Interim Report of the NABA Names Committee

Scientific Names Subcommittee: Michael Braby, Marc Epstein, Jeffrey Glassberg (ex officio), Peter W. Hall, Yu-Feng Hsu, Torben Larsen, David Lohman, Naomi Pierce, Malcolm Scoble, John Tennent, Dick Vane-Wright (Chair/Secretary), Angel Viloria, Shen-Horn Yen

English Names Subcommittee: Alana Edwards, Jeffrey Glassberg (Chair/Secretary), Fred Heath, Jim Springer, Julie West

This is the first report of the reconstituted NABA Names Committee. For more information about the Committee, including aims, principles and procedures, please visit www.naba.org/ftp/NABA_names_committee_2012.pdf

"NABA-NC 2013-01 *Phocides belus*

***Phocides belus* Godman & Salvin, 1893, species new to list**

Scientific Names Subcommittee

Phocides belus Godman & Salvin, 1893: 293, pl. 76, figs 17, 18. Type locality Mexico: Durango, Veracruz and Tamaulipas. Image of one of the original type series (from Ventanas, 2000 ft, leg. *Forrer*) available at www.butterfliesofamerica.com/L/t/Phocides_belus_a.htm

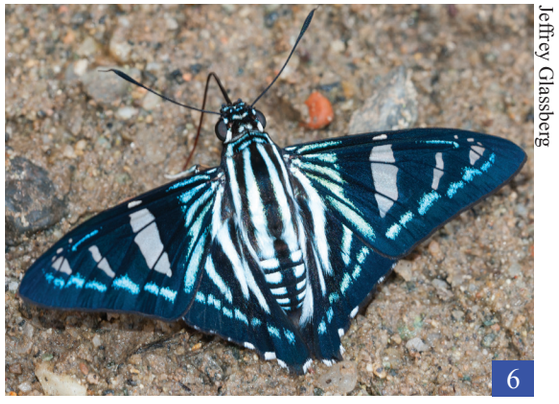
Phocides pigmalion belus Godman & Salvin; Evans, 1952: 13.

Phocides belus Godman & Salvin; Mielke, 2004: 37; Mielke, 2005: 294; Vane-Wright & Glassberg, 2012: 54 (fig.); Glassberg, 2012: 279.

Hitherto known only from Mexico south to Costa Rica, this species has now been recorded from North America by Dave Hanson, of Mission, Texas, who encountered and photographed a single individual of this butterfly on April 13, 2003 at Bentsen Rio Grande Valley State Park. What was thought to be the same individual was seen at the same location several times the following day, and photographed and videoed by a number of people (Hanson, 2003; Hanson *et al.*, 2003). According to Reese (2003), the butterfly stayed in the same area for at least another six days.

The only taxonomic question appears to be the status of *belus* (type locality Mexico) as a full species in its own right, or as a subspecies of *Phocides pigmalion* (Cramer, 1779: type locality Surinam), as accepted by Evans (1952). In the *Atlas of Neotropical Lepidoptera*, *P. belus* is regarded as specifically distinct (Mielke, 2004). Mielke (2005) noted 23 publications since 1952 in which it was treated as a separate species, against 11 in which it was listed as a subspecies. The current NABA Checklist (Cassie *et al.*, 2001) includes *P. pigmalion*.

It is not clear who, post Evans (1952), was the first person to give a sound argument for the separation of *pigmalion* and *belus* as separate species. However, Janzen *et al.* (2011) indicate that *Phocides pigmalion* and *P. belus*



Four, of the eighteen, species of beamers. The forewing spots, especially the postmedian forewing spots, on *Phocides belus*, photos 1-3, are larger than on other beamers. Some populations of *Phocides pigmalion*, photo 4, come close.

1: First (and only) Big-spotted Beamer reported from the United States. Apr. 13, 2003. Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State Park, Hidalgo Co., TX.
2: Big-spotted Beamer. Dec. 12, 2000. Cd. Colima, Colima, Mexico.
3: Big-spotted Beamer. Feb. 10, 1999. Above Candelaria Loxicha, Oaxaca, Mexico.
4: *Phocides pigmalion*. Oct. 22, 2014, Apuya, Napo, Ecuador.
5: Teal beamer, *Phocides urania*. Sept. 3, 2003. La Estanzuela, Nuevo Leon, Mexico.
6: Bell's beamer, *Phocides metrodorus*. Oct. 22, 2014. Apuya, Napo, Ecuador.

co-occur in the Guanacaste National Park. Although apparently not reliably separable by DNA barcodes, they are stated to be separable by phenotype (Janzen *et al*., 2011: fig. 6) and habitat — in other words, on present evidence, the two are sympatric but allotopic sibling species.

