

Additions to Fauna List of Caves in the Mendip Hills

BY PETER F. BIRD

GOATCHURCH CAVERN

Threshold Zone

Arthropoda

Insecta

Diptera

Leria serrata L.

Det. Audcent Coll. P.F.B.

Culex (Culex) molestus ? Forskal

Det. Classey Coll. P.F.B.

Lepidoptera

Scoliopteryx libatrix L.

Det. P.F.B. Coll. P. F. B.

Hymenoptera

Ichneumonid not yet determined Coll. P.F.B.

AVELINE'S HOLE

Threshold Zone

Arthropoda

Insecta

Diptera

Leria serrata L.

Det. Audcent Coll. P.F.B.

Copromyza species not yet determined.

Det. Audcent Coll. P.F.B.

Trichoptera

Not yet determined. Coll. P.F.B.

Hymenoptera

Ichneumonid not yet determined. Coll. P.F.B.

Vertebrata

Mammalia

Eutheria

Rhinolophus hipposideros minutus Mont.

Det. van Schaik. Coll. van Schaik.

READ'S CAVERN

Dark Zone

Mollusca

Gastropoda

Pulmonata

Helix nemoralis L.

Det. P.F.B. Coll. P.F.B.

Dark Zone

Arthropoda

Insecta

Coleoptera

Quedius maurus Sahlb.

(= Quedius mesomelinus var. fagei)

Det. Tozer. Coll. R. Stride.

ROD'S POT

Dark Zone

Arthropoda

Insecta

Coleoptera

Cychrus rostratus ?

Det. J. Riley. Coll. P.F.B.

WATERWORKS COY.'S HEADING NEAR GOATCHURCH CAVERN

Threshold Zone (and Dark Zone ?)

Arthropoda

Insecta

Diptera

Leria serrata L.

Det. Audcent. Coll. P.F.B.

Lepidoptera

Triphosa dubitata L.

Det. P.F.B. Coll. P.F.B.

Scoliopteryx libatrix L.

Det. P.F.B. Coll. P.F.B.

Hymenoptera

Ichneumonid not yet determined. Coll. P.F.B.

AUGUST HOLE

Dark Zone

Arthropoda

Crustacea

Amphipoda

Gammarus pulex L.

(♂♂, ♀♀ breeding)

Det. Spooner. Coll. P.F.B.

Insecta

Hemiptera-Heteroptera

Velia currens Fabr. (nymph and apterous adults)

Det. Airey Shaw. Coll. P.F.B.

SMALL CAVE NORTH OF GOATCHURCH CAVERN

Threshold Zone

Arthropoda

Insecta

Diptera

Nematocera not yet determined

Coll. P.F.B.

Araneida

Araneids not yet determined.

Coll. P.F.B.

Vertebrata

Mammalia

Eutheria

Rhinolophus hipposideros minutus Mont.

Det. P.F.B. Coll. P.F.B.

FUNGI COLLECTED FROM CAVES IN THE MENDIP HILLS

WATERWORKS COY.'S HEADING NEAR GOATCHURCH CAVERN

Threshold Zone (and Dark Zone?)

Hirsutella dipteriga Petch

on Leria serrata L. (Diptera.)

Det. Wakefield and Dennis.

Coll. P.F.B.

Marasmius sp.

Det. Hawker. Coll. P.F.B.

AVELINE'S HOLE

Threshold Zone.

Hirsutella dipteriga Petch

on *Leria serrata* L. (Diptera.)

Det. Hawker. Coll. P.F.B.

READ'S CAVERN

Dark Zone

Penicillium italicum

Det. Hawker. Coll. P.F.B.

GOATCHURCH CAVERN

Dark Zone

Aspergillus versicolor

Det. Hawker. Coll. P.F.B.

SWILDON'S HOLE

Dark Zone

Helotium sp. (Fructifications)

Det. Hawker. Coll. P.F.B.

The above lists record those species collected by members of U.B.S.S. during the past fourteen months which, as far as I know, have not yet been recorded for the caves indicated. It will be noted that in the Fauna List I have included material from the Threshold Zone as well as from the Dark Zone. This is contrary to the practice of some authors, but I consider that it is desirable to include such records, *as long as due precautions are taken to prevent confusion of material from the two zones.* In the Waterworks Company's Heading, the range of some of the species (especially *Leria serrata* and *Hirsutella dipteriga*) may extend beyond the Threshold Zone into the Dark Zone, but at the time of collection (winter 1947-8) it was not possible to determine what is the limit of illumination under summer conditions. This summer (1948) the Heading was made inaccessible to us.

In the compilation of the Fauna List I have received much guidance from the publications of the Cave Research Group. With regards to the fungi, except for Dr. Walton's records in a former volume of the *Proceedings*, I believe no records have been published of fungi from caves in the Mendips. If such records exist, I shall be very interested to hear of them.

I wish to acknowledge with gratitude the kind assistance in determining the animals given by the following: Mr. Audcent (Clevedon), Mr. J. Cowley (Edington), Mr. E. W. Classey (Feltham), Mr. J. M. Spooner (Plymouth), Mr. D. Tozer (Leicester), Mr. Airey Shaw (Kew Gardens), Mr. J. Riley (Great Moulton), Mr. van Schaik (Maastricht), and in determining the fungi rendered by Dr. Hawker (Univ. of Bristol), and Dr. Dennis and Miss E. M. Wakefield (both of Kew Gardens).

I also wish to thank the members of the U.B.S.S. for their help in collecting the specimens.