

OENEIS ALBERTA (SATYRIDAE) IN MONTANA

*Oeneis alberta* Elwes has been taken to date in widely scattered colonies from Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan (*alberta*), Colorado (*oslari* Skinner), Arizona (*daura* (Strecker) and New Mexico (*capulinensis* Brown). On 19 and 20 May 1976, a series of 21 males and 6 females of *alberta* was taken by the author from the high grasslands in the Little Snowy Mountains of central Montana, Fergus and Golden Valley counties. This is a new state record for the species in Montana. Habitat of the Golden Valley County colony is pictured in Fig. 1. Elevation is approximately 6500 feet. Specimens from the colony are shown in Fig. 2. The Montana colonies represent the nominate subspecies.

Additional colonies of *alberta* will probably be discovered in Montana as suitable habitat in areas east of the Continental Divide is explored at the proper time of year. Colonies should also be expected to occur in Wyoming and Utah, though none have been found thus far.

STEVE KOHLER, *Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Division of Forestry, 2705 Spurgin Road, Missoula, Montana 59801.*



Fig. 1. Habitat of *Oeneis alberta* in the Little Snowy Mts., Golden Valley Co., Mont.

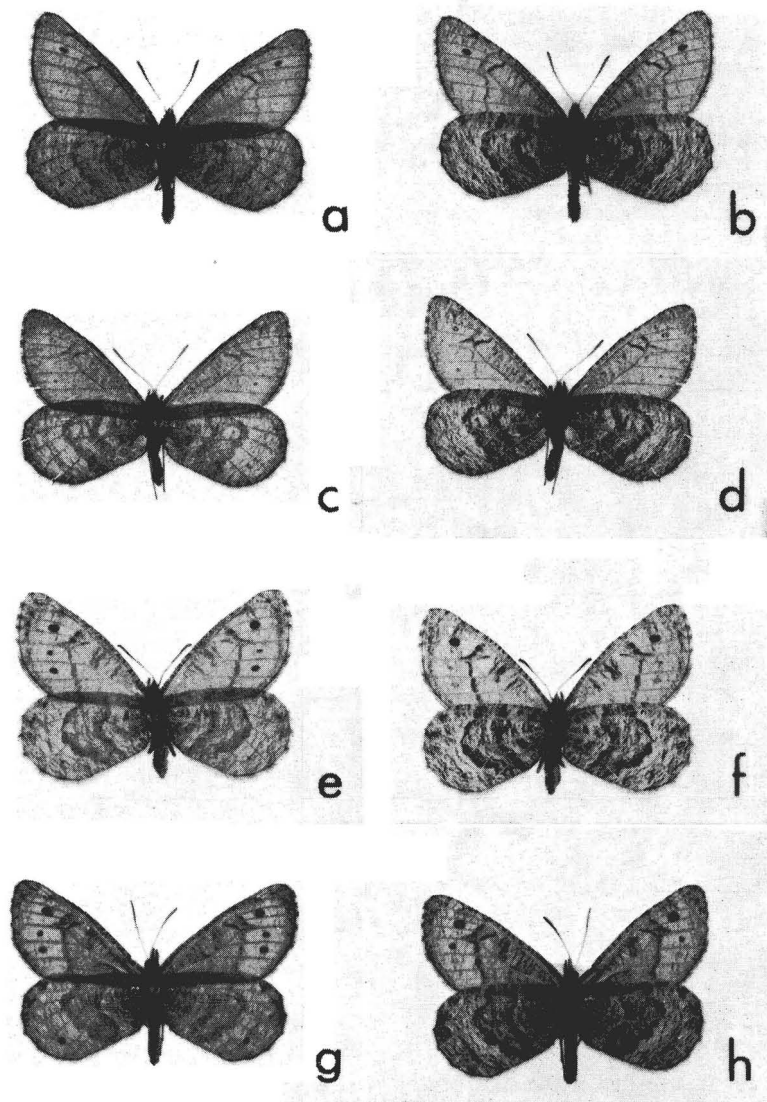


Fig. 2. *Oeneis alberta* from the Little Snowy Mts., Golden Valley Co., Mont. (a & c) males, dorsal; (b & d) same, ventral; (e & g) females, dorsal; (f & h) same, ventral. All photos natural size.