

## Recommended insect identification resources

### **Good general guides, reference works and webpages**

Barnard P.C. (1999). *Identifying British Insects and Arachnids: An annotated bibliography of key works*. Cambridge University Press. 353pp. [Contains many useful references within, up to the point of publication. Highly recommended]

Barnard P.C. (2011). *The Royal Entomological Society Book of British Insects*. Wiley-Blackwell. 383pp. [Contains many useful references within, up to the point of publication. Highly recommended]

Brock P.D. (2019). *A comprehensive guide to the insects of Britain and Ireland*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. Princeton University Press (Princeton WILDGuides). 542pp. [Highly recommended]

Brock P.D. (2021). *Britain's Insects: A field guide to the insects of Great Britain and Ireland*. Princeton University Press (Princeton WILDGuides). 608pp. [Highly recommended]

Chinery M. (1993). *Collins Field Guide to the Insects of Britain and Northern Europe*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. HarperCollins. 448pp.

Chinery M. (2009). *Collins Complete Guide to British Insects*. HarperCollins. 384pp.

Chinery M. (2012). *Insects of Britain and Western Europe*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. A & C Black. 320pp.

Corke D. (1999). Identifying insects. *British Wildlife*, **10** (3), 153–163. [Contains many useful references within, up to the point of publication]

Dobson M., Pawley S., Fletcher M. & Powell A. (2012). *Guide to Freshwater Invertebrates*. *Scientific Publications of the Freshwater Biological Association* **68**. 216pp.

Marshall S.A. (2017). *Insects: Their Natural History and Diversity: With a Photographic Guide to Insects of Eastern North America*. Firefly Books. 735pp. [Despite the emphasis on the Nearctic region, a very good introduction to insects in general]

Redfern M. (2011). *Plant Galls*. *New Naturalist* **117**. HarperCollins. 562pp.

Redfern M. & Askew R.R. (1998). *Plant Galls*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. *Naturalists' Handbooks* **17**. Richmond Publishing. 99pp.

Redfern M. & Shirley P. (2023). *British plant galls* (AIDGAP guide OP270). 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. Field Studies Council. 432pp.

[www.bioinfo.org.uk/html/Insecta.htm](http://www.bioinfo.org.uk/html/Insecta.htm) Malcolm Storey's website contains useful information on different insect groups, key references, photos etc. which are accessible via a hierarchical series of links under the 'Subtaxa:' drop-down heading/menu; the full, linked taxon list is here: [bioimages.org.uk/html/](http://bioimages.org.uk/html/)

[www.eakingbirds.com](http://www.eakingbirds.com) Trevor and Dilys Pendleton's website covers a wide range of insect (among other) groups

[www.leafmines.co.uk/index.htm](http://www.leafmines.co.uk/index.htm) Information on leaf-mining species from various orders of endopterygote/holometabolous insects

[www.nhm.ac.uk/take-part/identify-nature.html](http://www.nhm.ac.uk/take-part/identify-nature.html) Downloadable guides produced by the NHM

[www.sites.google.com/view/mikes-insect-keys](http://www.sites.google.com/view/mikes-insect-keys) Mike Hackston has produced a wide range of excellent taxonomic keys covering many insect groups, all free to access via his site

### ***Bristletails (Archaeognatha/Microcoryphia) + Silverfish/Firebrats (Zygentoma)***

Delany M.J. (1954). *Thysanura and Diplura. Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* 1 (2). Royal Entomological Society. 7pp.

### ***Mayflies (Ephemeroptera)***

Bauernfeind E. & Soldan A. (2012). *The Mayflies of Europe (Ephemeroptera)*. Apollo Books. 781pp.

Elliott J.M. & Humpesch U.H. (1983). *A Key to the Adults of the British Ephemeroptera. Scientific Publications of the Freshwater Biological Association* 47. 101pp.

Elliott J.M. & Humpesch U.H. (2010). *Mayfly Larvae (Ephemeroptera) of Britain and Ireland. Scientific Publications of the Freshwater Biological Association* 66. 152pp.

Harker J. (1989). *Mayflies. Naturalists' Handbooks* 13. Richmond Publishing. 56pp.

Macadam C. & Bennett C. (2010). *A pictorial guide to British Ephemeroptera (AIDGAP guide OP139)*. Field Studies Council. 128pp. [[Highly recommended](#)]

Macan T.T. (1982). *The study of stoneflies, mayflies and caddisflies. The Amateur Entomologist Volume* 17. Amateur Entomologists' Society. 44pp.

[www.riverflies.org/recording-schemes](http://www.riverflies.org/recording-schemes) The Mayfly (Ephemeroptera) Recording Scheme can be accessed from here

### ***Dragonflies & Damselflies (Odonata)***

Askew R.R. (1988). *The Dragonflies of Europe*. Harley Books. 291pp.

Boudot J-P., Doucet G. & Grand D. (2021). *Dragonflies and Damselflies of Britain and Western Europe: A Photographic Guide*. Bloomsbury Publishing. 160pp.

Brook J. & Brook G. (2010). *Dragonflies of Kent*. Kent Field Club. 130pp.

Brooks S. (1997). Identification – Vagrant Emperors. *British Wildlife*, 8 (6), 360–361.

Brooks S., Cham S. & Lewington R. (2018). *Field Guide to the dragonflies and damselflies of Great Britain and Ireland*. 5<sup>th</sup> Ed. Bloomsbury Publishing. 192pp. [[Highly recommended](#)]

Cham S. (2000). Identification – Red-eyed damselflies. *British Wildlife*, 11 (5), 324–326.

