

A NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS *PEORIA* RAGONOT
(PYRALIDAE)

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ABSTRACT. This paper includes a description of the new North American species *Peoria padreella*.

***Peoria padreella* A. Blanchard, new species**

Description. Frons with conical tuft of pale grayish luteous scales; labial palpi porrect, three times as long as eye diameter, basal segment pale luteous, second and third segments grayish luteous, paler beneath; maxillary palpi reaching apex of frontal tuft. Antennae luteous; pubescence about as long as shaft diameter in male, finely ciliate in female. Occiput, vertex, patagia, tegulae and dorsum of thorax shiny luteous; legs pale luteous.

Forewing (Fig. 1). Reddish luteous, the reddish tint more noticeable in frontal half along basal two thirds of costa; irregularly sprinkled with blackish scales, more heavily in distal fourth and at base of fringe. Fringe somewhat paler than ground color, without black scales.

Hindwing (Fig. 1). Paler luteous than forewing, without reddish tint nor black scales; fringes concolorous.

Length of forewing. Males 6.1 and 6.7 mm, female 6.3 mm.

Venation. Forewing, R_2 stalked with R_{3+5} , the stalk as long as the free part of R_2 ; M_1 free, M_2 absent, M_3 very shortly stalked with Cu 1; Cu 2 from near lower outer angle of cell; discocellular vein extremely weak. Hindwing, R_s stalked with Sc+R, the stalk about as long as the free part of Sc+R; M_{2+3} completely fused with Cu 1; Cu 2 from near lower outer angle of cell; only the ends of the discocellular vein are visible.

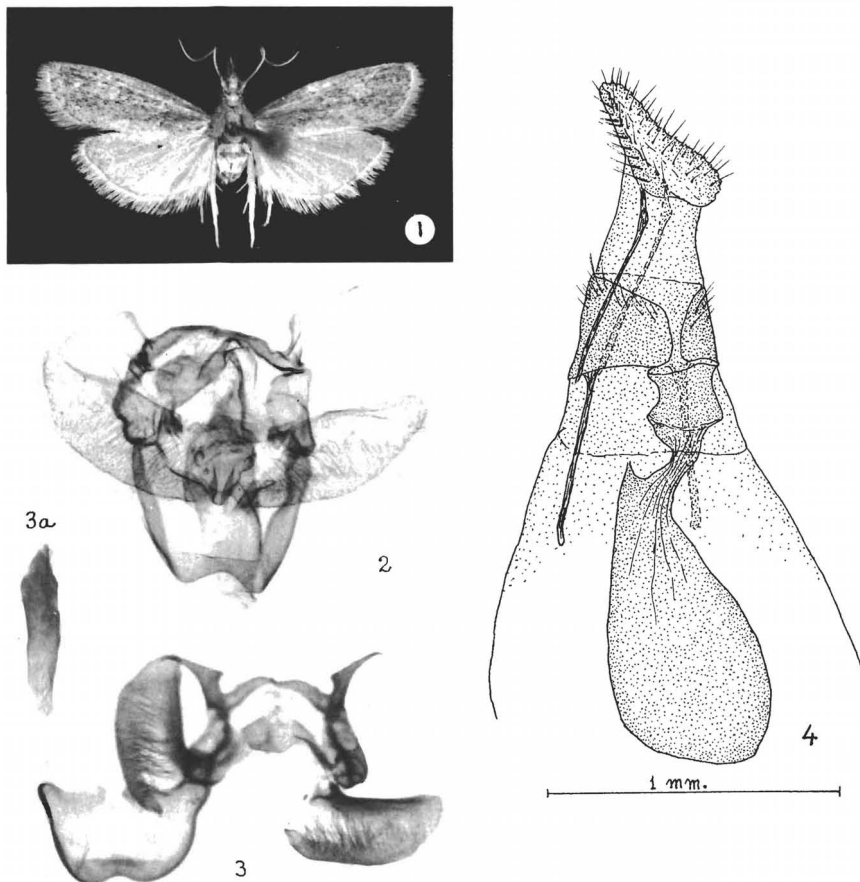
Male genitalia (Figs. 2, 3 & 3a). The slide of Fig. 2 (A.B. 3758) was prepared in the conventional manner; it is somewhat distorted. The slide of Figs. 3 and 3a (Knudson slide) was prepared following the procedure used by J. C. Shaffer (1968, pages 3 and 4). The paired lateral spicate processes of the uncus have only one well developed arm instead of two like all other species of the genus, but the missing arm is indicated by a short blunt knob. The gnathos is thin, weakly sclerotized and without an apical spicate process; it is much widened in its middle. The juxta missing in Fig. 3 is quite obvious in Fig. 2. The vesica of the aedeagus (Fig. 3a) is unarmed. Valves with simple costa.

Female genitalia (Fig. 4, from slide A.B. 4607). Bursa thinly membranous, without signum; ductus seminalis from small pointed diverticulum near junction to ductus bursae; ductus bursae short in its narrow part, becoming as wide as about two fifths the diameter of eighth segment at its ostial end; ostial chamber about as long as wide.

Types. Holotype: ♂, Padre Island National Seashore, Kleberg Co., Texas, 24 June 1976, collected by A. & M. E. Blanchard, deposited in the National Museum of Natural History, type No. 76140. Paratypes: Padre Island National Seashore, Kleberg Co., Texas, 30 Sept. 1975, 13 Oct. 1979, ♀♀ collected by A. & M. E. Blanchard. North Padre Island, Nueces Co., Texas, 1 Oct. 1977, ♂ collected by E. C. Knudson.

Remarks. *Peoria padreella* differs from all other species of the genus in having one-arm spicate processes of the uncus (instead of the usual two-arm ones). The southeastern *Peoria roseitinctella* (Ragonot), the Brazilian *P. punctilineella* (Hampson) (see Shaffer 1976a, p. 301) and *P. punctata* Shaffer (1976b) appear to be the only other species of the genus with six-vein hindwings.

Table I (Shaffer, 1968, p. 12) compares 12 sets of characters for the known North American species of *Peoria*. For *P. padreella* the symbols O, *, O, O, O, O, O, p, x, ss, O, O may be added in columns 1 through 12 of that table.



FIGS. 1-4. *Peoria padrella*. 1, ♂ holotype; 2, genitalia of holotype. 3, ♂ genitalia of paratype (Knudson slide); 3a, aedeagus. 4, ♀ genitalia of paratype.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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LITERATURE CITED

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