

THE BUTTERFLIES OF LAGGAN, N. W. T.; ACCOUNT OF
CERTAIN SPECIES INHABITING THE ROCKY
MOUNTAINS IN LATITUDE $51^{\circ} 25'$.

BY THOMAS E. BEAN, LAGGAN, ALBERTA.

(Continued from page 149, Vol. 25.)

ARGYNNIS APHIRAPE, VAR. OSSIANUS, HERBST.

My local material allied to the European *Aphirape* consists of 22 males, 11 females. These have been studied in comparison with 3 ♂, 1 ♀ typical *Aphirape* from Germany, 2 ♂ 2 ♀ *Aphirape* var. *Ossianus* from Northern Finland, 1 ♂ *Ossianus* from Sweden, 1 ♂ 1 ♀ *Aphirape* var. *Triclaris* from Labrador, and 3 ♂ 1 ♀ *Triclaris* collected by Mr. H. K. Morrison in southern Colorado. In the local series the following relationships are displayed:—One male is *Triclaris*, agreeing closely on upper surface with the Colorado males, but on the under side nearer to the single Labrador male. Five males and four females are *Aphirape* var. *Ossianus*. The remaining 16 males and 7 females are of an intergrade type, combining features of *Ossianus* and *Triclaris*. On under side these compare closely with my Labrador pair of *Triclaris*, having the spots of secondaries mainly surfaced in nacre and very conspicuous. On upper side, however, they are distinctively of the *Ossianus* type.

Triclaris is by some authors considered a distinct species. The examination I have now made results adversely to that view. As above shown, the Laggan material contains over 25 per cent. of examples which are formal *Ossianus*, with about 75 per cent. of specimens combining the character of *Ossianus* upper surface with an extreme degree of *Triclaris* quality below. In order to make a reasonable plea for the distinctness of *Triclaris* from *Aphirape*, it would be requisite to prove that *Ossianus* and *Aphirape* in the European fauna are mutually independent. For *Ossianus* certainly is a resident in the bogs of Laggan, and just as surely the Laggan intergrade series identifies *Triclaris* with *Ossianus*.

In the Laggan series appears nothing very close to typical *Aphirape*. In fact, 75 per cent. of the Laggan occurrence is at the farthest point of separation from *Aphirape*.

Triclaris of Colorado is the North American form nearest to typical *Aphirape*, which it greatly resembles on upper side, and the Laggan form as markedly resembles *Ossianus*. It is also worthy of special note that in *Triclaris* of Colorado, as in typical *Aphirape*, the colour-pattern is