

Lepidoptera of Pollen Island, Waitemata Harbour.

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During 1982-1984 members of the Auckland Branch of the Entomological Society conducted four trips to record the insect fauna on Pollen Island in the upper Waitemata Harbour. All trips took place in the evening and most species were attracted to the light from a 'Coleman' pressure lamp or a mercury vapour bulb run from a portable generator. Other species were collected directly from vegetation principally by beating or sweeping. A total of 44 species belonging to 15 families of Lepidoptera have been identified to date.

Pollen Island is the second largest island in the Waitemata Harbour and lies approximately 300m off the Rosebank Peninsula, near the entrance to the Whau River which also borders the Te Atatu Peninsula. The island is approximately 1,400m in length and 200m at its widest point but during spring tides at least half its area is covered by shallow water. Maximum height of the island is less than two metres.

The vegetation on the higher parts of Pollen Island is in the form of thick low scrub consisting principally of Plagianthus divaricatus (salt-marsh ribbonwood), Leptospermum scoparium (manuka), Phormium tenax (flax), Leptocarpus simplex (wiwi), Olearia solandri and Carex sp. The intertidal mudflats on the western side have a border of Juncus maritimus giving way to Samolus repens (salt-marsh primrose), Salicornia australis and Avicennia resinifera (mangrove). The latter species stretches across the mudflats to connect with the Rosebank Peninsula.

The species are listed within each family alphabetically with no regard to subfamily status. The date and collector/recorder are given for each species.

Nepticulidae

Stigmella sp. 22/12/83, PAM et al, adults associated with Plagianthus.

Tortricidae

Bactra n. sp. 26/11/82, JSD et al. Pollen Island is the only known locality of this new species.

Capua semifera (Walker) 26/11/82, JSD et al; 22/12/83, PAM et al;
4/4/84, CJG.

Capua n. sp. 4/4/84, CJG, (not restricted to this locality)

Ctenopseustis obliquana (Walker) 4/4/84, CJG.

Epiphyas postvittana (Walker) 22/12/83, PAM et al.

Merophyas leucaniana (Walker) 26/11/82, JSD et al; 8/3/83, CJG, JSD;
22/12/83, PAM et al; 4/4/84 CJG.

An unusual form of this variable species in that black scales are present on the forewings.

Olethreutinae n. gen. et sp. (not restricted to this locality),
4/4/84, CJG

Sperchia intractana Walker 26/11/82, JSD et al; 22/12/83, PAM et al;
4/4/84, CJG.
Strepsicrates ejectana (Walker) 4/4/84, CJG. Larvae feed on manuka.

Choreutidae

Tebenna bradleyi Clarke 4/4/84, CJG.

Tineidae

Erechthias stilbella (Doubleday) 26/11/82, JSD et al; 22/12/83, PAM et al.
Monopis crocicapitella (Clemens) 26/11/82, JSD et al.
Opogona omoscopa (Meyrick) 26/11/82, JSD et al.

Glyphipterigidae

Pantosperma holochalca Meyrick 4/4/84, CJG.

Coleophoridae

Batrachedra tristictica Meyrick 26/11/82, JSD et al. Larvae feed on
Juncus heads
Coleophora spissicornis Haworth 26/11/82, JSD et al.

Elachistidae

Elachista gerasmia Meyrick 22/12/83, PAM et al.

Gelechiidae

Megacraspedus n. sp. 26/11/82, JSD et al; 22/12/83, PAM et al
Larvae feed on Juncus and Carex heads, not
restricted to this locality.

Oecophoridae

Izatha balanophora (Meyrick) 26/11/82, JSD et al; 22/12/83, PAM et al.
I. peroneanella (Walker) 26/11/82, JSD et al.
Tingena apanthes (Meyrick) 26/11/82, JSD et al.
T. croatala (Meyrick)

Stathmopodidae

Stathmopoda skelloni auct. nec (Butler) 26/11/82, JSD et al.

Pyralidae

Crocodypora n. sp. 4/4/84, CJG. Larvae feed on mangrove, not restricted
to this locality.
Crocodypora n. sp. 26/11/82, JSD et al; 22/12/83, PAM et al;
22/12/83, PAM et al; 4/4/84, CJG. Larvae feed on
Samolus repens, not restricted to this locality.
Eudonia sp. 4/4/84, CJG.
Hymenia recurvalis (Fabricius) 'Hawaiian beet moth' 4/4/84, CJG.
This immigrant was common in Auckland in 1983-84
Orocrambus flexuosellus (Doubleday) 'Common grass moth' 22/12/83,
PAM et al.
Scoparia bisinualis Hudson 4/4/84, CJG.
S. chlamydotata Meyrick 26/11/82, JSD et al; 4/4/84, CJG.

Pieridae

Pieris (Artogetia) rapae (Linnaeus) 'White butterfly'
26/11/82, JSD et al.

Lycaenidae

Zizina otis labradus (Godart) 'Little blue' 26/11/82, JSD et al;
22/12/83, PAM et al

Geometridae

Geometridae

- Chloroclystis filata (Guenee) 4/4/84, CJG.
- Epyaxa rosearia (Walker) 26/11/82, JSD et al; 22/12/83, PAM et al;
4/4/84, CJG.
- Horisme suppressaria (Walker) 4/4/84, CJG.
- Phrissogonus laticostatus (Walker) 8/3/83, CJG; 4/4/84, CJG.
- Poecilasthena pulchraria (Doubleday) 4/4/84, CJG.
- Scopula rubraria (Doubleday) 4/4/84, CJG.

Noctuidae

- Bityla defigurata (Walker) 8/3/83, CJG.
- Chrysodeixis eriosoma (Doubleday) 'Silver Y moth' 4/4/84, CJG.
- Ectopatria aspersa (Walker) Larva from Salicornia australis
26/11/82, JSD et al, emerged 5/1/83; adult
to light 4/4/84, CJG.
- Schrankia costaestrigalis (Stephens) 4/4/84, CJG.
- Tmetolophota steropastis (Meyrick) Larval damage on flax,
adult to light 4/4/84, CJG.

Collectors :

BJD	B.J. Dugdale	PAM	P.A. Maddison
CJG	C.J. Green	PS	P. Scofield
JSD	J.S. Dugdale		

26/11/82, JSD et al = JSD, PAM, BJD
 22/12/83, PAM et al = PAM, JSD, PS

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Butterfly Bureaucracy

A butterfly farm at Buckfast, Devon has been told by the Department of the Environment that it must register as a Zoo!