

TWO NEW SUBSPECIES OF *EVERES*
COMYNTAS GODART (LEPIDOPTERA,
LYCÆNIDÆ)

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Two races of this wide-ranging species have recently come to my attention, one from South Dakota and one from Montana.

***Everes comyntas valeriæ*, new subspecies**

UPPERSIDE:

Male. Both wings slightly purplish blue. *Fore wing* with a narrow dark border on the outer margin. Costa and costal veins pencilled with light blue. *Hind wing* with an internervural row of small spots on the outer margin. Costa dark bordered. Cu_2 with a short tail. *Fringe* of fore wing dark basally, white outwardly; of the hind wing white.

Female. Both wings brown. Base of each dark blue. Hind wing with a black spot in the Cu_1 - Cu_2 interspace basally bordered by a shallow, rather dull orange lunule. A thin marginal pale bluish line borders the outer margin, interrupted at the veins, basal to which is a similar but scalloped and more obscure line. The two outline a series of internervural dark spots. Occasionally these lines are very faint, and the row of spots consequently almost indistinguishable.

UNDERSIDE:

Male. Ground color grayish tan. All spots arranged as in typical *comyntas*, but with the post-discal series usually rounder and darker—occasionally very heavy. The orange over the two spots in the M_3 - Cu_1 - Cu_2 interspaces of the hind wing is usually faint, although stronger in the latter than in the former. On this same wing, just basal to the marginal compound border, the ground color is white between the veins.

Female. Similar to the male.

Length of fore wing: Male, 11.5–13.5 mm.; Female, 10–12.5 mm.

Holotype, male, near Lead, South Dakota, June 22, 1939 (V. H. and A. C. Frederick).

Allotype, female, Terry Peak, South Dakota, el. 5200+ feet, June 24, 1939 (V. H. and A. C. Frederick).

Paratypes, 1 male, same data as holotype; 1 male and 2 females, same data as allotype; 1 female, Harney Peak, el. 5200+ feet, June 25, 1939 (A. C. Frederick); 31 males, 3 females, Spearfish Canyon and vicinity, el. 5200+ feet, as follows: 3 males, June 26,

27, and July 1, 1939, resp. (V. H. and A. C. Frederick); 15 males, 2 females, June 29, 1942 (A. C. Frederick); 13 males and 1 female, June 30, 1942 (A. C. Frederick); 17 males, Icebox Canyon, June 29, 1942 (A. C. Frederick). All localities in the Black Hills, South Dakota.

Holotype and allotype no. 25934 in the collection of the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy. Paratypes in the collection of Mr. Frederick and of the author.

Remarks. This subspecies appears to be most similar to the southwestern race *herrii* Grinnell¹ from which it differs in the following particulars: the black border on the wings above in the male is slightly thinner. This is most apparent on the hind wing, where the border in *herrii* is thick enough to include the internervural spots, while in *valeriae* these spots are almost always free. There is no orange lunule on the hind wing above, an almost constant feature of *herrii*, and even more prominent in typical *comyntas*, but more variable in the latter. The ground color below in both sexes appears to be a little darker. The female of *valeriae* is largely blackish brown above, with a rather dark basal blue shading, while in *herrii* both wings are rather extensively blue above. The orange lunules above are smaller in females of *valeriae* than in those of *herrii*.

This subspecies appears to be quite variable. One male has a tiny orange lunule in the Cu_1 - Cu_2 interspace above—the only indication of it in the whole type series. The same specimen and one or two others have the marginal border on both wings thickened, that on the hind wing including the submarginal spots. Below, the intensity of the spots varies considerably. One specimen has the submarginal series of lunules in the compound border enlarged and very dark, giving the insect a most peculiar appearance. The post-discal series of spots may be enlarged or reduced.

This subspecies is named for Mrs. A. C. Frederick, who materially assisted her husband in collecting the type series.

Everes comyntas albrighti, new subspecies

UPPERSIDE:

Male. Uniform violet-blue on both wings. *Fore wing* with a very narrow dark marginal border. *Hind wing* also with this border, and in addition,

¹ Can. Ent., 33: 192, 1901.

an almost obsolete row of small dashes, the heaviest in the Cu_1 - Cu_2 interspace.

Female. Uniform brown on both wings. Base of fore wing blue. On the hind wing, in the Cu_1 - Cu_2 interspace, a faint orange lunule surmounts a tiny dark spot.

UNDERSIDE:

Male. *Fore wing* dirty white, with a broad costal border of dark grayish scaling. The marginal compound border is almost obsolete, save for a few dark scales. A post-discal row of black spots, large and distinct, runs from costa to inner margin, the costal ones usually obsolete. Cell closed by a dark dash. *Hind wing* with a brownish gray ground color, fading on the outer margin. The submarginal border is, as in the fore wing, almost completely absent. The post-discal series, the cell-end bar, and the basal spots are also nearly gone, but their positions are shown by whitened areas in the gray. In the Cu_1 - Cu_2 interspace is a small black spot, obscurely scaled with metallic, and capped by a tiny orange crescent.

Female. The single female examined shows a very similar appearance. The post-discal series of spots on the fore wing is represented, however, only by spots from M_3 to the inner margin. The costal gray-brown on this wing extends down to M_3 .

Length of fore wing: Male, 11–11.5 mm.; female, 11 mm.

Holotype, male, Kings Hill, Montana, July 9, 1939 (from C. C. Albright).

Allotype, female, same data.

Paratypes, two males, same data.

Holotype and allotype to be deposited in the collection of the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy. One paratype in the collection of Mr. C. F. dos Passos. One paratype in the collection of the author.

Remarks. This subspecies differs from all other North American *Everes* thus far known in the grayish costal shading on the fore wing below, and in the gray ground color of the hind wing below. This subspecies appears to be closer in appearance to northern specimens of *amyntula* Boisd.² since several of its characters correspond quite closely to that species, such as the narrow margin above, reduced maculation below (aside from the gray ground color) and reduced orange in both sexes.

This subspecies is named for Dr. C. C. Albright, of Great Falls, Montana, from whom the specimens were obtained.

² Ann. Soc. Ent. France, 10 (2): 294, 1852.



Clench, Harry K. 1944. "Two New Subspecies of *Everes comyntas* Godart (Lepidoptera, *Lycænidae*).*" Journal of the New York Entomological Society* 52, 59–61.

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