NEW HOSTPLANT RECORDS FOR AGONOPTERIX CLEMENSELLA (OECOPHORIDAE)

As is the case for most of the Oecophoridae, details of the biology of early stages of Agonopterix clemensella (Chambers) are poorly known. Hodges (1974, Gelechioidea Oecophoridae, Moths of America North of Mexico, Fascicle 6.2, E. W. Classey, Ltd., London) reports that "the larva has been reared from parsnip, Pastinaca sativa L. and undoubtedly feeds on native umbels." Exhaustive sampling of Umbelliferae in Tompkins County, New York, during the spring and summer months of 1977 through 1979, revealed that A. clemensella utilizes a broad range of both native and introduced species (Table 1). The host list includes representatives of two subfamilies and five tribes in the family Umbelliferae; ten of the sixteen species are native to North America. The host plants occur in a variety of habitats, ranging from rich woods to waste places; clearly, A. clemensella is a family and not a habitat specialist.

The only umbellifer examined that is consistently avoided by A. clemensella is Conium maculatum (poison hemlock); in fact, caterpillars confined to the foliage invariably died. C. maculatum, however, is the sole host for A. alstroemeriana, a recently

introduced European species (Berenbaum and Passoa, in preparation).

Larvae can be collected throughout June; adults emerge in late June and early July, approximately 10–14 days after pupation. Caterpillars on each plant species were reared through to the adult stage to verify their identity. Identifications were made by J. Franclemont and R. Brown of the Department of Entomology at Cornell University; representative specimens are on deposit in the Cornell University Collection, Lot 1023, Sublot 41B. This work was supported by National Science Foundation research grant DEB 76-20114 to P. Feeny.

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TABLE 1. Hostplants of Agonopterix clemensella in Tompkins County, New York. (Species arranged according to Drude, 1898, Umbelliferae, in Die natürlichen Pflanzenfamilien 3:63–250.)

Saniculoideae		
Saniculeae	*Sanicula gregaria	Damp woods
Apioideae		
Scandicinae	*Osmorhiza longistylis	Damp woods
Carinae	Apium graveolens *Zizia aptera *Zizia aurea *Cicuta maculata *Cryptotaenia canadensis *Taenidia integerrima Aegopodium podagraria *Sium suave	Greenhouse Dry woods Damp woods Wet meadows Damp woods Dry woods Waste places Wet meadows
Peucedaneae	*Angelica atropurpurea Levisticum officinale Pastinaca sativa *Heracleum lanatum Heracleum mantegazzianum	Wet meadows Waste places Waste places Waste places Waste places
Dauceae	Daucus carota	Waste places

^{*} Species considered native to North America (according to Fernald, 1950, Gray's Manual of Botany, 8th edition, American Book Co., New York).