A NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS APHANIA (OLETHREUTIDÆ)¹

by T. N. Freeman²

Some officers of the Forest Biology Division, Science Service, occasionally submitted specimens of an undescribed species of the genus Aphania Hbn. for identification. Examination of the miscellaneous material of this genus in the Canadian National Collection resulted in finding two conspecific specimens that had been sent to Mr. Carl Heinrich by Dr. J. H. McDunnough in 1924, just after the publication of Heinrich's revision of the North American species of the Olethreutidæ. Dr. McDunnough suspected that the specimens might be of the newly described species A. infida Heinr. The specimens were returned with a note by Mr. Heinrich: "not infida, possibly a variety of deceptana Kft." An examination of additional material has established that the specimens represent an undescribed species closely allied to infida.

Aphania salicaceana n. sp.

Palpus whitish, the apex with fuscous, white-tipped scales outwardly. Front white, overhung by long, fuscous scales. Vertex fuscous. Cervix and thorax light fuscous, with white-tipped scales, the thorax with a median, arcuate, transverse band of black or fuscous scales. Forewing grey with white-tipped scales. Basal patch fuscous, extending one-third the length of the wing, mainly occupying the area anterior to the radial stem, the apex extending halfway to the dorsal margin in an irregular, narrow, black-edged band. A black dash running through the basal patch along the anterior margin of the radial stem. Median band greyish-fuscous, distinctly outlined inwardly with a narrow black margin, gradually diffusing outwardly into the ground color of the wing; band extending from the costa to the middle of the wing, where it constricts to a fine, black line that forks into two black lines extending indistinctly to the posterior margin. Beyond the median band, the wing grey with a small, darker-coloured spot near the middle of the outer margin, and a similar one just before the tornus. Hind wing dirty white basally, gradually becoming fuscous toward the apical margin. Fringes white with a dark, fine, basal line. Expanse: 18-20 mm. Moth in late July and early August.

Male Genitalia.—Similar to those of *infida*, but with outer angle of the sacculus arcuate, and the clasper with a longer-spined projection and a broader apex (Fig. 1). Fig. 2 shows the clasper of *infida* for comparison.

HOLOTYPE: Male, Red Deer, Alta., July 24, 1923. No. 6262 in the Canadian National Collection, Ottawa.

PARATYPES: One male, Pibroch, Alta., July 17, 1951 (trembling aspen); one male, Maloneck, Sask., June 23, 1952 (willow); one male, Hudson Bay Junction, Sask., July 3, 1951 (willow); one female, Ottawa, Ont., August 5, 1905 (C. H. Young). All paratypes No. 6262 in the Canadian

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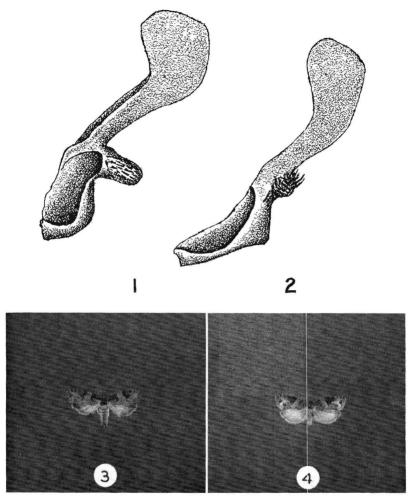


Fig. 1. Male genitalia of A. salicaceana n. sp. Fig. 2. Male genitalia of A. infida Heinr. Fig 3. Paratype of A. salicaceana n. sp. Fig. 4. Paratype of A. infida Heinr.

National Collection. The male paratypes were reared by officers of the Forest Insect Survey, Forest Biology Division.

Distribution.—Ottawa, Ont.; Maloneck and Hudson Bay Junction, Sask.; Red Deer and Pibroch, Alta.

Food Plants.—Willow and aspen.