

rainfall it prefers. Even if it is a recent arrival, it has been here for at least five years without causing problems, and probably for much longer. Only four males were captured using pheromone traps in 2008, which suggests its density is low. Throughout the rest of Scotland the rainfall is very much higher, greatly reducing the risk of problems if the moth does spread.

It is also worth remembering that some moths that are serious pests of conifer plantations in mainland Europe are harmless in Britain. They include Black Arches *Lymantria monacha* (Heath, J. & Emmet, M. A. 1979. *The Moths and Butterflies of Great Britain and Ireland*, vol. 9. Curwen Books, London), and even Pine Hawk-moth *Hyloicus pinastri* (*Ent. Rec.* 114: 235-268). In fact, Pine-tree Lappet could be considered an asset, a welcome addition to the relatively impoverished fauna of our coniferous woodland, the moth equivalent of the Capercaillie. Already English observers are making plans to visit the Inverness area in the hope of seeing it. Scotland benefits from such wildlife tourism.

Finally, if Pine-tree Lappet is indeed native or already well-established, exterminating it will be a difficult and expensive operation, with success far from guaranteed. Recent concerted attempts to eradicate Oak Processionary Moth *Thaumetopoea processionea* and Gypsy Moth *Lymantria dispar* from a very limited area of London seem to have failed. How much harder might it be to eradicate Pine-tree Lappet from an indefinite area of the Scottish Highlands? The use of pesticides or biological agents such as *Bacillus thuringiensis israeliensis* (*Bti*), which are not species-specific, could even do more harm than good by disrupting the ecology of the Caledonian pine forest. In continental Europe, measures taken to reduce population build-ups of Pine-tree Lappet include encouraging birds and protecting ants' nests. Far preferable would be a programme of monitoring by means of pheromone traps for adults and glue bands on tree trunks to intercept larvae when they ascend in spring after hibernating in the moss, as employed elsewhere in Europe. It is to be hoped that interested wildlife organisations such as Scottish Natural Heritage and Butterfly Conservation will at least be involved in the discussion before any drastic action is taken.—ROY LEVERTON, Whitewells, Ordiquhill, Cornhill, Banffshire AB45 2HS.

MIKE MAJERUS

We are saddened to report that Professor Mike Majerus died quietly, in his sleep, in the early hours of 27 January 2009. He had recently been diagnosed with mesothelioma. We hope that a full obituary might be ready for the next issue of this journal.

RECORDS OF PLATYGASTRIDAE (HYM.: PLATYGASTROIDEA)
FROM THE ISLE OF MAN, WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF
THREE NEW SPECIES

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Abstract

Records of Platygastriidae (Hymenoptera) from the Isle of Man are listed, with notes on biology, when known, and geographic ranges. Fifty-seven species are recorded, all for the first time from the Isle of Man; *Platygaster manensis* sp. nov. *Synopeas aceris* sp. nov. and *Synopeas manense* sp. nov. are described as new to science; *Platygaster subapicalis* Buhl is new to the British Isles, reared from *Coniarinia* sp. on *Prunus laurocerasus*. The hitherto unknown male of *Synopeas romsoeense* Buhl, 1999 is described.

Key words: Isle of Man, Hymenoptera, Platygastriidae, *Platygaster*, *Synopeas*, new species.

Isle of Man Platygastriidae

The forthcoming checklist of the Platygastriidae of the British Isles (Buhl and Notton, in prep.) lists about 250 species. Despite this, the family has been little studied in the British Isles. Hitherto no records from the Isle of Man have been published.

One of us (FDB) has collected platygastriids in the Isle of Man and has sent specimens (about 1,400, the majority from yellow pan traps at Crofton, Baldhoon Road, Laxey) to the other (PNB) for identification. A further ca. 700 specimens were collected by Steve M. Crellin at The Curraghs in 1995 (mostly by Malaise trap) and sorted out and sent to PNB by FDB in connection with this study. Of the nearly 70 species present in the material, 57 could be identified to species, 53 of them already known from the British Isles, while one was hitherto only known from continental Europe, and three are described as new to science. All identifiable species are included in the annotated checklist below, but for reasons of time and space, only a few specimens of many of the species are mentioned: for example *Amblyaspis prorsa*, *A. roboris* and *Leptacis tipulae* were present in huge numbers. The list could be substantially extended by further studies. Voucher specimens (card mounted) for our records will be deposited in the Manx Museum. The holotypes of the new species are deposited in the Zoological Museum, University of Copenhagen, Denmark, and paratypes, when available, in the Manx Museum and the Natural History Museum, London.

