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OVIPOSITION OF EPIDEMIA EPIXANTHE.

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A desire to observe the larva of *Incisalia polios* in the field, and to secure a few for breeding, took us to Lakewood, N. J., toward the end of the last week in June, 1907. For forty-eight hours we were compelled to work under the disadvantages incident to a steady rain, succeeded by a series of showers, mists and infrequent periods of half-hearted sunshine. Though no butterflies appeared, such weather was—except for the discomfort entailed—the best possible for caterpillar hunting, and by evening of the second day we had collected a number of *irus*, *niphon* and *polios*, sufficient to warrant us in turning our attention to something else.

A golden sunset gave promise of clearing skies on the morrow, and in casting about for some butterfly problem which might profitably occupy our time, we chanced to think of *Epidemia epixanthe*. It was as yet a little too early to expect the species to be flying in numbers, and our hopes of learning anything of its life-history were correspondingly moderate; nevertheless we made ready for a day's work in the cranberry bogs.

July the first dawned cloudless and serene, and following the less agreeable weather, it seemed doubly pleasant to see the land flooded with light, and to feel the warmth of the morning sun on our hands and faces. We set out betimes along a little-travelled road, which runs through the negro quarter of the village, and on towards the coast. The sandy highway had dried during the night, and walking was slow and somewhat fatiguing, though we made no pretence of haste, stopping occasionally to gather a few *irus* caterpillars from the *Baptisia*,* or to look over the small pines for *niphon*. Further on the road was bordered on either side by thickets of laurel, crowned with magnificent masses of pink and white blossoms, and we paused to admire their luxuriance and beauty, and to enjoy the rich fragrance with which the air was laden. Out in the open, however, we plodded on in full realization that it was a typical, torrid, glorious summer's day.

By reason of slow progress and numerous delays, we did not reach the marsh for which we had headed until well on toward eleven o'clock;

*Two weeks before we had discovered a female *irus* ovipositing on *Baptisia tinctoria*, and further investigation has led us to believe that this is the preferred, if not the only, larval food-plant in New Jersey and for some distance southward. Neither eggs nor larvæ were found on lupine (*Lupinus perennis*) either at South Lakewood or Newfoundland, N. J., though they were common enough on the False Indigo wherever *irus* occurred.