Fruit baits at night attract unusual erebid moths (Lepidoptera) in Trinidad, West Indies, with two taxonomic changes in Erebidae, Herminiinae

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ABSTRACT

Several different fruit baits that were ripened, rotting or fermenting were used to attract moth species belonging to the family Erebidae. Several of these species are considered rare or had not been previously reported for Trinidad. *Rejectaria olivenca* Goldstein has not previously been recorded for the island. *Gigia stenogaster* (R. Felder & Rogenhofer) and *Hemeroblemma mexicana* (Guenée) had previously been observed but their presence on Trinidad had not yet been reported in the literature. The first female specimens of *Argania pilosa* (Druce), *Hemeroblemma dolon* (Cramer) and *Hemeroblemma helima* (Stoll) are reported for Trinidad. The first male specimen of *Gigia obliqua* (Walker) is reported for Trinidad. *Bleptina aeatusalis* Walker, 1859 is transferred to the previously unpublished **new combination** *Oidemastis aeatusalis* (Walker), which is already in use on the internet. *Sitophora totafusca* Kaye, 1901 **reinstated species** is removed from the synonymy of *S. vesiculalis* Guenée, 1854.

Key words: Fruit baits, moths, *Gigia stenogaster, Hemeroblemma mexicana, Rejectaria olivenca,* guava, mango, rollinia, Herminiinae, Thermesiini

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INTRODUCTION

Butterfly collectors use baiting with fermenting fruit to attract various groups of Nymphalidae which specialize on this food source – see for example the description in Barcant (1970). Specially designed butterfly fruit traps are used to collect quantitative data on the species occurring in an area. However, these traps are not normally monitored at night, and it has been MJWC's experience that they rarely capture moths, probably because the trap design relies on the butterflies moving upwards after feeding, towards the light.

In temperate regions, moth collectors have long used a technique known as sugaring – a concoction of sugar, fruit extracts and alcohol smeared on trees or pests – to attract moths at night (*e.g.* Dickson 1992). This technique became less popular as the use of lights to attract moths and the development of light traps became common. Nevertheless, sugaring is known to be more effective than light for attracting some groups such as Erebinae (Norris 1936). In the tropics, there is even less tradition of using this collecting method. However, based on observations during night walks in Trinidad, Deo *et al.* (2020) reported several attractants for moths including water, fruits (on the plant and fallen), plant exudates and disease-infected grass inflorescences.

Thus, the idea of using naturally ripened, rotting or fermenting fruits to attract moths (Lepidoptera) occurred to RND when he observed an unidentified fruit bat (Chiroptera) feeding on a rollinia fruit (*Annona mucosa*) while the fruit was still on the tree. Pieces of the fruit and the pulp had dropped onto the leaves of small plants growing below the fruiting tree. The fallen fruit pulp attracted more than 15 species belonging to the family Erebidae (Lepidoptera, Noctuoidea). RND began artificially replicating the phenomenon with various fruits, photographing and uploading images of the moths attracted and observed to (www.inaturalist.org), where they were identified by MJWC. This method of attracting moths is not well known in the Neotropics including Trinidad and Tobago. In this paper, we elaborate on the method used and document some of the more interesting observations made.

METHODS

Fruits used separately included guava (*Psidium guajava*), mango (*Mangifera indica*) and rollinia (*Annona mucosa*). The fruits were ripened, rotting or fermenting. The pulp of fruits with large seeds (e.g. mango) was scraped off the seed and skin of the fruit and collected in a plastic bag. Fruits with small seeds (e.g. guava) were collected whole. The top of the bag was tied and the fruits in the bag were crushed until their consistency resembled that of a purée. If the bait seemed too dry, water was added and mixed until the fruit purée could be applied easily from the bag. Wet bait was noted to be more fragrant than dry bait and more effective at attracting moths. A hole was then punctured at one corner of the bag and the fruit spread on leaves approximately 50-150 cm off the ground (a height where the observer can comfortably photograph the moths attracted). The amount of fruit bait spread on a leaf depended on the size and sturdiness of the leaf, as it should not cause the leaf to hang down so that the bait slides off. The bait was usually set along the forest's edge or open trails within the forest. Distances between the fruit bait stations varied depending on the availability of appropriate leaves but typically they were set 3–10 m apart. On an open trail, stations would be set on the side that was closer to a flat area or sloping downwards since it is easier for the observer to see and photograph the moths from above, rather than setting the bait on an upward slope where the photographer would be below the bait stations. Fruit bait was set up 1-2 hours before dark (typically 17.00h). Bait set out for more than 2 hours may dry out or be completely consumed by other insects, arachnids (George and Deo 2022) and small mammals. Surveying started at 1900 h and baits were checked approximately every hour until as late as 0200 h on the following morning.

