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Notes on Some Bees from Virginia

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Chell.
1915

Mr. Busck reported for the Committee appointed to draw up resolutions in commemoration of Dr. Theodore Gill.¹

Mr. W. H. White was elected to active membership.

At the close of the program the following visitors were called on for remarks:

Mr. Edward R. Speyer, a Carnegie student, spoke of entomological conditions in England.

Mr. John N. Summers of the Gipsy Moth Laboratory, gave a short account of his recent trip to Europe and of the conditions present in the forests where the Gipsy moth occurs.

The following papers were presented:

Reply to Criticism by Aldrich, Presented at the 277th Meeting..

Dr. C. H. T. Townsend²

A Destructive European Pine Moth, *Evetria buoliana*, Introduced into the United States.....August Busck³

NOTES ON SOME BEES FROM VIRGINIA.

By T. D. A. COCKERELL, *Boulder, Colorado.*

Mr. S. A. Rohwer has forwarded the following flower records referring to bees collected at Falls Church, Virginia. One of the females is undescribed and is herewith characterized.

VISITORS OF *Helianthus annuus coronatus*.

The following bees were taken collecting the pollen on the red sunflowers:

Halictus ligatus Say. det. Crawford.

Bombus pennsylvanicus (De Geer) Franklin det. Crawford.

Bombus impatiens Cresson det. Crawford.

Melissodes dentiventris Smith det. Cockerell. Mr. Rohwer notes that this bee visits the sunflowers in the mornings; he never took it in the afternoon.

¹ Published in these Proceedings, vol. xvi, no. 1.

² Withdrawn from publication.

³ Withdrawn for publication elsewhere.

VISITORS OF *Phaseolus lunatus*.

The following two species are common visitors of the lima beans where they collect nectar:

Bombus pennsylvanicus (De Geer) Franklin det. Crawford.

Bombus ferridus Fabricius det. Crawford.

The following three species of *Megachile* collect pollen and are useful in cross fertilization. An especially important cross pollinator in the locality studied is the female described below.

Megachile exilis Cresson det. Cockerell.

Megachile latimanus Say det. Cockerell.

***Megachile petulans* Cresson.**

Female. Length about 11.5 mm. Black, the tarsi slightly reddish at extreme apex, the flagellum with very obscure dark reddish spots on the joints beneath; hair of head and thorax black and white, the tuft behind wings cream-color; ventral scopa pale yellow, becoming white basally, black at extreme apex, but yellow on base of last segment; eyes dark (not green); cheeks and vertex small; vertex with black hair, clypeus with some black hair, front with black hair intermixed, face otherwise, and cheeks with white hair; clypeus and supraclypeal area shining, but closely and strongly punctured, no smooth median line on clypeus; lower edge of clypeus gently concave, with a very small median tubercle, not projecting below the margin; maxillary blades clear amber-color; first joint of labial palpi 1200 μ long, second, 975 μ , tongue extending about 1360 μ beyond labial palpi; mesothorax and scutellum densely punctured, but moderately shining between the punctures; discs of mesothorax and scutellum with black hair, but thin white hair on mesothorax anteriorly, white hair on scutellum posteriorly, and a band of dense white hair in scutello-mesothoracic suture; pleura covered with white hair; tegulae black; wings dusky, especially apically; nervures dark; hair of legs mainly white, that on inner side of tarsi ferruginous; short joints of anterior tarsi thickened; middle and hind tarsi broadened, hind basitarsi very broad and flat; abdomen broad cordiform, shining, very finely punctured, with very narrow entire white hair-bands on hind margins of segments, that on first reduced to a fine ciliation except at sides; when the abdomen is seen from above, only a rather small amount of short black hair projects at sides; sixth dorsal segment in lateral profile short and straight, with thin black hair like that on fifth, though there is also a very delicate greyish pruinosity. Mandibles with two sharp teeth, a third truncate, and a long inner edge.

