

## SEPARATION OF RED-BELTED AND LARGE RED-BELTED CLEARWING

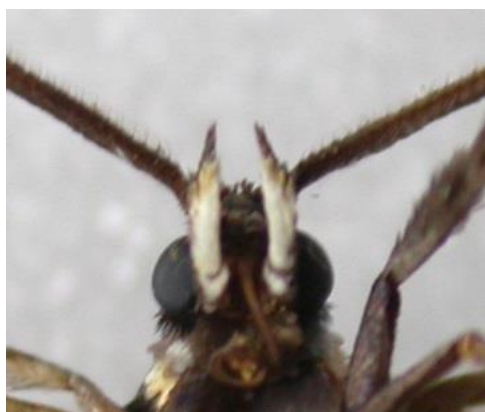
With the use of clearwing pheromone lures for the survey of this family, we feel the need to clarify the separation of these two species as over the years we have been selling lures, there have been several confirmed records of Red-belted Clearwing (*Synanthedon myopiformis*) attending the **CUL** lure.

Clearwing pheromone lures are a combination of between 4-6 compounds and it is obvious that one or more of the 'base' compounds used in the **CUL** lure which is designed for Large Red-belted (*Synanthedon culiciformis*) is also a mild attractant to *myopiformis*. It is with this in mind that this article is intended to be used. Looking at confirmed records over the past ten or more years suggests there is an overlap of the flight period of both species depending on the season.

As mentioned above, the **CUL** lure is a specific lure used for *culiciformis* but the **MYO** lure which is intended for *myopiformis* can also be used, albeit it a weak attractant, hence the stronger, more successful **CUL** lure was designed.

As the name implies, Large Red-belted is the larger of the two species, the foodplant being birch. The Red-belted foodplant being apple, the habitat of the two species is fairly different but extreme caution should always be borne in mind and the identity always checked first.

In various literature, mention is made, other than size which can be hard to judge with a lone moth, of the appearance of reddish scales in the forewing but this can sometimes be misleading or misinterpreted in the field and subject to wear. Subtle differences are also given in the colour of the inner surface of the tibiae and the presence of a whitish anal flap in male *myopiformis*, this again can be subject to wear and hard to determine. By far the best feature I find is the colour of the ventral surface of the labial palpus. In *culiciformis* they are orange and in *myopiformis* (male only), they are white (see images) This feature is easy to see in the field and does not tend to wear.



Red-belted showing white palps



Photo by Matthew Casey



Large Red-belted showing orange palps



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