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A NEW GENUS AND SPECIES OF OECOPHORIDAE FROM
TROPICAL AMERICA

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The species described below is so striking, and such an unusual oecophorid, that its presence in the Neotropical fauna should be recorded. It is nearly related to the genus *Filinota* Busck and adds another link in the growing classification of the South American fauna.

The drawings for this paper were made by Mrs. Elsie H. Froeschner, staff artist, and the photograph was produced by Victor Krantz, both of the Smithsonian Institution.

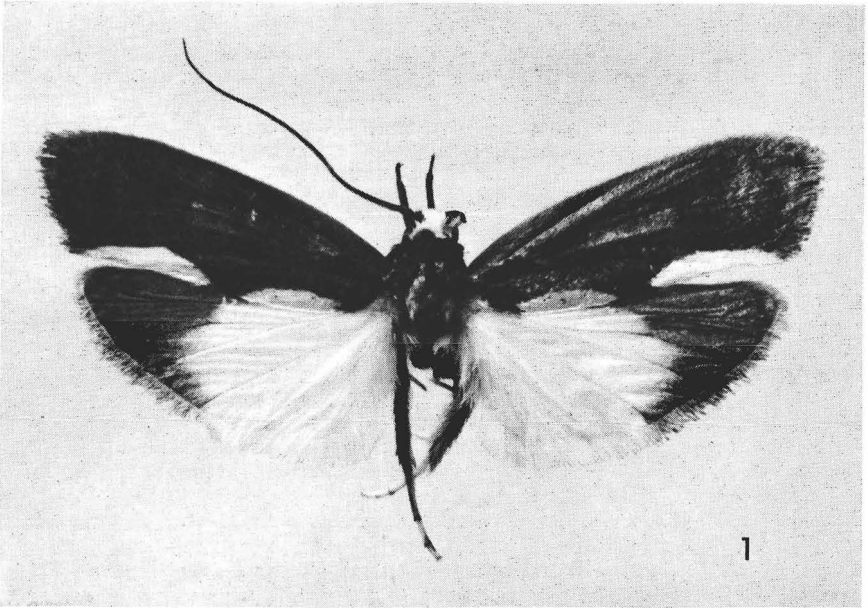


Fig. 1. *Profilinota phillita*, new species: adult male paratype.

Profilinota, new genus

Type species: *Profilinota phillita*, new species (by monotypy and present designation). The generic name is of feminine gender.

Labial palpus very long, slender, recurved, exceeding vertex; third segment slightly longer than second, acute. Maxillary palpus minute, appressed to base of tongue. Head roughened; ocellus absent. Antenna as long as forewing, long ciliated for more than three-fifths its length; scape with pecten. Forewing with 12 veins; 1b furcate; 2 from near outer three-fourths; 3 from angle; 3, 4 and 5 nearly equidistant; 7 and 8 stalked, 7 to termen slightly below apex; 10 nearer to 9 than to 11; 11 from middle; termen very slightly convex. Hind wing with 7 veins; 2 from three-fifths; 3 and 4 coincident, from slightly before angle; 5, 6 and 7 about equidistant. Posterior tibia roughened above with long hairlike scales. Male genitalia with uncus absent; gnathos well developed.

This genus is very closely related to *Filinota* Busck (1911: 206), but differs from it by the separate veins 3 and 4 of the forewing, by having a well developed antennal pecten, the absence of an uncus; and the length of third segment of palpus is longer than second.

Busck says of the antenna of his type "basal joint without pecten." The type, and three additional specimens before me have no pecten, although two examples have a single scale, somewhat out of place, on the scape of one side, that might be considered a weak development of that character. Busck further states "7 to costa" [of forewing]. I would deter-

