

## CECIDOLOGY ON THE ISLE OF WIGHT

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Cecidology – the study of plant galls (from *kekis*, the Greek word for oak-apple) – has been neglected as much on the Isle of Wight as elsewhere in England this century. Not since E.W. Swanton (1938) published a list in the *Proceedings* has a systematic Island record been made. Only two accounts of new finds have been published since that time (Biggs 1977; Frazer 1984: 643). Reports of plant galls (*galla* in Latin, the word having the sense of a bile- or venom-induced swelling) as with other less familiar branches of natural history have depended on occasional visits by enthusiasts from other areas, although Frank Morey did contribute to Swanton's list.

One of the problems contributing to this apparent lack of enthusiasm for the study of these interesting phenomena has been the dearth of literature in English on the subject over the past seventy years. The Dutch and Germans seem to have led the field and there has been only one book on the subject in English published since Swanton's own work in 1912 (Darlington 1968). Partly to remedy this situation the British Plant Gall Society was formed in 1985 and has published a key to British plant galls (Stubbs 1986). It is hoped that records can be made in a systematic way based upon the classification of the gall-causer.

I append a short list (Table 1) of galls found recently on the Island and not recorded by Swanton (1938).

### References

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TABLE 1. PLANT GALLS RECENTLY FOUND ON THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

Group	Species	Host	Date	Grid Reference	Frequency
Bacteria	<i>Corynebacterium fascians</i>	<i>Forsythia suspensa</i>	Summer 86	SZ 476955	Main stem of one bush
Fungi	<i>Gymnosporangium juniperi</i> ( <i>Accidium</i> generation)	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	11.8.86	SZ 581789	Single specimen
Fungi	<i>Taphrina pruni</i>	<i>Prunus domestica institata</i>	Summer 86	SZ 476955	Single specimen amongst many hundred bullace
Fungi	<i>Taphrina ulmi</i>	<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	21.10.86	SZ 503910	Frequent
Fungi	<i>Taphrina carpini</i>	<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	14.7.86*	SZ 402898	One witch's broom on a single tree.
Acari	<i>Eriophyes megalonyx</i>	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	2.8.86	SZ 527948	Frequent
Acari	<i>Eriophyes lionotus</i>	<i>Betula pendula</i>	10.8.86	SZ 431905	Single specimen
Acari	<i>Eriophyes axillare</i>	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	18.9.86	SZ 502905	Occasional
Acari	<i>Eriophyes fraxinivorus</i>	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	January 83**	SZ 423836	Single specimen
Acari	<i>Eriophyes tetanotothorax</i>	<i>Salix caprea</i>	23.5.87	SZ 526947	Frequent on one tree
Acari	<i>Eriophyes itenia</i>	<i>Salix caprea</i>	23.5.87	SZ 526947	One leaf of one tree
Acari	<i>Epirimerus trilobus</i>	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	29.5.87	SZ 476955	Several leaves on one tree
Acari	<i>Aceria pseudoplatanus</i>	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	26.10.86	SZ 527948	Frequent
Hemiptera	<i>Eriosoma lanigerum</i>	<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	Summer 86	SZ 476955	Frequent on old trees
Hemiptera	<i>Erisoma campestricola</i>	<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	2.10.86	SZ 503910	Frequent
Diptera	<i>Phytomyza ilicis</i>	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	2.5.87	SZ 476955	Most leaves on the single tree present.
Diptera	<i>Lipara lucens</i>	<i>Phragmites communis</i>	2.5.87	SZ 492755	Frequent
Hymenoptera	<i>Andricus lignicola</i>	<i>Quercus robur</i>	Summer 86	SZ 476955	Frequent on the older of two trees
Hymenoptera	<i>Andricus quercus-calicis</i>	<i>Quercus robur</i>	Summer 86	SZ 502905	Very common
Hymenoptera	<i>Neuroterus albipes</i>	<i>Quercus robur</i>	29.7.86	SZ 519958	Frequent

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