

ADDITIONAL RECORDS OF PLANT GALLS FROM THE ISLE OF WIGHT - 2010

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In contrast to the year 2009 when seven new gall causers were recorded from the Island, 2010 has yielded two new galls only; and one of these is a new form of a gall already here.

DIPTERA

CECIDOMYIIDAE

Phegomyia fagicola (Keiffer, 1901) on Beech *Fagus sylvatica*

The first record came from a young tree on Brighston Down at SZ428843 on 11.5.2010. One vacated gall was found on a newly unfolded leaf. The gall consists of a markedly thickened side vein, especially noticeable from below and around which the leaf surface is folded upwards to create a thickened fold extending from the midrib to the leaf edge and opening upwards by a very narrow longitudinal slit. The galls are yellowish initially, reddening later. Subsequent to this find, several tenanted galls were found at Osborne 25.5.2010. Each fold contained two to three reddish larvae, the folds being 10mm long and 1.5mm deep.

HYMENOPTERA

CYNIPIDAE

Plagiotrochus quercusilicis (Fabricius, 1798) *forma fusifex* on Holm Oak *Quercus ilex*.

The leaf galls of this gall wasp were first found at Fort Victoria by Mike Cotterill 19.7.2008 and were described in Vol. 24 of the Proceedings (2009). Later that year I found three galls on a tree along the Cowes-Newport cycle track at Werrar SZ505922 on 25.8.2008. The next year the same tree had 19 galls 18.6.2009. I investigated the tree again 1.6.2010 and counted 404 galls. However I also found several previously unknown galls on the male catkins. Each gall consisted of an oval swelling of the rachis of the catkin, 3mm in length and 2mm in width, initially yellow then becoming bright red; and found on sectioning to contain several separate larval chambers. Until recently this was considered to be the gall of *Plagiotrochus fusifex*, Mayr, 1882. However Pujade-Villar and Ros-Farré (1998) have shown that *P.fusifex* is the same species as *P.quercusilicis* which induces both the leaf gall and the catkin gall. In its native Spain and Portugal the host trees are *Quercus coccifera* and *Quercus ilex*, the Kermes Oak and the Holm Oak. So far as I am aware this is the first British record of the catkin gall.

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