

Some remarks on the Saturniids of Guatemala

(Lepidoptera: Saturniidae)

by

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Abstract

Some distributional data on the Saturniids of Guatemala are reported. *Syssphinx quadrilineata quadrilineata* (GROTE & ROBINSON, 1867), *Automeris lauta* JOHNSON & MICHENER, 1948 and *Leucanella contempta windi* LEMAIRE, 1973 are reported for the first time for this country.

The Saturniids of Guatemala are still very poorly known. Except the Saturniid mexican fauna where the number of the taxa is well known, 193 species reported by BEUTELSPACHER & BALCAZAR (1994), knowledge of the number of Saturniids in the other mesoamerican countries is very scarce. Approximately 40–50 species of this family were recorded (LEMAIRE, 1971, 1973, 1974, 1978, 1980, 1988) for Guatemala but the data are still scanty and probably in the future the number of the species will increase (see also WOLFE, 1994). In fact recently WOLFE & LEMAIRE (1993) described *Copaxa evelynae* properly from Guatemala.

The first notes on the Saturniids of Guatemala were given by DRUCE (1881–1900) and DRAUDT (1929–1930). In recent years, papers on Mesoamerican Saturniids (LEMAIRE & WOLFE, 1989; WOLFE, 1993; BEUTELSPACHER & BALCAZAR, 1994), reported some data on the distribution of this family in Guatemala.

In this paper some remarks on the Saturniids of this country are made. *Syssphinx quadrilineata quadrilineata* (GROTE & ROBINSON, 1867), *Automeris lauta* JOHNSON & MICHENER, 1948 and *Leucanella contempta windi* LEMAIRE, 1973 are reported for the first time and some other species are confirmed.

All the specimens reported below are in the collection of the author.

List of species

Arsenura armida (CRAMER, 1779)

Material examined: 1 ♂, Alta Verapaz, Tucuru 2 km N, Fca El Salto, 320 m, 17.V.1991; 1 ♂, idem, 20.V.1991; 1 ♂, S. Catarina, Pinula, 1700 m, 14.VI.1991; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, idem, 7.VII.1991; 1 ♂, idem, 11.VII.1991; 1 ♂, Zacapa, La Union 3 km E, 1340 m, 16.VIII.1991.

Distribution: Mexico to Bolivia and SE Brazil.

Remarks: LEMAIRE (1980) has reported this species generically for Guatemala, so these are the first distributional data for this country.

Caio championi (DRUCE, 1886)

Material examined: 1 ♂, Alta Verapaz, Tucuru 2 km N, Fca El Salto, 320 m, 15.V.1991.

Distribution: Mexico to Western Ecuador and North Venezuela.

Remarks: This species was reported by LEMAIRE (1980) for Coatepeque, 1200 m and Chimaltenango.

Copiopteryx semiramis banghaasi DRAUDT, 1930

Material examined: 1 ♂, Baja Verapaz, km 156 on the road to Coban, 1500 m, 11.VIII.1991.

Distribution: Mexico to Panama.

Remarks: Reported by LEMAIRE (1980) for Coatepeque, 1200 m.

Eacles imperialis decoris ROTHSCHILD, 1907

Material examined: 1 ♂, Baja Verapaz, Chilasco 8 km W, 3.VII.1991; 1 ♂, Baja Verapaz, km 156 on the road to Coban, 1500 m, 12.VII.1991.

Distribution: Mexico to Panama.

Remarks: Reported by LEMAIRE (1988) for Guatemala City, 1600 m; Zacapa, La Union, 850 m and for Alta Verapaz, Coban.

Citheronia (Citheronia) azteca azteca SCHAUS, 1896

Material examined: 1 ♂, Baja Verapaz, km 156 on the road to Coban, 1500 m, 27.VI.1992.

Distribution: Mexico and Guatemala.

Remarks: Reported by LEMAIRE (1988) for Baja Verapaz, road Guatemala City to Coban, km 156.

Othorene verana SCHAUS, 1900

Material examined: 1 ♂, Baja Verapaz, km 156 on the road to Coban, 1500 m, 10.VIII.1990; 1 ♂, idem, 11.VIII.1991.

Distribution: Mexico to Panama.

Remarks: LEMAIRE (1988) has reported this species only generically for Guatemala.

Syssphinx quadrilineata quadrilineata (GROTE & ROBINSON, 1867)

Material examined: 1 ♂, Baja Verapaz, km 156 on the road to Coban, 1500 m, 17.VIII.1990.

Distribution: Mexico to Panama and Venezuela.

Remarks: The specimen reported here is more similar to *Syssphinx pescadori* LEMAIRE, 1988 but this species was considered by BEUTELSPACHER & BALCAZAR (1994) as a synonym of *Syssphinx quadrilineata quadrilineata*. This is the first record for Guatemala of this common species. Recently, LEMAIRE (1996) has considered these two taxa as distinct.

