Contributions to the Fauna and Zoogeography of Northwest Iceland.

By B. Fristrup.

In the summer of 1939 I had the opportunity to go on a study tour to Iceland with support from the Dansk Islandsk Forbundsfond. Since the northwestern peninsula is among the regions least thoroughly investigated, notably in an entomological respect, I chose the area between Breiðifjörður and Húnaflói as the main field for collecting; and during a two months' stay there I was able to make collections both on the north and the south coast of the peninsula.

The north coast is very difficult of access, thus in many places it is only possible to proceed on foot, even the Icelandic ponies cannot find a foothold on the steep mountain paths. And, as a matter of fact, no systematic collection of insects has previously been made in these regions. The south coast, however, is much more easily accessible. Here Walker made collections in a very few localities in the western fjords in 1889 and 1890, and in 1926 Lindroth collected a considerable material (marked L.) at Staður on Reykjanes on the south coast of the peninsula and in several other localities, especially around Ísafjörður. In 1937 Brough Hynd, as a member of the "St. Andrews University Iceland Expedition", made collections in four areas: around the mouth of Skálmarfjörður and at Brjánslækur on the south coast,

at Ísafjörður, and on the Reykjanes Peninsula in Ísafjarðardjúp. It was his intention to publish these collections, but owing to the war it has been impossible to ascertain whether this has been done; on the other hand, I have been able to use a report which Brough Hynd worked out for the Zoological Museum of Copenhagen; all records quoted from this report are marked B. H. Geir Gígja has likewise made collections on the northwestern peninsula, thus at Brjánslækur and in 1939 in Kaldalón and on the Reykjanes Peninsula in Ísafjarðardjúp, but I have not had access to these collections. In addition to these systematic entomological collections, a great many insects collected by zoologists who have visited the peninsula for other purposes, have been sent in to the Zoological Museum.

My travelling route in 1939 was planned in such a way that careful collections could be made in some localities both on the north and the south coast. From Ísafjörður I continued to Hesteyri and thence across the mountains to Hornbjarg, where I collected during a fairly long period. From Hornbjarg I went to Revkjafjörður near Paralátursnes and thence on skis across Drangajökull to Bæir and onwards partly to Kaldalón and partly to Unaðsdalur. From Bæir I proceeded by boat along Ísafjarðardjúp and later returned to Ísafjörður, where I made collections in the valleys in the neighbourhood, as for instance in Tungudalur, Dagverðardalur, Engidalur, Önundarfjörður, and Hnífsdalur. Subsequently I made a trip from Ísafjörður to Látrar and Straumnes in Aðalvík on the north-western headland of the peninsula. Returning from this trip, I proceeded on horseback through all the western fjords to Hagi at Barðaströnd, where numerous collections were made; the return journey was made over land to Ísafjörður, but as far as possible by other routes. It was now late in August, and after collecting for some days around Ísafjörður, and after making a trip to Vigur, Ögur, and Æðey, circumstances compelled me to go southward by steamer. I had the opportunity to collect for half a day around the whalers' station at Tálknafjörður, but this was the last of the collections on the peninsula.

It is the collections made on this journey which form the basis of the present paper. It is my pleasant duty to thank principally Mag. sc. S. L. Tuxen for much help in the determination of the material, and Messrs. Niels L. Wolff, civil engineer, Aug. West, managing clerk, Victor Hansen, Judge in the Supreme Court, stud. mag. Niels Haarløv, and Peder Nielsen, Librarian, for help in determining some few groups or individuals. — Species new to Iceland are marked with an asterisk.

Apterygota: The specimens have not yet been determined.

Dermaptera, Blattoidea, Plecoptera, Anoplura, Thysanoptera: ${
m No}$ representatives were collected.

Copeognatha: Treated in Zool. of Iceland III, 41, 1942.

Mallophaga: Treated by C. Overgaard in Zool. of Iceland III, 42, 1942; and "Om Lundelus", B. Fristrup, Ent. Medd. Bd. XXII. Hft. 4. 1942.

Neuroptera, Trichoptera: Treated in Zool. of Iceland III, 43—44, 1942.

Hemiptera.

Arctocorisa carinata C. Sahlb.: Common all over the peninsula. Adults only in August.

Salda littoralis L.: Frequent both on the north and the south coast of the peninsula.

Acalypta nigrina Fall.: 1 spec. Hagi $^{18}/_{8}$ —39 secured by sweeping in high grass; only known from the south coast: Staður (L.) and Brjánslækur (B. H.).

Nysius ericae Schill. obscuratus Horv.: Rafnseyri, Arnarfjörður, ¹⁵/₈ secured by sweeping in the grass on the "Tún". Miklidalur, Patreksfjörður, ¹⁶/₈. Hagi; very common in meadows. Brough Hynd collected the species at Laugaból, Ísafjörður, and on Reykjanes, Ísafjarðardjúp. — New to the fauna of the north-west district.

Cicadula sexnotata Fall.: Very common.

The Aphides have not yet been determined, but it must be assumed that different species are found among the material, which was especially collected in the scrubs of Betula pubescens, but also from Salix sp.

Eriococcus granulatus Green: Not secured in 1939; only known from the south coast, Staður (L.).

Orthezia cataphracta Olafsen: Very common from sea-level to the highest points of the peninsula.

Coleoptera.

Only the most remarkable finds are recorded in the list.

Nebria Gyllenhali Schönh. and var. Balbii Bon.: The variety was very common all over the peninsula, and was collected as far as Drangajökull; but the typical species was rather rare: Tungudalur, Ísafjörður; Miklidalur, Patreksfjörður; Mosvellir, Önundarfjörður. All these localities are very dry, and in all of them the type form was found in company with the variety.

Notiophilus aquaticus L.: 1 spec. Aðalvík 8/8; 1 spec. Stekkjanes, Ísafjörður ½/8. Laugaból and Reykjanes in Ísafjarðardjúp (B. H.).

Notiophilus biguttatus Fabr.: 1 spec. Aðalvík $^8/_8$; 1 spec. Hagi $^{18}/_8$. — Not previously recorded from the peninsula.

