

## **RIVERFLY MONITORING ON THE MIDFORD BROOK**

The club began monitoring insect life on the Midford Brook in June 2015. We do our kick sampling at the old cattle crossing in the garages field. This is undertaken monthly and the results are logged with The Riverfly Partnership, who co-ordinate this activity over a number of sites across the UK. The idea is to give us a baseline over the year of species abundance and to allow us to see whether there is anything to concern us in terms of declining water quality.

Members can log into the members forum on the website to see when the next time sampling will be undertaken and you are welcome to come and see what we are doing. Please ring Maurice on 0778 4777028 to confirm.

The survey covers 8 species, each of which has a different level of tolerance to pollutants. They are as follows:

**Cased Caddis, Caseless Caddis, Mayfly (Ephemera Danica), Blue Winged Olive (BWO), Heptagenid (flat bodied olives) Baetid (olives), Stonefly, Gammarus (Freshwater Shrimp)**

At present there is no way of accessing our results from the Riverfly database, so we have put the monthly results on a spreadsheet. Members will note the changing prevalence of different species over the calendar year and may take this information to inform their choice of fly. So far, what has been of note has been the numbers of BWO and stonefly. Both of these suggest very good water quality. It has also been an education to see the size of the nymphs themselves. Other than caddis, mayfly and shrimp, few would be much bigger than a size 18!

Joe Ottewill, Mike Brewin, Paul Cowlshaw, Dominic Singleton, Dave Redmond, Maurice Tennenhaus, Robin Guild, Ania Berndt, Mark Irvine (your monitoring team)

<b>2019-2020</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>CASED CADDIS</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>100</b>								
<b>CASELESS CADDIS</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>								
<b>MAYFLY</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>30</b>								
<b>Blue Winged Olive</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>								
<b>FLAT BODIED UPWING</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>								
<b>BAETIDAE (OLIVES)</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>30</b>								
<b>STONEFLY</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>20</b>								
<b>GAMMARUS</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>20</b>								
<b>River level (m)</b>	<b>0.55</b>	<b>0.51</b>	<b>0.47</b>	<b>0.53</b>								
<b>Nitrate</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>								
<b>Phosphate</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>.02</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>								