

forms, 20 *Craniophora ligustri* D. and Schiff., five *Autographa bractea* D. and Schiff., two *Plusia festucae* Linn., one *Bomolocha crassalis* Fab., one *A. rubricollis*, six *Mysticoptera sexalata* Retz., two *Eucoeca nebulata* Scop., five *H. flammeolaria*, 14 *Venusia cambrica* Curtis, seven *Abraxas sylvata* Scop., one *Cleorodes lichenaria* Hufn. and two *Gnophos obscurata* D. and Schiff.

I stayed another night, leaving the traps running in these woods and travelled to another wood a few miles south of Machynelleth to join Dick Chaterlain. Here, much the same species as at Corris the previous night appeared with more *cambrica* and two more *turca*. I arrived back at Corris at 2.30 a.m. to find a further two *turca* and a very fresh *festucae*.

Next day, I travelled to Conway and set about searching for larvae of *Nyssia zonaria* D. and Schiff. I found 17 larvae in six hours, many of which were hidden well amongst thick mats of marram grass. Unfortunately, a high percentage of these were parasitized. For the evening operations, I made the short journey to the Sychnant Pass, where my generator decided not to function. I had to be content with two actinics. Nevertheless, I obtained 14 *ashworthii*, six *Agrotis trux* Hübn., three *Apamea furva* D. and Schiff., one *Sterrhia eburnata* Wocke, and one *Entephria caesiata* D. and Schiff. A new sparking plug from a local garden centre persuaded the generator to start in time for the next night's activities. Again in Sychnant Pass, eight *ashworthii*, 25 *trux*, 10 *furva*, two fresh *eburnata* and three *Nudaria mundana* Linn. were noted.

After a brief visit home, I was off north again on 11th July in the company of Andrew Gardner for a long journey to Scotland. We stopped at Witherslack for the first night and operated our eight moth traps in the famous "Black Tom's Lane". It was interesting to observe *Discoloxia blomeri* Curtis, a species one usually associates with more southerly quarters. *A. bractea*, *Unca trigemina* Werneb., *N. mundana*, *C. mesomella* and *V. cambrica* were also noted. We left Witherslack at 9 a.m. and arrived at Struan at 5 p.m., where we immediately set about sweeping the bog myrtle for larvae of *Poecilopsis lapponica* Boisd. We feared we would be too late with the summer heat wave in Scotland, and our fears were confirmed after two hours, when we had only obtained a number of larvae of *Orthosia gracilis* D. and Schiff. and a few *Apatele menyanthidis* View. Driving on to Aviemore, we worked M.V. lights at Granish Moor. After a cool and dull day, the sky cleared to give a bitterly cold night. A few *Polia hepatica* Clerck, one *Dasychira fascelina* Linn., *A. bractea*, two *E. caesiata* and three *Gnophos obfuscata* D. and Schiff. braved the cold.

(To be continued)

ORTHOSIA CRUDA D. & S. IN JANUARY. — Another mild start to this year, 1976, has brought insects out some weeks ahead of normal, and I was surprised to see a Small Quaker in my m.v. trap here on 12th January. — C. G. M. DE WORMS, Three Oaks, Shore's Road, Woking, Surrey.



Worms, C. G. M. de. 1976. "Orthosia cruda D. & S. in January." *The entomologist's record and journal of variation* 88, 76–76.

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