

## Interesting Records 2007

JOHN BINGHAM



A Reed Beetle. *Plateumaris sericea* (Linnaeus 1761). Family Chrysomelidae. Image Copyright John Bingham  
Wyre Forest, Longdon Orchard near the Forestry Pool. WFSG Meeting September 2007.  
An iridescent metallic beetle associated with wet habitats, quite common over most of Britain.



Shining Guest Ant *Formicoxenus nitidulus* (Nylander, 1846). Image Copyright John Bingham  
Wyre Forest, Longdon Orchard. WFSG meeting 22 September 2007 (photographed under controlled conditions).  
In Great Britain this species is classified as Local. It is classified by the IUCN (1996) as globally Vulnerable.

The shining guest ant is a commensal species that lives in the nests of *Formica rufa* wood ants. The tiny worker ants are rarely seen but occasionally wander over the surface of the wood ant nest on warm, overcast days in autumn. It appears to be quite widespread and common in Wyre Forest but is under recorded.





*Gasteruption jaculator* (L.) A Parasitic Hymenopteran.

Image Copyright John Bingham.

Wyre Forest Cleobury Woods, Breakneck Bank, 26 May 2007.

Image shows a male, the female has a very long ovipositor with a white tip. Species common in southern England but rare in Worcestershire. Often occurs on Umbelliferae flowers. The larvae are parasites of solitary bee larvae.



Lemon Slug *Malacolimax* (*Limax*) *tenellus*

Image Copyright John Bingham

Wyre Forest, Hitterhill Coppice. WFSG meeting on 27th October 2007

A small yellow slug with dark tentacles. Considered an Ancient Woodland indicator species and rather scarce and local in England, Wales and Scotland. Found in autumn when it feeds on fungi especially it seems on the yellow *Russula ochroleuca*!