Cham S. (2012). *Field Guide to the Larvae and Exuviae of British Dragonflies: Damselflies (Zygoptera) and Dragonflies (Anisoptera)*. British Dragonfly Society. 152pp. [[Highly recommended](#)]

Chandler D. (2020). *A Beginner's Guide to Dragonflies & Damselflies of Britain & Ireland*. NatureBureau. 92pp.

Corbet P. & Brooks S. (2008). *Dragonflies. New Naturalist* 106. HarperCollins. 454pp. [Facsimile reprint of the original published in 2008]

Corbet P.S., Longfield C. & N.W. Moore (2009). *Dragonflies*. *New Naturalist* **41**. HarperCollins. 272pp. [Facsimile reprint of the original published in 1960]

Dijkstra K.-D.B., Schröter A. & Lewington R. (2020). *Field Guide to the Dragonflies of Britain and Europe*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.

Farley-Brown R., Broader A. & Lewington R. (2023). *Guide to the Dragonflies and Damselflies of Britain* (OP53). 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. Field Studies Council. 12pp.

Follett P. (1996). *Dragonflies of Surrey*. Surrey Wildlife Trust. 103pp. [Do not be put off by the geographic scale of this and other works in the *SWT Atlas Series!*]

Gibbons B. (1989). Identification – Small Blue Damselflies. *British Wildlife*, **1** (2), 92–95.

Hammond C.O. (1985). *The Dragonflies of Great Britain & Ireland*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. Harley Books. 116pp.

Kemp B. (1993). Identification – Darter Dragonflies. *British Wildlife*, **4** (5), 305–310.

Miller P.L. (1995). *Dragonflies*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. *Naturalists' Handbooks* **7**. Richmond Publishing. 122pp.

Smallshire D. & Swash A. (2018). *Britain's Dragonflies: A field guide to the damselflies and dragonflies of Great Britain and Ireland*. 4<sup>th</sup> Ed. Princeton University Press (Princeton WILDGuides). 232pp. [Highly recommended]

Smallshire D. & Swash A. (2020). *Europe's Dragonflies: A field guide to the damselflies and dragonflies*. Princeton University Press (Princeton WILDGuides). 360pp.

[www.british-dragonflies.org.uk](http://www.british-dragonflies.org.uk) Website of the British Dragonfly Society (the national recording scheme for Odonata can be accessed from here)

**Cockroaches and termites (Blattodea; latter formerly Isoptera), Earwigs (Dermaptera), Grasshoppers & Crickets (Orthoptera), Mantids (Mantodea; often treated as a suborder of Dictyoptera [Blattodea+Mantodea]) + Stick-insects (Phasmida/Phasmatodea/Phasmatoptera)**

Baldock D.W. (1999). *Grasshoppers and Crickets of Surrey*. Surrey Wildlife Trust. 120pp. [Includes detailed accounts of those species recorded from Surrey]

Benton T. (2012). *Grasshoppers & Crickets*. *New Naturalist* **120**. HarperCollins. 532pp.

Brock P.D. (1991). *Stick Insects of Britain, Europe and the Mediterranean*. Fitzgerald Publishing. 50pp.

Brown V.K. (1990). *Grasshoppers*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. *Naturalists' Handbooks* **2**. Richmond Publishing. 68pp.

Evans M. & Edmondson R. (2007). *A Photographic Guide to the Grasshoppers & Crickets of Britain & Ireland*. Wild Guide UK. 183pp. [Highly recommended]

Hincks W.D. (1956). *Orthoptera, Dermaptera*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. *Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* **1** (5). Royal Entomological Society. 24pp.

Holst K. (1986). *The Saltatoria (Bush-Crickets, Crickets and Grasshoppers) of Northern Europe*. *Fauna Entomologica Scandinavica* **16**. E.J. Brill. 127pp. [The FES series is very relevant to the British fauna and is renowned for its comprehensive monographs]

Marshall J.A. & Haes E.C.M. (1990). *Grasshoppers and Allied Insects of Great Britain and Ireland*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. Harley Books. 252pp. [[Highly recommended](#)]

Marshall J.A. & Ovenden D.W. (1999). *Guide to British Grasshoppers and Allied Insects* (OP54). Field Studies Council. 8pp.

Ragge D.R. (1965). *Grasshoppers, Crickets and Cockroaches of the British Isles*. Frederick Warne & Co. Ltd. 299pp. [[Classic text on the subject, first in the acclaimed \*Wayside & Woodland Series\*](#)]

Ragge D.R. & Reynolds W.J. (1998). *The Songs of the Grasshoppers and Crickets of Western Europe*. Harley Books. 591pp. [[Includes an audio CD of orthopteran songs](#)]

Sardet E., Roesti C. & Braud Y. (2021). *Grasshoppers of Britain and Western Europe: A Photographic Guide*. Bloomsbury Publishing. 304pp. [[Includes an audio CD of songs](#)]

Sterry P. (1990). Identification – British Grasshoppers. *British Wildlife*, **1** (4), 219–223.

Sterry P. (1991). Identification – British Bush-crickets. *British Wildlife*, **2** (4), 233–237.

Sutton P., Beckmann B. & Lewington R. **in prep.** (due May 2025) *Field Guide to the Grasshoppers and Crickets of Britain and Ireland*. Bloomsbury Publishing.

