

for its discovery. The food-plant is *Veronica virginica*, which grows sparingly in this section, and although a borer may have attained maturity in its principal root, there is often no evident deterioration of growth. Sometimes, however, the mature larva will have consumed so much of the root at its crown, to provide itself with more commodious quarters, that the stock will have died and become blackened, thus standing a mute sentinel to all who are apprised of its secret. The young borer enters the stem slightly above the ground level, where a small opening is made, furnishing air and an outlet for accumulations which would otherwise clog the gallery. Free access is kept up to this point until maturity, even though the widely-extending roots permit the larva to bore a foot or more in various directions. The roots are small for the habitation of such a guest, and it is the extended mining which they do that often results in the destruction of a specimen when the larvæ are sought for transference to the breeding cage. One never knows at what point to expect his quarry, and a fatality often occurs. Aside from this the species seemed to thrive very peacefully. The change to pupa appears to be made in the neighboring soil, and the gallery is not used as an exit by the moth, though this point has not been settled definitely, since no pupæ were obtained in the field. Larvæ were encountered in second stage from the last. They were quite as easily recognized as belonging to *Hydræcia* as the preceding, having the usual characteristics well in evidence. The colour is a pale, sordid sienna; the lines dirty white; plates not strongly defined and the tubercles less so. Specimens were so scarce that this period was insufficiently observed.

Penultimate stage: Inflates were now secured and definite notes taken. This next to last stage is the most important in making comparisons in this genus, as the individuality fades later into a very general translucence, though of course the tubercle arrangement and structural details still point to their specific attributes.

Larva now shows some points in common with its near ally *cerussata*, though the size and colour are quite dissimilar. On the thoracic joints the skin is puckered or creased, so as to appear slightly contorted, and all tubercles or plates are well defined; the anal plate, however, does not show the departure occurring with its ally.

Head measures .08 inch; regular, smooth and shining; of a honey-yellow colour, the mouth-parts alone showing tipped with brown; there seems a full complement of setæ, but the side or ocellar line is wanting.