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THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY, ORGANIZED
TO PROMOTE SCIENTIFIC INTEREST AND KNOWLEDGE RELATED TO UNDERSTANDING
THE LEPIDOPTERA FAUNA OF THE SOUTHERN REGION OF THE UNITED STATES.

CHAIRMAN-EDITOR : DAVE BAGGETT

SECRETARY-TREASURER : TOM NEAL

REPORT ON THE 1980 GEORGIA MEETING

With headquarters in the north Georgia town of Dahlonega, twelve Southern Lepidopterists plus family members and friends met with the objective of doing some collecting in the mountain region. Although at times it looked like the weather would turn uncooperative, those who made the trip were not disappointed with the results. The group met for breakfast at the Smith House in Dahlonega (unfortunately, at the same time some civic group had decided to do the same, causing some delays), then departed for Cooper Creek State Recreation area near Suches. Upon regathering there, we were given an excellent presentation by Hermann Flaschka regarding rearing aspects for Speyeria diana, a prized species among eastern collectors. Hermann carefully pointed out pitfalls and provided numerous tips, based on his own experiences at rearing the genus. Those wishing to rear this or other members of the genus will find it useful to pot some host plant for indoor use, and to break diapause in the first instar by providing continuous light under artificial conditions. Using this method, adults can be obtained around December and losses will be minimized when compared to overwintering the larvae. With the weather giving signs that we might be facing some rain before the day was to end, the group opted for an early scouting foray along the many trails and roads, then returned for lunch, which was provided by Hermann, Irving Finkelstein, Abner Towers, and J.D. Christy. Immediately after lunch, we split into small groups and spent the afternoon afield.

The timing for the meeting coincided well with the anticipated flight period for female Speyeria diana, and many members recorded their first specimens, including the Editor, whose first-ever female was saved for rearing. Patches of flowers abounded along the roadsides and in clearings, and butterflies were out in good numbers, and best of all, the weather decided to clear by mid-afternoon. Irving and Hermann reported excellent success at their rearing attempts, but the ova that I had obtained proved infertile, and you might contact them if interested in learning either techniques involved or for specimens. During the field activities, the group recorded a total of 54 butterfly and skipper species, and 18 species of Catocala moths were found in the woods using tree-tapping methods on trunks of larger trees. We did not find any Erora laeta, but did find a large patch of Beaked Hazelnut (one of the reported host plants) in the vicinity of past captures and sightings. Hemaris diffinis was taken over flowers, and Steve Roman found larvae of Sphinx kalmiae on Ash, although it later proved to be parasitized. Some of the better records were for Polites coras (found abundant at the Chattahoochee Fish Hatchery, not overly common as far south as Georgia), Lethe creola (Mt. Oglethorpe),

23 August 1980
Cooper Creek St. Recreation
Area,
Fannin Co., Georgia

Top row, L-R : John Watts,
Frank Hedges, Rick Gilmore,
J. D. Christy, Tom Neal.
Bottom row, L-R : Baggett,
Steve Roman, Abner Towers
(and grandson), Irving
Finkelstein, Jeff Slotten,
Hermann Flaschka. Not pic-
tured, Jim Maudsley.

(Photo by Roman, via the
Bruce Jenner method '....')



Lethe appalachia, Panoquina ocola, and Parrhasius m-album. The most common butterflies encountered were Papilio glaucus, Speyeria cybele, Poanes zabulon, and Epargyreus clarus. Of the Catocala moths found, C. marmorata (S. Roman, Mt. Oglethorpe) represents a probable new state record, always a good catch; C. nebulosa, C. subnata, C. resecta, C. flebilis, C. vidua, C. dejecta, and C. habilis were among the better ones, and C. paleogama was incredibly abundant. Blacklighting and baiting proved very poor, due in part to poor weather conditions and the moon phase, presumably.

