

***Mysoria affinis* (Herrich-Schäffer): morphological variation and synonymy (Lepidoptera, Hesperiidae, Pyrrhopyginae)¹**

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ABSTRACT. *Mysoria wilsoni* H.A. Freeman, 1969, is established as a new junior synonym of *Mysoria affinis* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1869). A lectotype for *Pyrrhopyga [sic] affinis* Herrich-Schäffer, 1869 is designated.

KEY WORDS. Guatemala, Mexico, Neotropical, seasonality, type specimens.

RESUMO. *Mysoria wilsoni* H.A. Freeman, 1969 é estabelecido como um novo sinônimo junior de *Mysoria affinis* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1869). Um lectótipo para *Pyrrhopyga [sic] affinis* Herrich-Schäffer, 1869 é designado.

PALAVRAS CHAVE. Exemplares tipos, Guatemala, México, Neotropical, sazonalidade.

The examination of type specimens of Neotropical Hesperiidae in various museums by the authors has resulted in several recent changes in the synonymy of New World species, including some Pyrrhopyginae (AUSTIN & WARREN 2002, MIELKE & CASAGRANDE 2002). The taxonomy of Mexican Pyrrhopyginae has become better known in recent years, at the species-level (BURNS & JANZEN 2001, AUSTIN & WARREN 2002), genus-level (MIELKE 2002), and higher levels (MIELKE 2001). But many unresolved issues remain, such as the taxonomic status of *Mysoria wilsoni* H.A. Freeman, 1969. This subject has been a topic of investigation for the senior author for several years, as material has been accumulated from various sites (e.g. VARGAS *et al.* 1996, WARREN *et al.* 1998). Following the study of type material of *M. wilsoni* and *M. affinis* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1869), as well as extensive series of specimens from throughout their ranges, now it is possible to propose the synonymy of both taxa.

MATERIAL

Specimens examined are from the following collections, with their acronyms: (AMNH) American Museum of Natural History, New York, USA; (ADW) Andrew D. Warren, Colorado, USA; (AME) Allyn Museum of Entomology, Sarasota, Florida, USA; (DZUP-OM) Departamento de Zoologia, Universidade Federal do Paraná, Coleção O. Mielke, Curitiba, Paraná, Brasil; (MZFC) Museo de Zoología, Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, México City, México (much of this material currently on loan to ADW); (TAMU) Texas A & M University, College Station, Texas, USA.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

***Mysoria affinis* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1869)**

Pyrrhopyga [sic] affinis Herrich-Schäffer, 1869. *Corr.-Blatt zool.-min. Ver. Regensburg* 23: 165; *Tropical America*.- H.A. Freeman, 1969. *Jour. Lepid. Soc.* 23 (suppl. 2): 3, pl. 6, figs 3, 4 (male dorsal, ventral).

Mysoria wilsoni H.A. Freeman, 1969. *Jour. Lepid. Soc.* 23 (suppl. 2): 3, pl. 6, figs 1, 2 (male dorsal, ventral), pl. 15, fig. 1 (genitalia male); holotype male, 23 July 1956, Mexcala, Guerrero, Mexico, K. Wilson leg.; United States National Museum [but actually deposited at the American Museum of Natural History]; new synonymy.

A syntype male of *Pyrrhopyga [sic] affinis* Herrich-Schäffer, 1869 (Figs 1-2), was examined and photographed by the senior author in 1979 at the "Museum für Naturkunde der Humboldt Universität", Berlin, Germany. It has the following labels: /Coll. H.-Sch./ Coll. Staudinger/ *affinis*, HS./ Origin./ 2:3/ *affinis* m./ 91/ *Affinis* H.-Sch./. "Origin." is an abbreviation of "Original", the word used by STAUDINGER to say "Type". To preserve stability of nomenclature, this specimen is here designated **Lectotype**, and an appropriate label will be added.

The type series of *M. wilsoni* consists of the holotype and nine male paratypes; five of these are from Mexcala, collected by Wilson in July, 1956, two others also from Mexcala, but collected in August 1958 by T. Escalante, one from Taxco, Guerrero, Mexico, 10 August, 1956, Stallings & Turner leg., and one from Mapastepec, Chiapas, Mexico, August, 1951. Since

its description, *M. wilsoni* has been considered a valid species (LLORENTE *et al.* 1990, de la MAZA *et al.* 1991, WARREN 2000, MIELKE in press), and has been considered an endemic component of the Mexican fauna (LUIS-M. *et al.* 2003).

