NEW RECORDS OF NOCTUID MOTHS FROM FLORIDA
(LEPIDOPTERA: NOCTUIDAE)

TERHUNE S. DICKEL

Box 385, Homestead, FL 33090, USA

ABSTRACT.—New Florida records are reported for 30 species of Neotropical Noctuidae, with most of the new records also new for the continental United States fauna.


This paper reports 30 species of Noctuidae collected in Florida, primarily extreme southern Florida, of which 26 represent new records for the continental United States. Most of these Neotropical species have not been illustrated previously and were not included in the North American MONA checklist (Hodges et al., 1983). Some of these species are now established in south Florida, particularly the Florida Keys and the Homestead, Dade Co., area. One species, Metalectra geminicincta, described from Cuba and Mexico, is unusual in being established in central and north Florida but as yet not recorded from south Florida.

All dates for collections of species are those of the author except where stated otherwise.

1. BLEPTINA ARAEALIS (Hampson)

Nodaria araealis Hampson, 1901. Bahamas.


2. PHYSULA ALBIPUNCTILLA Schaus


3. AGLAONICE HIRTI PALPIS (Walker)


4. MACRISTIS GEMINIPUNCTALIS Schaus


5. HYPENA SUBIDALIS Guèneé

Hypena subidalis Guèneé, 1854. Cuba.


6. METALECTRA GEMINICINCTA Schaus


This species is listed by Kimball (1965) under McD 3652.1, with the male specimen referred to being taken at Camp Rucker, Ozark, Alabama, 2 Apr 1943 (J. G. Franclemont, coll.). This species is not uncommon in north and central Florida, but as yet no specimens have been taken in south Florida. Final determination was made by D. C. Ferguson by comparison with the Schaus type in the USNM. The male genitalia are atypical of North American species of Metalectra, since the valvae are strongly asymmetrical in M. gemicincta. Franclemont suggests that this species may ultimately be placed in another genus.

7. GONODONTA BIDENS Geyer

Gonodonta bidens Geyer, 1832. Cuba.


8. ANOMIS LURIDULA Guèneé

Anomis luridula Guèneé, 1852. “North America.”


This species is not in Kimball (1965) but the MONA checklist lists it as 8549. According to Franclemont (pers. comm.), there
exist two specimens taken by Mrs. Forsyth in Florida City, Dade Co., and identified as *A. luridula* by A. G. Richards, Jr.

9. **Lipotrophosopas Hailiensis Hampson**

* Lipotrophosopas hailiensis Hampson, 1926. Haiti.

10. **Eulepidotis Metamorpha Dyar**


11. **Eulepidotis Striacpuncta (H.-S.)**

* Palindia striacpuncta Herrich-Schäffer, 1868. Cuba.

12. **Epidromia Pannosa Guenee**

* Epidromia pannosa Guenee, 1852. Brazil.
  A very common species in Monroe Co. on No Name Key and at Bahia Honda St. Rec. Area. Records date back to 2 Apr 1983. Det. M. S. Adams.

13. **Epidromia Pyraliformis (Walker)**

* Thermesia pyraliformis Walker, 1858. Dominican Republic.

14. **Elousa Albicans Walker**

* Elousa albicans Walker, 1858. Dominican Republic.
  Monroe Co.: No Name Key, 1 Apr 1984 (1♀). Det. M. S. Adams.

15. **Achaea Ablunaris (Guenee)**

* Ophismia ablunaris Guenee, 1852. Colombia.

  Prof. Franclemont (in litt.) informs me that the species name, Achaea abulnaris, was originally listed as McD 3417 in the McDunnough (1938) checklist, but the southern Texas specimens that this listing was based on were misidentified and are in fact another species, *Miniphimais delamaris* (Guenee). *Miniphimais delamaris* is listed in the MONA checklist as 8723, but *Achaea abulnaris* is not listed. As Prof. Franclemont points out (in litt.), the genus *Miniphimais* has unspined mid- and hind tibiae, whereas in *Achaea* the mid- and hind tibiae are spined. My specimen has spines on the mid- and hind tibiae and is the true *A. ablunaris*.

16. **Mocis Cubana Hampson**

* Mocis cubana Hampson, 1913. Cuba.

17. **Plichodis Immunis (Guenee)**

* Phurus immunis Guenee, 1852. Guadeloupe, St. Thomas, Martinique.

18. **Paectes Lunoedes (Guenee)**

* Ingura lunoedes Guenee, 1852. French Guiana, Brazil, Honduras.

  Kimball (1965) listed *P. lunoedes* as McD 3231.1 and stated that "lunoedes was reported by Grossbeck (1917, p. 65) but since the larva was on *Bursera simaruba* (gummiifera), the record presumably belongs to *P. burserae*, whither it has been transferred." Both Prof. Franclemont and I have examined the male genitalia of *P. lunoedes* and *P. burserae* and found them to be similar yet distinct, as also listed by Poole (1989). Hence, *P. lunoedes* should be considered a member of the Floridian fauna.

