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XVIII.—*Notes on the Synonymy of Thecla spurina, Hew., and Thecla ericusa, Hew.* By HAMILTON H. DRUCE, F.Z.S., F.E.S.

MUCH confusion has been caused by Hewitson having described the male and female of both these species as distinct, which is the more remarkable as the female only differs on the underside by being paler in colour. Besides the specimens in the National Collection I have examined those in Mr. Godman's collection, amongst which are several co-types of Hewitson's which were formerly in Bates's possession and several of his types.

The first species described by Hewitson is *Thecla spurina* *, the type of which (a female) is now in the British Museum; it is in indifferent condition and without locality. There are four females in Mr. Godman's collection (two Tapajos and two Pará) marked by Bates "*spurina*." These differ from the type only by being rather darker and by the orange spot between the tails on the upperside being less apparent, this, however, varying slightly in all four specimens. The specimen referred to by Hewitson as being in Bates's collection, and which is labelled "*spurina*, Hew., type," is, in fact, *T. ericusa*, Hew., of which an excellent figure is given (fig. 162).

We possess a single female from Bartica, British Guiana, obtained by Mr. H. S. Parish, which differs from the Amazon specimens only by being rather richer in colour, doubtless due to its being a fresher specimen, and by the total disappearance of the orange spot between the tails on the upper surface.

A few pages later is described *T. stagira* †, with two vars. (*a* and *b*).

Mr. Godman's collection contains one male from Bates's cabinet labelled "*stagira*" from Tapajos; also one female labelled "*stagira*" from Tapajos which I am quite convinced is *T. pion*, G. & S. ‡, judging from the colour and pattern of the underside, also by the costal margin of the fore wing being much more concave towards its middle than in *T. spurina* ♀.

* *Thecla spurina*, Hew. Ill. Diurn. Lep. p. 102, t. xxxix. figs. 122, 123 (1867).

† *Thecla stagira*, Hew. Ill. Diurn. Lep. p. 113, t. xxxix. figs. 120, 121 (1867).

‡ *Thecla pion*, Godm. & Salv. Biol. Centr.-Am., Ithop. ii. p. 56, pl. liv. figs. 28-30.

The var. *a*, to which Hewitson originally gave the name *erenea*, and subsequently sunk under *stagira*, I do not know, and do not find it in the Hewitson Coll. or the B. M. Coll. According to the figure it has no brown apex and margin on fore wing above.

The var. *b*, mentioned by Hewitson as from Rio, I am also unable to find, but there is a male in Mr. Godman's collection of about the same size from Panama obtained by Mr. Champion.

Again, in the same work Hewitson describes and figures *T. volana** from the collection of the late W. W. Saunders.

In Mr. Godman's possession is a single female labelled "S," and on another ticket "Amazon." I have no doubt that this is Hewitson's type; it formerly belonged to Mr. Herbert Druce, who obtained it from the Saunders Collection at its dispersal. It cannot be separated from *T. spurina*. Messrs. Godman and Salvin, in Biol. Centr.-Americana, Rhop. ii. p. 52, refer to this species as *T. stagira*, probably because no Central-American females were sent to them.

Again, Hewitson describes the female as *Thecla timcea*† from Bates's collection, and the type is now in Mr. Godman's possession. It is slightly smaller than the type *T. volana*, but I can detect no other difference.

From a perusal of the foregoing remarks it will be seen that the synonymy of this species is as follows:—

<i>Thecla spurina</i> , Hew.	
„ <i>stagira</i> , „	
„ <i>volana</i> , „	
„ <i>timcea</i> , „	
„ <i>stagira</i> , „	Godm. & Salv.

T. spurina, like many other *Theclas* of which any considerable number of specimens can be got together, proves to have a rather wide range. I have examined specimens from Chiriqui and Panama in Central America, males only, and both sexes from British Guiana; from Manaure, N. Granada; from Tapajos and Pará, on the Amazon; from Paraguay (captured by Perrens) and from Brazil (Chapada), sent by Mr. H. H. Smith.

* *Thecla volana*, Hew. Ill. Diurn. Lep. p. 123, t. xlviii. figs. 225, 226 (1869).

† *Thecla timcea*, Hew. Ill. Diurn. Lep. p. 125, t. li. figs. 263, 269 (1869) (*T. lydia*, Kirby, Cat. p. 393).

The next species here dealt with is *Thecla ericusa* *, described by Hewitson from a female Brazilian specimen in the collection of the late W. W. Saunders. I have been unable to trace this type, but the figure is an excellent one, and there should be no difficulty in identifying it. Shortly afterwards Hewitson describes the male under the name *Thecla voconia* † from an unknown locality. This type is now in the British Museum, and without doubt = *T. ericusa*.

There are specimens from Venezuela (one female) and Rio (one male) in Mr. Godman's possession which were formerly in the Kaden Collection, and one female from Minas Geraes (Bates), also two males and two females from Chapada, Brazil, obtained by Mr. H. H. Smith, and two males from Paraguay (Perrens).

T. ericusa, which varies much in size, is at once distinguished in the male from *T. spurina* by possessing a simple brand on the fore wing placed just beyond the end of the cell, whilst that species has a double brand partly placed in the cell and partly beyond. The possession of this simple brand probably points to its near alliance with *Thecla brescia* ‡, a well-known Central-American species.

XIX.—*On Two new Leucaniæ from British New Guinea.*

By GEORGE T. BETHUNE-BAKER, F.L.S., F.Z.S.

Leucania leucosphenia, sp. n.

♂. Head and collar ochreous brown, patagiæ and thorax reddish ochreous; abdomen pale ochreous brown, with a large pale yellowish anal tuft; legs pale ochreous brown, with dark reddish femora. Primaries pale ochreous brown, with all the veins palely outlined and a pale dash at the lower angle of the cell; cell filled in with pale reddish, with a like-coloured basal dash on its lower margin; a pale patch below the centre of the cell; a double postmedial row of dark dots; a greyish wedge-shaped mark on the termen below the apex; termen darkly dotted, inner margin pale,

* *Thecla ericusa*, Hew. Ill. Diurn. Lep. p. 113, t. xlii. fig. 162 (1837).

† *Thecla voconia*, Hew. Ill. Diurn. Lep. p. 120, t. xlix. figs. 244, 245 (1869).

‡ *Thecla brescia*, Hew. Desc. Lyc. p. 13 (1863); Ill. Diurn. Lep. p. 119, t. i. figs. 260, 261 (1869).