




DATA NOTE

The genome sequence of the Tipped Oak Case-bearer, *Coleophora flavipennella* (Duponchel 1843) [version 1; peer review: 3 approved]

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Abstract

We present a genome assembly from an individual female *Coleophora flavipennella* (the Tipped Oak Case-bearer; Arthropoda; Insecta; Lepidoptera; Coleophoridae). The genome sequence is 989.3 megabases in span. Most of the assembly is scaffolded into 57 chromosomal pseudomolecules, including the W and Z sex chromosomes. The mitochondrial genome has also been assembled and is 15.77 kilobases in length.

Keywords




Coleophora flavipennella, Tipped Oak Case-bearer, genome sequence, chromosomal, Lepidoptera





This article is included in the [Tree of Life gateway](#).

Open Peer Review

Approval Status 

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Species taxonomy

Eukaryota; Metazoa; Eumetazoa; Bilateria; Protostomia; Ecdysozoa; Panarthropoda; Arthropoda; Mandibulata; Pancrustacea; Hexapoda; Insecta; Dicondylia; Pterygota; Neoptera; Endopterygota; Amphiesmenoptera; Lepidoptera; Glossata; Neolepidoptera; Heteroneura; Ditrysia; Gelechioidea; Coleophoridae; *Coleophora*; *Coleophora flavipennella* (Duponchel, 1843) (NCBI:txid1100951).

Background

Moth larvae are important herbivores in agricultural and natural ecosystems, and in turn act as food for many insectivores. The close coordination of insectivorous bird breeding with spring budburst is linked through the hatching of larvae from a wide variety of insects, especially moth species, that feast on newly emerged leaves. This general phenomenon has been analysed at a very fine scale through long term studies of both tree bud burst phenology (Cole & Sheldon, 2017) and nesting timing of marked birds (great tits, *Parus major*) (Hinks *et al.*, 2015) at Wytham Woods, near Oxford.

Larval moths have a variety of associations with their host plants, and many have evolved mechanisms to protect themselves from predation. One such group is the “case bearing” micro-moths of the family Coleophoridae (see Bauer *et al.* (2012)), in which the larvae form a case from mined leaf fragments, attached and strengthened using silk. As part of our wider goal to generate genomic resources for the British and Irish biota (Blaxter *et al.*, 2022), we present the chromosomally-complete genome sequence of one such case bearing coleophorid moth, *Coleophora flavipennella*, isolated from Wytham Woods. Larval *C. flavipennella* feed on broadleaved trees, including *Quercus robur* and *Quercus petraea*, which are abundant in Wytham Woods. While not particularly commonly recorded, in Britain and Ireland *C. flavipennella* is found south of a line from the Wash in East Anglia to the Lake District (<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NHMSYS0021142811>; for Irish records see, for example, (Bond, 1996). *C. flavipennella* is not thought to be especially endangered (Davis, 2012), but is likely to be being impacted by anthropogenic disturbance and climate change, especially as these affect the phenology of its host plants.

Genome sequence report

The genome was sequenced from one female *Coleophora flavipennella* (Figure 1) collected from Wytham Woods, Oxfordshire, UK (51.77, -1.34). A total of 23-fold coverage in Pacific Biosciences single-molecule HiFi long reads was generated. Primary assembly contigs were scaffolded with chromosome conformation Hi-C data. Manual assembly curation corrected 63 missing joins or mis-joins and removed 15 haplotypic duplications, reducing the assembly length by 0.24% and the scaffold number by 11.9%, and increasing the scaffold N50 by 1.59%.

The final assembly has a total length of 989.3 Mb in 184 sequence scaffolds with a scaffold N50 of 17.9 Mb (Table 1). Most (99.38%) of the assembly sequence was assigned to 57



Figure 1. Photograph of the *Coleophora flavipennella* (ilColFlav1) specimen used for genome sequencing.

chromosomal-level scaffolds, representing 55 autosomes and the W and Z sex chromosomes. Chromosome-scale scaffolds confirmed by the Hi-C data are named in order of size (Figure 2–Figure 5; Table 2). While not fully phased, the assembly deposited is of one haplotype. Contigs corresponding to the second haplotype have also been deposited. The mitochondrial genome was also assembled and can be found as a contig within the multifasta file of the genome submission.

