

Nectar sources were superabundant (blooming *Vicia*, *Brassica*, and *Centaurea*) and showed no sign of saturation despite the great numbers of butterflies flying. The sample of male *eurytheme* I collected from the puddles contained only large, deep orange, typical "summer" phenotypes. The water content of the vegetation was still high but beginning to decrease markedly, and the weather had been cooler than normal for a week. I have no hypothesis to account for the prevalence of puddling at this site on this date, but it does imply that the capacity to form such aggregations does exist in pure *C. eurytheme*.

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LEPIDOPTERA FROM BOLUSES OF NESTLING CATTLE EGRETS IN EASTERN MISSOURI

The relatively recent immigration and rapid range expansion of the Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis* (L.)) in North America (Crosby 1972, *Bird-banding* 43: 205-212) has elicited several studies on the feeding behavior and diet of this bird in the United States (e.g., Hanebrink & Denton 1969, *Arkansas Acad. Sci. Proc.* 23: 74-79; Fogarty & Hetrick 1973, *Auk* 90: 268-380; Jenni 1973, *Auk* 90: 821-826). The studies that have been published to date in the U.S.A. mainly provide only the family names of the arthropod prey species, and their only consensus relative to arthropods is that they are a major item in the diet of nestling Cattle Egrets. It seems logical to anticipate that more precise determinations of the arthropod species could help ornithologists designate certain of the prey species as indicators of portions of the adult Cattle Egret's foraging habitat and thereby more accurately interpret the bird's overall ecology and behavior.

As part of a preliminary study of the diet of nestling Cattle Egrets, Dr. Jean W. Graber, Illinois Natural History Survey, collected regurgitated boluses from a heronry containing ca. 300 active Cattle Egret nests on Billings Island in the Mississippi River, Scott Co., Missouri, on 30 June and 6 July 1975. Approximately 20 boluses were collected on each sampling date. They were preserved in 70 percent ethyl alcohol and subsequently examined by me for lepidopterous prey.

The two sets of boluses contained 45 caterpillars and 2 moths representing 9 species and 4 families (Table 1). The caterpillars in the boluses were in remarkably good condition thereby facilitating identification of most species. All except two of the caterpillars, *Leucania* sp. and the single pyralid, are known to be common in field crops in the midwestern part of the U.S.A. In fact, the species complex suggests that the caterpillars were captured by adult Cattle Egrets in a legume-grass habitat such as an alfalfa (*Medicago sativa* L.) or soybean (*Glycine max* (L.) Merr.) field. The geometrid moth, *Haematopsis grataria* Fabricius, frequently may be encountered in short, mixed herbaceous habitats, e.g., weedy pastures and crop borders (pers. obs.).

Plathypena scabra (Fabricius) primarily feeds on legumes (Pedigo, et al. 1973, *J. Econ. Ent.* 66: 665-673) as do the only two species of *Colias* that occur in eastern Missouri (see Klots 1960, *A Field Guide to the Butterflies of North America East of the Great Plains*. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston. 349 + xvi p.). The low numbers of *Pseudaletia unipuncta* (Haworth) and *Leucania* sp., which are both grass-feeding caterpillars (Godfrey 1972, *U.S.D.A. Tech. Bull.* 1450, 265 pp.) suggests a limited amount of grass cover in the areas foraged by the adult Cattle Egrets on the dates sampled.

TABLE 1. Lepidoptera from regurgitated boluses of nestling Cattle Egrets (*Bubulcus ibis*).

Family	Species	Larval Foodplants	Number of Larvae		Number of Adults	
			30 June	7 July	30 June	7 July
Geometridae	<i>Haematopsis grataria</i>	—	—	—	1	1
Noctuidae	<i>Agrotis ipsilon</i>	General feeder	8	12	—	—
	<i>Caenurgina</i> sp. (<i>crassiuscula</i> or <i>erechtea</i>)	Grasses, legumes	1	1	—	—
	<i>Leucania</i> sp.	Grasses	—	1	—	—
	<i>Plathypena scabra</i>	Legumes	1	14	—	—
	<i>Pseudaletia unipuncta</i>	Grasses	—	2	—	—
	<i>Spodoptera ornithogalli</i>	General feeder	—	3	—	—
Pieridae	<i>Colias</i> sp. (<i>eurytheme</i> or <i>philodice</i>)	Legumes	1	—	—	—
Pylalidae	Genus ? species ?	Unknown	1	—	—	—

Caenurgina species have been associated with both grasses and legumes (Crumb 1956, U.S.D.A. Tech. Bull. 1135, 356 pp.). *Spodoptera orinithogalli* (Guenée), a general feeder (Crumb 1929, U.S.D.A. Tech. Bull. 88, 179 pp.), is found frequently on soybeans in the midwestern U.S.A., but not as commonly as *Plathypena scabra* (pers. obs.). The polyphagous *Agrotis ipsilon* (Hufnagel) apparently is associated with moist soil habitats (see Walkden 1950, U.S.D.A. Cir. 849, 52 pp.). *Agrotis ipsilon* also has been reported as a common lepidopteran species in the stomachs of Cattle Egrets shot near Cairo and Simbellaween, Egypt (Kirkpatrick 1925, Egypt Ministry Agr. Tech. Serv. Bull. 56, 28 pp.). This similarity does not suggest that adult Cattle Egrets specifically forage for the larvae of *A. ipsilon*, but does indicate that there might be common denominators in the larval habitat of this noctuid and the foraging habitat of adult Cattle Egrets that could aid investigations of both species.

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NEW FOODPLANT RECORDS FOR *EUPHYDRYAS EDITHA* AND *EUPHYDRYAS CHALCEDONA* (NYMPHALIDAE)

On 6 June 1978, I located a small colony of *Euphydryas editha* (Boisduval) near Frenchman's Lake in Plumas Co., California. The colony was at about 7,000 ft elevation, in a dry open meadow transversed by a small semi-permanent creek. The adult butterflies (which were well flown and worn), and particularly females, seemed to be associated with a small yellow plant in the family Scrophulariaceae. A close investigation of this plant, which was later determined to be *Castilleja pilosa* (Wats.) Rydberg, revealed two small tents of first-instar (pre-diapause) larvae. The tents contained a