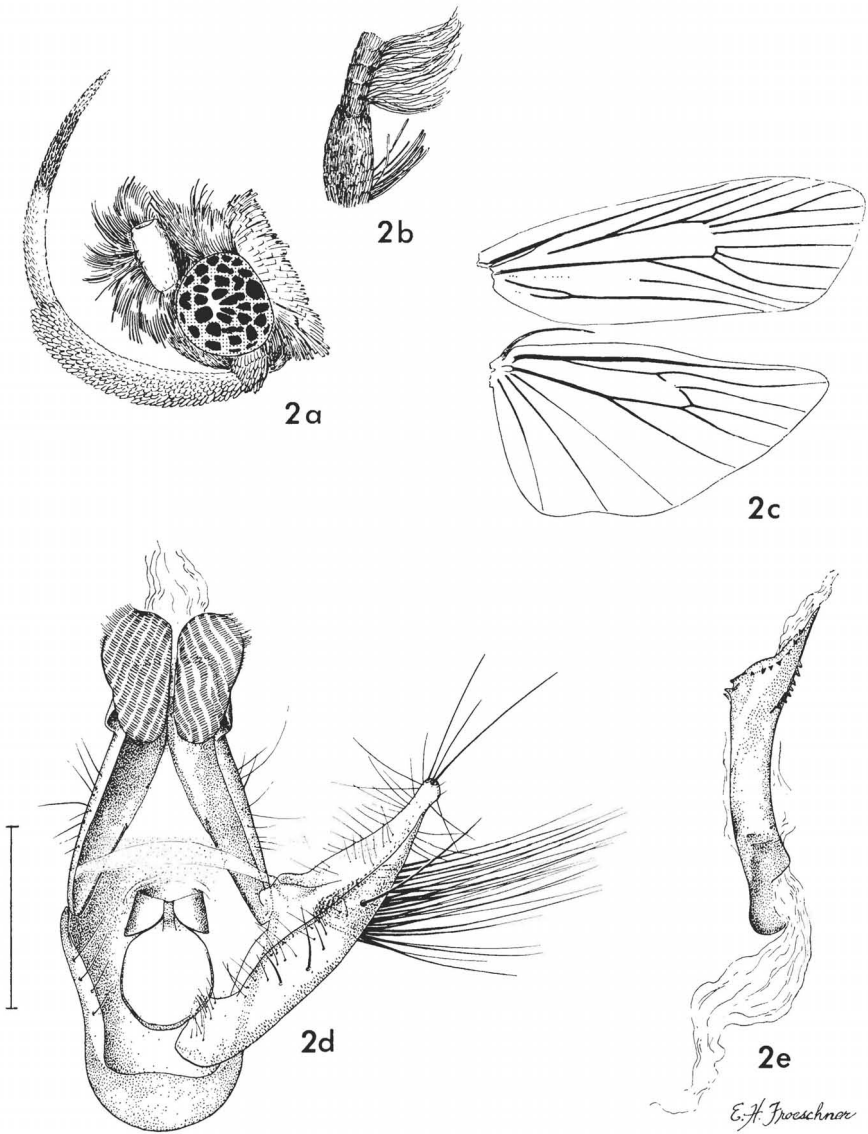


Fig. 2. *Profilinota phillita*, new species: a, lateral aspect of head showing palpus; b, section of antenna showing pecten and ciliations; c, venation of right wings; d, ventral view of male genitalia with left harpe and aedeagus omitted (scale shown equals 1 mm.); e, aedeagus.

mine the position of vein 7 as at apex. Vein 7 of *Profilinota* extends to termen just below apex.

Meyrick (1922: 158) redescribed *Filinota*, apparently from a combination of characters of several species. He stated "ocelli posterior" but they are absent from the type species. He also gave a rather startling array of venational characters, but these various combinations are suspect as far as the generic limits of *Filinota* are concerned.

***Profilinota phillita* Clarke, new species**

Figs. 1-2

Alar expanse 32-34 mm. **Labial palpus** buffy brown; second segment olive brown on outer side at apex; third segment olive brown beyond basal third; apex light buff. **Antenna** olive brown shading to buffy brown apically. **Head** sordid white on crown and vertex; face buffy brown; lateral tufts olive brown. **Thorax** light buff; collar and base of tegula and spot posteriorly olive brown; apex of tegula light buffy brown. **Forewing** ground color buffy brown shading to olive brown dorsally; on dorsal edge two elongate white marks, the first reaching to near middle, the second to tornus; at end of cell a faint olive brown spot; cilia white at tornus, then concolorous with forewing. **Hingwing** basal two-thirds white; outer third buffy brown; cilia white adjacent to white portion of wing, buffy brown beyond; a few white cilia at apex. **Foreleg** pale buffy brown; tibia shaded olive brown on outer side; tarsal segments olive brown on outer side; **midleg** similar; second to fourth tarsal segments buff basally; **hindleg** pale buffy brown; tarsal spurs buff; tarsal segments marked buff on outer side. **Abdomen** buffy brown dorsally, ochereous white ventrally.

Male genitalia (slides JFGC 12252, 12253): Harpe elongate, triangular, broad basally, tapering to a bluntly pointed cucullus; on outer side of harpe, about middle, a cluster of long setae. Gnathos large, consisting of two spined lobes. Uncus absent. Vinculum rounded, thickened medially. Tegumen about as long as harpe, truncated posteriorly. Anellus an oval plate with a sclerotized circular band posteriorly. Aedeagus stout, slightly curved, pointed and armed with two sets of teeth, one ventrally, one apically; vesica unarmed.

Holotype: U. S. National Museum No. 72172.

Type locality: Venezuela, Aragua, Rancho Grande, 1100 m.

Distribution: Venezuela, Peru.

Food plant: Unknown.

Described from the holotype male (31 October 66, S. S. and W. D. Duckworth) and one male paratype (Peru, R. Huacamayo, Carabaya, dry s., 3100 ft., June 04, G. Ockenden). Female unknown. Paratype in the British Museum (Natural History).

There is no described species, except the type species of *Filinota*, *F. hermosella* Busck, with which this striking moth can be compared structurally. This brown and white species presents a great contrast to the red, yellow and white *hermosella*, but reminds one of an oversized *Hastamea argentidorsella* Busck, from which it is abundantly distinct structurally.

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