Bembidion bipunctatum L.: 1 spec. Kaldalón ²⁹/₇; 1 spec. Bæir ²⁹/₇; 7 spec. Aðalvík ⁸/₈; 12 spec. Stekkjanes, Ísafjörður ¹²/₈; 2 spec. Hagi ¹⁸/₈. Previously only recorded from the south coast of the northwest district.

Trechus rubens Fabr.: Brjánslækur (B. H.). — New to the fauna of the northwest peninsula.

Patrobus septentrionis Dej.: Very common. At Hornbjarg 30 spec. were secured; 23 of these were more or less red, and thus belonged to the rufinistic variety, but of 10 spec. taken in Patreksfjörður, only 2 belonged to the rufinistic variety.

Pterostichus nigrita Fabr.: 1 spec. Tungudalur, Ísafjörður ¹/₈; 1 spec. Mosvellir, Önundarfjörður ¹²/₈. Lindroth assumed this species to be found only at the hot springs in North Iceland, so it is of interest that none of the localities on the north-west peninsula (except Lindroth's locality at Staður) are situated near hot springs, and in 1939 the species was not secured near the spring where I tried to find it.

Pterostichus diligens Sturm: Only found at Reykhólar near the hot spring (L.).

Aleochara sparsa Heer: 1 spec. Hagi ¹⁹/₈. Previously only known from Vatnsfjörður (L.).

Crataraea suturalis Mannh.: Not collected; previously recorded from Vatnsfjörður (L.).

Oxypoda haemorrhoa Mannh.: Only known from Reykhólar (L.). Oxypoda soror Thoms.: Not collected; only known from Ísafjörður (L.).

Tachinus collaris Grav.: 1 spec. Tungudalur, Ísafjörður ²/₈; 1 spec. Bildudalur ¹⁵/₈ under a stone; 9 spec. Miklidalur, Patreksfjörður ¹⁶/₈; 1 spec. Tálknafjörður ²⁹/₈, found on a carcase near the whale-station. — New to the fauna of the northwest peninsula, found previously in Southwest, South, and Southeast Iceland.

Cafius xantholoma Grav.: 1 spec. by Brjánslækur (B. H.). A very rare species, previously only known from Reykjavík (Staudinger 1857).

Philonthus aeneus Rossi: Only known from Staður (L.).

Stenus carbonarius Gyll.: 2 spec. Hagi 19/8; previously only known from the south coast of the peninsula.

*Oxytelus Perrisi Fauv.: 1 spec. in the meadow near the coast of Hagi $^{18}/_8$. — New to the Icelandic fauna. In Europe the species occurs near the coast.

Omalium septentrionis Thoms.: 2 spec. Stekkjanes, Ísafjörður ¹²/₈. Previously recorded from the south coast (L.).

Omalium riparium Thoms.: 1 spec. Sigluvíkurnúpur by Þaralátursnes $^{26}/_{7}$; 1 spec. Aðalvík $^{8}/_{8}$. Previously only found on the south coast (L.).

Xylodromus concinnus Marsh.: 1 spec. Hagi $^{20}/_{8}$ in a fowlhouse. — New to the fauna of the northwest district, but common in stables in Iceland.

Stenichnus collaris Müll. & Kunze: Only known from Staður (L.).

Aphodius lapponum Gyll.: Very common all over the peninsula, found i. a. in the excrements of Cygnus musicus in a resting place on the coast of Paralátursnes $^{26}/_{7}$.

Cercyon littoralis Gyll.: Very common near Hagi. Brjánslækur (B. H.). — New to the fauna of the northwest peninsula.

Cercyon melanocephalus L.: 1 spec. Hagi ¹⁸/₈. Brjánslækur and Vogur (B. H.). Previously only known from the south coast of the peninsula.

Corticaria elongata Gyll.: 2 spec. Horn 18/7 near the farm. —

New to the fauna of the northwest peninsula, but very characteristic of the hay-barns of Iceland.

Scymnus Redtenbacheri Muls. limonii Donis.: 6 spec. at Hagi ¹⁸⁻¹⁹/₈. Previously only recorded from Staður (L.).

Coccinella 11-punctata L. confluens Donis.: Very common in the great meadows by Hagi. 1 spec. Reykjanes Ísafjarðardjúp (B. H.). Previously only recorded from Staður (L.).

Malthodes mysticus Kiesw.: 1 spec., female, Tungudalur, Ísafjörður ²/₈; 1 spec., female, Hagi ¹⁸/₈; both were taken by sweeping in the scrubs of Betula pubescens. Identification by Victor Hansen. — Only once before the species has been found in Iceland: on the Staudinger's expedition in 1857 Kalisch secured nearly 20 specimens by sweeping in Calluna on Þingvellir.

Ptinus tectus Boild.: 1 spec. creeping on a loaf in the farm of Horn $^{21}/_{7}$; 2 spec. in eiderdown in a house on Flatey (B. H.). — New to the northwest district.

Phaedon concinnum Steph.: 11 spec. by sweeping in a meadow near the sea by Hagi ¹⁸⁻¹⁹/₈. Only one living and one dead specfound under a stone near the coast by the river at Staður (L.) were previously known from Iceland.

Barynotus squamosus Germ.: 7 spec. Eyrarhlið, Ísafjörður 4/8 on a damp rock; 1 spec. Rafnseyri, Arnarfjörður ¹⁵/8 in a moist meadow; 2 spec. Bildudalur ¹⁵/8; 2 spec. Miklidalur, Patreksfjörður ¹⁶/8, and some dead spec. Tungudalur, Ísafjörður ²⁶/8. Hitherto only known from a dead specimen from Ísafjörður (L.).

Tropiphorus obtusus Bonsd.: 1 spec. Rafnseyri, Arnarfjörður ¹⁵/₈; 1 spec. Tálknafjörður ²⁹/₈. Previously only known from Staður (L.).

Otiorrhynchus rugifrons Gyll.: Not secured; hitherto only known from the South (L.).

Lepidoptera.

All species found in the northwest peninsula are mentioned in the list.

Euxoa islandica Staud.: Only 2 spec. known from the peninsula, found at Staður (L.).

Rhyacia festiva Schiff. conflua Tr.: Collected at Vattarnes (B. H.) and at Staður (L.).

Monima gothica L.: An adult specimen of this rare Icelandic species was collected by Brough Hynd near the shore of Reykja-

nes, Ísafjarðardjúp; it is the first Icelandic record of the adult moth. Lindroth found a larva at Staður.