FREEMAN (1969) separated *M. wilsoni* from the very similar *M. affinis* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1869) based on five characters, four of them on the wings, and on apparent differences in the male genitalia. However, FREEMAN's concept of *M. affinis* is not consistent with HERRICH-SCHÄFFER's type specimen (the lectotype) and, furthermore, none of the characters FREEMAN used to differentiate the two taxa are consistent when large series of specimens are examined. Below, reasons why *M. wilsoni* should be treated as a junior synonym of *M. affinis* are discussed.

GODMAN & SALVIN (1879-1901) studied only a few specimens of *M. affinis* in their collection, from Sinaloa (Mazatlán area) and Guerrero States, Mexico; however, they also examined HERRICH-SCHÄFFER's type of *M. affinis* (the same specimen designated lectotype above). They noted (p. 255): "Dr. Staudinger has kindly lent us the type of this species described by HERRICH-SCHÄFFER, and we find several specimens from our collection from various parts of Western Mexico which agree with it in all essential points, but the wings, especially the primaries, are rather more elongated and the outer margin more concave". From this statement, it is evident that GODMAN & SALVIN noticed the contrast in wing shape between, at least, their Mazatlán material (Plate 73: figs 19, 20), and the type specimen of *M. affinis* (Figs 1-2 herein). However, since GODMAN & SALVIN (1879-1901) illustrated the narrow-winged form as *M. affinis*, readers could be led to believe that form represents typical *M. affinis*, if the text is not carefully studied. This is apparently what FREEMAN (1969) believed, since he illustrated the narrow-winged phenotype (p. 53, figs 3-4) in the original description of *M. wilsoni* as typical *M. affinis*; indeed, FREEMAN's *M. affinis* figures are a close match to the illustrations provided by GODMAN & SALVIN of *M. affinis*. On the other hand, FREEMAN's type of *M. wilsoni* is a very close match to HERRICH-SCHÄFFER's type of *affinis* (Figs 1-2 herein). Therefore, FREEMAN's concept of *M. wilsoni* represents typical *affinis*, as defined by its syntypic specimen, here designated lectotype. This makes *M. wilsoni* a junior subjective synonym of *M. affinis*, and leaves the narrow-winged form without a name; however, as it is explained below, the narrow-winged form cannot be delineated as a distinct taxon, and does not deserve a formal name.

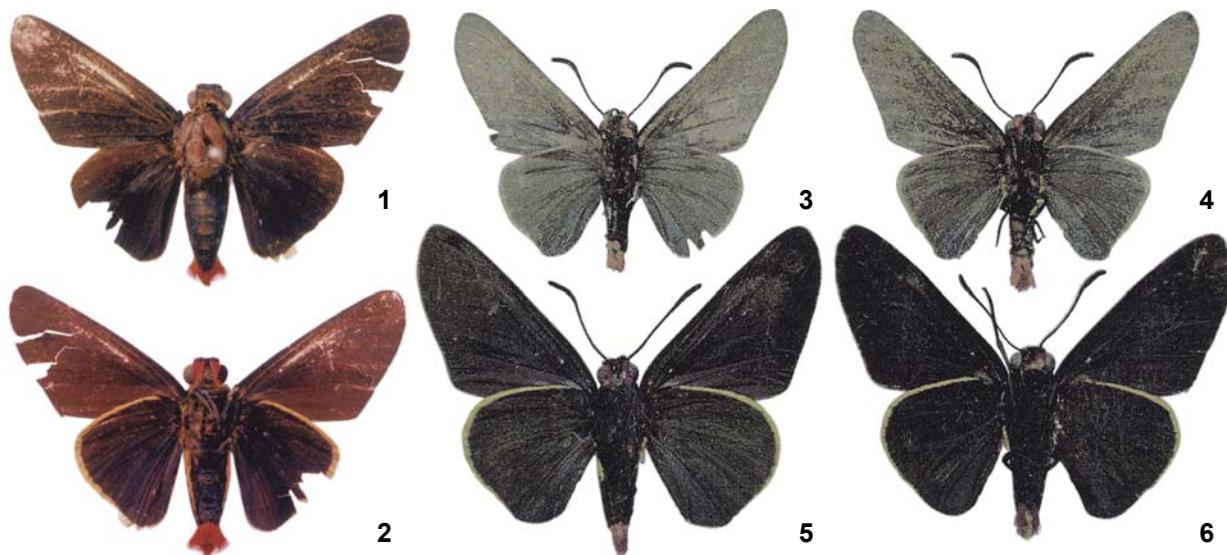
The morphological characters used by FREEMAN (1969) to separate the two "taxa" do not hold up when long series of specimens are examined. FREEMAN's main characters used to separate the taxa were forewing width, the angle of the outer margin of the forewing, and hindwing shape. Indeed, at the extremes of variation (Figs 3-6), the two phenotypes appear abundantly different. However, all intermediates between these extremes are regularly found (Figs 7-15), and clearly show these wing characters to be unreliable in splitting series into separate taxa. Indeed, material from single localities shows great