Photographs were taken of the moths using a phone with manual settings. The light sensitivity used ranges between 50-200 ISO depending on the distance from the subject as well as the colors of the subject since lighter colored moths reflect more light than darker colored moths. The white balance was set at 4000k (fluorescent lamp spectrum) to capture the most accurate colors. Shutter speed was set at 1/250 of a second, fast enough to compensate for any shake from the photographer. Aperture was set at F 2.0. The phone camera's flash was used. The photographs metadata included the exact date and time but not GPS data. The GPS data were taken from Google Maps, based on the first author's knowledge of the locations and trails, and uploaded to iNaturalist. A table of the locations, dates and times is given (Table 1).

The moth fauna of Trinidad is now reasonably well known to MJWC, based on extensive collecting and museum work (Cock 2003). Most of the species treated here have been identified by comparison with the collection of MJWC, which has been identified primarily by comparison with specimens in the Natural History Museum, London (NHMUK) and United States National Museum, as set out under each species. Comparison here means a visual comparison of size, shape, colour and markings of the pinned adult specimens, with no consideration of internal morphology (genitalia) or genetics unless explicitly stated. The historical collection of Sir Norman Lamont in the National Museums of Scotland (NMS) and University of the West Indies Zoology Museum was also examined.

Location name used	Details of location	Dates and end time at location (Start time 19.00h)		
Brasso Seco	Approximately 3 km Northeast of Brasso Seco Village, 10.756, -61.255	14-15 August 2021 (until 2.00 h) 25-26 December 2021 (until 1.00 h)		
Bush Bush	Bush Bush Game Sanctuary, Kernaham Road, Nariva, 10.378, -61.032	am 07 April 2022 (until 22.00 h)		
Caura	End of Caura Royal Road, Caura, trail to Lopinot, 10.728, -61.344	25 November 2022 (until 21.00 h) 22 April 2023 (until 22.00h)		
Inniss Fields	Inniss Fields, Saunder's Trace, Moruga, 10.166, -61.264	01-02 August 2021 (until 2.00 h) 02 April 2023 (until 22.00h) 09-10 April 2023 (until 1.00 h)		
Madamas Rd. Ext.	End of the Madamas Road extension, east of Brasso Seco, 10.739, -61.257	24-25 July 2021 (until 3.00 h) 24-25 August 2021 until 1.00 h) 26 September 2021 (until 21.00 h) 13 November 2021 (until 23.00 h) 25 February 2023 (until 23.00 h)		
Temple Village	Guppy House, Temple Village, Arima Valley, 10.685, -61.291	05 November 2022 (until 23.00 h)		
Wa Samaki Estate	Wa Samaki Ecosystems Estate, Corner La Cuesa and Freeport Todds Road, Freeport, 10.444, -61.375	21 November 2020 (until 23.00 h) 02 December 2020 (until 23.00 h) 16 January 2021 (until 23.00 h) 30 November 2022 (until 22.00 h) 01 April 2023 (until 23.00h)		

Table 1. Details of locations used for fruit baiting (including the coordinates) and corresponding dates and times.

RESULTS

Moths were attracted to the fruit baits as early as 18.30 h. However, moths that were recently attracted to the bait were more likely to fly off if the observer approached with a headlamp, compared to moths that were settled and already feeding on the bait. Therefore, 30-60 minutes were given for the moths to settle down to prevent them from flying off when approached by the photographer. Based on initial observations, it appeared that guava was more successful at attracting unusual moths than other fruit baits. Thus, most of the photographs taken were of moths attracted by guava bait. Guava was also used more frequently than the other fruit baits to yield the most productive results - hence a numerical comparison of the different fruit baits used and the moths they attracted would not give an accurate representation of how efficient the fruit baits were at attracting moths. This may be attempted in a future study.

New or noteworthy records for Trinidad

The following were new or noteworthy records of moths attracted to fruit bait for Trinidad. Included also are two previously unpublished taxonomic changes. More than 18 additional species yet to be identified are not presented.

