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Notes on the shieldbugs and allied species (Hemiptera: Coreoidea, Pentatomoidea and Pyrrhocoroidea) found in the Clyde area, Scotland

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Only five shieldbugs are listed as having been recorded in the Clyde area prior to the 20th century (Murphy, 1901): cow-wheat shieldbug (*Sehirus biguttatus*, now *Adomerus biguttatus*), red-legged shieldbug (*Tropicoris rufipes*, now *Pentatoma rufipes*), spiked shieldbug (*Picromerus bidens*), birch shieldbug (*Acanthosoma dentatum*, now *Elasmostethus interstinctus*), and parent bug (*Acanthosoma interstinctum*, now *Elasmucha grisea*).

There have been many new heteropteran species arriving in the area since then, particularly in the last 25 years, some of which may reflect range expansion due to climate change. Also, some longer established species have apparently increased in numbers, perhaps for the same or related reasons. This account focuses on those species found in the Clyde catchment area which are in the group covered by the U.K. national recording scheme for shieldbugs and allies.

In the following account, National Biodiversity Network is abbreviated as NBN, National Museum of Scotland as NMS, Biological Records Centre as BRC, United Kingdom Species Index as UKSI, and Scottish Insect Records Index as SIRI.

Occurrences in the Clyde area described below are based on records from Glasgow Museums BRC. Information from the NBN Atlas (NBN, 2025) was obtained in October 2025. To avoid the need for an excessive number of separate references to the Atlas, a link to it is supplied for each species. This link also enables access to at least one photograph of the species. It should also be borne in mind that the NBN Atlas is a work in progress, and it is acknowledged that many extant biological records have still to be added. However, for this group, the Atlas seems to present a reasonably complete representation of both the species present in the Clyde area, and those in Scotland generally, as the U.K. recording scheme for this group seems to be unusually good at keeping the Atlas up to date with records submitted to them. Glasgow Museums BRC has uploaded all their shieldbug records up to 2024, and other Scottish BRCs and recording groups also seem to be reasonably up to date. NBN also gleans

verified records from online recording applications such as iRecord and iNaturalist.

Superfamily Coreoidea Coreidae

Western conifer seed bug, *Leptoglossus occidentalis* Heidemann, 1910

<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020476639>

This is a non-native species which is included in the U.K. recording scheme for shieldbugs and allies. It is associated with pines, particularly Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). The first U.K. record was in 2007, and it was first recorded in the Clyde area in 2020. There are records from Faifley (West Dunbartonshire), the Whitehills area of East Kilbride (South Lanarkshire) and Skelmorlie (North Ayrshire) (NBN, 2025). Glasgow Museums BRC also has a record from Biggar (South Lanarkshire). Despite the paucity of records from north of the border, Jones (2023) states that “it is currently vying with *P. rufipes* as Britain’s most widespread shieldbug species” although this is based on geographical distribution, rather than frequency of sightings: it has been recorded in both Orkney and Shetland, whereas *P. rufipes* has been recorded only as far as the mainland north coast.

Rhopalidae

Cinnamon bug, *Corizus hyoscyami* (Linnaeus, 1758)

<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020309113>

Though there is currently just one record in the Clyde area - from a garden in Dumbarton (West Dunbartonshire) in 2024 - this hides the fact that the species appears to be spreading rapidly northwards. The map in Bantock (2018) shows the most northerly U.K. records in South Lancashire and South Yorkshire, and Jones (2023) states that it had “just about” got into Scotland with records from Berwick and Dumfries. Now the NBN Atlas shows many records in the Scottish Borders and the Lothians, and two in Ayrshire dated 2022 and 2025, as well as the Dumbarton record already mentioned.

Historically, this was regarded as a species of dunes and coastal undercliffs, and many of the recent Scottish records are, indeed, coastal; the 2025 Ayrshire record is from Troon, and the Dumbarton record is from a domestic garden very close to a raised beach. However, as in England, the majority of the records are inland.

The adult has a striking red and black colouration, so is unlikely to be missed if present (though the nymphs are rather duller), so the spread is likely to be due to natural causes such as climate change rather than under-recording.

