

*David Gibbs BSc*

**ECOLOGICAL CONSULTANCY  
(Invertebrates)**

6 Stephen Street  
Bristol BS5 9RD  
Tel/Fax: 0117 9554668  
david.usia@blueyonder.co.uk

Specialising in faunistic surveys and habitat assessment throughout  
Britain since 1984

Environmental impact surveys

Land management plans

Habitat quality assessment

**A very wide taxonomic range of insect and other invertebrate groups sampled**

**Groups selected to represent the diverse ecological requirements of invertebrates and best  
indicate habitat quality**

**Specimens identified with reference to extensive voucher collections; critical determinations  
refereed**

**Comprehensive reports on paper or disc.**

**Botanical data included if required.**

### **Taxonomic Experience.**

My long experience of a wide range of invertebrate families enables me to select those most relevant to the sites surveyed. Since 1980, for many different projects and for my own interest, I have worked on all main insect families found in Britain becoming very familiar with many. Below I list those groups with which I have the greatest experience:-

**Diptera;** the group in which I have the greatest expertise especially Brachycera, Syrphidae, Acalypterates, Tipulidae Mycetophilidae and to a lesser extent all Calypterates and other Nematocera and Aschiza groups. Since 2001 I have been studying the European Bombyliidae and Pipunculidae. I am increasingly expanding my studies of Diptera to the European fauna. I have also taken on co-ordination of the Pipunculidae Study Group, collecting records and providing a free identification service.

**Hymenoptera;** particularly Symphyta, Sphecidae and other solitary wasps, bees and have also worked on the Ichneumonidae and other parasitica to a limited extent.

**Coleoptera;** most families especially Carabidae, Chrysomelidae, Dytiscidae and other water beetles.

**Lepidoptera;** All families but especially the microlepidoptera.

**Hemiptera;** Most families of the larger insects especially aquatic and terrestrial Heteroptera and Cicadellidae.

**Small orders;** Odonata, Orthoptera and most others particularly aquatic groups.

**Other Invertebrates;** I have also worked extensively on the following groups. Spiders, terrestrial & fresh-water molluscs, Isopods, littoral Crustacea, Chilopoda etc.

I am an enthusiastic amateur botanist and familiar with the flora of most British habitats and geographical areas. This enables me to note botanical data concurrent with entomological surveys.

I am also a bird-watcher of many years experience.

**Dissection;** from my very early days studying Diptera I realised the necessity of studying the genitalia. I have developed numerous techniques which suit me and have tried most ways of mounting and preserving the preparations. I have come to specialise in those groups which those who do not dissect their specimens find difficult. My ability to do precise dissections of even the smallest Diptera and produce high quality mounts has enabled me to discover numerous species new for Britain and a few new for science.

### **Employment Experience.**

I have been working as an ecologist specialising in insects since 1984 and a freelance Entomological Ecologist since 1991. My experience qualifies me to carry out general or specialist invertebrate surveys for habitat or environmental impact assessments. I also provide specialist identification service of preserved invertebrate samples.

Below are selected examples of the more important projects I have been involved with.

2005 Survey of brackish/freshwater intergrade zones around Poole Harbour, Dorset.

2005 Surveys of semi-natural habitats at Center Parc properties in Britain.

2005 Surveys of brackish lagoon margins on RSPB reserves in Suffolk and Norfolk

2004 Survey of Arno's Vale Cemetery, Bristol.

2004 Surveys of brackish lagoon margins on RSPB reserves in Suffolk.

2003 Survey of Forest of Dean woodlands reserves for the RSPB

2003 Survey of formal gardens for the National Trust.

2003 Survey of Wye Valley woodlands for Gloucestershire Wildlife trust.

2002 Survey of soft-rock habitats on the east Devon undercliff for English Nature

2002 Extensive invertebrate surveys for the Avon Wildlife Trust on their reserves to generate management plans.

2001 Environmental impact assessment on Stokeford Heath, Emerson's Green and minor surveys of several other areas.

2001 Extensive invertebrate surveys for the National Trust on some reserves in Somerset to generate management plans.

2001 Extensive invertebrate surveys for the Avon Wildlife Trust on their reserves to generate management plans.

2000 Environmental impact assessment on Pawlett Levels, Gwithian Dunes and several other areas.

2000 Extensive invertebrate surveys for the National Trust on some reserves in Somerset to generate management plans.

2000 Extensive invertebrate surveys for the Avon Wildlife Trust on their reserves to generate management plans.

1999 Environmental impact surveys of Pawlett levels, Radstock Sidings and several smaller sites.

1999 Extensive invertebrate surveys for the Avon Wildlife Trust on their reserves to generate management plans.

1999 Sub-editing; Birds of South East Asia.

1998 Self employed assisting with filming of wildlife in Indonesia for Zebra Film Productions.

1997 Self employed assisting with filming of wildlife in Indonesia for Zebra Film Productions and

Tigress Films. Subediting for Handbook of the birds of the world. Compilation of invertebrate data on specific sites for JNCC.

