

Orchard Pollinators continued

Gary Farmer

Following my article in *Worcestershire Record* number 44 concerning pollinators and deadwood (Farmer 2018), I have continued to identify the insects that I find on fruit tree blossom.

As well as those noted in my previous article, I also noted the following from Stocken Orchard, near Pershore:

Myopa testacea (01) a conopid fly. Steven Falk's Flickr site suggests "that it primarily parasitises some of the commoner spring *Andrena* mining bees".



01. *Myopa testacea*, Stocken Orchard. Gary Farmer.

Orsodacne humeralis (02) a leaf beetle which is a pollen feeder as an adult but its larval feeding habits are unknown.



02. *Orsodacne humeralis* two colour forms, Stocken Orchard. Gary Farmer.

Dasytes aeratus (03) a beetle whose larvae are carnivorous, feeding among decaying wood or beneath bark.



03. *Dasytes aeratus*, Stocken Orchard. Gary Farmer.

Magdalis cerasi (04) a weevil found in trees as adults with larvae that feed in galleries under the bark of dead branches.



04. *Magdalis cerasi*, Stocken Orchard. Gary Farmer.

In Naunton Court Orchard I found Red-headed Cardinal beetles *Pyrochroa serraticornis* (05). This is another beetle regularly seen around the blossom and its larvae (06) live under loose bark where they are predators.



05. *Pyrochroa serraticornis*, Naunton Court Orchard. Gary Farmer.



06. *Pyrochroa* sp. larva. Gary Farmer.

At Hanbury Hall I found Seven-spot Ladybird in Damson blossom (07) and ants in Pear blossom (08).



07. Seven-spot Ladybird, Hanbury Hall. Gary Farmer.



08. Ant on pear, Hanbury Hall. Gary Farmer.

References

Farmer, G. 2018. Pollinators and other beneficial insects in orchards. *Worcestershire Record* 44:15–19.

Steven Falk's Flickr collections available at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/63075200@N07/collections/72157658279506405/> [Accessed 07.04.19]

UK Beetle Recording website available at:

<http://www.coleoptera.org.uk> [Accessed 07.04.19]

UK Beetles web site available at: <https://www.ukbeetles.co.uk> [Accessed 07.04.19]

Duff, A.G. 2016. *Beetles of Britain & Ireland* volume 4 *Cerambycidae to Curculionidae*. A.G.Duff Publishing, West Runton, Norfolk.

Images

01. *Myopa testacea*, Stocken Orchard. Gary Farmer.

02. *Orsodacne humeralis* two colour forms, Stocken Orchard. Gary Farmer.

03. *Dasytes aeratus*, Stocken Orchard. Gary Farmer.

04. *Magdalis cerasi*, Stocken Orchard. Gary Farmer.

05. *Pyrochroa serraticornis*, Naunton Court Orchard. Gary Farmer.

06. *Pyrochroa* sp. larva. Gary Farmer.

07. Seven-spot Ladybird, Hanbury Hall. Gary Farmer.

08. Ant on pear, Hanbury Hall. Gary Farmer.