Superfamily Pentatomoidea Acanthosomatidae

Hawthorn shieldbug, *Acanthosoma haemorrhoidale*

(Linnaeus, 1758)

<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020308885>

This species, which in 1892 seems to have been found no further north than Cannock Chase (Staffordshire) (Saunders, 1892), clearly spread northwards gradually over the subsequent 60 years, and though, in Southwood & Leston (1959), the northerly limit is still given as “Cumberland and Durham”, the first Scottish record was in Kirkcudbright (Dumfries and Galloway) in 1946. By 1960, it had reached the Clyde area with records at Rothesay (Isle of Bute) in 1960, and the University of Glasgow Field Station at Rowardennan (East Loch Lomond) in 1969 (Hill, 1973). The subsequent spread, particularly from the 1990s onwards, is described, and records listed, by Ramsay (2014).

Bantock (2018) shows a general distribution over southern and central Scotland, extending up the north-east coast and the coast of the Moray Firth. The NBN Atlas adds records up the north of the mainland and in Shetland, though not apparently Orkney. Haddow (2024) points out that it is largely absent from upland areas in south-west Scotland, and the same is true in the Clyde area (NBN, 2025) though this may be partly due to recording being biased in favour of lowland areas.

Both Ramsay (2014) and Haddow (2024) point out that along with the range expansion, this species has diversified its range of host plants. In England, it has been found on some 27 tree species, though breeding only on Rosaceae. In Scotland, the number of associated plant species is considerably fewer, and breeding has been observed only on hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) and *Cotoneaster* spp. (Ramsay, 2014).

It is also attracted to moth traps, including that at Glasgow Botanic Gardens.

Juniper shieldbug, *Cyphostethus tristriatus* (Fabricius, 1787)

<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020309134>

Southwood & Leston (1959) stated that this species was confined to lowland and downland juniper woods (*Juniperus communis*), south of Lancashire, and was unknown in Scotland. However, the first record in Dumfries and Galloway was found on Leyland cypress (x *Cuprocyparis leylandii*) in 2008, and by 2024 it had reached Ochiltree cemetery, Ayrshire (Haddow, 2024). In the same year, a record in Biggar cemetery (South Lanarkshire) established the first record in the Clyde area (iRecord). There are also several records in more easterly and northerly areas of Scotland, particularly in upland areas.

In England, it has, since 1970, been spreading onto introduced cypresses and cedars, particularly Lawson’s cypress (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*) in parks and gardens, and so it is now widespread in many parts of England (Bantock, 2018). Haddow (2024) also points out that the association with juniper will limit the number of records in the wild, while it may at the same

time be under-recorded on cypresses in parks and gardens.

Birch shieldbug, *Elasmotethus interstinctus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020309198>

Records of this species in the Clyde area date back to the 19th century, and it is still plentiful, particularly, but not exclusively, on birch.

Murphy (1901) followed the arrangement and nomenclature used by Saunders (1892) and Saunders himself identified most of the species in Murphy’s list. Thus, Murphy (1901) lists this species as “*Acanthosoma dentatum*”, corresponding to the junior synonym *Elasmotethus dentatus* (De Geer) in UKSI. By the same token, the entry “*Acanthosoma interstinctum*” in Murphy’s list confusingly represents *Elasmucha grisea* (see below).

It is common everywhere in the Clyde area, though apparently recorded rather patchily, given the ubiquity of birch across the area. It is also attracted to moth traps, including that at Glasgow Botanic Gardens.

Parent bug, *Elasmucha grisea* (Linnaeus, 1758)

<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020309200>

This species is so-called because the females brood the eggs and young nymphs. It is listed as *Acanthosoma interstinctum* in Murphy (1901) and was swept from the same birch tree in Luss, Argyll, as the birch shieldbug listed as *A. dentatum*. As stated above, Murphy (1901) followed the nomenclature of Saunders (1892). This was different from that of the latest British list of Heteroptera; indeed, whereas Douglas & Scott (1865) had listed *Acanthosoma dentatum* and *A. griseum* (with *Cimex interstinctus* Linnaeus as a junior synonym), Saunders (1892) listed *Acanthosoma (A.) dentatum* and *A. (Elasmotethus) interstinctum* (with *griseum* auctt. nec Linnaeus as junior synonym). A better understanding of this confusion in the early British list of Heteroptera can be obtained from Dallas (1851), Reuter (1884) and Horváth (1899).

It is recorded less frequently than the birch shieldbug, but is widely distributed on birch and alder, and so may be under-recorded.

