

DESCRIPTION OF THE LARVA OF EUSTROTIA CADUCA GROTE.

[Lepidoptera, Noctuidæ.]

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Larvæ found feeding upon the leaves of the yellow water-lily at Hyattsville, Maryland, proved to be of this species. The larvæ are not aquatic, except that they have to swim from the leaves to ground when fully grown and seeking a place for pupation.

The eggs are of the shape of one-third of a sphere, the base broadly flat, low-domed, with 40 vertical ridges at the margin, diminishing irregularly to the vertex; cross-striæ faint and fine. Pale green. Diameter 0.7 mm. Laid usually singly on the back of a leaf.

The young larvæ are slender, translucent pale green without markings, the spiracles white, that of joint 12 large. Stages II to VI were under observation upon the plants at the time of finding.

The mature larva has the head flat before, held flat, the vertex not within joint 2, slightly bilobed, rounded, pale green, translucent, with a few pale red-brown subangular spots. Body subcylindrical, flattened; the thoracic feet small, the abdominal ones with long plantæ, the pair on joint 13 spreading. Smooth, translucent pale green; dorsal, subdorsal and stigmatal whitish green lines running to the eye, with a series of pale red-brown angular dots below the subdorsal line, one on each segment posteriorly. Under a lens the dorsal and subdorsal lines remain, the stigmatal disappears, and only four linear waved lines are seen, two in the lateral space, one stigmatal and one subventral, which are so fine as to be not obvious to the eye. Tubercles and setæ minute. Spiracles black-edged. Antennæ large, well jointed.

The larvæ turned red at maturity and entered earth, spinning a slight web.