

A New Species of *Calephelis* from Guatemala (Lycaenidae: Riodininae)

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Abstract. A new species of *Calephelis* (Riodininae) is named from northern Guatemala.

Introduction.

McAlpine (1971) suggested that Guatemala may be the center of distribution of the genus *Calephelis* (Lycaenidae: Riodininae). During field work at Parque Nacional Tikal in Petén, northern Guatemala, in February 1992, a striking new species was taken. This is named and described below.

Calephelis tikal new species

Figs. 1, 2 (male), 3 (male genitalia)

Description. Male. Forewing length = 11.6 mm (holotype), 11.8 mm (paratype). Dorsum dark brown with prominent gray cast especially on outer third of both wings; wing bases with five indistinct, concentric, black lines, more-or-less continuous from costa to inner margin, the outer very broad on both wings, extending basad nearly to next line; marginal and submarginal lines faint (especially on forewing), iridescent blue-gray, the outer thin, parallel to outer margin, broken slightly at veins, the inner somewhat irregular, broken and disjunct (on forewing) at veins; row of rather large, but indistinct, black dots between iridescent lines; fringes gray-brown, paler than ground color.

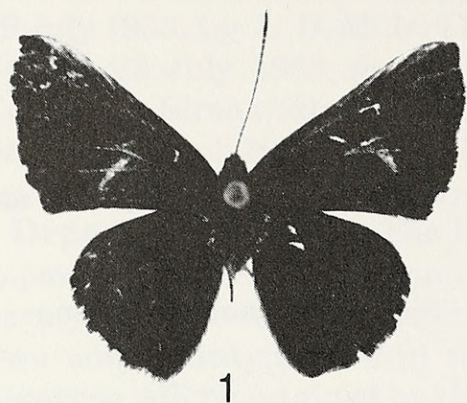
Ventral surface dark red-brown with black overscaling, especially distally; markings of dorsum repeated, more prominent; outer basal line doubled throughout length on both wings, area between dusted with black anteriorly on forewing; iridescent lines broader, prominent.

Head, thorax, and abdomen concolorous with wings above and (including legs) below; antennae black with white annular rings, tip of club yellow-orange.

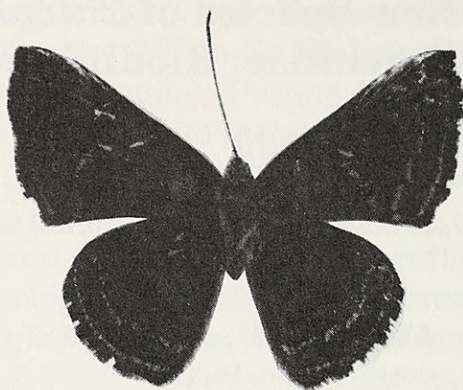
Genitalia: valvae of moderate length, broad in lateral view, robust and broad in ventral view; transtilla slightly longer than valvae, relatively broad, curved dorsad to a slight hook.

Female. Unknown.

Types. Holotype male with the following labels: white, printed - GUATEMALA / Petén, Parque / Nacional Tikal / #6, 12:15-12:45 / 2 February 1992 / leg. G. T. Austin; white, printed and handprinted - Genitalia Vial / GTA - 2385; red, printed - HOLOTYPE / *Calephelis tikal* / Austin. One paratype male with same location and collector as holotype, 6 February 1992.



1



2

Figure 1. *Calephelis tikal* Austin - holotype male, dorsal surface. Data in text.

Figure 2. *Calephelis tikal* - holotype male, ventral surface.

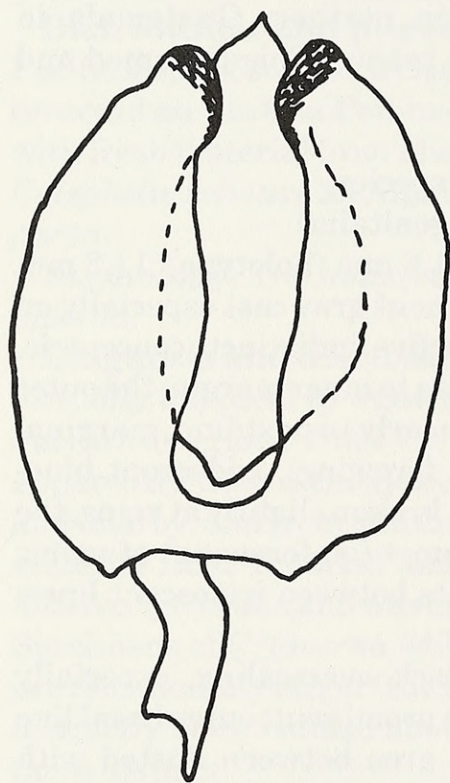


Figure 3. *Calephelis tikal* - holotype male genitalia, ventral view.

Deposition of types. The holotype will be deposited at the Allyn Museum of Entomology, Sarasota, Florida. The paratype will be retained for now by the author.

Type locality. GUATEMALA: Petén; Parque Nacional Tikal, 200 m. The types were taken along the side of the main road, just south of the ruins at Tikal.

Distribution and phenology. This species is known at present only from the two types taken in February.

Etymology. The species is named after its type locality, the ruins of the Mayan city of Tikal.

Diagnosis and discussion. This is the darkest of the known *Calephelis*, so dark that the initial impression is that of a *Charis*. The male genitalia

most closely resemble those of *Calephelis acapulcoensis* McAlpine with the transtilla slightly exceeding the length of the valvae. The valvae of *C. tikal*, however, are broader and less curved. The valvae are similarly broader than those of *Calephelis azteca* McAlpine and *Calephelis guatemala* McAlpine and less curved than those of the latter and *Calephelis yucatana* McAlpine.

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Literature Cited

MCALPINE, W. S. 1971. A revision of the butterfly genus *Calephelis* (Riodinidae). Jour. Res. Lepid. 10:1-125.



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