variation in these characters (e.g. Figs 7, 9, 10, material from Ahuacapán, Jalisco), though there does seem to be a seasonal pattern to the variation. All specimens examined from the months of March through June (peak of dry season), regardless of their locality, represent the variably narrow-winged phenotype. Wide-winged phenotypes are known from many of these same localities (Colima, Colima; Arteaga and Rancho "El Zorrillo", Michoacán) during the rainy season (July to October). While a few narrow-wing forms were seen from rainy season months, these are mostly from seasonally very dry localities (e.g. Mazatlán, Sinaloa), or represent random "dwarfed" specimens. The vast majority of these rainy season individuals, from July to October (the majority of our sample), are wide-winged forms; note also that FREEMAN's entire series of *M. wilsoni* types are from July and August. Material from transition months (November to February) is highly variable, and is generally intermediate between the two morphological extremes. While the narrow-winged (dry season) individuals in the figures 3-15 appear to have a lighter ground color than the wide-winged specimens, *Mysoria* specimens fade rapidly as they age in collections and in the field (compare specimens from Ahuacapán, Figs 7, 9, 10), and these differences are apparently artifacts of fading.

FREEMAN (1969) also separated *M. wilsoni* from *M. affinis* based on the extent of the yellow marginal border on the ventral hindwing, with *M. affinis* possessing a wider band than *M. wilsoni*. It was found that while this trait does tend to vary with wing shape, the wide-wing phenotypes generally with reduced marginal borders, it is highly variable, and does not always correspond to wing shape (Figs 7-15).

If environmental conditions are responsible for variation in wing shape and markings in *M. affinis*, it would not be surprising to see the same pattern repeated in closely related species. *Mysoria amra* (Hewitson, 1871) is a morphologically very similar species, sharing almost exactly the same primarily western Mexican distribution as *M. affinis* (also barely entering Guatemala – EVANS 1951). In an examination of several hundred specimens of *M. amra* (not listed), similar seasonal differences in wing shape were found, though not as extreme as seen in *M. affinis*. Figures 16 and 17 show June and September-October individuals of *M. amra* and figures 18 and 19 of *M. affinis*. Indeed, June individuals of *M. amra*, as illustrated, tend to have narrower, slightly more elongated wings, as compared to October specimens, approaching the variation seen in *M. affinis*. However, no significant seasonal variation was seen in *M. amra* in the width of colored ventral hindwing marginal borders.

Male genitalia of 15 specimens of *M. affinis* were examined (from Sinaloa, Jalisco, Colima, Michoacán, Guerrero and Oaxaca), representing the extremes in wing shape variation, as well as various intermediate phenotypes. No differences of any kind were observed among these specimens; the genitalia are remarkably uniform. GODMAN & SALVIN's (Plate 73, fig. 21)



Figures 1-6. (1-2) *Mysoria affinis* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1869): lectotype male, dorsal (1) and ventral (2); approximately natural size. (3-6) Ventral view of narrow- and wide-winged forms of *Mysoria affinis*: (3) narrow-winged female, MEXICO, Jalisco: Mpio. Autlán: Ahuacapán, 900 m, 7-VI-1994 A.D. Warren leg.; (4) narrow-winged male, MEXICO, Jalisco: Mpio. Autlán: Ahuacapán, 900 m, 7-VI-1994 A.D. Warren leg.; (5) wide-winged female, MEXICO, Michoacán: Mpio. Gabriel Zamora: Barranca de Cóbano, 550 m, 3-X-1993, L. González-Cota leg.; (6) wide-winged male, MEXICO, Michoacán: Mpio. Arteaga: Hwy. 37 at Rancho "El Zorrillo", 764 m, 25-IX-1995, L. González-Cota leg.

