

Diptera

(A late entry!) **Tachydromia smithi (Chvala 1966) Hybotidae** video. The colony at College Lake I have been observing is down in numbers this season but still present. This is an example of their typical courting behaviour. To my knowledge it is still the only known observable UK colony.

1) **Pachygaster leachii (Curtis 1824), Stratiomyidae**. This was at a friends house and I was delighted to be able to get a stacked photo of such a small subject with my TG5. 23/7/23 Steeple Claydon Bucks, SP695270

2) **Ectophasia crassipenis (Fabricius 1794) Tachinidae**(photo and video) It was my first sighting of this species and I was excited to see what I thought was a rare species, I now realise it is another of the species 'on the move', this specimen was a male. Lullington Heath East Sussex, TQ542018 14/9/23

3) **Asilus crabroniformis (Linnaeus 1758) Asilidae** (2 photos and 1 video) it was one of those magical moments, I watched the Hornet Robberfly leap up from the ground and intercept the grasshopper mid-flight. I realised that it was invested in its prey and the grasshopper had one wing out, so I was carefully able to pick both up and get a close view of it feeding. Later on the same site I saw other individuals with prey. Lullington Heath, East Sussex TQ 542018 14/9/23

4) **Eutolmos rufibarbis (Meigen 1820) Asilidae**. The Bucks Invertebrate group were invited to record on a site where fields have been seeded with native wildflowers to encourage invertebrates. Almost as soon as we arrived large Robberflies were spotted, in this area we expected them to be Downland Robberfly (*Machimus rusticus*), but when Martin Harvey captured a female it was clear this was a new location for *Eutolmos rufibarbis*, we saw well over 20 individuals between us and to add confusion a few Downland Robberflies too! This female shows the distinctive ovipositor and black bristles. Medmenham, Bucks SP813852 1/7/23

5) **Western Bee-fly, Bombylius canescens (Mikan 1796) Bombyliidae** (Video) there were three individuals in this location two males and a female all fresh I spent some time happily watching them nectar. Leball Wood near Bodmin SX130660 25/5/23

6) **Bombylius major Bombyliidae** (video) I am always fascinated to watch the females collecting dust prior to egg laying. Cabilla Wood Near Bodmin SX 130660 25/5/23

All photos taken with Olympus TG5 hand held, in the field