Cerapteryx graminis L.: 7 adult spec. were secured at Bæir 29 / $_7$, flying in the sun in the morning, but I saw none in the afternoon; 1 spec. Unaðsdalur 30 / $_7$. Larvae were found by Reykjafjörður near Paralátursnes on the dunes near the sea 24 / $_7$; 2 larvae Eyrarhlið, Ísafjörður 4 / $_8$; and 1 larva Miklidalur, Patreksfjörður 16 / $_8$. The size of the adults varies greatly, the seven specimens have a wing-spread of from 21 mm. to 30 mm.

Crymodes exulis Lef.: 1 spec. Fannalagafjall $^{16}/_{7}$; 1 spec. Bæjafjall $^{28}/_{7}$; 1 spec. Bæjahlið $^{29}/_{7}$; and 2 spec. Tungudalur, Ísafjörður $^{1}/_{8}$ and $^{2}/_{8}$.

Syngrapha interrogationis L.: 1 spec. Bæjafjall ²⁸/₇ and 2 spec. Tungudalur, Ísafjörður ¹/₈. — New to the fauna of the peninsula.

Phytometra gamma L.: Collected by Brough Hynd near "Borg" ¹⁶/₇ (1 Ex.). The locality is unknown to me, but Brough Hynd says: "Lindroth only records three other Icelandic specimens and remarks 'Probably introduced and at least not indigenous to Iceland'. Its occurence in the northwest would seem to negative this statement".

Cidaria citrata L. (immanata Hw.): Very common.

Cidaria munitata Hb. One of the commonest Geometrides of Iceland, and collected several times on the peninsula; Brough Hynd found it to be the commonest Geometrid moth in the district; but in 1939 the species was only collected in three localities: 65 spec. near Hornbjarg $^{17}/_{7}$; 2 spec. Hnifsdalur, Ísafjörður $^{4}/_{8}$; and 1 spec. Tungudalur, Ísafjörður $^{12}/_{8}$. But the moth was very common in 1939, at any rate in the eastern part of Iceland, so the rather scanty distribution in the northwest must be peculiar to that year, possibly the distribution has some connection with the unusually short and cold summer of 1938.

Cidaria caesiata Schiff.: Found in several localities from Hagi in the south to Horn in the north, being especially characteristic of the great stone plateaus in the central part, and by Reykja-fjörður near Paralátursnes it was the commonest species found. Previously only recorded from Staður (L.).

Cidaria hastata L. thulearia H.-S.: Characteristic of the birch scrubs in Iceland, and previously recorded from the peninsula; but in 1939 no adult specimen was secured. Larvae of the species were found in Tungudalur, Ísafjörður ²/₈.

Cidaria alternata Müll. (sociata Bkh.): Collected by Önundarfjörður (Walker) and Vattarnes (B. H.).

Cidaria furcata Thnbg. (sordidata Fabr.): Found in several localities from south to north.

Eupithecia satyrata Hb.: 1 spec. taken in a meadow in Unaðsdalur $^{30}/_{7}$. — New to the fauna of the peninsula.

Crambus pascuellus L.: 3 spec. Tungudalur, Ísafjörður ²⁻⁸/₈. Previously recorded from the peninsula (Walker and B. H.).

Salebria fusca Haw.: Not secured in 1939; but previously recorded; Brough Hynd found the species to be fairly common on the plateau.

*Acalla maccana Tr.: This very rare species was found in a Vaccinium-heath near Hagi; only once before recorded from Iceland, Staudinger found some larvae near Pingvellir in 1856.

Acalla ferrugana Tr.: One specimen of this species, new to the Icelandic fauna, was taken by sweeping near Hagi $^{18}/_{8}$ in the same locality as the preceding species.

Cnephasia osseana Scop.: Very common all over the peninsula.

Epiblema solandriana L.: Only one specimen of this species found in a garden near Akureyri, was previously known from Iceland; Lindroth assumed that the species was not indigenous but had been introduced into Iceland. In 1939 7 specimens were secured near Hagi ¹⁹/₈; the species must be a native Icelandic species, since no gardens or cultures were found near the farm.

Endrosis lacteella Schiff.: 1 spec. Horn $^{19}/_7$. — Not previously found on the northwest peninsula.

Coleophora algidella Z.: Very common in the western fjords from Arnarfjörður to Hagi; especially in the meadows near the sea by Hagi. The specimens were taken on Luzula and Juncus. — New to the fauna of the peninsula.

Plutella senilella Zett.: Found on a large stone plain near Paralátursnes $^{24}/_{7}$.

Diptera.

All identified species from the northwest peninsula are mentioned in the list.

Dicranomyia didyma Meig.: 1 spec. Tungudalur, Ísafjörður ²/₈.

— New to the fauna of the northwest district.

Dicranomyia autumnalis Stæg.: Very common on the peninsula and collected from several localities: Kaldalón $^{29}/_{7}$; Tungu-

dalur, Ísafjörður ²⁶/₈; Mosvellir, Önundarfjörður ¹²/₈; Aðalvík ⁸/₈; Hagi ¹⁸⁻¹⁹/₈. Larvae were very common on hygropetric stones at Aðalvík, living in the surface-film like the larvae of Orphnephila. One specimen from Kaldalón was infected with the Gamasid mite *Episeius sp.* — Not previously recorded from this part of Iceland.

Ormosia fascipennis Zett.: 4 spec. Horn $^{19-21}/_7$; and 1 spec. Reykjafjörður by Paralátursnes $^{24}/_7$.

According to a letter from Peder Nielsen, the *Ormosia Holte-dahli* Alex. mentioned by Lindroth and determined by Peder Nielsen is actually this species. *Ormosia Holtedahli* should therefore be excluded from the Icelandic fauna.

Ormosia uncinatus Meig.: One spec. Kaldalón 29/7.

 $Helobia\ hybrida$ Meig.: 6 spec. Kaldalón $^{29}/_{7}.$ — New to the northwest peninsula.

Trichocera maculipennis Meig.: Only recorded once before from the northwest district; Bær, Hrútafjörður (L.); in 1939 I found one spec. at Þaralátursnes by Reykjafjörður ²⁴/₇.

