

# Hoverflies of Carphin

S.T. Buckland

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This shows those species of hoverfly on Carphin Farm that I have been able to identify and photograph.

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# Buttercup blacklet *Cheilosia albitarsis /*Bulbous buttercup blacklet *Cheilosia ranunculi*

These two species cannot be separated reliably from photos. *Cheilosia albitarsis* is common, and this female is likely to belong to that species.



# Ragwort blacklet *Cheilosia bergenstammi*

Common in late spring and again in late summer.



# Greater spring blacklet Cheilosia grossa

An early spring species that is patchilydistributed in Fife. Female on the right; the others are males.



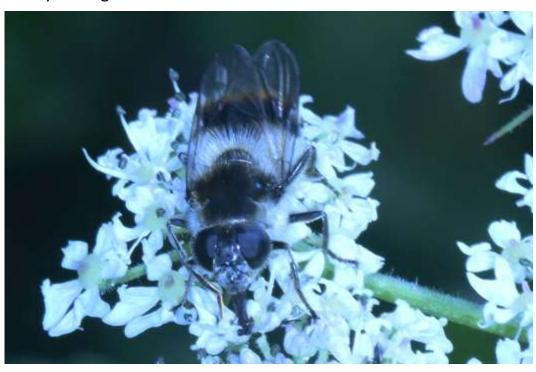






#### Bumblebee blacklet Cheilosia illustrata

Common in summer, usually on hogweed flowers.





#### Parsley blacklet Cheilosia pagana

Common from spring until autumn. Often seen in spring on yellow flowers such as celandine and dandelion. Male above, female below.





Dark-winged wrinklehead *Chrysogaster solstitialis* 

A small, red-eyed hoverfly. Occurs widely, but seldom numerous. These are males.





#### Little meadow fly *Chrysotoxum arcuatum*

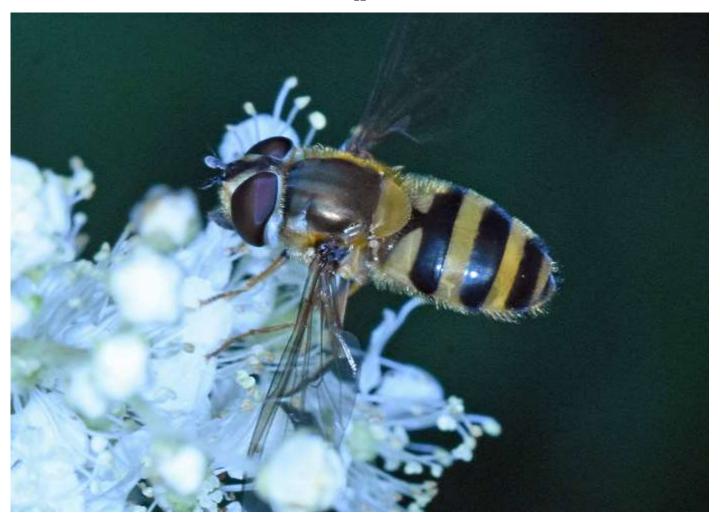
A species that can occur in quite large numbers in suitable habitat such as around Black Craig, but which is absent from most of Fife. These are males.





# Spring smoothtail *Epistrophe eligans*

A spring species that is not common in Fife.



Black-horned smoothtail Epistrophe grossulariae

A widespread species that is seldom numerous. Female above, male below.





#### Marmalade hoverfly Episyrphus balteatus

This species occurs through most of the year, and is often abundant in late spring and summer, enhanced by large migrations from southern Europe. This is a familiar hoverfly with gardeners.





# Eurasian drone fly Eristalis arbustorum

A common species of open habitats, occurring mostly in summer.



# Stripe-winged drone fly Eristalis horticola

A common species, mostly in or near wet habitats.







#### Stripe-faced drone fly Eristalis nemorum

A widespread species. Males will hover above a female, as above, sometimes with four or five males stacked vertically.





