

SUNFLOWERS AS A LURE FOR THE PLUSIIDÆ

This season most of my sunflowers, being self-sown, were in bloom a good two weeks earlier than usual and were in greater profusion. They also lasted well into the fall.

I had noticed in previous years, when I had a good show of the flowers, that quite a number of species were attracted; consequently this year, with such a quantity out at once, and so early, I was particularly on the watch for things moving at dusk in that part of my garden.

Early "sugaring" having proved a failure, I had fallen back on collecting "at light" on suitable evenings when I could manage it, with a preliminary stroll around the flower beds with my net. Many good evenings were missed early in August, owing to other engagements or occupations, but during the latter part of the month, and the first two weeks of September, I was able to make a round nearly every evening, when the weather was favorable.

The list of species taken is as follows:

- 2475.—*Plusia aeroides* Grote. Aug. 3rd (1). Half a dozen specimens were also taken at light in July this year. I never took *aeroides* in Victoria, and but a single specimen during the previous seven years of my residence on Quamichan Lake.
- 2477.—*Plusia metallica* Grote. Aug. 30th to Sept. 13th (3). One of them my small daughter, Phyllis, netted off the flowers in the afternoon. I have always found the species rare.
- 2479.—*Euchalcia putnami* Grote. Aug. 21st to 24th (3). Also one at light on July 24th. I think this species may be double brooded with us, for I have taken it earlier in the year. I have always found it rare, however.
- 2481.—*Eosphoropteryx thyatiroides* Guenée. Aug. 10th (1). I have captured this rarely in previous years off a small species of sunflower, coming into bloom earlier. I took the species one season in Elm Park, Winnipeg (Aug. 18th) off a species of wild sunflower, when I was out sugaring.