Cydnidae

Cow-wheat shieldbug, *Adomerus biguttatus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020308901>

A Nationally Scarce species, the only record in the Clyde area is from Garelochhead (Argyll) in the late 19th century (Murphy, 1901); there are also scattered records from elsewhere in Scotland (NBN, 2025) including late 19th century records from Perthshire (McGregor, 1893). It is a species of woodland rides and coppices, feeding on common cow-wheat (*Melampyrum pratense*) and has declined following abandonment of

traditional woodland management (Bantock, 2018). Indeed Ramsay (2019) considered it extinct in Scotland, but, having cited that, Jones (2023) goes on to say that the discovery of an insect in Strathspey in the Cairngorms in early 2021 made the news headlines, thus highlighting the fact that as a ground-dwelling insect, it could easily be overlooked.

The Hemiptera catalogue of the Hunterian Museum in Glasgow includes a 1914 sighting from Nethy Bridge in Strathspey, collected by J.J.F.X. King; the 2021 records were from further downstream at Curr Wood near Dulnain Bridge (Grantown on Spey, Moray).

Pentatomidae

Subfamily Asopinae

The species in this subfamily differ from the other species in the superfamily Pentatomoidea by being carnivorous, at least in the adult and later instar stages. This is considered to be a late evolutionary development (Jones, 2023).

Spiked shieldbug, *Picromerus bidens* (Linnaeus, 1758)
<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020309660>

The earliest record of this species in the Clyde area is from Dargavel (Bishopton, Renfrewshire) in 1899 (Murphy, 1901), though Saunders (1892) lists only southern English locations. Southwood & Leston (1959) described it as being widely distributed, though less common in the north, and this is still true (Jones, 2023). It is common in Gleniffer Braes Local Nature Reserve near Paisley, and has been recorded in the RSPB reserves at Lochwinnoch, Baron's Haugh, and Fannyside, as well as the Scottish Wildlife Trust reserves at Cathkin Marsh (South Lanarkshire), and Possil Marsh (Glasgow). The spread is from Inverkip, Inverclyde and Havoc, Dumbarton in the west, to Harthill, North Lanarkshire, and Tarbrax, South Lanarkshire in the east.

The adult pronotum has distinctive spine-like anterior angles. Another feature that is unusual for a shieldbug is that they overwinter as eggs. They prey on the larvae, and sometimes adults, of leaf-beetles, Lepidoptera, and sawflies.

Heather shieldbug, *Rhacognathus punctatus* (Linnaeus, 1758)
<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020309768>

There are records of this species from Dumfriesshire (VC72) as far back as 1935, and there is a record from Rannoch in the 1860s (both SIRI). However, the earliest record in the Clyde area found so far is from Caldarvan, near Gartocharn (West Dunbartonshire) in 1983, and there has been a recent record from Ballagan, near Strathblane (Stirlingshire) in 2024 (M. Greve, pers. comm.).

Haddow (2024) describes it as one of the rarest shieldbugs in south-west Scotland (i.e. Dumfries and Galloway, as there are no known records from

Ayrshire), but adds that it is easily overlooked as it seems to prefer less accessible habitats. Jones (2023) concurs, describing it as widely-scattered and local.

It feeds on adults and larvae of leaf-beetles such as the heather leaf-beetle (*Lochmaea suturalis*) (Jones, 2023).

Bronze (or banded) shieldbug, *Troilus luridus* (Fabricius, 1775)
<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020309921>

The first Clyde specimen of this species was found by the author on a birch tree at the edge of Malls Mire Local Nature Reserve in Glasgow, in 2014. At that time, the only other Scottish records in the NBN Atlas were in the Lothians, though Haddow (2024) mentions that the majority of records in the south-west Scotland (south of the Clyde area) date from 2010 onwards, and NMS holds specimens from Dumfriesshire from the late 1970s.

It is now widespread across the Greater Glasgow area, from Havoc Meadow and RSPB Loch Lomond in West Dunbartonshire, and RSPB Baron's Haugh and Greenhead Moss in North Lanarkshire to RSPB Lochwinnoch in Renfrewshire, and Cathkin Marsh SWT reserve and Douglas Castle estate in South Lanarkshire. The main increase in the number of records here has occurred since 2022, and this arrival and spread are likely to be due mainly to natural causes such as climate change.

It is a predator of moth and sawfly caterpillars, beetle larvae and other small invertebrates (Jones, 2023).