Scientific Name Discussion
One member offered the following comment: *Phocides pigmalion* — in my view we need more evidence to reject the hypothesis of a single species and accept the alternative hypothesis of two species (i.e. *belus* is specifically distinct). There may well be two species in the complex, but the available evidence (1 phenotypic character, 1 ecological character) is weak.

In Central and continental South America (especially, e.g., in Peru) these two skippers are considered hard to separate. Some form of mimicry may be a factor but, even if so, the evidence for their specific status is indeed rather weak. However, the modern consensus, post Evans, is overwhelmingly in favor of recognizing two species. When you also take into account the great phenotypic difference between *P. pigmalion* *okeechobee* in Florida, and the phenotype encountered in Texas and dealt with so far as *P. belus*, for North America at least, it seems very sensible to keep them as separate species (even though it is possible of course that view might have to be revised in future). The more likely change, as suggested by one committee member, is that *okeechobee* may come to be regarded as a separate species (most likely as a subspecies of *P. batabano* (Lucas, 1857)).

Scientific Name Decision
Votes cast: 8 in favor of *Phocides belus,* 3 abstentions, 1 vote in favor of re-interpretation to consider *Phocides pigmalion*.
Phocides belus is adopted by NABA as the scientific name for the *Phocides* recorded from Texas by: Hanson, D. 2003 (April 17). Beautiful Beamer (*Phocides belus*). First U.S. Record. www.naba.org/chapters/nabast/bbeamer.html

English Names Subcommittee
English names already in use for this species:
Beautiful Beamer: Glassberg, 2007, Glassberg, 2012; Reese, 2003.
Belus Skipper: Opler et al.
Paradise Skipper (as a group name): Hoskins, A.
Group Name.
There are about 2500 species of skippers in the Americas and, if one were to give them all English names equivalent to XX Skipper, it would be impossible to give them meaningful names . As stated in policy number 4, in the Introduction to the First Edition of the Checklist, groups of species that form identifiable assemblages should be given a group name.

There are 18 currently recognized species in the genus *Phocides*. Giving *Phocides* a group name allows one to differentiate them by name. Paradise Skipper for *Phocides* appears to have been recently coined by Adrian Hoskins, has been rarely used (see above) and creates confusion with two older existing names. 1. If one googles Paradise Skipper, the first entry is Wikipedia entry for *Abantis paradisea*, an African skipper that looks vaguely like a Phocides. 2. Glassberg (2007) has used the group name paradise-skipper for the grass-skipper genus *Drephalys*.

Beamer refers to the radiating iridescent blue (orange on *P. yokhara*) "beams" radiating out from the base of the forewing. Many species of blue-colored firetips, especially in the genus *Jemadia*, are very similar to *Phocides* but are readily distinguishable by the absence of the beams. Once learned, the group name beamer allows one to easily recognize this group of butterflies in the field. The two species of *Phocides* that are resident in the United States, Guava Skipper and Mangrove Skipper, both have "beams."

Species Name.
Beautiful is the name that has heretofore been used in a few NABA publications. Glassberg (2007) used Big-spotted Beamer as a name for West-Mexican populations of beamers that some believed represent a separate species. However, to date, we are unaware of any publications providing evidence for this and these may best be treated *Phocides belus*.

English Name Discussion
Comments by committee members included: "I like calling the *Phocides* group Beamers. I think it does have more meaning than skipper because 'skipper' can be so many genera and because 'skipper' is just not as interesting. "; "Belus


7


8

Jeffrey Glassberg (2)

Turquoise Longtails have much turquoise above, especially on their thoraxes. Their long tails are often lost.

7. The first Turquoise Longtail reported from the United States. Dec. 6, 2003. National Butterfly Center, Hidalgo Co., TX.
8. Turquoise Longtail. Nov. 2, 2010. National Butterfly Center, Hidalgo Co., TX.

is not English, provides no information about the butterflies, and is arguably of uncertain pronunciation." ; "Big-spotted Beamer" is more descriptive of the actual butterfly markings than is beautiful beamer. If we can utilize actual markings wherever possible in our common names, it will likely make field identification easier. "; "I am not comfortable with Beautiful. Calling the butterfly Beautiful suggests to me that it is somehow more beautiful than the other beamers. " Another said "Even if it [the west-Mexican population] turns out to be an undescribed species, it could easily be given a different appropriate name."

