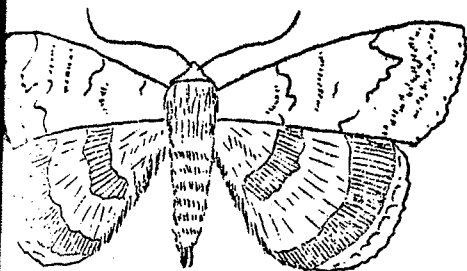


BAITING FOR MOTHS IN ACADIA



SLEEPY UNDERWING X1
(FROM MOUNTED SPECIMEN)

That moths are attracted to light is common knowledge, but few know that some of our most beautiful moths may be captured by means of baits. Combinations of fermenting fruits and sweets are swabbed in patches on tree trunks at dusk and visited later with a light to collect the moths which are attracted by the fermenting materials.

My bait line was laid out at the base of Champlain Mountain along a path through the wood. Mashed rotten apples and bananas, dark molasses, and vinegar made an odoriferous combination. This was applied to the trunks of red maple, ash, and birches along the roadside, on the warm July and August evenings. The needle-carpeted ground at the base of a big maple tree furnishes an ideal resting place to await the coming of dark and the coming of bats swoop back and forth over the nearby pond. They are nature's natural collectors. When the time to catch the moths comes the bull's-eye lantern is lighted and with stealthy steps the baited trees are approached. As a moth is seen the light is held steadily on it and a wide-mouthed jar quickly placed over it.

Many small species of owl moths are attracted by bait. Sometimes Hawkmoths are found sipping the sweets, but the fascinating and beautiful Underwing Moths or Catocalas are the favorites of collectors. The group of Underwing Moths is not so well developed in the land of Acadia as in more southern regions, but some splendid species are found here. The following species have been taken on Mt. Desert Island: the Underwing (*Catocala ilia*); the Sleepy Underwing (*C. concubens*); the Woo-married Underwing (*C. unijuga*); the Relict Underwing (*C. relict*); the Other Underwing (*C. parta*); the Scarlet Underwing (*C. coccinata*); the Ultronia Underwing (*C. ultronia*); the Youthful Underwing (*C. subnata*); the Yellow-banded Underwing (*C. cerogama*); the Wayward Nymph (*C. antinymp*); the Wid-maid (*C. coclebs*); the Praeclara Underwing (*C. praeclara*); the Blandula Underwing (*C. blandula*); the Graceful Underwing (*C. gracilis*); and the Briseis Underwing (*C. briseis*).

Their fore wings are protectively colored and they spend the day resting on the trunks of trees and other objects which they simulate to a remarkable degree that they are passed by. At night on a baited tree with their wings atilt disclosing the brightly colored and banded hindwings, and their eyes glowing like molten globules they are splendid.

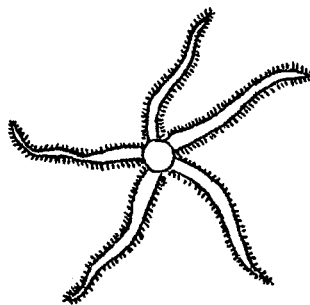
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res to behold. The collector must act quietly and quickly or they are gone. Flying squirrels scamper away up some of the trees. They eat insects; that is probably why the moths are so shy. Some like the Ilia Underwing may be found at dusk when the trees are quiet; others do not come until sometime after dark. The collector may reap a harvest until eleven o'clock or later when their work is usually over.

- Dr. A. E. Brower
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BETWEEN THE TIDE-MARKS

Early on the morning of August 25, Dr. A. E. Brower, Mr. Frank Campagnia, a student at the Desert Island Biological Laboratory, and I took a dory at Salsbury Cove and made for the coaling station at Lamoine, just across the bay. The previous night the moon had been full, and the tides were now exceptionally low, a condition ideal for finding a host of stranded marine invertebrates. Circling about in a heavy fog we finally saw the wharf piles of the coaling station and soon maneuvering about scraping a host of congested creatures from the piles in the very shallow water. Here we found Balanus, mussels (Mytilus and Modiolus), sea cucumbers (Cucumaria), hydroids, sea squirts (Molgula) and others were present in great numbers while anemones (Metridium, etc.), sponges (Halichondria, etc.) and many other various kinds were to be found.



BRITTLE STAR $\times \frac{1}{2}$

The struggle (?) for existence in the very narrow and heavily populated area between the tide marks is undoubtedly acute. In many areas it is to a large extent a keen competition for a place of anchorage. This is most important, but since the great mother ocean has more than enough for a million million mouths a place of lodgement to which the inevitable supply may be brought is the prime requisite. On wharf piles at low tides one finds layer upon layer of marine creatures, often a homogeneous group the individuals of which endeavor to hold their own in the face of constantly encroaching forms.

- Arthur Stupka