Rhaphidolabis exclusa Walk.?: Collected at Paralátursnes ²⁷/₇, 1 spec. The specimen is of a very peculiar appearance, being of a very pale yellowish colour (determined by Peder Nielsen, Silkeborg). Previously recorded from Arnarfjörður.

Prionocera turcica Fabr.: Only one spec., Unaðsdalur ³⁰/₇. Tipula rufina Meig.: 2 spec. Kaldalón ²⁹/₇.

Simulium vittatum Zett.: 2 spec. caught in Kaldalón $^{29}/_7$. Brough Hynd found the species at Álftamýri and between Brjánslækur and Fossá (his specimens have been determined by Dr. F. W. Edwards).

Simulium latipes Meig.: The commonest species in my material. It was collected from Bæir ²⁹/₇; Unaðsdalur ³⁰/₇; Tungudalur, Ísafjörður ²⁶/₈; Mosvellir, Önundarfjörður ¹²/₈; Miklidalur, Patreksfjörður ¹⁶/₈. Brough Hynd found the species in Álftamýri (det. F. W. Edwards). Some specimens of Simulium and larvae preserved in alcohol have not been identified.

Several specimens of *Ceratopogonidae* and *Chironomidae* were secured, but they have not been identified with the exception of:

Macropelobia nebulosa Meig.: 1 spec. on Paralátursnes ²⁷/₇ and 1 spec. in Unaðsdalur ³⁰/₇. — Hitherto not recorded from this part of Iceland.

Scatopse notata L.: Not found. Previously recorded from Staður and Bær, Hrútafjörður (L.).

Bibio pomonae Fabr.: Very common all over the peninsula, and seen during the whole of my ski-trip across Dranga-Jökull. Larvae were found by Ísafjörður in August.

Neosciara sp.: Some specimens were collected from a few localities. — New to the fauna of the northwest peninsula.

Atalanta stagnalis Hal. (Clinocera s.): Collected at Horn on the "Tún" $^{21}/_{7}$; at Þaralátursnes by Reykjafjörður $^{24}/_{7}$; Mosvellir, Önundarfjörður $^{12}/_{8}$; and 2 spec. from Aðalvík $^{8}/_{8}$. — Not previously recorded from the northwest peninsula.

Dolichopus plumipes Scop.: Very common all over the peninsula.

Platychirus albimanus Fabr. Collected at Bæir ²⁹/₇, 1 spec.; 2 spec. Tungudalur, Ísafjörður ²/₈; and 2 spec. Hagi ¹⁸/₈. Previously only recorded from Staður (L).

*Platychirus islandicus n. sp. ♀. Head robust and broad, two first segments of antennae black, third segment greyish-brown on the upper side, lighter to darker reddish-yellow on the under side. Seta slightly longer than antenna. Profile of face as in Pl. peltatus Meig. Frons black, shining with a metallic lustre, epistome with dense silvery hairs, central knob well developed, black, metallic. Hind margin of head with well developed, close set, silvery hairs. Sides of thorax with long silvery hairs, dorsal shield highly metallic, shining from entirely black to greenish and golden purple. Abdomen dull black with light greyish hairs, which are long at the sides, but very short and sparse in the middle. Apex shining. Second to fifth segment with a couple of rectangular blue spots, which extend on either side over about one-third of the breadth of the segment. On the second segments the blue spots may be more or less distinct and may be difficult to distinguish. On the third to fifth segments the spots may be reddish-yellow, but if so, they have in most cases a bluish hue. Front and middle legs with close-set yellow hairs, femora with black basal part about half as long as the segment, the apical part light yellow, densely hairy; knees yellow, tibia darker towards the apical part, but covered by light yellow hairs. Tarsi very light. Hind legs black with reddish-yellow knees, hairs with a yellowish tint, which especially on the under side of the tarsus gives the foot a golden hue. Length 10—11 mm. Eight ♀♀ collected in Tungudalur, İsafjörður, Aug. 2nd.

This syrphide, which, as far as I can see, has not been described before, is very closely related to *Pl. peltatus*, but is more

vigorous and larger than the latter, and likewise differs somewhat in colour and markings from *Pl. peltatus islandicus* Ringd.

Platychirus clypeatus Meig.: 2 spec. were secured in Rafnseyri, Arnarfjörður $^{15}/_8$; and 1 spec. in Unaðsdalur $^{30}/_7$. Hitherto only known from Ísafjörður (L.).

Syrphus torvus O. S.: 2 spec. Unaðsdalur $^{80}/_{7}$; and 2 spec. Tungudalur, Ísafjörður $^{2}/_{8}$. Previously recorded from Bær, Hrútafjörður (L.).

Sphaerophoria scripta L. strigata Stæg.: 3 spec. were found in Unaðsdalur $^{30}/_{7}$. — New to the fauna of the northwest peninsula.

Dilophus pendulus L.: 1 spec. Kaldalón $^{29}/_{7}$ and 3 spec. Aðalvík $^{8}/_{8}$. Previously recorded from Bær, Hrútafjörður (L.).

Cinxia lappona L.: 1 spec. Unaðsdalur ⁸⁰/₇; 1 spec. Tungudalur, Ísafjörður ²/₈. Brough Hynd found the species to be common by Vattarnes. Previously only recorded from Staður.

Scopeuma stercorarium L.: Very common.

Scopeuma squalidum Meig.: Common both in the south and the north. — New to the fauna of the northwest peninsula.

Scopeuma litoreum Fall.: Common.

 $Scopeuma\ villipes\ Zett.$: Found in several places from south to north.

Fucomyia frigida Fabr. (incl. parvula Hal.): 1 spec. Horn, the "Tún" $^{21}/_7$; 1 spec. Reykjafjörður near Þaralátursnes $^{24}/_7$; 1 spec. Sigluvíkurnúpur $^{26}/_7$; 1 spec. Tungudalur, Ísafjörður $^{26}/_8$; 1 spec. Miklidalur, Patreksfjörður $^{16}/_8$; 4 spec. Rafnseyri $^{15}/_8$.

*Coelopa pilipes Hal.: 2 spec. in Reykjafjörður near Þaralátursnes ²⁴/₇. — New to the Icelandic fauna.

Borborus nitidus Meig. (nigriceps Rond.): 2 spec. at Horn, the "Tún" $^{20}/_{7}$. — Previously only recorded from South and Southeast Iceland.

