

DESCRIPTIONS OF LEPIDOPTERA IN THE CANTERBURY MUSEUM

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For the material on which the present paper is based, I am indebted to Mr. Stewart Lindsay, who recently sent me for determination a box of very interesting material collected by himself during the past season. The consignment was more than ordinarily interesting, and necessitated the erection of two new genera as well as the recognition of an Australian genus not previously known to have a representative in New Zealand.

I am much indebted to Dr. A. Jefferis Turner for information on several points and for Australian specimens for comparison.

The types have, in all cases, been returned to the Canterbury Museum.

CRAMBIDAE.

KUPEA n. g.

Head with prominent frontal cone. Labial palpi long, smooth, slightly drooping. Antennae in male serrate both anteriorly and posteriorly, shortly ciliate. Forewing with two veins (5 and 9) absent, 7 and 8 stalked. Hindwing with 5 absent, transverse vein obsolete, 8 anastomosing with 7.

Genotype: *Kupea electilis* Philp.

Dr. Turner has pointed out to me that *Ptocostola* Meyrick is close to *Kupea* in venational structure, and this is true, practically the only difference being that in *Ptocostola* vein 11 of the forewing coalesces with 12. The antennal structure is, however, quite different and *Ptocostola* has the frons flat.

Kupea electilis n. sp. (Fig. 1).

♂. 20mm. Head ochreous mixed with white. Palpi 4, ochreous mixed with white. Antennae in ♂ serrate, ciliations $\frac{3}{4}$. Thorax ochreous, tegulae margined with white, collar olive brown. Abdomen ochreous, brassy tinged. Legs ochreous, tarsi annulated with white. Forewings long, narrow, costa almost straight, apex blunt-pointed, termen rounded, strongly oblique; brassy ochreous sprinkled with white; a thick blackish brown median stripe from base to $\frac{2}{3}$, interrupted by white markings as follows:—a linear spot beyond base on upper margin suffusedly white beneath, a rather broad outwardly oblique bar beyond this, a subovate spot on upper margin with a streak below it following along fold, a large circular spot at apex above; beyond apex of median stripe a large suffused roundish whitish patch; second line broad, curved, white, becoming obsolete on tornus, anteriorly brassy margined; dorsum suffusedly margined with white; fringes fuscous mixed with white on apical

half and with a darker basal line. Hindwings greyish ochreous ; fringes whitish ochreous with darker basal line.

Birdling's Flat, Canterbury, early in March. Four males.

EUCOSMIDAE.

ACROCLITA Lederer.

"Antennae in ♂ simple or shortly ciliated. Palpi moderate, porrected or seldom ascending, second joint with projecting scales or long rough hairs above and beneath, terminal joint short or moderate. Thorax without crest. Forewings with 7 and 8 stalked, 7 to termen. Hindwings with 3 and 4 stalked or coincident, 5 approximated, 6 and 7 closely approximated towards base." (Meyrick).

This genus, which contains many Australian species, has not been previously recorded from New Zealand.

Acroclita discariana n. sp. (Fig. 2).

♂♀. 15-16mm. Head, palpi and thorax grey ; head with projecting scales on frons ; palpi with projecting scales above and beneath, terminal segment short, almost hidden. Antennae grey, simple in both sexes. Abdomen fuscous grey. Legs grey, tarsi obscurely annulated with white. Forewings moderate, costa slightly arched, without fold, apex blunt-pointed, termen slightly sinuate, oblique ; grey mixed with brownish beneath costa and round termen ; numerous transverse blackish strigulae ; a triangular blackish spot in disc at $\frac{1}{3}$ and a V-shaped blackish mark at $\frac{2}{3}$, both of these marks being much more prominent in the ♀ ; fringes fuscous grey, with a thin faint white median line. Hindwings fuscous ; fringes greyish fuscous with a darker basal line.

There is a close superficial resemblance to *Spilonota ejectana*. Walk.

Porter River. Mr. Lindsay bred a series from larvae found on *Discaria toumatou*. He informs me that both larvae and pupae were in a thick feltlike web in the axils of the stems of the food plant.

GELECHIIDAE.

KIWAIA n. g.

Antennae simple, without basal pecten. Labial palpi with second segment expanded with scales beneath ; terminal segment rather shorter than second, smooth-pointed. Hindwings reduced to flaps and their upper surfaces covered with long fine radiating hair-scales.

Genotype : KIWAIA JEANAE Philp.

Owing to the small number of specimens available, the genus is not here fully characterised, but the unique development of the hindwings is an unmistakable feature. The female has not been taken and it is not known if the male is capable of flight.

Kiwaia jeanae n. sp.

♂. 8mm. Head shining creamy white. Palpi ochreous white, apex of terminal segment blackish. Antennae brownish black. Thorax grey. Abdomen ochreous mixed with grey. Legs grey. Forewings lanceolate; whitish ochreous mixed with grey; a large subtriangular blackish blotch at $\frac{1}{3}$; a round black spot in disc at $\frac{2}{3}$; apex black, anteriorly obscurely margined with whitish; fringes ochreous grey. Hindwings greatly reduced; about a-quarter the length of forewings; densely covered with long fine ochreous whitish hair-scales which radiate in all directions.

Birdling's Flat, Canterbury. Two males were taken by Mrs. Jean Lindsay. They were running rapidly among cushion plants in a shingly spot. One of the most interesting captures made in recent years.

OECOPHORIDAE.

Leptocroca lindsayi n. sp. (Fig. 3).