The family Platygastriidae is divided into the species rich subfamily Platygastriinae which are egg-larval parasitoids of Cecidomyiidae, and the relatively species poor subfamily Sceliotrachelinae with more diverse bionomics, here only represented by one species of *Allotropa*. The principal work used for determination of the present material is Vluc (1985).

Unless otherwise mentioned, the specimens have been collected in yellow pan traps.

Grid references for the locations cited are: Laxey, Baldhoon Road and Glen Gardens, SC 42 84; Laxey, Glen Mooar, SC 42 85; Port Mooar, SC 48 90; Douglas, Bucks. Road, Lord Street and James Street, SC 37 75; Douglas, Harris Terrace, SC 37 76; Douglas, Villa Marina and Manx Museum, SC 3876; The Curraghs, Goshen, SC 358931, 359950 and 361949; Ballaterson Manor, SC 3549489; Ballaterson Lane, SC 358949.

Acerotella boter (Walker). Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 30.06.-01.07.1999, 1 female, 22-23.05.2001, 1 female. Europe from Ireland to Russia.

Allatropa mecirida (Walker). Douglas, Harris Terrace, 08.04.1999, 1 male, emerged 10.04.1999 from *Phenacoccus aceris* on *Tilia*; 17.05.1999, 1 male; 13.09.2000, 2 females, emerged 17.07. and 18-30.07.2001, collected as small nymphs of *Phenacoccus aceris* on *Tilia*-leaf, mummified by 13.10.2000. Douglas, Bucks. Road, 17.06.1998, 2 males, emerged same day; 31.03.1999, 1 male, emerged 04.1999, these 3 males collected as mummified nymphs of *Phenacoccus aceris* on *Malus*. Douglas, Lord Street, 17.05.2000, 1 male from collection of *Phenacoccus aceris* on ?hornbeam. Douglas, James Street, 17.05.2000, 1 female, 3 males from collection of *Phenacoccus aceris* and aphid mummies on rowan (*Sorbus*). Known from a number of pseudococcid hosts (Vlug, 1995). From Ireland to Korea, south to Spain and Iran.

Amblyaspis crates (Walker). Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 05-06.07.1997, 1 female, 1 male; 24.08.1998, 1 female; 16-17.05.1999, 1 male; 30.06.-01.07.1999, 2 females, 1 male; 28-29.08.1999, 1 female; 26.09.1999, 1 male; 24-26.08.2007, 1 male; 28-29.09.2007, 1 male. From NW-Europe to Spain.

Amblyaspis otreus (Walker). Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 30.06.-01.07.1999, 1 female. Known from the London area.

Amblyaspis prorsa (Walker). Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 04.10.1997, 1 female, 3 males; 19-20.06.1998, 1 female; 24.08.1998, 1 female, 3 males; 22-23.09.1998, 2 males; 21-22.10.2000, 1 female; 21-23.05.2007, 1 female, 4 males; 29-31.07.2007, 5 males; 24-26.08.2007, 3 males; 28-29.09.2007, 3 females. West Europe, from the British Isles, Scandinavia to Spain, a doubtful specimen from Mongolia.

Amblyaspis roboris (Haliday). Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 18.10.2001, 1 female; 16-17.05.2002, 1 female; 12-13.09.2002, 1 male; 07-08.09.2004, 1 male; 16-18.04.2007, 1 female; 21-23.05.2007, 3 females; 24-26.08.2007, 1 male. The Curraghs, Goshen, 19-25.06.1995, 1 female; 25.06.-02.07.1995, 1 female. West Europe, from the British Isles and Scandinavia to Spain, East to Korea.

Amblyaspis scetionoides (Haliday). Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 31.05. and 04.10.1997, 3 males; 02.06.1997 and 23.07.1998, 2 males from raspberry plant sprayed with malathion; 19-20.06.1998, 1 male; 24-25.07.1998, 2 males; 12-13.07.1999, 1 male; 21-23.05.2007, 1 female; 24-26.08.2007, 1 female; 29-31.05.2008, 1 female. The Curraghs, Goshen, 02-09.07.1995, 1 female; 23-30.07.1995, 1 female. From Ireland to Korea.

Anopediastus lacustris Kieffer. The Curraghs, Goshen, 25.06.-02.07.1995, 1 female. Europe.

Euxestonotus error (Fitch). Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 30.06.-01.07.1999, 1 female; 29-31.07.2007, 1 female; 28-29.06.2008, 1 female; 23-24.07.2008, 1 female. The Curraghs, Ballaterson Manor, 06-18.08.1995, 1 female. Holarctic.