Borborus niger Meig.: Only 2 specimens were found, Horn $^{20}/_{7}$. — New to the northwest peninsula. One of the specimens was infected with a parasitic Gamasid.

Borborus equinus Fall.: 4 spec. Horn ¹⁹/₇; 1 spec. Rafnseyri ¹⁵/₈; 3 spec. Miklidalur, Patreksfjörður ¹⁶/₈. Previously only recorded from the southern part of the peninsula.

 $Helomyza\ serrata\ L.:\ Not\ found.\ Previously\ recorded\ from\ Bær,\ Hrútafjörður.$

Tetanocera robusta Loew (ferruginea Fall.): Very common all over the peninsula.—Curiously enough this species has only been recorded from the southern and southeastern parts of Iceland. Some of the specimens were infected with parasitic Gamasids.

 $Piophila\ vulgaris\ {\rm Fall.}(affinis\ {\rm Meig.}); 1\ {\rm spec.}\ {\rm Miklidalur, Patreks-fjörður}^{\ 16}/_8.$

Scatella sibilans Hal.: 1 spec. at Hagi $^{18}/_{8}$. — New to the fauna of the northwest peninsula.

Scatella stagnalis Fall.: 2 spec. Mosvellir, Önundarfjörður $^{12}/_8$; 3 spec. Miklidalur, Patreksfjörður $^{16}/_8$; 1 spec. Hagi $^{19}/_8$. — Not found in the northwest before.

Phormia terrae-novae R. D. (coerulea R. D.): 1 spec. Horn $^{21}/_{7}$; and 1 spec. Tálknafjörður $^{29}/_{8}$. — New to the fauna of the northwest peninsula.

Calliphora erythrocephala Meig.: Not found. Previously recorded from Bær, Hrútafjörður (L.).

Calliphora uralensis Villen .: The commonest Tachinid.

Cynomyia mortuorum L.: 1 spec. Horn $^{20}/_{7}$; 1 spec. Tálknafjörður $^{29}/_{8}$; and 1 spec. Hagi $^{18}/_{8}$.

The Anthomyidae have not been identified, but several species are found in the material.

Melophagus ovinus L. Brough Hynd collected this parasitic fly in sheep's wool at Brjánslækur.

Hymenoptera.

Only one species: *Bombus jonellus* Kirby has been identified; this species was very common on the peninsula, only in one locality, Horn, the species seems to be lacking.

Regarding the zoogeographical distribution of the fauna it may be stated that all species mentioned in the lists belong to one of four different types of distribution found on the peninsula. As the material of the different orders is very heterogeneous, only the Hemiptera, the Coleoptera, and the Lepidoptera will be dealt with below.

I. Species distributed all over the peninsula. All these species are very common in the whole of Iceland. Four species of Hemiptera $(57.1 \text{ }^{0})_{0}$ of the total

fauna) belong to this group, viz.: Arctocorisa carinata C. Sahlb.; Salda littoralis L.; Cicadula sexnotata Fall.; and Orthezia cataphracta Olafsen.

Twenty-eight species of Coleoptera (37.8 %) are distributed all over the district: Nebria Gyllenhali Schönh. Balbii Bon.; Notiophilus biguttatus Fabr.; N. bipunctatum L.; Bembidion Grapei Gyll.; Patrobus septentrionis Dej.; Calathus melanocephalus L.; Pterostichus adstrictus Eschsch.; Amara Quenseli Schönh.; Dichirotrichus cognatus Gyll.; Hydroporus nigrita Fabr.; Agabus Solieri Aubé; Colymbetes dolabratus Payk. groenlandicus Aubé; Atheta graminicola Grav.; A. islandica Kr.; Quedius mesomelinus Marsh.; Q. boops Grav.; Omalium rivulare Payk.; O. riparium Thoms.; O. excavatum Steph.; Aphodius lapponum Gyll.; Cryptophagus scanicus L.; Enicmus minutus L.; Atomaria apicalis Er.; Byrrhus fasciatus Forst.; Cryptohypnus riparius Fabr.; Ptinus tectus Boild.; Otiorrhynchus arcticus O. Fabr.; O. dubius Strøm.

Nine species of Lepidoptera (39.1%) are of this type: Cerapteryx graminis L.; Crymodes exulis Lef.; Syngrapha interrogationis L.; Cidaria citrata L.; C. munitata Hb.; C. caesiata Schiff.; C. furcata Thnbg.; Cnephasia osseana Scop.; Plutella senilella Zett.

II. Species only found on the north coast and absent south of Ísafjarðardjúp. Only very few insects show this type of distribution; no Hemiptera are among them, but two Coleoptera $(2.7\,^{\circ}/_{\circ})$ are only found in the north: Notiophilus aquaticus L. and Corticaria elongata Gyll. The first-mentioned species is a really northern species in the Icelandic fauna, so it represents a north-easthern fauna-element in the north-west peninsula; the second species is synanthropous and of no zoogeographical interest. Of the Lepidoptera one species $(4.4\,^{\circ}/_{\circ})$, Endrosis lacteella Schiff., is only found on Horn; but this also is a synanthropous species.

III. Species found in the south and extending to the south coast of Ísafjarðardjúp. Of the Hemiptera only one (14.3 %), Nysius ericae Schill. obscuratus Horv., shows this type of distribution, but 31 species $(41.9 \, {}^{\circ}/_{0})$ of Coleoptera belong to this group, viz.: Nebria Gyllenhali Schönh.; Pterostichus nigrita Fabr.; Aleochara sparsa Heer; Crataraea suturalis Mannh.; Oxypoda islandica Kr.; O. soror Thoms.; Sipalia circellaris Grav.; Atheta excellens Kr.; A. analis Grav.; A. trinotata Kr.; A. vestita Grav.; A. Lindrothi Bernh.; A. arenicola Thoms.; A. atramentaria Gyll.; A. fungi Grav.; Tachinus collaris Grav.; Quedius fulvicollis Steph.; Creophilus maxillosus L.; Philonthus sordidus Grav.; Ph. trossulus Grav.; Lesteva longelytrata Goeze; Acidota crenata Fabr.; Micralymma marinum Ström; Omalium laeviusculum Gyll.; O. septentrionis Thoms.; Cercyon melanocephalus L.; Cryptophagus pilosus Gyll.; Coccinella 11-punctata L. confluens Donis.; Malthodes mysticus Kiesw.; Barynotus squamosus Germ.; Tropiphorus obtusus Boisd.

