

Some records of butterflies, grasshoppers, and crickets in the Urewera National Park

R. L. BROCK

43 Bengal Street, Khandallah, Wellington

Abstract

Seven species of butterflies and three orthopterans were recorded in the Urewera National Park in February 1979.

Keywords: Lepidoptera, Orthoptera, Urewera National Park, records.

INTRODUCTION

A party from the Biological Society of Victoria University of Wellington visited the Urewera National Park from 5 to 9 February 1979, primarily to study the Odonata (Winstanley 1980). This provided an opportunity to record the species of butterflies, short- and long-horned grasshoppers and crickets which were encountered. Previous records of these groups from the Urewera National Park are also given here. The latitude and longitude for each locality are listed at the end of this paper.

BUTTERFLIES

The white butterfly, *Pieris rapae* (Linnaeus), was present in open places on the shores of Lake Waikaremoana and Lake Waikare-iti, and at the grassy flat of Puna Hokoi. Late instar larvae were feeding on a cabbage plant which was growing on the shore of Lake Waikaremoana.

The red admiral, *Bassaris gonerilla gonerilla* (Fabricius), was seen along State Highway 38 as it follows the shore of Lake Waikaremoana, from the Motor Camp to the Rahuiatemata Stream. This species was also present at Puna Hokoi and in the red beech/silver beech forest on the shore of Lake Waikare-iti. A single individual of the yellow admiral, *B. itea* (Fabricius) was seen at the Rahuiatemata Stream.

J. R. Grehan captured a fresh specimen of the Australian painted lady, *Cynthia kershawi* (McCoy), on 9 February while it was feeding from thistle flowers near the Motor Camp.

Dodonidia helmsii Butler, the forest ringlet, has been reported from within the Urewera National Park at the upper Aniwaniwa Stream and the Parahaki Stream by D. Bartram (Gibbs 1980).

The common blue, *Zizina otis labradus* (Godart), was the most numerous of the butterflies encountered. It was present on grassy areas around Lake Waikaremoana and at Puna Hokoi. A solitary adult was captured while flying in the red beech/silver beech forest on the shore of Lake Waikare-iti and another while it was sitting on a log in the lake itself. At night, adults were found to be roosting in manuka on the shore of Lake Waikaremoana.

Numbers of the common copper, *Lycaena salustius* (Fabricius), were flying near the Motor Camp, at the Park Headquarters, the Rahuiatemata Stream, Puna Hokoi, Ngutu Manu Pond and Hine Rere Pond. A worn specimen of the glade copper, *L. feredayi* (Bates), was taken at the Rahuiatemata Stream on 8 February.

CRICKETS AND GRASSHOPPERS

The cricket, *Pteronemobius bigelowi* Swan, was numerous among grass on the shore of Lake Waikaremoana and at Puna Hokoi, but it also occurred in a stand of bracken off the Hineraus Track near the Park Headquarters and on a *Sphagnum-Dracophyllum* bog at Hine Rere Pond. Late instar nymphs and adults were present — no macropterous individuals were seen. This species were first recorded from Lake Waikaremoana by McIntyre (1974).

Both brachypterous and macropterous adults of the grasshopper *Phaulacridium marginale* (Walker) were found on the shores of Lake Waikaremoana and at Puna Hokoi. An adult female of the North Island alpine grasshopper *Sigaus piliferus* Hutton was taken at Lake Waikaremoana by G. W. Gibbs on 17 January 1977.

Katydids, *Caedicia simplex* (Walker), were present in low secondary scrub (manuka) near the Motor Camp on the shore of Lake Waikaremoana.

LOCALITIES

Aniwaniwa Stream (38°42'S, 177°15'E); Hine Rere Pond (38°44'S, 177°08'E); Lake Waikare-iti (38°42'S, 177°10'E); Lake Waikaremoana — Motor Camp and Park Headquarters (38°45'S, 177°09'E); Ngutu Manu Pond (38°43'S, 177°08'E); Parahaki Stream (38°41'S, 176°54'E); Puna Hokoi (38°43'S, 177°09'E); and Rahuiatemata Stream (38°43'S, 177°03'E).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I wish to thank the other members of the party, A. J. Beauchamp, J. R. Grehan, I. M. Henderson, and W. J. Winstanley, for their assistance, and the Urewera National Park Board for permission to collect butterflies and crickets.

REFERENCES

- GIBBS, G. W. 1980: *New Zealand Butterflies — Identification and Natural History*. Collins, Auckland.
- MCINTYRE, M. E. 1974: *Reproductive Isolation Between Two Sibling Species of the Small Black New Zealand Field Cricket (Orthoptera: Nemobiinae), with Special Reference to Acoustical Behaviour*. Unpublished M.Sc. thesis, University of Canterbury, Christchurch.
- WINSTANLEY, W. J. 1980: Odonata in the Urewera National Park. *N.Z. Entomologist* 7(2): 141-8.