

NEW SKIPPER AND BUTTERFLY RECORDS FOR SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA

by ROY O. KENDALL

Over the years lepidopterists have, for some unknown reason, failed to collect in Vernon, Beauregard and Calcasieu Parishes of southwest Louisiana. This paper will record for the first time, forty species which may be found in these or adjoining parishes. Two of these species: *Pholisora catullus* (Fabricius) and *Erynnis zarucco* (Lucas) were not included in the list for Louisiana by LAMBREMONT (1954).

Collecting was accomplished on a sampling basis during the period 1955 through 1961. Intensive collecting in this area would disclose many more species than are here recorded. The specific area in which samplings were taken is bounded on the west by the Sabine River which divides Louisiana and Texas from a point near Logansport, De Soto Parish, south to the Gulf of Mexico. Contiguous hardwood forests characterize the west boundry of the collecting area. East of the Sabine River one finds a vast amount of piney woods cut by numerous creeks or small streams which drain into the Sabine River to the west or the Calcasieu River to the east, both terminating in the Gulf of Mexico.

Arrangement of this paper follows the forthcoming Synonymic List of Nearctic Rhopalocera by CYRIL F. DOS PASSOS who kindly checked the manuscript and offered helpful suggestions. The nearest city to the locality in which each specimen was collected is recorded below. Most of the records are from DeQuincy and Lake Charles, in Calcasieu Parish, and Leesville, in Vernon Parish. By and large the specimens were found within the corporate limits of the various cities. In those instances where immature stages were reared, the larval foodplant is given.

HESPERIIDÆ

Wallengrenia otho otho (Smith). DeQuincy, 1 ♂, 7 Sept. 59.

Lerema accius (Smith). Leesville, 1 ♂, 20 Aug. 55.

Pholisora catullus (Fabricius). Leesville, 2 ♂ ♂, 20 Aug. 55.

Pyrgus communis communis (Grote). Leesville, 10 ♂ ♂, 20 Aug. 55.

DeQuincy, very common 31 May and 1 June 56; two females observed 7 Sept. 59 to oviposit on *Sida* sp.; adults *ex ovis* 18 & 20 Oct. 59. Lake Charles, a number of adults seen but none taken, 7 & 8 Nov. 61.

Erynnis zarucco zarucco (Lucas). Leesville, 2 ♂ ♂, 1 ♀, *ex larvæ* 22-23 Sept. 59; larval foodplant *Robinia pseudoacacia* L. (see Kendall, 1960).

Lake Charles, 1♂, 1♀, *ex larvæ* 9 Dec. 61; other larvæ in diapause at present, 20 Jan. 62, larval foodplant *Sesbania exaltata* (Raf.) Cory.
Erynnis horatius (Scudder & Burgess). Leesville, 11♂♂, 2♀♀, *ex larvæ* 1 Feb. to 16 Dec. 59. Many, Sabine Parish, 2♂♂, 2♀♀, *ex larvæ* 31 Oct. to 29 Dec. 59. Lake Charles, 1♂, 2♀♀, *ex larvæ* 9 to 18 Feb. 61; larval foodplants *Quercus hemisphærica* Bartr. and *Q. nigra* L.
Achalarus lyciades (Geyer). Leesville, 1♂, 20 Aug. 55. 1♂, 30 June 57.
Epargyreus clarus (Cramer). Leesville, 3♂♂, 1♀, 20 Aug. 55; numerous larvæ found 13 Sept. 59 on *Robinia pseudoacacia* L. Larvæ also found on this plant in DeSoto Parish 15 Sept. 59 and in Union and Miller Counties, Arkansas on 16 & 17 Sept. 59.

PAPILIONIDÆ

Battus philenor philenor (Linnæus). Leesville, 1♀, 20 Aug. 55.
Papilio polyxenes asterius Stoll. Leesville, 1♂, *ex larva* 5 Apr. 59; larval foodplant *Daucus pusillus* Michx.
Papilio cressphontes cressphontes Cramer. Leesville, 1♂, 20 Aug. 55.
Papilio glaucus glaucus Linnæus. Leesville, 1♂, 20 Aug. 55.
Papilio troilus troilus Linnæus. Leesville, 2♂♂, 1♀, 20 Aug. 55.
Papilio palamedes Drury. Leesville, 1♂, 1♀, 20 Aug. 55. 1♂, 14 Sept. 59.

PIERIDÆ

Pieris rapæ (Linnæus). Many, Sabine Parish, found to be common in a city vegetable garden where its larval foodplant was growing.
Colias eurytheme eurytheme Boisduval. Lake Charles, 3♂♂, 4♀♀, *ex larvæ* 1-6 Dec. 61; larval foodplant *Sesbania exaltata* Cory.
Phœbis (*Phœbis*) *sennæ eubule* (Linnæus). Leesville, very common 20 Aug. 55, about 40 specimens taken. DeQuincy, very common 4 Sept. 59; several females observed to oviposit on *Chamæcrista cinerea* Pollard; one larva found on this plant 12 Sept. 59; 1♀, *ex larva*, 28 Sept. 59. From 13-17 Sept. 59 this insect was found to be very common in Calcasieu, Beauregard, Vernon, Sabine, DeSoto and Bossier Parishes.
Eurema (*Pyrisitia*) *lisa* Boisduval & Leconte. Leesville, very common 20 Aug. 55, more than 20 specimens taken.
Eurema (*Abæis*) *nicippe nicippe* Cramer. Leesville, 3♂♂, 2♀♀, 20 Aug. 55. Lake Charles, 4♂♂, 5♀♀, *ex larvæ* 20 Nov. to 9 Dec. 61; larvæ found on *Cassia occidentalis* L. and later transferred to *Cassia bicapsularis* L., which they readily ate, maturing in due course.
Nathalis iole Boisduval. Leesville, 1♂, 20 Aug. 55.

