

A NEW *CHLAMYDASTIS* (OECOPHORIDAE, LEPIDOPTERA)
FROM TEXAS

ANDRÉ BLANCHARD AND EDWARD C. KNUDSON

(AB) 3023 Underwood, Houston, Texas 77025. (ECK) 808 Woodstock, Bellaire, Texas 77401.

Abstract.—A new oecophorid moth, *Chlamydasitis habrolepis*, is described from specimens collected in extreme southern Texas. The adult male, denuded male wings, eighth abdominal segment of male, and male and female genitalia are figured. This represents the first species in this genus known to occur in the U.S.A.

This new species of *Chlamydasitis* is known from a series of 24 specimens collected by the authors at two localities in extreme southern Texas. *Chlamydasitis* is a large genus including about 65 species, nearly all of which were described by Edward Meyrick. The genus is widely distributed in Central and South America, and one species, *C. dominicae* Duckworth, was described from the island of Dominica in the West Indies. Up to now, no species in this genus has been reported to occur in the U.S.A. As is the case in other genera in the subfamily Stenomatinae, the male genitalia are characterized by the presence of specialized scales, strongly attached to the inner margin of the valve. In the case of *Chlamydasitis*, these scales are usually conspicuously dilated at their apices, forming an arrowhead shape. This is not a reliable generic character, however, as it is absent in some species and found occasionally in other stenomatine genera.

***Chlamydasitis habrolepis* Blanchard & Knudson, NEW SPECIES**

Figs. 1-6

Description.—*Head:* Front and vertex white; labial palpus ascending to just above front, 2nd segment white, flecked with blackish brown, 3rd segment white with blackish rings at base and just before apex. Male antenna yellowish white with numerous setae, which are from 2-3 times the length of segments; female antenna very shortly setose. Collar white. *Thorax:* White with blackish scales at tips of tegula and mesonotum. Foretibia white with longitudinal black stripe along inner margin; terminal segments of tarsus black; midtibia and tarsus white with 5 or 6 transverse black stripes along outer surface; hindtibia and tarsus mainly whitish. *Abdomen:* Shiny yellowish gray. *Forewing:* Upper surface white, lightly sprinkled with brownish scales. Extreme base from costal margin to fold blackish brown. Along costal margin beyond, are three additional blackish brown spots; at $\frac{1}{4}$ the distance from base, just beyond middle, and $\frac{1}{4}$ the distance from apex, the last always being the largest. On the middorsal margin is a large blackish brown blotch, which extends slightly above fold and is often divided longitudinally by an oblique white stripe. Small intense black discal spots are found at the middle