[www.earwigs-online.de](http://www.earwigs-online.de) Earwigs of Germany [[Information very relevant to the British fauna](#)]

[mantodea.myspecies.info](http://mantodea.myspecies.info) The Mantis Study Group

[www.orthoptera.org.uk](http://www.orthoptera.org.uk) Grasshoppers and Related Insects Recording Scheme of Britain and Ireland

### **Stoneflies (Plecoptera)**

Hynes H.B.N. (1977). *Key to the Adults and Nymphs of British Stoneflies (Plecoptera)*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. *Scientific Publications of the Freshwater Biological Association* **17**. 92pp.

Lillehammer A. (1988). *Stoneflies (Plecoptera) of Fennoscandia and Denmark*. *Fauna Entomologica Scandinavica* **21**. E.J. Brill. 165pp. [[Very relevant to the British fauna](#)]

Macadam C.R., Feeley H.B. & Doe J. (2022). *British and Irish Stoneflies (Plecoptera): Key to the Adults and Larvae: With Notes on Their Distribution, Life Histories and Ecology*. *Scientific Publications of the Freshwater Biological Association* **73**. 215pp.

Pryce D., Macadam C. & Brooks S. (2007). *Guide to the British Stonefly (Plecoptera) families: adults and larvae* (AIDGAP guide OP113). Field Studies Council. 11pp.

[www.riverflies.org/recording-schemes](http://www.riverflies.org/recording-schemes) The Stonefly (Plecoptera) Recording Scheme can be accessed from here

### **Barklice/Booklice and (chewing/sucking) Lice (Psocodea)**

New T.R. (2005). *Psocids: Psocoptera (Booklice and Barklice)*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. *Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* **1** (7). Royal Entomological Society. 146pp.

[phthiraptera.myspecies.info](http://phthiraptera.myspecies.info) Website of the International Society of Phthirapterists.

[www.psocodea.org](http://www.psocodea.org) International resource for psocidologists.

[www.schemes.brc.ac.uk/barkfly/homepage.htm](http://www.schemes.brc.ac.uk/barkfly/homepage.htm) The National Barkfly Recording Scheme can be accessed here

### True Bugs (Hemiptera)

Biedermann R. & Niedringhaus R. (2009). *The Plant- and Leafhoppers of Germany: Identification key to all species*. WABV-Fründ. 410pp. [Very relevant to the British fauna]

Blackman R.L. (1974). *Aphids*. Ginn & Co. Ltd. 175pp. [Contains a simplified generic key and accounts of around 100 common British species]

Blackman R.L. (2010). *Aphids – Aphidinae (Macrosiphini). Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects 2 (7)*. Royal Entomological Society. 420pp.

Denton J. (2007). *Water bugs and Water Beetles of Surrey*. Surrey Wildlife Trust. 200pp. [Includes detailed accounts of those species recorded from Surrey]

Dolling W.R. (1991). *The Hemiptera*. Oxford University Press. 283pp. [Introduction to the natural history of British True Bug species; includes family-level keys. Highly recommended]

Evans M. & Edmondson R. (2005). *A Photographic Guide to the Shieldbugs and Squashbugs of the British Isles*. Wild Guide UK. 123pp. [Highly recommended]

Hawkins R.D. (2003). *Shieldbugs of Surrey*. Surrey Wildlife Trust. 192pp. [Includes detailed accounts of those species recorded from Surrey and also a key to families and a selection of allied insects]

Heie O.E. (1980). *The Aphidoidea (Hemiptera) of Fennoscandia and Denmark. I. General part: the families Mindaridae, Hormaphididae, Thelaxidae, Anoeciidae, and Pemphigidae. Fauna Entomologica Scandinavica 9*. E.J. Brill. 236pp. [Very relevant to the British fauna]

Heie O.E. (1982). *The Aphidoidea (Hemiptera) of Fennoscandia and Denmark. II. The family Drepanosiphidae. Fauna Entomologica Scandinavica 11*. E.J. Brill. 176pp. [Very relevant to the British fauna]

Heie O.E. (1986). *The Aphidoidea (Hemiptera) of Fennoscandia and Denmark. III. Family Aphididae: subfamily Pterocommatinae and tribe Aphidini of subfamily Aphidinae. Fauna Entomologica Scandinavica 17*. E.J. Brill. 314pp. [Very relevant to the British fauna]

Heie O.E. (1992). *The Aphidoidea (Hemiptera) of Fennoscandia and Denmark. IV. Family Aphididae: part 1 of tribe Macrosiphini of subfamily Aphidinae. Fauna Entomologica Scandinavica 25*. E.J. Brill. 190pp. [Very relevant to the British fauna]

Heie O.E. (1994). *The Aphidoidea (Hemiptera) of Fennoscandia and Denmark. V. Family Aphididae: part 2 of tribe Macrosiphini of subfamily Aphidinae. Fauna Entomologica Scandinavica 28*. E.J. Brill. 242pp. [Very relevant to the British fauna]

Heie O.E. (1995). *The Aphidoidea (Hemiptera) of Fennoscandia and Denmark. VI. Family Aphididae: part 3 of tribe Macrosiphini of subfamily Aphidinae, and family Lachnidae. Fauna Entomologica Scandinavica 31*. E.J. Brill. 222pp. [Very relevant to the British fauna]

Hodgson C.J. (1994). *The scale insect family Coccidae: an identification manual to genera*. CAB International. 639pp.

