

Melanic or Albinic—Male or female, or local, the names of which are sufficient definition.

This would not preclude the use of the term sub-variety as now used, but would open the way for the use of the still more expressive term of "sub-species," applicable to varieties highly differentiated, and especially when the differentiation has so far progressed as to begin in the larval state.

Would not the application of some such system to the catalogues be of much aid in study and designate approximately the relations of many forms to each other?

I offer this as a suggestion; the subject will certainly bear discussion, and some permanent good may come of it surely. If the result of the discussion is the adoption of the system herein indicated, after elaboration and revision, or of some other system that will in some way indicate the relationship of forms in their names, my end will be attained. That some reform is necessary I am convinced.

THE NORTH AMERICAN SPECIES OF MAMESTRA, OCHS.

BY A. R. GROTE.

The species of this genus have hairy eyes, unarmed tibiae and a tufted thorax. The dorsum of the abdomen is more or less tufted, but in some species the tuftings are not noticeable. Several species which seem to me to belong to *Graphiphora* (*Taeniocampa*) have been referred to this genus; among these I may mention *orobia* of Harvey, *modesta*, *incincta* and *thecata* of Morrison, and the species described by me as *rufula* and *puerilis*. I also take out the *curta* and *promulsa* of Morrison, which I believe to be species of *Anarta*. The species included under *Dianthoccia* differ from *Mamestra* by the extruded ovipositor. But they appear to arrange themselves naturally among the species of *Mamestra*, and perhaps do not really differ in a generic sense. They are here included.

purpurissata Grote, P. Ent. S. Phil. 3, 82. Can.; Eastern and Middle States.

nimbosa Guen., Noct. 2, 77; Speyer, Ent. Can.; Zeit. 142. Eastern and Middle States.

discaalis Grote, Bull. U. S. Geol. Surv., 3, 797. Colorado.