

# AGROMYZIDAE NEWSLETTER

## LATEST NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL AGROMYZIDAE RECORDING SCHEME

### A BRIEF UPDATE

#### RECORDS

May resulted in 178 records been received by the NRS. In June, a record-breaking 317 were submitted, covering 65 species – a fantastic total!

*Phytomyza ilicis*, again, was the most recorded species, but this time forming only 38% of total records received. *Phytomyza chaerophylli* and *Phytomyza ranunculi* were also well recorded, with over 40 records been received for the former.

As always, many thanks to everyone who is contributing to the NRS! Apologies for this rather truncated newsletter, too many hours have been spent collecting in the field this month!

Graham Moates recorded the vacated mines of *Phytomyza chaerophylli* at Lackford Lakes in May, which had the puparia still attached to the leaf. Graham says “I was really pleased with this picture of *Phytomyza chaerophylli* taken at SWT Lackford Lakes in mid-May which shows three of the black puparia on the Cow Parsley leaf as well as distinct frass patterns in the vacated mines.

The camera used was a Nikon Coolpix L830 bridge camera. *Phytomyza chaerophylli* appears to be widespread in Norfolk & north Suffolk although only has 132 records on iRecord the last week of March”. Graham’s photo is shown below;



Larval mines and puparia of *Phytomyza chaerophylli* © Graham Moates

Despite all the wind and rain these puparia are subjected to, their gluing agent is remarkably strong! Thanks for the photo Graham.

### WHAT’S ABOUT.....

#### JULY

This month can often be one of the best times to record Agromyzidae mines.

One mine which starts appearing during July is that of *Liriomyza cicerina*, which forms untidy corridor mines on Restharrow (*Ononis*) and Melilot (*Melilotus*).

The mine is a gradually widening corridor, which sometimes forms a blotch. The frass is in thread-like fragments, which alternates from each side of the corridor;



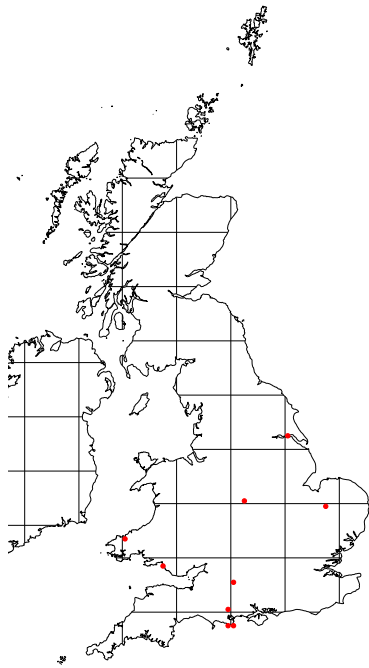
*Liriomyza cicerina* mine © Barry Warrington



*Liriomyza cicerina* tenanted mine © Barry Warrington

Usually, there is only a single mine per leaf but occasionally, two mines may be present. Pupariation occurs outside of the mine.

*Liriomyza cicerina* is a local species, with the NRS holding only 11 records;



Distribution map of *Liriomyza cicerina*

The species is also known from Kent and Surrey (Spencer) and Warwickshire (Robbins).

*L. cicerina* may prove to be more widespread than the records suggest, as the host plants are frequently encountered, so do keep an eye out for this miner and of course, please do submit any records through iRecord or direct to the NRS via the email at the end of the newsletter – thank you!

Another miner which may be encountered this month is *Nemorimyza posticata* which feeds on Goldenrod (*Solidago*).

James Emerson recorded this species recently and writes “The recent decision by Norwich City Council to close an underpass that runs under the ring road has had some incidental wildlife-recording benefits for the area, as I have been experimenting with new routes to and from work and noting species as I go.

My current favoured walk includes a stretch of footpath alongside the River Wensum with a mixture of trees, native and naturalised plants, and has proven to be a good area for basking insects and also for leaf mines.

On 19th June I was walking home through this area when I noticed a brown blotch mine on the edge of a Canadian Goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*) leaf.

After checking ukflymines.co.uk it appeared that the likely culprit was *Nemorimyza posticata*, and Barry agreed via the @AgromyzidaeRS Twitter account, but suggested that to be sure I should take a photo with transmitted light. This showed the concentric feeding lines typical of this species and confirmed the ID. This was a good find, with only 15 records in the NRS database and the first known record for Norfolk.”

James’ photo is shown below;



*Nemorimyza posticata* tenanted mine © James Emerson

NEW BRITISH LEAFMINER DISCOVERED

PHYTOMYZA SCOTINA – THE SAGE MINER

Back in May 2017, mines were collected on Sage, *Salvia nemorosa*, from the York Museum Gardens, York, that produced adults a few weeks later which were confirmed as *Phytomyza scotina*, a species not previously known in the UK. Click [here](#) for details.

It would be very interesting to see if this species is present elsewhere in Britain so please do check any *Salvia* you know of and let us know – good luck!

CONTACT

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE SCHEME, PLEASE DO GET IN TOUCH WITH US;



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