

Newsletter: October 2008

**Phyllonorycter leucographella (Lep: Lithocolletinae) - a miner of Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*)**

As reported in the newsletter 24 of October 2005 , Steve Hind and Roger Brereton discovered *P.leucographella* feeding on Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) on 18.viii.2002, in Hurdsfield, Macclesfield, Cheshire (VC58).

Barry Dickerson has now discovered this miner also feeding on Beech at The Coneygeare, Eynesbury, Huntingdonshire, VC 31 on 01.x.2008 and is shown opposite.

These may be the first published photographs for this miner on Beech.

The mine was centred over a major lateral vein and is shown in close up opposite

John Langmaid confirmed Barry's identification.

**Caloptilia stigmatella mines (Lep: Gracillariidae) - a cautionary tale**

Barry Dickerson was looking at the leaf of White Poplar (*Populus alba*) which had a folded leaf edge (a typical *Caloptilia* fold (as shown opposite).

This was identified as *Caloptilia stigmatella* by John Langmaid..

He then noticed a bump on the lower surface of the leaf saying 'I picked at it carefully and inside I found the pupa, which I extracted and photographed.

I then placed it back onto the leaf and put them into a plastic pot. The moth emerged a few days later and the pupa is open and split.' The moth was *Caloptilia stigmatella*.

Care needs to be taken with the identification of such mines as there is a potential for misidentification with the spread of *Phyllonorycter comparella* on the same foodplant.

Barry says 'I have two mines from which the moth has emerged from one which are just blisters under the leaf and not the typical folded leaf edge which is mentioned in the books, so it appears that folding the leaf edge is not necessarily the only means that the larva uses to pupate.'

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