

Lampropteryx otregiata (Metcalf) in the Harz
Mountains. (Lep. Geometr.)

By Louis B. Prout, London.

My esteemed friend Dr. M. Hering sent to me for examination 3 ♂♂ of *Lampropteryx otregiata* (= *Cidaria otregiata* Metcalfe, The Entomologist, vol. 50, p. 74, 1917), which were collected by E. Hannemann at Braunlage (Harz) in July 1915 and which he believed to be a probable new species. Although this expectation is not confirmed and they agree entirely with our Devonshire examples, the record is a very interesting one, as so little is yet known concerning the range of this species.

When I wrote my manuscript for vol. IV of Seitz's „Macrolepidoptera“ (see p. 233), I had not made any detailed study of the group and although the superficial aspect of *L. minna* Btlr. (= *minor* Stgr.) led me to suggest that it might prove a distinct species from *suffumata* Schiff., I had not discovered that it differs in at least two structural characters: (1) That the antennal cilia of the ♂ arise from true, though quite short pectinations, not from mere teeth as in *suffumata*, (2) that the discocellulars of the hind wing are not „biangulate“, but form a gentle and continuous curve. By error, *minna* was recorded from Lower Austria by Preissecker (Verh. zool.-bot. Ges. Wien, vol. 56, p. 12, 1906; 23. Jahrb. Wien. ent. Ver. p. 98, 1912). Dr. Rebel (Verh. zool.-bot. Ges. Wien, vol. 72, p. [9], 1923), in correcting this record to *otregiata*, has given a good differentiation of the last-named species from *suffumata*, but apparently had not *minna* before him for comparison. It should be added that *otregiata* has the antennal teeth of the ♂ appreciably stronger than those of *suffumata*, but quite unlike the pectinations of *minna*, and that it has Dc^2 a little incurved, resulting in a slight angle at the origin of R^2 , but not so markedly irregular as in *suffumata*.

The genitalia of the group (including *neelys* Prout and *synthetica* Prout, vide Nov. zool. vol. 29, p. 352, 1922) have been carefully examined by three of our specialists in that study, Rev. C. R. N. Burrows, Mr. F. N. Pierce and Rev. J. W. Metcalfe. The rod which strengthens the frame-work of the tegumen in the ♂ (vide Pierce, Genit. Geom. Brit. pl. XXXIX, *L. suffumata*) is very short in *minna*, whereas in *otregiata* it more nearly approaches that of *suffumata*. The ♀ ostium also seems to provide differential characters, the „rods“ being shorter in *otregiata*, the ductus bursae also shorter.

Mr. N. Filipjev, of the Zoological Museum of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Leningrad, wrote me in December 1924 that „a representative of this group occurs, though not frequently, in N. W. Russia and Finland“ and has been identified as *minna*. Probably this also will prove to be *otregiata* and it may even be that *suffumata defumata* Stichel (Berlin. ent. Zschr. vol. 56, p. 87, 1911), from N. Norway, is the same, in which case Stichel's name would have priority.

Stelis odontopyga Nosk. (Hym. Apidae).

Von P. Blüthgen, Naumburg a. S.

In „Polsk. Pismo Ent.“ Bd. IV, Heft 4, 1925, S. 230/231, hat J. Noskiewicz eine neue *Stelis*-Art unter dem oben genannten Namen beschrieben. Da er als Wirt *Osmia spinulosa* K. festgestellt hat und diese Biene hier stellenweise häufig ist, untersuchte ich meine hiesigen *Stelis phaeoptera* und fand darunter tatsächlich 2 ♂♂ 2 ♀♀ der neuen *Stelis*. Die Unterschiede der 2 Arten fallen so stark in die Augen, daß man sich darüber wundern muß, daß *odontopyga* bisher nicht erkannt worden ist. Sie sind von Noskiewicz, diesem ausgezeichneten, kritisch arbeitenden Forscher, gut gekennzeichnet. Mir fällt noch auf, daß die Form des Schildchens bei beiden Arten verschieden ist: bei *od.* flacher, daher mit fast messerklingenartig flachgedrücktem, schärferem Ende. Die Behaarung ist bei *od.* auf Kopf und Thorax kaum halb so lang wie bei *phaeoptera*, auf den Tergitenden und längs der Hinterkante der Hinterschienen, wo sie bei *ph.* lang borstig ist, äußerst kurz und gleichmäßig.

Die Art wird sicher in Deutschland weiter verbreitet sein, entsprechend dem Vorkommen der Wirtsbiene. Es wird aber den meisten Entomologen so ergangen sein wie mir: Ich hielt die 4 Stücke bei oberflächlicher Besichtigung (ohne Lupe) für *phaeoptera*, ohne eine genauere Untersuchung für nötig zu erachten, denn der Gedanke, es könne eine nov. spec. aus einer so durchgearbeiteten Gattung in Deutschland vorkommen, kam mir nicht.

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