- Euxestonotus hasselbalchi* Buhl. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd.: 13-14.05.1998, 1 female; 21-23.05.2007, 2 females; 29-30.05.2008, 1 female. NW-Europe.
- Inostemma boscii* (Jurine). Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 19-20.06.2002, 1 female; 28-29.06.2008, 1 female. The Curraghs, Goshen, 02-09.07.1995, 1 female. Europe; doubtful specimens from Mongolia.
- Inostemma* sp. near *contariniae* Szclényi. The Curraghs, Goshen, 19-25.06.1995, 1 female.
- Iphitrachelus lar* Haliday. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 05-06.08.2001, 1 male; 12-13.09.2002, 1 female; 07-08.09.2004, 1 female. Palaearctic, Nearctic, Oriental and Neotropical regions.
- Leptacis laodice* (Walker). Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 29-31.07.2007, 1 female. From W-Europe to Korea.
- Leptacis orchymonti* (Debauche). Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 09-10.09.1997, 1 female; 05-06.08.2001, 1 female; 16-18.05.2004, 1 male. From W. Europe to Korea.
- Leptacis ozines* (Walker). Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 29.05.1997, 1 female; 13-15.05.1998, 1 female; 05-06.08.2001, 3 males; 16-17.05.2002, 1 female; 04-05.08.2003, 1 male; 21-23.05.2007, 1 female; 29-31.07.2007, 1 female, 1 male; 24-26.08.2007, 1 female; 21-23.10.2007, 1 female; 28-29.06.2008, 1 female. The Curraghs, Ballateron Lane, 06-18.08.1995, 1 male. From W. Europe to Korea.
- Leptacis ripulae* (Kirby). Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 05-06.07.1997, 2 females; 24-25.07.1998, 2 females. An important parasitoid of *Sitodiplosis mosellana* (Géhin) and *Contarinia tritici* Kirby (Vlug, 1995). W-Europe to Russia.
- Leptacis vlugi* Buhl. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 05.07.1997, 1 female; 24-25.07.1998, 1 female; 28-29.08.1999, 1 female. 28-29.06.2008, 1 female. Port Mooar, 21.01.2007, 2 females swept from grass near shore. The Curraghs, Goshen, 10-17.09.1995, 1 female. W-Europe from Scandinavia to Spain.
- Platygaster aebeoensis* Buhl. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 21-23.05.2007, 1 male. NW-Europe.
- Platygaster aegeus* Walker. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 28-29.08.1999, 3 females; 29-31.07.2007, 2 females. The Curraghs, Goshen, 23-30.07.1995, 1 female. NW-Europe.
- Platygaster cebes* Walker. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 22.09.1998, 1 female; 18.02.2001, 1 female; 24-26.08.2007, 1 male; 28-29.09.2007, 1 male; 27.04.2008, 1 male. NW-Europe to Spain.
- Platygaster chloropus* Thomson. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 29-31.07.2007, 1 female; 28-29.06.2008, 1 female. NW-Europe, doubtful specimens from Mongolia.
- Platygaster cochleata* Walker. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 28-29.08.1999, 1 female; 04-05.08.2003, 1 female; 28-29.06.2008, 1 female. W-Europe from Scandinavia to Spain.
- Platygaster demades* Walker. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 28-29.08.1999, 1 female. The Curraghs, Goshen, 21.08.-03.09.1995, 1 female. A common species on various gallmidge hosts. An important parasitoid of *Dasineura mali* Kieffer on apple (Vlug, 1985). Holarctic.
- Platygaster dryope* Walker. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 05.07.1997, 1 female. NW-Europe.
- Platygaster euhemerus* Walker. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 02.06.1997, 1 female from raspberry plant sprayed with malathion. W-Europe to Korea.
- Platygaster filicornis* Walker. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 05.07.1997, 1 male; 12-13.09.2002, 1 male; 21-23.05.2007, 2 males; 09-10.09.1997, 1 male; 29-31.05.2008, 1 male. The Curraghs, Goshen, 19-25.06.1995, 1 male. W-Europe to Korea.

Platygaster gracilipes Huggert. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 28-29.08.1999, 1 female; 05-06.08.2001, 1 female; 16-18.05.2004, 1 female; 29.06.2007, 1 female. The Curraghs, Goshen, 25.06.-02.07.1995, 2 females. Holarctic.

Platygaster henkvlugi Buhl. The Curraghs, Goshen, 19-25.06.1995, 1 female; 25.06.-02.07.1995, 1 female. W-Europe.

