

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE MOTHS

2005 Newsletter 6

It is now, almost, the end of the season, however one recorder, Peter Hugo, is still busy and has been rewarded after several attempts last year and this to record the **Plumed Prominent** (Notable Na).

This one is in typical resting position.



This species was last recorded in the county in 1977 by Barry Goater in Withington Wood. Prior to that there were old records from Cirencester Park, Chedworth, Daglingworth and Northleach sometimes appearing in numbers.

Peter had 14 to choose from when he took his photos on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November in Withington Woods. His traps had been left overnight, and he was not able to visit them until lunchtime, but the moths were still there in and around the traps together with 26 **Sprawler** and a **Scarce Umber**.

This one was preparing for take-off.



Peter has also had **Juniper Carpet**, **Autumn Green Carpet** and **Beech-green Carpet** at his home in Thrupp.

Several people who have been recording into the autumn have been rewarded with the spectacular **Merveille du Jour**. This is really quite common, but always a pleasant surprise.

It has not been a good year for migrants. Apart from those already mentioned **The Delicate** has been recorded several times. Recorders include Neil Woodward and Steve Chappell. I think there was another record, but I have lost track of it and hope it will come in with that recorder's full list.

Steve had a very fresh **Pebble Hook-tip** on the 29<sup>th</sup> October, and Neil has also had **Deep-brown Dart**, **Large Wainscot** and the larvae of **Oak Eggar** on *Sarracenia flava*. Neil quite liked the idea of an insect eating an insectivorous plant!

Robert Homan has found mines of *Phyllonorycter emberizaepennella* on honeysuckle, and *P. trifasciella* on other plants on the old railway track near his home in Cheltenham.

John Langmaid sent me a number of records arising from a day in May spent near Speech House. His most important record was of larvae of *Caryocolum kroesmanniella* on *Stellaria holostea*. I was not previously aware that there was an old record of this species from this site. He also bred out *Elachista adscitella* from mines collected on that day.

I have just received Gordon Avery's records (338 species!) for the year, and look forward to receiving the more modest lists that most of you will be preparing.

When I have received all the records in the pipe-line (I hope) I will circulate an annual report in the usual way.

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Roger Gaunt, St Briavels, 21<sup>st</sup> November 2005.