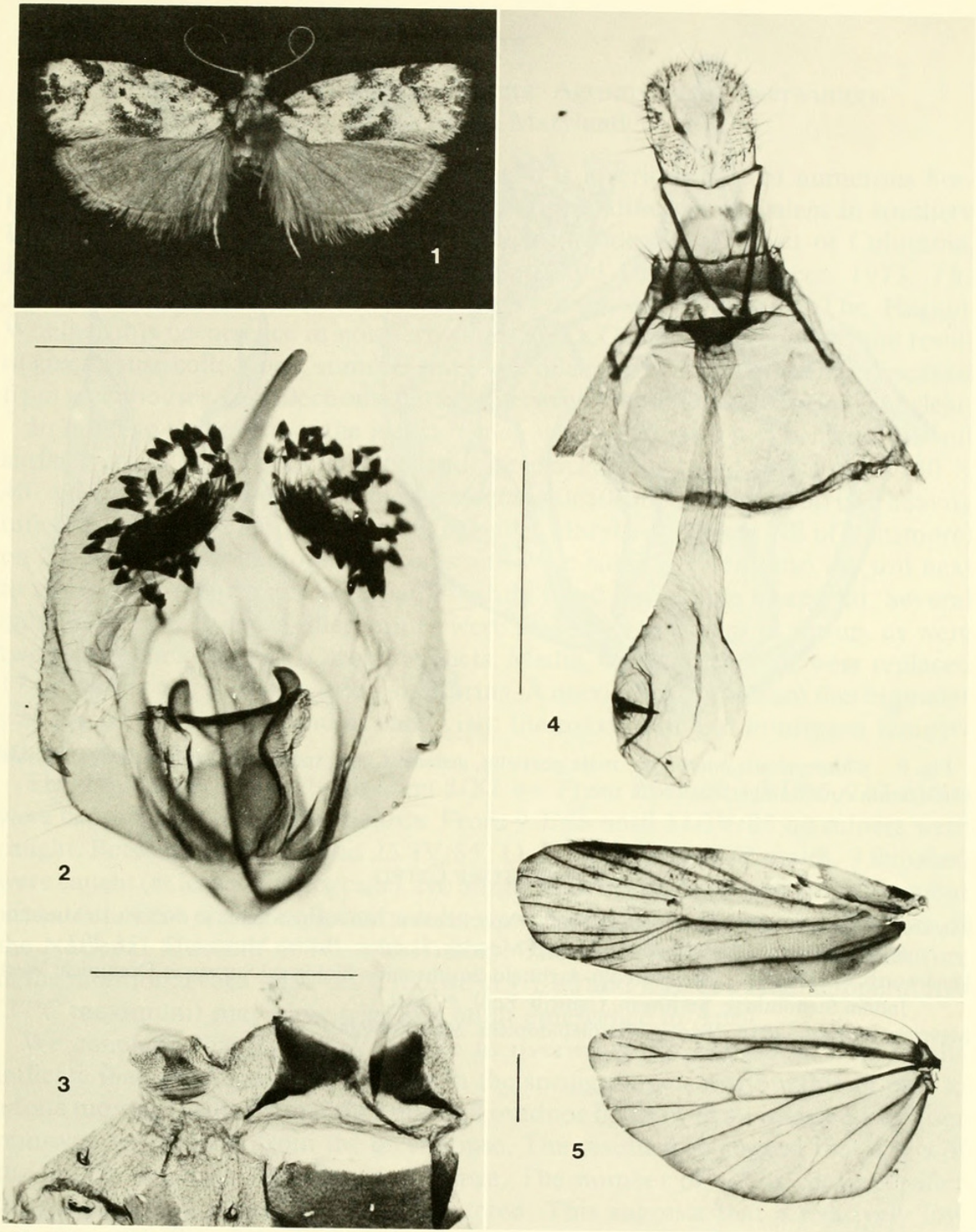
and apex of cell, the latter surmounted by a short black dash. Bordering the inner margin of the subapical costal spot and extending obliquely to tornus, is a thin black line; beyond this line is a variably sized blackish brown blotch over the middle of the subterminal space, often joined to the lower margin of the subapical costal spot. Fringe blackish brown, often checkered with white. Under surface dark fuscous, apical $\frac{2}{3}$ of costal margin yellowish white. *Hindwing*: Pale fuscous with a dark terminal line and a second dark line in fringe. *Length of forewing*: Males, $n = 21$, 5.4–7.4 mm, average 6.1 mm. Females, $n = 2$, 6.8 and 6.9 mm. *Wing venation* (Fig. 5): Forewing with 11 veins; 4 radials; M2 connate with the stalk of M3 and Cu1, from the lower outer angle of cell; 1A obsolete. Hindwing with 8 veins; discocellular incomplete; 1A normal. *Male genitalia* (Figs. 2, 3, 6): Fig. 2 represents male genitalia with aedeagus in situ, from slide AB 4570; Fig. 6 is a drawing made from slide AB 1183, representing the male genitalia on the left, and frontal and lateral views of aedeagus on lower right and tips of specialized scales on valvae at upper right; Fig. 3 represents the eighth abdominal segment of a male, sternite on right, from slide ECK 1187. *Female genitalia* (Fig. 4): Frontal view from slide AB 5398. Papillae anales membranous, moderately setose; apophyses posteriores $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the length of apophyses anteriores, both slightly clubbed apically. Apophyses anteriores continue caudally as a sclerotized ridge along lateral margin of 8th tergite. Ostium bursae a well sclerotized, broad funnel, leading to a membranous ductus bursae, which widens gradually to corpus bursae. Signum a well sclerotized spined keel.

Types.—Holotype (Figs. 1, 2): ♂, Cameron Co., Texas, Laguna Atascosa, 1-IV-78, collected by A. & M. E. Blanchard and deposited in the National Museum of Natural History. Paratypes: Same locality as holotype, 24-IV-73, 10 ♂ (one with genitalia on slide AB 5400); 25-IX-73, 1 ♂ (genitalia on slide AB 5399); Hidalgo Co., Texas, Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge, 20-IX-66, 1 ♂ (genitalia on slide AB 1183); 15-IX-74, 8 ♂ (one with genitalia on slide AB 4669), 2 ♀ (genitalia on slides AB 4670 and AB 5398), all collected by A. & M. E. Blanchard and deposited in the National Museum of Natural History. Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge, 5-IV-80, 1 ♂ (genitalia on slide ECK 1181), collected by E. C. Knudson and retained by collector.

Remarks.—In the genus *Chlamydastis*, as it now stands, the maculation of adults varies considerably, although many species have a pattern similar to *C. habrolepis*. However, the combination of the oblique, black subterminal line and well marked black middorsal patch on the forewing of *habrolepis* is not present on any of the 62 species of which we have seen illustrations (Clarke, 1955; Duckworth, 1969). The male genitalia of the new species are similar, but hardly identical to those of *C. bifida* (Meyrick), *forcipata* (Meyrick), *ptilopa* (Meyrick), and *tritupa* (Meyrick). We have seen few examples of female genitalia of other *Chlamydastis* sps., but of the 9 species illustrated by Clarke (1955), 6 appear to show the extension of the apophyses anteriores described above.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors are extremely grateful to W. Donald Duckworth, who examined the first specimen collected by the senior author and has reviewed our manuscript.



