

# CRABRONINI (HYMENOPTERA, SPHECIDAE) FROM THE BRITISH ISLES

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Thanks to the courtesy of Dr. I. H. H. Yarrow, I had the opportunity to study many Crabronini preserved in the British Museum (Natural History) collections. Among them were 517 specimens from the British Isles; they are recorded hereafter. They do not include the material from Kent which is added to what I have collected myself in that county and will be presented in another paper.

40 species are known to occur in the British Isles, 18 only in Ireland, while there are 50 species in Belgium. Here are data for 33 species, those I have not seen yet being: *Lestica* (*Clypeocrabro*) *clypeata* (Schreber) which has perhaps disappeared from the southern counties where it was found many years ago, *Ectemnius* (*Hypocrabro*) *rubicola* (Dufour & Perris), *Ectemnius* (*Ectemnius*) *dives* (Lepeletier & Brullé), *Crossocerus* (*Crossocerus*) *palmipes* (L.) and *exiguus* (Vander Linden), *Lindenius* *panzeri* (Vander Linden) and *Rhopalum* *nigrinum* Kiesenwetter. The genera and species are listed in the order used by De Beaumont (1964) in his *Fauna Helvetica* which indeed is now the most useful book for determining British and central European Sphecidae.

With the existing literature recorded up to 1953 in my *Monographie . . . des Hyménoptères Crabroniens* (1954), the few subsequent additions by British authors and the present data, one could consider producing maps showing the county distribution of every species in the British Isles. It would be most interesting to compare such maps with those I have issued in my *Monographie* exhibiting both the general distribution and the distribution in Belgium. However, this goal would be better reached with some more information as there are still about 25 counties of the United Kingdom from which nothing has been recorded. This situation could surely improve considerably even without further collecting if existing collections, private and others, were thoroughly surveyed. The task is not a difficult one but I would gladly co-operate and help if this were needed.

The more detailed study of the British Crabronini will not just confirm that the British fauna is poorer than those of the near areas on the continent. I have already the belief that several species may well be represented in South England by populations somewhat more numerous than on the other side of the Channel. This may

be true for *Ectemnius lituratus*, *Crossocerus leucostomoides* and other *Crossocerus* nesting in dead wood. It is surprising that *Crossocerus styrius* should occur in several counties of Great Britain while it is apparently missing in Belgium and in most of France. *Crossocerus dimidiatus* also seems to be particularly well represented everywhere, being one of the commonest species in Ireland and in Scotland, though far from being so in France and Belgium.

1. ***Ectemnius (Metacrabro) cephalotes* (Olivier)**

CORNWALL: Polperro ♂ vii. 1938. HAMPSHIRE: Brockenhurst ♀ 28.vi.1887, Pamber Heath 2 ♀ 18.viii. 1942. SURREY: Oxshott ♀ 13.viii. 1936. MIDDLESEX: Potters Bar ♀ 17.viii. 1935. HERTFORD: Watford ♀ 6.viii. 1935.

2. ***Ectemnius (Metacrabro) lituratus* (Panzer)**

DORSET: Holt ♀ 9.viii. 1956. HAMPSHIRE: New Forest 2 ♀ 27.viii. 1903, ♂ 10. vii. 1904, F. C. Adams, Beaulieu 2 ♀ 18.vii. 1922, Le Marchant. SUSSEX: Amberley ♀ 1.viii. 1926, 4 ♂, 3 ♀ 5.viii. 1929, ♂, 2 ♀ 20.vii. 1930, ♀ 14.viii. 1930. SURREY: Ranmore Common ♂ 27.vii. 1929, Mickleham ♂, 4 ♀ 10/15. viii. 1929, ♀ 14.viii. 1933.

3. ***Ectemnius (Clytochrysus) sexcinctus* (F.)**

CHANNEL ISLANDS, ♂, ♀—S. DEVON ♀. DORSET: Lyme Regis 3 ♂ 24.vii. 1904.

4. ***Ectemnius (Clytochrysus) cavifrons* (Thomson)**

DORSET: Wimborne ♂ 23.vii. 1956. HAMPSHIRE: Botley 2 ♂ 1906, Lyndhurst ♀ 3.vii. 1933, New Forest ♂ 4.vii. 1955. SUSSEX: Amberley ♀ 24.viii. 1928. SURREY: Mickleham ♀ 14.viii. 1933. MIDDLESEX: Enfield 5 ♂, 4 ♀ bred from dead *Salix alba*, Hendon ♂, ♀ vi. 1928. HERTFORD: Tarrington ♀ 15.viii. 1902. SUFFOLK: Bury St. Edmunds: 6 ♀ 1894/1897. Cambridge ♀ vii. 1934. NORTHUMBERLAND: Castle Ward 2 ♂ 3/12.vii. 1926, ♀ 3.viii. 1926.

