

Sunday morning.

July 20th 1941

My dear Fisher.

As explained in my last letter, I caught, marked, and released dominula on Tuesday and Wednesday. I could not go on Thursday, while Friday was wet. Yesterday it rained in torrents. I waited until the afternoon, hoping it would clear - but it got worse. So I thought I would do what I could be hunting for specimens sitting among the herbage. When I got to Colwell the rain was coming down in sheets, and I was wet to the skin. However, once one is thoroughly soaked it does not matter, and the moths proved easier to find than I expected.

In all, I got ~~46~~⁴⁶ in this way; of which 38 were unmarked, 5 had been marked on the 15th and, and 3 had been marked on the 16th. Further, 41 were dominula and 5 were medio-nigra. I give the distributions over the page.

Although no insects were flying, they had had a full fine day (Thursday) since the

15. VII. : 48 marked and released.

16. VII. : 57 " " " , Out of 61 captured, 4 had been marked the previous day.

	<u>dominula</u>			<u>medialis</u>		
	unmarked	marked 15 th	marked 16 th	unmarked	marked 15 th	marked 16 th
17. VII.	34	5	2	4	-	1

last marking, so that marked specimens last evening
Opportunity of distribution. Indeed, ^{I caught} one at the extreme
edge of the colony in one direction, and another at
the edge in the opposite direction. All unmarked
specimens were marked, and the whole was released.

It is fine today and sunny,
so Bretherton (who did the catching with me in
previous years) and I are going this afternoon.
The marked specimens of yesterday should have got
well mixed up with the colony after a morning
of bright sun. But we shall not be back until
after the post has gone, and I thought you
would be eager to hear the results so far.

Bretherton collected, at random, larvae

shortly before pupation, and has had the luck
to breed:-

<u>dominula</u>	<u>medio-nigra</u>	<u>bimaculata</u>	<u>Total.</u>
27	10	2	39

These are the only bimaculata so far this year. But
two of his medio-nigra are almost normal, and
he is not quite sure of them. I shall see them
this afternoon, and it may be that the medio-
nigra total will have to be reduced by 2.

Consequently, the totals so far are as
follows (omitting recaptures, of course):-

	<u>dominula</u>	<u>medio-nigra</u>	<u>bimaculata</u>	<u>Total.</u>
bred, E.B.P.	68	8	-	76
caught- 15.VII.	47	3	-	50 *
" 16.VII.	50	7	-	57
" 19.VII.	34	4	-	38
bred, Breighton	27	10	2	39
	<hr/> 226	<hr/> 32	<hr/> 2	<hr/> 260

* 2 of these escaped, so only 48 were released after marking.

It is curious that the mediosigna gene should be so much more frequent in Beethoven's sample than in any of mine.

So, as things stand so far, the gene-frequency % of the mediosigna gene this year is 6.9. That of previous years (with the totals on which it was based) are :-

	<u>Total specimens</u>	<u>gene-frequency %</u>
up to 1928	168	1.2
year 1939	223	9.8
" 1940	117	11.1

All well, I will write again tomorrow.

With best wishes to Ruth,

Ever yours,

Henry

(Excuse this hurried scrawl!).