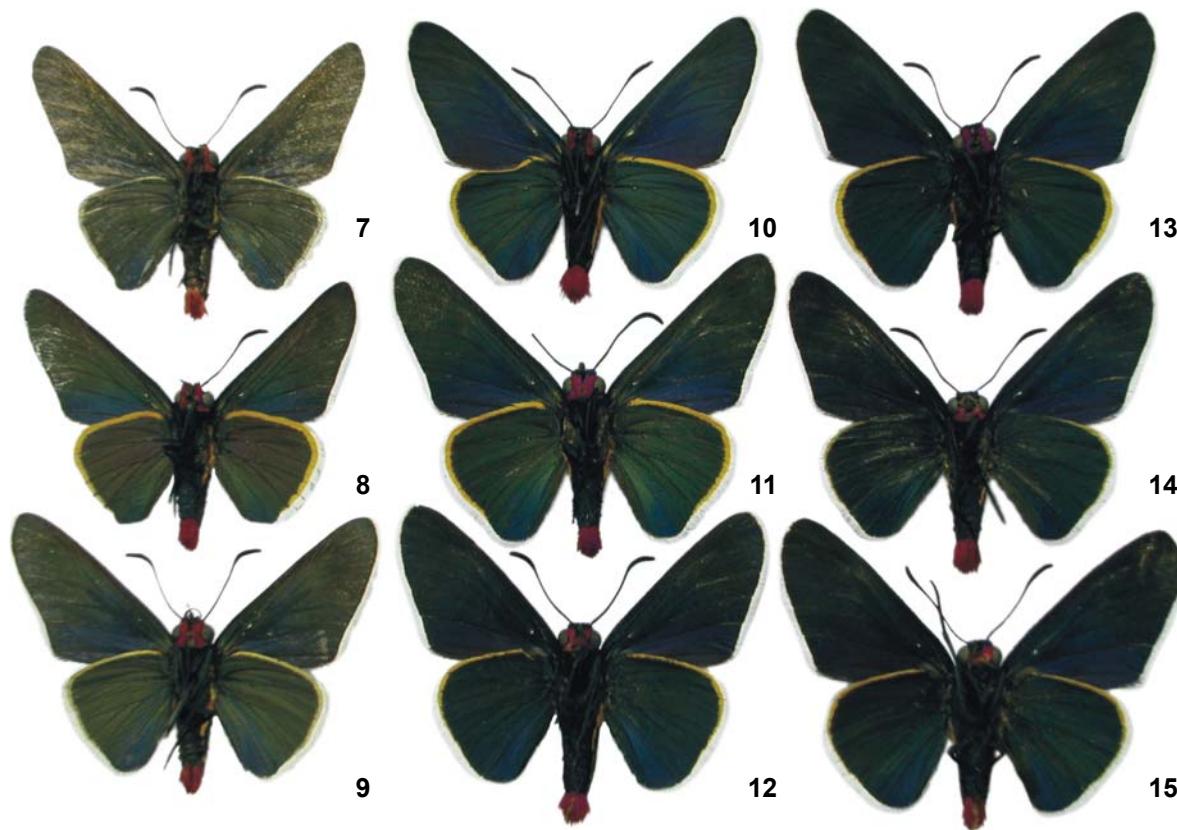
illustration of the male genitalia of *M. affinis* is misleading (ventral surface of valvae not so rounded- this may be an artifact of slide-mounting); the figure by FREEMAN (1969) is more accurate, and represents the form of the genitalia seen in narrow- and wide-wing phenotypes.

In conclusion, individual and seasonal variation in wing shape and pattern in *Mysoria affinis* is considerable, with its junior synonym *M. wilsoni* representing one extreme end of a continuous cline in wing trait variation. Male genitalia of the various forms are identical.