5. ***Ectemnius (Clytochrysus) nigrifrons* (Cresson)**

HAMPSHIRE: New Forest ♀ 16.vii. 1909, F. C. Adams. SURREY: Byfleet ♀ 17.vi. 1945, K. M. Guichard.

6. ***Ectemnius (Clytochrysus) lapidarius* (Panzer)**

IRELAND, CAVAN: Drumcarban ♂ 7.vi. 1953. WICKLOW: Powerscourt ♂ 18.vii. 1935, J. F. Perkins; WEXFORD: Curraclloe ♂ vii. 1937, A. W. Stelfox—SOMERSET: Dulverton ♀ 15.vii. 1958, O. H. Harvey. HAMPSHIRE: New Forest ♂ 1894, ♀ 10.viii. 1922, 2 ♀ 27/28. viii. 1933, Milford-on-Sea ♀ vii. 1906. SUSSEX: Amberley ♀ 29. vii. 1928, ♂ 20.vii. 1930. SURREY: Wisley ♀ 26.viii. 1932, Chobham ♀ 9.ix. 1937. MIDDLESEX: Enfield 6 ♂ bred from dead *Salix alba*.

HERTFORD: Tring ♂ 6.vii. 1930, Boxmoor ♂ 20.v. 1933, R. B. Benson. BERKS: Aldermaston ♂ 24.vi. 1945, K. M. Guichard. CAMBRIDGE: Wicken Fen ♂ 11.vi. 1904, ♂ 23.vi. 1909, ♂ 20.vi. 1914, ♂ 1.vii. 1915. SUFFOLK: Bury St. Edmunds 9 ♂, 6 ♀ 1890/1898.

7. **Ectemnius (Hypocrabro) continuus** (F.)

GLAMORGAN: Porthcawl ♂ 29.vi. 1903. SOMERSET: Sedgemoor, Stoke St. Gregory ♀ 7.vii. 1925. CORNWALL: St. Minver 4 ♂ 30.vi./6.vii. 1917. HAMPSHIRE: New Forest ♂ 8 vi. 1902, ♂ 1.ix. 1903, ♀ 28.viii. 1933, Enfield ♀ 7.vi. 1929, Ayno ♂ 21/25.vi. 1945, R. B. Benson. SUSSEX: Amberley 2 ♀ 20.vii. 1930, ♂ 24.viii. 1935. SURREY: Woking ♂, ♀, Mickleham ♂ 15.viii. 1929, ♂ 14.viii. 1933. MIDDLESEX: Mill Hill ♀ 2.vii. 1948 with its prey: *Thereva nobilitata* F. BUCKINGHAM: Slough ♂ 18.vii. 1896. CAMBRIDGE: Wicken ♂ 11.vi. 1904, ♂ 26.vi. 1915.

8. **Crabro cribrarius** (L.)

CORNWALL: Marazion, Rosudgeon 2 ♀ viii/ix. 1931, W. E. China. N. DEVON: Croyde ♀ 15.vii. 1927, Woolacombe ♀ 15.vii. 1958, O. H. Harvey. HAMPSHIRE: Beaulieu ♀ 16.vii. 1920. SURREY: Wisley ♂ 1.vi. 1927, 7 ♀ 26.viii. 1932, G. Fox Wilson, Woking ♂ 13.viii. 1929. OXFORD: Souldern ♀ 25.vi. 1945, R. B. Benson. LINCOLN: North Cotes ♀ 26.vi. 1949, J. F. Burton.

9. **Crabro peltarius** (Schreber)

CORNWALL: St. Minver ♂ 6.vii. 1911, Le Marchant. SURREY: Woking ♀. SUFFOLK: Bury St. Edmunds ♀ 24.vi. 1902, Dunwich ♀ vi. 1926, Foster.

10. **Crabro scutellatus** (Scheven)

SURREY: Oxshott ♀ 25.vii. 1934.

11. **Crossocerus (Hoplocrabro) quadrimaculatus** (F.)

DORSET: Holt ♂ 2.viii. 1941, Crichele ♂ 13.vii. 1948, Parley ♂ 1.viii. 1953, Wimborne ♂ 8.viii. 1954. HAMPSHIRE: New Forest ♂ 4.vii. 1955.

