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NOTES ON SOME MIRIDS (HEM.) COLLECTED ON BOOKHAM COMMON

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THE following observations were made whilst collecting with Dr. A. M. Masee on Bookham Common, Surrey, on July 4, 1954.

Capsodes gothicus (L.)

Large numbers of both sexes of this species were taken by sweeping the luxuriant vegetation either side of "Central" path between the railway station and the Isle of Wight Pond. By selecting the areas swept it was found that *C. gothicus*, whose host plant was unknown, was taken in numbers only on *Lotus uliginosus* Schkuhr. (identified by E. W. Groves). One last instar larva was found, and Mr. Groves has kindly shown me some of these he collected at Bookham on June 14, 1953; so it would appear that this species normally becomes adult during the third or fourth week of June. Several of the females were gravid so that egg-laying must occur in July; only odd specimens surviving until early August.

Butler (1923) describes some larvae which he thinks belongs to this species; from the specimens I have it is possible to confirm that his descriptions represent the second, third and fourth instars.

Ovarian egg (Fig. 2).—Length 1.4–1.6 mm.; maximum breadth 0.3 mm.; white with thin operculum.

5th instar larva (Female) (Fig. 1).—Length 4.5 mm.; length of antennal segments: I—0.5 mm., II—1.25 mm., III—0.75 mm., IV—1.0 mm. Head, blackish-red with pale Y mark. Thorax, blackish-red with two especially dark areas on the callosities and with the margins and a central stripe pale; wing pad especially dark. Abdomen deep red, mottled with small pale areas; opening of stink gland black. Antennae and legs, black with slightly pale areas on centre of hind femora and base of femora, trochanters and apex of coxae pale. Entirely covered with strong black hairs, which are 0.12–0.25 mm. in length.