

Riverfly Monitoring Newsletter



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Agency Wales

Southwest Wales – forward look for 2009

August 2009

Introduction and Thank you

Big thanks again to everyone who managed to get out during the busy summer holiday season. The results this year have overall been very encouraging, with an improvement on last years biological quality at the vast majority of the sites sampled.

Teifi Results

Almost every site within the Teifi group has been sampled this summer, which is a fantastic effort, many thanks to all involved for your dedication and hard work.

Teifi Group Sampling Points

Collection Point	River	Grid Reference	Monitors
1	Cych	SN249411	C. Chapman , M. Tabernacle
2	Cych	SN276359	C. Chapman , M. Tabernacle
3	Cych	SN244382	C. Chapman , M. Tabernacle
4	Mamog, a tributary of the Cych	SN294361	C. Chapman , M. Tabernacle
5	Dulas, a tributary of the Ceri	SN313468	R.Harding,
6	Nant Bargod	SN358379	S.Elcomb, S.Owen
7	Nant Bargod	SN354391	S.Elcomb, S.Owen
8	Clettwr Fach	SN440483	G.Jones, I.Thomas
9	Clettwr Fawr	SN425469	G.Jones, I.Thomas
10	Clettwr	SN448436	G.Jones, I.Thomas
11	Cwerchyr	SN367446	I. Thomas
12	Nant Gran, a tributary of the Tyweli	SN437347	E.Davies, S.Jones
13	Talog, a tributary of the Tyweli	SN463376	E.Davies, S.Jones
14	Tyweli	SN422390	E.Davies, S.Jones
15	Nant Ythan, a tributary of the Cerdin	SN412428	D.F. Roberts, R.Foulkes
16	Cerdin	SN409441	D.F. Roberts, R.Foulkes
17	Cerdin	SN422416	D.F. Roberts, R.Foulkes
18	Ceri	SN324469	R.Harding
19	Teifi above Llanybydder	SN524445	Meurig Davies, Emyr Jones
20	Teifi abve Llanybydder	SN529447	Alan Davies , Emyr Jones
21	Afon Duar	SN524444	Alan Davies , Emyr Jones
22	Nant Cledlyn	SN492431	Alan Davies, Meurig Davies
23	Afon Grannell	SN534471	Meurig Davies, Emyr Jones
24	Afon Pedran	SN276358	Rob Wilson, Jez More
25	Afon Cneifa	SN269371	Rob Wilson, Jez More
26	Afon Brefi	SN667553	Cap Morris, Emyr Lake
27	Afon Teifi	SN641548	Cap Morris, Emyr Lake
28	Afon Ceri	SN318462	Andrew Thomas
29	Afon Ceri	SN344481	Andrew Thomas
30	Afon Dulas, Ceri trib	SN318462	Andrew Thomas

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Summer 2009 Results

		COLLECTION POINT																													
SUMMER '09		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
CADDIS FLIES	Trichoptera - Caseless Caddis	1	2	3	12	6	0	1	15	2	9	5	55	26	61	5	7	4	10	20	50	20	65	10	6	5			15	3	0
	Trichoptera - Cased Caddis	0	0	0	12	19	9	7	3	0	11	6	6	10	4	0	22	19	11	14	20	7	14	10	4	5			20	4	4
MAY-FLIES	Baetidae, e.g. Olives	30	25	2	20	40	80	70	120	35	71	0	80	60	100	10	55	10	70	15	30	80	120	160	150	50			50	100	30
	Ephemeroidea, Mayflies	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	105	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			20	40	6
	Ephemeroidea BWO	0	5	0	0	50	20	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	5	40	10	0	20	12	0	6	2			0	0	0
	Heptageniidae, e.g. Yellow May Dun	3	20	0	30	12	10	20	75	16	55	15	20	12	15	5	20	5	10	20	70	20	20	40	80	30			20	0	20
STONEFLIES	Plecoptera	0	45	50	50	100	20	30	0	0	0	10	50	35	14	5	10	5	8	30	200	30	120	10	90	30			100	100	40
SHRIMPS	Gammarus	1	0	10	0	120	60	200	79	11	17	10	11	7	4	20	3	1	30	5	30	20	3	0	0	0			20	0	20
	Leeches	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	5	0	2	0	1	0	0	10	0	1	3	20	0	1	1	1	0			0	60	0
	Snails	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0								
	Hog Louse	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0								
	Limpets + 1 Snail																														

