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NEW GENERA AND SPECIES OF PHALAENIDAE¹

(Lepidoptera)

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The specimens discussed herein were, for the most part, set aside by the author some six years ago in the Barnes collection pending opportunity for comparison with large Neotropical collections.

Two new genera and four new species are described; four genera and two species are listed as heretofore unknown from the United States.

HADENINÆ

Ommatostolidea Benjamin, n. gen.

Type: *Ommatostolidea julitæ*, new species

Tongue weak but functional; palpi short, upturned, the second joint reaching slightly beyond the clypeus and fringed with long hair below, the third short and porrect; frons relatively smooth, slightly granular, lacking projections, except for a slightly raised ventral transverse margin; clypeal plate disconnected, small; eyes large and rounded, with sparse hair seen only with difficulty, the individual hairs moderate in length, a few hair scales of the vestiture droop over the eye from near the base of the antenna presenting a lashed appearance; antenna of female simple, ciliated; collar clothed with broad scales and hair, remainder of thorax clothed mainly with hair and lacking well defined scale crests although the metathoracic hair tends to part into two diffused tufts; tibiæ lacking spines and claws, moderately fringed with hair; tarsi normally spined; abdomen smoothly scaled, devoid of crests and tuftings. Fore wing narrow, elongate, costa and inner margin subparallel except near base, apex acute, the termen oblique, scarcely rounded; veins 3 and 5 from near angle of cell; 6 from upper angle; 9 from 10 anastomosing with 7 and 8 to form the areole, the stalking of 7 and 8 short; 11 from cell. Hind wing with vein 3 from near angle of cell; 4 from angle; 5 obsolescent from somewhat below middle of discocellulars, nearly parallel with 4; 6 and 7 shortly stalked; 8 anastomosing with cell near base only.

¹ Noctuidæ of Authors.

Related to *Ommatostola* Grote, differing by the possession of a weaker tongue; the shorter and more hairy palpi; the frons not protuberant; the nearly parallel costal and inner margins of the fore wing with straighter termen; and the broader scales of the collar. Related to *Eubuchholzia* Barnes and Benjamin, the fore wing similarly shaped but longer; lacking the strongly bulged frons; the tongue weaker; the thoracic vestiture more hairy.

Ommatostolidea julitæ Benjamin, n. sp.

Head, thorax, and fore wing uniformly straw colored, lacking all trace of markings; the fringe of the fore wing pale cream color and the only disconcolorous part of the wing. Hind wing, including fringe, uniformly pale silken cream color. Abdomen concolorous with the hind wing. Beneath, all wings and fringes concolorously pale cream color. Expanse, 42 mm.

Type locality: Douglas, Ariz.

Holotype: Female, unique, dated "July," Cat. No. 44331, U. S. N. M.

CUCULLINÆ

Emariannia Benjamin, n. gen.

Type: *Emariannia cucullidea*, new species

Tongue strong; palpi porrect, short, not exceeding the frons, fringed with hairlike scales below; antennæ simple and ciliated in both sexes, the joints tightly compressed, the cilia very short; eye naked, with weak lashes from in front and behind; frons strongly protuberant with a strong thin protuberant clypeal plate which is connected on each end by a strongly raised oblique ridge to a long central process that possesses a thin but strongly produced terminal ring surrounding a large central excavation; the frontal projections, with the exception of the terminal structure, hidden by a dense vestiture of scales, the length of the total projection of the frons and its armature being approximately one and a half times the width of the eye; thorax clothed mainly with scales, the collar produced to a slight hood, the metathorax with a strong pair of tufts; abdomen without crests or tufts; tibiæ without spines or claws; fore tarsus with the spines more curved, in a clawlike fashion, than the spines of the mid and hind tarsi, but not clawlike in size. Fore wing elongate, the apex rounded, the termen nearly erect between costa and vein 5, thence inwardly obliquely excurved to inner margin; veins 3 and 5 from near angle of cell; 6 from near upper angle; 9 from 10 anastomosing with the short stalk of 7 and 8 to form the areole; 11 from cell. Hind

wing with veins 3 and 4 from lower angle of cell; 5 obsolescent, bent at base somewhat more than normal for a trifold; 6 and 7 shortly stalked from upper angle.

Emariannia cucullidea Benjamin, n. sp.