The broader implications of these conclusions may be significant. EVANS (1951) considered forewing shape to be a valuable and informative character in many genera of Pyrrhopyginae, including *Pyrrhopyge* Hübner, [1819] (e.g. *P. phidias* (Linnaeus, 1758) group of taxa), and *Mysoria* Watson, 1893. For example, EVANS separated subspecies of *Mysoria barcastus* (Sepp, [1851]), in part, based on wing shape. For the Central American subspecies *M. b. ambigua* (Mabille & Boullet, 1908), EVANS (p. 67) noted that the "wings [are] not produced and termen H convex"; for the northern South American subspecies *M. b. venezuelae* (Scudder, 1872), he noted that "wings [are] more produced, termen H straight or excavate"; for the Guianan subspecies *M. b. barcastus* (p. 68), he noted that "wings [are] very produced"; and for the subspecies found south of the Amazon, *M. b. barta* EVANS, 1951, he mentioned a "complete reversion to *ambigua* both in respect of wing shape and the width of the yellow border." EVANS found significant varia-

tion in the ventral hindwing colored marginal border in these taxa, and considered these differences to be informative. Considering the seasonal variation seen in Mexican *Mysoria* species (*M. affinis* and *M. amra*), it is suggested that a careful examination of the *M. barcastus* group (and other genera of Pyrrhopyginae) may reveal similar patterns of variation, which could justify some taxonomic changes.

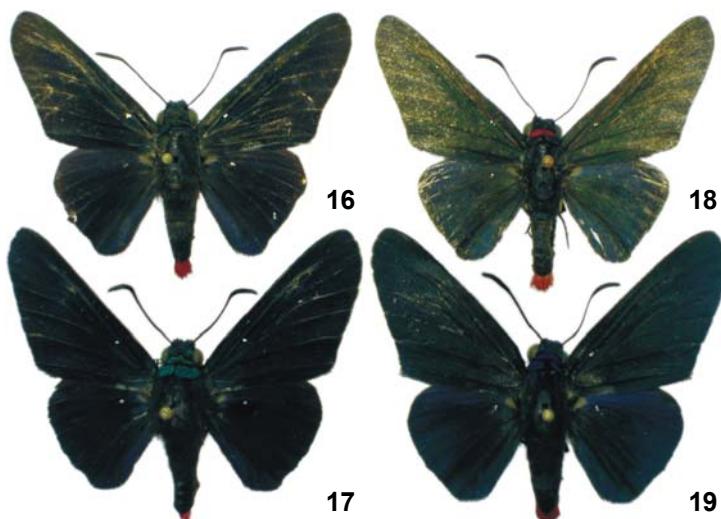
Material examined. *Mysoria affinis* (209 males, 105 females), in addition to type material discussed above. In some cases, Municipality information was not listed on specimen labels, but has been added herein: MEXICO, Chiapas: Mpio. Jiquipilla: Parque "El Aguacero", km 20, Cintalapa – Tuxtla Gutiérrez, 500 m, 23-IX-1978, Soberón leg. (1 male, MZFC); Mpio. La Trinitaria: Las Delicias, 11-X-1971, Welling leg. (1 male, 1 female, ADW); Colima: Mpio. Colima, Colima, 17-VI-1916, Hoffmann leg. (1 male, AMNH); 21-IX-1916, Hoffmann leg. (1 male, AMNH); Mpio. Comala: Comala, 12-IV-1967, Wind leg. (1 male, AMNH); Mpio. Manzanillo: El Salto, N of Cerro la Calera, 3-I-1996, Warren leg. (1 male, ADW); Pedro Núñez, N of La Central, 4-I-1996, Warren leg. (1 male, ADW); Punta de Agua de Camotlán, 2 km NE, 1-I-1996, Warren leg. (2 males, ADW); Mpio. Minatitlán: Platanarillos, 350 m, 29-IX-1994, MZFC (1 male, MZFC); Mpio. Tecoman: La Salada, 4-VI-1967, Wind leg. (2 males, AMNH); Mpio. Villa de Álvarez: Agua Dulce, 250 m, 27-IX-1994, MZFC (1 male, MZFC); 13-IV-1995, MZFC (1 male, MZFC); 11-XII-1995, Vargas & Salinas leg. (2 females, MZFC); Guerrero: no locality, O.T. Baron leg. (3 males, DZUP-



