

# Opiliones (Harvestmen)

**A. NUMBER OF SPECIES IN UK:** 27 species (including recent introductions but excluding varieties). An as yet unidentified *Leiobunum* species may be added in due course.

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**B. NUMBER OF SPECIES IN SCOTLAND:** 20 (including four recent introductions – two of which are now widespread and two known from single records.)

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**C. EXPERT CONTACTS**

Please contact [scotland@buglife.org.uk](mailto:scotland@buglife.org.uk) for details.

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**D. SPECIES OF CONSERVATION CONCERN**

Listed species

The harvestmen were assessed for Bratton (1991) but none qualified for RDB status at that time. No further assessment has yet been carried out but the recently re-launched Harvestman recording scheme may undertake this task in due course.

Source: i) Bratton JH. 1991. *British Red Data Books: 3. Invertebrates other than insects*. Joint Nature Conservancy Committee, Peterborough.

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## E. LIST OF SPECIES KNOWN FROM SCOTLAND

Information derived from Hillyard (2005), Mike Davidson and Peter Nicholson (pers. comm.).

### Nemastomatidae

*Nemastoma bimaculatum*

*Mitostoma chrysomelas*

### Phalangiidae

*Oligolophus tridens*

*Oligolophus hansenii*

*Paroligolophus agrestis*

*Lacinius ephippiatus*

*Mitopus morio* (Including var. *ericaeus*.)

*Phalangium opilio*

*Opilio parietinus*

*Opilio saxatilis*

*Opilio canestrinii* (recent introduction to UK and spreading – single record from Brodie (Moray) in 2011.)

*Megabunus diadema*

*Platybunus triangularis*

*Platybunus pinetorum* (recent introduction to UK (Sheffield area – single Scottish record from Edinburgh 2012.)

*Lophopilio palpinalis*

### Gyantinae

*Dicranopalpus ramosus* (introduction now established in UK and spreading in Scotland – recent records in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee, Fife, Perth & Forres.)

### Leiobuninae

*Leiobunum rotundum*

*Leiobunum blackwalli*

*Leiobunum tisciae* (recent introduction now well established in Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire - also recorded from Speyside, Black Isle and Durness.

*Nelima gothica* (has become much more common and widespread in recent years.)

Species to look out for (not recorded in Scotland but may be present):

*Paroligolophus meadii* (Not far away – recorded near Wooler in Northumberland and could be in Southern Scotland. Some Scottish museum specimens identified as this species have so far proved to be incorrect.)

## F. DISTRIBUTION DATA

- i) Data are collated by the Harvestman Recording Scheme (HRS) and are available on the Spider Recording Scheme website and NBN Gateway. The provisional atlas (Sankey, 1988) is now out of print but available via [www.britishspiders.org.uk](http://www.britishspiders.org.uk) under "Recording". Records up to c. 2005 were published by Hillyard (2005), but not all Scottish data were included.
- ii) The British Arachnological Society took over responsibility for the Harvestman Recording Scheme (formerly Opiliones Recording Scheme (ORS)) in 2009 and publishes articles jointly in the Spider Recording Scheme (SRS) Newsletter. The SRS newsletter is freely available as a PDF from the BAS website at: [www.britishspiders.org.uk](http://www.britishspiders.org.uk) under "Recording/Spider Recording Scheme".  
  
Back copies of the previous ORS publication 'Ocularium' can be found at: [www.britishspiders.org.uk](http://www.britishspiders.org.uk) under "Recording/Harvestman Recording Scheme".
- iii) Various other datasets are available on the NBN Gateway and from local biological records centres but these are of variable quality depending on their validation procedures.
- iv) The BAS provides access to online distribution data, which are viewable in map form. The HRS data will be stored on Mapmate™ and regularly uploaded to the web. Close co-operation will be maintained with the NBN Gateway and Biological Records Centre (Centre for Ecology and Hydrology).

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## G. IDENTIFICATION GUIDES

- i) Hillyard, P.D. 2005. Synopses of the British Fauna (New Series): No. 4 Harvestmen (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition). Field Studies Council, Shrewsbury.
- ii) Martens, J. 1978. Spinnentiere, Arachnida: Weberknechte, Opiliones. In: Die Tierwelt Deutschlands, **64**, 1-464. G. Fischer Verlag, Jena.
- iii) Pinto-da-Rocha, R., Machado, G., Giribet, G. Eds. 2007. *Harvestmen: the biology of Opiliones*. Harvard University Press Cambridge Massachusetts and London, England.
- iv) Richards, P. 2010. *Guide to Harvestmen of the British Isles*. Field Studies Council., Shrewsbury.
- v) Russell-Smith, A. (ed.) 2008. *Members' Handbook*. British Arachnological Society, St. Neots, Cambs.
- vi) Sankey, J.H.P. 1988. *Provisional Atlas of the Harvest-spiders (Arachnida : Opiliones) of the British Isles*. Biological Records Centre, Huntingdon. O/P but available via: [www.britishspiders.org.uk](http://www.britishspiders.org.uk) under Recording.
- vii) Savory, T.H. 1953. *The Spiders & Allied Orders of the British Isles (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)*. Frederick Warne & Co. Ltd.
- viii) Wijnhoven, H. 2009. *De Nederlandse hooiwagens (Opiliones)*. Entomologische Tabellen 3. Supplement BIJ Nederlandse Faunistische Mededelingen. [www.naturalis.nl](http://www.naturalis.nl) It is hoped that a down-loadable translation of the text of this publication will be available in 2013, see the BAS website for details in due course.

## H. OTHER INFORMATION

- a) Visit the British Arachnological Society website [www.britishspiders.org.uk](http://www.britishspiders.org.uk) for details of the Harvestman Recording Scheme and membership information for the BAS. The BAS Members Handbook (Russell-Smith, A., 2008.) gives details of the recording scheme and general guidance on the collection, identification etc of arachnids.
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This document should be referenced as:

Davidson, M.B. Revised 2012. *Scottish Invertebrate Species Knowledge Dossier: Opiliones (Harvestmen)*. Buglife – The Invertebrate Conservation Trust.

This document provides information on species known to occur in Scotland at the time of publication. This document does not provide a definitive list of species occurring in Scotland. The list of species known to occur in Scotland may change as further information is gathered.

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British Arachnological Society



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