Blue shieldbug, *Zicrona caerulea* (Linnaeus, 1758)
<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020109277>

The earliest record of this relatively small, shining blue species in the Clyde area is from Aberfoyle (Stirlingshire) in 1897 (Evans, 1900), and McGregor (1893) lists a Perthshire location. However, no further Scottish records are evident until Crowson (1954-1996) found it at Mugdock Wood SSSI near Milngavie (East Dunbartonshire) in 1958, and again in 1980 (Crowson, 1954-1996). It seems not to have been found again until 2019 in South Haugh, Hamilton Low Parks (South Lanarkshire), and then sporadically at Overtoun Estate, Dumbarton, Little Sparta near Dunsyre in South Lanarkshire, and two locations in Renfrewshire - East Craighend and Bishopton. This last record is of nymphs in a tree nursery in 2025, and may be an example of breeding in a horticultural environment, though there seems no reason to suppose that any of the other records are other than naturally occurring. Bantock (2018) describes it as scarce in Scotland. Yet, though small (5-8 mm) by shieldbug standards, its metallic blue colour should make it noticeable in both the adult and nymph stages (the latter also brightly marked with red). Nevertheless, Haddow (2024) points out that it is probably under-recorded as, apart from being small, it moves quickly.

It feeds on larvae, and sometimes adults of leaf beetles (Jones, 2023).

Subfamily Pentatominae

Hairy shieldbug, *Dolycoris baccarum* (Linnaeus, 1758)
<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020309177>

Although Bantock (2018) shows this species in Scotland only in south-west and east-central coastal areas, there is a 19th century record from Perth (McGregor, 1893). However, since 2020 it has been recorded in numerous locations in Glasgow; in particular it seems to be thriving at Hamiltonhill Claypits Local Nature reserve. It has also been recorded in Bonhill, West Dunbartonshire, Bishopton in Renfrewshire, at RSPB Baron's Haugh and Carbarns in North Lanarkshire, and at Newton in South Lanarkshire. This spread seems likely to be mainly natural, though it may have been recently introduced on tree saplings at Hamiltonhill Claypits.

Green shieldbug, *Palomena prasina* (Linnaeus, 1761)
<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020109266>

Nau (2003) reported that over the preceding decade this species had progressively colonised Bedfordshire, so that while previously scarce, it was by then a familiar and common species. By 2018, it had reached Northumberland and was described as still spreading (Bantock, 2018). It was first recorded in south-west Scotland near Lochmaben (Dumfries and Galloway) in 2010 (Haddow, 2024), reaching the Clyde area by 2021, where it has been recorded several times since 2021 in The Hidden Gardens, Pollokshields, Glasgow, and once in a garden near Strathaven (South Lanarkshire). Though, in these contexts, it could well have been introduced on plant material rather than by natural spread.

Southern green shieldbug, *Nezara viridula* Linnaeus, 1758
<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020309518>

Southwood & Leston (1959) describe this as a “cosmopolitan insect”, often imported in fruit and vegetables from Italy and the Canaries, and unlikely to become established. However, it was found breeding in south-east England in 2003 (Salisbury *et al.*, 2009). The first Clyde record of this species was in 2007 from Clarkston, East Renfrewshire, found in a lettuce bought from a supermarket, so probably not of Scottish provenance. Another in 2018 was found in Irvine (North Ayrshire) inside a car rear light unit built in Romania. A third apparent record at Helensburgh on the NBN Atlas is marked as incorrect, and re-identified as hawthorn shieldbug (*A. haemorrhoidale*; see above).

However, there may be one Clyde record “in the wild”, more accurately in a cultivated raised bed, at North Kelvin Meadow, Glasgow in 2017, though this has been rejected by the national scheme, as the lack of photographic evidence makes it unverifiable. In the present author's opinion, it is more likely to have been

P. prasina, as the circumstances are similar to the 2021 above-mentioned record at The Hidden Gardens, and that species is now widespread in southern Scotland.

Now listed on UKSI as an established non-native, Jones (2023) states that this is a major pest of crops such as broad beans and peas and is widespread in south-east England, though currently the NBN Atlas shows records as far north as Newcastle upon Tyne, and of the Scottish records shown there, and not already mentioned here, only one, from Portsoy (Aberdeenshire), is not apparently associated with imported fruit or vegetables. Nevertheless, Jones also cites evidence that it can also be imported in horticultural material, and if it were to become established in the Clyde area, it would likely pose a severe problem for gardeners and allotment-holders.

