

central part of France during two subsequent years. His numbers, however, are too small ($n = 125$) to draw any conclusions.

It is a remarkable fact that contrary to the bimodal or strongly asymmetric unimodal curves, yielded in all cases by the length of forceps in the male, the width of the last abdominal segment, which is used as a standard for the size of the individual (the body-length being unsuitable owing to the telescoping abdominal segments), always builds up a strictly symmetric unimodal curve.

My own investigations, concerning the Earwig population of Baarn (a village in the central part of the Netherlands, about 12 miles N. of Utrecht) have been continued during the years 1945—'52 and are still in progress. The sampling method of KUHL was adopted, so that all individuals of a certain site were caught. The length of the forceps and the width of the last abdominal segment of two populations, living in different biotopes (a favourable one: a sunny flower- and kitchen-garden and an unfavourable one: a shady oak-birch wood) were measured. In the garden, the mean length of the forceps proved to be longer and the number of "high males" larger than in the wood. The curves always proved to be unimodal, though strongly asymmetric, the "low males" outnumbering the "high males" to a great extent. About 100 male third stadium larvae, bred under laboratory conditions, all turned out to be "low" after metamorphosis (which is in concordance with DIAKONOW) so the occurrence of long or short forcipes is not likely to be due to a purely genetic factor. On the other hand, a certain disposition of genetic origin to form a long forceps under favourable conditions has to be considered. Further investigations may reveal new facts on this subject.

Literature

- BATESON, W., & BRINDLEY, H. H., 1892, Proc. Zool. Soc. London 1 : 586.
 DIAKONOW, D. M., 1925, Journ. of Genetics 25 : 201.
 FIEBER, F. X., 1853, Synopsis der europaeischen Orthopteren, Lotos 3, Prag.
 FOX-WILSON, G., 1940, Proc. R. ent. Soc. London, Ser. A, 15 : 17.
 KUHL, W., 1928, Zeitschr. Morph. Oek. Tiere 12 : 299.
 ———, 1933, Biol. Zentralbl. 53 : 633.
 LHOSTE, J., 1943, Bull. Soc. ent. France : 92.
 WEYRAUCH, W. K., 1932, Biol. Zentralbl. 52 : 642.

Utrecht, Zoölogisch Laboratorium, Juni 1953.

Catocala promissa Schiff. In Cat. Ned. Macrolepidoptera (8): (512), 1949, schrijft LEMPKE, dat *Catocala promissa* vermoedelijk een zeer zeldzame immigrant is. Als ik mijn ervaringen van dit jaar (1953) naga, begin ik daar aan te twijfelen. Van 15 Juli tot 15 Augustus werden in een eikenbos bij Apeldoorn ongeveer 30 exemplaren waargenomen! Alle gevangen exemplaren, waarbij enkele ♀♀, zijn gaaf, behalve het laatste van 15 Augustus, dat sterk afgevlagen is. Opmerkelijk is, dat van de drie op dezelfde plek voorkomende *Catocala*'s *promissa* de minst schuwe is. Het dier blijft rustig in het licht van de lantaarn op de stroop zitten en is dus niet moeilijk te vangen.

Op dezelfde plaats ving ik ook nog vijf exemplaren van *Deileptenia ribeata* Clerck en twee exemplaren van *Enargia paleacea* Esper, terwijl *Hydriomena furcata* Thunberg er gewoon is.

W. J. BOER LEFFEF, Korteweg 53, Apeldoorn.