RHOPALOCERA ATTRACTED BY ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT IN CENTRAL AMERICA

by EDUARDO C. WELLING

Collecting for nocturnals with a single 15-watt mixed GE Black Light sometimes has its surprizes. Not only do certain Heterocera appear that ordinarily are not frequently attracted to other kinds of light but we even notice certain diurnals that make their appearance, not only Rhopalocera but other insects too. These individuals are probably not "doing the town" after hours so as to say, but probably are resting in some of the trees and shrubs nearby and consequently can not resist the light on being awakened. This is easy to observe because at certain times of the year large beetles, like *Calosoma, Phyllophaga,* etc., come quite commonly to the light, first throwing themselves heavily against anything that is in their way before falling to the ground or settling on the wall or sheet where the Black Light may be. In fact the time of year when I have found most Rhopalocera at Black Light is in the spring, when these beetles are very common. Sphinxes with their crazy confused flight may also help in shaking branches and leaves, thereby disturbing any diurnals that may be asleep among them near the light.

Here is a list of some Rhopalocera taken by Black Light during the course of 1960:

Papilio cresphontes Cram. 1♂, 1. IV, Mérida, Yucatán.
Graphium epidaus epidaus Dbld. 1♂, 14. IV, Mérida, Yucatán.
Appias ilaire Gdt. 1♀, 25. VI, Mérida, Yucatán.
Opsiphanes tamarindi Feld. 2♀♀, 1♂, 15. VII, Camp Sibun, Cayo District, British Honduras; 1♀, 12. VII, same locality.
Microtia elva Bates 1♀, 25. VI, Mérida, Yucatán.
Megaleura chiron Fabr. 1♂, VII, Camp Sibun, Cayo Dist., British Honduras.
Chlorippe pavon Latr. 1♀, 14.X., X-cán, Quintana Roo.
Historis acheronta Fabr. 1♀, 10. III, Mérida, Yucatán.
Libytheana carinenta Cram. 1♂, 25. VI; 1♂, 26. VI, Mérida, Yucatán.
"Thecla" azia Hew. 1♂, 2. IV, Mérida, Yucatán.
Calycopis sp. (*beon* group) 1♂, 1♀, 10.III; 1♂, 23. VI; 1♀, 26. VI., Mérida, Yucatán.
Callophrys herodotus Fabr. 1♂, 26. VI., Mérida, Yucatán.
Polites athenion Hbn. (=*Pompeius pompeius* Latr.) 1♀, 1. IV, Mérida, Yucatán.

Some of the *Opsiphanes* may have been normally flying around after dark, as most brassolids are usually on the wing at dawn and dusk, preferring to hide in the forest dephths during the daylight hours. It is curious to note that no *Taygetis* spp. (Satyridae) were attracted to Black Light even though many entered my rotten- banana-baited trap nets, indicating that the species were common at the time when I was using the light in Quintana Roo one fall. Species of this genus are rather common at ordinary lights in the country villages in the evening, and can frequently be seen flying around in the dusk.

Calle 66 Norte, No. 426, Mérida, Yucatán, MEXICO

REVIEW

THE ONTOGENY OF INSECTS. Acta symposii de evolutione insectorum, Praha, 1959. 1960. 406 pp. Published by Czechosovak Academy of Sciences. Available from the Publishing house of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, Vodickova 40, Praha 2, Czechoslovakia; price 43.50 Kčs.

The present book contains all papers read during a symposium on the Ontogeny of Insects in Praha 1959. In total, 80 papers are published, of which 25 more or less deal with Lepidoptera.

The symposium has five sections: 1. Morphology and anatomy of the development of insects; 2. Physiology of development; 3. Seasonal periodicity of development (diapause and hibernation); 4. Influence of biotic factors; and 5. Influence of abiotic factors on development.

All papers discussing Lepidoptera will be recorded in the "Recent literature" section of this *Journal.* In this short review I will note only a few papers with special interest for all students of Lepidoptera. These are, *e. g.*: a series of papers on *Bombyx mori, Antherea pernyi,* and related species (by L. H. FINLAYSON, V. J. NOVAK, R. S. USHATINSKAYA, A. GUBICZA, etc.); diapause in *Bupalus piniarius* in relation to host-parasite synchronization (by L. M. SCHOONHOVEN); trehalose in the development of *Celerio euphorbiae* (by I. MOCHACKA and C. PETRYSZYN); a number of papers on *Galleria mellonella;* some interesting reports on pest species (*Hyphantria cunea, Laspeyresia pomonella,* and *Scrobipalpa ocellatella*); and a number of other problems in experimental entomology.

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