The estimated Quality Value (QV) of the final assembly is 62.1 with *k*-mer completeness of 100%, and the assembly has a BUSCO v5.3.2 completeness of 97.9% (single = 96.8%, duplicated = 1.1%), using the lepidoptera_odb10 reference set (*n* = 5,286).

Metadata for specimens, spectral estimates, sequencing runs, contaminants and pre-curation assembly statistics can be found at <https://links.tol.sanger.ac.uk/species/1100951>.

Methods

Sample acquisition and nucleic acid extraction

Two *Coleophora flavipennella* specimens were collected from Wytham Woods, Oxfordshire (biological vice-country Berkshire), UK (latitude 51.77, longitude -1.34) on 2021-07-17 using a light trap. The specimens were collected and identified by Douglas Boyes (University of Oxford) and snap-frozen on dry ice. The specimen used for DNA sequencing was ID Ox001692 (ToLID ilColFlav1), while the specimen with ID Ox001694 (ToLID ilColFlav2) was used for Hi-C scaffolding.

DNA was extracted at the Tree of Life laboratory, Wellcome Sanger Institute (WSI). The ilColFlav1 sample was weighed and dissected on dry ice with tissue set aside for Hi-C sequencing. Tissue from the whole organism was disrupted using a Nippi Powermasher fitted with a BioMasher pestle. High molecular weight (HMW) DNA was extracted using the Qiagen MagAttract HMW DNA extraction kit. HMW DNA was sheared into an average fragment size of 12–20 kb in a Megaruptor 3 system with speed setting 30. Sheared DNA was purified by solid-phase reversible immobilisation using AMPure PB beads with a 1.8X ratio of beads to sample to

Table 1. Genome data for *Coleophora flavipennella*, ilColFlav1.1.

Project accession data		
Assembly identifier	ilColFlav1.1	
Species	<i>Coleophora flavipennella</i>	
Specimen	ilColFlav1	
NCBI taxonomy ID	1100951	
BioProject	PRJEB56048	
BioSample ID	SAMEA10978959	
Isolate information	ilColFlav1, female: whole organism (DNA sequencing) ilColFlav2: whole organism (Hi-C data)	
Assembly metrics*		Benchmark
Consensus quality (QV)	62.1	≥ 50
k-mer completeness	100%	≥ 95%
BUSCO**	C:97.9%[S:96.8%,D:1.1%],F:0.5%,M:1.7%,n:5,286	C ≥ 95%
Percentage of assembly mapped to chromosomes	99.38%	≥ 95%
Sex chromosomes	Z and W chromosomes	localised homologous pairs
Organelles	Mitochondrial genome assembled	complete single alleles
Raw data accessions		
PacificBiosciences SEQUEL II	ERR10224922	
Hi-C Illumina	ERR10297813	
Genome assembly		
Assembly accession	GCA_947284805.1	
Accession of alternate haplotype	GCA_947285645.1	
Span (Mb)	989.3	
Number of contigs	615	
Contig N50 length (Mb)	4.0	
Number of scaffolds	184	
Scaffold N50 length (Mb)	17.9	
Longest scaffold (Mb)	57.4	

* Assembly metric benchmarks are adapted from column VGP-2020 of "Table 1: Proposed standards and metrics for defining genome assembly quality" from (Rhie *et al.*, 2021).

** BUSCO scores based on the lepidoptera_odb10 BUSCO set using v5.3.2. C = complete [S = single copy, D = duplicated], F = fragmented, M = missing, n = number of orthologues in comparison. A full set of BUSCO scores is available at <https://blobtoolkit.genomehubs.org/view/ilColFlav1.1/dataset/CAMYP01/busco>.

remove the shorter fragments and concentrate the DNA sample. The concentration of the sheared and purified DNA was assessed using a Nanodrop spectrophotometer and Qubit Fluorometer and Qubit dsDNA High Sensitivity Assay kit. Fragment size distribution was evaluated by running the sample on the FemtoPulse system.

