

THE SECOND SPECIMEN OF *EPARGYREUS SPANNA* (HESPERIIDAE)

Epargyreus spanna was named (Evans, 1952, Cat. Amer. Hesperidae, Pt. II:46) on the basis of a single female with the locality datum of "Santo Domingo"; the specimen had been collected in 1855. Riley (1975, Field Guide to the Butterflies of the West Indies, p. 158) characterized and figured (Pl. 21) the species. *Epargyreus spanna* has apparently not been collected since 1855. Brown and Heineman (1972, Jamaica and Its Butterflies, p. 357) suggested that *E. spanna* is a subspecies of Jamaican *E. antaeus* Hewitson; although the two species are similar in details of the female genitalia and in having a bold silvery-white bar on the unhw, *E. antaeus* is much the smaller of the two taxa (female fw length 27-28 mm in *antaeus*, 34 mm in *spanna*). Both species appear to be rare (Brown and Heineman listed only thirteen localities for *E. antaeus*, and Evans examined only 21 specimens), but *E. spanna* has been known only from the holotype.

The specimen is a gravid female with a fw length of 35 mm. The up ground color of both wings is very dark brown, the uphw unmarked, the upfw with three subapical white dots, the lowest one in R_5-M_1 displaced more apically than those in R_4-R_5 and R_3-R_4 and comma-shaped. The remaining five spots are yellowish and arranged as in Riley's color plate except that the lowermost in Cu_2-2A slightly overlaps that in Cu_1-Cu_2 , and that in the cell is not indented along its outer margin. The unfw is marked and colored like the up. The silvery-white hw bar is 5 mm wide at its widest part and the short brown bar that breaks the costal extreme of the white bar almost completely cuts off the more discal portion of the white bar at this costal margin. Riley also showed a pale semilunar marking at the anal end of the white bar; this pale marking is barely discernible in our specimen (Fig. 1).

The area where the *E. spanna* was taken lies at 915 m and 10 km W Jayaco, Provincia de la Vega. The site is a mountain torrent, strewn with boulders and alternating with flat areas of slack water. The stream is reached by a 100 m path from the Jayaco-El Rio road. The region is generally well forested with deciduous forest, in which the forest palm (*Prestoea montana*) is common. The stream is generally open (i.e., the canopy does not close above it), and the forest may come to the stream edge, or the banks may have a border of shrubs, bushes, and grasses.

The skipper was taken at 1400 h on 17 August 1981. The precise area was along a slack-water pool about 0.3 m deep; below the pool the stream was steep and torrential,



FIG. 1. Upper and underside views of female *E. spanna* (7327 in the collection of the junior author).

above the pool a steep (and impassable) fall. The stream at this point is about 5 m wide and is open, with a high canopy on the sloping banks, but with shrubs and bushes along the stream itself. The day was overcast in general, but the sun alternately appeared and disappeared. Generally, collecting was poor and at the site of capture of the *E. spanna* no other butterflies were seen. Just below the pool *Lycorea ceres* Cramer was moderately abundant but not (the usually common) *Greta diaphana* Drury. The estimated distance of this spot is 1 km from the path from the road to the stream, but this estimate may be too great. In any event, the pool is at the upper end of the stream beyond which it is difficult to continue.

The *E. spanna* flew across the stream; the flight was slow and ponderous and not darting, perhaps due to the greatly enlarged abdomen with eggs. The skipper landed on the top of a leaf of a streamside shrub about 1.5 m above the ground and adjacent to the pool; the wings were held open. The general impression of the skipper in flight was of *Colobura dirce* Linnaeus (doubtless due to the white underside pattern), but the flight was completely different from the rapid and darting flight of that species.

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BATTUS ZETIDES IN THE REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA

The papilionid *Battus zetides* Munroe is endemic to the Antillean island of Hispaniola. Hall (1925, *The Entomol.* 58:162) considered the species "Apparently very rare" and recorded a single specimen from La Vega, República Dominicana as the only example with "exact" locality data, although there existed other specimens (with imprecise locality data—Haiti—in British collections). Riley (1975, *Field Guide to the Butterflies of the West Indies*, p. 140) gave the range in an anomalous manner: "Known only from Haiti, La Vega, and apparently very rare. Should also occur in the Dominican Republic." His statement of range is, of course, taken from Hall, but he has confused the two countries involved. Marión Heredia (1980, *Naturalista Postal*, 26/80) noted the capture of a series of specimens on 3 October 1976 at Las Auyamas, Polo, Provincia de Barahona, República Dominicana; he regarded these as the first specimens from that country, apparently unaware that Hall had mentioned the La Vega locality many years earlier. Considering the time of that record, it seems likely that it does not apply to the city of that name which lies at an elevation of about 100 m, but rather to the Cordillera Central south of La Vega. The Las Auyamas record is from an elevation of about 1000 m.

Additionally, Riley (1975:Pl. 18) figured a specimen of *B. zetides* without tails; whereas, Lewis (1973, *Butterflies of the World*, p. 23) figured a specimen with tails. This can be clarified immediately, since the plate in Riley is in error; the species is indeed tailed.

Between 19 June and 19 August 1981, we made collections of butterflies throughout much of the República Dominicana. The period of 13 July to 21 July we spent at the guest house of the Alcoa Exploration Company at Cabo Rojo. In this region there are two roads that ascend the mountains to the north: 1) Alcoa's private road to their bauxite mines at Aceitillar in the Sierra de Baoruco, and 2) the Dominican border road that parallels the Dominico-Haitian border from Pedernales (at sea level) to Los Arroyos on the southern face, and thence over the mountains (which here are a continuation of