Figures 7-15. Continuum of variation seen in wing shape among *Mysoria affinis* males, ventral view: (7) México, Jalisco: Mpio. Autlán: Ahuacapán, 900 m, 7-VI-1994 A.D. Warren leg.; (8) México, Colima: Mpio. Villa de Álvarez: Agua Dulce, 13-IV-1995, MZFC crew; (9) México: Jalisco: Mpio. Autlán: Ahuacapán, 900 m, 7-VI-1994 A.D. Warren leg.; (10) México, Jalisco: Mpio. Autlán: Ahuacapán, 900 m, 7-VI-1994 A.D. Warren leg.; (11) México: Colima: Mpio. Villa de Álvarez: Agua Dulce, 27-IX-1995, MZFC crew; (12) México, Michoacán: Mpio. Arteaga: Hwy. 37 at Rancho "El Zorrillo", 764 m, 20-IX-1995, L. González-Cota leg.; (13) México, Michoacán: Mpio. Gabriel Zamora: Barranca de Cóbano, 550 m, 24-IX-1994, L. González-Cota leg.; (14) México, Michoacán: Mpio. Gabriel Zamora: Barranca de Cóbano, 550 m, 31-VIII-1994, L. González-Cota leg. (15) México, Michoacán: Mpio. Arteaga: Hwy. 37 at Rancho "El Zorrillo", 764 m, 25-IX-1995, L. González-Cota leg.

OM); Mpio. Atoyac: Rincón de las Parotas, 300 m, 20-I-1987, MZFC (1 female, MZFC); Mpio. Tepecoacuilco de Trujano/ Zumpango del Río: Río Mezcala, IX-1935, Escalante leg. (1 male, 1 female, DZUP-OM); Mpio. Zihuatanejo: Zihuatanejo, IX-1952, T. Escalante leg. (1 male, MZFC); 13-16-VII-1983, Vernon leg. (1 male, Vernon colln.); Jalisco: Mpio. Autlán: Ahuacapán, 900 m, 7-VI-1994, Warren leg. (10 males, 2 females, ADW); Mpio. La Huerta: Chamela Bay, 19-XI-1937, Rindge leg. (1 female, AMNH); 28-III-1939, Rindge leg. (1 male, AMNH); 14-XII-1939, Rindge leg. (1 male, AMNH); Mpio. Puerto Vallarta: Banderas Bay, 19-XI-1939, Rindge leg. (2 males, 1 female, AMNH); Mpio. unknown: Cihuatlán, IX-1948, Escalante leg. (1 female, AME); Michoacán: Mpio. Arteaga: Arteaga, 17-VI-1995, González leg. (1 male, MZFC); 5-VIII-1995, González leg. (1 female, MZFC); 6-VIII-1995, González leg. (1 female, MZFC); 29-VIII-1995,

González leg. (1 male, 1 female, MZFC); 4-IX-1995, González leg. (3 males, 2 females, MZFC); 13-IX-1995, González leg. (39 males, 24 females, MZFC); 14-IX-1995, González leg. (16 males, 5 females, MZFC); 17-IX-1995, González leg. (11 males, 6 females, MZFC); 18-IX-1995, González leg. (22 males, 4 females, MZFC); 19-IX-1995, González leg. (1 male, 1 female, MZFC); 22-IX-1995, González leg. (4 males, 3 females, MZFC); 27-IX-1995, González leg. (1 male, MZFC); Las Juntas, 625 m, 27-XI-1994, González leg. (2 females, MZFC); Hwy. 37 at Rancho "El Zorrillo", 764 m, 20-VI-1995, González leg. (1 male, MZFC); 24-VI-1995, González leg. (1 male, MZFC); 8-VII-1995, González leg. (1 male, 2 females, MZFC); 11-VII-1995, González leg. (1 male, MZFC); 13-VII-1995, González leg. (1 female, MZFC); 28-VIII-1995, González leg. (1 male, MZFC); 31-VIII-1994, González leg. (1 female, MZFC); 31-VIII-1995, González leg. (1 male,



Figures 16-19. Males of *Mysoria amra* (left column) and *M. affinis* (right column), dorsal view, showing variation in wing width. *Mysoria amra*: (16) Mexico, Jalisco: Mpio. Casimiro Castillo: La Calera, 650 m, 5-VI-1994, A.D. Warren leg.; (17) Mexico, Nayarit: Mpio. Jalisco: El Refion, 780 m, 2-X-1996, A.D. Warren leg. *Mysoria affinis*: (18) Mexico, Jalisco: Mpio. Autlán: Ahuacapán, 900 m, 7-VI-1994 A.D. Warren leg.; (19) Mexico, Michoacán: Mpio. Gabriel Zamora: Barranca de Cóbano, 550 m, 24-IX-1994, L. González-Cota leg.

