

A NEW PHYCITINE GENUS AND SPECIES (PYRALOIDEA)

ANDRÉ BLANCHARD

P.O. Box 20304, Houston, Texas 77025

Atopothoures A. Blanchard, **new genus**

Head (Fig. 4): Labial palpus porrect, second segment slightly ascending, exceeding front by almost $1\frac{1}{2}$ eye diameters, first segment short, third segment not quite as long as second. Maxillary palpus minute, squamous. Tongue very short, very thin, thinly scaled at base, showing between labial palpi, but not separating them. Male antenna (Fig. 6) ciliate, a shallow sinus at base, in what appears to be several fused segments, is bordered by two rows of long scales. Female antenna simple, shortly ciliate.

Forewing (Fig. 8): eleven veins; cell about $\frac{3}{5}$ length of wing; Sc free; R_1 from cell; R_2 from cell, connate or closely approximate to R_{3+4} ; R_5 stalked with R_{3+4} , the stalk about the same length as the free part of R_{3+4} ; M_1 free, straight; M_2 and M_3 stalked for about $\frac{1}{3}$ their length; Cu_1 from lower outer angle of cell; Cu_2 from before angle.

Hindwing (Fig. 9): Sc and Rs anastomosed for about $\frac{1}{2}$ the length of Rs; M_1 from upper angle of cell, remaining closely approximate to the stalk of Sc and Rs for about $\frac{1}{4}$ its length; M_2 missing; M_3 and Cu_1 stalked for about $\frac{1}{2}$ their length; Cu_2 from before lower outer angle of cell.

Male genitalia (Fig. 5): On each side of the bifid uncus and adnate to the tegumen, a sclerotized triangular flap which does not appear to be part of either, but to be attached to both by thin membranes. Gnathos bridging opposite bases of the tegumen, culminating in a flanged process, the lobes of which fuse posteriorly. Juxta lightly sclerotized. Transtilla absent. Vinculum broad, short. Valves subquadrate, simple. Aedeagus stout, flared at base. Vesica unarmed.

Female genitalia (Fig. 7): no sclerotization at genital opening; bursa copulatrix without signum; ductus seminalis from ductus bursae near its junction with bursa.

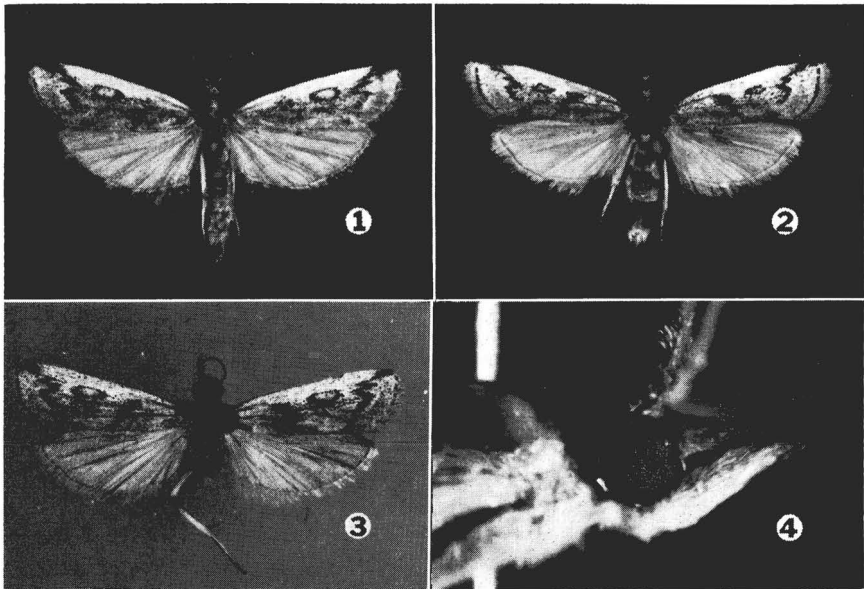
The male genitalia of this new genus are unlike anything in Heinrich's monograph (1956). The triangular flaps on each side of the uncus appear unique and their homology is unclear to me. There are several phycitine genera with a similar venation, but the extreme reduction of the tongue and the several fused segments of the male antennae seem to indicate some affinity with the genera which were classified as *Anerastiinae* before J. C. Shaffer (1968) transferred them to the Phycitinae.

Atopothoures ovaliger A. Blanchard, **new species**

Figs. 1-9

Head: Vertex and front light yellowish brown; palps concolorous, except that first and second segments are whitish beneath. Thorax concolorous with head above, white beneath.

Forewing above: Costal half white, with a sprinkling of orange to red scales, varying from light (mostly in males) to heavy (mostly in females), always much heavier basally and sometime along costa; terminal area and area between cell and inner margin gray, darker; antemedial band not traceable between costa and radial vein, obscure between radial vein and inner border, defined chiefly by an outwardly lying patch of blackish scales, much darker in cell and fold; a black shade



Figs. 1-4. *Atopothoures ovaliger*: 1, ♂ holotype, Junction, Texas, 21 Aug. 1973; 2, ♂ paratype, San Antonio, Texas, 30 Aug. 1973; 3, ♂ paratype, San Antonio, 9 Sept. 1971; 4, head of ♂ paratype, San Antonio, 30 Aug. 1973.

extending from apex, obliquely inward across the subterminal band; subterminal band a faint, pale line inwardly bordered by a strong black line, retracted in front of cell, with a deeper indentation in the fold; on the better marked specimens the discocellular dots are represented by an elliptical spot, outlined in black, with a pale inner area; this spot is extremely variable in size, from about $\frac{1}{3}$ the distance between medial lines to a single small black spot; terminal line of confluent, inter-venular, black dots; fringes whitish.