Interpretation of Results

Cych Catchment

The site at the bottom of the catchment still looks very worrying in terms of Stonefly and Gammarus numbers, and the whole catchment will be included in the Environment Agency's Autumn sheep dip sampling programme as a result, as the absence of these invertebrate taxa points towards a potential pesticide issue. The other 3 sites on the catchment all seem fine.

Ceri Catchment

No obvious problems shown

Nant Bargod

No obvious problems shown.

Clettwr Catchment

No obvious problems shown.

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Cwerchyr

Reasonable numbers of Stoneflies and Gammarus were recorded in both the Spring and Summer samples to date, despite their absence in the winter, which is encouraging, as it shows that there are no sheep dip issues at present. It will be interesting to see if the numbers drop again in the autumn following this years dipping season, in which case EA Staff will take a closer look at the catchment.

Tyweli Catchment

No problems shown

Cerdin Catchment

No problems shown.

Llanybydder and Lampeter sites

No problems shown.

Pembrokeshire results

Pembrokeshire Group Sampling Points

Collection Point	Sample Point	Grid Reference	Monitors
1	Knock Brook at Cutty Bridge	SM942188	J. Codd and D.Nattress
2	W Cleddau at St Catherines Bridge	SM945192	J. Codd and D. Nattress
3	W Cleddau at Musland Farm Bottom	SM945271	L. and G. Evans
4	W Cleddau at Musland Farm Top	SM945271	L. and G. Evans
5	Cartlett Brook	SM966164	R. Davies, R. Baker and J. Wright
6	Merlin's Brook	SM948147	R. Davies, R. Baker and J. Wright
7	Halt Pool		E. and G.W. Williams
8	Anghof		E. and G.W. Williams

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Summer Sampling Results

Summer 09		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
CADDIS FLIES	Trichoptera, Caseless Caddis	12	25	N/S	N/S	7	3	N/S	N/S
	Trichoptera, Cased Caddis	700	150	N/S	N/S	20	4	N/S	N/S
MAY FLIES	Baetidae, Olives	50	100	N/S	N/S	0	5	N/S	N/S
	Ephemeroidea, Mayflies	0	0	N/S	N/S	0	0	N/S	N/S
	Ephemerellidae, BWO	35	40	N/S	N/S	0	0	N/S	N/S
	Heptageniidae, Yellow May Dun	2	15	N/S	N/S	10	4	N/S	N/S
STONE FLIES	Plecoptera	32	4	N/S	N/S	70	80	N/S	N/S
SHRIMPS	Gammarus	50	80	N/S	N/S	100	50	N/S	N/S
Misc.	Leeches	7	50	N/S	N/S	5	0	N/S	N/S
	Snails	0	1	N/S	N/S	0	1	N/S	N/S
	Hog Louse	0	0	N/S	N/S	30	0	N/S	N/S
	Saucer Bugs / Beetles	0	0	N/S	N/S	0	0	N/S	N/S

The Western Cleddau and Knock Brook sites look fairly healthy this summer. The Cartlett Brook site continues to show signs of organic pollution, and will be the subject of Environment Agency Investigations this winter.

Carmarthenshire Rivers Trust Results.

Thanks again to Brian and all of the volunteers who managed to get out this summer. We also are pleased to welcome new samplers Bethan Dardecker, Jamie Harries, Huw Denman, Helen Scutt, Rosie and Dominic Carmichael and Dave Harry. We now have very good coverage of most of the rivers in Carmarthenshire, which will really help us to keep a close eye on the state of our rivers. Unfortunately only around half of our sites were covered during the Summer season which was a little disappointing, I suspect the holiday season was at least partly to blame. Hopefully everyone will be less busy in the Autumn so more sites can be covered during that crucial sheep dipping season.