Platygaster leptines Walker. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 28-29.06.2008, 1 male. Europe and Mongolia.

Platygaster longestriolata Thomson. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 29-31.07.2007, 1 female. NW-Europe, doubtful specimens from Mongolia.

Platygaster lysicles Walker. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 28-29.08.1999, 1 female; 04-05.08.2003, 1 female. NW-Europe to Russia.

Platygaster manensis sp. n.

Diagnosis. Occiput reticulate and with a few short transverse carinae; female A9 slightly transverse; area between propodeal carinae smooth and shiny; female metasoma 1.2 times as long as rest of body, with T2 weakly striated and apical tergites pointed, combined nearly as long as T2.

Description. Female. Body length 1.5-1.9 mm. Body black; antennae, mandibles, tegulae and legs dark brown; A1 slightly darker than A2-A10; base and apex of all tibiae, and all tarsi entirely, slightly lighter than rest of legs.

Head from above (Fig. 1) 1.8 times as wide as long, very slightly wider than mesosoma; occiput distinctly and slightly transversely reticulate-coriaceous, with a few short transverse carinae medially; vertex and upper half of frons reticulate-coriaceous without transverse elements, in lower half of frons with such elements, just above antennae with transverse wrinkles. OOL:LOL = 3:4. Head in frontal view about 1.15 times as wide as high. Antenna (Fig. 2) with A1 0.85 times as long as height of head, 1.1 times as long as distance between inner orbits; A9 1.25 times as wide as long.

Mesosoma 1.4 times as long as wide, nearly 1.1 times as high as wide. Sides of pronotum reticulate-coriaceous (not longitudinally so) in about upper half, smooth along hind margin and below, here with seven punctures with setae. Mesoscutum strongly and uniformly reticulate-coriaceous, with very few setae, all of them along notauli or margins; mid lobe in anterior third with two weak admedian lines; notauli strong and complete; mid lobe posteriorly narrow and very slightly prolonged, not touching base of scutellum; scuto-scutellar grooves wide and deep, with very few, inconspicuous setae. Mesopleuron smooth. Scutellum (Fig. 3) slightly and evenly convex, just above level of mesoscutum, distinctly reticulate-coriaceous, with sparse setae. Metapleuron with pilosity all over. Propodeal carinae parallel, area between them about as long as wide, smooth and shiny.

Forewing clear, 2.6 times as long as wide, overreaching tip of metasoma by a length equal to the combined length of T5-T6, with fine and dense microtrichia; marginal cilia 1/15 the width of wing. Hindwing 6.2 times as long as wide, with two hamuli; marginal cilia at most 0.25 times the width of wing.

Metasoma (Fig. 4) about 1.2 times as long as head and mesosoma combined, as wide as mesosoma. T1 with two weak longitudinal carinae rather close together, smooth and bare between them, laterally with numerous long setae. T2 weakly striated in basal foveae to one-third of its length, medially smooth, rest of tergite as well as T3-T6 smooth; T3 with about 4 setae, T4 with 4-5 setae, and T5 with 6-8 setae on each side, arranged in one transverse row on T3, in two irregular transverse rows on each of T4-T5; T6 with about 12 scattered setae; all setae inserted in very inconspicuous punctures. T3-T6 combined 0.7-1.0 times as long as T2. Sternite 2 not convex anteriorly.

Male. Body length 1.6 mm. Antenna (Fig. 5) with A9 1.2 times as long as wide; flagellar pubescence one-third the width of segments. Metasoma as long as head and mesosoma combined.

Material examined: Holotype female: Great Britain, Isle of Man, Laxey, Baldhoon Road, Crofton, 24-26.04. 2004, yellow pan trap, F. D. Bennett. Deposited in the Zoological Museum, University of Copenhagen, Denmark. Paratypes: 3 females, 1 male same data.

Affinities. *P. manensis* differs from *P. sterope* Walker, 1835, *P. pleuron* Walker, 1835, *P. sonchis* Walker, 1835, and *P. eriphyle* Walker, 1835 in shape or sculpture of head and in having less striated T2 and more pointed female metasoma; it differs from *P. cebes* Walker, 1835 in having more transverse head and no cross carinae between propodeal carinae; it differs from *P. sagana* Walker, 1835 in having shorter preapical antennal segments of female, in being larger in body size and in having female metasoma less pointed at apex; it differs from *P. alpina* Buhl, 2009 in having shorter preapical antennal segments of female and less striated T2; and it differs from *P. schwarzi* Buhl, 2009 in having shorter female antennae and longer female metasoma. Cf. Vlug (1985) and Buhl (2009). *P. manensis* runs to *P. inconspicua* Buhl, 1999 in Buhl's (2006) key to Danish *Platygaster*, but *P. inconspicua* has female A9 1.3 times as long as wide, frons smooth medially, T1 crenulated, and it is smaller than *P. manensis*.

