In 1931 a party from Oxford and Cambridge stayed on St. Kilda in order to make an investigation of the fauna and flora to provide a basis for future observations on the effects of the evacuation of the inhabitants in September, 1930.

The present collection is part of a general collection of insects made to this end from July 22 to August 13, 1931 (see E.M.M., 1931, Vol. LXVII, p. 276, and 1932, Vol. LXVIII, p. 139, for an account of the other insect orders collected). The weather during this period was not nearly so good as the fine spell encountered by Waterston in 1906, but there were eight days of sun in twenty-two, which is apparently above the average for the island.

Collections were made all over Hirta, the main island, sweepings in the thick vegetation of the formerly cultivated areas around the deserted village, and in a small marsh just outside this area, being especially remunerative. On the removal of the sheep with the inhabitants in 1930, all dung disappeared from the mainland of Hirta, and, with no natives to assist in climbing the precipitous cliffs, it was not found possible to reach the sea birds' nests, the other haunt of scatophagous forms. Fortunately, it was possible to arrange a short visit to the island of Dun on August 11, a locality not visited by Waterston, and here the huge colonies of sea birds were accessible, and collections of the abundant scatophagous forms could be made. A few specimens were collected from a similar locality on the island of Soay. On these islands there was an astonishing abundance of *Scatophaga*, and it is curious that on Dun the species should be entirely *S. litorea*, on Soay entirely *S. stercoraria*. Other interesting forms from Dun included *Larix septentrionalis* and *Copromyza glacialis*.

**SPHAEROCIDAE FROM ST. KILDA.**

*Leptocera* Olivier.


*L. minutissima* Zett. Two males, 11.8.31.

*Copromyza* Fallen.

*C. atra* Mg. One male on a dead Herring Gull, 29.7.31. Apparently in my paper on the British species of Sphaeroceridae
I was wrong in using the name *C. hirtipes* R-D. for this species, as pointed out by Hendel (Verh. g. b. Ges. Wien, 81, 1931, sp. 9).

*C. glacialis* Meigen var. n. *pruinosa*.

Resembling *C. glacialis* as defined by Duda (1920), but differing as follows: size perhaps slightly larger (male length about 4.5 mm., female 5 mm.); wings darker, with the clouding of the cross veins very strongly marked; labrum, face in part, lateral areas on the frons reddish; tibiae, tarsi and apex of femora pale reddish, strongly contrasting with the black proximal part of the femora; dorsal surface of head and thorax with dense yellowish tomentum (quite as obvious as in a well-marked specimen of *C. equina* Fall.); mesopleuron duller, lower shining area with an upper boundary as in *C. equina* (see Richards, 1930, fig. 23).

In the normal form of *C. glacialis* the mesopleuron is much more shining, the upper boundary of the shining area is indefinite, but begins anteriorly at the posterior limit of the humeral callus. Further, the tibiae have only their bases pale.

Type, male, Dun, 11.8.31; allotype, female with the same data; paratypes, one female (with no head) with the same data and one damaged specimen of indeterminate sex, Mullach Sgar, 5.8.31. All preserved in the collection of the British Museum.

The variety is almost distinct enough to be treated as a species, but the Scottish fauna still requires further study.

A REVISED LIST OF THE DIPTERA OF ST. KILDA.

BY P. W. EDWARDS AND J. E. COLLIN.

Collections of Diptera have been made only twice on the islands of the St. Kilda group—first by the late Dr. J. Waterston in 1906, and secondly by Mr. David Lack in 1931. Waterston’s collection, a list of which was published by Grimshaw,* was made entirely on the island of Hirta, and is now in the possession of J. E. Collin. Lack’s collection, which included many specimens from the islets of Dun and a few from Soay, has been presented by him to the British Museum. The Waterston collection included specimens of about 120 species, and Lack’s has about 110. Naturally very many species are found in both collections, but Lack’s includes samples of 40 species which were not taken by Waterston, although on the other hand about 43 of the species of Grimshaw’s list were not seen by Lack. The total number of species of Diptera at present known from St. Kilda is therefore 153.

Nearly all the St. Kildan Diptera are common and widespread forms, and show no evidence of variation from the ordinary mainland types. The only species in which any difference is observable from the mainland form are *Cromyza glacialis* and *Stictoscotella quadrata*; the four specimens of the former represent a very distinct variety, which has been described as new by Mr. O. W. Richards; the single specimen of the latter has abnormal wings, but cannot without further confirmation be admitted as a distinct island race.