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Lower Tywi Catchment Sites

Site Number	Site Name	Grid reference	Monitors
1	Gwili at Abergwili Road Bridge	SN 43350-21040	N Evans, S Edwards
2	Duad at Cwmduad	SN 3740 3015	N Evans, S Edwards
3	Gochen at Cynwyl Elfed	SN 372 274	D N Evans, D M Greves
4	Myddyfi d/s Cilsan Ford	SN 5959 2210	Jamie Harries
5	Dryslwyn Dulas	SN-5557-2253	M Jones, G W Price
6	Llangadog Bran u/s Tywi	SN 6964 2841	Mike Jenkins
7	Llanwrda Dulais at Llanwrda	SN 7190 3130	Mike Jenkins
8	Rhosmaen Dulais at A40 Road Bridge	SN 6467 2443	Mike Jenkins
9	Rhosmaen Dulais at Glanthes	SN 6420 2670	E Rimmer, M Davies
10	Rhosmaen Dulais at Pont Rhyd Y March	SN 7557 2887	Mike Jenkins
11	Sawdde at Llangadog Common	SN 7060 2765	Helen Scutt
12	Crychiau at Dalpen Bridge	SN 445 227	D N Evans, D M Greves
3	Nant Alltwalis at Llanpumsaint	SN 4191 2929	Dominic and Rosie Carmichael
14	Gwili at Llanpumsaint	SN 4192 2907	Dominic and Rosie Carmichael
15	Gwili Aeron at Llanpumsaint	SN 4196 2936	Dominic and Rosie Carmichael
16	Sawdde at Hen Bont	SN 7418 2332	Helen Scutt
17	Sawdde Clydach at Pont Newydd	SN 7362 2336	Helen Scutt
18	Cennen at Ffairfach	SN 6208 2148	Jamie Harries
19	Cib at Ffairfach	SN 6331 2161	Jamie Harries

Summer Sampling Results

Results.

Unfortunately no results have been received for the Summer months for any of the Lower Tywi sites. Hopefully sampling will resume on these sites during the Autumn season, which is the most important time of year to monitor for potential sheep dip impacts.

Cothi Catchment Sites

Site Number	Site Name	Grid Reference	Monitors
1	Cothi Clydach at Pont Cwmmawr	SN 51459 32642	B Jones, J Price
2	Cothi at Cwrt Y Cadno	SN 6917 4413	P John, M Heckler
3	Cothi Twrch at Pumpsaint	SN 65391 40799	P John, M Heckler
4	Cothi at Pumpsaint	SN6558 4053	P John, M Heckler
5	Annell at Crugybar	SN 6456 3608	P John, M Heckler
6	Melindwr at Llansawel Road Bridge	SN 6187 3617	Dave Harry
7	Gorlech at Abergorlech	SN 5855 3377	Dave Harry
8	Marlais u/s Brechfa Village	SN 5230 3036	Huw Denman
9	Pib u/s Cwm Marydd Confluence	SN 5010 3067	Huw Denman
10	Cwm Marydd u/s Pib Confluence	SN 5012 3072	Huw Denman

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Summer 2009 results

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CADDIS FLIES	Trichoptera, Caseless Caddis	8	25	8	11	5	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S
	Trichoptera, Cased Caddis	14	42	8	30	12	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S
MAY FLIES	Baetidae, Olives	113	80	100	30	52	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S
	Ephemeridae, Mayflies	0	0	0	0	0	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S
	Ephemerellidae, BWO	12	15	270	11	70	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S
	Heptageniidae, Yellow May Dun	7	14	135	15	44	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S
STONE FLIES	Plecoptera	30	28	110	67	105	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S
SHRIMPS	Gammarus	0	0	0	1	38	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S
Misc.	Leeches	0	0	0	35	1	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S
	Snails	0	0	0	0	0	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S
	Hog Louse	0	0	0	0	0	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S
	Saucer Bugs / Beetles	0	0	0	0	0	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S	N/S

The results for the Upper Cothi and Cothi Clydach are very encouraging and show a definite improvement on last year results. Very high numbers of Blue winged Olive and Yellow May Dun were recorded in the Twrch! Sadly no results were received for sites 6-10.