Fore wing dull luteous mixed with black and some white; basal line and dash obsolete; transverse anterior line obsolescent, fuscous, produced into three long distal points, the medial point, somewhat longer than the other two, includes the claviform area; orbicular faintly outlined by fuscous, flattened, whitish, practically contiguous with the transverse anterior line; reniform faintly outlined by fuscous, irregular, the upper half strongly crescent shaped and filled with luteous, the lower portion recurved, filled with white and produced to a mesial point near the extremity of the cell; no median shade; median area largely appearing as fuscous gray overpowering a luteous ground; transverse posterior line fuscous, geminate, the included space pale, waved, strongly excurved around the cell, obliquely incurved below, outwardly defined by some gray powderings; subterminal line obsolescent, pale, mainly defined by a luteous shade in the distal half of the subterminal area somewhat contrasting with the terminal area which is slightly more powdered with gray; terminal line thin, black, interrupted by thin pale streaks which intersect the gray and black lined and interlined fringe. Hind wings nearly pure silken creamy white in the male; with a thin fuscous terminal line; fringe concolorous with the wing; female with some fuscous powdering distally. Beneath whitish, silken; male with the forewing darkened with fuscous gray, the terminal lines and fringes as on the upper side; female similar but with a very few fuscous scales powdering the costal and distal portions of the hind wing. Expanse, 36 mm.

Type locality: Alpine, Tex.

Number and sexes of types: Holotype male; Allotype female; both 8-14 July, 1926, (O. C. Poling), Cat. No. 44332, U. S. N. M.

APATELINÆ

Speocropia fernæ Benjamin, n. sp.

Head, thorax, and fore wing dull rufous brown mixed with black; basal half line geminate, defined by black, excurved; transverse posterior line geminate, defined by faint black edging, in general outwardly oblique from costa to submedian fold, there obscured, inwardly oblique below vein 1; claviform small, outlined by black; orbicular obsolete, the basal area of the cell marked by a rufous suffusion; an obscure powdery black median shade outwardly oblique from costa, contiguous with the base of the reniform, extending to about vein 3, thence inwardly oblique to inner margin; reniform poorly defined, faintly outlined by black, pale,

with an obscure dusky central crescent; transverse posterior line geminate, defined by black, the included space pale, waved, bent outward below costa, nearly oblique to about vein 4, thence obliquely incurved to inner margin; subterminal line faint, ochreous, partly defined and partly obscured by black powderings; with a heavy black dash across the terminal and subterminal areas between veins 1 and 2; and a shorter dash crossing the terminal area between veins 3 and 4; a terminal line of black dots between the veins; fringe checkered fuscous and luteous. Hind wing fuscous brown; with an obscure thin dark terminal line; fringe pale and sordid. Beneath sordid whitish, the fore wing heavily suffused with fuscous brown and black, with a blackish spot on the costa marking the median shade and blackish powderings occupying the subterminal area; the hind wing irrorated with fuscous which forms an obscure discal mark and a subterminal shade. Expanse 32 mm.

Type locality: Brownsville, Tex.

Holotype: Female, unique, labeled "5-11" (Geo. Dorner), Cat. No. 44333, U. S. N. M.

Both Hampson (1908, Cat. Lep. Phal. B. M., VII, 255) and Draudt, (Seitz, Macrolepid., VII, 218) state that *Speocropia* possesses a raised edge on the conical projection of the frons (similar to *Euxoa*). The author has examined specimens of every species assigned to the genus by both Hampson and Draudt, including the genotype "*Hadena*" *scriptura* Walker, and found the frons cone shaped and tapering but lacking any raised rim. The coreous clypeal plate mentioned by both Hampson and Draudt is well defined.

*Agrotisia*² *evelinae* Benjamin, n. sp.

Head dark, the vestiture mixed dark brown and black with a few pale scales; collar mixed dark brown and black interrupted by a few pale scales on basal two-thirds, distal third disconcolorously paler, sordid violaceous; thorax and tegulae sordid violaceous speckled with a few fuscous scales; abdomen similarly colored, somewhat more luteous. Fore wing washed with violaceous, tinted with luteous brown, and marked with black; basal half line black, geminate; transverse anterior line black, geminate, the inner part not distinct, inwardly oblique from costa through the cell, thence outwardly oblique, excurved in the submedian interspace and again somewhat excurved below vein 1 where a black spot in the shape of a circular triangle is formed; a heavy black blotch on the costa, filling the area between the two aforementioned lines, and extend-

² *Agrotisia* Hampson, *subhyalina* Hampson sole species and designated type; 1908, Cat. Lep. Phal. B. M., VII. 692, f. 184.