♂. 17mm. Head dull ochreous grey. Palpi grey. Antennae grey, ciliations in ♂ 1. Thorax fuscous grey. Legs fuscous grey, hair on posterior tibiae ochreous white. Forewings with costa hardly arched, apex rounded, termen very oblique; white densely mixed with pale fuscous; markings very obscure, faint indications only of the usual stigmata; fringes dull grey with an obscure white basal line. Hindwings pale fuscous; fringes whitish grey with a darker basal line.

Superficially distinguished from its allies by the paler ground colour. The male genitalia offer good differentiating characters.

Yaldhurst, in December. A single male.

ELACHISTIDAE.

Elachista lacustris n. sp.

♂. 10mm. Head dark purplish brown mixed with white. Palpi white, brown in front. Antennae dark brown. Thorax dark purplish brown, mixed with white on tegulae and collar. Abdomen purplish brown, anal tuft ochreous. Legs purplish brown mixed with white, hair on posterior tibiae ochreous. Forewings dark purplish brown densely mixed with white; white suffusion most marked below fold near base (here enclosing a dark spot) and towards apex; a dark spot in disc at about $\frac{2}{3}$ and another, less noticeable, obliquely beyond it on termen; fringes greyish fuscous. Hindwings and fringes greyish fuscous.

Considerably larger than any of the other species which approach it in coloration. I am not altogether certain as to the correctness of the generic position, the material being too scanty to allow of proper examination.

Lake Pukaki, late in December. Two males taken by Mr. Lindsay.

TINEIDAE.

Mallobathra subalpina n. sp. (Fig. 4).

♂. 12mm. Head and palpi bronzy brown, antennae dark brown, ciliations in ♂ $2\frac{1}{2}$. Thorax and abdomen dark purplish brown. Legs dark brown, anterior tarsi annulated with ochreous. Forewings dark purplish brown densely mixed with ochreous; an obscure pale ochreous blotch on middle of dorsum, enclosing dark spot; fringes bronzy brown. Hindwings dark purplish brown; fringes bronzy brown.

Superficially very similar to *M. crataea* Meyr., but a smaller and darker insect with shorter antennal pectinations.

Red Lake, Sebastopol Spur, Mt. Cook. Two males taken by Mr. Lindsay.

LEGENDS FOR PLATES.

PLATE XXXIX.—

Fig. 1.—*Kupea electilis* n. sp. A, forewing; B, hindwing, C, head, dorsal view; D, portion of antenna; E, juxta; F, uncus, dorsal view; G, male genitalia, lateral view; H, vinculum; I, harpe, from within; K, aedeagus.

PLATE XL.—

Fig. 2.—*Acroclita discariana* n. sp. A, male genitalia, lateral view; B, harpe, from within; C, aedeagus; D, juxta; E, tegumen, ventral view.

Fig. 3.—*Leptocroca lindsayi* n. sp. A, male genitalia, lateral view; B, harpe from within; C, juxta; D, uncus, dorsal view.

Fig. 4.—*Mallobathra subalpina* n. sp. A, male genitalia, lateral view; B, harpe, from within; C, aedeagus; D, tegumen and vinculum, ventral view.

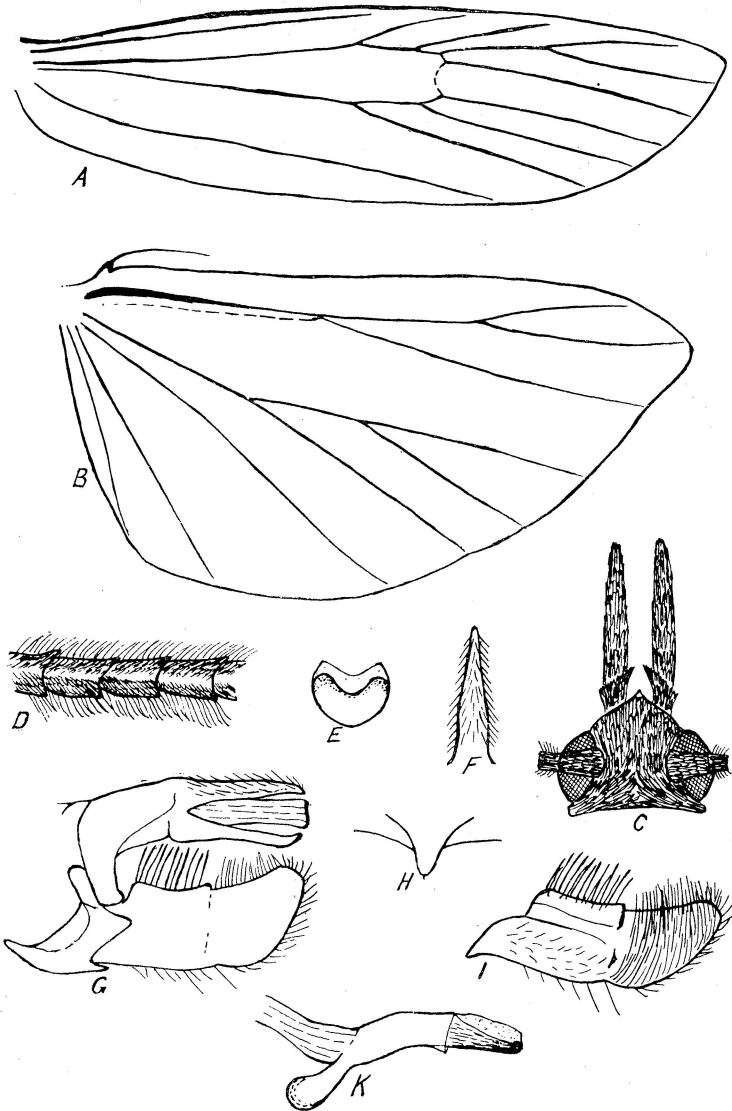


Fig. 1

