

CONFIRMATION OF RHOPALOCERA (PIERIDAE,
NYMPHALIDAE) PREVIOUSLY RECORDED FOR TEXAS
AND THE UNITED STATES¹

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The object of this paper is to remove the dubious status of earlier reports of two species of Lepidoptera being found in Texas. Each species is represented at present by a single example only. Examples of earlier recordings have not been found; it is possible, however, that they do exist.

These species may represent single-brooded migrants which come to Texas from time to time. A precise judgment on this cannot be made until life history studies are conducted. Such studies would disclose critical ecological influences upon each. Another possible conclusion is that they are actually established in our fauna, but at such low population levels that they are seldom encountered by collectors. In any event, based on the good condition of these particular examples, we may conclude that they had not been on the wing long. No major climatic disturbances were involved.

Enantia melite (Linnaeus) 1763

Papilio melite Linnaeus, 1763. *Amoen. Acad.*, vol. 6, p. 403 (gives habitat as *Indiis*).

Leptalis melite Linnaeus, 1767. *Syst. Nat.*, 775; Skinner, 1898, *A Syn. Catalogue of N. A. Rhopalocera*; Dyar, 1902, *A list of N. A. Lepidoptera* (gives distribution as Mexico, New Mexico).

Dismorphia melite: McDunnough, 1938, *Check List of Lepid. of Canada and the U.S.A.* (lists as doubtful *N. A.* occurrence); Holland, 1955, *The Butterfly Book* (credits to our fauna on the authority of Reakirt).

Licinia melite: Klots, 1951, *A field Guide to the Butterflies* (vaguely recorded from Texas).

Enantia melite: Ehrlich & Ehrlich, 1961, *How to Know the Butterflies* (may occasionally stray across our southern border); dos Passos, 1961, *J. Lepid. Soc.* 15: 211 (of doubtful occurrence in the Nearctic region).

One example of this species was collected 3 September 1972 by W. W. McGuire in Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State Park, Hidalgo County, Texas. The specimen, illustrated in Fig. 1, is in McGuire's collection.

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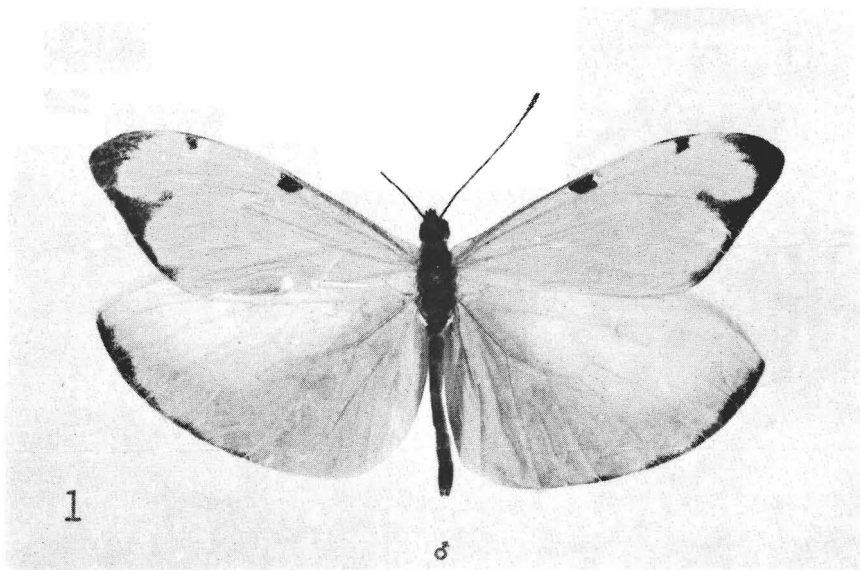


Fig. 1. *Enantia melite* (Linnaeus), ♂, dorsal view; Hidalgo County, Texas. (W. W. McGuire). Wing expanse 54 mm (center thorax to tip FW \times 2).

Hamadryas amphinome mexicana (Lucas) 1853

Papilio amphinome Linnaeus, 1767. Syst. Nat. (X), i., p. 473, no. 95.

Hamadryas Hübner, 1806. Samml. Exot. Schmett. 1 pl. [47]; selected *Papilio amphinome* L. as the type species. Hemming, 1934, The Generic Names of the Holarctic Butterflies, vol. 1 (1758–1863), British Museum (N.H.), London, states that *Ageronia*, though valid nomenclatorially, is not required, as *chloë* Stoll, selected by Scudder as the type, is congeneric with *amphinome* L.; also, that *Peridromia*, also valid nomenclatorially, is not required as *arethusa* Cramer, selected by Scudder as the type, is congeneric with *amphinome* L., the type of *Hamadryas* Hb.

