leaves, although at the base of the fence there was a minimum of débris due to the tarmac footpath. More than a score of moths were seen on several days, the maximum being forty-three on July 25th. The west facing aspect of the fence was not easily accessible and was not examined. Unfortunately, I delayed examining dead clematis leaves this Spring until it was too late, and the site was devoid of moths at emergence time. Undoubtedly this colony was dependent on Clematis, and I hope that in the future another opportunity will arise to enable me to confirm *Clematis vitalba* as a natural foodplant of *S. vulpinaria* larvae.

Showler (*Ent. Rec.*, 66, 1954) notes a prefernce for shady fences for resting moths, and Huggins (*Ent. Rec.*, 66, 1954) mentions a preference for tall banks with ivy and elm, half shaded by large elm trees, and I too have frequently found the moths in such situations. However, the colony dependent on *A. saxatile* at Bexleyheath breeds at the foot of a south facing wall within a quadrangle, and the moths which emerge in the morning often remain exposed to the sun, and only on the hottest days tend to move up the wall to seek shade beneath window ledges, or move further into shaded passages or doorways. Similarly, the colony of moths associated with ivy at Dartford in 1977 was fully exposed to the sun for much of the day, although some moths would receive intermittant shade from foliage. The situation of these local congregations of moths is directly dependent upon the larval site, and they are composed of freshly emerged moths.

S. vulpinaria, although remaining common in the Dartford area is perhaps less numerous than formerly due to destruction of habitats. However, it does appear to be increasing its geographical range — Chalmers-Hunt (*Ent. Rec.*, 81, 1969, sup) records this tendency in a southwards direction, and thus inland, from extreme N.W. Kent; Evans and Evans (*A Survey of the Macro-Lepidoptera of Croydon and N.E. Surrey*) record that the moth was first seen in the area in 1961, and that it has become not uncommon in the N.E. of the area having spread westwards from Kent; the Essex Naturalists' Trust in its volume 'A Guide to the Butterflies and Larger Moths of Essex' records extension of range northward along the coast and also inland.

Extreme Abundance of Ectoedemia subbimaculella (Haw.) in Berkshire (V.C. 22). — Whilst collecting at Silwood Park, near Sunningdale, on 31.x.1979, I found *Ectoedemia subbimaculella* extremely abundant. Many oak trees had mines in almost every leaf at low level (the tree tops were not investigated), and a large proportion of the leaves contained 20-30 mines: one leaf which I have pressed has 62. Typically 10-20 larvae have been able to feed up fully, so, unless there is a very high level of parasitism or pupal mortality, the density of this species at Silwood should be very high next year. — P. J. Johnson, 7 Haverhill Road, Horseheath, Cambridge, CB1 6QR. 15. xii.1979.