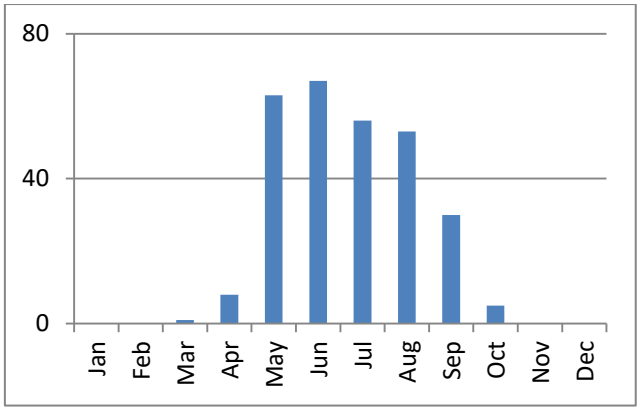
The orange red abdominal band is obvious despite being partly obscured by the wings when at rest. The presence of a thin spur on trochanter of the hind leg allows identification of the male. A species commonly found across Britain.

Seen in VC55 in 1875 at Somerby (Vice), at Buddon Wood in 1885 (GH Storer) and again by Vice at Swithland in 1896. Other than a record from John Saunt at Quorn in 1924 no further records were forthcoming until Jenny Owen's malaise traps at Scraptoft Lane, Leicester. Since seen from across VC55 on a regular basis. Darwyn Sumner provided additions to the county collections with examples of from Acresford Sandpit in 1989 and 1996 (CRC 41/7/3C/9 & 10 respectively) with a further one from Sheet Hedges Wood taken in 1996 (CRC 41/7/3C/11). The only other local example was taken by Anona Finch at Lount LNR in 2000 (CRC 41/7/4B/4).





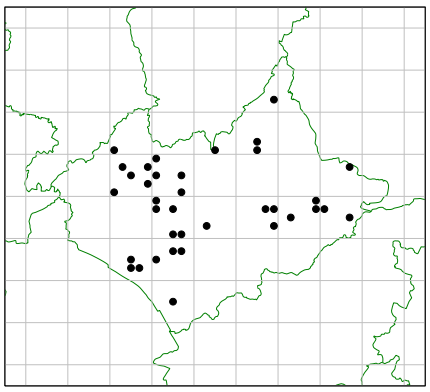
Melton CP, 2015 ♂
Paul Ruddoch*



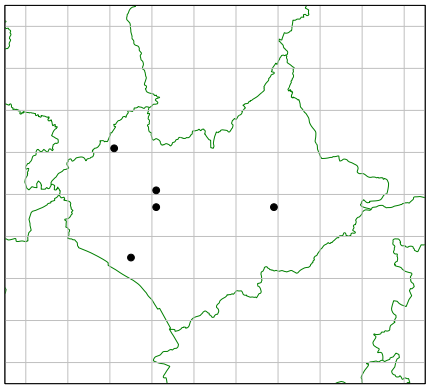
Xylota sylvarum Linnaeus (74 records)

A species occurring across England and Wales but more scattered elsewhere. The hind tibia is partly black which enables separation from *X. xanthocnema* where it is completely yellow.

Recorded at several sites by late-1800s recorders with more regular reporting from the mid-1970s. A specimen taken by Frank Bouskell at Owston Wood in 1896 is in the County Collections (CRC 41/7/4C/10) along with another collected by John Kramer over 80 years later (CRC 41/7/5B/3). Two other examples in the collections came from Ulverscroft NR found by John Kramer in 1981 and Darwyn Sumner in 1997 (CRC 41/7/5B/1 & 2 respectively).



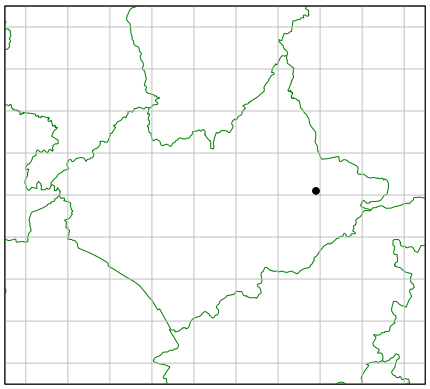
Charnwood Lodge NNR, 2016
Kate Nightingale*



Xylota tarda Meigen (5 records) Nationally Scarce

A species that has been recorded scattered across Britain but not in great numbers. It needs careful examination to separate from *X. segnis*.

All VC55 records come from experienced dipterists. First noted in 1986 at Martinshaw Wood (John Kramer; CRC 41/7/5C/1) then by Neil Frankum from Sheepy Wood near Hinckley (1989), Owston Wood (1990) and the Polly Botts Lane area of Ulverscroft (1992). The only other record came almost 30 years later when found by Brian Wetton at Cloud Wood NR in 2020.