Peridromia mexicana Lucas, 1853. Revue et magasin de zoologie, p. 311–312 (TL: Mexico).

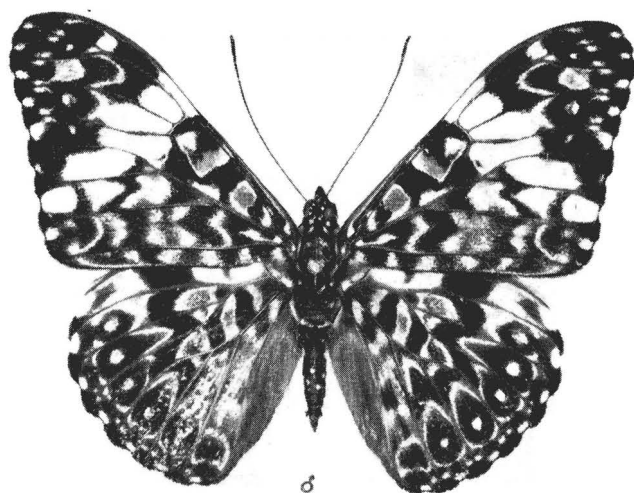
Ageronia amphinome mexicana (Lucas): Frustorfer, 1913, in Seitz, Gross-schmett. Ende 5: 543–544, gives distribution as Texas, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Chiriqui.

Hamadryas amphinome mexicana: Monroe, Rose S., Garry N. Ross, and Roger N. Williams, J. Lepid. Soc. 21: 195, collected 2 ♂ at El Jaral, Honduras, 9 & 13 August 1962.

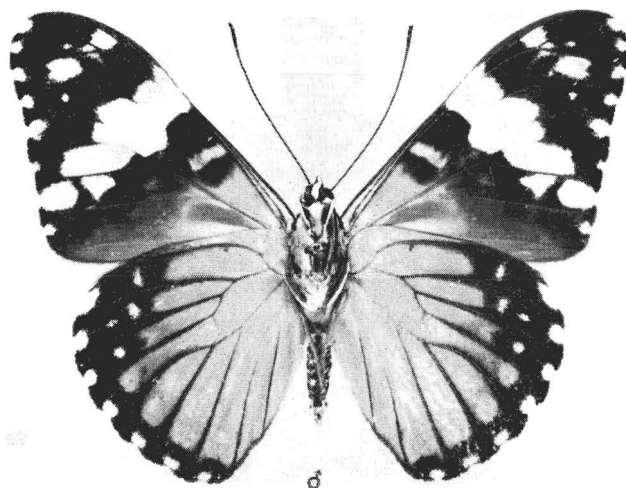
Although Frustorfer included Texas in the distribution for this subspecies, the name has never appeared on any check-list of Rhopalocera for the United States. In an attempt to locate other possible existing

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Fig. 2. *Hamadryas amphinome mexicana* (Lucas), ♂, dorsal (2A) and ventral (2B) views; Hidalgo County, Texas. (W. W. McGuire). Wing expanse 76 mm (center thorax to tip FW \times 2).



2A



2B

examples, several museums were contacted. In letter dated 24 August 1973, Dr. P. Viette, Museum National D'histoire Naturelle, Paris, informed the writer that the type series of *Peridromia mexicana* could not be found. A letter dated 11 October 1973 from Mr. P. R. Ackery of the British Museum (N.H.), London, advised that no examples of *mexicana* could be found in the collection from locations farther north than Mexico. Mr. William D. Field, National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C., advised in letter dated 23 February 1973 that he could find no examples in the national collection labeled *mexicana*.

One example of this subspecies was collected 3 September 1972 by W. W. McGuire in Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State Park, Hidalgo County, Texas. The specimen, illustrated in Fig. 2, is in McGuire's collection.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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PELLICIA COSTIMACULA HERRICH-SCHAFFER IN THE UNITED STATES (HESPERIIDAE)

Klots (1951, A Field Guide To The Butterflies, Boston) listed *Pellicia costimacula* Herrich-Schaffer as occurring casually in the United States. In 1964, dos Passos (A Synonymic List of the Nearctic Rhopalocera) dropped *P. costimacula* from the United States list and substituted *P. angra* Evans, a superficially similar species that was undescribed at the time Klots was published.

I have taken fifteen male *Pellicia* in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas in the past six years. The genitalia of all correspond exactly to Evans' figure (1953, Catalog of the American HesperIIDae, London. Part III, pl. 33) of *P. costimacula arina* Evans. Therefore, this species should be returned to the United States list. I am advised by H. A. Freeman (pers. comm.) that there is good justification for considering *arina* to be a valid species, especially on the basis of genitalia.

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