12. **Crossocerus (Crossocerus) tarsatus** (Shuckard)

CHANNEL ISLANDS: St. Aubin ♂, E. Saunders. This specimen has the metatarsus of the forelegs of the continental form (see De Beaumont, 1950, p. 412, fig. 31) and therefore does not belong to the typical British subspecies. I take this opportunity to point out that fig. 30 given by De Beaumont in the same place represents the extreme case to be found in some British males only. Many other specimens recorded hereafter have the metatarsus quite broader and more similar to the subspecies *richardsi* De Beaumont. Nevertheless they remain obviously distinct from the latter because the metatarsus does not narrow towards the apex, and is black-spotted on the external side.

DORSET: Canford ♂ 30.viii. 1941, Holt ♂ 20.vii. 1941, 2 ♂ 25.vii. 1956, ♂, ♀ 12.ix. 1956. HAMPSHIRE: Hengistbury Head ♂ 3.vi. 1938, Lyndhurst ♀ 5.vi. 1938. SUFFOLK: Aldeburgh ♀ viii. 1922. PERTH: Killin ♂ 15/21.vi. 1932, R. B. Benson. INVERNESS: Aviemore 5 ♂, 3 ♀ 28.vi. 1934, R. B. Benson; Isle of Skye, Portree ♀ 13/14.viii, K. M. Guichard.

13. *Crossocerus (Crossocerus) varus* (Lepeletier & Brullé)

DORSET: Crichel ♀ 25.vii. 1951, Wimborne ♀ 14.vi. 1953, ♂ 30.vi. 1954, ♂, ♀ 2/7.vii. 1956, ♂, ♀ 11.ix. 1956, Uddens ♀ 10.vii. 1953, Holt ♀ 27.viii. 1954, 2 ♀ 12.ix. 1956. BUCKINGHAM: Brickhill ♀ 21.vi. 1937, R. B. Benson. HERTFORD: Chipperfield ♀ 19.vii. 1938, R. B. Benson. LANCASHIRE: Longridge ♀ 13.ix. 1936, J. F. Perkins. KINCARDINE: Auchenblae, Fordoun ♀ viii/ix. 1928, J. W. Waterston.

14. *Crossocerus (Crossocerus) ovalis* (Lepeletier & Brullé)

HAMPSHIRE: New Forest ♀ 16.vii. 1916, F. C. Adams, Silchester Common ♀ 11.vi. 1937, R. B. Benson. DORSET: Crichel ♀ 5.vii. 1951, Wimborne ♀ 18.vii. 1953. LONDON: Bedford Park ♂, J. W. Waterston. HERTFORD: Boxmoor ♀ 3.vii. 1938, R. B. Benson.

15. *Crossocerus (Crossocerus) wesmaeli* (Vander Linden)

DORSET: Holt ♂ 24.vii. 1941, 2 ♂ 2.viii. 1941, 2 ♂ 20/31.viii. 1954, ♀ 16.vii. 1956, ♀ 12.ix. 1956, Parley 6 ♀ 1/17.viii. 1953, 4 ♂, 3 ♀ 13/16.viii. 1954, Wimborne 2 ♂, ♀ 23.vii. 1956, ♂ 8.viii. 1956. HAMPSHIRE: Beaulieu ♀ 16.vii. 1922, New Forest 7 ♂ 4.vii. 1955, Hurn ♂ 23.viii. 1956. SURREY: Woking ♂. BEDFORD: Heath and Reach ♂ 13.vi. 1948.

16. *Crossocerus (Crossocerus) elongatulus* (Vander Linden) subsp. *propinquus* (Shuckard) (differs from the usual continental form by the much shorter hair under the thorax and the fore-legs).

SOMERSET: Dulverton ♀ 15.vii. 1958. DORSET: Parley 2 ♂ 15.vi. 1954, Wimborne ♀ 20.vi. 1954, 3 ♂, 3 ♀ 4/24.viii. 1954, ♂ 31.v. 1956, 2 ♂ 9/24.vi. 1956, 4 ♂ 21/23.vii. 1956, ♂ 4.viii. 1956, Holt ♂, ♀ 12.ix. 1956. SUSSEX: Hastings ♂ vii. 1904. LONDON: Bedford Park 2 ♂, ♀ 4.vi. 1928. HERTFORD: Boxmoor 5 ♂ 3.vii. 1938, R. B. Benson.

17. *Crossocerus (Ablepharipus) podagricus* (Vander Linden)

CHANNEL ISLANDS: St. Aubin 2 ♂.—DORSET: Wimborne ♂ 26.vi. 1956, Holt ♂ 20.vii. 1956. HAMPSHIRE: New Forest 2 ♀ 27.viii. 1903. BUCKINGHAM: Brickhill ♂ 8.vii. 1938, R. B. Benson. SUFFOLK: Bury St. Edmunds ♀ 1901. CAMBRIDGE: Wicken Fen ♂ 28.vi. 1926.