We attempted to interview Stephen Foster to learn his view of not using beautiful beamer as the name for this species, but were unable to reach him.

English Name Decision
Votes cast for group name: 5 in favor of beamer, 0 for paradise-skipper, 0 for skipper.
Votes cast for species name: 0 cast for Beautiful, 0 cast for Belus, 5 cast for Big-spotted.

Big-spotted Beamer is adopted as the NABA name for *Phocides belus.*

NABA-NC 2013-02 *Urbanus evona*

***Urbanus evona* Evans, 1952, species new to list**

Scientific Names Subcommittee
Urbanus evona Evans, 1952: 90, pl. 18, fig. 8. Type locality Guatemala: Zapote (*Champion*). Type material in BMNH. Image of holotype at http://butterfliesofamerica.com/urbanus_evona_types.htm.
Urbanus evona Evans; Steinhauser, 1981: 8–10, 25, figs 21,22, 40, 55; Mielke, 2004: 41; Mielke, 2005: 388; Glassberg, 2004; 2012: 286; Vane-Wright & Glassberg, 2012: 54 (fig.).
First recorded from USA at NABA International Butterfly Park, Mission, Hidalgo Co., Texas, on December 6, 2003, by J. Glassberg, D. Hanson & G. Quintanilla. (Glassberg, 2004; Vane-Wright & Glassberg, 2012: 54). There have been at least two more sightings since (NABA South Texas, 2004). No other name appears to pertain to this species. Mielke (2005) listed over 25 references to *Urbanus evona*, with no other combination, subspecies or synonyms indicated.

Scientific Name Decision
Votes cast: 9 in favor of *Urbanus evona*, 3 abstentions.

Urbanus evona is adopted by NABA as the scientific name for the *Urbanus* recorded from NABA International Butterfly Park, Mission, Hidalgo Co., Texas, by: J. Glassberg, D. Hanson & G. Quintanilla (Glassberg, J. 2004. Go get set on your marks: "Green longtails." *American Butterflies* 12(1):28-38.).

English Names Subcommittee

English names already in use for this species:
Turquoise Longtail: Glassberg (2004), Glassberg (2007), Glassberg (2008)
Scarce Longtail: Listed as an alternative name by Wauer (2006)

Discussion
Overwhelming usage to date has been Turquoise Longtail and this species is not at all scarce. One member said "Since the butterfly is not scarce, Scarce Longtail doesn't seem appropriate. The color is turquoise and this is the name most commonly used."

English Name Decision
Votes cast for species name: 5 cast for Turquoise Longtail, 0 cast for Scarce Longtail.

Turquoise Longtail is adopted as the NABA name for *Urbanus evona*.

NABA-NC 2013-03
Achalarus tehuacana

***Achalarus tehuacana* (Draudt, 1922), species new to the list**

Scientific Names Subcommittee

Rhabdoides tehuacana Draudt, 1922: 871, pl. 169b (underside). Type locality Mexico: Tehuacan, Puebla. Type material probably in Frankfurt, Berlin or Paris.

Achalarus casica tehuacana (Draudt); Evans, 1952: 127.

Achalarus tehuacana (Draudt); Mielke, 2004: 30; Mielke, 2005: 139; Grishin & Warren, 2011; Vane-Wright & Glassberg, 2012: 55 (fig.); Glassberg, 2012: 293.

A specimen tentatively identified as this species was photographed by Dan Hardy in Hidalgo County, Texas, on 2nd August 2010 (reproduced in Vane-Wright & Glassberg, 2012: 55). This butterfly was reported by Hardy *et al*. (2011) and Reese (2011).

Achalarus tehuacana was originally described as a species in the nominal genus *Rhabdoides* Scudder, 1899 (type species *Eudamus cellus* Boisduval & Leconte, 1837), currently regarded as a subjective synonym of *Autochton* Hübner, 1823 (type species *Autochton itylus* Hübner, 1823). *Autochton* and *Achalarus* are currently treated as closely related but distinct genera (e.g. Mielke, 2004, 2005; Glassberg, 2007; Warren *et al.*, 2008). Mielke (2005) listed 15 usages of *tehuacana* as a valid species in the genus *Achalarus*, in contrast to 2 as a species of *Rhabdoides*, and 2 as a subspecies of *casica*.