Jim Maudsley brought in several aberrant specimens of Papilio glaucus and Limenitis arthemis astyanax to show around, and also brought in specimens of Citheronia sepulchralis and Catocala nebulosa (New county record, Athens, Clarke County.) Maudsley and his friend Jim Brockway enjoyed exceptional success during the Lepidopterists' Society expedition to Ecuador last summer. The group enjoyed a fine meal at the Smith House on Saturday evening to top off the day. I personally had such a good time that I intend to try it again next year, especially for the underwing moths, Judging from the success of members in this regard, I think the areas visited hold as much promise as the fabled Fontana Dam, N.C. locality. Some of the tuliptrees and hickories at the base of Mt. Oglethorpe must be at least 120 feet or more in height, and the Kudzu vines provided ideal hiding places for the adult Catocala moths. One very pleasant aspect of collecting in that locale in comparison to Florida is the absence of most biting insects - we were not bothered by mosquitoes, knats, flies, chiggers, or ticks, although I am sure that at times there must be something there to bother collectors. There is an abundance of poison ivy....

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You may or may not have noticed this, but this is indeed a larger than normal issue! The reason for this is that I have had a change of venue in the form of accepting a new position with the Geology Department at the University of South Florida in Tampa. The interviews and travel requirements came at just the prime time for putting together Volume 2, Number 3, unfortunately. After notification of being accepted for the position, all I had to do was get moved, find a new place to live, etc., which only added to the delay. Therefore, you are receiving a combined issue.

NEW MEMBERS, CHANGES OF ADDRESS and etc. *****

Alvin F. Ludke, Calle Cerro Maravilla, N8 Lomas de Carolina, Puerto Rico 00630. Notice that Alvin is our first non-continental U.S. member; welcome to the group, and drop a line now and then to let us know what's going on in that corner !

Virgil Warczynski, 1804 Fitzhugh Street, Bay City, Michigan 48706. Hope you'll also get involved with the Midwestern Lepidopterists, and help keep us posted of developments.

Robert W. Cavanaugh, P.O. Box 489, Newport, North Carolina 28570. Bob is currently working on development of a checklist of North Carolina butterflies, and I am sure he would appreciate hearing comments from other members regarding collecting experiences in that state to help fill in gaps in his distribution maps for the species found there. Drop him a line if you have had collecting trips in North Carolina.....

Jeff Slotten, 829 S. Damon Avenue, Apt. 608, Chicago, Illinois 60610. Jeff has begun studies at Dental School, and Florida members will miss his collecting prowess and observations. Florida's loss in this case is definitely Illinois' gain. Jeff is either one of the best or one of the luckiest collectors I have ever met, and I think it is the former. He certainly made many contributions to the Florida checklist.

Dave Baggett, 14406 N. 22nd. Street, Apt. 169, Lutz, Florida 33549. For the record, the new phone numbers are (813) 974 2237 at work between 8-5, and (813) 977 5433 at home. I don't know just what to do with these people who keep moving around all the time ! Just ask Tom Neal....

Linwood C. Dow, Garden Villas Apartments, 38-103, Winter Garden, Florida 32787.

***** RESEARCH NOTICES AND OTHER REQUESTS *****

Gene Spears, Department of Zoology, 223 Batram Hall, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611. Gene is a graduate student doing research on the feeding ecology of adult Sphinx moths in Florida. He would be most appreciative of hearing your personal comments regarding species preference for nectar sources (or other feeding habits) that you have encountered in your own experiences. I am sure that other sources from outside the state might also prove useful.

Gerold Morrison, Contract Entomologist, Division of Wildlife, Florida Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission, 620 S. Meridian Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32301. Gerold is collecting general information on threatened insect species known to occur in Florida, and would appreciate any comments you could provide, whether for butterflies, moths, or other insects.

Molly Monica, 11 Putnam Avenue, Berkeley Heights, New Jersey 07922. Molly is very interested in establishing a New Jersey or Northeastern Lepidopterists' Group, and is interested in hearing comments from others concerning such a formation. One of the goals will be the development of checklists and accumulation of data applicable to species found in the state and/or region. It is encouraging to see others interested in the development of checklists, and willing to shoulder the burdens involved.

It is almost past time to get in your 1980 field summary reports to the appropriate Zone Coordinators for the Lepidopterists' Society. Don't delay any longer !

