

ANOTHER LARVAL FOODPLANT FROM TEXAS FOR
ANTIGONUS PULVERULENTA (HESPERIIDÆ)

by ROY O. KENDALL

Abutilon wrightii Gray is the second larval foodplant for *Antigonus pulverulenta* Felder found in Bexar County, Texas. Information on the other known larval foodplant, *Wissadula holosericea* (Scheele) Garcke, of this species may be found elsewhere (*Journ. lepid. soc.* 13: 221-228; 1960).

The first evidence that *A. wrightii* was a suitable larval foodplant for this skipper came to my attention 31 May 1957 when I found two pupæ on it. A third pupa was found on this same species of plant 31 August 1958. It was not until 1 April 1959 that eggs were found. By early June 1959 *A. wrightii* had been transplanted to my backyard and was growing quite well. *A. pulverulenta* was observed to deposit eggs on it at various times during the remainder of 1959. Frequent inspections revealed numerous larvæ feeding on the leaves. While most of the larvæ mature and adults emerge during the season in which the eggs are deposited, a few late ones will overwinter in the pupa stage and emerge early in February.

A. wrightii is relatively scarce and its trailing habit makes it difficult to find. One should watch for it along well drained slopes and ridges in hilly sections of its range. *W. holosericea*, the other known foodplant, usually grows in small patches and because of its height may be located easily by the collector as he drives along ranch and farm-to-market roads in the area. The distribution of both these plants is southwestern Texas; an area generally encompassing Comal, Bexar, Nueces, Webb, Maverick, Brewster, Reeves, and Jeff Davis Counties. It is throughout this same general area that *A. pulverulenta* has been found.

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