Reference

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THE IDENTITY OF CRAMBIDIA ALLEGHENIENSIS (LITHOSIIDÆ)

by HARRY K. CLENCH

Half a century ago HOLLAND (*Moth Book*: 104, pl. 13, fig. 31; 1903) described *Crambidia allegheniensis* from a single male taken by him (*cf. loc. cit.*) in East Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The single type, a male, has remained unique in the Carnegie Museum collection, and the species has been listed with a query in lists ever since. A reexamination of this specimen is clearly overdue.

The type is in very good condition save for the complete absence of antennæ (replaced by two clumsily glued, non-lepidopterous, bristles: possibly to make the specimen more photogenic for its portrait in the *Moth Book*). It bears two labels: (1) Moth Book/Plate XIII/Fig.31 [letterpress, with numbers penned in]; and (2) C. allegheniensis/Type.Holland/Ally Co., Penna. [penned in HOLLAND'S hand, possibly many years after publication of the name]. In addition the specimen has been assigned C. M. Ent. type series no. 232, and a label to that effect also affixed.

A brief description of pertinent structures is as follows: palpi short, not reaching front (indeed, not reaching the base of the proboscis); proboscis fully developed; antennæ (broken off); legs smoothly scaled, hind tibia with two pairs of spurs; forewing: R_1 from cell, anastomosing almost immediately with Sc and remaining with it; areole present, R_2 from its anterior border; R_3 - R_4 - R_5 stalked from its apex, R_5 branching off almost immediately; M_1 from areole just beyond cell; M_2 absent; M_3 and Cu_1 well stalked from lower angle of cell; Cu_2 from middle of cell; hindwing: Sc + R_1 from middle or

tial check on R. milleri.

just before middle of cell; Rs and M_1 well stalked from upper angle of cell; M_2 absent; M_3 and Cu_1 well stalked from lower angle of cell; Cu_2 from middle or just before middle of cell (opposite the origin of Sc + R_1).

A few inaccuracies in HOLLAND'S description want correction: Frons, vertex and patagia (*i.e.*, collar) are orange, not "pale yellow"; palpi yellow orange; thorax and tegulæ brownish tan, the former tinged with orange posteriorly; abdomen dorsally very pale yellowish with a touch of gray in middle; below pale gray, becoming yellowish posteriorly; terminal tuft yellow tinged with orange above; the legs are orange yellow, fore and middle legs with faint tinge of tan dorsally on tibia and tarsal segments; forewing below with a terminal yellow band on outer margin; costa with a long posteriorly-directed fringe of short scales below; hindwing very pale yellow, the costa narrowly grayish (especially below); remainder of description as in HOLLAND.

The foregoing agrees perfectly with the European species, *Eilema com*plana Linn. (cf. Hampson, Cat. Lep. Phal. Br. Mus. 2: 164; 1900; and Seitz, in Seitz, Grossschmett. Erde 2: 68. pl. 12 i,k (Lithosia c.); 1910), and accordingly HOLLAND'S Crambidia allegheniensis must be synonymized to this species.

Since HOLLAND captured the specimen himself, there is small possibility of mislabeling being the reason for its occurrence here. I rather suspect that a pupa was imported with some horticultural material, from which the moth emerged to fly into HOLLAND'S net and our lists.

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NYMPHALIS CALIFORNICA: A NEW RECORD FOR PENNSYLVANIA

Mr. and Mrs. C. G. MERKER, of Warrendale (Allegheny Co.), Pennsylvania, recently showed me a pair of *Nymphalis californica* Boisduval which they had taken near their home on sugar at about dusk, on 2 September 1945. One of these they have most generously given to the Carnegie Museum. A third specimen also was taken, but was released in the hope that it was a female who would show her gratitude by laying some eggs. The species, however, has never turned up since, despite active searching.

It is interesting, and possibly significant, that VOSS' (*Lepid. News* 4: 46; 1950) unusual record of this species (one, on damp sand along the Straits of Mackinac, Emmet Co., Michigan) was taken the same year, in the same month, and almost on the same day: 6 September 1945!

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