Sequencing

Pacific Biosciences HiFi circular consensus DNA sequencing libraries were constructed according to the manufacturers' instructions. DNA sequencing was performed by the Scientific Operations core at the WSI on a Pacific Biosciences SEQUEL II (HiFi) instrument. Hi-C data were also generated from

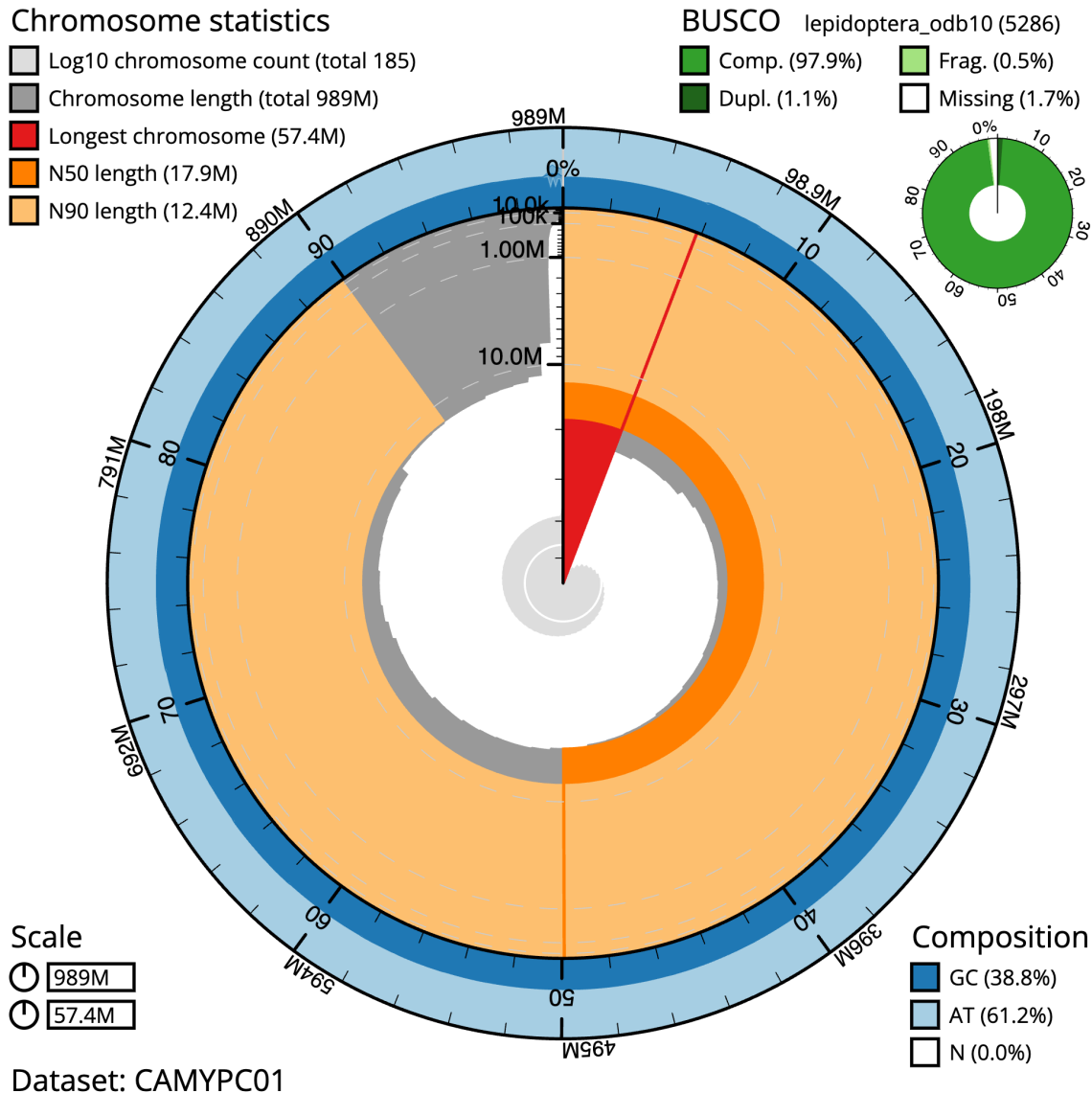


Figure 2. Genome assembly of *Coleophora flavipennella*, iColFlav1.1: metrics. The BlobToolKit Snailplot shows N50 metrics and BUSCO gene completeness. The main plot is divided into 1,000 size-ordered bins around the circumference with each bin representing 0.1% of the 989,272,584 bp assembly. The distribution of scaffold lengths is shown in dark grey with the plot radius scaled to the longest scaffold present in the assembly (57,400,957 bp, shown in red). Orange and pale-orange arcs show the N50 and N90 scaffold lengths (17,852,142 and 12,400,742 bp), respectively. The pale grey spiral shows the cumulative scaffold count on a log scale with white scale lines showing successive orders of magnitude. The blue and pale-blue area around the outside of the plot shows the distribution of GC, AT and N percentages in the same bins as the inner plot. A summary of complete, fragmented, duplicated and missing BUSCO genes in the lepidoptera_odb10 set is shown in the top right. An interactive version of this figure is available at <https://blobtoolkit.genomehubs.org/view/iColFlav1.1/dataset/CAMYPC01/snail>.

whole organism tissue of iColFlav2 using the Arima2 kit and sequenced on the Illumina NovaSeq 6000 instrument.

Genome assembly, curation and evaluation

Assembly was carried out with Hifiasm (Cheng *et al.*, 2021) and haplotypic duplication was identified and removed with purge_dups (Guan *et al.*, 2020). The assembly was then

scaffolded with Hi-C data (Rao *et al.*, 2014) using YaHS (Zhou *et al.*, 2023). The assembly was checked for contamination and corrected using the gEVAL system (Chow *et al.*, 2016) as described previously (Howe *et al.*, 2021). Manual curation was performed using gEVAL, HiGlass (Kerpedjiev *et al.*, 2018) and Pretext (Harry, 2022). The mitochondrial genome was assembled using MitoHiFi (Uliano-Silva *et al.*, 2023), which

