A NEW SPECIES OF *MEGANOLA* DYAR FROM EASTERN NORTH AMERICA (LEPIDOPTERA: NOCTUIDAE: NOLINAE)

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Abstract. — A new species of *Meganola*, *spodia*, is described from eastern North America; it had been characterized in 1960 but left without a name.

The new species described at this time was diagnosed as *Meganola* species, and the genitalia of both sexes were illustrated in Franclemont (1960, p. 35, figs. 72, 80). However, it was not given a name in keeping with W. T. M. Forbes’s policy that no new names be introduced in the “Lepidoptera of New York and Neighboring States.”
Meganola spodia Franclemont, New Species

Figs. 1, 2, 5, 6

(spodios—ash colored, from spodos—ashes, et cetera)

Diagnosis.—This moth has been confused with Meganola minuscula (Zeller) (Figs. 3, 4); it may be distinguished from that species by the darker, brown tinted gray color of the fore wing; minuscula has the fore wing lighter gray with a whitish or silvery tint, and the black spot at the middle of the costa is triangular, whereas that in spodia is rectangular. The hind wing is darker with a decided brownish tint in spodia, more or less uniform in color, whereas that of minuscula is paler gray, somewhat infuscate on the veins and somewhat whitish toward the base. The genitalia of both sexes of spodia differ conspicuously from those of minuscula. The male of spodia has the vesica armed with a long, heavily sclerotized, moderately curved cornutus; that of minuscula has a short, moderately scleritized, strongly curved cornutus. The genitalia of the female of spodia have the ductus bursae approximately six times as long as that of minuscula; the bursa of spodia is without an appendix bursae; minuscula has an appendix bursae; spodia has two diffuse signa on the bursa, and minuscula has one heavily sclerotized signum.

Description.—Head, thorax, and fore wings gray with slight brownish tint. Fore wing with elongate, blackish spot at base of costal margin, a second more or less
Fig. 6. Meganola spodia. Female genitalia. Scale 1 mm.
rectangular, at middle of costal margin; antemedial line black, fine, sharply excurved from costa to R; then straight, then angled inward to inner margin, two small teeth projecting inward on Cu and 2nd A (recte 1st A); postmedial line double, both lines black, inner less well defined, less sharp, appearing as blackish smudges on upper part, inward projecting teeth on Cu and 2nd A (= 1st A), outer line sharp, emphasized on veins by black dots, lines parallel, curved outward from costa, then inward to inner margin; subterminal line blackish gray, irregularly toothed, often interrupted in males, usually complete in females; terminal line a series of black dots on veins; fringe vaguely checkered; reniform and orbicular spots not evident. Hind wing even fuscous gray; fringe concolorous; vague discal dot. Beneath both wings uniform gray, paler than above; fore wing darker than hind; conspicuous discal dot on hind wing, some specimens with indication of discal dot on fore wing.

Fore wing length.—Males: 9–11 mm, females: 12–13 mm.
Male genitalia.—Fig. 5, 5a.
Female genitalia.—Fig. 6.
Holotype.—Male. Wrangle Brook Road, Lakehurst, [Ocean County], New Jersey, 26 June 1954; J. G. Franclemont. Franclemont collection.
In addition to the type series the species has been collected at Millwood, Westchester Co., New York, in late June; at Salem, Roanoke Co., Virginia, in early mid-June; at Kill Devil Hills, Dare Co., North Carolina, at the very end of May; and at Highlands, Macon Co., North Carolina, in late June and early July. It has also been seen from Orient, Suffolk Co., Long Island, New York, and from Crailhope, Green Co., Kentucky.

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Literature Cited


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