

A new record of *Metriocnemus (Inermipupa) carmencitabertarum* (Orthocladiinae) from England.

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Metriocnemus (Inermipupa) carmencitabertarum Langton and Cobo, 1997 was described from specimens collected by Fernando Cobo in 1989 and 1994 in Spain and Portugal (Langton and Cobo, 1997) and was subsequently reported from the Azorean islands of Terceira (Murray *et al.*, 2004) and Santa Maria (Ramos *et al.* 2010). On mainland Europe, north of the Iberian Peninsula, the species was reported from the Netherlands by Kuper *et al.* (2012) and Kuper (2015). It is cited as being present in Estonia and Poland in Fauna Europaea, (Spies and Sæther, 2013) but these records are unconfirmed. The species was first reported in the British Isles from Somerset, England by Langton and Wilson (2012) and from County Meath in Ireland by Murray (2012). That record from England is thus far unique. However, *M. carmencitabertarum* is now known from nine locations in Ireland, eight, including one in Northern Ireland cited in Murray *et al.* (2014) and a ninth location recently reported by Murray (2016).

On a brief visit to Rufford, near Southport, Lancashire, England (53.634°N, 2.823°W) on 3 November 2016, chironomid pupal exuviae were observed floating on the water surface of two outdoor disused stainless steel dog feeding/drinking bowls containing rainwater to a depth of 5.0-7.0cm, algae, debris and leaf litter (Fig. 1). On further examination nine exuviae and one pharate adult male were collected. The exuviae were determined as *M. (I.) carmencitabertarum* from Langton and Visser (2003) while the pharate adult was determined from the key in Langton (2015) to adults of the known British and Irish species of *Metriocnemus*. This new record from Rufford, extends the known distribution northwards in mainland Britain. All recent records are predominantly from rainwater accumulations in wheelbarrows, water butts, buckets, bird baths, dishes, discarded motor tyres etc. The species appears to be an opportunistic occupant of ephemeral habitats and because the pupal exuviae are so characteristic and easily recognisable, investigation of such anthropogenic habitats would likely lead to additional distribution records.



Figure 1. Disused outdoor dog feeding containers with rainwater and leaf-litter from which pupal exuviae and a pharate male of *Metriocnemus carmencitabertarum* were collected.

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