

LONGHORN BEETLES 2008  
Keith Balmer

The number of records collated for the 2008 season was much reduced relative to 2007 but I was still pleased to receive 96 from 26 observers. Thanks again go to Martin Rejzek (the national *Cerambycidae* recorder) for reviewing the collated data.

Undoubtedly the unsettled weather made observation more difficult (beating wet foliage has limited attraction) and it seemed that fewer beetles than usual were to be seen visiting nectar sources throughout the season.

Sixteen species were reported, one of these additional to those recorded since this recent survey began in 2006. This has tentatively been identified as *Tetropium castaneum*, but at the time of writing the specimen still awaits expert determination. It was found on freshly cut logs in Chicksands Wood on 24<sup>th</sup> May (KB).

It's often the large beetles that command attention and the records reflect this. The large yellow/black *Rutpela maculata* was the most reported as usual, showing well throughout the county, particularly on woodland rides. The impressively massive *Prionus coriarius* again showed at The Lodge on 23<sup>rd</sup> July where one was found sitting on a wall (SB/MG/LA) and also caught flying near a moth trap on 2<sup>nd</sup> August (ML/AB/MB). The metallic-green/blue *Aromia moschata* was observed nectaring on wild angelica at Priory Country Park in early August (KB). Eight *Stictoleptura rubra* were recorded at Rowney Warren on 22<sup>nd</sup> July several of which were paired (KB) and it was also recorded in Chicksands Wood on 24<sup>th</sup> July (JP) and swept on Maulden Heath on 21<sup>st</sup> July (BN). *Agapanthia villosoviridescens*, *Clytus arietis*, *Stenocorus meridianus*, and *Stenurella melanura* made up the bulk of the remaining records.

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L.Arnold (LA), K.Balmer (KB), A.Bancroft (AB), M.Banthorpe, A.Banthorpe, S.Blain (SB), M.Boyd (MB), S.Brooke (SB), G.Buss, J.Chapman, H.Griffiths, J.Griffiths, M.Gurney, R.Lawrence, M.Lloyd (ML), B.Nau (BN), J.O'Sullivan, J.Pitts (JP), S.Plummer, S.Raven, H.A.Smith, A.Strutt, A.Whitney, S.Williams, D.Withers

My apologies if I have inadvertently omitted anyone.

The records have been sent to the Bedfordshire and Luton Biodiversity Recording and Monitoring Centre.

The records are summarized in the following table...

**Summary of 2008's longhorn beetle records**

species	Records	Adults	Earliest	Latest	1km squares
<i>Prionus coriarius</i>	3	3	23/07/08	02/08/08	TL1847
<i>Rhagium mordax</i>	1	1	10/05/08	10/05/08	SP9230
<i>Stenocorus meridianus</i>	9	14	10/05/08	28/07/08	SP9451 TL0630 TL0638 TL0639 TL0739 TL0939
<i>Grammoptera ruficornis</i>	7	12	04/05/08	30/06/08	SP9641 SP9741 SP9821 TL0638 TL0639 TL0739 TL1040
<i>Leptura quadrifasciata</i>	2	2	02/08/08	19/08/08	SP9230 TL0537
<i>Stictoleptura rubra</i>	4	12	05/07/08	24/07/08	TL0638 TL1040 TL1240
<i>Rutpela maculata</i>	29	110	09/06/08	19/08/08	SP9230 SP9741 SP9938 TL0238 TL0537 TL0638 TL0639 TL0739 TL0939 TL1040 TL1144 TL1217 TL1240 TL1340 TL1446 TL1447 TL2449
<i>Pseudovadonia livida</i>	3	10	13/06/08	28/06/08	TL0937 TL1339 TL1540
<i>Stenurella melanura</i>	8	32	07/06/08	08/07/08	TL0537 TL0638 TL0639 TL0738 TL1040 TL1540
<i>Tetropium sp.</i>	1	1	24/05/08	24/05/08	TL1040
<i>Glaphyra umbellatarum</i>	2	34	29/06/08	29/06/08	TL1346 TL1446
<i>Aromia moschata</i>	1	2	01/08/08	01/08/08	TL0749
<i>Clytus arietis</i>	12	17	24/04/08	27/06/08	SP9230 SP9741 TL0537 TL0638 TL0639 TL0939 TL0949 TL1129 TL1639 TL1749
<i>Anaglyptus mysticus</i>	5	5	15/04/08	24/05/08	SP9741 TL0537 TL1144 TL2043
<i>Agapanthia villosoviridescens</i>	7	13	19/05/08	15/06/08	SP9838 TL0227 TL0537 TL1040 TL1043 TL1138
<i>Phytoecia cylindrica</i>	2	4	11/05/08	31/05/08	TL0638