Evans (1952) regarded *tehuacana* as a subspecies of *Achalarus casica* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1869), the Desert Cloudywing. *A. casica* is, however, currently treated as a separate species from *A. tehuacana*, and is well known to occur in North America (e.g. Draudt, 1922; Glassberg, 2012: 292). In addition to the exophenotypic characters originally used to establish *tehuacana* as a species separate from *casica*, Steinhauser (1974) described differences in the male genitalia, and Austin & Warren (2002: 20, figs 99,100) illustrated differences in the female genitalia. No synonyms of *A. tehuacana* are currently recognized.

Scientific Name Discussion
One member commented: "If the species-group name *tehuacana* was described in *Rhabdoides*, which is currently regarded as a junior synonym of *Autochton*, then the new combination must be *Autochton tehuacana*. No information was provided to indicate how *Autochton* and *Achalarus* differ, nor why Evans placed *tehuacana* under *Achalarus*.
Autochton tehuacana – if the species-group name *tehuacana* was described in *Rhabdoides*, which is currently regarded as a junior synonym of *Autochton*, then the new combination must be *Autochton tehuacana.* No information was provided to indicate how *Autochton* and *Achalarus* differ, nor why Evans placed *tehuacana* under *Achalarus.*"

However, the Chair's opinion is that so long as the two genera are maintained, there is no problem. However, the foregoing does raise the issue of separation of the two genera.

Evans' separation of *Achalarus* and *Autochton* is certainly weak and recent work suggests the two groups are indeed very closely


Dan Hardy
9


Jeffrey Glassberg
10

Dark Cloudywings, photos 9, are very similar to Desert Cloudywings, photo 10, but, along with some other details, are decidedly darker.

9. The first (and only) Dark Cloudywing reported from the United States. Aug. 2, 2010. Hidalgo, Hidalgo Co., TX.
10. A Desert Cloudywing. June 29, 1999. Portal, Cochise Co., AZ.

related (e.g., Warren et al. 2008). However, the separation is maintained by all modern authors, and *tehuacana* fits with *Achalarus* (type species *Papilio lycidas* Smith, invalid name = *Proteides lyciades* Geyer 1832) rather than *Autochton* (type species *Autochton itylus* Hübner, 1823). In the future it is not impossible that the two genera will be combined (with *Autochton* being the senior name). However, the NABA list is based on data and usage, not speculation. The combination "*Achalarus tehuacana*" generates 676 hits in Google; "*Autochton tehuacana*" generates none.

Scientific Name Decision
Votes cast: 8 in favor of *Achalarus tehuacana*, 3 abstentions, 1 vote in favor of reinterpretation to consider the combination *Autochton tehuacana*.

Achalarus tehuacana is adopted by NABA as the scientific name for the *Achalarus* recorded from Texas by: Hardy, D., Rickard, M.A., Warren, A.D. and Grishin, N.V. 2011. *Achalarus tehuacana* (Hesperiidae: Eudaminae): a new United States record from southern Texas. *News of the Lepidopterists' Society* **52**(4), 107-111, 127.

English Names Subcommittee

English names already in use for this species:
Dark Cloudywing: Glassberg (2007)
Tehuacan Cloudywing: Opler et al.

All species in the genus *Achalarus*, except for *Achalarus lyciades*, Hoary Edge, are called cloudywings on the NABA Checklist. Tehuacán is a city in the state of Puebla, Mexico. Dark refers to the fact that this species is best distinguished from the very similar Desert Cloudywing by the darker brown-black of the hindwing below.

English Name Discussion
One member said "Because of the difficulty many would have with the word Tehuacan I would opt for Dark Cloudywing." Another said "Tehuacán is ridiculously hard to pronounce" A third member replied "Huachuca is also tough for many of us to pronounce (I know it was for me originally). Should we rename the giant-skipper as the Garden Canyon Giant-Skipper?"
English Name Decision
Votes cast for species name: 5 cast for Dark Cloudywing, 0 cast for Tehuacan Cloudywing.

Dark Cloudywing is adopted as the NABA name for *Achalarus tehuacana*.

NABA-NC 2013-06 *Achlyodes pallida* or *selva*

***Achlyodes pallida* (Felder, 1869) or *A. selva* Evans, 1953, species new to list**

Scientific Names Subcommittee

Helias pallida R. Felder, 1869: 478. Type locality: Potrero, Jalapa, Mexico. Type material in BMNH.

Achlyodes ozotes Butler, 1870: 515. Type locality: Venezuela (restricted by Evans, 1953: 178). Type material in BMNH.