19. **Neotuerta Hemicyla (Hampson)**

* Tuenta hemicyla Hampson, 1904. Bahamas.
  Monroe Co.: Windley Key, 5 Jun 1982 (1♀). Det. M. S. Adams. There is a previous record of this species reported from North America: one specimen collected by H. V. Weems, Jr., in Monroe Co., in 1966, as noted by Todd (1966). Also from Monroe Co.: Tavernier, Key Largo, 17 Jun 1974 (1♀), J. B. Heppner, coll.

20. **Euscirrhopterus Poeyi Grote**

* Euscirrhopterus poeyi Grote, 1866. Cuba.

21. **Dypterygia Punctirena (Walker)**

  Monroe Co.: N. Key Largo, 15 Mar 1985 (1♀); No Name Key, 13 Mar 1986 (1♀). Det. J. G. Franclemont.

  Hampson (1908) placed this species in *Perigea*, and Poole (1989) placed it under *Perigea* of authors. Franclemont (in litt.) believes that it should by placed under *Dypterygia*, and that is where it is also placed in the USNM collection.

22. **Callopistria Jamaicensis (Möschler)**

  Monroe Co.: No Name Key, 1 Mar 1987 (1♀). Det. D. C. Ferguson.

23. **Spodoptera Androgea (Stoll)**

* Phalaena Noctua androgea Stoll, 1782. Surinam.
22. *Callopistria jamaicensis* (Möschler) ♂, No Name Key, Monroe Co., 1 Mar 1987 (size = 24mm).
28. LEUCANIA INCONSPICUA H.-S. Fig. 28

Distinct species. S. Adams confirmed my determination.

24. ELAPHRIA DELTOIDES (Möschler) Fig. 24

Erastra deltoïdes Möschler, 1880. Surinam and Jamaica.


25. CONDICA PUNCTIFERA (Walker) Fig. 25


This species is superficially very similar to Condica vecors (Guenée) but the male genitalia are very distinct. This species is not listed in the MONA checklist; however, Kimball (1965) mentions the species (McD 2619.1) on page 98 as follows: "Recorded from Florida: Dyar (1902, p. 111), but Hampson (1908, p. 341) said, 'The locality U.S.A. is a mistake.' However, as he does record it from the Bahamas, it should be looked for." Now we have confirmed records of C. punctifera in Florida. I suspect that Kimball's records for C. vecors from the Homestead area are really C. punctifera. The more well-known genus Platysenta has recently been synonymized with Condica by Poole (1989).

26. PSEUDALETIA SEQUAX Franclemont Fig. 26

Pseudaletia sequax Franclemont, 1951. Mexico.

Not uncommon in Dade, Monroe, and Collier Counties. Not mentioned by Kimball (1965). In the MONA checklist it is listed as 10438.1 for a single specimen recorded from Gainesville, Florida. The species is superficially very similar to Pseudaletia unipuncta (Haworth), but the male and female genitalia are distinctive.

27. LEUCANIA DORSALIS Walker Fig. 27

Leucania dorsalis Walker, 1856. Dominican Republic.

A very common species in Dade and Monroe Counties, with my records dating back to 1984. My determinations were confirmed by M. S. Adams and J. G. Franclemont.

This species has been long overlooked due to its close superficial resemblance to Leucania infatuans Franclemont. However, both male and female genitalia are very distinctive. Poole (1989) has listed L. dorsalis as a synonym of Leucania humidicola Guenée, but following study of photographs of the adult and the genitalia of the holotype of L. dorsalis, sent by the British Museum (Natural History), London, England (BMNH), both Franclemont and Adams are in agreement that L. dorsalis is a distinct species.

28. LEUCANIA INCONSPICUCA H.-S. Fig. 28

Leucania inconspicua Herrich-Schäffer, 1868. Cuba.


29. LEUCANIA OPALISANS (Draudt) Fig. 29

Opalis ans Draudt, 1924. Colombia.


M. S. Adams has determined this species based on the original description plus figures in Seitz (1906-54), and informed me that he was unable to locate Draudt’s holotype and that the type has probably been destroyed.

30. LEUCANIA SENESCENS Möschler Fig. 30

Leucania senescens Möschler, 1890. Puerto Rico.

Common in Dade, Monroe, and Collier Counties, and has recently been collected in Highlands Co. Kimball (1965) listed the species as McD 1991.2. Determinations were made by M. S. Adams and J. G. Franclemont.

Franclemont has seen the holotype and agrees that my specimens are surely L. senescens, and that L. senescens is not a synonym of L. latiuscula Herrich-Schäffer as stated by Poole (1989).

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