

NOCTUIDAE

- Acronicta rubricoma* Guenée. Black light; Lakehurst, June 4.
- Acronicta dactylina* Grote, melanic form. Black light; Lebanon, June 27.
A new record for the State.
- Eurois occulta* Linnaeus. Black light; Montague, August 27.
- Oncocnemis saundersiana* Grote. Black light; Lebanon, October 28.
- Agrotis buchholzi* Barnes & Benjamin. Black light, Lakehurst, June 4.
- Eupsilia morrisoni* Grote. Black light; Lebanon, November 18 and 23.
- Neperigea costa* Barnes & Benjamin. Black light; Montague, July 27.
A new record for the State.
- Magusa orbifera*, "divaricata" Grote. Black light, Lebanon, August 21.
- Amolita roseola* Smith. Black light; Montague, July 30. A new record for the State.
- Abrostola urentis* Guenée. Black light; Montague, October 10.
- Catocala maestosa* Hulst. Bait trap; Lebanon, August 28. A new record for the State.
- Zale phaeocapna* Franclemont. Black light; Lebanon, April 27. Determined by genitalic dissection. A new record for the State.
- Zale metatoides* McDunnough. Black light; Montague, June 10. A new record for the State.
- Gabara pulverosalis* Walker. Black light; Lakehurst August 14. A new record for the State.
- Rivula propinqualis* Guenée. Black light; Lebanon, October 28.

I wish to thank C. F. dos Passos and A. E. Brower for determining some of the specimens.

A NEW SUBSPECIES OF *BREPHIDIUM EXILIS* FROM YUCATAN
(LEPIDOPTERA: LYCAENIDAE)

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Some years ago Eduardo C. Welling, of Mérida, Yucatán, México, sent me a few specimens of a *Brephidium* he had taken on the north coast of Yucatán. It was obvious, as soon as they had been examined genitally, that they represented *exilis* Boisduval, but they belonged to

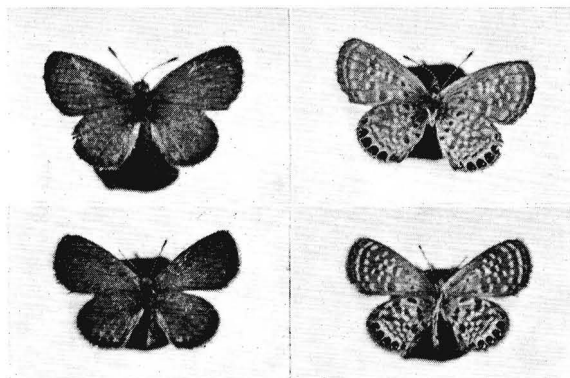


Fig. 1. *Brephidium exilis yucateca* Clench. Top left, male holotype, upperside; top right, same specimen, underside. Bottom left, female paratype, Progreso, Yucatan, 15.x.1958, upperside; bottom right, same specimen, underside.

no known subspecies. Publication was deferred, partly in the hope of obtaining additional material, and partly because more information was desirable on the distribution of *exilis*, particularly along the eastern coast of México. Both of these desiderata have now been filled.

***Brephidium exilis yucateca* Clench, new subspecies**

This new subspecies differs strikingly from both nominate *exilis* Boisduval and subspecies *isophthalma* Herrich-Schäffer. It is about the size of *B. e. exilis* and therefore slightly larger than *B. e. isophthalma*. Above as dark as *isophthalma* and darker than, and without golden sheen of nominate *exilis*.

Hindwing often with row of faint pale (ashen) lunules capping subterminal black spots. Underside of forewing with two sharp and distinct, parallel rows of pale subterminal bars, heavier than pm series (in both *e. exilis* and *isophthalma* these usually are fainter than pm series), basal area with two sharp and clear, pale post-basal ring-like marks, one in cell and one in base of Cu_{2-2A} below cell, (nearly always absent in nominate *exilis*; in *isophthalma* sometimes absent and sometimes present, yet faint, the variability depending, at least to some extent, on the island source). Pm series of forewing below sharper, more distinct, with component bars slightly thicker than in either of other two subspecies; pm area of forewing underside without orange, ground color and dark hindwing discal markings chocolate brown, often grayish, very nearly concolorous with the forewing base (in nominate *exilis* flushed with golden orange, contrasting sharply with the gray basal area, this golden orange extending over even to the discal brown markings on hindwing; similar in *isophthalma*, the orange duller and less extensive).

