

From this and earlier studies it is considered that the most favourable habitats for a species have the highest incidence of flightlessness. On this criterion therefore Leithfield Lagoon seems a more favourable habitat for *A. assimilis* than for *S. arguta*. It was also more favourable for *A. assimilis* than the pond at Kainga where the population numbers fell drastically towards the end of summer through pollution of the habitat by rotting saw-dust. The clearing of the Kainga channel did not have any long-term effect on the make-up of the population of *S. arguta* there and the incidence of the flightless morph at the end of summer was higher in this place than in the lagoon, where the population was never imperilled. From knowledge of other corixid habitats it is considered that the bottom of the lagoon is too soft, with too much finely broken and rotting vegetation to be ideal for this species.

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DR E. C. YOUNG,
Zoology Department,
University of Canterbury,
Private Bag,
Christchurch.