Syssphinx xanthina LEMAIRE, 1984

Material examined: 1 ♀, Baja Verapaz, km 156 on the road to Coban, 1500 m, 12.V.1991; 2 ♂♂, S. Catarina, Pinula, 1700 m, El Pueblito 3 km S, 2.VI.1991.

Distribution: Guatemala.

Remarks: This species, described by LEMAIRE (1984) on some specimens from Guatemala, is very similar to *S. albolineata* (GROTE & ROBINSON, 1866), *S. raspa* (BOISDUVAL, 1872) and *S. gomezi* LEMAIRE, 1984. It was known only for the typical series from Guatemala City and Alta Verapaz, Municipio S. Cristobal Verapaz, Hacienda Baleu (see also LEMAIRE, 1988).

Anisota dissimilis (BOISDUVAL, 1872)

Material examined: 1 ♀, Baja Verapaz, Chilasco 8 km W, 8.VII.1991; 1 ♀, Sacatepequez, La Antigua, 19.IX.1992.

Distribution: Mexico and Guatemala.

Remarks: This species, widespread in Mexico and known also for Guatemala (BOUVIER, 1931; RIOTTE & PEIGLER, 1981; LEMAIRE, 1988; WOLFE & PEIGLER, 1993), is typical for montane habitats. LEMAIRE (1988) has reported this species for Sacatepequez, La Antigua.

Adeloneivaia irrorata (SCHAUS, 1900)

Material examined: 1 ♂, Alta Verapaz, Tucuru 2 km N, Fca. El Salto, 320 m, 21.V.1991.

Distribution: Mexico, Belize and Guatemala.

Remarks: Reported by LEMAIRE (1988) for Huehuetenango, Municipio Santa Cruz Barillas, Chiblac, 1000 m and Baja Verapaz, road Guatemala City to Coban, km 156.

Adeloneivaia jason jason (BOISDUVAL, 1872)

Material examined: 1 ♂, Baja Verapaz, km 156 on the road to Coban, 1500 m, 28.VI.1992; 1 ♂, idem, 25.VII.1992.

Distribution: Mexico to Bolivia and Brazil.

Remarks: Reported by LEMAIRE (1988) for El Naranjo and Zacapa.

Lonomia electra DRUCE, 1886

Material examined: 1 ♂, Baja Verapaz, km 156 on the road to Coban, 1500 m, 13.VI.1991; 1 ♂, idem, 11.VII.1991; 1 ♂, idem, 13.VII.1991; 1 ♂, idem, 27.VII.1991; 1 ♂, idem, 3.VII.1992.

Distribution: Mexico, Belize, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica and Panama.

Remarks: This species was reported by LEMAIRE (1973a) for Sayaxche, El Peten and Cayuga.

Automeris metzli (SALLE, 1853)

Material examined: 1 ♀, Huehuetenango, Chancolin, 3.-8.IX.1992; 1 ♀, idem, 7.IX.1992.

Distribution: Mexico to W Ecuador.

Remarks: Reported by LEMAIRE (1971) for San Cristobal Verapaz, Baleu, 1400 m.

Automeris excreta DRAUDT, 1929

Material examined: 1 ♂, Baja Verapaz, km 156 on the road to Coban, 1500 m, 10.V.1991; 1 ♂, idem, 6.VIII.1991; 1 ♂, 3.VII.1992.

Distribution: Mexico and Guatemala.

Remarks: LEMAIRE (1971) has reported this species for Alta Verapaz, S. Cristobal Verapaz, 1400 m; Baleu, 1350 m and Chimaltenango, Municipio Acatenango, Quisache, 1750 m.

Automeris rubescens rubescens (WALKER, 1855)

Material examined: 1 ♀, Alta Verapaz, Tucuru 2 km N, Fca El Salto, 320 m, 14.V.1991.

Distribution: Guatemala and Costa Rica.

Remarks: Reported by LEMAIRE (1971) for El Naranjo and Barbarena.

Automeris zozine DRUCE, 1886

Material examined: 1 ♂, Baja Verapaz, km 156 on the road to Coban, 1500 m, 1991.

Distribution: Mexico and Guatemala.

Remarks: Reported by LEMAIRE (1973b) for El Naranjo and Baleu, S. Cristobal Verapaz, 1400 m.

Automeris daudiana DRUCE, 1894

Material examined: 1 ♂, Santa Catarina, Pinula, 1700 m, 11.VI.1991

Distribution: Mexico and Guatemala.

Remarks: Reported by LEMAIRE (1973b) for Guatemala City and Municipio San Cristobal, Baleu, 1350 m.

Automeris lauta JOHNSON & MICHENER, 1948

Material examined: 1 ♀, Baja Verapaz, Purulha, 2.VIII.1992.

Distribution: Mexico and Guatemala.

Remarks: Reported for the first time for the country.