Upper Tywi Catchment Sites

1	Doethie at Rhydygroes	SN 77045 47413	B Jones, J Price
2	Doethie u/s Pysgotwr	SN 76516 48358	B Jones, J Price
3	Doethie u/s Pwll yr wyn	SN 768515	E Lake, M Morris
4	Pysgotwr u/s Doethie	SN-7645-4826	B Jones, J Price
5	Doethie Fach at Pont Rhiw Gelynen	SN 756533	E Lake, M Morris
6	Doethie Fawr at Pwll Mari	SN 754530	E Lake, M Morris
7	Doethie Fawr at Pont Penlan	SN 742543	E Lake, M Morris
8	Tywi at Rhandirmwyn	SN-7790-4345	B Jones, M Morris
9	Tywi at Llandovery railway bridge	SN 64673 24438	B Jones, M Morris
10	Llandovery Bran at Pont Rhyd Owen	SN 7745 3525	B Jones, M Morris
11	Dunant u/s Tywi	SN 7580 3840	B Jones, M Morris

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Summer 09		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
CADDIS FLIES	Trichoptera, Caseless Caddis	20	14	0	11	19	26	N/S	10	N/S	N/S	N/S
	Trichoptera, Cased Caddis	1	5	28	1	1	12	N/S	1	N/S	N/S	N/S
MAY FLIES	Baetidae, Olives	48	8	109	14	46	2	N/S	52	N/S	N/S	N/S
	Ephemeroidea, Mayflies	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/S	0	N/S	N/S	N/S
	Ephemerellidae, BWO	17	0	0	0	19	0	N/S	7	N/S	N/S	N/S
	Heptageniidae, Yellow May Dun	2	1	0	0	0	0	N/S	13	N/S	N/S	N/S
STONE FLIES	Plecoptera	220	25	18	14	24	150	N/S	100	N/S	N/S	N/S
SHRIMPS	Gammarus	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/S	0	N/S	N/S	N/S
Misc.	Leeches	0	0	11	0	18	2	N/S	0	N/S	N/S	N/S
	Snails	3	0	0	0	0	0	N/S	0	N/S	N/S	N/S
	Hog Louse	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/S	0	N/S	N/S	N/S
	Saucer Bugs / Beetles	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/S	0	N/S	N/S	N/S

The results here generally look pretty healthy, with good numbers of mayflies in the lower Doethie catchment and Tywi. The Pysgotwr and Doethie Fawr (sites 2, 3, 4 and 6) are still very obviously suffering from acidity, which will hopefully be addressed in the near future with the proposed liming project. The good number of stonefly across all sites indicates an absence of sheep dip impacts, which is always a potential risk in such an upland area.

Loughor Catchment Sites

Collection Point	Site name	Grid Reference	Monitors
1	Amman at Garnant	SN 692 113	J Jones, G Thomas
2	Cathan at Garnswllt	SN 628 320	J Jones, G Thomas
3	Garnant at Garnant	SN 692 451	J Jones, G Thomas
4	Lash below known problems	SN 616 071	J Jones, G Thomas
5	Pedol at Garnant	SN 690 613	J Jones, G Thomas
6	Lash above known problems	SN 614 291	J Jones, G Thomas
7	Loughor u/s Parc Henri	SN 6269 1419	Bethan Dardecker
8	Marlais at Brynmarlais	SN 6239 1362	Bethan Dardecker

