

A NOTE ON *CALLAMBULYX RUBRICOSA PIEPERSII* SN.

(*Lep. Sphingidae*)

by

A. M. R. WEGNER

(Zoölogisch Museum, Buitenzorg, Java)

Callambulyx rubricosa pierpersii SN. is the only subspecies occurring in Java. This handsome hawk moth is exceedingly rare and notwithstanding many skilled persons collected intensively for a long time in this island, not more than 2 females had hitherto been caught. About 69 years ago PIEPERS procured the first female (the holotype) at Kediri, East Java, which specimen has been described by SNELLEN in 1880 under the name of *Metagastis pierpersii* (Tijdschr. v. Entom 23, Verslag, pp. XII-XIII). The second female was caught by Mr LUCHT at Puger, S. coast of East Java some eight years ago (DUPONT & ROEPKE, Verhand. Ned. Akad. Wetensch., Afd. Natuurk. (2) 40: 27, 1941) and now, in 1948, Mr A. M. NEERVOORT succeeded in getting the first male at Tjibodas, W. Java, at an altitude of 1400 m. As the male has not yet been described I shall do so in the following (cf Plate 1).

Head: face olive-moss-green (cerrogreen, RIDGWAY), vertex dark moss-green faintly tinged fuscous, a moderate transverse band between base of antennae pale whitish-yellow. Palpus olive-moss-green, orange-ochreous below except towards apex, a small, drooping tuft of hairs at base of palpus orange-ochreous. Antenna ochreous-whitish, above tinged brighter ochreous, cilia brownish.

Thorax: light green (Renette green, RIDGWAY), tinged whitish and touched with pale ochreous, anteriorly with a very large triangular dark olive-moss-green patch faintly tinged fuscous, with sharply defined straight margins running from shoulder before base of fore wing to apex of thorax, pectus light moss-green, pleura whitish-green.

Abdomen: light green (Renette green, RIDGWAY) tinged whitish-green, more so towards base; a narrow blackish-fuscous median line, sides of segments 3-6 suffused with olive-moss-green, which colour leaves a broad median stripe and a moderate band along posterior edge of segment of a light green ground-colour appearing whitish-green in certain lights; posterior edge of segments 5-6 medianly with a transverse, moderate, indistinct, faint ochreous subterminal streak; 8th segment entirely

suffused above with moss-olive-green; venter light ochreous-greenish, posterior margin of segments 3-7 with an orange-ochreous transverse band.

Legs: femora light moss-green, suffused with ochreous towards base. Anterior tibia and tarsus dark coffee-brown. Median tibia and tarsus and posterior tibia light chestnut-brown. Posterior tarsus ochreous.

Fore wings: elongate-triangular, strongly narrowed towards base, apex long-falcate, tornus strongly prominent, termen and dorsum deeply sinuate. Light whitish-green (Renette-green, RIDGWAY), becoming more whitish towards costa anteriorly and base. A suffused, rather narrow, deep olive-moss-green transverse fascia from $\frac{1}{4}$ of costa to termen above tornus, slightly sinuate and moderately dilated towards costa; three narrow strongly zigzag transverse lines originating from about $\frac{1}{3}$ of dorsum, first one to about $\frac{1}{8}$ of costa, almost vertical and twice deeply undulate across lower $\frac{2}{3}$ of wing, almost horizontal; thence olive, becoming blackish towards dorsum; second and third zigzag lines rather approximated, strongly diverging from first one below middle of wing and running to $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{2}{3}$ of transverse fascia, respectively; dorsum between latter and first zigzag line, as far as lower edge of cell, faintly suffused with coral pink (RIDGWAY) becoming pale ochreous towards dorsal edge, moderately finely mixed with blackish; a narrow ill-defined strongly outwardly convex transverse olive line beyond base of wing from vein 12 to dorsum, on dorsum dilated into a shadily blackish spot suffused with crimson anteriorly. A moderately inwardly oblique green-olive transverse fascia from before $\frac{2}{3}$ of costa to $\frac{3}{5}$ of oblique transverse fascia above mentioned, rather broad, slightly sinuate twice; margins darker olive, anteriorly somewhat suffused, posteriorly acutely dentate on veins, followed and accentuated by narrow whitish suffusion; a second transverse fascia tolerably parallel with preceding one but stronger sinuate, outwardly convex above and beneath, concave in middle, formed by two parallel deep olive-moss-green lines which become ill-defined above and beneath, being obscured by greenish-olive suffusion extending over apical $\frac{1}{4}$ of costa to apex and over lower half of termen, respectively. Terminal area with an erect-triangular patch of ground colour extending from below apex to lower $\frac{1}{3}$ of termen and almost filling the concavity of preceding transverse fascia, edged throughout by ill-defined whitish suffusion. A narrow longitudinal whitish line edged below with greenish-olive from well below middle of costa along basal $\frac{2}{3}$ of vein 6, thence curved upward, sinuate and ending in apex; terminal edge narrowly deep greenish-olive. Cilia greenish-ochreous, tips minutely mixed with blackish.

