

BPGS Invertebrate Interest Group Annual Workshop
8th October, 2019, Environmental Centre, Brocks Hill Country Park, Oadby Leicester.

Call for Contributions etc

This year's annual workshop will soon be upon us and it is becoming imperative that we can draw up a programme of topics and activities. Please notify Chris Leach (c.leach23@btinternet.com) by 21st September if;

1. You are willing to contribute to the programme (please outline topic and nature activity eg talk/demonstration, hands on microscopic/dissection etc
2. You simply intend to come as a participant (we need to know numbers to arrange furniture etc).
3. Whether you come as a contributor or as a participant we ask you to bring some **freshly** picked galls of any sort but would especially appreciate a good collection of oak leaves bearing **common spangle galls, smooth spangle galls, and silk button galls** (the more the merrier!)

To provide encouragement to attend here is a summary of last year's event.

The 2018 event included

- determination of the frequencies of the midge larvae of *Parallelodiplosis galliperda* associated with common spangle galls collected from the geographical area bounded by Yorkshire to the North, Northamptonshire to the South, Cambridgeshire to the East and Warwickshire to the West;
- a description of the occurrence and morphology of the galls of a gall causer hitherto unrecorded in Britain, the mite *Aceria cerrea* (Tommy Root);
- examination of the inhabitants of a variety of collected galls (most notably finding the larva of a predatory hoverfly being attacked by the soldier-caste of the aphid *Pemphigus spyrothecae*);
- a description of the occurrence of the galling sweet chestnut by *Dryocosmus kuriphilus*, an organism listed by The Forestry Commission as a tree pest. (Presented by Jerry Clough);
- a discussion of recent evidence emerging from DNA analysis on the evolution of cynipid gall causers.

Further details of the venue can be found on the Society's website under the heading "Events"