Of the Lepidoptera seven species (30.4 °/0) belong to this type of distribution: Rhyacia festiva Schiff. conflua Tr.; Monima gothica L.: Cidaria hastata L. thulearia H.-S.; C. alternata Müll.; Eupithecia satyrata Hb.; Crambus pascuellus L.; Salebria fusca Haw.

Most of the species are widely distributed all over Iceland; but some of the beetles, Omalium septentrionis, Malthodes mysticus, have a southwestern distribution, and the species Pterostichus nigrita, Sipalia circellaris, Tachinus collaris, Barynotus squamosus, have a west-south-eastern distribution in Iceland.

IV. Species with a decidedly southern distribution, only occurring on the south coast. Representatives of this type are found within all orders, thus two species of Hemiptera $(28.5 \, ^{\circ})_{\circ}$: Acalypta nigrina and Eriococcus granulatus. 13 species of beetles $(17.6 \, ^{\circ})_{\circ}$: Trechus rubens Fabr.; Pterostichus diligens Sturm; Oxy-

poda haemorrhoa Mannh.; Cafius xantholoma Grav.; Philonthus aeneus Rossi; Stenus carbonarius Gyll.; Oxytelus Perrisi Fauv.; Xylodromus concinnus Marsh.; Stenichnus collaris Müll. & Kunze; Cercyon littoralis Gyll.; Scymnus Redtenbacheri Muls. limonii Donis.; Phaedon concinnum Steph.; Otiorrhynchus rugifrons Gyll. Among the Lepidoptera six species (26.1%): Euxoa islandica Staud.; Phytometra gamma L.?; Acalla maccana Tr.; A. ferrugana Tr.; Epiblema solandriana L.; Coleophora algidella Z.

Some of the species, such as Oxytelus Perrisi, Phaedon concinnum, and Acalla ferrugana, have only been found in a single or a few localities on the south coast of the north-west peninsula and not in any other locality in Iceland. Other species, as for instance Trechus rubens, Cafius xantholoma, and Acalla maccana, are south-western species, and the moth Epiblema solandriana was previously only known from Akureyri. The rest of the species are more or less widely distributed in Iceland.

There are several reasons why the fauna falls into four distributional groups; in his thesis for the doctorate Lindroth¹) has tried to explain this exclusively on the basis of climatic and historical factors. It is a well known fact that the north coast of the peninsula is washed by the cold arctic water coming from East Greenland, which especially in the winter carries large masses of ice along the coast, and the melting of these ice masses causes the summer to be much colder on the north coast than on the south coast, which is washed by the warm Atlantic water from a branch of the Gulf Stream. Thus there is a considerable difference in the temperature and the duration of the summer between the north and the south (this is distinctly shown by the isotherm chart published in Lindroth's paper). This difference is smaller

C. H. Lindroth, Die Insektenfauna Islands und ihre Probleme. Zool. Bidr. fr. Uppsala 13, 1931.

now than in earlier times owing to the amelioration of the climate which is taking place at present in arctic and subarctic parts of the northern hemisphere.

Lindroth uses these climatic differences to try to find a relation between the distribution of a number of Coleoptera and the temperature in "den beiden kritischen Monaten" (i. e. the mean temperature for April and October), as the stages of the Coleoptera which are most sensitive to the temperature, viz. the transition stages from larva to pupa and from pupa to imago, occur precisely at these seasons. It turns out that several of the finds mentioned above are derived from localities situated outside the earlier known limits of distribution, for instance that of Tachinus collaris and Notiophilus biguttatus (Lindroth p. 473, Fig. 37, and p. 475, Fig. 38), which in Lindroth's time seemed to follow the 20 isotherm for "d. b. k. Monate". The same applies more or less to the species Philonthus trossulus, Sipalia circellaris, Stenichnus collaris, and Barynotus squamosus. Pterostichus nigrita, which was found in several localities, was regarded by Lindroth as a relict in its northern localities; however, after it has been ascertained that the species has a continuous distribution on the north-western peninsula without being associated with the hot springs, this interpretation must be abandoned.

Thus Lindroth's temperature relations are not entirely in accordance with the new finds. The observations are ordinary meteorological observations, no microclimatic observations being known from Iceland. Moreover, the mean values taken together play an inconsiderable role, the absolute extremes being of far greater importance. Especially in regions like those treated here it is of vital importance for the survival of the species that it should have an opportunity of reproduction every year; as the possibilities of dispersion are exceedingly small for many species, a single unfavourable period

may exclude the species for long periods, even though for the time being there was nothing to prevent it from sustaining life there. In trying to find the relation between the distribution and the isotherm curves, it must therefore be taken into consideration whether conditions have remained unaltered during a long space of time; notably during the amelioration of the climate in recent years (thus on the peninsula in question the ice of the Gláma Jökull has melted entirely, and the Drangajökull has receded considerably) the temperatures registered during a short period will be higher than and different from those which have actually been of importance in the present area of distribution of the species.

The difference in climate is no doubt of much less importance than other factors which likewise vary from north to south, the ecological conditions of the north and the south coast differing greatly owing to the morphology of the terrain of the peninsula.

The north coast of the peninsula is steep, the mountain at Cape Horn rising almost perpendicularly from the Denmark Strait (534 m), and the face is only broken by very narrow ledges, where petrels and guillemots have their nests. No beach is found, for the sea comes in to the very foot of the cliffs, and the spray of the surf is thrown far up the face of the cliffs, creating good conditions for the algal vegetation which extends far up the mountain sides. Thus the conditions for insect life are poor. Towards Hornvik the landscape is different, the slope being more gradual; Hornbjarg itself is not covered with snow in the summer. whereas farther towards the interior of the creek the mountains are snow-clad all the summer (cf. Fig. 2). Here there is a narrow beach (I), made up of black basaltic sands and large stones, there is a strong tide, and among the vigorous algal vegetation of Laminaria, Fucus, and Rhodophyceae we find the first land arthropod, the mite *Molgus littoralis*, which will tolerate flooding during high-tide. As a rule the narrow beach is bare, but occasionally it may be covered by a scattered growth of Mertensia maritima and Honchenya peploides, and there the first insects are met with, *Salda littoralis*, which is of rather roving habits and accordingly may be found also outside the actual patches of vegetation; more permanent are the species *Otiorrhynchus arcticus*

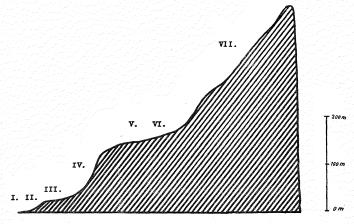


Diagram of Cape Horn. 1:12500.