Xylota xanthocnema Collin (2 records) Nationally Scarce

Separable from the similar *X. sylvarum* by the completely yellow hind tibia. A rare member of the genus found at scattered sites in England and Wales.

John Kramer provided the only records of this hoverfly in VC55 when he found it in June and August 1989 at Burley Wood.

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Hoverflies from VC55 in the County Collections

Genus	Species	CRC reference(s)	No specimens	No from VC55
Anasimyia	*contracta*	39/7/1C	3	3
	interpunctata	-	0	0
	lineata	39/7/2A	15	1
	lunulata	-	0	0
	transfuga	39/7/2B	7	1
Baccha	*elongata*	39/7/3A,B	37	7
Blera	*fallax*	-	0	0
Brachyopa	*bicolor*	-	0	0
	insensilis	39/7/3C	5	0
	pilosa	-	0	0
	scutellaris	39/7/4A	13	6
Brachypalpoides	*lentus*	39/7/4B	4	1
Brachypalpus	*laphriformis*	39/7/4C	1	0
Caliprobola	*speciosa*	39/7/5A	1	0
Callicera	*aurata*	-	0	0
	rrufa	-	0	0
	spinlae	-	0	0
Chalcosyrphus	*nemorum*	39/7/5B	7	2
	eunotus	-	0	0
Cheilosia	*ahenea*	-	0	0
	albipila	39/7/5C	10	4
	albitarsis	39/7/6A,B; 39/8/1A,B,C	58	10
	antiqua	39/8/2A	4	0
	barbata	39/8/2B	3	0
	bergenstammi	39/8/2C	14	4
	caerulescens	-	0	0
	carbonaria	39/8/3A	8	0
	chrysocoma	39/8/3B	1	1
	cyanocephala	39/8/3C	2	0
	fraterna	39/8/4A	2	0
	griseiventris	-	0	0
	grossa	39/8/4B,C	17	4
	illustrata	39/8/5A,B.C	31	1
	impressa	37/8/6A	7	1
	lasiopa	37/8/6B	7	0
	latifrons	37/9/1A	3	0
	longula	37/9/1B	2	0
	mutabilis	37/9/1C	3	0
	nebulosa	-	0	0
	nigripes	-	0	0
	pagana	37/9/2A,B	39	6
	proxima	37/9/3A	19	4
	psilophthalma	-	0	0
	pubera	-	0	0
	ranunculi	-	0	0
	sahlbergi	-	0	0
	scutellata	37/9/3B,C,4A	51	0
	semifasciata	-	0	0
	soror	39/9/4B	9	1
	urbana (as praecox)	39/9/2C	6	2
	uviformis	-	0	0
	variabilis	39/9/4C,5A	26	4
	velutina	39/9/5B	1	0
	vernalis	39/9/5C,6A	31	0
	vicina	-	0	0
	vulpina	39/10/1A	2	0
Chrysogaster	*cemiteriorum*	39/10/1B	18	1
	solstitialis	39/10/1C,2A,2B	64	5
	virescens	39/10/2C	2	1
Chrystoxum	*arcuatum*	39/10/3A	12	1
	bicinctum	39/10/3B,3C,4A	51	3
	cautum	39/10/4C,5A	20	1
	elegans	39/10/5B,5C	37	1
	festivum	39/10/6A,6B; 40/1/1A	40	0
	octomaculatum	-	0	0
	vernale	40/1/1B	1	0
	verralli	40/1/1C	7	0
Criorhina	*asilica*	40/1/2A	4	0
	berberina	40/1/2B,2C	22	1
	floccosa	40/1/3A	10	1
	ranunculi	40/1/3B	11	0

