

AUSTRALIAN HESPERIIDAE. VI.

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW SUBSPECIES.

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During part of 1936 I spent some time at the British Museum of Natural History in consultation with Brigadier W. H. Evans, who has been making a study of the species of this family for the whole world. The following new races are the result of part of my investigations in England. The types are all in the Australian Museum. The next part will contain my notes on the Australian types and their localities.

TRAPEZITES PHIGALIA Hewitson.

Hesperia phigalia Hew., 1868, Descriptions of 100 new species of Hesperidae, p. 32.

Hewitson described this species from his own collection, giving as locality simply "Australia". Kirby's List of the Hewitson Collection mentions two specimens, but I was only able to find one, which was labelled by F. A. Heron, *Hesperilla phigalia* No. 2. This was a female and has been considered the holotype. It does not quite conform to the description, as it has a very small spot in area 1a immediately below the large spot in 2, on the upperside of the forewing, also the underside of the hindwing is not grey, but yellowish-brown. The size given by Hewitson is slightly smaller than for his *T. eliena* and slightly larger than for his *T. petalia*, both described on the same page as *T. phigalia*. This suggests that Hewitson was describing a male. I find it difficult to assign a type locality for the specimen in the British Museum as the underside of this specimen does not agree with any of the long series I have from South Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. As there is evidence that Hewitson did not obtain any of his material from New South Wales or Victoria, and the description does not apply to the South Queensland race, I can only assign the type locality as near Adelaide. There was a Hewitson specimen of *T. petalia* which bore a label *Hesperilla phigalia* No. 1. The holotype of *T. petalia* is labelled No. 2, Kirby listing two specimens of this species in the Hewitson collection, both of which I found.

TRAPEZITES PHIGALIA PHILA, n. subsp.

The chief difference in this race is the decidedly pink tint on the apex of the forewing and the hindwing on the underside. In addition, the broad orange band on the upperside of the hindwing is divided by darker veins, in both sexes. These characters are only found in specimens from South Queensland. The holotype male from Stradbroke Is., caught in September, has the ring spots on the underside of the hindwing more indistinct than three other males from the same locality. There are also one male and two females from Noosa, Qld., also caught in September, but the pink on the underside is not quite so marked as in the Stradbroke specimens. They are, however, not grey as in specimens from southern localities.

MOTASINGHA ATRALBA Tepper.

Hesperilla atralba Tepper, *Trans. Roy. Soc. S. Aust.*, iv, 1880-1, p. 33, Pl. 2, fig. 5.

The holotype is a female in the South Australian Museum from Ardrossan, Yorke's Peninsula, S. Aust., and now consists of two wings only. The male of the typical race has an inconspicuous stigma, very different from the broad stigma in males of the Western Australian races. Brigadier Evans has examined the genitalia, but so far finds nothing to warrant separating the races as distinct species. The race *atralba* has the spots whiter than the other races. It has two broods, but most specimens have been caught in April. I have examined the series of *dactyliota* Meyrick, 1888, in his collection. They consisted of two males and a female from Geraldton, W.A., and a female from Port Lincoln, S. Aust.; the latter belongs to typical *atralba*. Mr. Meyrick has presented one of his males to the Australian Museum, and it is now before me. They are smaller than typical *atralba* and, now I have seen this series, I find that those specimens from further south in Western Australia, to which I applied the name *dactyliota*, are distinct races. The race *nila* Waterhouse, 1932, from Dirk Hartog Is., W.A., in August, is the same size as *dactyliota*, the spots on the forewing above are slightly smaller and the hindwing beneath is yellowish-brown, unlike any of the other races.

MOTASINGHA ATRALBA ANACES, n. subsp.

M. atralba dactyliota, Waterhouse and Lyell, 1914, p. 196, figs. 648, 773; Waterhouse, 1932, "What Butterfly is That?", p. 234, Pl. xxx, fig. 18.

This is the largest race yet known; on the upperside the spots on the forewing in the male are proportionately smaller and there is rarely a spot in 2; the blotches on the hindwing are more extensive and greenish-grey. On the underside the apex of the forewing and the hindwing have a pinkish tint and there are usually two spots in 1a on the forewing; the spots on the hindwing are less defined than in the other Western Australian races. In the female the spots on the upperside are nearly as large as in the typical race.

Described from four males and one female from Hamel (R. Illidge) and five males from Waroona (G. F. Berthoud), all caught from 15th to 30th Oct., 1913. These localities are close together and somewhat south of Perth, W.A.

MOTASINGHA ATRALBA ANAPUS, n. subsp.

This race is the same size as *dactyliota* and *nila*. On the upperside the spots of the forewing are smaller than in *dactyliota* and that in 3 is round, those in 4 and 5 small and placed directly under one another. On the underside the apex of forewing is grey and in 1a there is an additional spot, the hindwing is grey and the spots are much more distinct than those of *anaces*. The holotype is a male from Stirling Ranges, W.A., caught in October with three other males in poor condition. One of these has the spots in 4 and 5 of the forewing much larger than in any male I have seen from Western Australia.

SUNIANA LASCIVIA LASUS, n. subsp.

This is a very small northern race, the forewing in the male being less than 9 mm. and in the female less than 10 mm. The markings above are bright orange and well defined, especially that along the lower margin and end of cell, the band of the hindwing is proportionately broader than in *lascivia* from the south. On the underside of the forewing, the cell is broadly orange, the three subapical spots and the discal band are well marked, as is also the band on the hindwing. This race is easily distinguished from typical *lascivia* from New South Wales and

Victoria by its size and more prominent markings. It approaches nearer to the race *neocles* Mabille, 1891, of which the type is said to come from Cooktown.

Described from two males and one female from Bathurst Is., N.T., in October.

SUNIANA SUNIAS SAUDA, n. subsp.

This race from Port Darwin differs from the other Australian races in being paler yellow both above and below.

TELICOTA EUROTAS Felder.

Pamphila eurotas Felder, Sitz. Akad. Wiss. Math.-Nat. Wien, xl, 1860, 462.

This species differs from the others in the genus in having the uncus undivided. The race in northern New South Wales is *eurychlora* Lower, 1908. Mr. F. H. Taylor has sent me specimens from the Cairns District, so this added material shows that North Queensland specimens form a distinct race. The Australian Museum has specimens from Aru, which have dark orange markings on the upper-side and the markings on the underside usually more defined than in the Australian races.

TELICOTA EUROTAS LACONIA, n. subsp.

In the male, this race differs from *eurychlora* in having the orange markings above darker. On the forewing the three subapical elongate spots are not so definitely connected with the costal streak; the spots in 4 and 5 are smaller and the discal band from 1a to 4 narrower and with straighter edges, especially on the inner side. On the upperside of the hindwing the cell spot is smaller and in all specimens I have seen the broad band extends into 6. Beneath the general colour is more orange and the markings more distinct than in *eurychlora*. The female has the three subapical spots of the forewing quite separate from the cell spot.

The holotype is from Cairns in May; three males and a female from Cairns in September, and two males and a female from the Herbert River in September.



Waterhouse, Gustavus A. 1937. "Australian HesperIIDae. VI. Descriptions of new subspecies." *Proceedings of the Linnean Society of New South Wales* 62, 32–34.

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