MZFC); 2-IX-1995, González leg. (1 male, MZFC); 3-IX-1994, González leg. (1 female, MZFC); 3-IX-1995, González leg. (2 males, MZFC); 4-IX-1995, González leg. (2 females, MZFC); 5-IX-1995, González leg. (1 male, MZFC); 6-IX-1995, González leg. (1 male, MZFC); 7-IX-1995, González leg. (1 male, MZFC); 8-IX-1995, González leg. (2 males, 2 females, MZFC); 16-IX-1996, González leg. (1 female, MZFC); 18-IX-1995, González leg. (2 males, MZFC); 20-IX-1995, González leg. (2 males, MZFC); 21-IX-1995, González leg. (2 males, 1 female, MZFC); 22-IX-1995, González leg. (1 male, 1 female, MZFC); 23-IX-1995, González leg. (4 males, 3 females, MZFC); 24-IX-1995, González leg. (1 male, MZFC); 25-IX-1995, González leg. (3 males, MZFC); 29-IX-1995, González leg. (3 males, MZFC); 30-IX-1995, González leg. (2 males, MZFC); 15-XI-1994, González leg. (1 female, MZFC); 18-XI-1994, González leg. (1 female, MZFC); 21-XI-1994, González leg. (1 female, MZFC); 28-XI-1994, González leg. (3 males, MZFC); Mpio. Coahuayana: San Telmo, Ojo de Agua, 8-14-VI-19??, González leg. (1 female, MZFC); Mpio. Gábel Zamora: Barranca de Cóbano, 550 m, 12-I-1991, González leg. (1 female, MZFC); 25-VIII-1994, González leg. (1 male, 2 females, MZFC); 31-VIII-1994, González leg. (3 males, 4 females, MZFC); 11-IX-1994, González leg. (5 males, 4 females, MZFC); 24-IX-1994, González leg. (2 males, MZFC); 3-X-1993, González leg. (2 females, MZFC); 8-X-1989, González leg. (1 female, MZFC); P.H. Cupatitzio, 918 m, 28-IX-1994, González leg. (1 female, MZFC); 26-VIII-1997, Warren leg. (3 males, 1 female, ADW); Mpio. La Huacana: Presa Zicuirán, 300 m, 25-VIII-1991, González leg. (1 male, MZFC); Mpio. Parácuaro: Parácuaro, 11-VI-1995, González leg. (1 male, 1 female, MZFC);

Nayarit: Mpio. Tepic, Tepic, IX-1964, Escalante leg. (4 males, 6 females, AMNH); OAXACA: Mpio. San Bartolo Yautepec/San Carlos Yautepec: 3 mi SE Río Hondo, 17-VII-1987, Kovarik & Schaffner leg. (1 male, TAMU); Mpio. San Pedro Pochutla: Puerto Ángel, 16-II-1998 (1 male, ADW); 18-II-1998 (1 male, ADW); Mpio. Santa María Tlahuitoltepec: 8 km N. Nejapa, 12-VIII-1970, Steinhäuser leg. (1 male, DZUP-OM); Puebla: Mpio. Matamoros, Jaulillas, 18-VIII-1968, Moral leg. (7 males, 2 females, DZUP-OM); Sinaloa: Mpio. Mazatlán: Mazatlán, no date, Hy. Edwards leg. (4 males, AMNH); 14-VI-1962, Rawson leg. (1 female, AME); 5-IX-1967, Welling leg. (1 male, 1 female, DZUP-OM); 26-IX-1975, Weber leg. (1 male, DZUP-OM); State unknown: Mpio. La Cruz: Sabinal, 200 m, no date (1 female, DZUP-OM).

DE LA MAZA (1987: pl. 58, fig. 15) illustrated a male *M. affinis* from Rancho Viejo, Morelos State, and also lists the species (p. 143) from San Nicolás Tolentino, México State. EVANS (1951: 69) mentioned three specimens from "Guatemala"; as far as is known, these are the only reported specimens of *M. affinis* from outside of Mexico.

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