

A NEW PYRALID.

BY MARY E. MURFFELDT, KIRKWOOD, MO.

Titanio helianthiales, n. sp.

Alar expanse 15 to 16 mm.

Head small, with long, rather bristly scales, of which it is easily denuded, the colours mingled dingy white and buff; labial palpi projecting, elongate triangular, densely scaled, of a buff colour, indistinctly margined with white; maxillary palpi not in evidence; tongue slender, naked, eyes globular, large, purplish brown; antennæ silvery white above, pale brown beneath, the joints distinct and clothed with very short pubescence. Thorax buff with white median line, patagia buff, bordered more or less distinctly with white. Abdomen clothed with buff or fulvous scales, with indistinct bands of white at base. Legs shading from pale brown femora to yellowish-white tarsi. Wings broad. Fore wings, ground colour of black, buff and white scales intermingled, ranging from dark to light in proportion to the number of white scales, which is variable; a narrow, rather indefinite, white streak extends longitudinally from the base of the wing near the inner margin to about the middle; a more distinct white area has its base on the costa in the apical third extending obliquely backward about half across the wing; a narrow white line curves around the outer margin, diverging quite widely from the latter near the apical and the outer angles, most distinct near the costa, where it very nearly touches the base of the costal fascia, to this succeeds a dark band and a second narrower white line followed by a fine black marginal line; fringes white, variegated with two dusky bands. Hind wings yellowish-white at base, shading to dusky toward the outer margin, near which is an obscure whitish band; fringes similarly marked to those on fore wings. Under side of fore wings rather dark, silvery gray, except along the inner margin, where it is almost white; near the apical angle is a light spot, larger and of oblong form in the ♂, small and round in the ♀. Described from two ♂s and two ♀s. The combination of colours gives to the eye the general impression of pale purplish-gray, or "lavender" — to employ a milliner's term — and there is considerable variation in pattern and proportion of the silvery white scales, which makes an exact description difficult.

The adolescent stages of this insect are peculiarly interesting. It is a true leaf-miner and, so far as I have been able to learn, the only member of its family as yet discovered to have that habit. It works between