An Annotated List of the Crambid Moths Known To Occur in Iowa (Pyralidae, Lepidophera)

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AN ANNOTATED LIST OF THE CRAMBID MOTHS KNOWN TO OCCUR IN IOWA (PYRALIDAE, LEPIDOPHERA)*

GEORGE C. DECKER

For the past fifteen years the writer has been interested in sod webworms and their parents the Crambid moths. During this period light trap and field collections have resulted in the building of a fairly complete collection of the moths of the genus Crambus that are found in Iowa.

The moths of this genus are rather small and inconspicuous. Flight is mostly at night except when disturbed and most species are strongly attracted to lights. The rather long narrow front wings are usually white, yellow or brown, often ornamented with golden and silvery scales. When at rest the front wings are wrapped closely around the body and conceal the much larger unmarked hind wings that are folded beneath.

The larvae are for the most part grass feeders and usually they construct silken tubes or tunnels at or below the surface of the ground in which they secret themselves throughout their larval life.

In addition to his own collection the writer has examined the collections of the late C. N. Ainslie and H. F. Wickham. The writer is indebted to Carl Heinrich and Geo. G. Ainslie for checking determinations on most of the species.

The numbers and names used are those given by J. McDunnough; Check List of the Lepidoptera of Canada and the United States of America, Part II Microlepidoptera; Mem. So., Calif. Acad. Sci., II, No. 1, 177 pp. 1939.

5852 CRAMBUS HASTIFERELLUS Wlk.
Rare. 1 Ottumwa, June 28, 1933; 2 Creston, July 6, 1936.

5855 C. HAMELLUS Thun.
Rare. 2 Ames, Aug. 10, 1932, Aug. 30, 1936; 1 Sioux City, Sept. 2, 1937.

5857 C. PASCUELLUS Linn.
Rare. 1 Rock Rapids, July 26, 1936.

5860 C. GIRARDELLUS Clem.
Rare. 2 McGregor, July 17, 1933.

5861 C. LEACHELLUS Zinck.
Common. State wide distribution. June 1 to Aug. 15.
Seldom abundant but found everywhere in pastures and meadows.

5862 C. UNISTRIATELLUS Pack.
Rare. 1 Ames, July 12, 1937.

5863 C. PRAEFECTELLUS Zinck.


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5871  C. DUMETELLUS Hbn.
Rare. Sioux City, Aug. 10, 1934; 1 Akron, Aug. 11, 1934.
Virgin prairie meadows.

5874  C. ALBOCLAVELLUS Zell.

5876  C. AGITATELLUS Clem.

5878  C. MYELLUS Hbn.
Rare. 4 Boone, July 20, 1933; 3 Mt. Vernon, Aug. 6, 1933.
On moss in shaded grass pasture.

5880  C. LAQUEATELLUS Clem.
Most abundant in partly shaded grass lands.

5883  C. HORTUELLUS Hbn.
Abundant. State wide distribution. May 31 to Aug. 27. Most
abundant in timothy meadows and weedy grasslands. Specimens
vary in color from light (toparius Zeller) to dark (vachellellus
Kear.).

5884  C. ALBEllUS Clem.
Common. 16 Ames, June 10 to July 15. Most abundant on low
wet grasslands.

5887  C. INNOTATELLUS Wlk.
Rare. 3 Ames, July 16, July 28, and Aug. 12.

5888  C. TURBATELLUS Wlk.
Rare. 2 Ames, July 15, 1937.

5889  C. ELEGANS Clem.

5892  C. VULGIVAGELLUS Clem.
Probably the most common Crambid on grasslands during Aug­
ust and September.

5893  C. PLUMBIFIMBRIELLUS Dyar
Rare. 3 Sioux City, June 20, 1928.

5895  C. RURICOLELLUS Zell.
Common to abundant. State wide distribution. Aug. 22 to

5896  C. TETERRELLUS Zinck.
At times this species is very abundant and destructive on lawns
and golf turf.

5898  C. COLORADELLUS Fern.
Quite rare. 16 Ames, July 30 to Sept. 2. All at trap lights.

5910  C. MUTABILIS Clem.
Very abundant. State wide distribution May 18 to Sept. 27. A
common pest on lawns and seedling corn plants.
5912 C. HEMIOCHRELLUS Zell.
Rare. 2 Sioux City, July 14, 1936; 1 Creston, June 25, 1934; 6 Ames, June 20 to Sept. 8.

5919 C. TRISECTUS Wlk.

5925 C. CALIGINOSELLUS Clem.

5927 C. ZEELLUS Fern.

5928 C. LUTEOLLUS Clem.

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