I, Beach. II, Slope. III, "Tún". IV, Slope. V, Mountain plateau. VI, Pool. VII, Mountain wall.

and Orthezia cataphracta, the former of which lives essentially on leaves of Honchenya, while the latter is present wherever there are plant roots to suck. In addition Omalium riparium is found, as also some few Diptera, chiefly Scopeuma litoreum. In other places, where the thaw water streams have deposited large masses of sand, there are bare sand flats, on which only Carex chordoriza grows; consequently there is hardly anything to bind the sand, and heavy sand storms frequently rage; thus, at Hornvik, every day at 4 or 5 p. m., the change of the monsoon caused large clouds of sand

or dust to rise, which buried all living things on the sand flats of Háumelar; the only species actually indigenous here was *Otiorrhynchus arcticus*, which will tolerate being completely buried.

At a higher level there follows a slope (II), which is not particularly high, but generally fairly steep and consequently rather dry. Here the commonest Icelandic ground-beetles dominate, viz. Nebria Gyllenhali Balbii, Patrobus septentrionis, and Calathus melanocephalus, the huge common Orthezia, and some few Apterygotes; all these species are very common in other places also, but because other species are lacking, they dominate in this zone.

Above this slope there follows in inhabited places the part of the Icelandic landscape actually marked by cultivation, consisting of grassy fields, the "Tún" (III). The fauna occurring here is chiefly composed of species which are closely associated with man and domestic animals; this applies to the species Aphodius lapponum, Enicmus minutus, Corticaria elongata, Cryptophagus scanicus, Quedius mesomelinus, Q. boops, Atheta graminicola, Cerapteryx graminis, Cidaria citrata, Scopeuma stercorarium, Tetanocera robusta, Calliphora uralensis, and various Anthomyidae. In addition to these species, several of the species found in the surrounding country are met with, so that according to Icelandic conditions a very rich life may occur on the "Tún".

Above the "Tún" there follows a second slope (IV), which is very steep and very dry; only after rainfall are a number of wild streams found, which carry all loose-lying stones down the mountain side. Here the same species occur as were found in zone II, but in the lower part of the zone we find in addition a somewhat more sparse selection of the species of the "Tún" as also *Cryptohypnus riparius*, but gradually as the dryness makes itself more felt, both the number of species

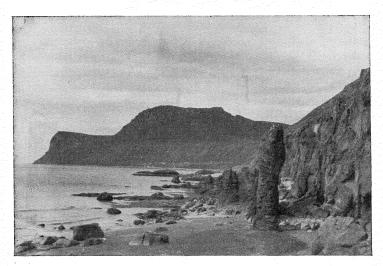


Fig. 1. The beach at Horn with Hornbjarg. Diagram I is at right angles to the shore off the settlement.

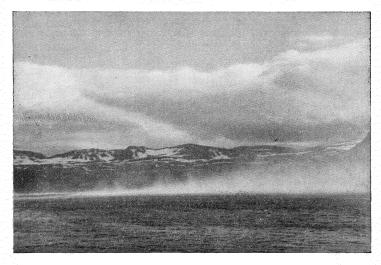


Fig. 2. Sandflat near Haumelar at the head of Hornvik. With a sandstorm coming on.

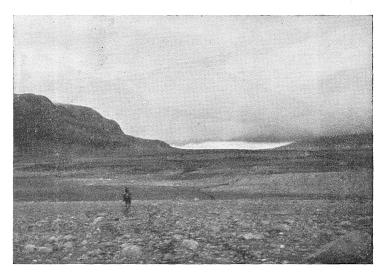
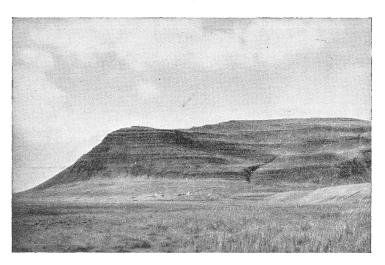


Fig. 3. Stony field in the interior highland.



 $\begin{tabular}{ll} Fig.~4.~~Hagi,~~Barðaströnd.~~Dry~~meadow.~~Diagram~~II~~runs \\ lengthwise~~down~~the~~valley. \\ \end{tabular}$

and the number of individuals increase. On this slope *Cidaria munitata* was also found; in spite of earlier records, this was the only locality in which it was common, but, on the other hand, the imagines were observed in every rock fissure.

Above the slope, at a height of about two hundred metres, there follows a plateau (V), which is very moist and in many places has lakes and pools (VI) overgrown with Eriophorum Scheuchzeri and E. latifolium. As in all other parts of the peninsula, the pools are here characterised by four species: Agabus Solieri, Colymbetes dolabratus, Hydroporus nigrita, and Arctocorisa carinata, all of which were present in large numbers; in addition Limnophilus griseus was seen to fly near the pools. In the drier parts of the plateau various species of Bembidion and Dichirostrichus cognatus are met with.

At Horn the mountain rises steeply above this plateau to an altitude of several hundred metres, after which it descends abruptly towards the sea, leaving only a very narrow crest at the top. This mountain slope (VII) is very dry in most places, and is characterised by the species *Otiorrhynchus arcticus*, *Patrobus*, *Calathus*, and *Orthezia cataphracta*.