1995-1996 Self employed undertaking various invertebrate surveys both terrestrial and aquatic in Essex, Somerset, London, Hertfordshire and others. Additionally I have been completing researches for a book on the Pigeons of the World and assisted in the filming of Birds of Paradise in Indonesia.

May-July 1994. Ecologist. NCCE South West. Extensive invertebrate survey and assessment of ditch

system of Somerset Levels.

- April-May 1993. Ecologist. NCCE East Anglia. Survey of aquatic invertebrates of ditch system on Fobbing Marsh, Essex.
- June-August 1993. Ecologist. NCCE East Midlands. Extensive survey of aquatic and terrestrial invertebrates associated with drainage ditches of Ouse Washes.
- June 1992. Ecologist. W. Prestwood Environmental Consultants. Site assessment. Woodland, Salop.
- May 1992. Ecologist. Landmark Environmental Consultants. Site assessment. Drainage reens, Avon.
- May 1992. Ecologist. Landmark Environmental Consultants. Site assessment. Drainage reens, Somerset Levels.
- May 1992. Ecologist. Landmark Environmental Consultants. Site assessment. Pasture and aquatic habitats, Avon.
- November 1991. Ecologist. Landmark Environmental Consultants. Site assessment. Pasture and aquatic habitats, Avon.
- October 1991. Ecologist. The National Trust. Survey of woodlands in The Lake District.
- September 1991. Ecologist. Landmark Environmental Consultants. Site assessment. Drainage reen, Somerset Levels.
- May-September 1991. Ecologist. Countryside Council for Wales. Quantitative, baseline invertebrate survey of the Gwent Levels.
- April 1991. Ecologist. Landmark Environmental Consultants. Site assessment. Pasture, Avon.
- Nov.-Dec. 1990. Ecologist. Nature Conservancy Council, Berks. Sorting of invertebrate samples.
- Oct.-Nov. 1990. Ecologist. Little Wittenham NR, Oxon. Identification and interpretation of preserved Diptera samples.
- Mar. 1990. Ecologist. Nature Conservancy Council, Berkshire. Identification of preserved diptera samples. (Sciomyzidae).
- Jan. 1988-Feb. 1989. Research Assistant; Ecologist. University of Essex. An invertebrate survey of Essex saltmarshes for Anglian Water. Included literature search, quantitative sampling, identification of a wide range of taxa and data analysis using VESPAN.
- July-Sept. 1987. Ecologist. Buckinghamshire County Museum. A qualitative invertebrate survey of wetland sites.
- August 1985. Ecologist. Nature Conservancy Council, Gloucestershire. Quantitative invertebrate survey of Wye Valley woodland.
- July 1985. Ecologist. Nature Conservancy Council, Berkshire. Invertebrate survey of Kennet Valley woodlands.
- June 1984-May 1985. Ecologist. Kennet & Avon Canal Project, Berkshire. An invertebrate survey of the Kennet & Avon Canal to assess conservation and amenity value. Included quantitative sampling, identification and data analysis using TWINSPAN.
- Nov. 1977-August 1980. A.S.O. Grassland Research Institute, Berkshire. Technical assistance mainly chemical analysis.

### **IT experience**

My present work involves much report writing for which I use Microsoft Word and Microsoft excel extensively. Over the years I have become very familiar with these programs. I also use the MapMate database to store and analyse my British invertebrate records.

### **Publications.**

Insects of Eckington Park, *Derbyshire Quarterly Journal of Entomology* 1984. (co-author).

Some unusual insects from Eckington Park, *Entomologists Monthly Magazine* 1984. (co-author).

A review of the Symphyta fauna of the Sheffield area, *The Sorby Record* No.22 1984.

Some unusual insects of the Kennet Valley, *Entomologists Monthly Magazine* 1987.

Some Diptera of Buckinghamshire Wetlands, *Dipterists Digest* No.1 1988.

*Geomyza angustipennis* Zetterstedt. (Opomyzidae) in Gwent: Third British Record. *Dipterists Digest* No.2 1989.

The flies of Essex saltmarshes, *Dipterists Digest* No.11 1992. 4-16.

*Cheilosia ranunculi* Doczkal (Dip.: Syrphidae) in Britain. *Ent. Rec.* 2001 (co-author)

*Lomechusa paradoxa* Gravenhorst, 1806 (Staphylinidae) rediscovered in Somerset after 140 years. *The Coleopterist*, 10(2), 55.