#### Tapered drone fly *Eristalis pertinax*

A common hoverfly across a variety of habitats from March at November. Males above and below right, female below left.







# Common drone fly *Eristalis tenax*

A common species especially in late summer and autumn. Female above, male below.





# Migrant aphideater Eupeodes corollae

A common species that can be very numerous in summer, with populations enhanced by large numbers of migrants.



# Tiger marsh fly Helophilus pendulus

A very common species of wet habitats. These are males.





#### Pale-saddled hoary Leucozona glaucia

A fairly widespread summer species that is declining rapidly.



#### Blotch-winged whitebelt Leucozona lucorum

A widespread species of late spring and summer, but never numerous.





#### Common wrinklehead Melanogaster hirtella

A species that can be overlooked amongst large numbers of *Cheilosia*. The above female is definitely of this species. The one below is probably of the same species, but could be *Mel*-

anogaster aerosa.





# Variable duskyface Melanostoma mellinum

Widespread in open grassy habitats, but not as numerous as *Melanostoma scalare*. This is

a male.





#### Long-winged duskyface *Melanostoma scalare*

Common and often abundant from April to September. Females above and below right, male below left.







Banded thintail Meliscaeva cinctella

A widespread species, but not often encountered in or around the Howe of Fife. These are females.





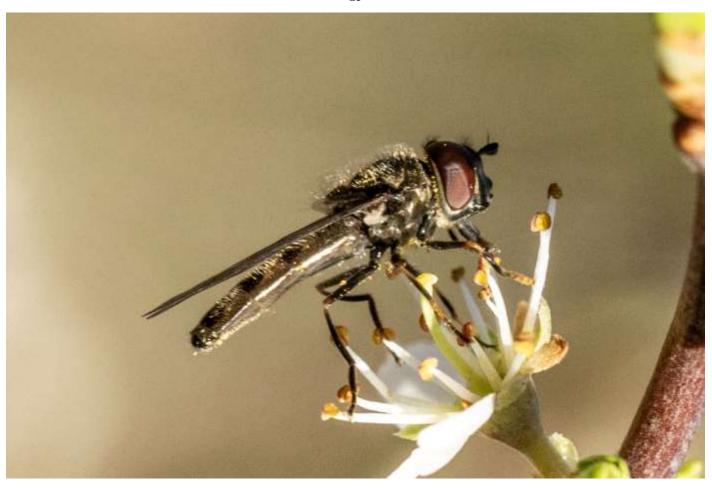
# Common batman fly Myathropa florea

A common species, especially in or near broad-leaved woodland.



Black-kneed fen fly Neoascia tenur

A widespread species that can be abundant in wet habitats.



#### Grey-spotted sedgesitter Platycheirus albimanus

A common and often abundant small hoverfly, occurring from March to November. Male above, females below.







#### Dull-backed sedgesitter *Platycheirus manicatus*

Widespread in open habitats, often seen on flowers. Its protruding mouth is distinctive. These are females.







# Common snout fly *Rhingia campestris*

A common species, mostly in late spring and again in late summer.





# Stripe-backed glimmer Riponnensia splendens

An attractive but locally-distributed species. This male was at Carphin in late June 2021.





# Common compost fly Syritta pipiens

A common summer species in a range of habitats.





#### Common flower fly Syrphus ribesii

There are three common species of this genus that are difficult or impossible to separate from photos. Female common flower flies can be identified from the all-yellow femur of the hind leg, as can be seen in the above photo.



# Hairy-eyed flower fly Syrphus ribesii

As its common name suggests, this species can be identified if tiny hairs are visible on the eyes.



# Pied plumehorn Volucella pellucens

A large hoverfly that is common in summer. Its larvae feed on detritus in wasp nests.





# Orange-belted leafwalker Xylota segnis

A common species usually seen perched or moving fast on leaves. It occurs mostly in or near woodland.