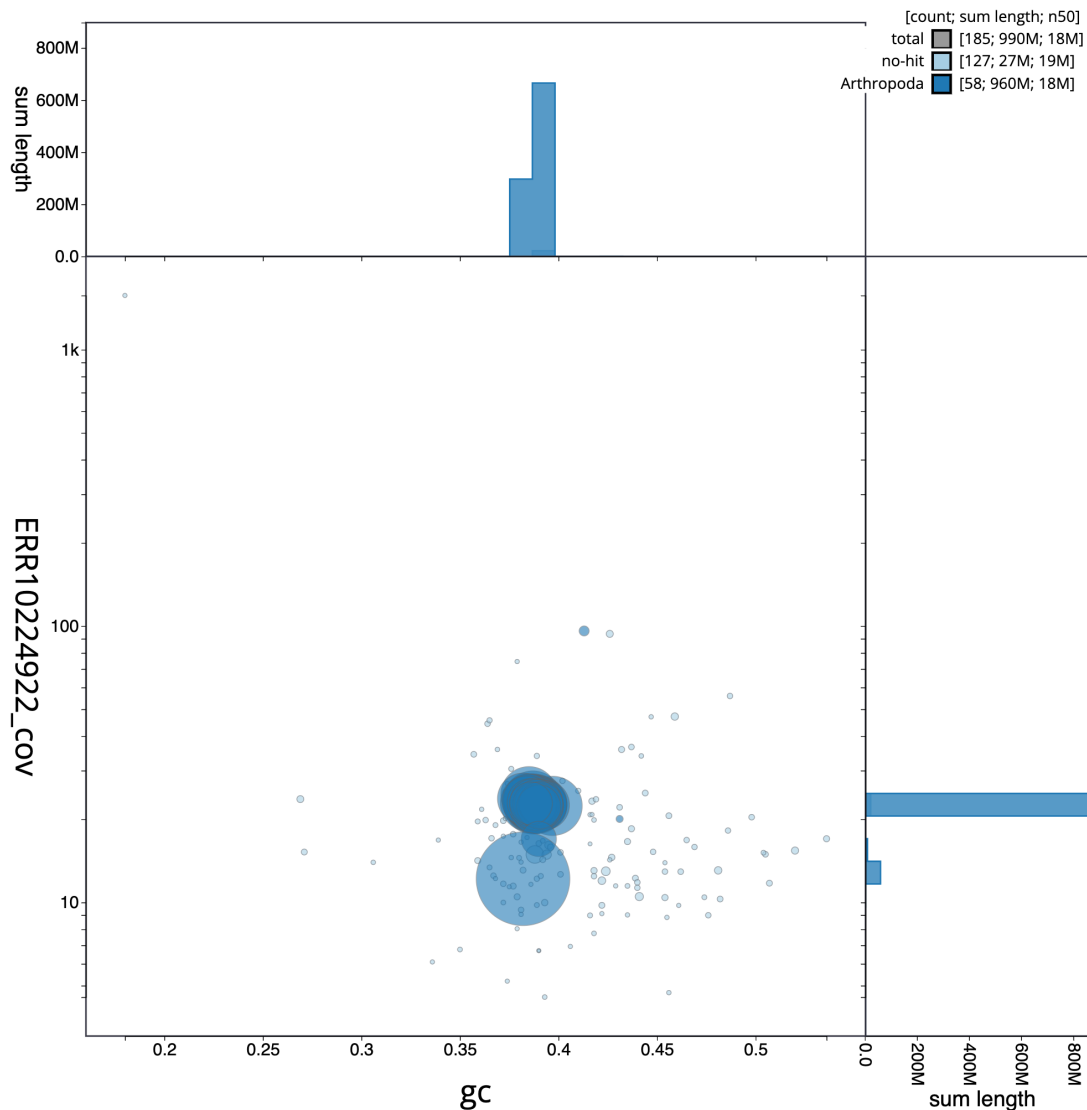


Figure 3. Genome assembly of *Coleophora flavipennella*, ilColFlav1.1: BlobToolKit GC-coverage plot. Scaffolds are coloured by phylum. Circles are sized in proportion to scaffold length. Histograms show the distribution of scaffold length sum along each axis. An interactive version of this figure is available at <https://blobtoolkit.genomehubs.org/view/ilColFlav1.1/dataset/CAMYPC01/blob>.

runs MitoFinder (Allio *et al.*, 2020) or MITOS (Bernt *et al.*, 2013) and uses these annotations to select the final mitochondrial contig and to ensure the general quality of the sequence.

A Hi-C map for the final assembly was produced using bwa-mem2 (Vasimuddin *et al.*, 2019) in the Cooler file format (Abdennur & Mirny, 2020). To assess the assembly metrics, the *k*-mer completeness and QV consensus quality values were calculated in Merqury (Rhie *et al.*, 2020). This work was done using Nextflow (Di Tommaso *et al.*, 2017) DSL2 pipelines “sanger-tol/readmapping” (Surana *et al.*, 2023a) and “sanger-tol/genomenote” (Surana *et al.*, 2023b). The genome was analysed within the BlobToolKit environment (Challis *et al.*,

2020) and BUSCO scores (Manni *et al.*, 2021; Simão *et al.*, 2015) were calculated.

Table 3 contains a list of relevant software tool versions and sources.

Wellcome Sanger Institute – Legal and Governance

The materials that have contributed to this genome note have been supplied by a Darwin Tree of Life Partner. The submission of materials by a Darwin Tree of Life Partner is subject to the ‘**Darwin Tree of Life Project Sampling Code of Practice**’, which can be found in full on the Darwin Tree of Life website [here](#). By agreeing with and signing up to the