ing to slightly below the cell; orbicular absent; claviform practically absent, its position indicated by a luteous cast on the violaceous ground; a median shade starts as an irregular black blotch on the costa, obscures the reniform, proceeds in a generally outwardly oblique direction to vein 2, from thence being incurved and inwardly oblique to the inner margin; transverse posterior line geminate, black, waved, defined by two small black blotches on the costa, excurved around the cell, and somewhat incurved to inner margin; subterminal line irregular, mainly defined by the powdery black filling of the subterminal space, which possesses two small pale points on the costa; a faint terminal dark line accentuated into dots at the extremities of the veins; fringe luteous at base, with pale tip and waved fuscous interline. Hind wings semihyaline white; the costal margin, and to some extent the veins, powdered with fuscous, which forms faint dots on veins 2, 3, 4, and 6 indicating a median line; discal mark only visible because of showing through the wing; a thin irregular fuscous terminal line; fringe luteous at the base, with paler tip. Beneath: Fore wing with pale ground heavily suffused with sordid fuscous brown and powdered with black which marks the median and transverse posterior lines and the filling of the subterminal space in the costal area, terminal line and fringe as on upper side; hind wing semihyaline white, powdered with some fuscous in the costal region, with faint fuscous dashes on veins 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8 indicating a median line, and with a small fuscous spot marking the middle of the discocellular vein; terminal line and fringe as on upper side. Expanse 38 mm.

Type locality: Near Alpine, Tex.

Holotype: Male, unique, labeled 15-30 May 1926, (O. C. Poling); Cat. No. 44334, U. S. N. M.

Apparently agrees with specimens from South America identified by Dr. Schaus as *Agrotisia subhyalina* in so far as the external generic characters are concerned. Hampson³ states that *A. subhyalina* is "without distinct crests." A half dozen examples in the National Museum each have the thoracic vestiture too disturbed to be studied. The type of *evelinæ* shows an indistinct spreading crest on the prothorax.

ACONTIINÆ⁴

PHÆNICOPHANTA MODESTULA Dyar

1924, Dyar, Ins. Inscit. Menstr., XII, 16, *Phænicophanta*.

This species was described from Sierro de Guerrero, Mexico.

³ Hampson, 1908, Cat. Lep. Phal. B. M., VII, 255.

⁴ *Erastriniæ* of authors. See, 1927, Barnes & Benjamin, Bull. Bklyn Ent. Soc., XXI, 182, (1926); 1929, l.c., XXIV, 170.

A single poor female from Brownsville, Texas (Geo. Dorner), dated "7-11," appears to be the same species.

HYPENINÆ

RAPARNA MELANOSPILA Gn.

1852, Guenée, Noct., II, 4, *Euperia*.

The following Florida specimens are in the National Collection. One male, labeled Chokoloskee, and two females, labeled St. Petersburg, Sept. 24-30 and Oct. 24-30, were received with the Barnes material; one female, labeled Altamont, IX-17-1924, (F. R. Cole), from the National Museum unsorted material.

The identification is based on a series from Cuba, Mexico, and Venezuela, a Cuban specimen having been matched by Dr. Schaus with the series in the British Museum. The generic name *Raparna* is used, following a Hampson manuscript classification. The species belongs to Smith's "Pseudodeltoid" series, to the beginning of the "Hypeninae" of Barnes and McDunnough, and to the "Noctuinae" of Hampson's revised version of 1926,⁵ vein 5 of the hind wing being rather weak but tubular, and parallel to vein 4, the male without secondary sexual modification.

Temporarily the name may be added to the North American Lists following *Diallagma latiorella* Wlk.

TATHORHYNCHUS ANGUSTIORATA Grt.

1882, Grote, Bull. U. S. Geol. Surv., VI, 584, *Platysenta*.

The placement of *Reparna melanospila* Gn. following *Diallagma latiorella* Wlk. raises the question of what to do with "*Diallagma*" *angustiorata* Grote.

This species fits well into Hampson's genus *Tathorhynchus*.⁶

⁵ New Gen. and Sp. Noct. Br. Mus.

⁶ *Tathorhynchus* Hamps., type *Scopula vinctalis* Wlk., 1894, Hamps.. Fauna Brit. India, Moths, II, 268, *vinctale* Wlk. sole species and designated type; 1913, Warren, in Seitz, Macrolepid., III, 372, as *Tathorhynchus* (!), type designated *exsiccata* presumably for synonym *vinctalis*.



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