Etymology. Named after the island with the type locality.

Platygaster manto Walker. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 28-29.06.2008, 1 female. W-Europe.

Platygaster nesus Walker. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 02.06.1997, 1 female from raspberry plant sprayed with malathion; 28-29.08.1999, 1 male; 19-20.06.2002, 1 female, 1 male, 04-05.08.2003, 1 male; 29.06.2007, 3 females; 29-31.07.2007, 5 females; 24-26.08.2007, 1 female, 2 males; 28-29.06.2008, 1 female, 1 male; 23-24.07.2008, 1 female. The Curraghs, Goshen, 23-30.07.1995, 1 female. From W. Europe to Korea.

Platygaster oebalus Walker. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 30.06.-01.07.1999, 1 female. Known as a parasitoid of *Dastineuro brassicae* (Winnertz) (Vlug, 1995), and of *D. spadicea* (Rübsaamen) (Buhl, 2006). NW-Europe to Mongolia.

Platygaster oscus Walker. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 28-29.08.1999, 1 female; 07-08.09.2004, 1 female. NW-Europe and Russia, doubtful specimens from Mongolia.

Platygaster oianes Walker. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 29-30.04.1999, 1 male; 10-12.05.2000, 1 female under red currant bush. From Scandinavia and Spain to Mongolia.

Platygaster pelias Walker. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 16-17.05.2002, 1 female. Douglas, Manx Museum, 1 female 08.09.1999, emerged 06.06.2000; 2 females 13.10.1999, emerged 05.2000 and 20-31.06.2000, all these 3 females from *Dasineura fraxini* (Bremi) on ash (*Fraxinus*). Reared from *Lasioptera rubi* Heeg. on *Rubus* by Vlug (1985). From Scandinavia to Spain.

Platygaster sagana Walker. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 16-17.05.2002, 1 female. The Curraghs, Goshen, 19-25.06.1995, 5 females; 25.06.-02.07.1995, 1 female. From W. Europe to Korea.

Platygaster splendidula Ruthe. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 22-23.05.2001, 1 female; 24-26.08.2007, 1 female. Iceland, Scandinavia, Mongolia, doubtful specimens from Spain and Korea.

Platygaster sterope Walker. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 24.08.1998, 1 female; 29-30.04.1999, 3 females; 16-17.05.1999, 1 female; 21-23.05.2007, 1 female. England.

Platygaster subapicalis Buhl. Laxey Glen Gardens, 23.05.2004, 6 females, 10 males, emerged 20-24.04.2006 from *Contarinia* larvae in flower buds of *Prunus laurocerasus*. Denmark and Estonia (Buhl, 2006).

Platygaster tisis Walker. The Curraghs, Goshen, 19-25.06.1995, 1 female; 02-09.07.1995, 1 female. Europe and Mongolia.

Synopeas aceris sp. n.

Diagnosis. Hyperoccipital carina distinct; scutellum rounded, only with a small lamella posteriorly; female metasoma as long as rest of body, 1.3 times as wide as high.

Description. Female. Body length 1.3-1.5 mm. Body black; most of A1 and legs very dark brown; base of A1, entire A2-A10, trochanters, base of tibiae, most of fore tibiae, and all tarsi medium to light brown.

Head from above (Fig. 6) 2.0 times as wide as long, slightly wider than mesosoma (22:21), distinctly and slightly transversely reticulate-coriaceous, with a distinct hyperoccipital carina. OOL slightly shorter than diameter of lateral ocellus; OOL = 0.3 LOL. Eye in lateral view 3.1-3.2 times as high as distance between upper margin of eye and top of head. Head in frontal view slightly more than 1.2 times as wide as high. Antenna (Fig. 7) with A1 0.9 times as long as height of head, slightly more than 1.2 times as long as distance between inner orbits; A8 as long as wide, A9 nearly 1.1 times as wide as long.