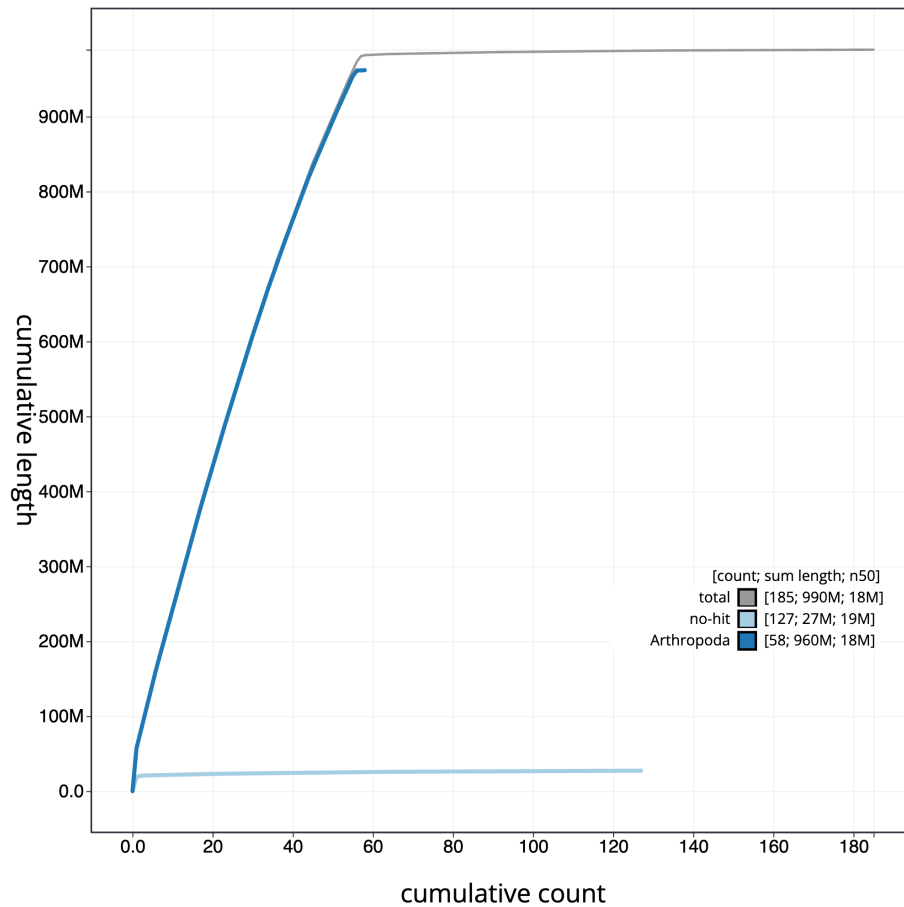


Figure 4. Genome assembly of *Coleophora flavipennella*, ilColFlav1.1: BlobToolKit cumulative sequence plot. The grey line shows cumulative length for all scaffolds. Coloured lines show cumulative lengths of scaffolds assigned to each phylum using the buscogenes taxrule. An interactive version of this figure is available at <https://blobtoolkit.genomehubs.org/view/ilColFlav1.1/dataset/CAMYPC01/cumulative>.

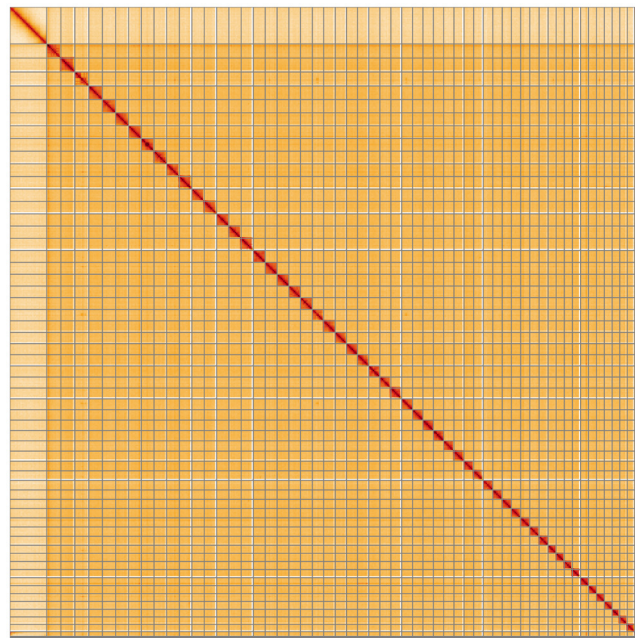


Figure 5. Genome assembly of *Coleophora flavipennella*, ilColFlav1.1: Hi-C contact map of the ilColFlav1.1 assembly, visualised using HiGlass. Chromosomes are shown in order of size from left to right and top to bottom. An interactive version of this figure may be viewed at https://genome-note-higlass.tol.sanger.ac.uk/l/?d=NQR3kVcG58K4sm8_AoCEWA.

Table 2. Chromosomal pseudomolecules in the genome assembly of *Coleophora flavipennella*, ilColFlav1.