Figs. 1-5. *Chlamydastis habrolepis*. 1, Holotype. 2, Genitalia of holotype, slide AB 4570. 3, 8th abdominal segment of male paratype, slide ECK 1187, Santa Ana Refuge, 5-IV-80. 4, Female genitalia of paratype, slide AB 5398, Santa Ana Refuge, 15-IX-74. 5, Left wings of male paratype, slide AB 5399, Laguna Atascosa, 25-IX-73. Line segment in Fig. 2 represents 0.5 mm; in Figs. 3, 4, 5, 1 mm.

We thank him especially for giving us permission to depict the beautiful drawing by George Venable in Fig. 6. We also thank Ronald W. Hodges for his assistance. Finally, we wish to acknowledge the assistance and cooperation of officials of the Laguna Atascosa and Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuges.

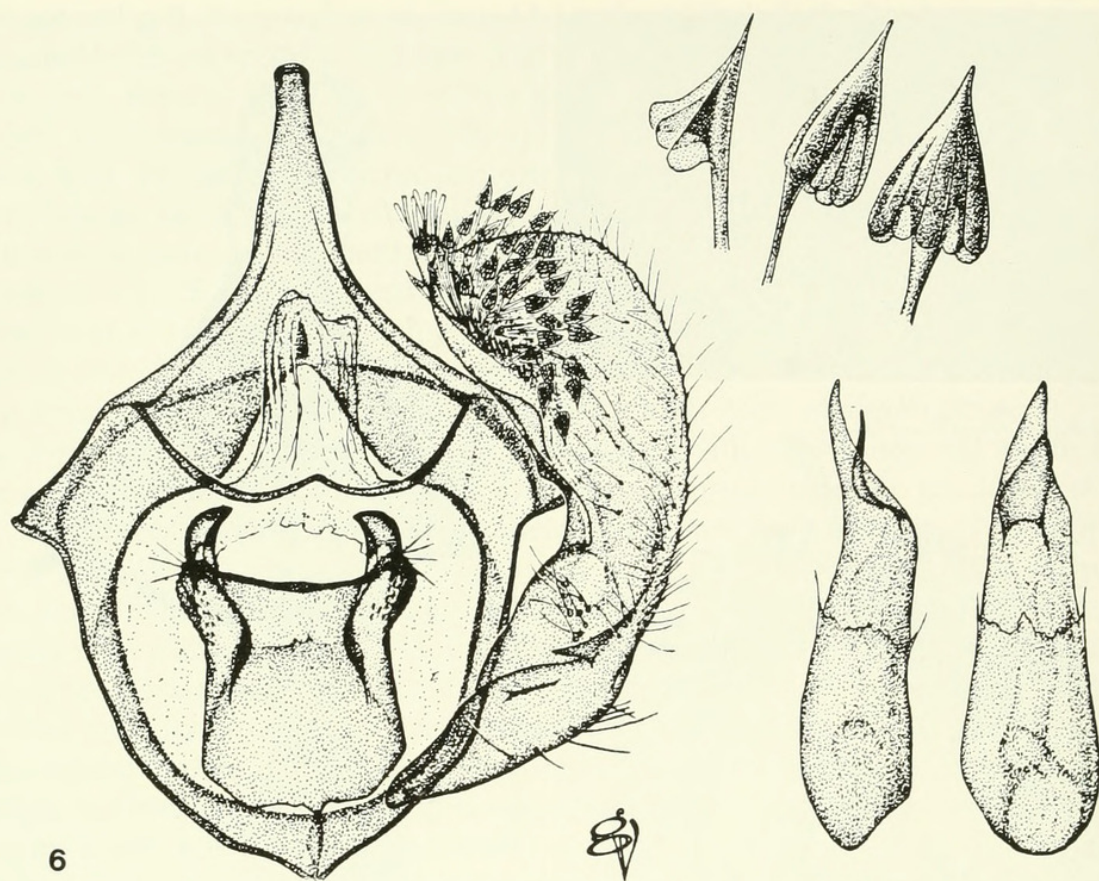


Fig. 6. *Chlamydastis habrolepis*, male genitalia, aedeagus, and specialized scales, from slide AB 1183, Santa Ana Refuge, 20-XI-66.

LITERATURE CITED

- Clarke, J. F. Gates. 1955. Catalogue of the type specimens of Microlepidoptera in the British Museum (Natural History) described by Edward Meyrick. London. British Museum 2: 174-207.
- Duckworth, W. Donald. 1969. Bredin-Archbold-Smithsonian Biological Survey of Dominica: West Indian Stenomidae. Smithson. Contrib. Zool. 4: 1-21.
- Meyrick, Edward. 1916. Exotic Microlepidoptera. Marlborough 1: 481.



Blanchard, André. and Knudson, Edward C. 1986. "A new Chlamydastis (Oecophoridae, Lepidoptera) from Texas." *Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington* 88, 185–188.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/54986>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/56439>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Sponsored by

Smithsonian

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: In copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder.

Rights Holder: Entomological Society of Washington

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/>

Rights: <https://biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.