Hodkinson I.D. & White I.M. (1979). *Homoptera: Psylloidea. Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects 11 (5a)*. Royal Entomological Society. 98pp.

- Jones R. (2023). *Shieldbugs. New Naturalist* **147**. William Collins (HarperCollins imprint). 452pp.
- LeQuesne W.J. (1960). *Hemiptera (Fulgoromorpha). Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* **2** (3). Royal Entomological Society. 68pp.
- LeQuesne W.J. (1965). *Hemiptera Cicadomorpha (excluding Deltocephalinae and Typhlocybinae). Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* **2** (2a). Royal Entomological Society. 64pp.
- LeQuesne W.J. (1969). *Hemiptera Cicadomorpha Deltocephalinae. Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* **2** (2b). Royal Entomological Society. 148pp.
- LeQuesne W.J. & Payne K.R. (1981). *Cicadellidae (Typhlocybinae) with a check list of the British Auchenorrhyncha (Hemiptera, Homoptera). Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* **2** (2c). Royal Entomological Society. 95pp.
- Mound L.A. (1966). A revision of the British Aleyrodidae (Hemiptera: Homoptera). *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History) Entomology*, **17** (9), 399–428. [Includes a generic key to whiteflies in Britain]
- Nau B. (2004). *Guide to Shieldbugs of the British Isles* (OP85). Field Studies Council. 8pp.
- Ossiannilsson F. (1978). *The Auchenorrhyncha (Homoptera) of Fennoscandia and Denmark. Part 1: Introduction, Infraorder Fulgoromorpha. Fauna Entomologica Scandinavica* **7** (1). E.J. Brill. 222pp. [Very relevant to the British fauna]
- Ossiannilsson F. (1981). *The Auchenorrhyncha (Homoptera) of Fennoscandia and Denmark. Part 2: The families Cicadidae, Cercopidae, Membracidae and Cicadellidae (excl. Deltocephalinae). Fauna Entomologica Scandinavica* **7** (2). E.J. Brill. pp.223–593. [Very relevant to the British fauna]
- Ossiannilsson F. (1983). *The Auchenorrhyncha (Homoptera) of Fennoscandia and Denmark. Part 3: The family Cicadellidae, Deltocephalinae, Catalogue, Literature and Index. Fauna Entomologica Scandinavica* **7** (3). E.J. Brill. pp.594–979. [Very relevant to the British fauna]
- Ossiannilsson F. (1992). *The Psylloidea (Homoptera) of Fennoscandia and Denmark. Fauna Entomologica Scandinavica* **26**. E.J. Brill. 346pp. [Very relevant to the British fauna]
- Savage A.A. (1989). *Adults of the British Aquatic Hemiptera Heteroptera: A Key with Ecological Notes. Scientific Publications of the Freshwater Biological Association* **50**. 173pp.
- Savage A.A. (1999). *Keys to the Larvae of British Corixidae. Scientific Publications of the Freshwater Biological Association* **57**. 56pp.
- Southwood T.R.E. & Leston D. (1959). *Land and Water Bugs of the British Isles*. Frederick Warne & Co. Ltd. 440pp. [While somewhat dated, this remains the standard reference work on British Bugs; also available on CD-ROM (2003) and as a facsimile reprint from Pisces Conservation (2005). Highly recommended].
- Stewart A. & Harkin C. (2020). Spittlebugs and cuckoo-spit insects: an introduction to British froghoppers. *British Wildlife*, **31** (5), 342–350.

Stöckmann M., Biedermann R., Nickel H. & Niedringhaus R. (2013). *The Nymphs of the Planthoppers and Leafhoppers of Germany*. WABV-Fründ. [Very relevant to the British fauna]

Stroyan H.L.G. (1977). *Aphidoidea – Chaitophoridae and Callaphididae*. *Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* 2 (4a). Royal Entomological Society. 130pp.

Stroyan H.L.G. (1984). *Aphids – Pterocommatinae and Aphidinae (Aphidini)*. *Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* 2 (6). Royal Entomological Society. 232pp.

Unwin D. (2001). *A key to the families of British bugs (Insecta, Hemiptera)* (AIDGAP guide OP269). Field Studies Council. 35pp. [Highly recommended]

White I.M. & Hodkinson I.D. (1982). *Psylloidea (Nymphal Stages): Hemiptera, Homoptera*. *Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* 11 (5b). Royal Entomological Society. 50pp.

Williams D.J. (1962). The British Pseudococcidae (Homoptera: Coccoidea). *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History) Entomology*, 12 (1), 1–79. [Includes a key to genera]

Williams D.J. (1985). The British and some other European Eriococcidae (Homoptera: Coccoidea). *British Museum (Natural History) Entomology*, 51 (4), 347–393.

