

Megathymus smithi Druce

Food plant of the larvae.—*Agave variegata* Jacobi.

The extreme scarcity of individuals and collecting data on this species of skipper prevents giving much information on its life history. There are only two males in the United States, one collected by Barnes in the vicinity of Corpus Christi, the other a reared specimen in the Los Angeles County Museum. For some unknown reason there are no collecting data on the Barnes specimen except "Corpus Christi"; the one in the Los Angeles County Museum bears the information, ex larva, "*Agave variegata (maculosa)*, east Bexar County, Texas, II-31-35." From the habits of all of the agave feeders, one would assume that the date is Nov. 31, 1935! Last year I made a trip to that part of Texas with the hopes of getting some more information on this species. I found a few scattered plants of *variegata*; and as these were in a well-stocked pasture, the only plants that remained were under clumps of cacti and were rather small. I dug up a large number of these and made cross sections, but saw no signs of larval work. Perhaps if a good stand of this plant could be located in an ungrazed area, better results would be obtained.

NOTES

DISTRIBUTIONAL NOTES ON *PAPILIO PALAMEDES* DRURY AND ITS SUBSPECIES *LEONTIA* R.&J. (LEPIDOPTERA, RHOPALOCERA, PAPILIONIDAE).—*Typical palamedes* Drury is found rather abundantly in Florida; it extends northward to near Washington, D. C., and westward to north central Texas. From 1926 to the present date I have collected only two specimens of this beautiful swallow-tail in Arkansas, both individuals near the Arkansas river at North Little Rock. Apparently *palamedes* is very rare in Texas, as I have collected only one rather worn specimen near Dallas in June, 1938. Just east of Monterrey, N.L., Mexico (June, 1935), I collected two topotypes of the subspecies *LEONTIA* R.&J. This subspecies differs from typical *palamedes* in being somewhat smaller, with the discal spots reduced; and very often the cell spot on the upper surface of the primaries is absent. When present, it appears as a narrow line. The yellow submarginal spots on the lower surface of the secondaries are often heavily overscaled with orange. On April 7, 1950, Leonard Coleman with some other Southern Methodist University students collected a rather worn specimen of *leontia* R.&J. Rockport, Texas. This is the first record of this subspecies's collection in the United States.—H. A. FREEMAN, Instructor in Biology, Southern Methodist University.