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Summer 09		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
CADDIS FLIES	Trichoptera, Caseless Caddis	15	6	4	7	7	9	5	30
	Trichoptera, Cased Caddis	8	4	3	2	2	3	1	10
MAY FLIES	Baetidae, Olives	21	14	13	26	23	47	70	20
	Ephemerae, Mayflies	7	5	7	7	4	5	0	0
	Ephemerellidae, BWO	6	4	7	5	5	4	20	2
	Heptageniidae, Yellow May Dun	28	16	34	140	37	180	40	4
STONE FLIES	Plecoptera	23	12	17	8	26	16	20	40
SHRIMPS	Gammarus	3	3	1	6	0	7	50	110
Misc.	Leeches	3	2	5	1	2	2	0	0
	Snails	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Hog Louse	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Saucer Bugs / Beetles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Many thanks to the samplers who managed to cover all of the Loughor sites this summer, your effort is much appreciated! All of the sites look like they have fairly good biological quality at the moment. The numbers of Yellow May Dun at sites 4 and 6 are a very good sign indeed.

Taf Catchment Sites

Collection Point	Site name	Grid Reference	Monitors
1	Gafel at Rhydowen	SN 193 290	Keith and Lesley Jones
2	Gronw u/s Taf	SN 202 163	Keith and Lesley Jones
3	Nant Elwyn u/s Taf	SN 195 286	Keith and Lesley Jones
4	Taf at Llanfyrnach	SN 221 311	Keith and Lesley Jones
5	Taf u/s Elwyn	SN 195 287	Keith and Lesley Jones
6	Taf u/s Gronw	SN 202 162	Keith and Lesley Jones
7	Taf u/s Marlais	SN 186 168	Keith and Lesley Jones

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Summer 09		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
CADDIS FLIES	Trichoptera – caseless caddis	N/S	4	N/S	N/S	N/S	14	N/S
	Trichoptera – Cased Caddis	N/S	91	N/S	N/S	N/S	110	N/S
MAYFLIES	Baetidae - Olives	N/S	62	N/S	N/S	N/S	335	N/S
	Ephemeroidea - Mayflies	N/S	0	N/S	N/S	N/S	0	N/S
	Ephemeroidea - BWO	N/S	0	N/S	N/S	N/S	0	N/S
	Heptageniidae – Yellow May Dun	N/S	17	N/S	N/S	N/S	6	N/S
STONEFLIES	Plecoptera	N/S	23	N/S	N/S	N/S	29	N/S
SHRIMPS	Gammarus	N/S	10	N/S	N/S	N/S	11	N/S
MISC.	Leeches	N/S	30	N/S	N/S	N/S	11	N/S
	Snails	N/S	0	N/S	N/S	N/S	243	N/S
	Water Hog Louse	N/S	0	N/S	N/S	N/S	0	N/S
	Saucer Bugs/ Beetles	N/S	0	N/S	N/S	N/S	0	N/S

Both the Taf and Gronw sites are looking fairly healthy at the moment. Especially large numbers of Cased Caddis ,Olives and Snails were recorded in the Taf.

Gwendraeth Catchment Sites

Collection Point	Site Name	Grid Reference	Monitors
1	Gwendraeth Fach at Gelli Deg	SN 41868 10156	A Stuart, M Price
2	Gwendraeth Fawr at Pont Spwdwr	SN 43383 05873	A Stuart, M Price
3	Gwendraeth Fawr at Pont Henri	SN 47530 09398	A Stuart, M Price
4	Gwendraeth Fawr d/s Pontyates STW		A Stuart, M Price

No samples collected this summer.

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Tawe Catchment Sites

Collection Point	Site name	Grid Reference	Monitors
1	Twrch at Lower Cwmtwrch	SN 7670 1020	R Lockyer, P Jones
2	Giedd at Cwmgiedd	SN 7885 1112	R Lockyer, P Jones
3	Llynfell at Cwmllynfell	SN 7480 1250	R Lockyer, P Jones

No summer data received to date.