Achlyodes selva Evans, 1953: 178. Type locality: Jalapa, Mexico. Type material in BMNH.

Achlyodes pallida (Felder); Kirby, 1871: 631; Evans. 1953: 178; Mielke, 2004: 42; Mielke, 2005: 423; NABA South Texas (2003); Glassberg, 2012: 306.

Eantis pallida (Felder); Watson, 1893: 57.

Sebaldia (*Achlyodes*) *pallida* (Felder); Moreno, Silva & Estévez, 1998: 159.

Achlyodes pallida (Felder) or *A. selva* Evans; Vane-Wright & Glassberg, 2012: 55 (fig.).

A specimen identified as either *Achlyodes pallida* or *A. selva*, first reported by Reese (2003), was photographed by Dave Hanson in Hidalgo County, Texas, on 24th October 2003 (Vane-Wright & Glassberg, 2012: 55). Further records are given by NABA South Texas (2003).

Evans (1953) described *Achlyodes selva* (type locality Jalapa, Mexico) as a new species, separating it from *A. pallida* (type locality Mexico) on the following basis:

Upperside forewing postdiscal dark band broken at vein 2, spot in space 1b shifted inwards out of line; also usually broken at vein 4, upper part of band shifted inwards. Cuiller of clasp broad, style short and stout, directed away from cuiller: *pallida:* Upperside postdiscal band straight. Cuiller narrow; style long, slender and parallel to cuiller: *selva*

The Texas specimen has the postdiscal line essentially straight, and would thus appear to represent *A. selva*. However, following Austin & Warren (2002), some recent works (e.g. Mielke, 2005) place *selva* as a synonym of *A. pallida*.

Given the clear distinctions noted by Evans, and the fact that both were described from Veracruz, what is the evidence that these two names represent the same species? Austin & Warren (2002) examined "extensive" material of *A. pallida* sensu lato from Mexico, Costa Rica and Ecuador, together with "a few" specimens from Peru.

They reported extremes of variation representing two phenotypes: one shining, golden-brown dorsally with yellowish-tan on the apical half of the underside forewing, and a patch of the same color at the apex of the hindwing underside; the other phenotype more brown and less shining, with the underside tan areas duller, less yellowish. They found that the straight *versus* irregular postdiscal line character of the forewing upperside occurred in both extreme color phenotypes.

They also observed variation in the proximal margin of the pale apical area of the forewing underside, but did not note whether or not it had any correlation with the other characters described. With respect to the male genitalia, they observed continuous variation between the two morphotypes described by Evans, with only one specimen (from Peru: Austin & Warren, 2002: fig. 61) having the short style supposedly characteristic of *A. pallida*. On this evidence Austin & Warren (2002: 26) concluded that *A. selva* should be regarded as a junior subjective synonym of *A. pallida*. The only other species-group name associated with *pallida* sensu lato is *A. ozotes* (Butler), long regarded as a subjective synonym of *pallida* sensu stricto.

Achlyodes pallida and its synonyms have been combined, at various times, with three generic names other than *Achlyodes* Hübner, 1819 (type species: *Papilio busiris* Cramer, 1779): *Helias* Fabricius, 1807 (type species: *Urbanus phalaenoides* Hübner , 1812); *Eantis* Boisduval, 1836 (type species: *Urbanus thraso* Hübner, 1807); and *Sebaldia* Mabille, 1903 (type species: *Papilio busiris* Cramer, 1779). *Helias* is currently treated as a separate genus with just three included species (Mielke, 2004: 48), while *Sebaldia* is an invalid junior objective synonym of *Achlyodes*. The status of *Eantis*, however, is uncertain. Mielke (2004: 42) considered it a junior subjective synonym of *Achlyodes* – and, in effect, it is so treated in the NABA checklist, which includes "*Achlyodes thraso* Hübner" (the type species of *Eantis*). In contrast, Warren (1996, unpublished) treated *Achlyodes* and *Eantis* as separate genera, with seven species in *Eantis* and two in *Achlyodes* [*A. busiris*, together with *pallida*, with *selva* treated as a synonym] – and this position was evidently maintained by Warren *et al.* (2008: 25).

Of the possible combinations, those with

Dave Hanson

11

Jeffrey Glassberg

12

A comparison of Pale Sicklewing and Sickle-winged Skipper. Pale Sicklewings are paler in color than are any of the other seven species of sicklewings.

11. The first Pale Sicklewing recorded from the United States. Oct. 24, 2003. Mercedes, Hidalgo Co., TX.
12. A male Sickle-winged Skipper. Sept. 1, 2005. Sierra de Picachos, Nuevo Leon, Mexico.

