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These two records, coupled with those of Mr. Higgins and Mr. Daltry, give me to suppose that the insect might well occur at many places along the North Downs, were the trouble taken to search for it: in both cases, my discoveries were made entirely by chance, and I have never searched for the species elsewhere: when time allows I hope to do so.

A. J. L. BOWES.

***Epischnia banksiella* Rich. and *Nephopteryx genistella* Dup.
(Lep.) at Hayling Is.**

In respect of the reference to the above in Mr. Parkinson Curtis's article (1936, *J. Soc. Brit. Ent.*, **1**: 168-169) it may be of interest to record the capture of two specimens of *Epischnia banksiella* Rich. on 16th and 20th August, 1922, at sugar on marram grass on the sandhills of Hayling Island. The food-plant, golden samphire, was entirely absent on this side of the Island, though on the north side, some two or more miles distant, it is plentiful, but here we were unable to find it in spite of careful search for the larva.

Pending investigation, I placed the specimens with *E. elutella*, but when my friend, the late Mr. A. F. Griffith, acquired them at the sale of my collection he sent them to Mr. Meyrick for confirmation, as they were more strongly marked than the Portland form. They are now in Mr. Griffith's collection in the Cardiff Museum.

I found the larvae of *N. genistella* in plenty on *Ulex* quite close to the sandhills on which *E. banksiella* occurred and bred a fine series which are also in the Cardiff Museum.

JOHN E. EASTWOOD.

A Note on some Hymenoptera and Diptera bred from a dead cricket bat willow.

A previous note of mine in 1936, *J. Soc. Brit. Ent.*, **1** (5): 128-129, recorded a number of Hymenoptera bred from a dead willow tree at Slough, Bucks. The tree in question was the crack willow, *Salix fragilis* L.

The following records are of insects bred from an old dead trunk of the cricket bat willow, *Salix alba* var. *caerulea* Smith, situated at Broomfield Mill, near Chelmsford, Essex. This was examined on 3rd May, 1936. The wood was chipped away with a pocket-knife and a number of cocoons and puparia, lying in galleries in the wood, were removed and kept in glass-topped metal boxes in an unheated laboratory.

Eighty-eight greyish cocoons were collected. Sixty-four produced specimens of *Coelocrabro ambiguus* (Dahlb.) (Crabronidae), the host species, twenty-one yielded specimens of the parasite *Habritys brevicornis* (Ratz.) (Chalcididae) and the remaining three dried up and nothing emerged from them. The

host species emerged over a period of fourteen days, *i.e.* from 4th to 18th June, 1936, and the parasites emerged for five days, *i.e.* from 20th to 25th June, 1936. The twenty-one parasitised cocoons produced sixty-six specimens of *H. brevicornis* (Ratz.), three individuals being usually obtained from a single cocoon, as shown in the following table :

Number of <i>H. brevicornis</i> (Ratz.) from one cocoon of <i>C. ambiguus</i> (Dahlb.)	1	2	3	4	5
Number of cocoons of <i>C. ambiguus</i> (Dahlb.)
	0	1	16	4	0

Eleven puparia were collected with the cocoons of *C. ambiguus* (Dahlb.). Ten produced specimens of *Ptychoneura cylindrica* Fall. (Tachinidae), which has been frequently bred from the nests of various Crabronidae. They emerged over a period of thirteen days, *i.e.* from 25th May to 6th June, 1936. The remaining puparium which was distinctly larger, produced a specimen of *Eustalomyia festiva* Zett. (Anthomyiidae), which emerged on 4th June, 1936. This is a somewhat rare species, and has probably not been previously recorded from the nests of *C. ambiguus* (Dahlb.). The larvae of these Diptera have similar habits in that they do not live as parasites on the Crabronids, but on the prey with which these wasps provision their nests.

It is with pleasure that I acknowledge my thanks to Dr. O. W. Richards for the identification of *C. ambiguus* (Dahlb.) and Mr. C. J. Wainwright for the identification of *P. cylindrica* Fall. and *E. festiva* Zett.

EDWARD MCC. CALLAN.

***Rhacognathus punctatus* L. (Hemipt.) preying on *Lochmaea suturalis* Thoms. (Col.).**

On 16th May I found this bug at Linwood, Hants, on a post, with its proboscis inserted between the head and thorax of an almost dead specimen of the beetle.

F. H. HAINES.

***Cryptorrhynchus lapathi* L. (Col.) on *Salix alba* L. var. *coerulea* Sm.**

Some years ago I planted young trees of the cricket-bat willow to test its possibilities in this neighbourhood.* The *Cryptorrhynchus* has lately extended its very destructive attacks from *S. viminalis* to *S. alba*: the possible economic importance of such choice is obvious. On 27th May imagines were abundant on the stems, many *in cop*. Poplars and alders are still untouched by the pest.

F. H. HAINES.

* Linwood, Hants.