Antiblemma spectanda (Moschler, 1880) (Eulepidotinae)

This species has not previously been reported from Trinidad, but MJWC caught a female at Morne Bleu (7 January 1979), which he identified by comparison with the NHMUK series. RND observed a specimen feeding on guava fruit bait near Brasso Seco on 15 August 2021 at 01.39 h (Fig. 1). This species is considered rare in Trinidad as this observation is only the second record for the island.



Fig. 1. *Antiblemma spectanda* observed feeding on guava fruit bait, near Brasso Seco [iNaturalist 91331738].

Argania pilosa (Druce, 1891) (Herminiinae)

Lamont and Callan (1950) reported a specimen of this species from Palmiste, 9 February 1928 collected by Sir Norman Lamont. MJWC has not located this specimen but did find male specimens collected by Lamont at Palmiste (2 December 1933) and St. Patrick's, Arima Valley (20 April 1930), both in NMS. MJWC caught similar specimens at MV light, at Simla, Arima Valley (30 July 1981) and on Lalaja Ridge (3 September 1982), which he compared with the NHMUK series. Hitherto, all records from Trinidad have been of males. RND observed a female feeding on guava fruit bait in Madamas Rd. Ext., Brasso Seco on 13 November 2021 at 23.12 h (Fig. 2 (above)). The male which was also seen by RND in the same location on 25 July 2021 at 03:23 h (Fig. 2 (below)) has a strong hair tuft on the basal half of the forewing costa, which is part of a large bulge on the costa. The male also has a knot or node at about half the length of the antennae, and the labial palpi are long and recurved back over the thorax. Females show none of these characters.



Fig. 2. Above- Female *Argania pilosa* observed feeding on guava fruit bait, Madamas Rd. Ext., Brasso Seco (iNaturalist observation 101053991), Below- Male *Argania pilosa*, Madamas Rd. Ext., Brasso Seco [iNaturalist 88667558].

Species attracted	Fruit bait	Location/ date	iNaturalist
(by subfamily)	a Jia		observation number
	uav ollir lang		
<u></u>	N N N		
		We Semale Estate 16 January 2021	(0010540
<i>Coenobela paucula</i> (Walker)	Х	wa Samaki Estate16 January 2021	68210548
<i>Gigia obliqua</i> Walker	Х	Inniss Field I-2 August 2021	89629707
<i>Gigia stenogaster</i> (R. Felder & Rogenhofer)	х	Inniss Field 1-2 August 2021	89629570
Glenopteris herbidalis Guenée	Х	Inniss Fields 01-02 August 2021	89630671
Gonodonta aequalis Walker	Х	Wa Samaki Estate 30 November 2022	143393604
Gonodonta immacula Guenée	Х	Wa Samaki Estate 1 April 2023	153115397
Gorgone augusta (Stoll)	Х	Bush Bush 07 April 2022	110744743
Gorgone fellearis (Hübner)	Х	Wa Samaki Estate 30 November 2022	143398579
Gorgone ortilia (Stoll)	Х	Wa Samaki Estate 21 November 2020	65497240
Macrodes columbalis Guenée	Х	Temple Village 05 November 2022	141227135
Macrodes cynara (Cramer)	Х	Madamas Rd. Ext. 24-25 July 2021	138581533
Phaeoblemma dares (Stoll)	Х	Wa Samaki Estate 30 November 2022	143402004
Erebinae:			
Amabela carsinodes Hampson	Х	Caura 25 November 2022	142900895
Argidia tarchon (Cramer)	Х	Inniss Fields 1-2 August 2021	89628282
Celiptera levina (Stoll)	Х	Inniss Fields 01-02 August 2021	90083251
Ctypansa inconstans Walker	Х	Inniss Field 2 April 2023	153317856
Erebostrota stenelea (Stoll)	Х	Bush Bush 7 April 2022	110745774
Feigeria herilia (Stoll)	Х	Caura 25 November 2022	142900681
Hemeroblemma dolon (Cramer)	х	Brasso Seco 14-15 August 2021	91331325
Hemeroblemma helima (Stoll)	Х	Brasso Seco 14-15 August 2021	91331115
Hemeroblemma leontia (Stoll)	х	Madamas Rd. Ext. 24-25 July 2021	138582852
Hemeroblemma malitiosa (Guenée)	х	Inniss Field 09-10 April 2023	154292842
Hemeroblemma mexicana (Guenée)	х	Inniss Field 01-02 August 2021	89627921
Hemeroblemma opigena (Drury)	х	Inniss Field 01-02 August 2021	89630005
Letis doliaris (Guenée)	х	Inniss Field 02 April 2023	153317473
Letis iphianasse (Cramer)	х	Inniss Field 02 April 2023	153317583
Mocis diffluens (Guenée)	х	Wa Samaki Estate 30 November 2022	143401894
Mocis latipes (Guenée)	х	Madamas Rd. Ext. 26 September 2021	96317104
Perasia ora (Cramer)	х	Wa Samaki Estate 30 November 2022	143393283
Ramphia albizona (Latreille)	х	Inniss Field 01-02 August 2021	89628094

