https://doi.org/10.37208/tgn28306

A brown lacewing *Hemerobius stigma* (Neuroptera: Hemerobiidae) in Glasgow Botanic Gardens, Scotland

R.B. Weddle

89 Novar Drive, Glasgow G12 9SS

E-mail: richard@canto.plus.com

One specimen of the brown lacewing *Hemerobius stigma* Stephens, 1836 was found in the moth trap at Glasgow Botanic Gardens, Scotland on 3rd October 2024 (Fig. 1). This is the first record for Glasgow, and one of rather few records in west central Scotland.

Fig. 1. *Hemerobius stigma*, Glasgow Botanic Gardens, 2024. Length (excluding antennae): 7 mm. (Photo: ©The Hunterian Museum)

H. stigma is distinguished by having a dark cross-vein MCCV (vein identification code) accompanied by shading on adjacent parts of the wing-membrane, and an orange pterostigma (an area on the leading edge of the wings); it is described as "one of the commonest species in pine woodlands, particularly associated with Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*)" (Plant, 2016). It is therefore perhaps not surprising that it is more commonly recorded in upland areas, though this may well be due to invertebrate monitoring in native pine woodlands. It is therefore likely to be under-recorded elsewhere. BugLife describe it as very common (C. Macadam, pers. comm.). The specimens held in the collections at the National Museum of Scotland and the Hunterian Museum support the view that most recording is done north of the Highland Line, though both collections include a significant number of records from the Central Lowlands of Scotland.

There are several pine species in Glasgow Botanic Gardens, including several specimens of Scots pine adjacent to the Children's Garden, some 100 m from the location of the moth trap. This is the first record for the Gardens and for Glasgow, though there are earlier records from west central Scotland generally. A 1989 sighting on Little Cumbrae (E.G. Hancock) was thought have been blown onto the island from the Ayrshire mainland, and there are 19th century records from Carluke, Lanarkshire (K.J. Morton), Bishopton and Johnstone, both Renfrewshire (A.A. Dalglish), and Ardentinny, Loch Long, Argyll (J.J.F.X. King). The 19th century records are transcribed from King (1901), and there are further west central Scotland specimens of King's in the Hunterian collection from Bonhill, Devol Glen (Port Glasgow), Helensburgh, Johnston Castle Woods, Mugdock Woods, Troon and West Kilbride. All the records mentioned are held by the Glasgow Museums Biological Record Centre database. However, only the Little Cumbrae record is currently shown on The National Biodiversity Network Atlas, which also shows a further record by R.K.A. Morris in 1992 at Falls of Clyde Scottish Wildlife Trust Reserve (NBN, 2024). The Botanic Gardens record, along with the west central Scotland records from the Hunterian Museum, will be added to the NBN Atlas in due course. The specimen has been donated to the Hunterian Museum (Acc. No. 181356).

I am grateful to Jeanne Robinson for access to, and providing data from specimens in, the Hunterian Museum, to Ashleigh Whiffin for facilitating access to the National Museum of Scotland collections and SIRI (Scottish Insect Records Index), to Craig Macadam (BugLife) for helpful comments, and to Geoff Hancock (The Hunterian, University of Glasgow) for providing Fig. 1.

REFERENCES

King, J.J.F.X. (1901). Neuroptera–Planipennia. In: Elliot, G.F.S., Laurie, M. & Murdoch, J.B. (Editors). *Fauna, Flora and Geology of the Clyde Area*. University of Glasgow Press, Glasgow.

NBN (2024). National Biodiversity Network Atlas. https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0000869712 Accessed 14th December 2024.

Plant, C.W. (2016). *A Key to the Adults of British Lacewings and Their Allies*. Field Studies Council AIDGAP Guides. Vol. 245. Field Studies Council, Shrewsbury.