

PACIFIC COAST LEPIDOPTERA No. 1 (Noctuidæ)

SOME APPARENTLY NEW SPECIES OF MOTHS OF THE FAMILY NOCTUIDÆ AND ONE SATURNID ABERRATION

— From —

THE SOUTHWESTERN UNITED STATES

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List of Species described in this paper as being new to science.
Plate No. 3.

- Figure 1—*Trichoclea edwardsi deserticola*. form nov.
“ 2—*Euxoa difformis*. Smith.
“ 3—*Stiria dyari*. sp. nov.
“ 4—*Euxoa cinibarina*. sp. nov.
“ 5—*Namangana funeralis*. sp. nov.
“ 6—*Chamoclea comstocki*. sp. nov.
“ 7—*Pseudohazis hera marcata*, aberration *gunderi*. ab. nov.
“ 8—*Euxoa obscura*. sp. nov.
“ 9—*Oncocnemis wilsonensis*. sp. nov.
“ 10—*Litoprosopus coachella*—Hill. “Eut. News,” April, 1921,
pp. 105.
“ 11—*Chamoclea benjamini*. Hill. Bull. So. Cal. Acad. Sc.,
Sept.-Oct., 1924, pp. 158.
“ 12—*Mycterophora geometriformis*. sp. nov.
“ 13—*Schinia coolidgei*. sp. nov.
“ 14—*Plusiadonta compressipalis*, *suffusa*. form nov.
“ 15—*Schinia silveroides*. sp. nov.
“ 16—*Perographa palomarensis*. sp. nov.
“ 17—*Cirphis februalis*. sp. nov.

Fig. 1. *Trichoclea edwardsi deserticola*.

Head, collar, thorax, abdomen, and antennae concolorous with primaries, a delicate flesh tint. All the ordinary spots obsolete. T. P. line indicated by a row of black dots, as is the terminal line. The reniform in some specimens is slightly defined by a somewhat darker shade. Secondaries white, shading to a darker wide band from exterior line to fringe which is white.

This form differs from typical *edwardsi* in that the habitus is more obscure, flesh tint in place of grey, and secondaries white to flesh tint in place of grey smoky in *edwardsi*. Expanse 35 mm. Described from sixteen specimens about equally divided as to sex.

Type locality Indio, Riverside County, California, October 16 to 30th, by E. Piazza, at light.

♂ holotype, ♀ allotype and fourteen paratypes all in coll. Hill.

Fig. 2. *Euxoa difformis*—Smith.

This species seems referable to above name and the author hesitates to describe a new “*Euxoa*” for the present, this genus being in an unstable State, according to Mr. F. H. Benjamin.

Fig. 3. *Stiria dyari*.

Antennae finely ciliate, head yellow, collar heavily tufted with greyed lavender scales. Primaries deep to light cadmium, yellow primaries with a quadrate lavender patch on inner margin centrally, and an irregular broad patch of same color along outer margin, be-

coming broadest from vein VI to III. Fringe concolorous, with markings and thorax.

There is a faint indication of the reniform T. A. and T. P. lines. Secondaries clearly white except a faint line of a luteous shade before fringes, which are white.

Expanse 31 to 35 mm. Sexes similar.

Described form 5 ♂ and 3 ♀.

Types in coll. Hill.

♂ holotype, San Diego, Calif., April 12. ♀ allotype, Palm Springs, Calif., April 19. Paratypes 4 ♂ and 2 ♀ Palm Springs, various dates.

This species has its closest ally in *S. rugifrons* with the following points of distinction:

Basal dash is absent, secondaries are clear white as against a luteous shade in *rugifrons* is slightly smaller and patch on inner margin is quadrate, not rounded.

Fig. 4. "Euxoa" Cinibarina.

Antennae finely ciliate. Head and thorax concolorous with primaries which are brownish purple, giving the insect a coppery aspect. Ordinary spots obsolete, basal line and S. T. line defined by light scales. T. A. and T. P. lines black. Secondaries smoky to white inwardly.