Charlie Covell reported a fine showing for the 7th. annual meeting of the Kentucky Lepidopterists, with 24 members and 42 bodies on hand, members from seven states. Congratulations! One of these days I'm going to surprise you and you'll get a member from Florida there.... Stan Nicolay attended as the Guest of Honor. Southern Lep. member Leroy Koehn, our current VA.-NC. coordinator, was elected president for the 1981 term. Charlie asked me to include a note that Memoirs #2 of the Lepidopterists' Society has not yet reached the printing stage, and is expected to be delayed until perhaps sometime in February at the earliest.

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The Ohio Lepidopterists completed their second year of existence with flying colors, and Eric Metzler completed the Annotated Checklist and Distribution Maps of the Royal Moths and Giant Silkworm Moths (Lepidoptera : Saturniidae) in Ohio. This is available from the Ohio Biological Survey, Biological Notes No. 14, has B & W plates of all species currently known from Ohio, with notes concerning each. Cost is \$2.50. Denny Currutt was elected the secretary-treasurer for the group. I greatly enjoyed the chance to meet Eric at the Lepidopterists' Society meeting in Gainesville this past summer to talk moths, and was equally impressed with his knowledge.

Howard Weems informed me that the planned expansion for the Florida State Collection of Arthropods has begun and that the addition is expected to be completed September 1981. This first phase includes the addition of some 4500 cabinet drawers, and 4500 more are anticipated from the 1981-1982 budget. This should put the FSCA in great shape for a while, as conditions were becoming cramped and the expansion was badly needed. They are in the process of preparing a NSF grant proposal to provide a large compactor for the bulk alcohol-preserved collections (the largest in the New World) and a smaller compactor for the slide-mounted material storeroom. With the addition of the compactor, the latter can house nearly 2 million slides!

David E. Dussourd, Division of Biological Sciences, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14850. David is a graduate student at Cornell studying behavioral ecology. He intends to research host plant choice, chemical defense, and mate selection for Utethesia ornatrix (and/or U. bella, Arctiidae). He needs information and /or adults for the study, and will provide permits to ship livestock if you can provide ova/females. Utethesia spp. are almost always found in close association with various Crotalaria plants, and are on the wing virtually every month of the year in Florida below the "fall line".

Tampa Bay area members are invited to attend a brief get-together session at the University of South Florida Campus on Saturday, February 28th., 1981, at 1:00 PM. Any other member who is interested may of course also attend. The meeting will be held in room 204, second floor, Science Center. The easiest way to locate the Science Center is to come in from the Fowler Avenue entrance (Fowler connects both I-75 and US 301), and go down Palm Avenue to Oak. Take a left on Oak, and make a right hand turn on Laurel Drive. Park in Parking Lots 24A or 24B on your left. The Science Center is on the right, across the road. Light refreshments will be provided, so please contact me if you plan to come. The idea is to meet others, discuss Leps, and do some local planning for the 1981 season. Bring specimens if you like; I will have a few odds'n' ends on hand to look over. Mark this on your calendar !

EXCHANGE NOTICES

Dana M. Gring, 6126 Harvest Lane, Toledo, Ohio 43623. Dana has a limited supply of hybrid H. cecropia X C. angulifera cocoons, and is interested in exchanging them for cocoons of Callosamia securifera.

Paul F. Pfenninger, Box 506, New Castle, Indiana 47362 is interested in working out an exchange for ova/pupa of Papilio cresphontes and Composia fidelissima.

Vernon Brou, Rt. 1, Box 74, Edgard, Louisiana 70049. Vernon has quantities of many LA. moths - especially Saturniidae and Sphingidae, and is interested in exchange for Sphingidae of the world.

Virgil Warczynski, 1804 Fitzhugh Street, Bay City, Michigan 48706. Virgil has a large collection of Great Lakes Region butterflies and moths, plus foreign exotics, and is interested in disposition of the collection. Interested museum curators, etc. are invited to respond.

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 Editorial Note : Exchange notices will normally be referred to the Lepidopterists' Society Newsletter, and it is against Southern Lepidopterists' policy to advertise specimens, papered or livestock, for sale. Members are urged to contact each other sharing special interest areas and work out mutual exchanges. Since virtually all members are also members of the Lepidopterists' Society, exchange notices represent a duplication of effort, and space in normal issues is limited. Hereafter, the portion of the newsletter reserved for notices will be largely devoted to research-oriented requests, or notices of general interest.

