

TWO NEW SPECIES OF PEORIINAE (LEPIDOPTERA: PYRALIDAE) FROM TEXAS

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ABSTRACT—Two new species of peoriine moths (Lepidoptera: Pyralidae), *Homosassa blanchardi* and *Peoria punctata*, are described from Texas, U.S.A. Adult moths, heads, and male genitalia are illustrated.

I have recently had the pleasure of examining a series of 27 specimens of Peoriinae taken by Mr. André Blanchard in Texas. Though small, the collection is in superb condition, and with a good variety of species represented. Included are *Arivaca artella*, a new species of *Homosassa*, and seven species of *Peoria*, one of which is new.

There are two new records of interest. The two specimens of *A. artella* were taken at Canadian (Hemphill Co.) and in Big Bend National Park and constitute a new record for Texas, the species previously being known only from Arizona and New Mexico. *Peoria gemmatella* is represented by three specimens (Jackson and Hemphill Counties), and is a more significant new record as this species was previously known in the West only by three specimens (all types) from Colorado. The range of this species extends eastward through Iowa and Illinois to New Jersey, north to Maine and Ontario.

Homosassa blanchardi Shaffer, new species
fig. 1, 2, 5–9

Diagnosis: The species is very similar to *H. ella*, but differs in details of the uncus and gnathos.

Description: Frons conical, dark brown; labial palpi obliquely ascending (fig. 2), 3rd segment porrect, 2.3 to $2.6\times$ as long as eye diameter, basal segments white, 2nd and 3rd white ventrally (distally mixed with dark brown) and on inner sides, dark brown dorsally and on outer sides; maxillary palpi small, often hidden by labials; male antennae sublaminar and ciliate, scape dark brown anteriorly, white posteriorly, shaft light brown; eye diameter 0.57 to 0.67 mm; ocelli well developed, black; vertex light brown to brown; occiput, patagia, and tegulae dark brown; pro- and mesothorax dark brown dorsally, metathorax golden brown dorsally; abdomen dorsally golden brown on anterior 2 segments, grading to brown posteriorly.

Forewing radius 6 to 7 mm; with prominent white costal band, proximal $\frac{1}{2}$ margined anteriorly with dark brown line, broadest at base; band sharply delimited posteriorly by radius; ground uniformly dark brown elsewhere; 10 veins; R_2 from same point as or short stalked with R_{3+5} ; M_{2+3} fused, from lower outer angle of cell. Hindwing with 7 veins; Sc stalked with Rs for about