The interior of the peninsula is in most places occupied by large, flat, stony fields made up of pre-glacial lava (cf. Fig. 3). These flats are nearly bare, only crustaceous lichens such as Gyrophora cylindrica var. Delisei and Lecanora gelida are of common occurrence, but among the stone polygons (almost everywhere the frost has given rise to the formation of polygon soil) so much soil may be found that Silene acaulis and Salix herbacea may take root; if so, *Orthezia* is common, occurring in company with *Otiorrhynchus arcticus*. Otherwise the fauna is extremely sparse; only some Microlepidoptera such as *Plutella senilella* and *Salebria fusca* have their actual biotope here; and *Cnephasia osseana* is likewise

of common occurrence. This species, it is true, occurs in all regions, but only here does it appear as a character animal; the same applies in part to Cidaria caesiata. Besides the permanent species, a number of good fliers are met with more or less casually over these barren territories, e. g. the Noctuids, Bibio pomonae and Limnophilus griseus; thus, both Crymodes exulis and Syngrapha interrogationis were caught on the large thawedup areas abounding on Drangajökull. On the Drangajökull itself *Limnophilus griseus* and *Bibio pomonae* were observed flying low across the snow, or creeping on the ice, along the whole route; thus, to several species the ascending air currents will be of importance for their dispersion from one valley to the other. In a few places very shallow-watered pools are found, which are, as a rule, extremely poor in species; the insects occurring there are chiefly Agabus and Hydroporus and the larvae of Apatania arctica Kol., and in addition Apus glacialis is characteristic, but only the two last-named species may occur in quantity.

The south coast of the peninsula has quite a different appearance from that of the north coast. The mountains are rounded and do not reach the sea, but leave space for a broad beach and wide meadows, which extend along the rivers far into the broad valleys (cf. Fig. 4).

As at Horn, the beach (I) is made up of black basaltic sands, and it is the same species, Otiorrhynchus arcticus and Salda littoralis, which dominate in company with Omalium laeviusculum, Micralymma marinum, and various Diptera such as Scopeuma litoreum and Sc. villipes. Inside the beach comes a littoral meadow (II), which has no corresponding biotope on the north coast; here we find species peculiar to the south coast, viz. Oxytelus Perrisi and Phaedon concinnum, both of which are typical littoral meadow species in Europe. Both in

Iceland and in other places *Phaedon* is associated with Cochlearia. Other common species are *Scopeuma stercorarium* and *Dolichopus plumipes*. Inside the littoral meadow there follows a dry meadow (III), the chief plants of which are Festuca rubra, Juncus, and Luzula. According to Icelandic conditions, this meadow is exceedingly luxuriant, containing a number of species specific to the south coast of the peninsula, viz.: *Scymnus Redtenbacheri limonii*, *Coccinella undecimpunctata confluens*, *Nysius ericae groenlandicus*, *Acalypta nigrina*, and *Coleophora algidella*, all of which are very common and the most

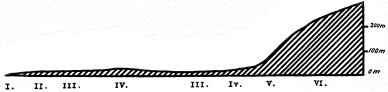


Diagram of Hagi, Barðaströnd. 1:25000.

I, Beach. II, Littoral meadow. III, Dry meadow. IV, Birch scrub. V, Vaccinium heath. VI, Mountain slope.

frequent species in this area. In addition the commonly occuring species Cicadula sexnotata, Cryptohypnus riparius, Orthezia, and Otiorrhynchus arcticus, are present.

The dry meadow passes into a low birch scrub of Betula pubescens (IV), which occurs on the low crest of a hill and thus lies like an island in the dry meadow. Birch scrubs are found in several places on the peninsula in sheltered valleys, for instance in Tungudalur, Kaldalón, Unaðsdalur, and in several of the southern west fjords. The fauna is characterised by a number of species which either feed on the leaves or on the herbivorous species. Of such species mention may be made of Boriomyia betulina, Cidaria hastata thulearia, Platychirus albimanus, Syrphus torvus, and a number of not more closely determined Aphidae. The same species

dominated here, too, but in addition *Malthodes mysticus* and *Epiblema solandriana* occurred, both of which are very rare Icelandic species, which have only been collected once before.

Farther inland the dry meadow appears again, passing into birch scrub at the foot of the mountain. Above the scrub there follows a Vaccinium heath (V) with Vaccinium myrtillus and uliginosus, which form very tall and luxuriant growths. Besides some few Aphidae, three species of moth flew about, viz. Cidaria caesiata, Acalla ferrugana, and Acalla maccana, the latter two, like the afore-mentioned ones from the birch scrub, are very rare or only known from the south coast of the northwest peninsula. Above the Vaccinium heath the mountain slope (VI) continues; it is rather dry and characterised by a number of the common species such as Byrrhus fasciatus, Cryptohypnus riparius, Otiorrhynchus arcticus, O. dubius, Nebria Gyllenhali, Calathus melanocephalus, Patrobus septentrionis, and Orthezia cataphracta.

It will be evident from the above that the conditions offered to the fauna on the north and the south coast differ, not only owing to bioclimatic factors, but to a much greater extent on account of the structure of the land and the resulting different edaphic conditions, as is, indeed, manifested in the different communities found in the north and in the south. This difference is the cause of the zoogeographical distribution of the fauna of the peninsula into the above-mentioned four groups.

Dansk Oversigt.

Med Støtte af Dansk Islandsk Forbundsfond har jeg i Sommeren 1939 foretaget entomologiske Indsamlinger paa Islands nordvestlige Halvø. Det indsamlede Materiale viser sammenholdt med Literaturopgivelser, at Halvøen i zoogeografisk Henseende kan deles i fire Grupper: 1: Arter udbredt over hele Halvøen; 2: Arter, der kun findes paa Nordkysten; 3: Arter, der findes paa Sydkysten og op til Ísafjarðardjúp; 4: Arter, der kun kendes fra Sydkysten. Denne Gruppering har sin Aarsag dels i klimatiske Forskelle mellem Nord- og Sydkysten, idet de nordligere Egne paa Grund af kolde Havstrømme har et langt køligere Klima end Sydkysten, og dels, og væsentligst, i terrainmorfologiske Forskelle og de dermed forbundne økologiske Forskelle. Nordkysten er en Stejlkyst, der kun giver sparsomme Muligheder for Insektfauna, medens Sydkysten er aaben med afrundede Former og brede Dale med frodige Engstrækninger og veludviklede Birkekrat og Vacciniumheder, der saaledes betinger et rigt Insektliv. Følgen er da, at ikke blot findes en lang Række Arter kun paa Halvøens Sydkyst, men de enkelte Biotopers Sammensætning er forskellig fra Nord til Syd.