

NOTES AND NEW SPECIES (LEPID.,
PHALAENIDÆ)

BY WILLIAM BARNES AND F. H. BENJAMIN

*Decatur, Illinois****Rhizagrotis epipsilioides* Barnes and Benjamin, sp. nov.***

Head and thorax cream-gray. Palpi similar, marked with black. Fore wing: Ground color cream-gray, dusted with black; basal line and dash obsolete; t. a. line black, diffuse, broad, indicated by powdery black scales, inwardly oblique from costa, ragged, produced to an inward point on median vein, thence strongly excurved to inner margin; orbicular obsolete; reniform a powdery, black, nearly round, mark; t. p. line black, powdery, produced to points on the veins, excurved from costa to vein 4, thence incurved to inner margin; veins marked by black scales; s. t. line diffuse, marked by blackish scales; its course indeterminate other than approximately parallel to the outer margin; a row of terminal black dots between the veins; fringes luteous at base, followed by a fuscous line, then a whitish line, then another fuscous line, and with pale tips. Hind wing: Pale, whitish, the veins and outer margin suffused with fuscous; fringes luteous at base, a fuscous interline, and white tips. Beneath: General coloration much as above, somewhat paler; with an obsolescent blackish common line, on the hind wing marked on the veins only; a diffuse discal blotch on fore wing, and an obsolescent discal dot on hind wing. Expanse, 41 mm.

The roughened, although not tuberculate frons, allies the insect to certain *Rhizagrotis* species, notably *R. polingi* B. and Benj., to which it seems allied by habitus. The rather rough thorax suggests *Epipsilia*, but the vestiture is composed of bi- and trifurcate narrow scales mixed with some hair. The present species, like *polingi*, is another connecting link between the genera of the "*Euxoa*" and *Lycophotia* groups. European workers would probably place it in *Lycophotia* or "*Agrotis*," but because of the frons we prefer to place it in *Rhizagrotis*. Superficially, the appearance is very similar to smooth-looking "*Agrotis*" *aurulenta* Sm., but it may be distinguished by its black-sided palpi, more roughened frons, and broader-scaled thoracic vestiture.

Locality: Vineyard, Utah.

Types: Holotype ♀, VI-11-18, unique.

Notes: In Barnes collection, Tom Spalding, collector.

* Indicates that the type was submitted to Dr. William Schaus in order to be sure the species had not been described from the neotropics. Thanks are due Dr. Schaus for his numerous kindnesses.

"Agrotis" scaramangoides Barnes and Benjamin,
sp. nov.*

Antennæ of male serrate and fasciculate. Head and collar rufous, brown, luteous and gray, mixed, the collar tipped with purplish. Thorax dull wood-brown. Abdomen similar, paler basally. Fore wing: Ground color pale brownish cream with black and brown powderings; costa narrowly edged with brownish-black, else the costal region of the pale ground color, which is conspicuous only in the filling of the stigmata and edging of the veins which are narrowly marked by black; all transverse maculation obsolete; orbicular narrow, outwardly oblique from radius and obtusely angled in cell, the lower part nearly erect; reniform nearly erect, narrow, only slightly constricted and bent; cell before and between the stigmata black-filled; some black filling distad of the reniform; a black broad streak below cell taking the place of the basal dash and clavi-form; s. t. line indicated only by a slight darkening between the veins and by the terminal portion of the wing being darker than the general ground color; an obsolescent terminal row of dots between the veins; fringe yellowish at base, interlined with fuscous and tipped with pale luteous. Hind wing: Nearly uniform brownish fuscous, with slightly darker veins, and somewhat paler basally; fringe yellowish at base, obscurely interlined, and tipped with pale luteous. Beneath: Fore wing nearly uniformly dull fuscous; hind wing whitish, with darker veins, and a scattered fuscous suffusion which considerably darkens the wing distally; fringes as on upper side. Expanse, 38 mm.