Hindwing above: White with a creamy or smoky tint; a faint brownish line along termen; fringe paler.

Both wings beneath: Fuscous with a blackish line along termen.

Wing expanse: Males 15.0-20.0 mm; females 18.0-20.5 mm.

Abdomen: Light fuscous above, darker gray beneath.

Male genitalia: As described for the genus. See Fig. 5.

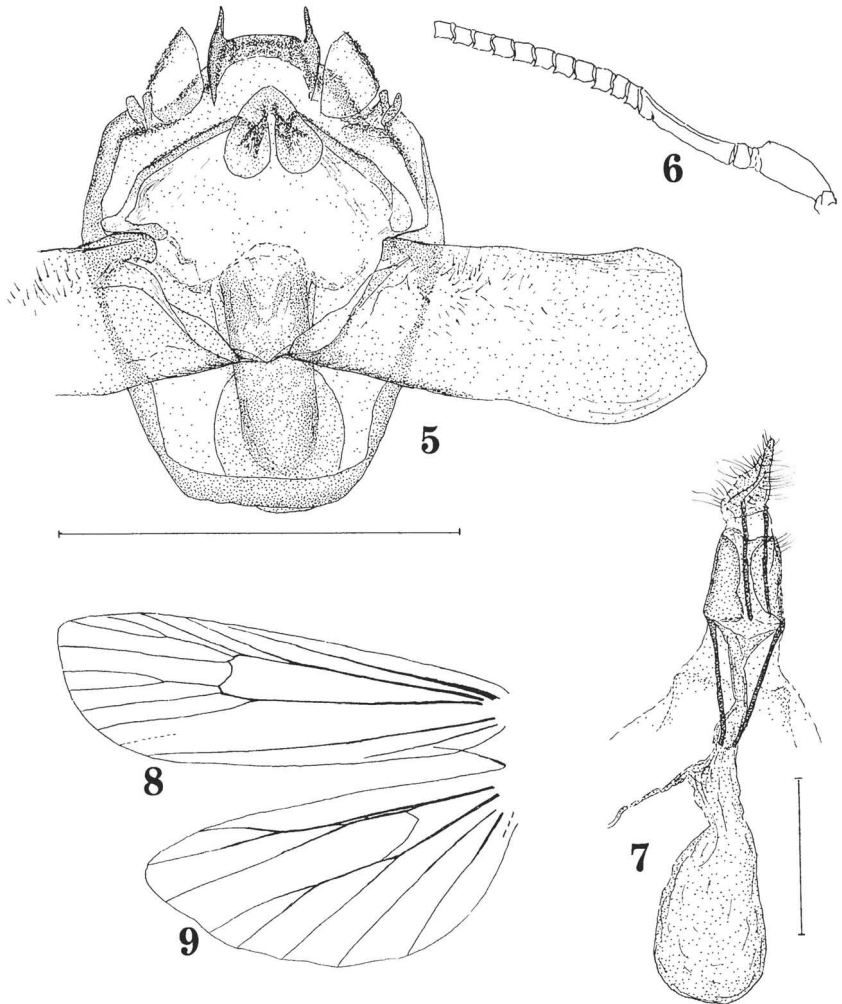
Female genitalia: As described for the genus. See Fig. 7.

Life history: Unknown.

Holotype: Male, Junction, Texas, 21 Aug. 1973, deposited in the National Museum of Natural History (No. 73241).

Paratypes: San Antonio, Texas, Mountain View Acres (Roy Kendall's Ebony Hill Station), 9 Sept. 1971, one ♂; Artesia Wells, Texas, Chaparral Wildlife Management Area, 28 Sept. 1971, one ♂; Junction, 21-24 Aug. 1973, nine ♂♂, six ♀♀; San Antonio, Texas, 30 Aug. 1973, seven ♂♂.

There is in the National Museum one male specimen, from San Benito, Texas, (July 16-23) of which I prepared the genitalia and the right pair of wings (slide U.S.N.M. 52417) which obviously belongs to this new genus and appears to be very close to, although not conspecific with,



Figs. 5-9. *Atopothoures ovaliger*: 5, ♂ genitalia, slide A. B. 3086, Junction, Texas, 24 Aug. 1973; 6, basal segments of ♂ paratype antenna, slide A. B. 2777; 7, ♀ genitalia, slide A. B. 3183, Junction, 21 Aug. 1973; 8-9, forewing and hindwing venation of a ♂ paratype, slide A. B. 2777, San Antonio, 9 Sept. 1971.

ovaliger. In agreement with Dr. D. C. Ferguson it was decided to wait until more material becomes available to describe it.

LITERATURE CITED

- HEINRICH, C. 1956. American moths of the subfamily Phycitinae. Bull. U.S. Nat. Mus. 207, 581 p.
 SHAFFER, J. C. 1968. A revision of the Peoriinae and Anerastiinae (Auctorum) of America north of Mexico. Bull. U.S. Nat. Mus. 280, 124 p.