Dasysyrphus	*albostriatus*	40/1/4A,4B,4C5A	50	5
	frulensis	-	0	0
	hilaris	-	0	0
	neovenustus	-	0	0
	pauxillus	-	0	0
	pinastri	40/1/5B	5	0
	tricinctus	40/1/5C	16	0
	venustus	40/1/6A,6B	28	5
Didea	*alneti*	40/2/1A	1	0
	fasciata	40/2/1B,1C	16	2
	intermedia	40/2/2A	3	0
Doros	*profuges*	40/2/2B	1	0
Epistrophe	*diaphana*	40/2/2C	2	0
	eligans	40/2/3A,3B,3C,4A	60	10
	grossulariae	40/2/4B	19	1
	nitidicollis	40/2/5A	16	0
Episyrphus	*balteatus*	40/2/5B,5C,6A	48	7
Eriozona	*syrphoides*	40/2/6B	1	0
Eristalinus	*sepulchralis*	40/3/1A,1B	35	3
	aeneus	40/3/1C	4	0
Eristalis	*abusivus*	40/3/2A	1	0
	arbustorum	40/3/2B,2C,3A,3B	79	7
	cryptarum	-	0	0
	horticola	40/3/3C,4A,4B	35	2
	intricaria	40/3/5B,5C,6A,6B	57	10
	nemorum (as interruptus)	40/3/4C,5A	17	0
	pertinax	40/4/1A,1B,1C2A,2B	66	19
	rupium	40/4/2C	2	0
	similis	-	0	0
	tenax	40/4/3A,3B,3C,4A,4B	50	10
Eumerus	*funeralis (as tuberculatus)*	40/4/6B	1	0
	ornatus	40/4/4C	5	0
	sabulonum	40/4/5A	1	0
	sogdianus	-	0	0
	strigatus	40/4/5B,5C,6A	62	6
Eupeodes	*bucculatus (as latilunatus)*	40/5/2B	1	0
	corollae	40/4/6C; 40/5/1A,1B	49	3
	goeldini	-	0	0
	laponicus	40/5/5A	1	0
	latifasciatus	40/5/1C,2A	30	0
	lundbecki	-	0	0
	luniger	40/5/2C,3A,3B,3C,4A	67	10
	neiseni	40/5/4B	2	0
	nitens	40/5/4C	3	0
Ferdinandea	*cuprea*	40/5/5B,5C	25	1
	ruficornis	0	-	-
Hammerschmidtia	*ferruginea*	-	0	0
Helophilus	*affinis*	-	0	0
	groenlandicus	-	0	0
	hybridus	40/5/6A,6B; 40/6/1A	32	4
	pendulus	40/6/1B,1C,2A,2B,2C,3A,3B	114	16
	trivittatus	40/6/3C,4A	17	3
Heringia	*brevidens*	-	0	0
	heringi	40/6/4B	4	2
	latitarsis	-	0	0
	pubescens	-	0	0
	verrucula	-	0	0
	vitripennis	40/6/4C	8	0
Lejogaster	*metallina*	40/6/5A	11	1
	tarsata	40/6/5B	3	0
Lejops	*vitatus*	-	0	0
Leucozona	*glaucia*	40/6/5C,6A	18	0
	laternaria	40/6/6B;40/4/1A	32	1
	lucorum	40/7/1B,1C,2A,2B	66	8
Mallota	*cimbiciformis*	-	0	0
Megasyrphus (= Eriozona)	*erraticus (as erratica)*	40/2/6C	6	1
Melangyna	*arctica*	40/7/2C	1	1
	barbifrons	40/7/3A	1	0
	cincta	40/7/3B	9	0
	compositarum	40/7/3C	2	0
	ericarum	-	0	0
	labiatarum	40/7/4A	12	0
	lasiophthalma	40/7/4B,4C	27	3
	quadrimaculata	40/7/5A	8	0
	unbellatarum	40/7/5B	22	0

