

## A NEW BRENTHIS FROM ALASKA (LEPIDOPTERA, NYMPHALIDÆ)

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**Brenthis (Clossiana) aphirape denali**, new subspecies.

While the writer feels a certain hesitation at adding another subspecific name in *aphirape* to the already rather long list, the form named here is so utterly distinct from any other members of the species that there is no doubt of its validity. From other subspecies of *aphirape* in North America, *denali* may be differentiated as follows:

MALE—Upper side: Ground-color pale yellow-brown, the black markings fine and clear-cut. The ground-color is lighter than that of any other *aphirape* subspecies except *laddi* Klots (Snowy Range, Wyo.) and *caelestis* Hemming (Colorado). In the fineness and sharpness of the black markings *denali* likewise resembles *laddi* and *caelestis* most closely, for the other North American subspecies all have heavier markings with considerable suffusion, as well as a deeper orange-brown or red-brown ground-color. In the basal and anal regions of the hind wings *denali* has slightly more fuscous dusting, and is more hairy, than *laddi* and *caelestis*.

FEMALE—Upper side: The ground-color is somewhat duller and the black markings heavier and more suffused than in the males. Compared with females of other North American subspecies, *denali* females average paler with lighter markings and less fuscous suffusion than those of any subspecies other than *laddi* and *caelestis*; their markings are slightly more suffused, and the basal dusting of the hind wings more extensive, than in these two latter.

BOTH SEXES—Under side: The fuscous or black markings, repeated from the pattern of the upper side, are slightly heavier in the females than in the males. In other respects the females show no essential differences from the males. In both sexes the fuscous or black markings are more reduced than in any other North American subspecies, including *laddi* and *caelestis*.

The ground color is much paler than in any other North American subspecies, having a very "washed out" appearance. On the hind wings the post-basal and median rows of darker spots are of a light, yellow-brown color, much lighter than in any other North American subspecies except *caelestis*. The submarginal area which, in all other North American subspecies is largely filled in with dark orange-brown or red-brown in cells  $R_1$ ,  $R_5$ ,  $M_1$ ,  $Cu_1$ , and  $Cu_2$ , at least outwardly, is in *denali* almost entirely of the very light, yellowish ground-color with only a slight brownish tinge in the costo-distal corner of cell  $R_1$ . The row of round, ocellate spots in this submarginal area is very much obscured, being almost entirely faded out in some specimens. The marginal and the irregular sub-median rows of light-colored spots are of a pale, yellowish-white with only an occasional trace of pearly luster.

*Denali* is almost the most distinct subspecies of *aphirape* in North America, the extremely pale, "washed out" appearance of the under side of the wings sufficing for its recognition at a glance. Of the 43 specimens of the type lot, only two show sufficient dark coloring beneath to be in any way confusable with any other North American subspecies; and the resemblance of these is to *caelestis*, the Colorado subspecies, rather than to *nichollæ* or *tricularis*, the closest subspecies geographically.

Two specimens from Atlin, B. C., are intermediate between *denali* and *nichollæ*. They are not to be considered as representative *denali*, or as part of the type lot.

Leussler's reference (Bull. Brooklyn Ent. Soc., 1935, 30: 52) to a male and a female of *aphirape* from the Mackenzie Delta under the name of *alticola* Barnes & McDunnough (a homonym, = *caelestis* Hemming) is inadmissible, as pointed out by the present writer (Journ. N. Y. Ent. Soc., 1937, 45: 325). The pale coloration which led Leussler to use the name *alticola* for these specimens is here seen to be characteristic of *denali*. It is therefore quite probable that the Mackenzie Delta specimens should be referred to *denali* or, at least, that they represent a transitional population between *denali* and *tricularis*.

The name of this new subspecies is the Indian name for Mount McKinley.

TYPES: Holotype ♂, July 25, 1931, and allotype ♀, July, 1931, McKinley National Park, coll. by Frank Morand, ex Gunder Collection.

Paratypes: 21 ♂, the same locality and collector, July, 1931; 1 ♂, the same locality and collector, 24 July, 1931; 1 ♂, the same locality and collector, 25 July, 1931; 1 ♂, the same locality and collector, 28 July, 1931; 4 ♀♀, the same locality and collector, July, 1931; 1 ♀, the same locality and collector, 24 July, 1931; 3 ♂♂ and 1 ♀, the same locality, coll. by G. P. Engelhart, 3500 ft. altitude, 5 July, 1938; 1 ♂ and 1 ♀, the same locality, coll. by D. Fraser, 29 July, 1930; 1 ♂, Cantwell (S. of Fairbanks) Alaska, coll. by D. G. Nicholls, 14 July, 1937; 3 ♂♂ and 1 ♀, Alfred Creek Camp, Alaska, coll. by R. A. Pope, 15 July, 1922; 1 ♂, Alfred Creek Camp, Alaska, coll. by R. A. Pope, 21 July, 1922.

The holotype, the allotype and most of the paratypes are in the American Museum of Natural History. Paratypes are in the collections of Cyril dos Passos and the author.



Klots, Alexander B. 1940. "A New *Brenthis* from Alaska (Lepidoptera, Nymphalidæ)." *Journal of the New York Entomological Society* 48, 413–414.

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