Mesosoma 1.5 times as long as wide, almost 1.1 times as high as wide. Sides of pronotum distinctly reticulate-coriaceous (not longitudinally so) in slightly more than upper half, lower part smooth except for about four setae. Mesoscutum finely reticulate-coriaceous with some smoother spots, evenly covered by rather sparse setae, with no trace of notauli; hind margin medially with a short, unmodified smooth prolongation which hardly reaches base of scutellum; scuto-scutallar grooves wide, covered by dense setae. Mesopleuron smooth except for faint longitudinal wrinkles below tegula and 9-10 short longitudinal grooves along upper part of hind margin. Scutellum (Fig. 8) rounded, not keeled, rather densely setose all over, posteriorly with a small brownish lamella. Metapleuron

with sparse pilosity all over, denser only along hind margin. Propodeal carinae very slightly semitransparent, fused.

Forewing 0.9 times as long as entire body, 2.4 times as long as wide, almost clear, with fine and dense microtrichia; marginal cilia absent. Hindwing 4.3 times as long as wide, with two hamuli; marginal cilia 0.2 times the width of wing.

Metasoma (Figs 9-10) as long as head and mesosoma combined, 0.95 times as wide as mesosoma, 1.3 times as wide as high. T2-T5 smooth, narrowly reticulate-rugose along hind margin, T6 with such sculpture nearly all over, smooth only at extreme base; apical tergites with a few setae (eight on T5).

Male. Length 1.05-1.5 mm. Antenna (Fig. 11) with A4 slightly swollen, fully twice as long as wide, A8-A9 each about 1.1 times as long as wide; flagellar pubescence inconspicuous and short. Metasoma about 0.9 times as long as head and mesosoma combined.

Material examined. Holotype female: Great Britain, Isle of Man, Laxey, Baldhoon Road, Crofton, 16-17.05. 2002, yellow pan trap, F. D. Bennett. Deposited in the Zoological Museum, University of Copenhagen, Denmark. Paratypes: Same data as holotype, 1 male; same locality, 02-03.05. 2001, 2 males, yellow pan trap; same locality, 27-28.04. 2008, 292 males in yellow pan trap under Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus* L.); Laxey Glen Gardens, 28.05.2001, 1 male, emerged 26.04. 2002 from *Dasineura* larva from flowers of Sycamore; 22.05.2002, 1 female, 1 male as adults in flowers of Sycamore; 14-17.05. 2004, 11 females, 13 males, emerged 15.03.-03.04.2005, from *Dasineura* larvae in flowers of Sycamore, larvae put in sand 29.05. 2004. All F.D. Bennett.

Affinities. *S. aceris* differs from the Irish species *S. hibernicum* Buhl & O'Connor, 2009 e.g. in having more transverse head, hyperoccipital carina, more rounded scutellum with lower lamella, and female metasoma more convex with apex not downcurved. Cf. also Buhl & O'Connor (2009). *S. aceris* differs from *S. inermis* Thomson, 1859 and *S. lugubris* Thomson, 1859 in having longer and more convex female metasoma, from *S. inermis* also in having more transverse head with stronger hyperoccipital carina, from *S. lugubris* also in shape of scutellar lamella. Cf. Buhl (1998). *S. aceris* differs from *S. euryale* (Walker, 1835) in having stronger hyperoccipital carina, more convex scutellum, and longer female metasoma. Cf. Vlug (1985).

Etymology. The name is derived from *Acer pseudoplatanus*, the host plant of the cecidomyiid host *Dasineura* sp.

Synopeas ciliaris Thomson. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 24.08.1998, 1 female; 24-26.08.2007, 1 female; 21-23.10.2007, 1 female; 28-29.06.2008, 1 male; 23-24.07.2008, 1 female. From the British Isles to Spain and Russia.

Synopeas curvicauda (Förster). Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 09-10.09.1997, 1 female; 28-29.08.1999, 1 female; 26.09.1999, 1 female. A parasitoid of *Asphondylia conglomerata* Stefani on *Atriplex halimus* L. (Vlug, 1995). NW- and Central Europe.

Synopeas larvianum Buhl. The Curragh, Goshen, 02-09.07.1995, 1 female. Latvia.

Synopeas manense sp. n.

Diagnosis. Hyperoccipital carina rather strong; female A9 1.25 times as wide as long; scutellar spine conspicuous; marginal cilia of forewings 0.1 the width of wing; female metasoma as long as rest of body.

Description. Female. Body length 1.05 mm. Head from above (Fig. 12) 1.7 times as wide as long, wider than mesosoma (16:15), distinctly reticulate-coriaceous (not transversely so), with a distinct and complete hyperoccipital carina. OOL equal to shorter diameter of lateral ocellus, about one-third of LOL. Head in frontal view 1.1 times as wide as high. Antenna (Fig. 13) with A1 0.9 times as long as height of head, 1.25 times as long as distance between inner orbits; A9 about 1.25 times as long; antennal clava with numerous conspicuous setae.

