

### Lesnes' Earwig in the Severn valley

Brett Westwood reported.

I checked Blackstone fields near Bewdley today, 5<sup>th</sup> September 2015, for Lesne's Earwig and in ten minute's searching the Broom bushes along the field edge next to the railway cutting I found more than a dozen hiding among the broom pods (01). There were Common Earwigs for comparison. Grid reference SO798748. This and other recent records suggest this earwig may occur throughout the Severn valley.



01. Lesne's Earwigs *Forficula lesnei* from Blackstone fields, Bewdley 5<sup>th</sup> September 2015. Brett Westwood

This follows on from Gary Farmer's article illustrating the differences between the species. He wrote: *If you find a smaller (around 8mm), ginger/brown earwig with no protruding wings amongst the larger chestnut/brown individuals check the cerci (pincers). If you have a male the identification is straight forward.*

#### Reference

Farmer, G. 2012 Lesne's Earwig *Forficula lesnei*. Scarce in Worcestershire or just overlooked? *Worcestershire Record* 33:24

#### Image

01. Lesne's Earwigs *Forficula lesnei* from Blackstone fields, Bewdley 5<sup>th</sup> September 2015. Brett Westwood