

DESCRIPTION OF *EUPITHECIA FLETCHERATA*, A
GEOMETRID MOTH FROM OTTAWA,
NEW TO SCIENCE.

By GEO. W. TAYLOR, Wellington, B.C.

This moth is one of many interesting Geometridæ that have been sent to me by Mr. C. H. Young, and I propose to describe it as a new species in the NATURALIST in order that the attention of the Ottawa entomologists may be directed to it, and that the record of Mr. Young's success as a collector of rare species of Geometridæ may stimulate others to activity in this somewhat neglected field. The Ottawa list in this family is growing apace by reason of Mr. Young's industry, and every box he sends me contains some surprise in the shape of species that have not before been taken in the district.

EUPITHECIA FLETCHERATA, n. sp.

This is one of the broad-winged, medium-sized species of *Eupithecia*, in wing shape much like *Eupithecia latipennis* Hulst (which is quite common in Ottawa in the month of June), but is a trifle smaller. Expanse, 21 mm.

Palpi of moderate length, rather bushy, very dark (nearly black), with the extreme tips white. Front dark grey, with a fine black transverse line in front of the base of the antennæ.

Thorax grey, darker in front; a small white posterior tuft. Abdomen dark smoky grey; last segment darker, but in the male with a tuft of snow-white hairs seen only when the last segment is exerted; dorsal tufts black; a black lateral line.

Beneath, the pectus is white; the abdomen pale except the last segment which is dark grey; the legs are pale, except the tibiæ and tarsi of the 1st pair, which are dark with pale rings. Fore wings rather dark grey, with blackish cross lines enlarged on the costal margin.

The basal and intradiscal lines, with at least two intervening lines, are parallel to each other; they leave the costa at a sharp angle, turning at right angles when they reach the cell and running in an almost straight line to the inner margin; they are all farther from the base at the inner margin than at the costa.

The median line, which is double, takes much the same direction, including in its angle the distinct, oval, black, discal spot, and continuing in a wavy line to the inner margin.

The extra discal line appears as a large black blotch on the costa; it then runs in a regular outward curve to vein 3, then parallel to the median line to the inner margin; this line is emphasized by a series of eight black dashes on the veins.

Between the extra-discal and the submarginal lines are three dark lines, showing only as spots on the costa.

The submarginal line is faint, white, showing most plainly in a white dot between veins 3 and 4, and another between 1 and 2. Marginal line faint, black, broken at the veins. Fringe, basal half darker; dusky spots at the ends of the veins.

Hind-wings dark grey; the lines indistinct, but apparently all the lines of the fore wings are continuous, the most evident being the extra-discal and the submarginal; the first-named consists of black dashes on the veins (as on the fore wing) and so appears broader than the other lines.

Discal dot black, distinct. Fringe as on the fore wings. Beneath, fore wings bright grey. Costa with black marks showing the commencements of basal, median and extra-discal lines, and with another dark blotch in advance of the faint white submarginal line.

The extra-discal line and a dark shade beyond it are traceable across the wing to the inner margin, but the other lines can only be followed for a very short distance from the costa.

Marginal line distinct; base of fringe pale, otherwise as above.

Hind wings pale with 3 intra-discal lines marked on the costa and again on the inner margin.

There are also 2 extra-discal lines composed of distinct dots on the veins.

The outermost of these is parallel to the outer margin; the other runs in a straight line from the inner margin, in the direction of the discal dot, to vein 3, then in a regular curve to the costa. These two lines are therefore not parallel, being rather close together on the costa and farthest apart on vein 3. This is a peculiarity that I have not noticed in any other eastern *Eupithecia*.

Three or four dots on the veins indicate another line between the two just mentioned.

Discal dots distinct on all wings.

Described from two specimens collected by Mr. C. H. Young and labelled respectively Ottawa 3. viii. 06 and 10. ix. 06, and named in honor of Dr. James Fletcher, of Ottawa.

One of these specimens is in my cabinet, thanks to the generosity of Mr. Young, the other is retained in his own collection.

ENTOMOLOGICAL BRANCH.

The first winter meeting (1906-07) of the Entomological Branch was held at Dr. Fletcher's house at the Experimental Farm, on the evening of the 7th November; six present.

The Chairman suggested that the same plan of managing the meetings as had been followed in previous seasons should again be adopted this year, viz: asking each member present to speak for a short time, either upon specimens brought for exhibition or upon work done during the past season.

Mr. Arthur Gibson exhibited the cases of Tiger Moths of the genus *Apantesis* in the Experimental Farm collection, drawing attention to the rarer species and giving notes on the life-histories of many which he had reared from the egg. Twenty-six different species and varieties from all parts of Canada were included in this collection.

Mr. Andrew Halkett showed specimens of *Aleyrodes vaporariorum* an insect allied to the plant lice but with the appearance of very minute moths. This insect has been exceptionally abundant and destructive to garden plants during the past season. Dr. Fletcher stated that it had been sent in from many parts of Canada and had been particularly troublesome in gardens where bedding plants which had been propagated in greenhouses were used. Specimens had been received from Edmonton, Port Arthur and many places in Ontario, and also from Montreal.

Mr. J. W. Baldwin showed a box of noctuid moths which were selected from a collection he had made at sugar on two nights at Graham's Bay, Britannia. Among the most interesting were a



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