

***Anthomyia plurinotata* Brullé (Diptera, Anthomyiidae) new to Britain**

- On 12 May 2013 I photographed what appeared to be a female of *Anthomyia plurinotata* (Brullé, 1833) (Fig. 1) at SU735721 in Whiteknights Park, Reading. It was resting on a leaf in an overgrown hedge overlooking a meadow. My tentative identification was confirmed by Johanna van Erkelens, but Michael Ackland (*pers. comm.*) warned me that I needed to catch a male to be sure.

On 13 September 2014 I caught a male (Fig. 2) at SU742716, on a beech log in a clearing in the Wilderness, an area of old woodland that runs along the south-east boundary of Whiteknights Park. The absence of previous British records of such a distinctive species suggests that it may be a recent arrival in this country.



Fig. 1. *Anthomyia plurinotata* female.



Fig. 2. *Anthomyia plurinotata* male.

According to Michael Ackland (*pers. comm.*), there are no other *Anthomyia* species in Europe that have only two postsutural black spots or marks on the thorax; the other four black and white British species have three such spots including a central one. The male genitalia (Fig. 3, 1-8, drawn by Michael Ackland) have a characteristic profile to the fifth sternite, which have a small membranous area.

Anthomyia plurinotata Brullé was described from Greece (Peloponnese) (Brullé, A. 1832-1833. *Expédition scientifique de Morée, Insectes* 3, 1(2), 1-400). It has been quoted in the literature by numerous authors since then, generally as just a record of its occurrence, and has been included in some keys. Hennig was the first to list all these citations; he commented that "the species is known from only a few localities, it is however widely distributed..." and recorded it from Sweden, Finland, Norway, Germany, France, Hungary and Greece. In Fauna Europaea (www.faunaeur.org) it is also recorded from the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Netherlands, Poland and Slovakia, though Greece is curiously listed there as doubtful. The genitalia figures presented here were drawn from a Dutch specimen (Netherlands: Het Zwin, 2 km from Cadzand, 10.v.2011, Malaise trap, leg. L. Calle).

The only record of its biology is by D. Teschner (1958. Die Dipterenfauna an menschlichen Fäkalien. *Zeitschrift für angewandte Zoologie* 45, 153-19), who found adults near Braunschweig, Germany on human faeces. This is in agreement with several other species of

Anthomyia (in the species group of *Anthomyia pluvialis* (Linnaeus), which have also been recorded from bird nests, and similar habitats where the larvae are scavengers.

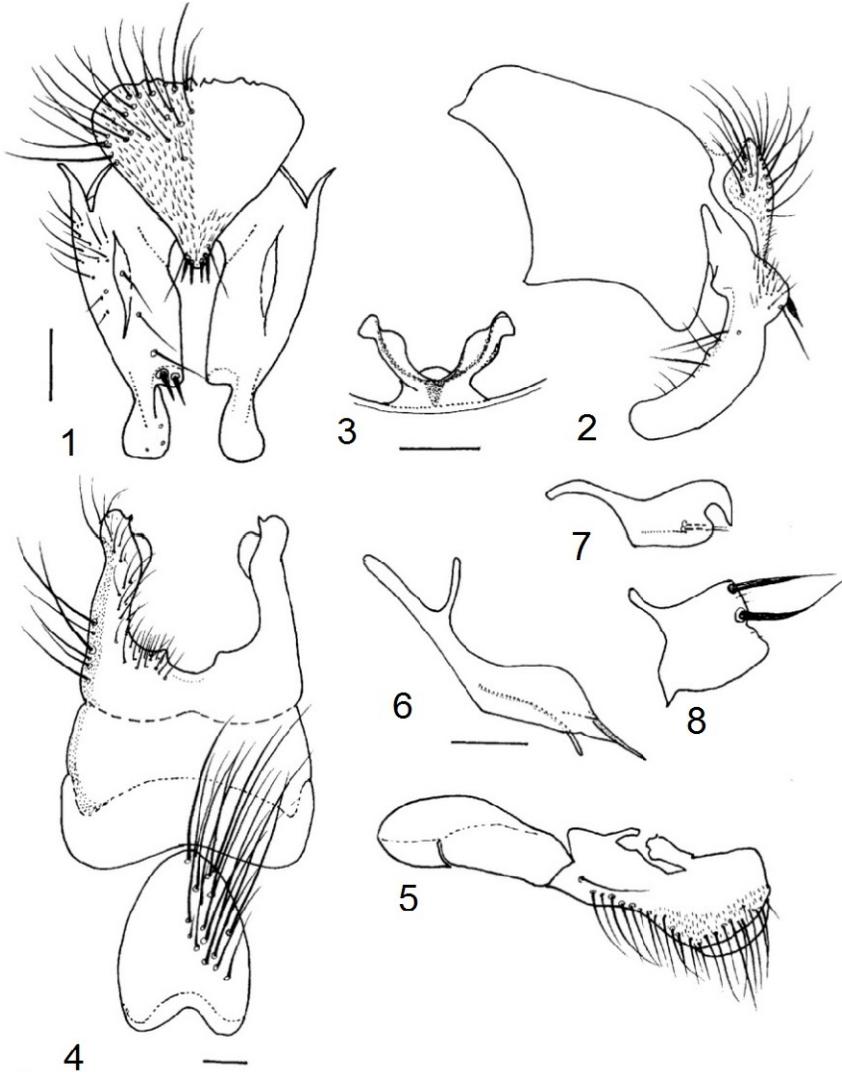


Fig. 3. *Anthomyia plurinotata* Brullé, 1833, male genitalia and sternites IV and V. 1, cercal plate and surstyli, caudal view; 2, cercal plate and surstyli, lateral view; 3, central process of synsternite (6+7); 4, sternite IV and V, ventral view; 5, sternite V lateral view; 6, aedeagus, lateral view; 7, postgonite; 8, pregonite (scale lines 0.1mm).

I thank Michael Ackland for information and for kindly permitting the inclusion of his figures of the male genitalia - **TRISTRAM BRELSTAFF**, 3 Malvern Court, Addington Road, Reading, RG1 5PL