

most other *Helophorus*). Its ecological affinities in Ireland, therefore, remain obscure. Attempts have been made to find it among discarded or damaged potatoes as it has a reputation for damaging crops in Europe and is called, variously, the Wheat Mud Beetle and the Turnip Beetle. But these efforts have been entirely unsuccessful to date.

Roy Anderson

1 Belvoir View Park, Belfast BT8 7BL

A second Irish site for *Leistus rufomarginatus* (Duftschmid) (Coleoptera: Carabidae), at Binevenagh, Co. Londonderry

Leistus rufomarginatus (Duftschmid) was added to the Irish List by Anderson and Humphreys (2006 *The Coleopterist* 15: 13), from Castlewellan Park, Co. Down, where a single female was recorded in open woodland in June 2006. This is a late immigrant to Britain first recorded in the 1940s, but expanding its range strongly northwards in later decades (Hodge, P. J. and Jones, R. A. 1995 *New British beetles. Species not in Joy's Practical handbook*. British Entomological and Natural History Society, Dinton Pastures, Reading). I report here a second Irish record which indicates that its range expansion is proceeding rapidly in Ireland also.

LONDONDERRY: Tamlaght Woods, Binevenagh (C683300), 20 June 2008. A single male was found in deep moss atop a basalt boulder in dense Hazel (*Corylus avellana* L.) scrub.

Leistus rufomarginatus is recognizable by its large size compared to other members of the genus, by its dark colour (brownish to black), lack of metallic reflection and the possession of conspicuous, reddish, pronotal side margins. The preferred habitat, woodland, is shared in Ireland only by the smaller *L. fulvibarbis* (L.) which has a faint but definite metallic blue reflection on the upper surface and lacks the red pronotal margins.

Roy Anderson

1 Belvoir View Park, Belfast BT8 7BL

Fish Notes

Occurrence of *Scorpaena scrofa* L., 1758 and *Centrolophus niger* (Gmelin, 1789) from the north-western Irish Sea

Single specimens of Red Scorpion-fish (*Scorpaena scrofa*) and Black-fish (*Centrolophus niger*) were returned to the Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute (AFBI) in Belfast, Northern Ireland Laboratories during early December 2007. The fish were caught off the Northern Ireland coast in the north-western Irish Sea by the commercial fishing trawlers MFV 'Olive Branch' (*S. scrofa*) and MFV 'Silver Fern' (*C. niger*). Both vessels were operating c.18 km south of St. Johns' Point (54° 8'N 5° 31'W) at a depth of around 55 m.

The specimen of *S. scrofa* measured 37 cm in length, had a girth of 31 cm, weighed 1.12 kg and is possibly the most northern record of this species.

The specimen of *C. niger* measured 45 cm in length, had a girth of 24 cm and weighed 0.625 kg.

Richard P. Briggs*, Greg Foster and Enda O'Callaghan

Fisheries and Aquatic Ecosystems Branch, AFBI Headquarters, Newforge Lane, Belfast BT9 5PX

*Corresponding author. Email: richard.briggs@afbini.gov.uk

A further Skipper (*Scomberesox saurus*) (Walbaum, 1792) record from Co. Mayo

On 28 August 2008 EMG found and photographed a very fresh carcass of a Skipper (*Scomberesox saurus*) measuring 24 cm in total length, on Sruhir Strand, a west-facing storm beach at Carrowniskey, Louisburgh, Co. Mayo (L750777). DQ subsequently confirmed identification.

Within Irish waters, this oceanic species has previously been reported on 22 occasions since first recorded in 1820. The most recent record was in 1992 (Quigley, D. T. G., Flannery, K. and

O'Shea, J. 1997 *Irish Naturalists' Journal* 25: 387). Most records have occurred on southern or western coasts. An earlier review of its Irish status has shown that the majority of records have occurred during September and most frequently as strandings (Quigley, D. T. G. 1986 *Irish Naturalists' Journal* 22: 32-34). Both previous records from Co. Mayo were from Achill Island.

Eoin McGreal

Conservation Ranger, NPWS, Aghinish, Ballinrobe, Co. Mayo

D. T. G. Quigley

Dingle Oceanworld (Mara Beo Teo), The Wood, Dingle, Co. Kerry

Plant Records

Miscellaneous plant records from around Ireland in 2007

Records, mainly of alien plants, were made around Ireland in 2007. The selected list below presents some of the more interesting records. The record was made by PRG unless otherwise stated. Plant names follow Stace (C.A. 1997 *New flora of the British Isles*, Second edition, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge), except for *Leucanthemum paludosum* not in that work.
* = alien plant in Ireland; NCR = new county record; DBN = voucher specimen in the National Herbarium at the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin.

- **Alnus cordata*. H11: Rosbercon (S716278), 15 August; five trees self-sown on waste ground, the tallest was just over 1 m high. NCR.
- **Anisantha diandra*. H4: Cork (W6469), 1 June; several patches on roadside.
- **Azolla filiculoides*. H13: St Mullin's (S722387), 22 July; small amount in canal by lock where canal joins the River Barrow, PRG and O. Martin.
- **Berberis vulgaris*. H11: Brownsbarn (S612383), 29 August; single large bush in woodland on left bank of the River Nore, PRG and M. Morris. DBN.
- Brachypodium pinnatum*. H11: Jerpoint West (S565409), 29 August; large patch on slope

below area of planted trees and under the trees on the north side of the River Nore, PRG and M. Morris.

- **Cannabis sativa*. H6: Tramore (S594021), 2 November; four plants on waste ground. NCR.
- **Cardamine corymbosa*. H13: Altamont Gardens (S855656), 30 January; weed in nursery of garden, PRG and M. Morris. H20: Ballyrairie Garden Centre (T229740), 16 March; weed in several flower pots. Kilmurry (O255124), 19 May; weed in garden centre beside the N11.
- **Chenopodium polyspermum*. H6: Waterford (S606119), 5 December; single plant on heap of soil. DBN. NCR.
- **Echinochloa colona*. H6: Tramore (S594021), 2 November; many plants on waste ground. NCR.
- **Erysimum cheiranthoides*. H15. Garryland (M411035), 10 August; single plant on roadside opposite entrance to wood, Wild Flower Society field meeting.
- **Eucalyptus globulus*. H12: Ballyteganpark (T158614), 6 December; two trees self-sown on top of wall, the tallest 1 m high. Parent trees in nearby garden.
- **Euphorbia mellifera*. H21: Killiney (O256241), 26 September; single plant self-sown on top of garden wall of 'Kilmarnock'.
- **Galega officinalis*. H20: Kilmurry (T276854), 8 October; patch on west verge of the N11. First Irish record.
- **Helleborus argutifolius*. H21: Dún Laoghaire (O248273), 27 August; four plants self-sown in pavement cracks and one on side of wall in Silchester Road. First Irish record.
- **Helleborus foetidus*. H21: Dublin Airport (O1743), 8 February; a number of plants in gravel on edge of the 'Red' long-term car park.
- **Helleborus viridis*. H11: Brownsbarn (S612383), 29 August; two large patches on rocky area in wood above the River Nore, PRG and M. Morris.
- Hymenophyllum tunbrigense*. H13: Drumin (S732358), 12 April; many patches in rocky woodland above the River Barrow, PRG and M. Morris.
- Lamium hybridum*. H16: Inishnee (L7341), 12 August; single plant on heap of soil by new dwelling, Wild Flower Society field meeting.
- **Leucanthemum paludosum* (Poir.) Bonnet & Barratte. H11: Rosbercon (S706268), 27 July; single plant at base of wall. Likely to have