

Three notable bugs (Hemiptera) in southwest Worcestershire: *Oliarus panzeri* (Cixiidae); *Agnocoris reclairei* (Miridae); *Baeopelma foersteri* (Psyllidae).

Martin B. Skirrow

***Oliarus panzeri* (Löw, 1883) (Cixiidae, Hemiptera).** Two specimens of this nationally scarce lacehopper were found on 1st August 2015 during the Worcestershire Recorders field recording day at Clevelode (SO836470) near Upton-upon-Severn (01). Identification was confirmed by Joseph Botting. The only other Worcestershire (VC37) record for this species was reported in 2005 by John Meiklejohn at a similar recording day at Bushley Green (SO860346). The Clevelode site is at the very edge of the known distribution of this species in Britain. Most records are from the London area. *O. panzeri* is associated with grasslands where there is a tendency for the ground to crack during dry periods. The nymphs are root feeders and it is thought that cracks in the ground allow the adult females to lay eggs below ground. The Clevelode site, which borders the River Severn, is regularly flooded in winter and much ground cracking was evident at the time of our summer visit.



01. *Oliarus panzeri* found at Clevelode; length 4.6 mm. Martin Skirrow

***Baeopelma foersteri* (Flor, 1861) (Psyllidae, Hemiptera).** Several specimens of this scarce psyllid bug (02) were beaten from mature Alder (*Alnus*) growing at the edges of a stream (SO777338) at Carpenter's Farm near Berrow on 18th August 2015. There are no previous records for VC37. Care is needed for correct identification as it is similar to *Psylla alni*, a closely related psyllid commonly found on Alder. The main differences are that *B. foersteri* has pale veins to its forewing (02), whereas *P. alni* has dark veins; also the terminalia of female *B. foersteri* are long and have fine teeth along the dorsal edge of the apical blade (03).



02. *Baeopelma foersteri* from alder (*Alnus*); length 5 mm. Martin Skirrow



03. Terminalia of female *Baeopelma foersteri* showing fine teeth on upper edge. Martin Skirrow

***Agnocoris reclairei* (Wagner, 1949) (Miridae, Hemiptera).** A single specimen of this mirid bug, designated as nationally scarce Notable B, was beaten from White Willow (*Salix alba*) bordering a pond (SO774341), again at Carpenter's Farm, on 17th August 2015 (04). This is the first record for VC37. Until recently this species was almost restricted to East Anglia, but it has begun to appear elsewhere. *Agnocoris reclairei* is specifically associated with willow. Joseph Botting, who kindly confirmed its identification, recently found the species on the banks of the River Wye at Hereford (personal communication).



04. *Agnocoris reclairei* from *Salix alba*; length 5 mm. Martin Skirrow

Acknowledgements

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Images

- 01. *Oliarus panzeri* found at Clevelode; length 4.6 mm. Martin Skirrow
- 02. *Baeopelma foersteri* from alder (*Alnus*); length 5 mm. Martin Skirrow
- 03. Terminalia of female *Baeopelma foersteri* showing fine teeth on upper edge. Martin Skirrow
- 04. *Agnocoris reclairei* from *Salix alba*; length 5 mm. Martin Skirrow