RECORDS OF ARICHANNA POSTFLAVA IN TAIWAN
(LEPIDOPTERA: GEOMETRIDAE)

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ABSTRACT.—The temperate Taiwan endemic, Arichanna postflava Wileman, is noted and collection records are listed.

KEY WORDS: Asia, China, distribution, Himalayas, India, Japan, Korea, Nepal, Oriental, Palearctic, Sichuan, Yunnan.

Notes about Taiwan fauna typically are considered Oriental fauna, since most of the island is tropical, but the genus Arichanna is primarily eastern Palearctic, or mostly at high elevations in mountainous areas of Taiwan and the Himalayas. The Lepidoptera fauna of Taiwan above about 2000m is decidedly Palearctic in species composition, with particular affinities to species or genera also found in the Himalaya Mountains of Nepal and northern India, ranging into border areas of China at higher elevations, such as in Yunnan and western Sichuan.

In the catalog of Taiwan Geometridae (Inoue, 1992), the genus Arichanna includes the rare Taiwan endemic species, Arichanna postflava Wileman. Chang (1990) did not illustrate A. postflava in his documentation of Geometridae species from Taiwan, even though the species can be common at times at local sites. The species was described from Taiwan. The species is similar to Arichanna refracta Inoue, but the forewing of A. postflava is uniformly gray with black spots and without any brown suffusion (Fig. 1). The related Arichanna jaguararia (Guenee) occurs in Japan and northern China (Inoue et al., 1982), presumably also in Korea.

We note below the many Taiwan specimen records for A. postflava gathered on the Florida State Collection of Arthropods-Smithsonian Institution-Taiwan Museum joint surveys of the Lepidoptera of Taiwan, from 1981-96. The Taiwan populations are isolated, but specimens can be common during its flight period. Specimens currently are all housed with the Florida State Collection of Arthropods (FSCA), except otherwise noted (*single specimen record only refers to a photograph of a living specimen taken by C. C. Lin in 1991: Wuling, Taichung Co.); project distribution of specimens will result when studies are completed.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

C. C. Lin (Yungho, Taiwan, ROC) is thanked for providing the photograph of A. postflava taken in nature in Taiwan. Dr. H. Inoue (Iruma City, Japan) kindly reviewed the manuscript.

This study is part of a series of papers on the fauna and life history of Taiwan Lepidoptera as part of the faunal survey of the Lepidoptera of Taiwan, supported in part by the National Science Council, Taipei, Republic of China, and in part through a cooperative survey project funded by the National Science Foundation, Washington, DC, USA (grants INT-8119539 and INT-8721716). The Pacific Cultural Foundation, Taipei, also has provided grants for the Taiwan Lepidoptera survey. Generous aid and help with logistics, transportation and local assistance was kindly provided by the Taiwan host institutes, the Taiwan Museum (TM), Taipei, and the Taiwan Forestry Research Institute, Taipei. The staffs of several of the forestry research stations of the Taiwan Forestry Research Institute also provided valuable aid in this project. The Florida Dept. of Agriculture & Consumer Services (FDACS), Division of Plant Industry (DPI), and its Florida State Collection of Arthropods (FSCA), Gainesville, provided supplies for some of the Taiwan surveys, as did the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC.

LITERATURE CITED