 ON BUTTERFLY GARDENS

Frequently I am asked how to go about preparing gardens which will attract butterflies. I received a note from Mrs. Pat Dooley which contained a reprint notice which appeared in Florida Wildlife, Vol. 33, No. 6, in the March-April 1980 issue, entitled "Butterflies Can Be Helped." The following excerpts are taken from the article and summarized as follows : Let a strip of your yard or the edge areas grow wild, since disturbed land often provides footholds for many plants (often weeds) which serve as larval food plants. Allow wild flowers (also weeds) to flower in your yard, as thistles, nettles, Joe-Pye weed, ragweed, goldenrod, mallows, clover and other plants provide valuable nectar sources. Provide the small flowers of cultivated varieties which attract the adults - simply by observing in your respective area, you'll soon notice which types are favored locally. You can transplant many local varieties of wildflowers as well, such as various milkweeds, blazing star (Liatris spp.), and Bidens. Some shrubs also act well as attractants, including Viburnum, Ligustrum, and Vaccinium. When you have flowering shrubs present, prune them back so as to encourage additional blooms.

Many species are also attracted by sap flow or rotting fruit, and you can encourage this in your yard with fruit trees. Artificial fermented baits will also attract a significant number of species. Deep-throated flowers such as Lantana, Lonicera, Petunias, and morning glories will also provide nectar sources for a surprising number of Sphingids.

Avoid using insecticides, and discourage needless spraying in your community, and preserve roadside ditches and other similar areas which serve as prime habitat for

for many species. You might also try to encourage a variety of mini-habitats within the confines of your yard, since some species prefer wet areas, some prefer shaded areas, and others prefer open areas.

If any of you have other suggestions or comments in this regard, send them in and we'll include them in future issues !

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CURRENT ZONE REPORTS

ZONE I : TEXAS. Coordinators, Mike Rickard & Ed Knudson, 804 Woodstock, Bellaire, Texas, 77401

Mike provided an unreported host plant record for both Euphyes dukesi and E. dion as Carex lurida, and commented that dion also uses other Carex spp. He has also reared Poanes yehl on Arundinaria sp., and was the first to record the species in Texas. He plans to provide information on how to locate tents of the members of the genus Euphyes in a future issue. Ed enjoyed some good moth collecting, in spite of the intense heat wave during much of the summer in Texas. At Engeling Wildlife Management Area, Anderson Co., he recorded 83 species on 12 June, including Haploa clymene (Arctiidae), Acronicta betulae, Haploolophus mollissima, Fagitana littera, Erastria indeterminata, Calpe canadensis, Gabara distema (Noctuidae), Scopula cacuminaria (Geometridae), Colomychus talis, Chrysendenton imitabilis, Argyria auratella, Peoria punctata (Pyralidae), Episimus tyrius (Olethreutidae), and Ecdytolopa punctidiscanum (Tortricidae). On 1 September 10 miles west of Hunt, Kerr Co., he found Sphinx dollii colorada, Sphinx ermitoides (Sphingidae), Euacidalia intercalarus, Ulolonche distincta, Pseudorgyia versuta (Noctuidae), Pyrausta lethalis, Fissicrambus intermedius, Oneida luniferella, Waelderella parvella (Pyralidae), Triclonella determinatella (Cosmopterigidae), and Acrolophus simulatus (Acrolophidae). At the Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge on 13 September, species recorded included Copidryas gloveri (Agaristidae), Ogdoconta sexta, Rhescipha servia, Anomis impasta, A. cataggelus, Fruva fasciatella, Psamma-thodoxa cochiidiodes, Cropia templada, Archanara oblonga, Isogona natatrix, I. texana, I. aeolia (Noctuidae), Samaeopus cantona (Geometridae), Pyrausta demantrialis, P. augustalis, Heluibotys freemani, Polygrammodes sanguinalis, Apilocrocis brumalis (Pyralidae), and 4 species of Ethmia, including E. semiombra, E. delliella, E. bitenella, and E. hodgebella (Ethmiidae).

