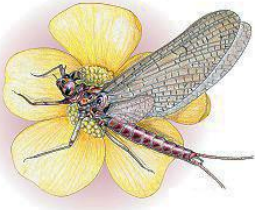


## The Scarce Dusky Yellowstreak Riverfly - Yorkshire's Own



*Electrogena affinis*, the Scarce Dusky Yellowstreak riverfly is a rare species inhabiting parts of the Yorkshire Derwent river system, being first recorded in the river at Norton Ings, close to Malton, in 1988 and later in 1994. Having some similarity to the more common Dusky Yellowstreak, identifying a nymph (the nymphs are very small), or adult, of the Scarce Dusky Yellowstreak can be difficult. However it helps to know the SDY is an inhabitant of small, deep, slack marginal sections with submerged wood and emergent vegetation. It is also be found in midstream faster flowing reaches where there is also emergent vegetation, unlike its nearest, and more commonly occurring 'relative', the DY, which is to be found in the riffle areas of upland streams and rivers. Other features of the nymph also help to identify the species but these generally require the expert help of recorders such as Dr Craig Macadam of the Ephemeroptera Recording Scheme.

Summer 2016 found a small team of recognised authorities on riverflies, comprising Craig Macadam, Stuart Crofts (Riverfly Partnership) and Dave Southall (East Yorkshire Rivers Trust), sally forth to various locations in an attempt to discover other populations of this rare aquatic insect. Based on the findings from 2016, the search is on in 2017 to find other sites in the river system that may provide a foothold for such a rare creature in both Yorkshire and Britain.



### Dusky Yellowstreak

*Electrogena lateralis* nymph and adult stages

Found in fast flowing riffle sections of streams and rivers



### Scarce Dusky Yellowstreak

*Electrogena affinis* nymph and adult stages

Found in deep slow, flowing water with abundant emergent vegetation



With thanks to Dave Southall for his help in providing reference materials

### References

Riverfly Recording Schemes, *Electrogena affinis* information sheets (two pages).

Macadam, C. and Bennett, C., A Pictorial Guide to British Ephemeroptera. Field Studies Council.