Mesosoma 1.6 times as long as wide, almost 1.2 times as high as wide. Sides of pronotum reticulate-coriaceous (not longitudinally so) in upper half, smooth in lower half and along narrow hind margin. Mesoscutum finely and uniformly reticulate-coriaceous, evenly and rather densely, finely setose, with no trace of notauli; hind margin medially slightly and bluntly prolonged over base of scutellum, otherwise unmodified; scuto-scutellar grooves inconspicuous, each with about seven long setae. Mesopleuron smooth. Scutellum (Fig. 14) almost smooth, towards sides densely setose, posteriorly with a distinct spine and a vertical lamella below. Metapleuron smooth and bare in about anterior half, rest with long pilosity. Propodeal carinae high, semitransparent, fused.

Wings somewhat damaged in unique specimen. Forewing clear, with fine and dense microtrichia, about 2.4 times as long as wide; marginal cilia 0.1 the width of wing. Hindwing 6.4 times as long as wide, with two hamuli; marginal cilia slightly more than 0.4 the width of wing.

Metasoma (Fig. 15) as long as head and mesosoma combined, narrower than mesosoma (14:15), 1.25 times as wide as high. T2 smooth except for a narrow stripe of weak rugosity along hind margin. T3-T5 each with a transverse stripe of rugosity; T6 reticulate-rugose all over. Apical tergites with a few fine setae (6-8 on each of T4-T5).

Material examined. Holotype female. Great Britain, Isle of Man, Laxey, Baldhoon Road, Croston, 4-5.10.1997, yellow pan trap, F. D. Bennett. Deposited in the Zoological Museum, University of Copenhagen, Denmark.

Comments. The specimen is discoloured by years in alcohol, but it seems to have been blackish with at least A1-A6, entire fore legs, trochanters and basal half of mid and hind tibiae yellowish. However, the colour is of minor importance for the recognition of the species. A few specimens from Sweden and Latvia seen by PNB may belong to this species, but they are larger with relatively slightly longer metasoma than in the type.

Affinities. *S. manense* runs to *S. trebius* (Walker, 1835) and *S. velutinus* (Walker, 1835) in Vlugin's (1985) key, but it has less transverse head and longer female

metasoma than these species. Furthermore, *S. trebius* has three carinae on T1-T2, and *S. velutinus* has notauli indicated. *S. manense* has also longer female metasoma than *S. carpentieri* Kieffer, 1916, and *S. gallicola* Kieffer, 1916 has more transverse head and smaller scutellar spine than *S. manense*, and forewings without marginal cilia. Cf. Kieffer (1926).

Etymology. Named after the island with the type locality.

Synopeas muticus (Nees). Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 16-17.05.2002, 1 female; 19-20.06.2002, 1 female. Douglas, Villa Marina. 31.05.2000, 5 females collected as adults in foliage infested with *Contarinia quercina* (Rubsamen), det. K.M. Harris. The Curraghs, Goshen, 19-25.06.1995, 2 females. The concept of this *Synopeas*-species here follows Kieffer (1926). NW- and Central Europe.

Synopeas myles (Walker). Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 16-17.05.2002, 2 females; 21-23.05.2007, 1 female. A parasitoid of *Dasineura marginitorquens* (Bremi) on *Salix* sp. (Vlug, 1995). NW-Europe, doubtful specimens from Mongolia.

Synopeas rhanis (Walker). Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 04.10.2001, 1 female, 4 males from *Dasineura urticae* (Perris) on nettle, 29-31.07.2007, 1 male; 24-26.08.2007, 1 female; 28-29.06.2008, 1 female, 1 male. The Curraghs, Goshen. 09-16.07.1995, 1 female. The Curraghs, Ballaterson Lane. 06-18.08.1995, 1 male. A common parasitoid with well-known bionomics, cf. Vlug (1985). From NW-Europe to Spain and Mongolia, doubtful specimens from Korea.

Synopeas ramsboeise Buhl. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 24-26.08.2007, 1 male. Hitherto only known from 2 females, the Danish holotype (Buhl, 1999) and a British specimen from England (Surrey). The male is 0.75 mm long. Antennal segment 4 is distinctly widened, with a basal emargination, preapical antennal segments are each twice as long as wide, with rather dense flagellar pubescence which is two-thirds as long as width of segments. Marginal cilia of fore wings are about 0.25 times as long as width of a wing.

Synopeas rosis Walker. Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 27-28.04.2008, 2 males under Sycamore. W-Europe.

