Orthoptera Annual Report, 2018.

Compiled by: Phil Rudkin.

Oak Bush Cricket, Meconema thalassinum

One, observed, on top of owner’s car, at 11.30pm, Redland Close, Barrowden, 3 July.

New site: SK948002.

One, found in bedroom, 27 September, Maresfield Road, Barleythorpe. New site: SK846098.

Dark Bush Cricket, Pholidoptera giseoaptera

Two nymphs, observed in herbage, Ryhall Heath, 6 June 201, new site: TF023127. Photograph received.

Six, stridulating males, in scrub: Stretton Woods, new site. 23 Sept, 2017. Five, observed in brambles, Stretton Woods, new site: SK955169, 2 Sept 2018.

Roesel’s Bush Cricket, Metrioptera roeselii

One, final instar male nymph, found in grasses, along Gypsy Lane, Uppingham, new site, 10 June, SP860998. Photograph supplied!

Large colony, circa 40 stridulating males, in lush grasses, the Green Burial Field, Ketton, new site,

2 August, SK975037. Numbers not stated: small colony of stridulating males, Stretton Woods, new site: SK951169, 23 Sept 2017. Further confirmation, of this species, on 2 Sept 2018, at same site, Massive numbers of stridulating males, in rough grass verges, Stretton Woods. SK951169

Long-winged Conehead, Conochephalus discolor

Massive numbers, Circa 50, stridulating males, in lush grasses, the Green Burial Field, Ketton, new site: 2 August, SK975037. One, final instar nymph, Gunthorpe field, 7 August, new site: SK863056.

Numbers not stated: males heard stridulating, new site, Stretton Woods, 23 Sept 2017. SK951169.

Further confirmation of this species, on 2 Sept 2018, at same site, 10 stridulating males, in rough herbage, deep in Stretton Woods, SK955169.

Speckled Bush Cricket, Leptophyes punctatissima

Three stridulating males, heard with Bat-Detector @ 35 kHz. The Drift, Ryhall, new site: 11 July. TF029128. One, observed on Wheelie-bin, in back garden, Reeves Lane, Wing. New site,

17 July, SK882032.

Large colonies located in Ash, Lime and Hawthorn.at the Green Burial Field, Ketton, new site,

2 August, SK975037.

Numbers not stated: Males located in hedgerows (Bat-Detector), on 23 Sept 2017. New site, Stretton Woods, SK951169. Further confirmation, of this species, on 2 Sept 2018, same site, circa 18 stridulating males, in bushes and trees, Stretton Woods, SK 951169.

Groundhoppers

Slender Groundhopper, Tetrix subulata

Two nymphs, in Leighfield, near the river Chater, new site: SK814042, 5 May. One, found in a member’s back garden, in Manton, 5 May, new site: SK880046.

Grasshoppers

Common Green Grasshopper, Omocestus viridulus

Three stridulating males, in small grass field: adjoining the east side of Burley Woods, on 25 June,

New site, SK896094.

Field Grasshopper, Chorthippus brunneus

One nymph, located next to the railway bridge, Pilton, on 29 May, new site: SK907035.

Two nymphs, in grass rides, of Clipsham Park Wood. On 14 June, new site, SK971170. Photographs sent. Three, observed in corn field, Ryhall Heath, new site, TF019123, 11 July. Photograph sent!

Meadow Grasshopper, Chorthippus parallelus

One male, caught and identified; deep in Stretton Wood pasture, new site, SK954169, 2 September.

Ten stridulating males and 4 females observed, in the lush grasses, in the Green Burial field, Ketton,

new site: SK975037, 2 August.

Lesser Marsh Grasshopper, Chorthippus albomarginatus

Two nymphs, in pasture, next to the railway bridge, Pilton, new site: SK907035, 29 May.

Twelve stridulating males, in lush grasses of the Green Burial field, Ketton, 2 August,

New site: SK975037.

The four Rutland Water surveys, (2 at Egleton, 2 at Lyndon), were successful; with all the current species in healthy numbers.

Highlight: I caught a Long-winged Conehead, female, final instar nymph, at 4.0pm, in the wildflower meadow, at Quarry Farm, on 16 July. I then took it home and put it in the garage for overnight (intending to photograph the cricket next morning). During that evening, I took a look at it in the garage, and it was acting strangely, with unusual body movements. I noticed some flaps at the side of the body. Next morning, I prepared a spot in the garden, and on opening the bug pot, I found a lovely, fresh, adult female Long-winged Conehead in mint condition. I had unwittingly watched a final instar happening the night before. Wonderful!

Many thanks to the team, for their reports in season 2018: Vic Arnold, Carolyn Baxter, Paul Bennet,

Tim Caldicott, Roy Edwards, Roy Frost, Charles Gallimore, Martin Grimes, Helen Ikin, Clive Jones, Roy Lemmon, Philip Rudkin, Steve Woodward, Linda Worrall.

Phil Rudkin.