Wilson M.A., Stewart A., Biedermann R., Nickel H. & Niedringhaus R. (2015). *The Planthoppers and Leafhoppers of Britain and Ireland: Identification keys to All families and genera and all British and Irish Species not recorded from Germany* (Cicadina – Supplement 2). Bristol Cultural Development Partnership. 138pp. [Highly recommended]

[www.aquaticbugs.com](http://www.aquaticbugs.com) The Aquatic Heteroptera Recording Scheme for Britain & Ireland

[www.britishbugs.org.uk](http://www.britishbugs.org.uk) The premier online resource for UK Hemiptera (incomplete coverage of the Sternorrhyncha; national recording schemes for Terrestrial Heteroptera, Aquatic Heteroptera, Auchenorrhyncha, and Psylloidea [Sternorrhyncha] can be accessed from here)

[www.flickr.com/photos/132540299@N02/albums/72157649622182364/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/132540299@N02/albums/72157649622182364/) Rob Ryan's Flickr album, 'Heteroptera of the British Isles'

[www.ledra.co.uk](http://www.ledra.co.uk) The Auchenorrhyncha ('hoppers') Recording Scheme for Britain & Ireland

[www.sites.google.com/site/northantswaterbugs/home](http://www.sites.google.com/site/northantswaterbugs/home) Northants Water Bugs Recording Scheme

[www.truehopperswp.com](http://www.truehopperswp.com) Website covering the Auchenorrhyncha of the Western Palearctic [Very relevant to the British fauna]

## Thrips (Thysanoptera)

Kirk W.D.J. (1996). *Thrips*. *Naturalists' Handbooks* 25. Richmond Publishing. 70pp.

Mound L.A., Morison G.D., Pitkin B.R. & Palmer J.M. (1976). *Thysanoptera*. *Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* 1 (11). 79pp.

[www.thrips-id.com/en/](http://www.thrips-id.com/en/) Website covering identification, taxonomy and ecology of thrips, even offering an ID service

## Ants, Bees, Wasps and Sawflies (Hymenoptera)

- Allen G. (2020). *Bees, Wasps and Ants of Kent*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. Kent Field Club. 197pp.
- Archer M.E. (2014). *The Vespoid Wasps (Tiphiidae, Mutillidae, Sapygidae, Scoliidae and Vespidae) of the British Isles. Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* **6** (6). Royal Entomological Society. 82pp. [Highly recommended]
- Askew R.R. (1968). *Hymenoptera 2. Chalcidoidea. Section (b). Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* **8** (2b). Royal Entomological Society. 39pp.
- Baldock D.W. (2008). *Bees of Surrey*. Surrey Wildlife Trust. 304pp. [Includes detailed species accounts comprising around 80% of the British bee fauna]
- Baldock D.W. (2010). *Wasps of Surrey*. Surrey Wildlife Trust. 335pp. [Includes detailed species accounts comprising almost 90% of the British wasp fauna, and an abbreviated key to aculeate families. Highly recommended]
- Benson R.B. (1951). *Hymenoptera 2. Symphyta. Section (a). Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* **6** (2a). Royal Entomological Society. 49pp.
- Benson R.B. (1952). *Hymenoptera 2. Symphyta. Section (b). Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* **6** (2b). Royal Entomological Society. 51–137.
- Benson R.B. (1958). *Hymenoptera 2. Symphyta. Section (c). Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* **6** (2c). Royal Entomological Society. 139–252.
- Benton T. (2000). *The Bumblebees of Essex*. Lopinga Books. 179pp.
- Benton T. (2006). *Bumblebees. New Naturalist* **98**. HarperCollins. 592pp. [Highly recommended]
- Benton T. (2017). *Solitary Bees. Naturalists' Handbooks* **33**. Pelagic Publishing. 208pp.
- Benton T. & Owens N. (2023). *Solitary Bees. New Naturalist* **146**. William Collins (HarperCollins imprint). 596pp. [Highly recommended]
- Betts C. (1986). *The Hymenopterist's Handbook. The Amateur Entomologist Volume 7*. Amateur Entomologists' Society. 208pp. [Contains much useful information pertaining to the study of the Hymenoptera, including family-level keys. Highly recommended]
- Bolton B. (1994). *Identification Guide to the Ant Genera of the World*. Harvard University Press. 232pp. [Very relevant to the British fauna]
- Bolton B. & Collingwood C.A. (1975). *Hymenoptera: Formicidae. Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* **6** (3c). Royal Entomological Society. 34pp.
- Boucek Z. & Rasplus J.-Y. (1991). *Illustrated Key to West-palearctic Genera of Pteromalidae (Hymenoptera: Chalcidoidea)*. Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique. 140pp.
- Brian M.V. (2009). *Ants. New Naturalist* **59**. HarperCollins. 224pp. [Facsimile reprint of the original published in 1977]
- Broad G.R. (2014). Checklist of British and Irish Hymenoptera – Introduction. *Biodiversity Data Journal*, **2**, e1113. [<https://doi.org/10.3897/BDJ.2.e1113>]