Habitat: East Falls Church, Virginia, at flowers of lima beans, along with *M. exilis* Cresson, ♂, and *M. latimanus* Say, ♀, August 9 (S. A. Rohwer). It is readily distinguished from *M. infragilis* Cresson by the 4-dentate mandibles (with the fourth or inner tooth not at all salient, merely a straight cutting edge),

and the first joint of labial palpi longer than second. From *M. relativa* Cresson by the shape of the abdomen, band in scutello-mesothoracic suture, etc. From *M. mendica* Cresson by the black hair on dorsum of sixth abdominal segment, the entire bands, etc.

TWO HUNDRED AND EIGHTIETH MEETING,

NOVEMBER 5, 1914.

The 280th regular meeting of the Society was entertained by Dr. L. O. Howard, in the Sængerbund Hall, November 5, 1914. There were present Messrs. Abbott, Baker, Barber, Böving, Busck, Caudell, Cory, Craighead, Crawford, DeGryse, Duckett, Ely, Fisher, Gahan, Greene, Howard, Hunter, Hutchinson, Knab, Kotinsky, McIndoo, Marlatt, Popenoe, Rohwer, Sanford, Sasscer, Schwarz, Shannon, Simanton, Snyder, Townsend, Turner, Walton, Webb, White and Wood, members, and Dr. J. C. Bradley, Messrs. Dwight Isely, H. G. Champion and E. W. Rust, visitors.

At the close of the regular program the following visitors were called on for remarks:

Mr. Champion, a Carnegie student, spoke of the scientific societies at Oxford, and also recounted some experiments with small mutillids parasitic on cicindellid larvæ.

Dr. J. C. Bradley of Cornell University spoke of certain entomological activities now under way in New York State.

The following papers were presented:

Remarks on *Dialeyrodes*.....A. L. Quaintance and A. C. Baker¹
Notes on Some of our Meetings.....S. A. Rohwer²

¹ Withdrawn for publication elsewhere.

² Withdrawn from publication.

ON ACROCERCOPS STRIGIFINITELLA CLEMENS.

BY CARL HEINRICH, *Branch of Forest Insects, U. S. Bureau of Entomology.*

AND

REV. J. J. DEGRYSE.

HISTORICAL.

This interesting microlepidopteron was first described by Clemens in 1860 under the name *Gracilaria strigifinitella* and again by Chambers in 1872 as *G. duodecemliniella*. In 1875 Chambers redescribed it as *Ornix quercifoliella*, appending the following note: "a single specimen received from Miss Murtfeldt who informs me that the larva curls down the edge of oak leaves (sic!). In its earlier stages it is probably a leaf miner." Busck in 1902 established the above synonymy and referred the species to Walsingham's genus, *Dialectica* with the further information that he had reared a single specimen from oak leaves collected at Washington, D. C. Meyrick has since proved *Dialectica* to be a synonym of *Acrocercops* and has placed *strigifinitella* in Group C (Gen. Ins. Fasc. 123) of that genus with another North American species, a single European and several Australian forms.

In the spring of 1913 one of the authors (Heinrich) found at Falls Church, Va., a lepidopterous larva mining the midribs of chestnut, chinquapin and oak leaves. Adults reared from these and from similar larvæ in leaves of *Fagus americana*,¹ were determined by Mr. Busck as *Acrocercops strigifinitella*. Further investigations were continued by the authors during the past summer. Chestnut appears to be the favorite food plant and during mid-summer the work of the species is very common, few of the young leaves escaping infestation, some bearing as many as four separate mines. When the proper food supply is abundant, however, there is rarely more than one or two to the leaf. There are a number of generations with considerable overlapping so that larvæ are to be found any time from May till well on into October. The first larval brood appears in spring as soon as the leaves are formed. During July and August the dominant period in the seasonal life of the species is reached. Towards fall there is a gradual diminution in numbers, and during October a partial dying out of the species, due in great measure to the scarcity of new leaves which are necessary to the successful maturing of the larvæ. In the neighborhood of Washington, D. C., the last larval brood appears early in October. The manner in which the species overwinters has not been definitely

¹ Elkmont Tenn., T. E. Snyder, U. S. Bur. of Ent., Collector.