Holotype male México, Progreso, Yucatán, 15 October 1958 (E. C. Welling); (δ genitalia slide no. C-824, CM). Three paratypes, same data; seven paratypes, same locality and collector, XII-3-1962; six paratypes,

Chicxulub Puerto [about 2 km E of Progreso], Yucatán, I-8-1967 (E. C. Welling). All specimens deposited in Carnegie Museum, type series no. 516.

Nominate *Brephidium exilis* has been found over an extremely large area, from Nebraska to Oregon, south in the east to Veracruz and in the west through Baja California, Sonora and Sinaloa. Godman & Salvin (1887, Biol. Centr.-Amer. Rhop. 2: 109) also record it from two salt marshes on the Pacific coast of Guatemala. These specimens should be re-examined to ascertain their subspecific identity.

Large portions of this area are probably inhabited only on a transient basis, for *B. e. exilis* is a great wanderer. It is doubtful that it can overwinter north of central Texas, or above 3-5000 feet elevation southward. The primary residence areas are in coastal salt flats and salt marshes in arid or semi-arid parts of the Lower Sonoran, Subtropical and Tropical life zones. To some extent, particularly from western Texas to California and probably south into Chihuahua and Coahuila, it may also be a permanent resident in interior desert areas.

When Lee D. Miller and I went to eastern Mexico in 1966 one of our objectives was to learn as much as we could about the distribution of *B. exilis* in that region. Between the Brownsville area of southern Texas, where nominate *B. exilis* occurs, and Progreso, Yucatán, where *yucateca* is found, lie roughly a thousand miles of coast from which we knew of not a single record of the species. We surveyed coastal areas in as many places as time and accessibility allowed: in the vicinity of Tampico, on the Tamaulipas-Veracruz border; the long stretch from Tecolutla to Cardel; another stretch from near the city of Veracruz south to beyond Alvarado; and the vicinity of Coatzacoalcos. A few years previously Gary N. Ross had visited the coast near the Tuxtla Mountains to search for *B. exilis* at my request. The results, with one exception, were everywhere the same, no *exilis* was found, and no suitable environment for it. The one exception was a small area 16 miles north of Cardel where we found a few salt flats, in one of which we collected on January 19, 1966 and found a single individual of nominate *B. exilis*. This area is an enclave of semi-arid conditions (desert scrub and thorn scrub on the hills back of the flats) and *B. exilis* is undoubtedly resident here. This locality is widely disjunct from the next suitable area to the north (probably somewhere on the coast of Tamaulipas north of Tampico¹). There is also a considerable distance between this colony

¹ On our trip we tried to reach this coastal region east of Ciudad Victoria. We got as far as Soto la Marina but were advised that the road from there to the coast, about 30 miles, was impassible.

of nominate *B. exilis* and the nearest known colony of *B. e. yucateca*, which is probably a real distributional gap as the intervening area is too mesic in character.

B. exilis yucateca is most likely restricted to the north coast of Yucatán, another enclave of arid to semi-arid conditions. The new subspecies seems to be most closely related to *B. e. isophthalma* (known from the Bahamas, Cuba, Hispaniola and Jamaica). In many ways *B. e. isophthalma* is intermediate between *B. e. exilis* and *B. e. yucateca*.

Godman & Salvin mention some specimens of *exilis* from Venezuela, and this record is repeated by Draudt (1921, in Seitz, Grossschmett. Erde 5: 820). There are two specimens in the Carnegie Museum that may possibly be from Venezuela. They come from the Holland Collection, and Holland obtained them from Staudinger. They bear no locality data, but the same style of labelling occurs on some other material of probable Venezuelan origin. In any event these two specimens seem to represent a new subspecies, nearer to *B. e. yucateca* than to either *B. e. exilis* or *B. e. isophthalma*.

AN INTERESTING NEW SPECIES OF THE NEW WORLD
GNORIMOSCHEMINI (GELECHIIDAE) FROM THE
LESSER ANTILLES

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Several years ago, I had the opportunity of studying interesting material of the tribe Gnorimoschemini in the Naturhistorisches Museum in Vienna. Among their series of this difficult gelechiid group I discovered a small form which I could not identify. After later study of numerous American species (Povolný, 1967) and a detailed consideration of this specimen I decided to describe this moth as a new species belonging to the genus *Keiferia* Busck, 1939.

Keiferia rusposoria Povolný, new species

In general appearance this is a small brownish moth, having the forewings dusted with minute darkish scales, forming an indistinct pattern.

Labial palpus not too slender, lacking scales on second segment, its outer surface markedly grey spotted, inner surface nearly uniform pale cream, third segment pale with two (one basal and one subterminal) rings of dark grey scales. Frons bright,