ZONE II : ALABAMA, LOUISIANA, MISSISSIPPI, AND TENNESSEE. Coordinators, Vernon Brou, Rt. 1, Box 74, Edgard, La. 70049; Bryant Mather, 213 Mt. Salus Dr., Clinton, Miss. 39056; Charles Watson, 1337 Wautauga St., Kingsport, Tenn. 37660; and John Hyatt, 439 Forest Hills Dr., Kingsport, Tenn. 37663.

Vernon reported excellent Sphingid collecting during August, recording 26 species while using light traps near his home in Edgard. He provided an interesting comment by stating that Sphinx franckii seems to appear at light sources at or very near the midnight hour (he got four between 10-16 August !) Other good Sphingids included C. hageni (10 August), Darapsa versicolor (18 August), and S. kalmiae (3 between 8-10 August.) Bryant Mather reported a new state record with Erinyis obscura on 8 September, Vicksburg, Warren Co.

A quick note from Parker and Donna Henry provided some news from Heber Springs, Arkansas during the month of July : among visitors to the yard and garden flowers at their home were Anaea andria, Cyllopsis gemma, Parrhasius m-album, Fixenia ontario, Harkenclenus titus, Callophrys gryneus, and Lycaena phlaeas americana. Moths arriving at a blacklight in the back yard included Citheronia regalis, 11 species

of Sphingids, including Dolba hyloeus, Eumorpha achemon, S. abbotti, and Manduca rustica; 25 Species of Catocala, and several of the common Saturniids.

Charlie Watson, after returning from the Ecuador expedition, where he took two Morphos in one net swing, spent five weeks at the Tech Aqua Biological Station at Center Hill Lake, DeKalb Co., Tennessee, some 225 miles west of his home in Kingsport. Here he found Papilio cresphontes common, as was Amblyscirtes belli. During July he found Anaea andria, Calycopis cecrops, and Callophrys gryneus, and in early August he found Colias cesonia, Eurema lisa, E. nicippe, and Phoebis sennae, all except C. gryneus either very rare or absent from eastern Tennessee where he lives. His best collecting was over flowers of Dogbane (Apocyanum sp.) and Climbing Hempweed (Mikania scandens). Jeff Slotten, en route home to Illinois from the Georgia meeting in August, collected for Catocala in the dense woods near Chattanooga, and found C. robinsoni, C. angusi, C. vidua, and C. resecta. Staying with a friend near Nashville, he collected C. subnata and C. nebulosa off tree trunks in the back yard. Wherever Jeff goes, he seems to do well

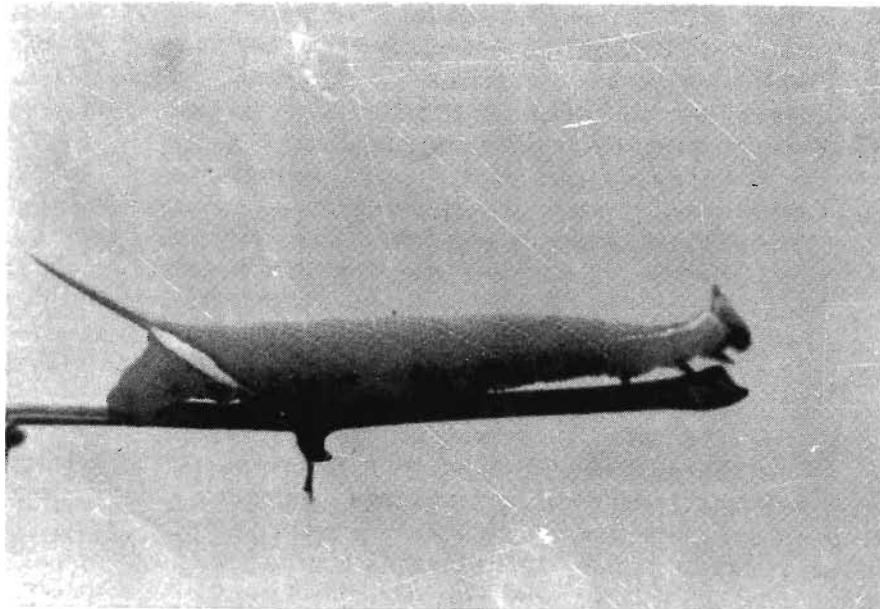
ZONE III : GEORGIA . Coordinators, Abner Towers, P. O. Box 127, Powder Springs, Ga. 30073, and Irving Finkelstein, 425 Springdale Dr. NE, Atlanta, Ga. 30305.