Table 2. Checklist of species of Erebidae moths attracted to fruit baits showing the species (categorized by subfamilies), fruit bait used, location/date and iNaturalist observation numbers.

Species attracted	Fruit bait		Location/ date	iNaturalist
(by subfamily)	a No o			observation
	uava	lang		number
	Ū A			
Eulepidotinae:				1.4220.5.4.62
Antiblemma juruana (Butler)	Х		Wa Samaki Estate 30 November 2022	143395463
Antiblemma lola (Schaus)		Х	Brasso Seco 25-26 December 2021	103748416
Antiblemma nitidaria (Stoll)	Х		Wa Samaki Estate 21 November 2020	65498431
Antiblemma spectanda (Moschler)	Х		Brasso Seco 14-15 August 2021	91331738
Syllectra congemmalis Hübner			Inniss Field 01-02 August 2021	89630195
Herminiinae:				
Argania pilosa Druce	Х		Madamas Rd. Ext. 13 September 2021	101053991
Aristaria theroalis (Walker)	Х		Madamas Rd. Ext. 24-25 July 2021	88667402
Coremagnatha cyanocraspis Hampson	Х		Caura 25 November 2022	142901908
Coremagnatha orionalis (Walker)		х	Brasso Seco 25-26 December 2021	103748935
Heterogramma circumflexalis Guenée	Х		Wa Samaki Estate 01 April 2023	153125750
Lascoria phormisalis Walker	Х		Madamas Rd. Ext. 24-25 August 2021	96314553
Lascoria purpurascens (Kaye)	Х		Wa Samaki Estate 21 November 2020	65496781
Lophodelta goniograpta Hampson	Х		Inniss Field 02 April 2023	153314813
Mastigophorus augustus Schaus	Х		Madamas Rd. Ext. 24-25 July 2021	88703861
Mastixis lysaniax (Druce)	х		Madamas Rd. Ext. 24-25 July 2021	155487926
Micramma croceicosta Schaus	х		Madamas Rd. Ext 25 March 2023	149707503
Oidemastis aeatusalis (Walker)	х		Caura 25 November 2022	142901068
Palthis bizialis (Walker)	х		Madamas Rd. Ext. 24-25 August 2021	96313358
Physula limonalis (Schaus)	х		Inniss Field 01-02 August 2021	89633272
Physula migralis (Guenée)	х		Inniss Field 09-10 April 2023	154301798
Rejectaria barbuti Goldstein		х	Brasso Seco 25-26 December 2021	103748515
Rejectaria olivenca Goldstein	х		Caura 22 April 2023	156209443
Rejectaria funebris (Schaus)	х		Caura 25 November 2022	142901840
Rejectaria pharusalis (Walker)	х		Inniss Field 01-02 August 2021	89631836
Rejectaria theclalis (Walker)	х		Temple Village 05 November 2022	141238258
Renia bipunctata (Kaye)	х		Temple Village 05 November 2022	141238221
Salia albivia (Hampson)	х		Caura 25 November 2022	142900596
Salia anna (Druce)	х		Wa Samaki Estate 16 January 2021	68136666
Sitophora totafusca (Kaye)	х		Madamas Rd. Ext. 24-25 July 2021	88705027
Strathocles parvipulla Dognin	х		Madamas Rd. Ext. 24-25 August 2021	96312298
Scoliopteryginae				
Anomis illita Guenée	Х		Wa Samaki Estate 02 December 20	68210055
Anomis properans (Walker)	Х		Wa Samaki Estate 16 January 2021	66049953

Table 2. Continued. Checklist of species of Erebidae moths attracted to fruit baits showing the species (categorized by subfamilies), fruit bait used, location/date and iNaturalist observation numbers.