INSDC accession	Chromosome	Length (Mb)	GC%
OX369253.1	1	22.14	39.5
OX369254.1	2	21.68	38.5
OX369255.1	3	21.66	38.5
OX369256.1	4	21.45	39.0
OX369257.1	5	20.5	38.5
OX369258.1	6	19.75	38.5
OX369259.1	7	20.07	39.0
OX369260.1	8	19.9	39.0
OX369261.1	9	19.8	38.5
OX369262.1	10	19.66	39.0
OX369263.1	11	19.45	38.5
OX369264.1	12	19.39	39.0
OX369265.1	13	19.32	38.5
OX369266.1	14	19.11	38.5
OX369267.1	15	19.07	39.0
OX369268.1	16	18.83	39.0
OX369269.1	17	18.67	38.5
OX369270.1	18	18.39	38.5
OX369271.1	19	18.35	38.5
OX369272.1	20	18.26	39.0
OX369273.1	21	18.19	38.5
OX369274.1	22	17.86	38.5
OX369275.1	23	17.85	38.5
OX369276.1	24	17.57	38.5
OX369277.1	25	17.41	39.0
OX369278.1	26	17.41	39.0
OX369279.1	27	17.29	39.0
OX369280.1	28	17.16	38.5

INSDC accession	Chromosome	Length (Mb)	GC%
OX369281.1	29	16.85	38.5
OX369282.1	30	16.81	39.0
OX369283.1	31	16.28	39.0
OX369284.1	32	16.23	38.0
OX369285.1	33	16.14	38.5
OX369286.1	34	16.05	39.0
OX369287.1	35	15.57	38.5
OX369288.1	36	15.11	39.5
OX369289.1	37	14.86	39.0
OX369290.1	38	14.85	39.0
OX369291.1	39	14.57	39.0
OX369292.1	40	14.51	39.0
OX369293.1	41	14.41	39.0
OX369294.1	42	14.31	39.0
OX369295.1	43	14.26	39.0
OX369296.1	44	13.98	38.5
OX369297.1	45	12.76	39.0
OX369298.1	46	12.66	39.0
OX369299.1	47	12.63	38.5
OX369300.1	48	12.56	39.0
OX369301.1	49	12.4	39.0
OX369302.1	50	12.39	39.0
OX369303.1	51	12.35	39.0
OX369304.1	52	12.04	39.0
OX369305.1	53	11.97	39.0
OX369306.1	54	11.84	39.0
OX369307.1	55	11.2	38.5
OX369309.1	W	7.28	39.0
OX369308.1	Z	57.4	38.0
OX369310.1	MT	0.02	18.0

Sampling Code of Practice, the Darwin Tree of Life Partner agrees they will meet the legal and ethical requirements and standards set out within this document in respect of all samples acquired for, and supplied to, the Darwin Tree of Life Project.

Further, the Wellcome Sanger Institute employs a process whereby due diligence is carried out proportionate to the nature of the materials themselves, and the circumstances under which they have been/are to be collected and provided for use. The purpose of this is to address and mitigate any potential

Table 3. Software tools: versions and sources.

Software tool	Version	Source
BlobToolKit	4.0.7	https://github.com/blobtoolkit/blobtoolkit
BUSCO	5.3.2	https://gitlab.com/ezlab/busco
gEVAL	N/A	https://geval.org.uk/
Hifiasm	0.16.1-r375	https://github.com/chhylp123/hifiasm
HiGlass	1.11.6	https://github.com/higlass/higlass
Mercury	MercuryFK	https://github.com/thegenemyers/MERQURY.FK
MitoHiFi	2	https://github.com/marcelauliano/MitoHiFi
PretextView	0.2	https://github.com/wtsi-hpag/PretextView
purge_dups	1.2.3	https://github.com/dfguan/purge_dups
sanger-tol/genomenote	v1.0	https://github.com/sanger-tol/genomenote
sanger-tol/readmapping	1.1.0	https://github.com/sanger-tol/readmapping/tree/1.1.0
YaHS	yahs-1.1.91eebc2	https://github.com/c-zhou/yahs

legal and/or ethical implications of receipt and use of the materials as part of the research project, and to ensure that in doing so we align with best practice wherever possible. The overarching areas of consideration are:

- Ethical review of provenance and sourcing of the material
- Legality of collection, transfer and use (national and international)

Each transfer of samples is further undertaken according to a Research Collaboration Agreement or Material Transfer Agreement entered into by the Darwin Tree of Life Partner, Genome Research Limited (operating as the Wellcome Sanger Institute), and in some circumstances other Darwin Tree of Life collaborators.