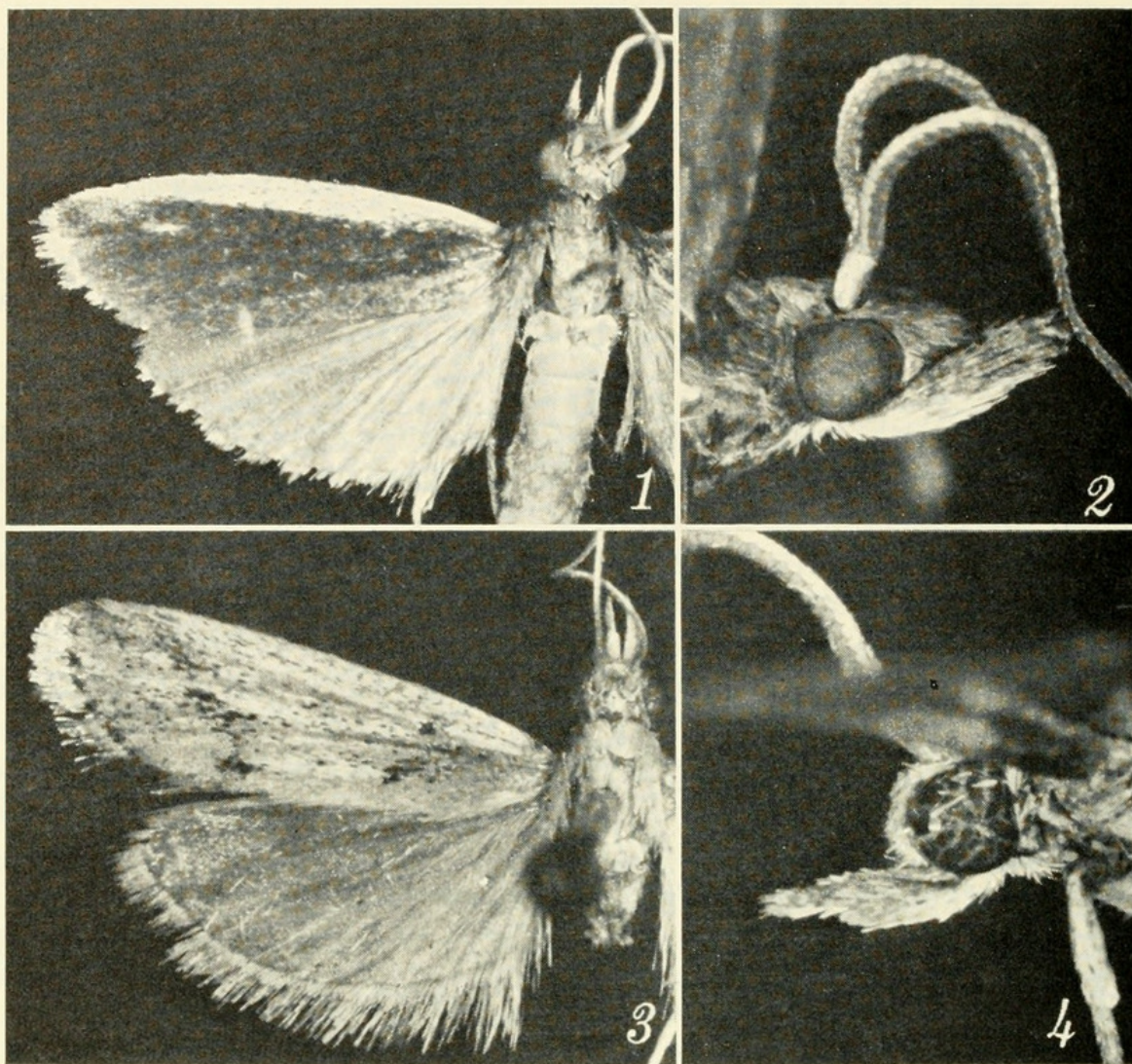


Fig. 1-2. *Homosassa blanchardi*. 1, paratype, dated 31-V-67. 2, head profile of paratype, dated 2-VI-67. Fig. 3-4. *Peoria punctata*, holotype. 3, head, thorax, and left wings. 4, head profile.

$\frac{1}{2}$ its length; M_{2+3} fused, stalked with Cu_1 for about $\frac{1}{2}$ its length, from lower outer angle of cell.

Male genitalia (fig. 5) with uncus bearing well-sclerotized ring, opening anteriorly and bearing ventro-laterally directed spine on anterior end of each arm. Gnathos U-shaped (fig. 6), opening anteriorly, posteriorly bearing pair of heavily-sclerotized triangular plates, each terminating in short sharp spine laterally, and serrate on antero-medial margin. Juxta shield-shaped, V-shaped cut on posterior margin. Vinculum subtruncate. Valvae as described for the genus (Shaffer, 1968). Aedeagus (fig. 7) about $4.2\times$ as long as maximum width; vesica with a single small serrate cornutus (fig. 9), and a small patch of minute triangular cusps (fig. 8).

Female unknown.

Holotype: ♂, No. USNM 73826, labelled: "Houston Harris Co., Texas 5. VI. 67 A. & M. E. Blanchard; ♂ genitalia on slide 971 A. B. 1967."