Red-legged shieldbug (or forest bug), *Pentatoma rufipes* (Linnaeus, 1758)
<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020309624>

Records of this species in the Clyde area date back to the 19th century. It is listed by Murphy (1901) as *Tropicoris rufipes*, and described as “not uncommon on birch”, though only five locations are cited. There are curiously few 20th century records, mostly in the second half of the century, which may indicate under-recording at that time, as there is a plethora of 21st century records from all parts of the area, particularly since the advent of online recording systems such as iNaturalist.

It feeds on the sap and fruits of mostly broad-leaved tree species, though it has also been observed feeding on honeydew and insects such as aphids and moth caterpillars (Jones, 2023).

Gorse shieldbug, *Piezodorus lituratus* (Linnaeus, 1758)
<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020309665>

Though not listed in Murphy's 1901 list for the Clyde area, SIRI includes several reports of this species' presence in Scotland since at least the late 19th century. The earliest record in the Clyde area is at Gartness, Stirlingshire, in 1939 (Hunterian Collection), but there are few subsequent records until the 21st century, in which there have been some 40 records, some even within the City of Glasgow, at Cathkin Braes and Hamiltonhill Claypits Local Nature Reserves. So, while the records from those two sites, along many others from other designated conservation sites, may well illustrate the success of local biodiversity initiatives, in view of Southwood & Leston's (1959) statement that the species occurs wherever gorse is present, it is likely that the species is generally under-recorded.

Cabbage (or brassica) shieldbug, *Eurydema oleracea* (Linnaeus, 1758)
<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020309225>

This is found in much of southern England, but is commonest in the south-east. It feeds on a wide range of crucifers, but seems particularly associated with

horseradish (*Armoracia rusticana*). The only occurrence in the Clyde area was in 2006, in Hyndland, Glasgow, in flowers from a florist which had probably been imported.

Eurydema liturifera (Walker, 1867)

As this species is not on UKSI, there is no NBN distribution map.

This east Asian species is included because of a single specimen found in grapes in Prestwick (South Ayrshire) in 1987, now in NMS collections under *Eurydema lituriferum*. Though found in Ayrshire, it is included here as it is within the wider “Clyde area” as understood by earlier naturalists such as Murphy (1901), and it is not mentioned in Haddow (2024).

Superfamily Pyrrhocoroidea

Pyrrhocoridae

Firebug, *Pyrrhocoris apterus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020309752>

This is the only U.K. species in this superfamily, and in the U.K. it is mainly confined to the south. There is only one Scottish record: a specimen was found in supermarket blueberries in the West End of Glasgow in 2019 and is now deposited in the Hunterian Museum.

Like the cinnamon bug, the adult has a striking red and black colouration, but the nymphs in this species are similarly coloured too.

Bantock (2018) states that it is unlikely to spread quickly through natural means, as fully winged specimens have not been recorded in the U.K. However, Jones (2023) reports that a large colony of long-winged forms was recorded in Essex in 2020 and is “possibly the prelude to a much wider spread”, though as the English records currently represent the species’ northern and western limit, it seems unlikely to appear in Scotland in the near future.

Possible future arrivals

There are no species from the other heteropteran families covered by the U.K. recording scheme that have been recorded in the Clyde area, although many shieldbugs that are not dependent on rare habitats such as breckland seem to be spreading northwards, possibly due to climate change, and the following species have either already appeared elsewhere in Scotland or may well appear here in the coming years. Of course, there may also be more vagrants introduced on fruit and vegetables or in horticultural material. These are by their nature unpredictable, although one or two of the latter may become established.

Evidence for a northward spread is detectable by comparing the distribution maps currently shown in the NBN Atlas with those in Bantock (2018) and looking for signs of movement northwards that reaches at least north Lancashire or north Yorkshire. Although, for the reasons outlined in the introduction, it is likely that Scottish records are reasonably up-to-date and reliable, the author is unable to evaluate how up-to-date the English records are. It seems, however, that the national

recording scheme’s records are complete to at least August 2025 and any change is more likely to be underestimated than otherwise. It is also possible, however, that in these northern areas some of the apparent increase is due to previous under-recording.