18. *Crossocerus (Coelocrabro) walkeri* (Shuckard)

The B.M. collection contains the ♂ holotype, also one ♀ from the Stephens collection, and one ♀ from Ireland, Carlow, Borris 29.vi. 1897 already recorded.

19. *Crossocerus (Coelocrabro) ambiguus* (Dahlbom)

GLoucester: Wotton under Edge ♂, 2 ♀ viii.22. DORSET: Wimborne ♂ 7.vii. 1955. HAMPSHIRE: New Forest ♀ 18.vii. 1916, Felden ♀ viii. 1936 R. B. Benson. LONDON: Bedford Park 4 ♀ 20.vii. 1920, Charlton ♂ 12.vi. 1949, J. F. Burton.

20. *Crossocerus (Coelocrabro) leucostoma* (L.)

INVERNESS: Nethy Bridge ♀ 26.vi. 1905, Yerbury.

21. *Crossocerus (Coelocrabro) styrius* (Kohl)

GLAMORGAN: Porthcawl ♀ 24.vi. 1903, 3 ♂ 26.vi/4.vii. 1906. SURREY: Mickleham ♀.

22. *Crossocerus (Coelocrabro) cetratus* (Shuckard)

DEVON: Newton Abbott ♂ 8.vi. 1929, R. B. Benson. DORSET: Crichel ♀ 13.vi. 1941, ♂ 22.v. 1942. HAMPSHIRE: New Forest ♀ vi/vii. 1897. BUCKINGHAM: Grendon Underwood ♀ 21.vi. 1949, R. B. Benson.

23. *Crossocerus (Coelocrabro) pubescens* (Shuckard)

GLoucester: Wotton under Edge ♂, ♀ viii. 1922, R. C. L. Perkins. DORSET: Studland 2 ♀ 5.vi. 1938, Wimborne ♂ 23.vi. 1954, ♂ 26.vi. 1956. HAMPSHIRE: Lyndhurst ♂ 5.vi. 1938, R. B. Benson. SURREY: Wisley ♂ vii. 1920. MIDDLESEX: Mill Hill 2 ♀ 11.vi. 1928. HERTFORD: Felden ♂ vii. 1896, Brickett Wood 2 ♀ 20.v. 1947, ♂ 5.v. 1950, R. B. Benson, Hemel Hempstead ♂ 15.v. 1948.

24. *Crossocerus (Coelocrabro) leucostomoides* Richards

CHANNEL ISLANDS: St. Aubin ♀.—CORNWALL: Lelant 2 ♂ 20.viii. 1937, Polperro 3 ♂ vii. 1938. DORSET: Studland ♂ 5.vi. 1938. HAMPSHIRE: New Forest ♀ 19.vi. 1906, ♀ 1.viii. 1908, F. C. Adams, Southampton ♀ 1938, Isle of Wight, Bembridge ♂ vi. 1909. SURREY: Guildford ♀, Horsley ♂ vi. 1937, Byfleet ♀ 22.v. 1938. MIDDLESEX: Ealing 5 ♀ vi. 1912 nesting in the pillars of a verandah, Scratch Wood ♂, ♀ 21.v. 1938, Mill Hill ♂ 21.v. 1938, 2 ♀ 10/11.vi. 1938, Ruislip ♂ 3.ix. 1938. LONDON: Hampstead Heath 2 ♀ 16.vi. 1938, ♀ 29.vi. 1939. BUCKINGHAM: Penn ♀ 17.vi. 1934, J. F. Perkins. HERTFORD: Watford ♀ 6.viii. 1935. SUFFOLK: Aldeburgh ♂ vii. 1922, Brandon 2 ♀ 27.v. 1945. CAMBRIDGE: Wicken Fen ♀ 20.vi. 1914. BEDFORD: Leighton Buzzard ♀ 7.vi. 1906 nesting in galleries of *Tetropium crawshayi* Sharp. GLoucester: Bristol ♀ 17.vii. 1952. INVERNESS: Aviemore ♀ 26.vi. 1934, ♂ 3.vi. 1952, R. B. Benson, Fort William ♂, ♀ 5/12.viii, K. M. Guichard, ♂, ♀ viii. 1939.