Data availability

European Nucleotide Archive: *Coleophora flavipennella* (tipped oak case-bearer). Accession number PRJEB56048; <https://identifiers.org/ena.embl/PRJEB56048>. (Wellcome Sanger Institute, 2022)

The genome sequence is released openly for reuse. The *Coleophora flavipennella* genome sequencing initiative is part of the Darwin Tree of Life (DToL) project. All raw

sequence data and the assembly have been deposited in INSDC databases. The genome will be annotated using available RNA-Seq data and presented through the [Ensembl](#) pipeline at the European Bioinformatics Institute. Raw data and assembly accession identifiers are reported in [Table 1](#).

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Jerome H L Hui

The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, Hong Kong

Boyes, Blaxter, and colleagues report the genome sequence of moth *Coleophora flavipennella* (Duponchel, 1843). According to the Butterfly Conservation's Microlepidoptera Report (No. S12-02) in 2012, this species was classified as common in the UK. Molecular data of this species are scarce prior to this report, and are mainly confined to COI sequences (and one nuclear gene) deposited to the NCBI database. This new genome resource will be very useful for further studies, such as understanding their ecology, population structure, response to environment/climate changes, and evolutionary relationships with other lepidopterans.

This genome resource is excellent from the summary statistics, with high BUSCO numbers, high sequence continuity (scaffold N50), and majority of sequences contained on the 55 pseudochromosomes (plus 2 sex chromosomes and mitochondrion). To sum up, this is another valuable contribution from the Darwin Tree of Life.

Is the rationale for creating the dataset(s) clearly described?

Yes

Are the protocols appropriate and is the work technically sound?

Yes

Are sufficient details of methods and materials provided to allow replication by others?

Yes

Are the datasets clearly presented in a useable and accessible format?

Yes

Competing Interests: I have published with Peter Holland more than three years ago, and confirm that this potential conflict of interest did not affect my ability to write an objective and unbiased

review of the article.

Reviewer Expertise: Genomics, evolution, invertebrates

I confirm that I have read this submission and believe that I have an appropriate level of expertise to confirm that it is of an acceptable scientific standard.

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Paula Escuer 

University of Neuchâtel, Neuchâtel, Switzerland

The authors presented the chromosome level genome sequence of a female individual of *Coleophora flavipennella* (The Tipped Oak Case-bearer). The final assembly presents a total length of 989.3 Mb in 184 scaffolds, including the W and Z sex chromosomes. The N50 is 17.9 Mb and 99.38% of the assembly is condensed in 57 chromosomal-level scaffolds. It is also included the alternative haplotype and mitochondrial genome. The BUSCO pipeline results showed a good quality and contiguity of the genome, with 97.9% of complete genes found. This high quality assembly is an important contribution that will allow understand the genomics and evolution of the Lepidoptera order.

Is the rationale for creating the dataset(s) clearly described?

Yes

Are the protocols appropriate and is the work technically sound?

Yes

Are sufficient details of methods and materials provided to allow replication by others?

Yes

Are the datasets clearly presented in a useable and accessible format?

Yes

Competing Interests: No competing interests were disclosed.

Reviewer Expertise: Genomics, Evolution, Biodiversity, Speciation

I confirm that I have read this submission and believe that I have an appropriate level of expertise to confirm that it is of an acceptable scientific standard.

Reviewer Report 26 February 2024

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Li-Wei Wu 

Tunghai University, Taichung, Taichung City, Taiwan

This report clearly presents the genomic information of *Coleophora flavipennella*, including the NGS technologies employed and the analytical methods used. While it doesn't delve deeply into the practical applications or the implications for Lepidoptera research, the content meets the immediate approval requirements. Moreover, the data provided will be advantageous for researches into the evolution of Lepidoptera insects or for studies on pest control.

Here are some minor suggestions to improve the content for reader:

1. A citation should be provided for the use of BUSCO in the methodology section.
2. The mitogenomic sequence should give a GenBank accession number to increase the visibility and usability.

Is the rationale for creating the dataset(s) clearly described?

Yes

Are the protocols appropriate and is the work technically sound?

Yes

Are sufficient details of methods and materials provided to allow replication by others?

Yes

Are the datasets clearly presented in a useable and accessible format?

Yes

Competing Interests: No competing interests were disclosed.

Reviewer Expertise: Population genetics; Historical biogeography; development of genome-wide SNP

I confirm that I have read this submission and believe that I have an appropriate level of expertise to confirm that it is of an acceptable scientific standard.
