

11th August 2012

Diachrysia stenochrysis - does it occur in Britain?

Colin W. Plant asks.....

Please collect candidate specimens of both sexes and send them to me at my postal address below. Their condition is not critical, though I do need to be able to see the forewing pattern, of course.

There are just a few simple rules:

- * I only want “H-shape” specimens with a good solid cross-bar at least 2 millimetres wide;
- * I do NOT want chrysis material (moths with well-separated vertical bars);
- * I do not want obvious tutti specimens (cross-bar thin or weak);
- * The moth is double-brooded in Britain, so I need material from both seasons;
- * For DNA analysis specimens need to be recent (last 2 or 3 years) ... new material is preferred;
- * Ideally kill specimens by placing in the freezer as this does not alter the DNA in the way that some chemicals do;
- * NO RELAXED SPECIMENS please – relaxation causes decomposition and degrades the DNA;
- * If the material is not pinned and set I can do this here by relaxing AFTER removing legs for DNA analysis;
- * Please ensure that all samples are fully labelled with locality, vice-county name or number, date and captors name as a minimum (a grid reference would also be desirable);
- * Material sent to the BOLD project may not always be returned – send material on the basis that you will probably not get it back again. If you do want it back, talk to me first.

Colin Plant Associates (UK)

Consultant Entomologists

14 West Road

Bishops Stortford

Hertfordshire

CM23 3QP

England