25. *Crossocerus (Coelocrabro) capitosus* (Shuckard)

IRELAND, WICKLOW: Killoughter, The Murrough 2 ♂ 11.vi. 1953.—SOMERSET: Dulverton ♀ 15.vii. 1958, O. H. Harvey. DORSET: Wimborne ♂ 31.v. 1956. BUCKINGHAM: Denham ♂ 19.vi. 1926, J. W. Waterston. HERTFORD: Gade Valley ♂ 27.v. 1934, R. B. Benson, Brickett Wood ♂ 2.vi. 1950, R. B. Benson.

26. *Crossocerus (Blepharipus) vagabundus* (Panzer)

SURREY: Chobham 2 ♂ vi. 1878. HERTFORD: Brickett Wood ♂ 5.v. 1950, R. B. Benson. SUFFOLK: Bury St. Edmunds 6 ♂, 5 ♀ 1894/98. Also 10 ♂ and 8 ♀ in the Clifton, Shuckard and Stephens collections.

27. *Crossocerus (Cuphopterus) dimidiatus* (F.)

IRELAND, WICKLOW: Glendalough ♀ 4.vi. 1937, A. W. Stelfox. TYRONE: Sion Mills ♂ 6.vi. 1937, E. B. Britton.—CORNWALL: St. Minver ♂, ♀ 1/5.vii. 1917, Le Marchant. DORSET: Wimborne ♂ 24.vi. 1956. GLAMORGAN: Porthcawl ♀ 27.vi. 1903. SUSSEX: Hastings ♀ viii. 1879. HERTFORD: Tarrington ♀ 5.viii. 1932. YORKSHIRE ♀ NORTHUMBERLAND: Castle Ward ♂ 28.vi., ♂ 1.vii. 1926. ROXBURGH: Newcastleton 6 ♂ 8.vi. 1939, R. B. Benson. PERTH: Killin 6 ♂, 2 ♀ 22/30.vi. 1932, R. B. Benson. KINCARDINE: Auchenblae, Fordoun ♂ viii/ix. 1928, A. R. Waterston. INVERNESS: Nethy Bridge ♀ 29.vii., ♀ 2.viii. 1904, Tulloch, near Nethy Bridge ♂ 27.vi. 1947, R. B. Benson, Aviemore 2 ♂, ♀ 27/31.v. 1952, R. B. Benson. SUTHERLAND: Golspie ♂, ♀ 25.vii. 1900, ♂ 9.viii. 1900, ♂ 29.vi. 1904.

28. *Crossocerus (Cuphopterus) confusus* (Schulz)

DORSET: Wimborne ♀ 23.vii. 1956. SUSSEX: Amberley ♀ 1.viii. 1920, E. B. Ashby. SURREY: Chobham ♀ vi. 1878. ESSEX: Colchester, Harwood ♂ 17.vii. 1883.

29. *Lindenius albilabris* (F.)

DORSET: Holt ♂ 16.vii. 1956, Morden 2 ♀ 27.vii. 1956. HAMPSHIRE: New Forest ♀ 9.vii. 1912, ♀ 15.vii. 1916, F. C. Adams, Milford-on-Sea ♀ vii. 1906. SUSSEX: Hastings 19 ♂, 4 ♀ vii. 1879/1904. SURREY: Chobham 4 ♂, 15 ♀ 1878/1897, Weybridge ♂ 15.vi. 1917, Woking ♂, 6 ♀ 1877/1908. MIDDLESEX: Northwood ♀ 5.vii. 1953. HERTFORD: Tarrington ♀ 22.viii. 1902.

30. *Lindenius pygmaeus* (Rossi)

DORSET: Wimborne ♂ 23.vii. 1956.

31. *Entomoganathus brevis* (Vander Linden)

DORSET: Wimborne 6 ♂ 23.vi. 1948. HAMPSHIRE: New Forest ♀ 14.vii. 1913, Winchester ♂ 24.vii. 1952, J. Leclercq. BUCKINGHAM: Farnham Royal ♀ 25.vii. 1930. HERTFORD: Hexton ♂ 28.vi. 1949.

32. **Rhopalum clavipes** (L.)

HAMPSHIRE: Southampton 5 ♂, ♀ vi. 1938.

33. **Rhopalum coarctatum** (Scopoli)

DORSET: Studland Heath ♂ 6.vi. 1938, Wimborne ♂ 21.viii. 1956. BERKS: Windsor ♂ 14.vi. 1956. MIDDLESEX: Mill Hill ♀ 4.vii. 1936, K. M. Guichard, Ruislip ♀ 3.ix. 1938. HERTFORD: Brickett Wood ♀ 1.vii. 1939. SUFFOLK: Brandon 2 ♂, ♀ 27/28.v. 1945.

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