Expanse 38 mm.

Described from two specimens ♂ holotype and ♀ allotype taken on Mt. Wilson, 6000 feet elevation, Los Angeles County, Calif., at light by E. Piazza.

Types in coll. Hill.

I am in doubt as to the exact generic position of this species.

Fig. 5. *Namangana funeralis*.

Antennae ciliate. Head, thorax and abdomen concolorous with primaries, a shiny grey black to black and the reniform only visible, being defined by lighter scales. All the other ordinary marks else obsolete.

Secondaries white with contrasting exterior line, of a smoky shade which also defines the venation inwardly.

Expanse 28 mm.

Described from six specimens. ♂ holotype, ♀ allotype and four paratypes, ♂ and ♀.

Types in coll. Hill.

Type locality, San Diego, Calif., in November.

This may prove to be *N. andrena*—Smith, but is much darker.

Fig. 6. *Chamoclea comstocki*.

Antennae ciliate. Head, thorax and abdomen yellow.

Basal area purple; median area shiny, creamy white, thence smoky grey to and including fringes with purple definiteness. There is a purplish iridescence to the entire insect.

Secondaries smoky, shading into yellow at inner margin.

Expanse 30 mm.

Described from 2 ♂s taken in Southern Arizona, July 21, 1923. ♂ holotype and 1 ♂ paratype in coll. Hill.

It is a pleasure to name this little beauty in favor of Dr. John A. Comstock to whom I am indebted for the photographic plate of these moths, as well as many other favors and encouragement.

Fig. 7. *Pseudohazis hera marcata aberration gunderi*.

The figure is an exact reproduction of this striking aberration. The black markings contrasting with the ground color in white. Main points of distinction from typical *marcata* are, the basal line and T. P. lines are entirely absent, the white on patagium is absent, as is also the yellow banded abdomen except on the last four segments.

Named in honor of my friend Mr. Jeane D. Gunder of Pasadena, to whom I am indebted for this lovely insect. This is the only moth described in this paper not belonging to the family noctuidae, now known as Phalaenidae.

The specimen is a ♂ marked holotype, coll. Hill, taken on July 3, 1924 in Modoc County, Calif., flying with the normal form, of which I have a small series from the same source.

Fig. 8. "Euxoa" obscura.

Antennae simple, ciliate. Head, collar, patagium and primaries concolorous smoky, shiny grey, reniform, orbicular, basal line and T. P. line faintly traced by darker scales. Secondaries evenly smoky.

Expanse 31 mm.

♂ holotype, ♀ allotype and 10 ♂ and ♀ paratypes in coll. Hill. Type locality, San Diego, Calif., in June.

Fig. 9. Oncocnemis wilsonensis.

The author prefers to withhold the description of this odd noctuid until it is more certainly placed generically. In order to insure type will give it a ms. specific name until more and perfect specimens are taken. I have since learned that Mr. E. Piazza has a perfect specimen of this species.

Fig. 10. Litoprosopus coachella—Hill.

Described by the author in the Ent. News, April, 1921, pp. 105 and herewith figured for the first time.

A male paratype was deposited in coll. of Dr. Wm. Barnes in appreciation of courtesies shown. There were four specimens, all males before the author at time of description, not two as it stated in error in publication noted above, all specimens having been taken in June at Palm Springs, Calif., by E. Piazza and K. Coolidge who kindly presented me with two of them.

I recently saw two specimens of this species in coll. of E. D. Jones, taken on his front porch here in Glendale, Calif., and Mr. Piazza took another in San Diego, June. This specimen now is in coll. of Mr. W. S. Wright, so that there are now seven specimens known of this distinct species. Dr. Dyar states it probably feeds on palm.

11. Chamoclea benjamini, Hill.

Bulletin California Academy Sciences, September-October, 1924, pp. 158.

This is a figure of the above as noted therein.

Fig. 12. Mycterophora geometriformis.

Antennae finely bipectinate. A quadrate patch of light yellow at apex which joins a broad band of same color along costal margin extending to base.

