

MICROTIA.

Microtia, Bates, Ent. Monthl. Mag. i. p. 83 (1864).

This genus was proposed by Mr. Bates to receive the single species described below, allied to *Melitæa*, from which it differs in several important particulars.

The genital armature of the male, however, is very like that of *Melitæa cinxia*, the tegumen being destitute of prolonged hook, and the harpagones rounded and armed with two curved points at the distal end.

The antennæ are densely scaled, more so than in the allied genera; they are composed of 32 joints, of which the terminal 13 form an abrupt club. The front legs of the male have but few long hairs; the coxa is stout = $\frac{1}{2}$ femur + trochanter; tarsus very short; tarsus + tibia = femur + trochanter. The claws of the other legs are much curved, and the tibiæ are sparingly spined beneath.

The first subcostal branch of the primaries is thrown off before, the second after the end of the cell; there is no upper discocellular; but the upper radial starts from beneath the subcostal beyond the cell. The terminal joint of the palpi is rather long and moderately swollen, the middle joint being but slightly dilated.

1. ***Microtia elva***. (Tab. XX. fig. 23.)

Microtia elva, Bates, Ent. Monthl. Mag. i. p. 83¹; Butl. & Druce, P. Z. S. 1874, p. 348².

Alis rotundatis, nigro-fuscis, anticis fascia transversa subapicali, macula subtriangulari in margine externo et fascia posticarum discali fulvis; subtus omnino ac supra similibus, sed maculis et fasciis fulvis paulo dilutioribus.

♀. Mari similis, at major et fasciis fulvis latioribus distinguenda.

Hab. MEXICO, Presidio and Ventanas (*Forrer*), Oaxaca (*Deppe*), Valladolid in Yucatan (*Gaumer*); GUATEMALA, Yzabal, Motagua valley, and San Gerónimo (*F. D. G. & O. S.*¹), Chisoy and Polochic valleys (*Hague*); NICARAGUA¹, Chontales (*Belt*); COSTA RICA (*Van Patten*²).—COLOMBIA.

This species was originally described by Mr. Bates from specimens obtained by us in Guatemala, and from others in his own collection from Nicaragua. We have since discovered its existence in the Berlin Museum, to which it was sent from Mexico by Deppe some fifty years ago. We now trace it to Northern Colombia, where it occurs in some profusion near Santa Marta.

There is some slight variation in specimens from different parts of its range. Those from Mexico have the tawny bands of the wings narrower than is usual in examples of more southern origin. This especially applies to individuals from Yucatan, in which these bands are very narrow.

The vertical range of *M. elva* in Guatemala extends from the sea-level at Yzabal to a height of about 3000 feet at San Gerónimo. We never met with it in the countries bordering the Pacific Ocean.

Our figure represents one of the types from Yzabal, Guatemala.