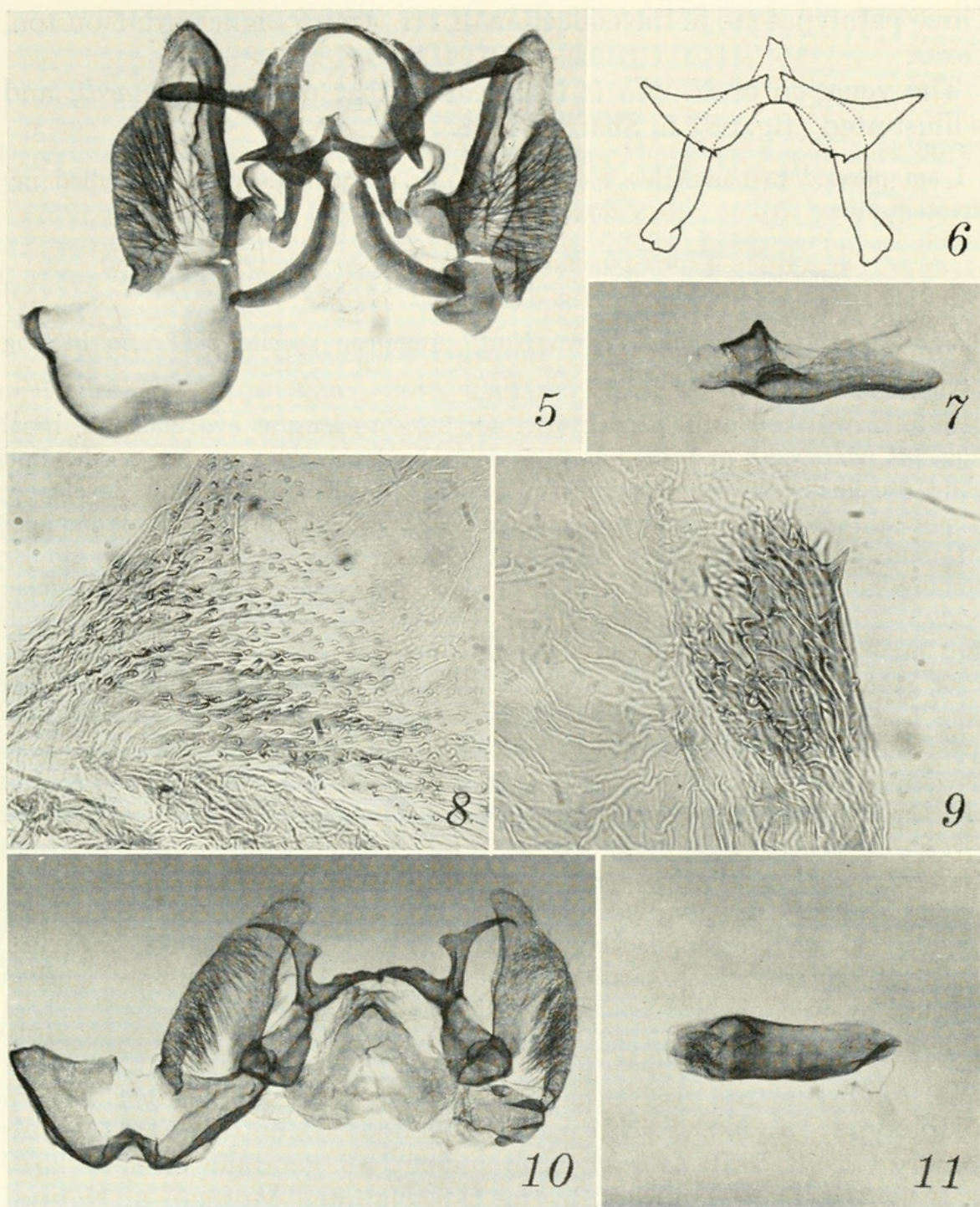


Fig. 5-9. *Homosassa blanchardi*, holotype. 5, male genitalia. 6, gnathos (slightly enlarged). 7, aedeagus, vesica removed (same scale as fig. 5). 8, cusp patch on vesica (greatly enlarged). 9, cornutus (same scale as fig. 8). Fig. 10-11. *Peoria punctata*, holotype. 10, male genitalia. 11, aedeagus (same scale as fig. 10).

Paratypes: 5 ♂, same data as holotype except dates are: 21. VI. 66, 19. VIII. 66, 20. VIII. 66, 31. V. 67, and 2. VI. 67. The specimen of 21 June 1966 is also labelled: "♂ genitalia on slide 1436 A. B. 1969."

The holotype and two paratypes are deposited in the collection of the U.S. National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C.

Three paratypes are in the collection of Mr. André Blanchard, Houston, Texas.

The venation of *H. ella* is identical to that of *H. blanchardi*, and is illustrated (fig. 58) in Shaffer, 1968.

I am pleased to name this species after Mr. Blanchard who first called my attention to it.

Peoria punctata Shaffer, new species

fig. 3, 4, 10, 11

Diagnosis: This is the only known North American species of *Peoria* bearing setaceous tubercles on the juxta.

Description: Labial palpi porrect (fig. 4), $2.2\times$ as long as eye diameter; basal segments white; 2nd and 3rd segments white on inner sides; on outer sides 2nd white proximally, brown distally, 3rd brown. Maxillary palpi well developed, cylindrical, white. Antennae sub laminate in male, light brown. Eye diameter 0.67 mm; ocelli minute, light colored. Occiput reddish brown dorsally, similar laterally but with 4 horizontal bars of dark red scales; patagia and tegulae reddish brown. Forewing radius 7 mm. Ground reddish brown, sprinkled with dark brown scales; broadly and irregularly marked with white on costa, subcosta, radius, cubitus, and mid region of A_2 . Dark brown spot on A_2 at $\frac{1}{3}$ from wing base; dark brown transverse posterior line, especially well developed on upper and lower outer angles of cell, and on A_2 ; terminal line of dark brown spots between veins. 10 veins. R_2 well stalked with R_{3+5} ; M_{2+3} fused, stalked with Cu_1 for about $\frac{1}{3}$ its length, from lower outer angles of cell. Hindwing with 6 veins, Sc stalked with Rs for about $\frac{1}{2}$ its length; M_3 fused with Cu_1 , from lower outer angle of cell; Cu_2 from very near the angle.

Male genitalia (fig. 10) with uncus having posterior margin of medial band irregular. Gnathos broad, lacking medial process. Juxta scoop-like, with pair of lateral tubercles, each bearing about 8 setae. Vinculum deeply notched medially. Valvae rounded apically. Aedeagus (fig. 11) subcylindrical, about $3.7\times$ as long as wide; vesica lacking cornuti, but with minute transverse lamination.

Holotype: ♂, No. USNM 73827, labelled: "Conroe, Texas Montgomery Co. 13. V 70 A. & M. E. Blanchard; ♂ genitalia on slide 2579 A. B. 1970". Type deposited in the U.S. National Museum of Natural History.

Table 1 (Shaffer, 1968, p. 12) compares 12 sets of characters for the known North American species of *Peoria*. For *P. punctata* the symbols o, *, o, o, o, x, x, p, x, l, o, 0 may be added in columns 1 through 12 of that table. The venation is essentially identical to that of *P. roseotinctella* (see Shaffer, 1968, fig. 61).

REFERENCE

- Shaffer, J. C. 1968. A Revision of the Peoriinae and Anerastiinae (Auctorum) of America North of Mexico (Lepidoptera: Pyralidae). Bull. U.S. Natl. Mus. 280:1-124.



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