- Broad G.R. (2016). Checklist of British and Irish Hymenoptera – Ichneumonidae. *Biodiversity Data Journal*, **4**, e9042. [<https://doi.org/10.3897/BDJ.4.e9042>]
- Broad G.R. (2016). Checklist of British and Irish Hymenoptera – Proctotrupeoidea. *Biodiversity Data Journal*, **4**, e7936. [<https://doi.org/10.3897/BDJ.4.e7936>]
- Broad G.R. (2016). Checklist of British and Irish Hymenoptera – Trigonoidea. *Biodiversity Data Journal*, **4**, e7935. [<https://doi.org/10.3897/BDJ.4.e7935>]
- Broad G.R. & Livermore L. (2014). Checklist of British and Irish Hymenoptera – Ceraphronoidea. *Biodiversity Data Journal*, **2**, e1167. [<https://doi.org/10.3897/BDJ.2.e1167>]
- Broad G.R. & Livermore L. (2014). Checklist of British and Irish Hymenoptera – Evanioidea. *Biodiversity Data Journal*, **2**, e1116. [<https://doi.org/10.3897/BDJ.2.e1116>]
- Broad G.R., Shaw M.R. & Fitton M.G. (2016). *Ichneumonid Wasps (Hymenoptera: Ichneumonidae): their Classification and Biology*. *Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* **7** (12). Royal Entomological Society. 418pp. [[Highly recommended](#)]
- Broad G.R., Shaw M.R. & Godfray H.C.J. (2016). Checklist of British and Irish Hymenoptera – Braconidae. *Biodiversity Data Journal*, **4**, e8151. [<https://doi.org/10.3897/BDJ.4.e8151>]
- Brock J.P. (2017). *The Banchine Wasps (Ichneumonidae: Banchinae) of the British Isles*. *Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* **7** (4). Royal Entomological Society. 150pp.
- Buglife, O'Toole C. & Shields C. (2007). *Guide to Bees of Britain* (OP119). Field Studies Council. 8pp.
- Buhl P.N., Broad G.R. & Notton D.G. (2016). Checklist of British and Irish Hymenoptera – Platygastroidea. *Biodiversity Data Journal*, **4**, e7991. [<https://doi.org/10.3897/BDJ.4.e7991>]
- Collingwood C.A. (1979). *The Formicidae (Hymenoptera) of Fennoscandia and Denmark*. *Fauna Entomologica Scandinavica* **8**. E.J. Brill. 174pp. [[Very relevant to the British fauna](#)]
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[www.bwars.com](http://www.bwars.com) The premier online resource for UK Aculeate Hymenoptera (members receive a very useful handbook covering all aspects of study)

[www.flickr.com/photos/63075200@N07/collections/72157629294459686/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/63075200@N07/collections/72157629294459686/)

Steven Falk's online Flickr collection of Hymenoptera (the 'Apoidea' folder is intended as a companion to be used alongside his 2015 'Field Guide to the Bees of Great Britain and Ireland')

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[www.cassidae.uni.wroc.pl/Colpolon/index.htm](http://www.cassidae.uni.wroc.pl/Colpolon/index.htm) Lech Borowiec’s site (in Polish) hosts many excellent images of beetle species

[www.coleonet.de/coleo/index.htm](http://www.coleonet.de/coleo/index.htm) Arved Lompe’s site (in German) hosts keys and images for a wide range of European beetle families

[www.coleoptera.org.uk/home](http://www.coleoptera.org.uk/home) Website hosted by the Biological Records Centre (BRC), part of the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (UKCEH)

[www.coleopterist.org.uk](http://www.coleopterist.org.uk) Website of the leading journal for students of the British beetle fauna; includes a photo gallery

[www.colsoc.org](http://www.colsoc.org) The website of the Coleopterist’s Society of Britain and Ireland

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[www.johnwalters.co.uk/publications/guide-to-british-beetles.php](http://www.johnwalters.co.uk/publications/guide-to-british-beetles.php) This site hosts a series of guides to Carabidae and Geotrupidae species (by John Walters/Mark Telfer)

[www.kaefer-der-welt.de/index.htm](http://www.kaefer-der-welt.de/index.htm) Udo Schmidt’s site (in German) also hosts a collection of quality beetle images, arranged systematically by family ([kaefer-der-welt.de/familien.htm](http://kaefer-der-welt.de/familien.htm)); Udo’s Flickr is at: [www.flickr.com/photos/coleoptera-us/albums/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/coleoptera-us/albums/)

[www.kerbtier.de/enindex.html](http://www.kerbtier.de/enindex.html) Christoph Benisch’s site covering the German beetle fauna (again, very relevant to the British fauna!)

[www.ukbeetles.co.uk](http://www.ukbeetles.co.uk) The one-stop-shop for comprehensive, up-to-date information on the UK’s beetle species. Identification keys and general advice on how to approach ID’ing beetles is given here: [ukbeetles.co.uk/identification](http://ukbeetles.co.uk/identification); detailed profiles of families right through to species are provided

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White I.M. (1988). *Tephritid Flies. Diptera: Tephritidae. Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* **10** (5a). Royal Entomological Society. 134pp.

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Zeegers T. & Schulten A. (2022). *Field Guide to Flies with Three Pulvilli: Families of Homeodactyla of Northwest Europe*. Jeugdbondsuitgeverij. 256pp. [Very relevant to the British fauna. Only one species on the British list – a horsefly – is not included in the book, and the concept of two *Hybomitra* species (a genus of horsefly) differs from the convention applied in UK dipterology. Despite this, it is highly recommended and complements the well-known Stubbs & Drake (2001) well]

[www.diptera.info](http://www.diptera.info) / [www.online-keys.net](http://www.online-keys.net) Paul Beuk's sites host keys and discussion forums

[www.diptera-in-beeld.nl](http://www.diptera-in-beeld.nl) Jan Wind & Mariëtte Geluk's site (in Dutch) provides an overview of fly families and has an extensive photo gallery

[www.dipterists.org.uk/home](http://www.dipterists.org.uk/home) Website of the Dipterists Forum: home of their bulletin and the Dipterists Digest journal, discussion forums, links to individual fly family national recording schemes\*, and a 'members-only area' with an excellent family-level key to the British Diptera, and keys to anthomyiids, dolichopodids, 'picture-wing' flies, sciomyzids etc. (\*[www.dipterists.org.uk/schemes](http://www.dipterists.org.uk/schemes) takes you to these; many of them offer additional keys and other helpful ID resources, for example the Soldierfly and Allies Recording Scheme has some great ID guides compiled by Martin Harvey: [www.soldierflies.brc.ac.uk/id-guides](http://www.soldierflies.brc.ac.uk/id-guides); while the Scathophagid Recording Scheme offers a full key to the family written by Stuart Ball: [scathophagidae.myspecies.info/](http://scathophagidae.myspecies.info/))