Melanogaster	*aerosa*	40/7/5C	1	0
	hirtella	40/7/6A,6B	24	8
Melanstoma	*dubium*	40/8/1A	3	0
	mellinum	40/8/1B,1C,2A	54	7
	scalare	40/8/2B,2C	40	4
Meligramma	*euchromum*	40/8/3A	16	0
	guttatum	40/8/3B	1	0
	trianguliferum	40/8/3C	5	2
Meliscaeva	*auricollis*	40/8/4A,4B,4C	44	2
	cinctellus	40/8/5A,5B,5C,6A,6B	59	0
Merodon	*equestris*	40/8/6B; 40/9/1A,1B,1C,2A,2B,2C,3A	102	11
Microdon	*analis*	-	0	0
	devius	-	0	0
	mutabilis	40/9/3B	1	0
	myrmica	-	0	0
Myathropa	*florea*	40/9/3C,4A,4B,4C,5A,5B	83	3
Myolepta	*dubia*	40/9/5C	4	0
	potens	-	0	0
Neoascia	*geniculata*			
	interrupta	40/10/1B	1	1
	meticulosa	40/10/1C3	3	2
	obliqua	40/10/2A	1	0
	podagrica	40/9/6A,6B	41	9
	tenur	40/10/1A	3	1
Orthonevra	*brevicornis*	40/10/2B	2	1
	geniculata	40/10/2C	2	1
	intermedia	-	0	0
	nobilis	40/10/3A	15	1
Paragus	*albifrons*	40/10/4A	2	0
	constrictus	-	0	0
	haemorrhous	40/10/3B	3	1
	tibialis	40/10/3C	3	0
Parasyrphus	*annulatus*	40/10/4B	4	0
	lineola	40/10/4C	2	0
	malinellus	40/10/5A	1	0
	nigritarsis	-	0	0
	punctulatus	40/10/5B,5C	24	4
	vittiger	40/10/6A	1	0
Parhelophilus	*consimilis*	-	0	0
	frutetorom	40/10/6B	5	1
	versicolor	41/1/1A	15	3
Pelecocera	*claedonica*	-	0	0
	scaevoides	-	0	0
	tricincta	-	0	0
Pipiza	*austriaca*	41/1/1B	3	1
	fasciatus (as fenestrata)	41///2A	1	0
	festiva	-	0	0
	lugubris	41/4/2B	2	0
	luteitarsis	41/4/2C	4	0
	noctiluca	41/1/3A,3B,3C	46	4
	notata (as bimaculata)	41/1/1C	5	4
Pipizella	*maculipennis*	41/1/4A	1	1
	viduata	41/1/4B	8	3
	virens	41/1/4C	20	0
Platycheirus	*albimanus*	4/4/5B,5C,6A,6B; 41/2/1A	96	13
	ambiguous	41/1/5A	11	3
	amphus	-	0	0
	angustatus	41/2/1B	11	4
	aurolateralis	-	0	0
	clypeatus	41/2/1C,2A	27	4
	discimanus	41/2/2B	3	0
	europaeus	-	0	0
	fulviventris	41/2/2C	2	1
	granditarsus	41/3/2B,2C,3A	66	4
	immarginatus	41/2/3A	2	0
	manicatus	41/2/3B,3C	43	10
	melanopsis	-	0	0
	nielseni	41/2/4A	2	0
	occultus	41/2/4B	1	1
	peltaatus	41/2/4C,5A	36	3
	perpallidus	41/2/5B	4	0
	podagratus	41/2/5C	1	0
	ramsarensis	41/2/6A	1	0
	rosarum	41/3/3B	14	0
	scambus	41/2/6B	6	5

	scutatus	41/2/6C; 41/3/1A,1B	61	13
	splendidus	-	0	0
	stictus	41/3/1C	0	0
	tarsalis	41/3/2A	12	11
Pocota	personata	-	0	0
Portevinia	maculata	41/3/3C	11	3
Psilota	anthracina	-	0	0
Rhingia	campestris	41/3/4A,4B,4C	53	9
	rostrata	41/3/5A	1	0
Riponnensia	splendens	41/3/5B	13	0
Scaeva	albomaculata	-	0	0
	dignota	-	0	0
	mecogramma	-	0	0
	pyrastri	41/3/5C,6A,6B; 41/4/1A,1B	57	4
	selenetica	41/4/1C	10	1
Serocomyia	lappona	41/4/2A	9	0
	silentis	41/4/2B,2C,3A	32	3
	superbiens	-	0	0
Sphaerophoria	bankowskae	-	0	0
	batava	-	0	0
	fatarum	-	0	0
	interrupta	41/4/3B	17	7
	loewi	-	0	0
	philanthus	41/4/3C	3	0
	potentillae	41/4/4A	1	0
	rueppellii	41/4/4B	2	0
	scripta	41/4/4C,5A,5B	57	2
	taeniata	41/4/5C	13	0
	virgata	-	0	0
Sphegina	clunipes	41/4/6A	6	1
	elegabs	-	0	0
	sibirica	-	0	0
	verecunda	-	0	0
Syritta	pipiens	41/4/6B; 41/5/1A,1B	56	16
Syrphus	nitidifrons	-	0	0
	rectus	-	0	0
	ribesii	41/5/1C,2A,2B,2C,3A,3B	86	12
	torvus	41/5/3C,4A,4B	38	1
	vitripennis	41/5/4C,5A,5B	61	2
Trichopsomyia	flavitarsis	-	0	0
	lucida	-	0	0
Triglyphus	primus	41/5/5C	1	1
Tropidia	scita	41/5/6A	6	1
Volucella	bombylans	41/5/6B; 41/6/1A,2A,2B,2C	75	6
	inanis	41/6/3A,3B	11	0
	inflata	41/6/3C	9	1
	pellucens	41/6/4A,4B,4C,5A,5B,5C	55	10
	zonaria	41/6/6A	3	0
Xanthandrus	comtus	41/7/1A	3	1
Xanthogramma	citrofasciatum	41/7/1B	5	1
	pedissequum	41/7/1C,2A	22	2
	stackelbergi	-	0	0
Xylota	abiens	-	0	0
	florum	41/7/2C	3	0
	jakutorum (as coeruleiventris)	41/7/2B	8	0
	segnis	41/7/3A,3B,3C,4A,4B	71	4
	sylvarum	41/7/4C,5A5B	39	4
	tarda	41/7/5C	1	1
	xanthocnema	41/7/6A	4	0

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