



Agromyzidae (Leaf-miner flies) Recording Scheme – a new recording scheme:



Phytomyza angelicae Kaltenbach, 1872

Photo © Barry Warrington

A new National Recording Scheme has been launched for Agromyzidae, leaf-mining flies.

Barry Warrington says 'The Agromyzidae are a large family with approximately 400 species being recorded in the UK. The majority of species feed within the leaves of plants, often making distinctive patterns - commonly referred to as leafmines, which, combined with how the larva deposits its frass, is often unique to a particular species. Some species however feed within stems, seed-heads, roots or form galls.'

The adult flies are very small, ranging between 1mm-6mm in length and some can only be identified by examining the male genitalia. However, some species can be readily identified by considering the host plant, shape of the mine, frass pattern and pupal features.

The Agromyzidae Recording Scheme has been set up to enable us to gain a much greater understanding of the family, in terms of population and distribution trends, host plants and lifestyle. To enable this, the scheme will be collating records from all over the UK, through Local Record Centres, Wildlife organisations and individuals.

The scheme organiser, Barry Warrington, hopes that the scheme will also promote and increase public awareness of these fascinating insects, which will lead to the general public engaging in the scheme.

A website dedicated to Agromyzidae is currently under development, however, due to the amount of work involved in creating such a website, this will take a substantial amount of time and therefore, the site will operate as 'work in progress' for the foreseeable future.

The recording scheme also has its own Twitter account, [@AgromyzidaeRS](#). This will be used to answer any queries the general public may have, submitting records and to share *Agromyzidae* news. A recent request for records of the Holly leaf-miner, *Phytomyza ilicis* resulted in over 90 records being submitted, which exceeded expectation.

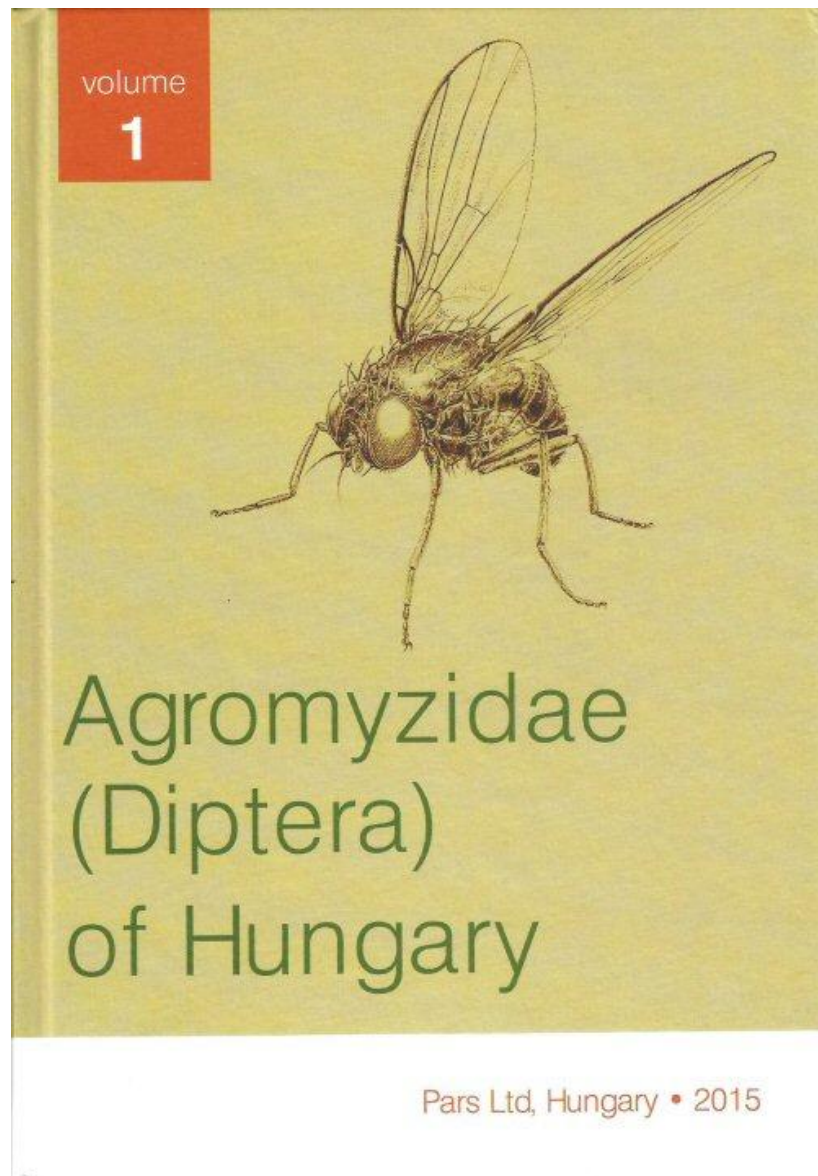
With regards to submitting records to the scheme, we welcome records from experts and novices alike.

To submit a record, or if you would like to know more about the scheme, you can either use the aforementioned Twitter account or email : agromyzidaeRS@gmail.com.

You can also submit records to the scheme via the iRecord website.'

Barry Warrington

Agromyzidae (Diptera) of Hungary - Volume 1



This is the first volume in a four volume series covering the *Agromyzidae* of Hungary.

It contains sections on materials and methods for studying this group; the morphology of adults and larvae; phylogenetic relationships of *Agromyzidae*; classification; life habits; economic importance and the history of studies on the Hungarian *Agromyzidae*.

There are detailed keys to the genera and the species of *Agromyzidae* in Hungary.

Although it is centered on Hungary there are many species in common with the UK and the book provides keys for 155 species of the Genera *Agromyza*, which include *Agromyza*, *Hexomyza*, *Melanagromyza* and *Ophiomyia*.

There is a comprehensive reference section, with 120 references, followed by an index to the diptera, then the host plants

The book is 416 pages long

It is beautifully illustrated throughout with detailed drawings of the morphological features and genitalia. There are over 1300, mostly original, figures spread over 220 plates.

For each species there is a section on diagnostic features along with its faunistic status. The life habits are described and the economic importance.

This is an excellent guide to this group of diptera as it enables identification based on details of the morphology and genitalia.

Lots of this group are leafminers and the details of the life habits are very brief, with few diagrams of the mines.

Volume 2 has just been published and contains details of the first part of the subfamily *Phytomyzinae*.

Barry Warrington comments on the usefulness of this series saying 'Someone sent me a pot full of Agromyzids, from 2004. The majority had head, wings, legs missing so all the gen det's I did were 'blind' so to speak as I could not use the key to get to genus. The illustrations in the Hungarian books are fantastic and really made it easy for me to determine the species I had prepared'.

I am collecting the series and consider it represents good value. I look forward to its completion.

It is available from natural history booksellers in the UK or direct from the publishers (Pars Ltd.) in Hungary

More details : <http://agromyzidae.hu>

Rob Edmunds



Leafmines.co.uk – the website

The domain and website hosting have just been renewed and I am very grateful to Colin Plant for his continuing sponsorship, ensuring the future of this site.

We enter our twelfth year now and I would like to thank the small team of helpers and advisers, who have been with the site since its inception, namely Barry Dickerson, David Manning and Colin Plant.

Rob Edmunds