## Phaeoura mexicanaria (Grote) in British Columbia (Lepidoptera: Geometridae)

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Rindge (1961) gives the range of the geometrid moth, Phaeoura mexicanaria (Grote), as the western United States. Although there are no published records for this species in British Columbia, larvae have been taken in Forest Insect Survey collections on a few occasions in the southern Interior: Kettle Valley, 28 August, 1953; Salmon Arm, 17 July, 1958; Grand Forks, 12 August, 1959; and Oliver, 24 August, 1961. Larvae were obtained by beating the branches of ponderosa pine trees over a sheet laid on the ground, and were fed ponderosa pine foliage in the insectary for periods up to 26 days before they pupated. The only members of the genus for which the food plants were previously known were two deciduous feeders: P. quernaria (J. E. Smith) on oak and cherry, and P. cristifera Hulst on willow.

The larva of P. mexicanaria resembles a rough twig of the host tree. A description of an ultimate-instar larva from Grand Forks follows: head 4.56 mm. wide, pale brown, notched, with brown patches suggesting a herring-bone pattern; body 44 mm. long, 6.4 mm. wide, pale brown, covered with fine

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brown granules; conspicuous tubercles bearing setae D-2 on abdominal segments 1 to 5 and setae D-1 on segment 8. Tubercles largest on A2, gradually diminishing in size to A5; those on A8 about equal in size to those on A3. An adult reared from this larva was identified by Dr. E. Munroe of the Entomology Research Institute, Ottawa, as P. magnificans Dyar; since reduced in Rindge's revision to synonymy with mexicanaria.

An adult male, also identified by Dr. Munroe, was collected at Rock Creek on 10 July, 1958. It was flying in a lighted garage about 10 p.m.

#### Acknowledgment

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#### References

Rindge, F. H. 1961. A Revision of the Nacophorini (Lepidoptera, Geometridae). Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist. 123: 91-

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