

## ***Hadena ligata* Möschler (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae): distribution and revised taxonomy**

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### **Abstract**

*Hadena ligata* Möschler, 1891 represents a previously unrecognized species of *Dypterygia* Stephens, 1829. This species was originally described from Puerto Rico and was collected in Florida. The adult habitus and the male and female genitalia are illustrated, and a lectotype is designated. The larvae of *Dypterygia rozmani* Berio, 1974 and *Trachea delicata* (Grote, 1874) are illustrated.

**Key words:** *Dypterygia*, *Hadena ligata*, Florida, identification, lectotype, new combination, *Rumex*, *Trachea delicata*, oxalic acid, oxalates, Puerto Rico, Lepidoptera, Noctuidae, caterpillar, larva

For many years lepidopterists knew about a species of *Dypterygia* Stephens, 1829 in Florida that was thought to be undescribed (Kimball, 1965). Three other species of *Dypterygia*, *D. patina* (Harvey, 1875), *D. rozmani* Berio, 1974, and *D. punctirena* (Walker, 1857), also occur in Florida; the last was reported only recently by Dickel (1991). An examination of photographs of the types of *Hadena ligata* Möschler, 1891, revealed that the moth is dissimilar to other *Hadena* Schrank, 1802 (tribe Hadenini) and is actually allied to *Dypterygia* (tribe Dypterygini) and conspecific with the previously unidentified Florida species

*Dypterygia ligata* (Möschler), **new combination**, was described from Puerto Rico. It was based on two female syntypes, both of which are in the Museum für Naturkunde, Humboldt-Universität Berlin. The better specimen of the two, the female with the left antennae lacking (see Fig. 7), is hereby designated the lectotype. The Lectotype is designated to ensure nomenclatural stability in this group of often misplaced species. The moth proves highly variable in size (27-37 mm).

The polyphyletic nature of *Dypterygia* was recognized by Sugi (1954) who described *Dipterygina* for several of the Indonesian species previously included in *Dypterygia*. The remaining species of *Dypterygia* appear divisible into three lineages which might warrant generic status. A review of all the included species and several allied genera will be necessary to determine relationships. *Dypterygia ligata* fits into the lineage which includes *D. ordinarius* (Butler, 1879) and is compared with this very close relative (see Figs. 3 & 4 vs. 5 & 6). A good distinguishing species-level character consists of the differing arrangement of spines on the vesicae (compare Figs. 4 & 6).