Automeris pallidor DRAUDT, 1929

Material examined: 1 ♂, Baja Verapaz, km 156 on the road to Coban, 1500 m, 3.VII.1992.

Distribution: Mexico, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

Remarks: Reported by LEMAIRE (1973b) for El Naranjo; Municipio San Cristobal Verapaz, Alto Verapaz, Baleu, 1350 m and San Cristobal Verapaz, Baja Verapaz, 1600 m.

Leucanella contempta windi LEMAIRE, 1973

Material examined: 1 ♂, Baja Verapaz, km 156 on the road to Coban, 1500 m, 7.VIII.1991.

Distribution: Mexico and Guatemala.

Remarks: Reported for the first time for Guatemala.

Dirphiopsis wolfei LEMAIRE, 1992

Material examined: 1 ♂, Zacapa, La Union 3 km SE, 1500 m, 3.VIII.1992.

Distribution: Mexico and Guatemala.

Remarks: This species was described by LEMAIRE (1992) on a series of specimens collected in Mexico. BEUTELSPACHER & BALCAZAR (1994) reported this species generically for Guatemala.

Rothschildia orizaba orizaba (WESTWOOD, 1853)

Material examined: 1 ♂, Zacapa, La Union 3 km SE, 1500 m, 5.VIII.1992.

Distribution: Mexico to Panama.

Remarks: Reported by LEMAIRE (1978) for S. Cristobal Verapaz, Coban, Chimaltenango and Antigua.

Eupackardia calleta (WESTWOOD, 1853)

Material examined: 1 ♂, Sacatepequez, San Lucas Sac., Cerro Alux, 2200 m, 29.VIII.1991.

Distribution: U.S.A., Mexico, Honduras and Guatemala.

Remarks: Reported by DRAUDT (1929–1930) for this country.

Copaxa lavendera (WESTWOOD, 1853)

Material examined: 1 ♂, Sacatepequez, San Lucas Sac., Cerro Alux, 2240 m, 21.VIII.1992; 1 ♂, idem, 19.II.1992.

Distribution: Mexico and Guatemala.

Remarks: Reported by LEMAIRE (1978) for Alta Verapaz and Santa Lucia Atitlan.

Copaxa cydippe (DRUCE, 1894)

Material examined: 1 ♂, Baja Verapaz, km 156 on the road to Coban, 1500 m, 17.VIII.1990; 1 ♂, Sacatepequez, Volcan Fuego, 7000 ft [= 2300–2400 m], 14.VI.1993; 1 ♂, N slope Vol. Agua, 7000 ft, 23.VII.1993.

Distribution: Mexico and Guatemala.

Remarks: WOLFE & LEMAIRE (1993) reported this species for Purulha.

Copaxa sophronia SCHAUS, 1921

Material examined: 1 ♂, Baja Verapaz, km 156 on the road to Coban, 1500 m, 12.V.1990; 1 ♂, idem, 3.VIII.1991; 1 ♂, Zacapa, La Union 3 km E, 1540 m, 16.VIII.1991; 1 ♂, Baja Verapaz, Purulha, 8 km E, 27.VII.1992; 1 ♂, Baja Verapaz, Purulha, 25.VII.1993.

Distribution: Mexico and Guatemala.

Remarks: As reported by WOLFE (1993), this rare species, apparently more common in Guatemala than in Mexico, is widespread at mid elevation, 1500–2000 m. The same author (WOLFE, 1993), describing the female of this species, reported it for Baja Verapaz, 9.6 km S of Puvulja while LEMAIRE (1978) for Alta Verapaz, Volcan de Santa Maria. The specimen reported here from Zacapa, La Union 3 km E, is reddish-brown and it is very different from the normal form greyish-brown. It appears that it is a new form and probably this species, like it happens in *C. rufinans*, *C. lavendera* and/or *C. multifenestrata* (HERRICH-SCHÄFFER, 1858), has different colour morphs.

Copaxa rufinans SCHAUS, 1906

Material examined: 1 ♂, Zacapa, La Union 3 km SE, 1500 m, 13.VII.1992; 1 ♂, Baja Verapaz, km 156 on the road to Coban, 1500 m, 18.V.1991; 1 ♂, idem, 7.VIII.1991.

Distribution: Mexico, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Colombia and W Ecuador.

Remarks: Reported by LEMAIRE (1978) for Zacapa.

Copaxa escalantei LEMAIRE, 1971

Material examined: 1 ♂, Zacapa, La Union 4 km E, 1540 m, 30.V.1992; 1 ♂, idem, 10.VI.1992; 1 ♂, Zacapa, La Union 4 km S, 1540 m, 29.VI.1992; 1 ♂, Zacapa, La Union 3 km SE, 1500 m, 2.VIII.1992.

Distribution: Mexico, Guatemala, Costa Rica and Panama.

Remarks: Reported by LEMAIRE (1978) for Alta Verapaz, Baleu, 1350 m and Zacapa, La Union, 850 m.

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