Scarcer Diptera found in the Bristol Region in 1999, 2000 and 2001. *Dipterists Digest* 9, 1-13.

*Melanagromyza eriolepidis* Spencer, 1961 and *Cerodontha spinata* (Groschke, 1954) (Diptera; Agromyzidae) new to Britain. *Dipterists Digest* 2002. 9, 153-158.

*Cerodontha silvatica* (Groschke, 1957) (Diptera, Agromyzidae) new to Britain. *Dipterists Digest*. 2003 10(1) 61-65.

*Agromyza audcenti* sp. nov. (Diptera, Agromyzidae) from the Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire, Great Britain. *Dipterists Digest* 2004, 11(2) 99-102.

*Homoneura interstincta* (Fallén, 1820) (Diptera; Lauxaniidae) in Britain. *Dipterists Digest*. 2004 11(2) 111-113.

*Dorylomorpha fennica* Albrecht, 1979 (Diptera, Pipunculidae) new to Britain. *Dipterists Digest*. 2004 11(2) 117-116 (co-author).

*Gymnomus spectabilis* (Loew, 1862) (Diptera, Heleomyzidae) in Britain. *Dipterists Digest* 2004 11(2) 114-116.

*Coleophora friscella* (Linnaeus, 1758)(Lepidoptera: Coleophoridae) confirmed as a British species. *Ent. Gaz.* 2004 55: 73-80.

*Cerodontha rohdendorfi* Nowakowski and *Cerodontha staryi* (Starý) (Diptera: Agromyzidae) new to Britain. *Brit. J. Ent. Nat. His.* 2005. 18(2), 101-103

*Hypseloecus visci* (Puton, 1888) (Hemiptera, Miridae) a mistletoe bug new to Britain. (co-authored with B. Nau) *Brit. J. Ent. Nat. His.* 2005. 18(3), 159-162

*Fleuria lacustris* Kieffer, 1924 (Diptera, Chironomidae) a genus of non-biting midge new to Britain. *Dipterists Digest* 2005 12(1) 79-81.

*Homoneura consobrina* (Zetterstedt, 1847) (Diptera, Lauxaniidae) restored to the British list. *Dipterists Digest* 2005 12(1) 3-6.

*Hyadina pollinosa* Oldenberg, 1923 (Diptera, Ephydriidae) new to Britain. *Dipterists Digest* 2005 12(2) 143-146.

*Agromyza viciae* Kaltenbach, 1872 new for Britain and Norway with the first description of the male and a literature review. *Studia dipterologica* 12 (2005) 429-441. (co-authored with von Tschurnhaus).

Rose bud sawfly, *Monardis plana* (Klug) (Hymenoptera: Tenthredinidae), new to Britain, discovered in South Wales. 2006 *Br. J. Nat. Hist.*, 19 105-108.

*Dolichopus excisus* Loew, 1859 (Diptera, Dolichopodidae) new to Britain discovered in southern England. *Dipterists Digest* 2006 13(1) 5-10.

*Tachydromia smithi* Chvála, 1966 (Diptera, Hybotidae) new to Britain discovered in Nottinghamshire. *Dipterists Digest* 2006 13(1) 27-29.

Three agromyzid flies, *Ophiomyia nasuta* (Melander, 1913), *Phytomyza ranunculicola* Hering, 1949 and *Phytobia mallochi* (Hendel, 1924) (Diptera, Agromyzidae) new to Britain. *Dipterists Digest* 2006 13(1) 30-32.

*Carcelia laxifrons* Villeneuve (Diptera, Tachinidae) new to Britain and a revised key to the British *Carcelia* species. *Dipterists Digest* 2006 13(1) 49-56 [co-authored with Raper & Smith]

The British species of *Cerodontha* Rondani, 1861 subgenus *Cerodontha* (Diptera, Agromyzidae), including two species new to the British list. *Dipterists Digest* 2006 13(1) 59-64.

Several more in press or preparation including revision of Holarctic *Leiomyza* (Diptera Asteiidae) and revision of Mediterranean *Usia* and *Parageron* (Diptera, Bombyliidae)

**Personal details.**

Date of birth: 26 November 1958.

Single male.

Country of birth and nationality: British.

I have held a full driving licence since 1979.

**Education.**

Gordon Secondary Modern School, Oct. 1970-July 1973.

Cox Green Comprehensive School, Oct. 1973-July 1977.

Langley College of Higher Education, Oct. 1977-July 1979.

University of Sheffield, Oct. 1980-July 1983.

**Qualifications.**

O levels; seven including English and maths.

A levels;           Biology grade C  
                          Geography grade E  
                          Chemistry grade E

Degree; Single Honours Zoology, Upper Second class. A broad based degree course leading to a specialisation in ecology and entomology and including a twenty week study of gull behaviour on landfill sites.