Both Abner and Irving enjoyed the trip to Ecuador as well, and at last word were finishing up the spreading and labelling of specimens encountered. Now all that remains is trying to get them identified ! John Watts took a fine specimen of Euphyes bimacula in the ditch along I-75 near the rest stop just north of the Inaha cutoff in Turner County, a southern extension, new county record, and one of few Georgia records. Here's another guy who seems to be in the right spot at the right time too often too be coincidental! Besides being an avid entomologist, John's a very capable botanist as well. He proved very instrumental in locating the Beaked Hazelnut for us in the mountain region at the meeting. One of the larger stands of the plant, Corylus rostrata, was found along the edge of a small bog across from the creek which paralleled the dirt road leading to the Chatahoochee Fish Hatchery in Fannin County, suggesting a new spot to seek the elusive Erora laeta. Just what the species utilizes in Georgia or in much of its range still is a matter of conjecture, however. On Nov. 8th. and 11th., Irving and Hermann visited Red Top Mountain State Park in Bartow Co., and found Hemileuca maia adults on the wing. Together they collected about two dozen, largely fresh males, and observed perhaps a hundred more.

ZONE IV : FLORIDA . Coordinators, Lee Adair, 810 Gascon Place, Temple Terrace, FL 33617, and Steve Roman, 117 Masters Blvd., Winter Park, FL 32792.

We are sorry to lose Jeff Slotten as one of our regional coordinators, but wish him well in his studies, and hope he finds time to get out some in Illinois this spring and provide some outside comments. Summer collecting in north Florida proved to be some of the poorest in recent years, mainly due to extremely dry conditions. During July, Cercyonis pegala abbotti was common at fermented bait on the University of North Florida campus, as was Lethe portlandia floralae. On October 17th, John Watts added Everes comyntas to the UNF campus list, the 90th. butterfly species recorded for the 1000-acre preserve. John also provided a new host plant record for Colias cesonia as Petalostemum pinnatum, with the note that this probably serves as the major host plant in Florida. Hesperia attalus, Hesperia meskei, and Euphyes dion alabamiae populations seemed down drastically from the past seasons. No Poanes yehl or Euphyes dukesi were seen during the 1980 season on the UNF campus, in spite of frequent checks by Baggett and Watts ; the swamp was completely dry for the duration of the summer. On September 27th, Roman and Baggett found Euphyes berryi common but slightly worn at Pontederia and Bidens blossoms along HWY 92 4 miles east of Deland in Volusia County, along with several Poanes aaroni howardi. Baggett, Zeiger, and Stevens visited St. Johns Park

near Shell Bluff Landing on 26 October, and found Euphyes palatka, Asbolis capucinus, and Anartia jatrophae guantanamo among the better butterflies. A. j. guantanamo has been absent from this locality for several seasons, and appears to be moving northward again. Larvae of Calpododes ethlius were abundant on Canna flaccida plants in the Jacksonville area this fall. Lee Adair found three larvae of Erinnyis obscura in Tampa on Morrenia odorata during October, and got adults emerging on November 8th. Brian Tribunella took a single Kricogonia lysides at the foot of Card Sound Road on North Key Largo, a late date for this species, which is normally on the wing in greatest numbers between late June and early August, being well-established from Broward Co. south into the Keys, along the coast. It is often present when vast clouds of Ascia monuste are swarming and is overlooked due to similarity. Lee Adair took a fine specimen of Phyrxus caicus (Sphingidae) at MV light while visiting Collier-Seminole State Park in late November, a probable new county record. Checking lights of various convenience stores produced P. strigilis (Goulds), E. ello, Madoryx pseudothyreus, and another P. caicus (the latter stepped on, all on Key Largo), plus collecting over flowers of Asystasia gangetica at dusk yielded E. alope, Xylophanes pluto, and a sight record for Eumorpha labruscae. Larvae of Erinnyis spp. were found on Carica papaya and Solanum erianthum on Plantation Key, along with many ova; one larva of Pachylia ficus was found on Key Largo on Ficus aurea. Terry Dickel and Lee teamed up to reveal host plants via observation of oviposition behavior for Epargyreus zestos on Galactia spicaformis and for Danaus eresimus tethys on Sarcostemma clausa. These probably represent the first U.S. host plant confirmations for either species. George Avery, noted south Florida botanist, aided with plant identifications. Adair, Baggett, and Dickel plan to do some UV and MV light trapping in SW Florida during early spring, and should turn up some interesting records in the process. Lee provided excellent photos of larvae, pupae, and freshly emerged adult of his reared Protambulyx strigilis, and below is a shot of the larvae reared ex-ovum on Brazilian Peppertree, Schinus terebinthefolia. Notice the tapering body, oversized anal horn, and the oddly pointed head capsule. The ground color is pale green, covered with numerous yellow spots, with a very pronounced white patch extending to the base of the horn:



ZONE V : VIRGINIA, NORTH CAROLINA, AND SOUTH CAROLINA . Coordinators, Leroy Koehn, Rt. 3, Box 270H, Staunton, Va. 24401; John Coffman, Rt. 1, Box 331, Timberville, Va. 22853; Ron Gattelle, 126 Wells Rd., Goose Creek, S.C. 29445.

Newcomer Bob Cavanaugh provided some interesting butterfly records : one of the most notable was the capture of a female Hypolimnus missippus taken on November 9, 1975, taken while nectaring on dandelion blossoms in a traffic island along Rt. 17 in New Bern, Craven County, N.C. This was certainly one of those once-in-a-lifetime events ! He found Lethe appalachia on August 25th. in William B. Umstead State Park in Wake County, probably a new county record; also he found Callophrys hesseli at the NW end of Pages Lake in Aberdeen, Moore County on August 2nd. He and his wife found a colony of Papilio crespontes in a wooded area near the town of Frisco on Cape Hatteras, Dare County. He plans to search for Callophrys gryneus swadneri in Red Cedars along the SE North Carolina coastline next spring. Leroy made several trips to the Dismal Swamp during August and recorded the following choice butterflies : Problema bulenta (8/2), Euphyes dukesi (8/2 & 8/9), Poanes aaroni (8/9 & 8/23), Lethe creola (all month), Amblyscirtes carolina (8/9), and A. aesculapias (8/2 & 8/9). On June 1st., he visited Lantz Mt. in Highland Co. and took a male Erora laeta, A. hegon, and Hesperia sassacus. On June 21st. he went to Middle Mt., also Highland Co., and recorded Speyeria atlantis, Colias interior, Polygonia faunus, Euphyes bimacula, Boloria selene myrina, and Cercyonis pegala alope form carolina. During the July 4th. period, he found Speyeria diana, S. idalia, E. laeta, Calephelus borealis, and Polygonia progne at several localities he visited in Montgomery Co. On July 9th. in Fox Fire Pass, Giles Co, he located a large colony of C. borealis. On August 30th., along Chesapeake Bay in Northhampton Co., he found Panoquina panoquin, P. aaroni, and Hesperia leonardis. He enjoyed outstanding results in terms of sampling both butterfly and moth populations via bait traps in spots near his home and on field excursions - with over 40 species of Catocala, including C. relictata, C. clintoni, C. innubens, C. sappho, C. robinsoni, C. judith, C. connubialis, and C. coccinata, and also reported taking two Xylophanes pluto in the traps, very far north of the normal range for these. He found that many hairstreaks would come to the traps if baited with freshly cut apples, and placed in proximity to beds of milkweed, and recorded S.c.falacer, S. liparops, and S. edwardsi in this manner.

