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#### CORRECTIONS TO TWO ARTICLES ON ABERRANT *CYNTHIA* (NYMPHALIDAE)

Two recent articles on aberrant *Cynthia* have contained errors of identification which should be corrected to prevent perpetuation of inaccurate records. Phillips (1971, Great Basin Natural. 31: 256-260) reported the capture of *Cynthia cardui* ab. *elymi* Rambur from Salt Lake City, Utah. This aberration, illustrated in color, is clearly *C. annabella* ab. *letcheri* Grinnell, which is easily distinguished from *C. cardui* ab. *elymi* by the forewing discal cell marking which completely crosses the cell in *C. annabella* but remains a spot against the anterior cell margin in *C. cardui*, and by the forewing apex which is pointed at  $M_1$  in *C. annabella* and more rounded in *C. cardui*. *C. cardui* ab. *elymi*, then, remains unrecorded for Utah.

Shapiro (1973, Pan-Pac. Entomol. 49: 289-293) described and illustrated aberrations of *C. annabella*. His Figs. 1 and 2 are indeed *C. annabella*, but Fig. 3 is *C. cardui* showing tendencies toward ab. *elymi*. The same characteristics used to separate *C. annabella* ab. *letcheri* and *C. cardui* ab. *elymi* in the previous article can be used to correctly determine this specimen.

When used with care the excellent color illustrations of aberrant *Cynthia* (= *Vanessa*) in Comstock's *Butterflies of California* (1927) should leave no doubt as to the correct species identifications of some aberrations. However, the above mistaken identifications show the difficulty of applying names to aberrations, which by their very nature can be quite variable.

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