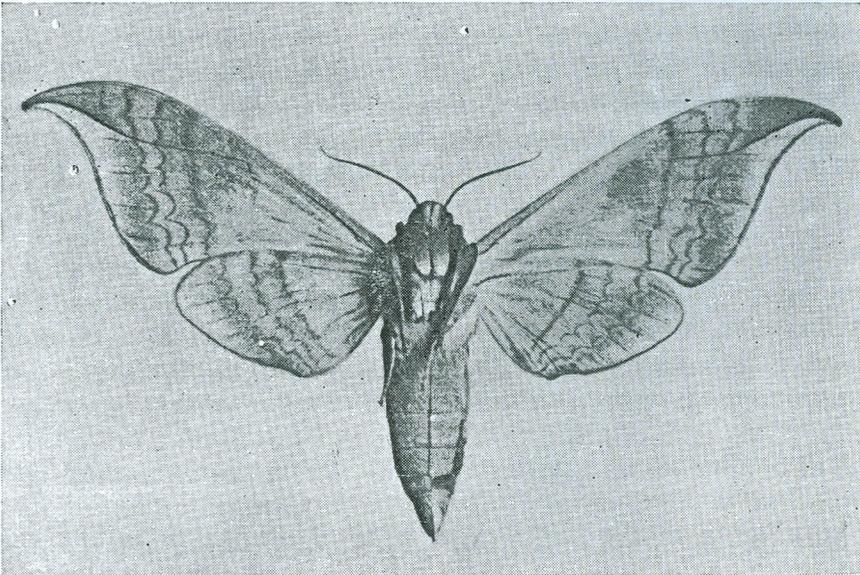
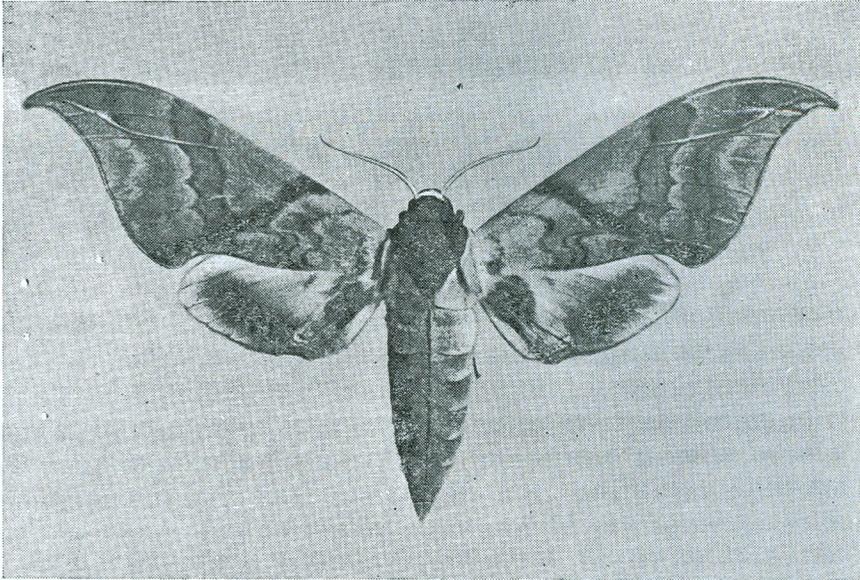
Hind wings: pale crimson (Eugenia red, RIDGWAY); a large semi-circular spot beyond base, a faint small transverse mark beyond middle of this and a broad transverse subterminal patch with strongly diffused edge: deep crimson, later becoming suffused with blackish towards tor-

nus; tornal $1/4$ of wing white, suffused with deep moss-olive-green except along dorsum; a whitish suffused subtriangular patch above tornus more or less traversed by two-three interrupted blackish lines running parallel to lower part of termen; costa before apex moderately suffused with ochreous, apical, terminal and dorsal edge with a narrow olive line. Cilia as in fore wings.

Underside: Fore wings: basal half bright ochreous, along costa suffused with greenish, outer edge from termen above tornus to about $3/4$ of costa strongly concave; apical half light yellowish-green, with three transverse strongly undulate olive lines corresponding with edges of posterior fasciae, longitudinal sinuate line blackish, termen from below this to above tornus suffused with white. *Hind wings* light greenish-yellow, towards base and termen suffused with whitish, four strongly undulate curved olive transverse lines, first one before middle, ultimate one beyond $3/4$; a deep olive-green terminal line.

Allotype: ♂, 105 mm, West Java, Mts Gedé-Panggerango, Tjibodas, 1400 m, X.1948 (A. M. NEERVOORT). The specimen is in good condition. It will be deposited in the Leiden Museum, Netherlands.

The male differs from the female by falcate fore wing with narrow, curved apex, and by the suffused spot on dorsum before middle which is much less developed than in female.



A. M. R. WEGNER: *Callambulyx rubricosa piepersii*.