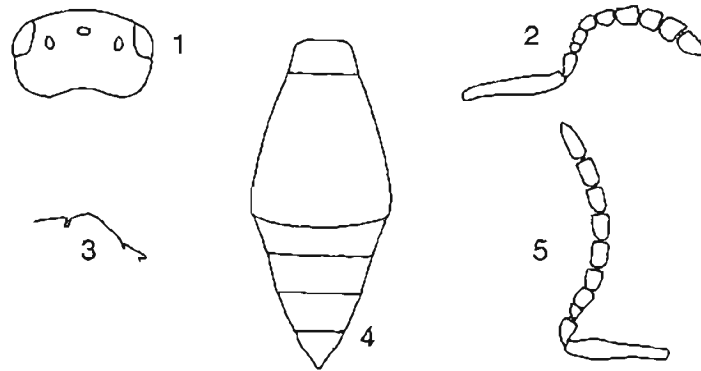
Synopeas trebius (Walker). Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 06.07.1997, 1 male; 26.09.1999, 1 male; 29-31.07.2007, 1 male. NW-Europe to Spain and Mongolia, doubtful specimens from Korea.

Trichacis didas (Walker). Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 16-18.04.2007, 1 female. A parasitoid of *Moyeniola destructor* Say on *Triticum* (Vlug, 1995). England.

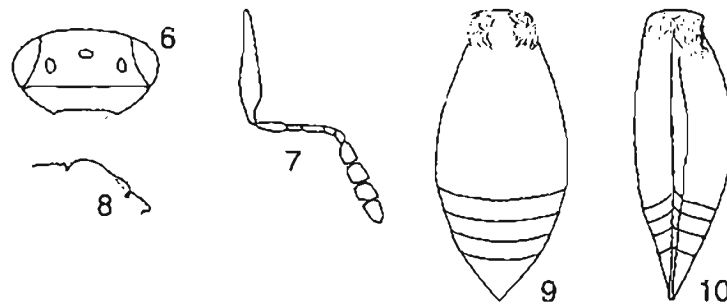
Trichacis pisis (Walker). Laxey, Baldhoon Rd., 24-26.04.2004, 1 female. NW-Europe to Spain.

Acknowledgements

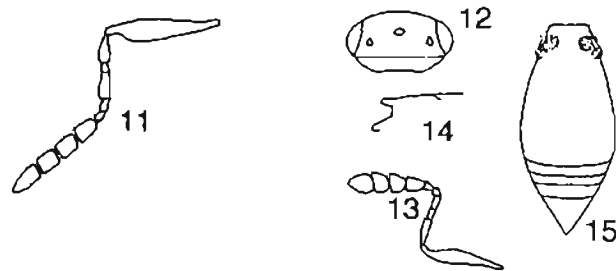
We thank Steve M. Crellin and the Wild Life Trust for the material from the Curraghs and Keith M. Harris for identifying the host Cecidomyiidae. We are also grateful to David G. Notton for putting the authors in contact.



Figs 1-5 *Pterygaster manensis* sp. n. 1, head from above; 2, female antenna; 3, scutellum and propodeum in lateral view; 4, female metasoma from above; 5, male antenna.



Figs 6-11 *Synopeas aceris* sp. n. 6, head from above; 7, female antenna; 8, scutellum and propodeum in lateral view; 9, female metasoma from above; 10, female metasoma in lateral view; 11 male antenna.



Figs 12-15. *Synopeas manense* sp. n. female. 12, head from above; 13, antenna; 14, scutellum and propodeum in lateral view; 15, metasoma from above.

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Tree-lichen Beauty *Cryphia algae* (Fabr.) (Lep.: Noctuidae) in north-west Kent during 2008

I have been recording this now naturalised migrant in my suburban garden since 2002, when five were noted. None were seen during 2003 then 47 were recorded during 2004, nine in 2005, 17 in 2006 and 25 in 2007. The earliest date for these years was 14 July (2005) with the latest being 6 September (2007). My first record for 2008 was a singleton on 8 July, a rather early date. A family holiday then intervened and I did not trap again until 25 July. Three Tree-lichen Beauties were found resting on the outside of the 125W Robinson trap during the night; these were duly potted and placed within a fridge. Trapping the following night, another 21 were noted and these were also taken out of circulation and kept cool. On the third night a further five were recorded, making a total of 29 over the three nights. All were subsequently released.

After waiting three nights for them to disperse, I next trapped on 30 July, when 11 individuals were noted. These were also potted. Over the next two nights, 31 July and 1 August, another 30 were noted, thus making a total of 41, with a mean