Unallied to any North American insect known to us. In appearance almost exactly like Warren's figure of *scaramangæ*,¹ but differing by the terminal space being nearly as dark as the s. t. dashes, and in that the black and pale lined veins 3 and 4 run to the outer margin, while the other veins have a similar tendency.

We describe in "*Agrotis*" in the Hampsonian sense, pending a decision on the availability of certain Hubnerian genera now being considered by the Internal Commission.

Locality: Bald Mountain, Ward, Colorado.

Types Holotype ♂, August, unique.

Notes: In Barnes collection, E. J. Oslar, collector.

POLIA FALSA Grt.
(partim ♂ nec ♀)

1880, Grote, Can. Ent., XII, 215, *Perigea*.

1893, Smith, Bull. U. S. N. M., XLIV, 153, *Perigea*.

¹ From Turkestan, Mongolia, and Tibet; 1909, Warren, in Seitz, *Macrolepid.*, III, 50, pl. XI, b.

1903, Dyar, Bull. U. S. N. M., LII, 111, No. 1120, *Perigea*.

1906, Hampson, Cat. Lep. Phal. B. M., VI, 388 (♂ nec ♀), *Polia micta* Hamp.

1918, Hampson, Nov. Zool., XXV, 117, *Miselia*.

In 1906 Hampson recognized a mixed type series of *falsa* Grt. and restricted the name to the ♂ type, renaming the species represented by the ♀ type *Bryomima fallax*. In Nov. Zool., 1918, he attempted to change the name *falsa* back to *Bryomima* (type ♀) and renamed the ♂ type *Miselia micta*, on the grounds that the ♂ type did not fit the original description in regard to its hairy eyes.

We scarcely see how this enters the matter. When Hampson first selected one species to hold the name *falsa* out of a mixed type series, he might well have selected the species best fitting the original description. However, he chose the hairy-eyed species to hold the name *falsa*, and we do not see how this fixation can be discarded even by himself.

We might mention that we find nothing in the code which states that a description must be either adequate or accurate, and call attention to the fact that a number of authors have erroneously described hairy-eyed forms as possessing smooth eyes, and vice versa. In fact, the unique type of Grote's "*Mamestra*" *ferrealis* is in *Oligia*.²

We are retaining *falsa* for the hairy-eyed species and *fallax* for the lashed-eyed species.

SEPTIS ONA Sm.

1909, Smith, Jour. N. Y. Ent. Soc., XVII, 58, *Luperina*.

1910, Hampson, Cat. Lep. Phal. B. M., IX, 499, pl. CXLVII, f. 20, *Parastichtis stygia* Dyar.

1915, Dyar, Proc. U. S. N. M., XLVII, 377, *Trachea*.

Professor M. Draudt informed us of the probable synonymy and asked that we investigate. Accordingly, a specimen of *ona*, agreeing with the cotypes and series in the Barnes collection, was submitted to Dr. Schaus to compare with type *stygia* in the United States National Museum. Dr. Schaus states our specimen "is a perfect match of *stygia*."

S. ona Sm., *burgessi* Morr., and *relicina* Morr. are very close allies. The abdomen of each is tufted, so that they seem out

² See 1923, B. and Benj., Can. Ent., LV, pp. 264-265.

of place in *Luperina*. We suggest *Septis* as a better placement, although we might here mention that we see little to separate *Septis* from *Trachea*.