[www.dipterists.org/resources.html](http://www.dipterists.org/resources.html) The North American Dipterists Society has a long list of helpful Diptera-related links on their website

[www.drawwing.org/insects/diptera](http://www.drawwing.org/insects/diptera) This website has compiled published images of insect wings/wing venation, searchable by order and family, and is particularly helpful for fly ID

[www.flickr.com/photos/63075200@N07/collections/72157629586945825/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/63075200@N07/collections/72157629586945825/)

Steven Falk's online Flickr collection of Diptera

[www.giand.it/diptera/intro/?lang=en](http://www.giand.it/diptera/intro/?lang=en) Giancarlo Dessi's site (translated from Italian) gives a very comprehensive overview of the Diptera, with great sections on morphology/terminology and taxonomy

[www.sites.google.com/view/flyguide](http://www.sites.google.com/view/flyguide) Field/Photo ID for Flies (Zachary and Even Dankowicz) (in-depth guides to fly families and species)

[www.nhm.ac.uk/our-science/research/projects/manual-afrotropical-diptera.html](http://www.nhm.ac.uk/our-science/research/projects/manual-afrotropical-diptera.html)

The first volume of the Manual of Afrotropical Diptera (available to download for free from the NHM) includes a very well-illustrated and up-to-date family-level key to Diptera from the region – despite the obvious inclusion of some families not represented here, this resource can certainly be applied to the British fauna and is highly recommended

[www.ukflymines.co.uk](http://www.ukflymines.co.uk) An important site for information on all the British leaf-mining Diptera

### **Caddisflies (Trichoptera)**

Barnard P. & Ross E. (2008). *Guide to the adult caddisflies or sedge flies (Trichoptera)* (AIDGAP guide OP129). Field Studies Council. 12pp.

Barnard P. & Ross E. (2012). *The adult Trichoptera (caddisflies) of Britain and Ireland. Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects 1* (17). Royal Entomological Society. 192pp. [[Highly recommended](#)]

Crofts S.M. (2019). *Caddisfly Adults (Trichoptera) of Britain and Ireland. Scientific Publications of the Freshwater Biological Association 70*. 98pp.

Edington J.M. & Hildrew A.G. (1995). *Caseless Caddis Larvae of the British Isles. Scientific Publications of the Freshwater Biological Association 53*. 134pp. [[Highly recommended](#)]

Hickin N.E. (1967). *Caddis Larvae: Larvae of the British Trichoptera*. Hutchinson. 476pp.

Macan T.T. (1973). A Key to the Adults of the British Trichoptera. *Scientific Publications of the Freshwater Biological Association* **28**. 151pp.

Marshall J.E. (1978). *Trichoptera: Hydroptilidae*. *Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* **1** (14a). Royal Entomological Society. 31pp.

Mosely M.E. (1939). *The British Caddis Flies (Trichoptera): A Collector's Handbook*. Routledge. 320pp.

Wallace I.D. (2006). *Simple key to caddis larvae* (AIDGAP guide OP105). Field Studies Council. 59pp.

Wallace I.D., Wallace B. & Philipson G.N. (1990). *A Key to the Case-bearing Caddis Larvae of Britain and Ireland*. *Scientific Publications of the Freshwater Biological Association* **51**. 237pp. [Reprinted 2003, 2023: SP61] [[Highly recommended](#)]

Wallace I., Flint S. & Flint P. (2022). *Adult Caddis (Trichoptera) of Britain and Ireland: a practical guide* (AIDGAP guide OP201). Field Studies Council. 162pp. [[Highly recommended](#)]

[www.riverflies.org/recording-schemes](http://www.riverflies.org/recording-schemes) The Caddisfly (Trichoptera) Recording Scheme can be accessed from here

### **Scorpionflies and Snowfleas (Mecoptera) / Lacewings, Antlions and Wax-flies (Neuroptera) / Alderflies (Megaloptera) / Snakeflies (Raphidioptera)**

Elliott J.M. (2009). *Freshwater Megaloptera and Neuroptera of Britain and Ireland: Keys to Adults and Larvae, and a Review of their Ecology*. *Scientific Publications of the Freshwater Biological Association* **65**. 71pp. [Reprinted 2012]

Fraser F.C. (1959). *Mecoptera, Megaloptera and Neuroptera*. *Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* **1** (12,13). Royal Entomological Society. 40pp.

Plant C.W. (1997). *A key to the adults of British lacewings and their allies (Neuroptera, Megaloptera, Raphidioptera and Mecoptera)* (AIDGAP guide OP245). Field Studies Council. 90pp. [[Highly recommended](#)]

[www.laars.jamesjepson.com](http://www.laars.jamesjepson.com) Lacewing and Allies Recording Scheme

[www.lacewing.tamu.edu](http://www.lacewing.tamu.edu) This site contains much information on the world Neuropterida (lacewings and related groups)

[www.northwestinvertebrates.org.uk/document/lacewing-and-allies-part-1-slides](http://www.northwestinvertebrates.org.uk/document/lacewing-and-allies-part-1-slides) (+ '-part-2') ID resources by James Jepson, co-organiser of the Lacewing and Allies Recording Scheme

### **Siphonaptera (Fleas)**

Whitaker A.P. (2007). *Fleas (Siphonaptera)*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. *Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* **1** (16). Royal Entomological Society. 178pp.