Achlyodes are dominant in recent literature, with over 60 citations recorded by Mielke (2005). Searching with "Google" [19th November 2012], however, "*Achlyodes pallida*" generates 72 hits, "*Achlyodes selva*" gives 1, "*Helias pallida*" 17 (most if not all of these with reference to the original combination), but "*Eantis pallida*" gives 106. This last probably reflects in part the fact that in older, including applied literature (*pallida* has been reported as a minor pest of *Citrus* – e.g. Bates, 1933), this species was quite widely cited as a species of *Eantis*.

Regardless of this usage, although the status of *Eantis* does have implications for other species on the NABA checklist, in the present case *pallida / selva* belong to *Achlyodes* sensu stricto. Consequently, *Achlyodes* being senior to *Eantis*, the former is the only generic name that can currently be applied to *pallida / selva*.

The question then arises that, if this species is to be added to the NABA Checklist, should it be referred to as *A. pallida* or *A. selva*?

Scientific Name Discussion

One member commented: Not clear enough evidence for me to call this one. Abstain from voting.

Another member commented: I think only the case NABA-NC 2013-06 requires an explanation of my decision: The case reminds me of Oriental skipper taxa *Hasora anura* de Nicéville, 1889 (TL: Sikkim) versus *H. danda* Evans, 1949 (TL: Ataran). One of the commonly recognized diagnostic features to separate the two is a white dot on hindwing underside, but I have examined long series of specimens in Indochina and SW China and found the white spot and other so-called diagnostic features in genitalia are both not reliable. I tend to accept Austin & Warren (2002)'s opinion for the present, and thus vote for the name *Achlyodes pallida* (Felder, 1869) for this case.

Scientific Name Decision

Votes cast: 7 in favor of *A. pallida*, 0 (zero) votes in favor of *A. selva*, 5 abstentions:

Achlyodes pallida is adopted by NABA as the scientific name for the species recorded from Texas as *A. pallida* or *A. selva* by: Reese, M. 2003. Hot Seens. Summer/Fall 2003. *American Butterflies* **11**(3/4): 38-39.

English Names Subcommittee

English names already in use for this species:
Forest Sicklewing: Reese (2003)
Pale Sicklewing: Glassberg (2007), Opler et al.
Pallid Sicklewing:
Pallid Batwing: Hoskins, A.

There is only one species on the current NABA Checklist in the genus *Achlyodes* — *Achlyodes thraso*, Sickle-winged Skipper. There are about 8 species in this genus. In general, all of these species are recognizable as belonging to this group, however, not all species have the sickled forewing apex of *Achlyodes thraso*.

English Name Discussion
Regarding a group name, one member said "Batwing as a group name would have been interesting but Sicklewing seems to be firmly in place. Also there is the previously named Indian/Southeast Asia swallowtail known as Common Batwing (*Atrophaneura varuna*)." Regarding species name, one member said "There is not much difference between pallid and pale (the first definition of pallid is usually given as "pale."). I think that more people are familiar with the word pale than they are with the word pallid, and pale is now more extensively used than is pallid for this species." Another member said "I prefer Pallid to Pale because it is closer to the species epithet." Another contributed "I like Pale Sicklewing better than Pallid Sicklewing since pallid to me means very pale, lacking in color, or uninteresting which doesn't seem to apply to this species. It's just relatively paler than the rest."

English Name Decision
Votes cast for group name: 5 cast for sicklewing, 0 cast for batwing.
Votes cast for species name: 4 cast for pale, 1 cast for pallid.

Pale Sicklewing is adopted as the NABA name for *Achlyodes pallida*.

NABA-NC 2013-07
Anastrus sempiternus
***Anastrus sempiternus* (Butler & Druce, 1872), genus and species new to list**