Gigia obliqua (Walker, 1865) (Calpinae)

Kaye and Lamont (1927) recorded this species (as *Dochmiogramma filamentosa* Felder, a synonym) based on a female from Caparo (October 1904, F. Birch) in NHMUK. MJWC examined this specimen, and compared it with the type (male, no locality) and the rest of the NHMUK series. There have been no further records since then. RND observed the first male (Fig. 3 (above)) and another female feeding on guava fruit bait in Inniss Field, Moruga on 2 August 2021 at 01.13 h (Fig. 3 (below)). This species displays strong sexual dimorphism.



Fig. 3. *Gigia obliqua* feeding on guava fruit bait, Inniss Fields, Moruga. Above- Male (iNaturalist observation 89629815); Below-Female [iNaturalist 89629707].

Gigia stenogaster (Felder, 1874) (Calpinae)

There have been no previous records of this species from Trinidad. MJWC identified RND's photos from authoritative images on the internet (INPN 2022). RND observed a male feeding on an unknown fermenting fruit in Inniss Field, Moruga on 24 December 2020 at 00.53 h (Fig. 4 (above)). Subsequently, the first female specimen was observed feeding on guava fruit bait set out by RND in the same area on 2 August 2021 at 01.13 h (Fig. 4 (below)). Males and females display strong sexual dimorphism.



Fig. 4. Above- Male *Gigia stenogaster* feeding on an unknown fermenting fruit, Inniss Field, Moruga (iNaturalist observation 67114631), Below- Female *Gigia stenogaster* attracted to guava fruit bait, Iniss Field, Moruga [iNaturalist 89629570].

Hemeroblemma dolon (Cramer, 1777) (Erebinae, Thermesiini)

Cock (2020) reported several males of this sexually dimorphic species from Trinidad, but until now, the female has not been known from the island. RND's photograph of a female was identified by comparison with images of females in NHMUK and Barbut and Lalanne-Cassou (2005). RND observed the first female specimen of this species for the island feeding on guava fruit bait near Brasso Seco on 15 August 2021 at 00.25 h (Fig. 5).



Fig. 5. Female *Hemeroblemma dolon* observed feeding on guava fruit bait, near Brass Seco [iNaturalist 91331325].

Hemeroblemma helima (Stoll, 1782) (Erebinae, Thermesiini)

Cock (2020) reported several males from Trinidad, and included a figure of the female from the original description, which was used to identify the female when it was found in Trinidad. RND observed the first female specimen of this species for the island feeding on guava fruit bait near Brasso Seco on 15 August 2021 at 04.22 h (Fig. 6), the same night that the first female *H. dolon* was also observed.

Hemeroblemma mexicana (Guenée, 1852) (Erebinae, Thermesiini)

This species has not previously been recorded for Trinidad. It was identified from images on the internet, including BOLD (2022). Although *H. mexicana* was described from Mexico, DNA barcodes show that it is a widespread species, found from Mexico to Colombia (BOLD 2022). Apparently identical observations in iNaturalist indicate that the range of this species extends south to include most of Brazil. RND observed the first female specimen on the underside of a leaf in Inniss Field, Moruga on 31 October 2020 at 00.37 h. Subsequently, another female specimen was observed feeding on guava fruit bait set out by RND in the same area on 2 August 2021 at 01.41 h (Fig. 7).



Fig. 6. Female *Hemeroblemma helima* observed feeding on guava fruit bait, near Brasso Seco [iNaturalist 91331115].



Fig. 7. Female *Hemeroblemma mexicana* observed feeding on guava fruit bait, Inniss Field, Moruga [iNaturalist 89627921].

Oidemastis aeatusalis (Walker) (Herminiinae)

This species was described as *Bleptina aeatusalis* Walker, 1859, and appears in Poole's (1989) catalogue in this combination. However, it also appears on the internet as *Oidemastis aeatusalis* (Walker), an unpublished combination in LepIndex (Beccaloni et al. 2003) and in online reference sites that use the nomenclature from LepIndex. Noting that *Bleptina aeatusalis* differs substantially from *B. caradrinalis* Guenée, 1854 (the type species of *Bleptina* Guenée, 1854) in wing shape and markings, we accept the conclusion of the unattributed NHMUK curator in LepIndex

who treated this species as *Oidemastis aeatusalis* (Walker) **new combination**, so as to make this combination available going forwards, RND photographed a specimen feeding on guava fruit bait in Caura valley, along a trail to Lopinot on 25 November 2022 (Fig. 8)



Fig. 8. Oidemastis aeatusalis observed feeding on guava fruit bait, Caura Valley [iNaturalist 142901068].