[www.zin.ru/Animalia/Siphonaptera/index.htm](http://www.zin.ru/Animalia/Siphonaptera/index.htm) This site provides a taxonomic overview of the world Siphonaptera

### **Stylops (Strepsiptera)**

[www.duhem.com/galerie/streps.en.php](http://www.duhem.com/galerie/streps.en.php) A useful website on Strepsiptera, with links to other sites and resources



## Other invertebrates – general guides to groups

Croft P.S. (1986). *A key to the major groups of British freshwater invertebrates* (AIDGAP guide OP181). Field Studies Council. 60pp.

Dobson M., Pawley S., Fletcher M. & Powell A. (2012). *Guide to Freshwater Invertebrates. Scientific Publications of the Freshwater Biological Association* **68**. 216pp.

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## Springtails (Collembola)

Dallimore T. & Shaw P. (2013). *Illustrated key to the families of British Springtails (Collembola)* (AIDGAP guide OP157). Field Studies Council. 9pp.

Fjellberg A. (1998). *The Collembola of Fennoscandia and Denmark: Part I: Poduromorpha. Fauna Entomologica Scandinavica* **35**. E.J. Brill. 184pp. [Very relevant to the British fauna]

Fjellberg A. (2007). *The Collembola of Fennoscandia and Denmark: Part II: Entomobryomorpha and Symphypleona. Fauna Entomologica Scandinavica* **42**. E.J. Brill. 264pp. [Very relevant to the British fauna]

Frampton G. & Hopkin S. (2001). Springtails – in search of Britain's most abundant insects. *British Wildlife*, **12** (6), 402–410.

Hopkin S.P. (1997). *Biology of the Springtails (Insecta: Collembola)*. Oxford University Press. 329pp.

Hopkin S.P. (2007). *A Key to the Collembola (Springtails) of Britain and Ireland* (AIDGAP guide OP111). Field Studies Council. 245pp.

## Spiders (Araneae)

Bee L. (2002). *A Guide to House and Garden spiders* (OP69). Field Studies Council. 8pp.

Bee L., Oxford G. & Smith H. (2020). *Britain's Spiders: A field guide*. 2nd Ed. Princeton University Press (Princeton WILDGuides). 496pp.

Jones, D. (1983). *The Country Life guide to spiders of Britain and northern Europe*. Littlehampton Book Services Ltd. 288pp.

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Jones-Walters L.M. (1989). *Keys to the families of British spiders* (AIDGAP guide OP197). Field Studies Council. 80pp.

Lavery A. & Bee L. (2023). Infamy and false threats: an introduction to the false widow spiders. *British Wildlife*, **35** (1), 40–46.

Locket G.H. & Millidge A.F. (1951). *British Spiders*. Volume I. Ray Society.

Locket G.H. & Millidge A.F. (1953). *British Spiders*. Volume II. Ray Society.

Locket G.H., Millidge A.F. & Merrett P. (1974). *British Spiders*. Volume III. Ray Society. (Volumes I–III 1074pp. total) [All also available on CD-ROM from Pisces Conservation]

Oxford G. (2011). Large house spiders in the British Isles: past, present and future. *British Wildlife*, **23** (1), 34–41.

Roberts M.J. (1993). *The Spiders of Great Britain and Ireland: Compact Edition* (2-volume set). Harley Books. 705pp. (total). [Reprint of the original 3-volume set published 1985–1987]

Roberts M.J. (1995). *Spiders of Britain and Northern Europe*. HarperCollins. 383pp.

[www.britishspiders.org.uk](http://www.britishspiders.org.uk) Website of the British Arachnological Society, which hosts much helpful information on spider conservation, ID, recording and checklists (also includes Harvestmen, below)

[www.araneae.nmbe.ch](http://www.araneae.nmbe.ch) Spiders of Europe website, hosting keys to families (including the Linyphiidae), a photo/image gallery, distribution maps etc.

[www.jason-steel.co.uk/spiders.php](http://www.jason-steel.co.uk/spiders.php) Jason Steel's website has a superb photo gallery of the spiders of the UK (among other wildlife)

### **Harvestmen (Opiliones)**

Hillyard P.D. (2005). *Harvestmen*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. *Synopses of the British Fauna (New Series)* **4**. Published for The Linnean Society of London & The Estuarine and Coastal Sciences Association by Field Studies Council. 167pp.

Richards P. (2022). *Guide to the Harvestmen of the British Isles* (OP198). 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. Field Studies Council. 12pp.

### **Pseudoscorpions (Pseudoscorpiones)**

Legg G. & Farr-Cox F. (2016). *Illustrated key to the British False Scorpions (Pseudoscorpions)* (AIDGAP guide OP173). Field Studies Council. 12pp.

Legg G. & Jones R.E. (1988). *Pseudoscorpions*. *Synopses of the British Fauna (New Series)* **40**. Published for The Linnean Society of London & The Estuarine and Brackish-Water Sciences Association by E.J. Brill/Dr W. Backhuys. 159pp.

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[www.earthwormsoc.org.uk](http://www.earthwormsoc.org.uk) Website of the Earthworm Society of Great Britain and Northern Ireland – covers earthworm biology, recording, identification and more

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