Scientific Names Subcommittee
Achlyodes sempiternus Butler & Druce, 1872: 114. Type locality: Costa Rica. Type material in BMNH.
Anastrus varius Mabille, 1883: 54. Type locality: Venezuela. Type material in BMNH.
Echelatus sempiternus (Butler & Druce); Godman & Salvin, 1894: 379.
Echelatus varius (Mabille); Godman & Salvin, 1894: 378.
Anastrus sempiternus sempiternus (Butler & Druce); Evans, 1953: 182; Mielke, 2004: 42; Mielke, 2005: 432; Glassberg, 2012: 307.
Anastrus semipternus [sic];Vane-Wright & Glassberg, 2012 55 (fig.).
This species was first recorded from Texas by Bordelon & Knudson (2003). A specimen tentatively identified as this species was photographed by Phil Kelly at the World Birding Center, Hidalgo County, Texas, on 26th November 2004 (Vane-Wright & Glassberg, 2012: 55).
The nominal species *Anastrus sempiternus* has been included in two genera other than *Anastrus* Hübner, 1824 (type species *Anastrus obscurus* Hübner, 1824): *Achlyodes* Hübner, 1819 (type species *Papilio busirus* Cramer, 1779) and *Echelatus* Godman & Salvin, 1894 (type species *Anastrus varius* Mabille, 1883). *Achlyodes* is currently regarded as a related but separate genus (e.g. Mielke, 2004; Warren *et al*., 2008: 25), while *Echelatus* is placed as a subjective synonym, its type species being considered a junior subjective synonym of *A. sempiternus*. One of the subspecies of *sempiternus* has, in addition, been placed at times in the genera *Pellicia* Herrich-Schäffer, 1870 (type species *Pellicia dimidiata* Herrich-Schäffer, 1870), *Antigonus* Hübner, 1819 (type species *Urbanus erosus* Hübner, 1812), *Timochares* Godman & Salvin, 1896 (type species *Leucochitonea trifasciata* Hewitson, 1868), and *Zopyrion* Godman & Salvin, 1896 (type species *Zopyrion sandace* Godman & Salvin, 1896), all currently regarded as valid names of separate genera (e.g. Miekle, 2004, 2005; Glassberg, 2007; Warren *et al*., 2008). All of the most recent treatments, notably those of Mielke (2004, 2005), agree on placing *sempiternus* in *Anastrus*.

Anastrus obscurus is currently regarded as a separate, valid species of *Anastrus*. *A. sempiternus* (type locality Costa Rica) is currently divided into three subspecies, one in the Antilles, a second in South America, and the nominate race in Venezuela, Central America and Mexico. *A. varius*, described from Venezuela, is regarded as a junior subjective synonym of the nominate race. Several available names are applicable to the South American subspecies, but all are junior to *sempiternus*.


Dan Jones
13


Phil Kelly
14

Common Bluevents are the most widespread and commonly seen bluevent.

13. The second Common Bluevent recorded from the United States. Nov. 9, 2014. Estero Llano Grande SP, Hidalgo Co., TX.
14. The first Common Bluevent recorded from the United States. Nov. 26, 2004. Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley SP, Hidalgo Co., TX.

This species could be added to the NABA checklist of North American butterflies, using the name *Anastrus sempiternus*. The genus *Anastrus* would also be new to the NABA list.

Scientific Name Decision
Votes cast: 9 in favor of *A.*, 3 abstentions.

Anastrus sempiternus is adopted by NABA as the scientific name for the *Anastrus* recorded from Texas by: Bordelon, C. & Knudson, E. 2003. *Anastrus sempiternus*, Butler & Druce, a new record for Texas and the USA. *News of the Lepidopterists' Society* **45**(1): 5, 7.

English Names Subcommittee
English names already in use for this species:
Common Bluevent: Glassberg (2007)
Common Anastrus: Opler et al.
Tropical Duskywing: Garwood and Lehman (2004)

As currently conceived, there are 13 species in the genus *Anastrus*. Most, if not all, are recognizable as belonging to this group. So, a group name would be useful.

Concerning the group name bluevent, Only 9 of the 13 species have pale blue on the HWs below, but then again, not all warblers warble. Other groups of neotropical skippers, including the genera *Pythonides* and *Quadrus*, also have blue on the hindwings below. In *Anastrus*, most species have a shining blue wedge along the hindwing trailing margin. Judging by web searches, the name Bluevent appears to be used approximately twice as often as the group name Anastrus and approximately ten times as often as the group name Duskywing.

English Name Discussion
A non-committee member, Dan Jones, posted this to his website in Oct. 2014 "...the Common Bluevent had reappeared. And, this time I got there in time to see the bug. Wow! It has a blue vent!"

One committee member said "The group name Bluevent is good even though not all have blue vents." and "I also like the suggestion of taking the English translation of the species epithet and calling it Eternal. I can see a another future article shaping up for Harry Zirlin."

English Name Decision
Votes cast for group name: 0 votes for Anastrus, 5 votes for bluevent, 0 votes for duskywing.
Votes cast for species name: 3 cast for Common, 0 cast for Tropical, 2 cast for Eternal.

