

A record of the plane tree bug *Arocatus longiceps* in Worcester

Nick Button



01. *Arocatus longiceps* a species showing range expansion.
Worcester 06.03.24. Nick Button.

On 6th March 2024 a ground bug, *Arocatus longiceps*, landed on my patio window with another appearing in the garden several days later. My garden adjoins the Laughern Brook at the north-western suburban edge of Worcester (NGR SO8356). The bug was first discovered in Worcestershire in 2019 at Grafton Flyford and appeared in the Worcestershire Record in 2019 (Farmer, 2019). This recent record suggests the continuing spread of the species which is known to feed on the seeds of Plane trees *Platanus* sp, and Alder *Alnus glutinosa*. In this instance, it is considered likely that it arrived from the Alder that follows the Laughern Brook.

References

British Bugs. An online identification guide to UK Hemiptera.

Available at:

https://www.britishbugs.org.uk/heteroptera/Lygaeidae/Arocatus_longiceps.html. [Accessed 03.05.2024]

Naturespot. Available at:

<https://www.naturespot.org.uk/species/arocatus-longiceps>. [Accessed 03.05.2024]

NBN Trust (2024). Available at:

<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020308963>. The National Biodiversity Network (NBN) Atlas. <https://nbnatlas.org/>. [Accessed 03.05.2024]

Farmer G. 2019. The discovery of the Plane Tree Bug *Arocatus longiceps* Stål, 1872 (Hemiptera, Lygaeidae) at Grafton Flyford, Worcestershire. *Worcestershire Record* 47:30-31

Image

01. 01. *Arocatus longiceps* a species showing range expansion.
Worcester 06.03.24. Nick Button.