***Luperina enargia* Barnes and Benjamin, sp. nov.**

Head and thorax luteous, strongly tinged with rufous-purple. Fore wing: Ground color luteous, tinged and irrorated with rufous-purple; ordinary lines except the s. t. of rufous-purple, single; basal line obsolescent; t. a. line in the form of three waves from costa to inner margin; median shade broad, outwardly oblique from costa through cell filling in space between the ill-defined, luteous, blotchy stigmata, angled at base of reniform, thence inwardly oblique; t. p. line outwardly oblique on costa, thence parallel to costa, thence outwardly oblique to a sharp point on vein 6, thence inwardly oblique and produced to points on the veins, which are strongly marked by rufous-purple; s. t. line pale, rather as a waved transverse of ground color bordered by a slight powdering of rufous-purple scales than as a real line; terminal line thin, more or less interrupted by the veins; fringe rufous-purple, obscurely mottled and interlined, paler basally. Hind wing: Black, tinged with rufous-purple, only a slight trace of luteous on disc, fringe rufous-purple, paler basally. Beneath, ground color luteous, strongly suffused with rufous-purple, and powdered by black scales, a common black line across wings, discal black dot on hind wing only; veins, especially of hind wing, darkened. Expanse: ♂, 37 mm.; ♀, 34 mm.

Similar to *Luperina venosa* Sm.; somewhat smaller, smoother appearing; the fore wing, with the fuscous scales and markings, replaced by rufous-purple; the hind wing much darker, black tinged with rufous-purple, and nearly lacking yellowish on upper side.

Type locality: Monachee Meadows, Tulare County, California, 8000 feet.

Number and sexes of type: Holotype ♂ and allotype ♀, July 8-14.

PLATYPERIGEA CAMINA Sm.

1894, Smith, Trans. Am. Ent. Soc., XXI, 60, pl. VI, f. 9, *Platyperigea*.

1903, Dyar, Bull. U. S. N. M., LII, 109, No. 1096, *Platyperigea*.

1909, Hampson, Cat. Lep. Phal. B. M., VIII, 417, pl. CXXXIII, f. 4 (type), ignot., *Petilampa*.

The typical form from Colorado is much like Hampson's figure in markings, but the figure is too large and red. We particularly call attention to the dentate but evenly curved t. p. line and the short dash in the cell which takes the place of the orbicular. Besides a short series from several Colorado locali-

ties, the form is apparently represented in the Barnes collection by single specimens from Montana and Wyoming.

***Platyperigea camina* race **alpha** Barnes and
Benjamin, nov.**

A race, or very likely only a maculation form, with markings similar to those of typical *camina*, but with the black dash which takes the place of the orbicular greatly elongated, distally nearly making contact with the reniform and continued mesad to the base of the wing.

Type locality: Deer Creek, Provo Cañon, Utah.

Number and sexes of types: Holotype ♂, 10-IX-18; one ♂ paratype, id., 22-VIII-13.

Notes: Barnes collection, from Tom Spalding.

***Platyperigea camina* race **beta** Barnes and
Benjamin, nov.**

In general similar to typical *camina*, but the t. p. line when visible is much more strongly dentate, its course less evenly curved, a tooth produced inwardly nearly to the reniform and another strong inward tooth in the submedian fold, nearly making contact with a strong outward tooth on the t. a. line. T. a. and t. p. lines distally marked with white. In many specimens it is difficult to see the exact course of the lines, but the present form is usually easily sorted on its decidedly strigate appearance. Such differences of appearance and markings have nearly universally been accepted as of specific value. Possibly *beta* is a valid species. However, we prefer to call it a subspecies (race) until there is further evidence of its relationship to other described forms.

It is represented in the Barnes collection from Jemez Springs, New Mexico, and Clark County, Nevada, as well as from the type localities.

Type localities and number and sexes of types: Holotype ♂, Paradise, Arizona, 24-31 July; allotype ♀, id., 1-7 October; 20 ♂, 30 ♀ paratypes, id., various dates, August, September, and October; 1 ♂, 5 ♀ paratypes, Palmerlee, Arizona, no dates.

Notes: Types in Barnes collection; 2 ♂, 2 ♀ paratypes in U. S. N. M.



Barnes, William and Benjamin, Foster Hendrickson. 1926. "Notes and new species (Lepid., Phalaenidae)." *The Pan-Pacific entomologist* 2, 106–110.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/225365>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/236527>

Holding Institution

Pacific Coast Entomological Society

Sponsored by

IMLS LG-70-15-0138-15

Copyright & Reuse

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

Rights Holder: Pacific Coast Entomological Society

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>

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>.