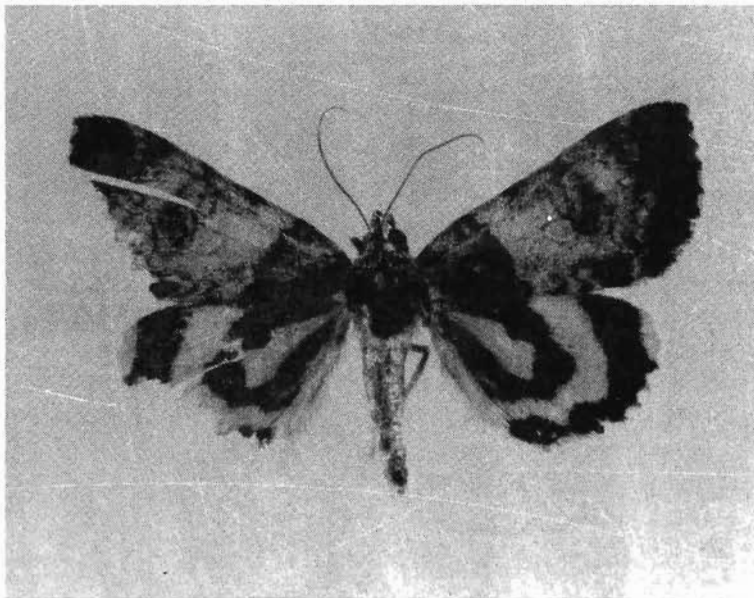


Photo from John Coffman depicting the Catocala dulciola found at rest on a brick near his front door on July 5, 1980. This is one of the rarer species of the genus, and nothing is currently known of the life history. A personal guess is that it utilizes a member of the plant genera Crataegus or Prunus. Note the bird damage to the left wings . WS : 33 mm.



The field note format simplifies and standardizes the record-keeping end of things. You can develop almost anything to suit your own needs and interests, but the one provided lists the most important general field comments. NESW is an abbreviation for NorthEastSouthWest, and all you need to do is circle the appropriate general direction. The parentheses behind the species' name blocks offers a spot to enter status notes ; you can develop your own terminology or use the following as a guide : enter "A" for abundant, "C" for common, "I" for infrequent, "F" for few, etc. In some cases it is easier to simply write in numbers or estimates of those seen. Your local print shop can run you off a number of copies at reasonable prices from a typed original, and you can punch them to retain in a loose-leaf notebook. Another means is to do the same on 5 X 8 plain index cards and keep them in a card file. Any method which helps simplify your own record-keeping will prove beneficial in the long run, and you'll have a quick reference to check when someone asks for information. Many collectors maintain additional checksheets employing miniature state maps or county-by-county listings marked for those in which a particular species has been collected or seen. Give some serious thought to maintaining a field notebook of some sort, if you do not at the present.

DUES REMINDER

Unfortunately, the dues reminder comes right at Christmas time when we all are waiting for the next pay checks to arrive to pay off the bills. This time, you'll find an enclosed sheet to submit along with your dues, which remarkably will remain at \$ 3.00 annually for four issues plus the membership list. We deliberately chose a no-frills printing format to reduce the cost for members in the first place, and felt that the information provided was the important thing, not the way in which it was packaged. With bulk printing rates, we have been able to stay ahead of inflation with the increase in membership. It was originally a break-even proposition for some fifty members, but we now have over a hundred, and have the newsletter printed in lots of 200 to allow for back issues and new members. Dues are of course retroactive in the calendar year a member joins, entitling you to all issues from the respective volume produced during that year. Dues should be mailed directly to the Secretary-Treasurer in the form of check or money order : DO NOT SEND CASH IN THE MAIL. Tom Neal will again serve the group in the same capacity in 1981. His address is 3820 NW 16th. Place, Gainesville, Florida 32605.

THE JOHN ABBOT AWARD

Along with the dues reminder, you will notice that there is a spot for casting your ballot for your preference as the first recipient of the John Abbot Award. This award was developed to recognize the efforts of any member so nominated as being a major contributor to knowledge of Lepidoptera faunal information in the United States, with particular emphasis on the south, but not necessarily restricted to the region. John Abbot was an early naturalist, whose paintings and recorded observations provided a number of descriptions of southeastern species. He spent a significant portion of his life in Bulloch County, Georgia during the early nineteenth century, where he made many of his observations. With this award, it is hoped that we can stimulate many other naturalists, who emphacize Lepidoptera.

The results of the balloting will be announced in the March issue, and will be presented (or mailed in absentia) to the selected party at the 1981 meeting, the site for which remains to be determined.

With that note in mind, I'll finish up the issue with a wish to all for a Merry Christmas and a Happy and productive New Year. Hope we'll manage to get together in the field during 1981, and that collectively we can work towards a common goal of increasing the knowledge of our southern Lepidoptera !

The SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' NEWS
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