

is a modification of the scent pouch of *Troides*. These long hairs are covered with a pheromone which is brushed by direct contact onto the antennae of the female during the courtship flight, but the hairs are not displaced. If the hindwings of a fresh male of *O. priamus poseidon*, for example, are placed on white card and stuck tightly beneath clear sticky-backed plastic, from the scent hairs only an orange compound, which presumably contains the pheromone, is slowly leached off through the glue reminiscent of a chromatogram.

During copulation a gelatinous substance is produced by the accessory glands of the male. This is soft and clear at first with a slight yellowish tinge and almost fills the genital cavity of the female once the male has parted. Later it dries hard and becomes opaque and dark brown. This is the sphragis, which is thought to act as a barrier to further insemination. However, as some ovipositing females have been found to have lost this, it appears more likely that it is the presence of the large spermatophore (which fills the bursa copulatrix) that produces a stimulus to reject further males. Nevertheless in *Cressida* and *Parnassius* (Papilionidae) and *Miyana* (Nymphalidae) the sphragis is external, very large, and is permanent and surely must physically prevent further pairing. Of the photographs in figure 65 (p. 87) of Haugum & Low (1979, A Monograph of the Birdwing Butterflies. Vol. 1, part 2, Scand. Sci. Press) of supposed sphragis in *O. priamus*, only the central picture shows this. The outer two merely figure the artificially distended genital plates of the female. Specimens killed by injection with ethyl acetate, for example, often die in this latter condition.

MICHAEL PARSONS, *Lepidoptera Research Project, Insect Farming and Trading Agency, Division of Wildlife, P.O. Box 129, Bulolo, Morobe Province, Papua New Guinea.*

Journal of the Lepidopterists' Society
37(1), 1983, 85-86

ALBINIC VARIANTS OF *CHLOSYNÉ NYCTEIS* FROM CONNECTICUT (NYMPHALIDAE)

On 8 July 1979 two albinic males of *Chlosyne nycteis* (Dblly.) were collected along a woodland trail on water company land near Lake Gaillard, North Branford, New Haven Co., Connecticut. One specimen has the usual orange-red ground color entirely replaced by white (Fig. 1). The other is only partially albinic, with creamy overlay in the hindwing medial and forewing subapical areas, and on wing bases. In both, the melanic border and markings are apparently unaltered. These specimens were taken in the company of typical orange-red *C. nycteis*. Some 10 to 15 adults were seen in the area on that day. A third specimen, also fully albinic, was collected 1 July 1979 at the same locality by William Martha. We are aware of no other wild-captured albinic *C. nycteis*.

The white color may represent the expression of an extremely rare allele akin to "whitish" and "blonde" of *Colias* (see Remington, 1954, *Lepid. News* 7:139-145). That the specimens were collected from within a small, local population of *C. nycteis* also suggests they may be the progeny of a single female. Oliver (1979, *J. Lepid. Soc.* 32: 309) and Shapiro (1966, *Butterflies of the Delaware Valley*, *Spec. Publ. Amer. Entomol. Soc.* 20) have reported albinos of *Phyciodes tharos* Drury from Pennsylvania. It is of interest to note the occurrence of similar white phenotypes in these two very closely related butterfly genera. Albinics have yet to segregate out of mass cultures of *C. nycteis*, *C. harrisii* (Scudder), and *Phyciodes* spp. (C. G. Oliver, pers. comm.). Our two

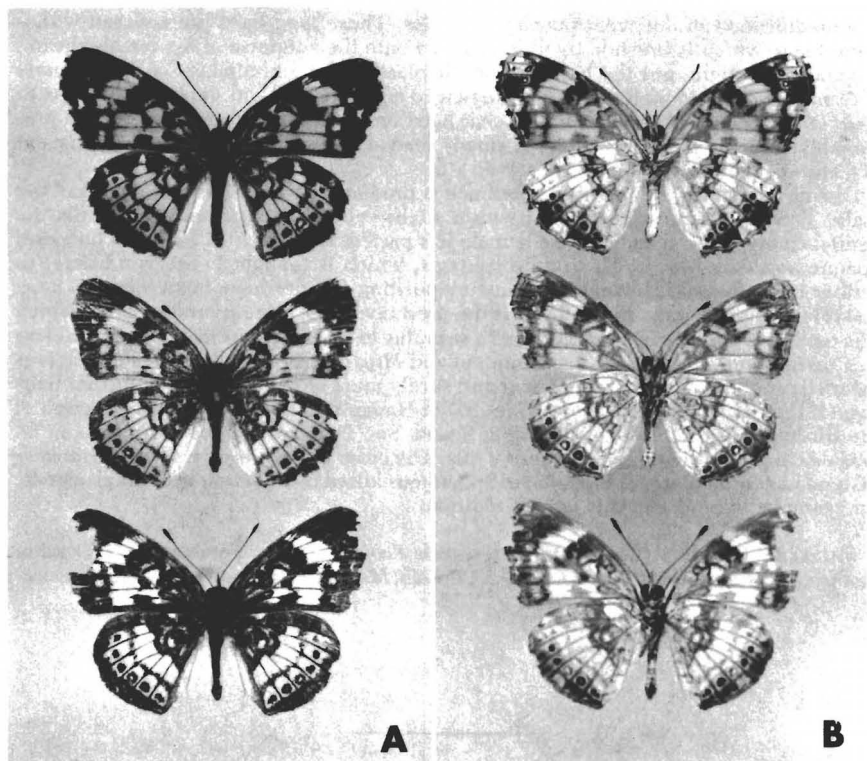


FIG. 1. Albinic variants of *Chlosyne nycteis*. **A**, Dorsal surfaces. From top: normal male, partial albinic, total albinic; **B**, Ventral surfaces of same specimens as in A. Specimens collected 8 July 1979, near Lake Gaillard, North Branford, New Haven Co., CT, leg. L. F. Gall & D. F. Schweitzer. Color filter used to enhance contrast between albinics and normal male.

specimens have been deposited in the entomological collections at the Peabody Museum of Natural History, Yale University.

LAWRENCE F. GALL AND DALE F. SCHWEITZER, *Department of Biology, and Entomology Section, Peabody Museum, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut 06520.*