Coreidae

Denticulate leatherbug (or trefoil bug), *Coriomeris denticulatus* (Scopoli, 1763)

<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020309108>

Bantock (2018) shows records only as far north as the Tyne, but NBN currently has records in the Lothians, so it is possible that this bug may soon be found in the Clyde area too. The nymphs feed on leguminous plants, particularly black medic (*Medicago lupulina*) which is found widely here.

Rhopalidae

Marram bug, *Chorosoma schillingi* (Schilling, 1829)

<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020309082>

Since 2018, records have been found on the south Cumbrian coast. Jones (2023) describes it as local, but not uncommon, and that it has been recorded inland included along the Thames as far as west London. If it colonises the south-westerly coasts of Scotland, it could therefore potentially reach well into the Clyde area. The food plants include, as the vernacular name suggests, marram grass (*Ammophila arenaria*), and other grasses not necessarily on dunes.

The insect is long and narrow, both at the adult and nymph stages, so could initially be mistaken for a damselbug (Nabidae).

Liorhyssus hyalinus (Fabricius, 1794)

<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020309367>

Though noted by Bantock (2018) as “Nationally Scarce” and largely migratory, the NBN Atlas now shows this species is much more widespread, though both concur that the most northerly records are in Cumbria. Jones (2023) confirms it as more widespread, and “permanently, if erratically established”. In view of its migratory capabilities, it is likely to reach Scotland if areas develop with suitably warm, dry soils. Jones also mentions that it is particularly common in brownfield sites such as those along the Thames estuary.

Myrmus miriformis (Fallén, 1807)

<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020309492>

This is another long, narrow bug which, as its specific epithet suggests, could be mistaken for a mirid bug, but for the presence of ocelli. Since 2018, records have been found as far north as Easington on the Durham coast and Silloth on the south Solway coast. The latter record is marked as “unconfirmed” in the NBN Atlas. However, as this refers to a specimen in the collection at Tullie in Carlisle that was collected by Stephen Hewitt, an experienced naturalist, there is little reason to doubt it, particularly as there are also records further south on the

Cumbrian coast in the area of St. Bees Head. Jones (2023) describes it as local, though where it occurs it is common on dry grasslands.

Cydnidae

Pied shieldbug, *Tritomegas bicolor* (Linnaeus, 1758)
<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020309919>

This is described as fairly common in southern England and Wales as far north as South Yorkshire (Bantock, 2018), though Crowson (1974) found two adults in leaf-litter in Glen Nant, Argyll. Therefore, it could potentially be found in the Clyde area as it feeds on common plants such as white dead-nettle (*Lamium album*). Given its bold black and white colouration, it seems unlikely that Crowson was mistaken. However, there are neither further Scottish records in the NBN Atlas nor specimens in the Hunterian and NMS collections.

Pentatomidae

Bishop's mitre, *Aelia acuminata* (Linnaeus, 1758)
<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020308903>

This species has spread northwards from south of the Humber (Bantock, 2018) to the Tees (NBN, 2025). Within that range, it is common on warm open grasslands where it feeds on various grasses.

Ornate shieldbug *Eurydema ornata* (Linnaeus, 1758)
<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020309226>

This handsome red and black bug was first recorded in the U.K. in 1997 and up to 2018 had only been recorded in the extreme south (Bantock, 2018). Since then it has spread north as far as Market Drayton in Shropshire, and Whitby in North Yorkshire. The food plants are various Brassicaceae (cabbage family).

Woundwort shieldbug, *Eysarcoris venustissimus* (Schrank, 1776)
<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020309235>

This species has expanded northwards from South Yorkshire (Bantock, 2018) to North Yorkshire (NBN, 2025), though Bantock states that it seems to have an easterly preference. Therefore, if it eventually reaches Scotland, it may not spread to the Clyde area. It feeds on common Lamiaceae (mint and deadnettle family), which are common enough here.

Scutelleridae

Tortoise bug, *Eurygaster testudinaria* (Geoffroy, 1785)
<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0020309231>

Haddow (2024) mentions that this has seen a prolific expansion in range in England and Ireland in recent years, though it has not yet been recorded in south-west Scotland. Bantock (2018) shows the species present only in South Wales and England south of The Wash, but the NBN Atlas currently shows records as far north as Lancaster and Scarborough, evidencing some northerly spread.

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