

P. meridiana (Villeneuve)

8.vi.1985 Canterbury Field Study Centre TR158593. One male obtained during general collecting at a site which includes alder carr and basic grassland.

P. notabilis (Zetterstedt)

26.vi.1983 Mincing Wood TR1160. One male swept along woodland ride on clay.

P. rubivora (Cocquillet)

26.v.1986 Thornden Wood TR147635. One male swept along woodland ride on clay.

P. steini Hendel

25.v.1989 Down Wood TR0852. One male taken by general sweeping in and around a mature beech wood on the chalk.

P. versicolor (Meigen)

8.v.1982 Murston TQ922646. One male in open scrub which has subsequently been developed as the home ground of Sittingbourne football club.

P. vittigera (Zetterstedt)

20.vi.1993 Angley Wood TQ7636. Three males swept in mature woodland interspersed with *Sphagnum* bogs.

Zaphne ambigua (Fallén)

24.vi.1989 Lenham Heath TQ9149. One male swept during general recording in a disused sandpit. Parts of the area are very wet throughout the winter months whilst others have been planted with alders *Alnus* spp., presumably to reduce the water table.

Z. inuncta (Zetterstedt)

14.vii.1996 Angley Wood TQ7636. One male swept in *Sphagnum* dominated clearing in mixed deciduous wood.

– LAURENCE CLEMONS, 14, St. John's Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 4NR.

Colonisation of a new area by *Oedemera nobilis* (Scop.) (Col.: Oedemeridae)

Much to my surprise I encountered this striking and handsome beetle for the first time ever in this district or anywhere near, on 19 July last on Woolwich Common very near here – a locality I had often visited in the last twenty years or more. Some half-dozen in all, and only males, were noted on flowers of hogweed, wild carrot, ragwort and yarrow, some sharing a flower-head with *O. lurida* (Marsh.). The latter has long been much the more general of the two species, despite the reverse being stated in all the earlier works on our beetles. It seems that *O. nobilis* is already well distributed over the Common, though not seen at all last year; it is not easily overlooked. Apparently the process of colonisation can be extremely rapid. In Kent I had previously met with the species only in one or two of the old chalk workings east of Dartford, very locally and sparingly, and once at Otford; never in Surrey. It becomes far more frequent towards the south-west, as in parts of Devon.

– A.A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, Charlton, London SE7 8QG.



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