

## ON ACIDALIA SUBALBARIA, PACKARD, AND SOME ALLIED FORMS.

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1. In 1874 Dr. Packard<sup>1</sup> described and figured a Californian Geometer under the name *Acidalia subalbaria*. The type was one female, and the specimen was figured in the photographic plate accompanying the paper.

In his monograph<sup>2</sup> Dr. Packard repeats the description word for word, merely adding after the word antennæ, "which are well pectinated in the male" (for at this time he had both sexes of the species), and at the end of his account he says, "the male antennæ are well pectinated, an unusual exception to their ordinary form in this genus." A lithographed figure is given (Mon. plate x, p. 63) of the male specimen, but the markings are emphasized in a way which gives a wrong impression as to their distinctness. The photograph in the earlier paper, though from a very indifferent specimen, gives a much better idea of the species as it is known to me.

In 1895 Dr. Hulst<sup>3</sup> states, on the authority of the late Mr. Moffat, that the type of *Acidalia anticaria*, Walker, in the collection of the Entomological Society of Ontario "is probably the same as *A. subalbaria*, Pack." In his "Classification," and again in the Geometrid portion of Dyar's Catalogue, Dr. Hulst, apparently on this slender evidence, places the species in the genus *Eois* as a synonym of *anticaria*, Walker. But anyone reading Walker's description<sup>4</sup> of *anticaria* can see at a glance that he is writing of a true *Sterrhid*: "head black in front," "antennæ pubescent," "discal point black,"—these are all characters quite in keeping with an *Eois*, but not at all agreeing with Packard's *subalbaria*, which by Packard's own showing is not a *Sterrhid* at all, but a *Diastictis*.

I have in my cabinet a specimen quite typical of this form, received through the kindness of Prof. C. F. Baker, and taken in Southern California.

2. A very similar species of *Diastictis* was described by Dr. Dyar, in his paper on the Lepidoptera of the Kootenai District,<sup>5</sup> as *Cymatophora Matilda*.

I have one of Dr. Dyar's co-types in my collection, and also a long series from various British Columbian localities, and from Verdi, Nevada.

1. Proc. Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist., XVI, p. 28, fig. 15.

2. Monograph Geom. Moths, p. 334.

3. Ent. News, VI, p. 72.

4. Cat. Lep. Het. Br. Mus., XXVI, p. 1593.

5. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XXVII, p. 907.

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This form is very closely allied to *subalbaria*, Packard, but in my opinion the two are quite distinct.

They are, however, according to Dr. Dyar,<sup>6</sup> confused in the Hulst collection, being there united under the name (not really applicable to either of them) *Eois anticaria*, Walker.

3. If it is admitted that *subalbaria*, Packard, belongs to the genus *Diastictis*, and I do not think there can be any doubt about the matter, then the specific name will clash with that of the *Diastictis subalbaria*, Hulst,<sup>7</sup> described from Colorado, and I therefore propose for that species the name *Diastictis Hulstiarum*. I have seen specimens of this species determined by Hulst himself from Manitoba, and I presume they correctly represent his species. I have similar specimens from Calgary, and I believe that the species listed by Dr. Dyar<sup>8</sup> from Kaslo in error, as *Deilinia variolaria*, is the same thing.

4. Dr. Hulst described still another white *Diastictis* in his last paper<sup>9</sup> as *Cymatophora virginalis*. The description is very short and inadequate, but it would seem to refer to a smaller insect, "expanse 22 mm.," and the few details given do not apply accurately to the specimens I have placed under *Hulstiarum*. At the same time I must admit that I have received specimens from the Catskill Mountains (Dr. Pearsall), which were said to have been identified by Hulst himself as *virginalis*, which I cannot separate from those I have spoken of above. It is probable, however, that the study of more abundant material, and a careful examination of Hulst's actual types, may demonstrate that *Hulstiarum* and *virginalis* are distinct, though very closely allied.

The species considered in this article should stand in our lists as follows :

- Diastictis subalbaria, Pack., non Hulst, California.
- " Matilda, Dyar, Col., B. C., Nevada.
- " Hulstiarum, Taylor, Col., Manitoba, B. C.  
= subalbaria, Hulst, non Pack.
- " virginalis, Hulst, Atlantic States.

And the reference to *subalbaria*, Pack., under *Eois anticaria*, Walker, must be struck out.

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6. Proc. Ent. Soc. Wash., Vol. VI, p. 224.

7. Trans. Amer. Ent. Soc., XXIII, p. 333.

8. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XXVII, p. 905.

9. Jour. New York Ent. Soc., VIII, p. 218.