

THE AUTHORSHIP OF THREE SCIENTIFIC NAMES
OF NEARCTIC RHOPALOCERA VARIOUSLY
CREDITED TO BOISDUVAL OR LUCAS

by CYRIL F. DOS PASSOS

In a recent paper by Dr. LINCOLN P. BROWER ("1958" [1959]: p.101) it is stated in a footnote "I have been unable to ascertain whether BOISDUVAL or LUCAS first described *P. eurymedon* and *P. rutulus* in 1852."

This problem actually involves an additional name to those mentioned above *i.e.*, *Papilio zelicaon*. The authorship of these three names proposed in 1852 has been shifted back and forth over the years between BOISDUVAL and LUCAS and the time has come when this uncertainty should be put finally to rest.

All three names were published by BOISDUVAL (1852a) in a paper entitled *Lépidoptères de la Californie* and by LUCAS (1852) in a paper entitled *Descriptions de nouvelles espèces de Lépidoptères appartenant aux collections entomologiques du Musée de Paris*. BOISDUVAL appears to have presented his paper on the Lepidoptera of California at a meeting of the Entomological Society of France on 25 February, but it does not appear to have been published until August. These facts appear from a separate (1852b) of the paper and a reprint (1852c) bearing new pagination (pp.1-52), both of which are in the author's library. The latter paper has a title page dated 1852 and states that it is an "Extrait des Annales de la Société entomologique de France (août 1852)". On the other hand, LUCAS' paper has at the top of every even numbered page "(Mars 1852)". Hence, on the intrinsic evidence all three names must be ascribed to LUCAS.

The foregoing evidence appears to settle the matter insofar as intrinsic evidence is concerned and it would prove difficult to upset that conclusion by any extrinsic evidence, if it exists.

It should be observed that BROWER, in his references, ascribes the LUCAS paper to "M. H. LUCAS". The full name of LUCAS is PIERRE HIPPOLYTE LUCAS, but he usually signed himself H. LUCAS. The "M." stands of course for Monsieur. It was customary at that time in France to use the abbreviation M. before authors' names. Also the pagination of LUCAS' paper is 128-141, not 138-141 as BROWER cites it.

The foregoing study was made some time ago at the suggestion of Mr. PADDY B. MCHENRY of Burbank, California, who inquired about the matter while the present author was preparing his *Check List of Nearctic Rhopalocera* and I am indebted to him for calling the problem to my attention.

References

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THE FIRST RECORD OF *COLIAS NASTES* IN THE UNITED STATES (PIERIDÆ)

A single female of *Colias nastes* Boisduval was collected in northern Washington while the author was working on a forest lookout tower. This specimen was collected on July 13. A single male of this species was sighted five days later but eluded capture. The female agrees with HOLLAND's figure of the species in every way except that the yellow coloring has a more greenish undercasting. The previously recorded range of this species is Labrador northward and westward (Klots, *Field guide to the butterflies*: p.33; 1951) and British Columbia. The exact locality of capture follows: Bunker Hill Lookout, near edge of a northern facing cliff, 7000 feet elevation, (T 40 N, R 19 E, S 16), Okanogan County, Washington, July 13, 1961, JON SHEPARD collector. Both the male and female were discovered in association with Red Heather (*Phyllodoce empetrifomis* (Smith) D. Don.). The specimen is in the author's collection.

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