

NOTES ON FIVE NEW BUTTERFLY RECORDS FOR THE STATE OF MARYLAND

by ROBERT S. SIMMONS and WILLIAM A. ANDERSEN

Several field trips by the authors during the past few years have resulted in taking four new species of butterflies for the State of Maryland. The junior author captured another new species for the State practically in his back yard.

While investigating Charles County in southern Maryland on July 28, 1960 for new material, the senior author discovered a large colony of *Euptychia hermes sosybia* Fabricius two miles southwest of White Plains. The immediate area was a semi-open climax forest occupying the flood plain of a slowly moving creek, a tributary of the Port Tobacco River. *E. h. sosybia* was common and flying with numerous *Euptychia cymela* Cramer and an occasional *Lethe eurydice* Johannson. Since there were no flowers present, most of the specimens were captured as they rested on the uppermost blades of high grass that abounded in the area.

Dr. ANDERSEN and Mr. PAUL CHERMOCK attempted a trip to the area a week later. Following the senior author's directions, they promptly became lost but remembering the description of the type area found another colony of *E. h. sosybia* along a creek, assuming this to be the first locality discovered. After conferring with Dr. SIMMONS, they learned their discovery was a new colony seven miles south of the original but along another smaller tributary of the Port Tobacco River. These records constitute new finds for the State.

On June 20, 1957, the authors headed for the mountains of western Maryland. Near Friendsville, in Garrett County, we each netted a *Polygonia progne* Cramer and observed several others. The following year was also good for *P. progne* as we each captured a few specimens at a locality along the Castleman River near Grantsville, Garrett County on July 10 and 17, 1958. Both areas were dense deciduous forest with some scattered Hemlock. All of the specimens were taken along dirt roads through forests where they would play back and fourth in the dappled light much the same as *Polygonia comma* Harris flies.

The mountains of western Maryland were again visited by the authors on June 30, 1960. Near Green Ridge Mountain, Allegany County, we found collecting exceptionally good, especially along a drying creek bed. Along with a series of *Limenitis astyanax* Fabricius, the senior author captured a fresh *Limenitis arthemis* form "albofasciata". Although the *L. astyanax* were fresh, many of them had considerable portions of their

wings broken, perhaps due to attacks by birds. Fortunately, the "albofasciata" was undamaged.

During the month of August, 1960, the investigation of Charles County in southern Maryland for new species led to the discovery of some outstanding areas for good general butterfly collecting. This prompted a program to systematically work the County. A choice area was thus discovered on September 8, 1960 near Liverpool Point, where in a field full of large patches of yellow composite flowers (*Coreopsis* sp.), *Colias cesonia* Stoll were flying in good numbers. Over a two week period we took a series of fifty-nine, representing only a small percentage of specimens that were actually on wing. When not feeding on the *Coreopsis* flowers, these strong flying butterflies were extremely wary and consequently almost impossible to capture. A few of the specimens taken near the end of the season represented the form "rosa". An odd fact concerning this new butterfly find for Maryland was the predominance of males. Only four females were captured, and curiously three of those were "rosa".

An interesting feature about this region is that it lies just across the Potomac River from the Quantico-Triangle area in Virginia where SIDNEY A. HESSEL captured this species twenty-three years ago as reported by AUSTIN H. CLARK and LEILA F. CLARK "The butterflies of Virginia", *Smiths. Misc. Coll.* 116, No. 7: p.112; 1951).

The junior author captured an *Urbanus proteus* Linnæus on the afternoon of August 21, 1948, as it was feeding on the lavender blossoms of a butterfly bush located on a lot adjacent to his home in northern suburbs of Baltimore City. Another specimen was seen later in the day on the same blossoms but unfortunately could not be captured.

On September 1, 1953, Mr. ROBERT ROZMAN of Takoma Park, Maryland, while vacationing at Chesapeake Beach in Calvert County, netted a fresh but tailless *U. proteus* just outside of the door to his rented cottage on Chesapeake Bay proper. Apparently a predator had just broken the tails from the specimen prior to capture. Mr. ROZMAN very kindly gave the senior author the specimen which is in perfect condition except for the loss of the tails.

Briefly summarized, the Maryland records are as follows:

<i>Species</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>
<i>Euptychia h. sosybia</i>	VII-28-60	Two miles southwest of White Plains, Charles Co.
	VIII-4-60	Two miles south of Port Tobacco, Charles Co.

<i>Polygonia progne</i>	VI-20-57	Near Friendsville, Garrett Co.
	VII-10-58	Along Castleman River, near
	VII-17-58	Grantsville, Garrett Co.
<i>Limenitis a. "albofasciata"</i>	VI-30-60	Near Green Ridge Mountain, Allegany Co.
<i>Colias cesonia</i>	IX-8-60	Near Liverpool Point, Charles Co.
<i>Urbanus proteus</i>	IX-1-53	Chesapeake Beach, Calvert Co.
	VIII-21-48	Baltimore City.

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NYMPHALIS J-ALBUM CAPTURED AT FLUORESCENT LIGHT IN CHICAGO

After reading the note by W. A. ANDERSEN vol.14: page 62 of the *Journal*, I remembered that I too had caught a *Nymphalis j-album* Boisduval & Le Conte at a light. Thus, looking back among my field notes I came upon the following notation: "On the morning (about 9:00) of Aug. 20, 1952 one of the girls that worked in the laboratory where I work came to me in the Animal Room all excited and exclaimed, "Come quickly there is a large moth flying about the lights in the lab." I had visions of perhaps a *Cecropia* or something which had possibly emerged late in the season so went right away to see what it was. The "moth" turned out to be a large nice perfect specimen of *N. j-album* and with some difficulty I managed to capture it by climbing up a stepladder. The butterfly was very active, flying at the fluorescent light in the ceiling of the laboratory. This is the first time I have ever observed *N. j-album* in Chicago."

I might further add that I have not seen any since that time anywhere in the Chicago Area. The specimen now resides in my private collection. I would also like to mention here (this is from memory only) that back in about July 1946 I saw 6 or 7 *Pieris rapæ* L. flying about a street light at night in Le Claire, Iowa.

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