

Newsletter: October 2007 Issue 9

## Phyllocnistis ramulicola (Langmaid & Corley, 2007) - a newly described species:

In September 2006 John Langmaid found white cocoons on the leaves of Salix cinerea In Havant, Hampshire.

Further searching revealed whitish buff mines, up to 30cm long in the stems (as below):



Moths emerged from the cocoons and although superficially resembling Phyllocnistis saligna (which mines smooth leaved Willows), genitalia dissection confirmed this as a new species.

Mines were found mainly on S.cinerea, but also sometimes on S.caprea

Correspondence with other Entomologists, including Martin Corley, revealed the presence of this moth from Portugal.

The eggs are laid on the stem of the current year's growth and the mine progresses through the stem up through the petiole and terminating at the leaf base.

The larva then curls over the leaf edge to pupate:



There may be two or three cocoons found on a single leaf, July to November.

Voltinism is uncertain at present but moths have been found in Portugal in June and September to November.

John has further recorded this miner in West Hampshire and West Sussex.

Thanks to John Langmaid and Martin Corley for their help with this newsletter.

## Further details:

Langmaid, J & Corley, M (2007) Phyllocnistis ramulicola sp.nov (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae) in England and Portugal. Ent. Gazette 58, 4 p227-237

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