Rejectaria olivenca Goldstein, 2021 (Herminiinae)

This species has not previously been reported for Trinidad. RND observed two specimens feeding on guava fruit bait and one attracted to light in Caura Valley, along a trail to Lopinot on 22 April 2023 and photographed a male specimen at 20.36 h (Fig. 9). The images were identified from Goldstein (2021), but voucher specimens should be obtained to confirm this.

Sitophora totafusca Kaye (Herminiinae)

Kaye (1901) described Sitophora totafusca Kaye from Trinidad, but Kaye and Lamont (1927) treated it as a synonym of S. vesiculalis Guenée, 1854, described from Brazil. MJWC has examined both holotypes in NHMUK and more recent material of both sexes from Trinidad (Fig. 10). Neither holotype is in good condition. Comparing females from Trinidad with the female holotype of S. totafusca provides a good match. However, comparing the associated males from Trinidad with the male holotype of S. vesiculalis indicates that although they are similar, differences in colour and markings suggest they are unlikely to be conspecific. We therefore use Sitophora totafusca Kaye reinstated species, noting that dissections will be needed to test this treatment. RND photographed a female feeding on guava fruit bait in Madamas Rd. Ext., Brasso Seco on 25 July 2021 (Fig. 11).



Fig. 9. Male *Rejectaria olivenca* observed feeding on guava fruit bait, Caura Valley [iNaturalist 156209443].

Discussion

Using naturally fermented and rotting fruit baits proved to be an efficient method of attracting certain species of moths from the family Erebidae, some of which are rarely observed or collected and some of which are yet to be identified.

Species from a total of five subfamilies were attracted to the fruit baits. The results suggest that certain subfamilies of erebid moths such as Calpinae, Erebinae and Herminiinae are attracted to the baits more often than the other subfamilies. From the subfamily, Calpinae, 12 species were observed. Both *Gigia obliqua* and *G. stenogaster* were previously thought to be rare in Trinidad but the first author observed both sexes of each species several times on the fruit baits in South Trinidad.

From the subfamily Erebinae, 18 species were attracted to the fruit baits. Cock (2020) listed six Trinidad species of *Hemeroblemma*, five of which were attracted to the fruit baits and with *H. mexicana* being a new island record. Female specimens of both *H. dolon* and *H. helima* had not been recorded by Cock (2020) and the first author has since made other observations of the latter on fruit baits. Both male and female specimens of *H. opigena* and *H. malitiosa* were observed on the baits but only females of the other four species were noted.

Ascalapha odorata (Linnaeus) (Erebidae, Thermesiini) has been observed by the author feeding on a ripe rollinia fruit while it was still on the tree [iNaturalist 65748798] and on another occasion feeding on rotting bananas on the ground but it has not been observed on any fruit baits as yet.

Most species attracted to the fruit baits were from the subfamily Herminiinae with a total of 24 species. Several specimens of *Rejectaria olivenca* reported here are the



Fig. 10. *Sitophora* spp. **Top left**, male holotype *S. vesiculalis* Guenée, Brazil, NHMUK; **top right**, female holotype *S. totafusca* Kaye, Trinidad, NHMUK; ©, The Trustees of the Natural History Museum, London, made available under Creative Commons License 4.0 https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/. **Middle**, male *S. totafusca*, Trinidad, Morne Bleu, Textel Installation, at light, 29 March 1979, M.J.W. Cock [MJWC]; wingspan 32 mm. **Bottom**, female *S. totafusca*, as middle, 2 March 1981; wingspan 29 mm.

first records from Trinidad. MJWC was unable to identify a number of species belonging to this subfamily that are not shown here – some because they are species that he recognized but had failed to find a name for when checking the NHMUK and USNM collections and some because they are new to him and Trinidad.

From the subfamily Eulepidotinae, only five species were observed on the fruit baits and four of them belonged to the species-rich genus *Antiblemma*.

Aside from species belonging to the family Erebidae,

Pararcte schneideriana (Stoll) (Noctuidae) was observed feeding on a rollinia fruit that was still on the tree [iNaturalist 66048901].

This study reflects preliminary qualitative data of erebid moths attracted to three particular fruit baits and shows the scope for future research topics such as a quantitative and more in-depth qualitative representation of species attracted to different fruit baits, species richness at a location, species density at a location and an analysis of the species richness and density during different times of the year.



Fig. 11. Female Sitophora totafusca observed feeding on guava fruit bait, Madamas Rd. Ext., Brasso Seco [iNaturalist 88705027].

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