

# AMERICAN MUSEUM NOVITATES

Published by  
Number 1052 THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY March 15, 1940  
New York City

## A NEW SUBSPECIES OF *ERORA LAETA* EDWARDS FROM ARIZONA AND NEW MEXICO (RHOPALOCERA: LYCAENIDAE)

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*Thecla laeta* Edwards (1863, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia, XIV, p. 55) was described from one or two males taken near London, Ontario, Canada, by Mr. Saunders in 1861; and *Thecla clothilde* Edwards (1864, Proc. Ent. Soc. Philadelphia, II, p. 15) from a worn and faded specimen received from Rev. Mr. Provancher, near Quebec, Canada, in 1863. Edwards ("Butterflies of North America," Series I, *Thecla* I [p. 139]) relates how he subsequently found a fresh female *laeta* at Coalburgh, Kanawha County, West Virginia, and discovered that *clothilde* was in fact the female of *laeta*. In the subsequent series (*loc. cit.*, Series II, Supp. Notes [p. 336]) he reports that Mr. Morrison found the species in some abundance at Mt. Graham, Arizona, and concludes that its metropolis is in the southwest, and hence its scarcity elsewhere.<sup>1</sup>

*Laeta* is indeed very rare in the East, although it has been reported from Canada to the Virginias. Most specimens that have come to my attention were taken on Mt. Equinox, near Manchester, Vermont, by Dr. John H. Cook some years ago and more recently by Messrs. A. C. Frederick and L. James Sanford. In 1936, Mr. Douglas K. Duncan of Globe, Arizona, sent me a series of this butterfly taken at various high localities in Arizona, and later two worn specimens were received from Mr. R. T. Kellogg of Silver City, New Mexico.

### *Erorla laeta sanfordi*, new subspecies

A comparison of these specimens with the eastern ones in the collections of The

American Museum of Natural History and of the author, the specimens being from Vermont and New York, as well as with Edwards' figures (*loc. cit.*, Series I, plate *Thecla* I) shows constant well-marked differences. The males from Arizona are brown on the upperside while the eastern ones are black. The western females have less blue on the upperside of both the primaries and secondaries than the eastern ones. On the underside of both sexes of western specimens the green is somewhat paler and the red markings on the secondaries are much fainter so that the mesial line on the secondaries is broken into small patches or spots, whereas in eastern specimens it is broader and nearly a solid irregular line. This new subspecies I name in honor of Dr. Leonard C. Sanford in appreciation of his interest in Lepidoptera.

The types and their disposition are as follows. Holotype: male, White Mts., Arizona, 8000 feet, June 21, 1936 (Douglas K. Duncan). Allotype: female, same locality, date and collector, both in The American Museum of Natural History. Paratypes: four males, two females, same locality, date and collector; three males, one female, Santa Catalina Mts., Arizona, 8500 feet, June 21, 1936 (Douglas K. Duncan); one male, Chiricahua Mts., Arizona, April 7 (Douglas K. Duncan); one male, one female, Chiracqua, Arizona, July 7, 1933 (ex coll. Sternitzky); three males, six females, southern Arizona (Poling); one male, Arizona (ex coll. J. Doll); one male, Mud Springs, Santa Catalina Mts., Arizona, 6500 feet, July 17-20, 1916. One pair of paratypes each to British Museum (Natural History), Canadian National Collection, United

<sup>1</sup> The type of *laeta* appears to be in the Edwards collection at Pittsburgh. It bears two labels reading "Collection W. H. Edwards" and "Laeta ♂ type. Canada," the former being printed and the latter in Edwards' handwriting. The type of *clothilde* could not be found at Pittsburgh and is presumably lost.

States National Museum, Los Angeles Museum, Carnegie Museum, and the Academy of Natural Sciences of Phila-

delphia. The remainder are in the collections of The American Museum of Natural History and of the author.