LYCÆNIDÆ

Strymon cecrops (Fabricius). Leesville, 1♂, 1♀, 2 June 56. DeQuincy, a good number of adults were taken 26 May 56.

- Strymon melinus melinus* (Hübner). Leesville, 1♂, 20 Aug. 55.
Everes comyntas comyntas (Godart). Leesville, 1♀, 2 June 56.
DeQuincy, 5♂♂, 2♀♀, 31 May & 1 June 56.

NYMPHALIDÆ

- Anæa andria* Scudder. Leesville, 2♀♀, 20 Aug. 55; four adults *ex larvæ* 27-29 Sept. 59; larval foodplant *Croton* sp. DeQuincy, 13 Sept. 59, a number of adults were seen but none were taken.
Limenitis astyanax astyanax (Fabricius). Leesville, 1♂, 1♀, *ex larvæ* 11 & 16 June 56, larval foodplant *Salix* sp.
Limenitis archippus watsoni (dos Passos). Leesville, 2♂♂, 20 Aug. 55. DeQuincy, two adults seen but not taken on 9 & 11 Sept. 59.
Vanessa atalanta atalanta (Linnaeus). Leesville, 1♂, 20 Aug. 55.
Vanessa virginiensis (Drury). Leesville, 2♂♂, 20 Aug. 55. DeQuincy, 1♂, 31 May 56; four specimens *ex larvæ*, 10 & 11 June 56, larval foodplant *Gnaphalium* sp.
Junonia cænia cænia (Hübner). Leesville, 1♂, 20 Aug. 55; several adults seen but not taken 25 Dec. 56. DeQuincy, 1♂, 27 Dec. 56; several others seen; also on 7 Sept. 59 a good number seen but none taken.
Polygonia interrogationis (Fabricius). Leesville, 1♂, 1♀, 20 Aug. 55.
Phyciodes (Phyciodes) tharos tharos (Drury). Leesville, 8♂♂, 7♀♀, 31 May & 1 June 56.
Melitæa (Microtia) nycteis nycteis Doubleday. Leesville, 1♀, 20 Aug. 55.
Euptoieta claudia (Cramer). Leesville, 2♂♂, 20 Aug. 55.
Agraulis vanillæ nigrior Michener. Leesville, several were seen 20 Aug. 55 but none taken. DeQuincy, ten specimens *ex pupæ* 3 to 5 Sept. 55; a good number of larvæ found 30 May 56 on *Passiflora incarnata* L. matured in due course.

SATYRIDÆ

- Euptychia gemma gemma* (Hübner). Leesville, 3♂♂, 20 Aug. 55.
Euptychia areolata areolata (J. E. Smith). Leesville, 1♂, 30 June 57.
Euptychia hermes sosybius (Fabricius). Leesville, 20 Aug. 55 very common, also found in good numbers 27 May 56. DeQuincy, very common 31 May 56 and 6 Sept. 59.
Euptychia cymela cymela (Cramer). Leesville, 2♂♂, 27 May 56; 1♂, 30 June 57. DeQuincy, 1♂, 31 May 56.
Cercyonis pegala pegala (Fabricius). DeQuincy, 1♂, 5 Sept. 59; 1♂, 12 Sept. 59; others were seen but could not be taken.

References Cited

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A PRELIMINARY STUDY OF FOODPLANT PREFERENCES IN
THE *LYCAENA HELLOIDES* COMPLEX (LYCAENIDAE)
IN COLORADO

by DONALD S. CHAMBERS

I. LABORATORY STUDIES OF *helloides* — LIKE POPULATIONS

The purplish Copper of the Rocky Mountains, described from Alberta as *florus* by EDWARDS, has recently been referred to the northeastern *Lycaena dorcas* Kirby because of their very similar appearance. The range of *florus* is, however, isolated from that of *dorcas* and lies in conjunction with the area occupied, at lower altitudes at least, by *L. helloides* Boisduval, and most writers have considered *florus* to be a race of *helloides*. BROWN (1955) sees *dorcas* and *helloides* as a "well-defined cline", but CLENCH (1958) believes they are distinct species for the following reasons: first, they have different determined foodplants (*dorcas* feeds on *Potentilla*, *helloides* on "*Polygonum* and possibly others — but not *Potentilla*"); second, the two are sympatric but easily separable throughout a broad zone in the Michigan to Manitoba area; third, "there is no 'perfect intergradation' across the continent as the authors state, though if large series are not seen it might appear so"; fourth, *dorcas* is single-brooded while *helloides* is multi-brooded. The present study is an attempt to determine the food plant(s) of *florus* and thereby disclose its true affinities.

An oviposition choice situation was presented to three *florus* females (Group I) collected near Gothic, Gunnison County, Colorado (elevation: 10,000 ft.). Freshly cut, roughly equal-sized sprigs from five plants were placed in moist earth in a flower pot covered by a broad lamp chimney with marquisette netting over the top. The tops of the sprigs were leveled so that all were equally accessible to the females. About three inches of open space were left below the cloth. Throughout this and the following