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PIERIS NAPI OLERACEA (PIERIDAE) CAUGHT BY INSECTIVOROUS PLANT

Pieris napi oleracea Harris is frequently found in bog areas (Shull 1977, J. Lepid. Soc. 31: 68-70) and swamps where insectivorous plants may occur. On 20 June 1977, Pamela Matthews, James Douglas, and I were collecting in a white cedar (*Thuja occidentalis* L.) swamp north of Craftsbury, Orleans Co., Vermont. The swamp contains sphagnum moss and small patches of sundew plants (*Drosera rotundifolia* L.). In a sphagnum patch by our trail, we found a dead *P. n. oleracea* female, which was caught by the dorsal surface of its body and wings on several of the sticky sundew leaves. The external cuticle of the hapless butterfly appeared to be intact, but the internal soft parts were gone. Because we had visited this area twice during the previous week, and such a white object near our path would have attracted our attention, we surmise that the butterfly had died recently. How it became caught in the sundew, and whether its internal parts were digested by the plant or by some sucking predator which encountered the immobilized butterfly are not known.

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