

Tuesday, 9 September 2003

Session 9: Urban Ecology

Location: Manton LT5

Chair:

- 14.20 **CHAMBERLAIN, DE, VICKERY, JA & GLUE, DG (British Trust for Ornithology)**
The importance of gardens to declining farmland birds.

Several granivorous bird species may be declining due to lower food supplies in winter. Data from a survey of garden feeders indicate that granivores have increased use of feeders since 1970. Non-granivores use of feeders matched their national population trends. Declining farmland species are becoming increasingly dependent on garden feeders.

- 14.40 **POTTS, EA & WHEATER, CP (Manchester Metropolitan University)**
Carabid beetle distribution on reclaimed colliery spoil.

We examined carabid beetle distribution on reclaimed colliery spoil sites comprising paired grassland and woodland habitats (over a time line from the 1950s to the 1990s). We discuss the results with reference to the time since habitat rehabilitation and the potential use of carabid beetles in monitoring reclamation success.

- 15.0 **BIGNAL, KL, ASHMORE, MR & HEADLEY, AD (University of Bradford)**
Impacts of vehicle emissions on transplanted lichens and bryophytes.

Material of seven bryophyte and three lichen species was transplanted along transects away from the M62 motorway in West Yorkshire at one woodland and one blanket bog site. Data on physiological and growth parameters will be presented in relation to distance from the motorway and monitored levels of NO₂.

- 15.20 **TZOULAS, K., & JAMES, P (Telford Institute of Environmental Systems)**
Finding the links between biodiversity in urban green space and human well-being.

The literature concerned with the provision and use of urban green space was reviewed. It is recognised that urban green space can contribute to human well-being. However, there is little empirical evidence linking urban biodiversity to human health. This research will investigate the links between ecological health and human health.

- 15.40 **LORAM, A & PULLIN, AS (University of Birmingham)**
Ecological factors governing the persistence of butterflies in urban areas.

The relative influence of site scale (habitat quality) and landscape scale factors (size and isolation of sites) on the distribution of 5 grassland butterflies in the West Midlands conurbation, UK is assessed using a combination of field ecology and computer-based Geographical Information Systems.