Apart from the two species just noted, the most interesting flies in the collection are *Thaumalea verralli*, the occurrence of which was unexpected; the marine Chironomid *Thalassomyia frauenfeldi*, of which this is the most northerly record; the Tachinid *Rhinorhina puberula*, a decidedly uncommon species (determined by Miss D. Aubertin); and *Calliphora wuenschi* and *Luria septentrionalis*, two northern species of which we have few British records.

Re-examination of the material on which Grimshaw’s list was based has enabled us to complete or correct his determinations; in only a few cases are the original specimens lost, and the determinations cannot therefore be confirmed; in one or two of these instances (e.g. *Tipula flavolineata*) Grimshaw’s determination must be regarded as open to suspicion.

There is some slight evidence that the Diptera fauna may have changed in the interval between the two collections. Thus Waterston noted that *Dolicopus atratus* was abundant everywhere, and *D. griseipennis* was also abundant; neither of these species was found in 1931, although two other species of the genus (*D. trites* and *D. rupestris*) occurred. The common house-fly (*Musca domestica*) did not occur in either collection.

The subjoined list includes all the species of Diptera now known from St. Kilda, the numbers being those of Grimshaw’s list.

7. [Macrocerca fasciata Mg.]

8. [Myomyia fimbriata Mg.]

5. [Scaphula hirta Mg.]

4. [Synapha fasciata Mg.]

3. (Boletina flavina Walk.)

2. (*Scara* nobilis Winn.)

1. *Scara* nitidicollis Mg.

— *Scara* sp. indet.

BIRIONIDAE.

9. (Dilophus albipennis Mg.)

8. (Scatophase rotata L.)

— Thaumalea verralli Edw.

MYCETOPHILIDAE.

1. *Cromyza glacialis* Meig. var. n. *pruinosa*.

STICTOSCOTELLIDAE.
CERATOPOGONIDAE.
— Culicoides plicaris L. *17. (Dasyhelea aestiva Winn.).
— " arcatus Winn. 16. Palpomyia flavipes Mg. *16. ( " nigripes Mg.).
— " obsoletus Mg. 5.

CHIRONOMIDAE.
— Anotoplina notata Mg. 15. Diamesa culicoides Heger.

TIPULIDAE.

TABANIDAE.

DOLICHOPODIDAE, LONCHOPHIDAE.

SYPHIDAE.

MUSCIDAE, ANTHOMYIDAE.

SCATOMPHAGIDAE, HELIONITIDAE.
84. Scaphiophaga stercoraria L. 88. Leria modesta Mg. 85. " litorum Mg. 89. " mandibularis Fab. 86. " equi Mg. 90. " septentrionalis Collin.

SCIONYZIDAE, SEPSIDAE.
— Oedemata buccata Fln. 93. Themira patris L. 91. Eliaena albicosta Scoop. 92. (Nemophala cylinders Fab.) 95. ( " nigrinana Mg.)

SPHREOCERIDAE (BOBRIDAE).
113. (Cephenomyia nitida Meq.) 117. (Leptocera fontinialis Fln.) 115. ( " piger Mg.) 118. ( " crassimana Hal.) 114. ( " atra Mg.) 119. ( " minitissima Zett.) 120. ( " glacialis var. n. 121. ( " palmata Rich. 122. ( " praenixa Rich.) 123. ( " zosteri Hal.)

AGROMYZIDAE, ETC.
103. Ballophora combinata L. 107. (Leptocera fontinialis Fln.) 104. ( " piger Mg.) 110. ( " Phythomyia ? fuscula Zett.) 109. ( " nigripes Mg.) 111. (Metneura obscura Fln.)

EPHYLIDAE.

DROSOPHILIDAE.
101. Scaptomyza incana Mg. 102. Drosophila fenestrarum Fln. 103. " fuscula Mg. 104. ( " phalerata Mg.)

CHLORIDAE.
105. (Centor cerers Fln.) 106. Chlorops hyperstigma Mg. (Oscinis fuscula Mg.) madipes Bext. sp. (not fuscula).

British Museum (Natural History), London, W.S.7. October, 1932.