TAXONOMIC NOTES ON TWO ACROLEPIA-
SPECIES OF JAPAN

(LEPIDOPTERA : ACROLEPIIDAE)

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The two species, *Argyresthia suzukiella* Matsumura and *Eidophasia postomacula* Matsumura, were described by Matsumura in 1931 as members of the Yponomeutidae. Having examined the types of these species, however, I have come to the conclusion that both the species should be transferred to the genus *Acrolepia* Curtis of the Acrolepiidae.

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*Acrolepia suzukiella* (Matsumura, 1931), comb. n.


*Argyresthia suzukiella* was originally described from a single male (holotype) labeling “Japan/Kyoto/Suzuki”. Having compared the type with that of *Acrolepia dioscoreae*, I have been convinced that *dioscoreae* should be sunk as a synonym of *suzukiella*. It has been known that this species is a common pest of several species of the *Dioscorea* in Japan (see: Moriuti, 1961).

Distribution: Japan (Honsyu and Kyusyu).

*Acrolepia postomacula* (Matsumura, 1931), comb. n. (Figs. 1, 2)


This species may be redescribed from specimens bred from *Hosta lancifolia* Engler as follows:

♀♂. 10.5-12 mm. Head purplish-fuscous, face dark purplish. Palpus dark purplish-fuscous, mixed with pale whitish-ochreous scales, the tip being whitish-ochreous and the

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Fig 2. *Acrolepia postomacula* (Matsumura), genitalia.

(1) ♂, ventral aspect.  (2) ♂, lateral aspect.  (3) ♀, ventral aspect.  (3) ♀, without anterior portion of ductus bursae and bursa copulatrix, lateral aspect. (Drawn from specimens taken at Takano, Bizen, Honsyū).
upper margin pale whitish-ochreous except in posterior half of terminal segment. Antenna
dark purplish-fuscous, ringed with pale ochre. Thorax purplish-fuscous, with a blackish
spot at posterior end. Legs purplish-fuscous; tarsi with a pale whitish-ochreous apical ring
on each segment; hind tibia with median spurs slightly anterior to middle. Abdomen grey.
Forewing (fig. 1) dark purplish-fuscous, with some scattered whitish scales; five narrow
nearly equidistant streaks from costa between middle and before apex, reaching about \( \frac{1}{2} \)
across wing, the anterior four being oblique, scarcely contrasted with ground colour, and
tinged with ochre, and the outermost being somewhat inwardly oblique, whitish-ochreous
or ochreous; a conspicuous elongate-triangular slightly oblique white spot from before
middle of dorsum reaching beyond fold, marked with a few blackish-fuscous dots, and
partially blackish-edged; a white dot on dorsum at \( \frac{3}{4} \); cilia dark purplish-fuscous, with
darker apical and median lines, on termen with a pale ochreous dash or apical dot above
middle, on dorsum greyish. Hindwing with \( M_2 \) and \( Cu_a \) stalked, pale grey, and darker
posteriorly; cilia concolourous.

Male genitalia: Uncus indefinite. Anellus narrowly elongated. Valva simple, con-
spicuously curved ventrad, the dorsal margin being concave before blunt-pointed apex.
Saccus broad, tapering gradually to rounded anterior end. Aedeagus at least shorter than
length between apex of valva and posterior end of saccus, slender in distal portion, and
gradually enlarged, forming an ovate basal portion.

Female genitalia: Lamella postvaginalis with a pair of widely remote pads; opening
of ostium situated in sclerotized folded part. Ductus bursae long and slender, the posterior
\( \frac{1}{2} \) being sclerotized, and the rest membranous. Inception of ductus seminalis at posterior
end of large bursa copulatrix. Signum absent.

*Eidophasia postomacula* was originally described from two males and one female, from
which one male labeling “Sapporo, IV 1906, Matsumura” is designated here as lectotype.

Specimens examined: 1♂, Sapporo, IV 1906 (Matsumura) (lectotype of *postomacula*); 1♀, Sapporo, 30 III 1905, and 1♀, Sapporo, 22 IV 1905 (paralectotypes of *postomacula*); 1♂, Tatesina, Sinano, Honsyû, 1 IX 1956 (T. Kodama); 1♀, Okutatesina, Sinano Honsyû, 30
IV 1958 (S. Moriuti); 5♂, 4♀, Takano, Bizen, Honsyû, 8–21 X 1959 (S. Nakamura), emerged
from larvae feeding on seeds of *Hosta lancifolia* Engler.

Distribution: Japan (Hokkaidô and Honsyû).

Food-plant: *Hosta lancifolia* Engler (Liliaceae).

Judging from the original description of *Acrolepia argolitha* Meyrick, of which the
type-locality is Sapporo, I am much inclined to the opinion that *argolitha* should be a
synonym of *postomacula*. 