T. A. and T. P. lines black, parallel and extending across secondaries. The wings are sprinkled with a brown scale.

Expanse 19 mm.

Described from three specimens, ♂ holotype, ♀ allotype and one ♂ paratype in coll. of author. All taken at Mt. Lowe, 5,000 feet elevation, Los Angeles County, Calif., at light.

This insect has all the habitus of a geometer, but according to Dr. Dyar is placed in the Noctuidae, on the basis of its venation.

Fig. 13. Schima coolidgei.

Antennae ciliate. Head, thorax and abdomen, white. Primaries white with maculation in yellow brown. There is a quadrate spot be-

fore apex; basal line and T. P. line defined by brown scaling. Reniform reduced to a small black dot.

Secondaries creamy white, with band before margin of a smoky brown. ♂ holotype and two ♂ paratypes in coll. Hill. Holotype, Jacunba, San Diego County, Cal., Sept.; paratypes, Victorville, Cal., Sept.

Expanse 24 mm.

Named for Mr. Karl R. Coolidge to whom I am indebted for two of the above specimens.

Fig. 14. *Plusiodonta compressipalis suffusa*. form nov.

A single male specimen holotype ♂ before me from the Baboquararia Mountains of Southern Arizona in July, differs from the normal form so markedly in color and general habitus, that it is deserving of a form name. All the maculation can be traced somewhat similar to *compressipalis*, but of a purple shade. The basal line is sharply defined and differs in its course from the normal species.

Secondaries smoky. Expanse 22 mm.

There is no trace of golden markings as in the normal form.

Fig. 15. *Schinia silveroides*.

Antennae ciliate. Head, thorax and abdomen grey white, shiny; primaries silver grey. All the maculation obsolete except a T. P. line straightly oblique, defined by a white shading of scales.

Secondaries shiny, greyed white. ♂ holotype, ♀ allotype in coll. Hill taken at Uvalda, Texas, March 9, 1923. (E. Piazza.)

Expanse 26 mm.

Fig. 16. *Perographa palomarensis*.

Antennae bipectinate. Head, thorax, abdomen and primaries dull mouse-grey, heavily scaled. Orbicular, reniform and median area a rich chocolate brown, the veins for 2 mm. of their length of same color, from median area outwardly. Secondaries even smoky.

Expanse 36 mm.

This beautiful species, a unique in the author's collection is designated ♂ holotype and was taken in February at Nellie, San Diego County, Calif., at the base of Palomar Mountain.

Fig. 17. *Cirphis februalis*.

Antennae ciliate. Head, thorax, abdomen and primaries concolorous sand yellow. The ordinary marks obsolete. Median vein sharply defined by black scales from base to outer margin, with black dot before branch of veins II and III. Veination along outer margin smoky. Scaled.

Secondaries shiny white, slightly greyed, on outer margin spotty.

Expanse 35 mm. Described from 7 specimens ♂ holotype, ♀ allotypes, 5 paratype ♂ and ♀s in coll. Hill taken in February at San Diego, Calif.

The author is indebted to Dr. Harrison G. Dyar for the generic determinations of the majority of the above new species and determining four of the species as new, also the loan of specimens, the following being returned to him for deposit in U. S. National Museum as paratypes so labelled:

Stiria dyari, *Namangana funeralis*, *Euxoa obscura* and *Cirphis februalis*. Paratypes of the remainder in case of sufficient material will be placed in the National Museum.

Also paratypes of all the above where possible will be deposited in collection of Dr. Wm. Barnes of Decatur, Illinois, a list of these to be published at an early date, in appreciation of courtesies shown.

This is the first of a series of papers on the Noctuid Moths of the Southwest, which the author hopes to publish from time to time in this publication.



1924. "Pacific Coast Lepidoptera. No. 1 (Noctuidae). Some apparently new species of moths of the family Noctuidae and one Saturnid aberration from the southwestern United States." *Bulletin of the Southern California Academy of Sciences* 23, 183–186.

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