Common Bluevent is adopted as the NABA name for *Anastrus sempiternus*.

NABA-NC 2013-08 *Heliopetes sublinea*

***Heliopetes sublinea* Schaus, 1902, species new to list**

Scientific Names Subcommittee

Heliopetes sublinea Schaus, 1902: 434. Type locality Mexico: Veracruz, Orizaba, Paso de San Juan. Holotype #5992, genitalia slide W.D.F[ield] #416, US National Museum, Washington DC. Image available at http://butterfliesofamerica.com/heliopyrgus_sublinea_types.htm

Heliopetes sublinea Schaus: Draudt, 1923: 915; dos Passos, 1960: 32; Freeman, 1967; Bordelon & Knudson, 2003: 45, pl. 14, figs 11, 12; Caterino *et al*., 2003: 24; Basham *et al*., 2005; Vane-Wright & Glassberg, 2012: 55; Glassberg, 2012: 323.

[*Heliopetes macaira macaira* Reakirt: Evans, 1953: 225. Misidentification of *sublinea* Schaus as possible synonym.]

Heliopyrgus sublinea (Schaus): Austin & Warren, 2001: 4, figs 17,24; Mielke, 2004: 49; Mielke, 2005: 589; Pelham, 2008: 41.

A specimen tentatively identified as this species, the East-Mexican White-skipper, was photographed by Jeffrey Glassberg in Falcon State Park, Starr County, Texas, on 21st October 2007 (Vane-Wright & Glassberg, 2012: 55). This species has also been reported from the Lower Rio Grande by Reese (2004) who published a photograph of an individual seen and photographed by Kim Davis and Mike Stangeland at Santa Ana NWR, Hidalgo Co., Texas, on 22nd October 2004. Another individual was seen at the same location the following day (Basham *et al*., 2005). NABA South Texas (2008) gives additional sightings and photographs.

The separate status of *H. sublinea* was formerly subject to some doubt (e.g. Draudt, 1923; Evans, 1953; dos Passos, 1960) but, since the publication of Freeman (1967) – who inexplicably claimed that *sublinea* was not included by Draudt – it has been widely accepted as a good species. *H. sublinea* has no synonyms, and no other species epithet ever appears to have been applied to this butterfly. However, there is a debate regarding the genus in which it should be placed.

In addition to *sublinea,* five other North American skippers have been included in *Heliopetes* Billberg, 1820 (type species *Papilio niveus* Cramer, 1775 = *P. arsalte* Linnaeus, 1758), namely *H. arsalte, H. ericetorum, H. domicella, H. laviana* and *H. macaira* (Glassberg, 2012). However, following Austin & Warren (2001), Mielke (2004, 2005) placed both *domicella* and *sublinea* in *Heliopyrgus* Herrera, 1957 (type species *Syrichtus americanus* Blanchard, 1852), and this change has been followed in turn by Pelham (2008). However, the NABA Names Committee (Caterino *et al*., 2003) evaluated the changes proposed by Austin & Warren and concluded that it would be best to retain *domicella* and *sublinea* in *Heliopetes*, saying:

"The authors [Austin & Warren, 2001] re-elevate *Heliopyrgus* to generic status and place *domicella* and *sublinea*, which were placed in the genus *Heliopetes* on the NABA Checklist (and almost all other publications), into *Heliopyrgus*. In order to adopt a generic change, we generally require published data that strongly argues that the current generic placement creates a paraphyletic genus and that the suggested change leads to a monophyletic genus or genera. This study is principally a qualitative analysis of genitalic and wing variation. The authors do not explicitly define the phylogenetic hypotheses that they are testing (in essence, that the three species they placed in *Heliopyrgus* [*domicella*, *americanus*, *sublinea*] constitute a monophyletic group, and that recognizing *Heliopyrgus* as a genus would not make either *Heliopetes* or *Pyrgus* paraphyletic). A more structured analysis of the problem would be required to justify these changes. Even if the proposed restructuring as *Pyrgus*, *Heliopyrgus*, and *Heliopetes* does result in monophyletic genera, it is not clear, given the relatively small number of species in this group, that such an arrangement would be superior to placing all species in this group in the genus *Pyrgus*."

Nothing has been published since that invalidates their conclusions, even though various papers and websites continue to place *sublinea* within *Heliopyrgus.*

Scientific Name Decision

Votes cast: 9 in favor of *H. sublinea*, 3 abstentions.

Jeffrey Glassberg

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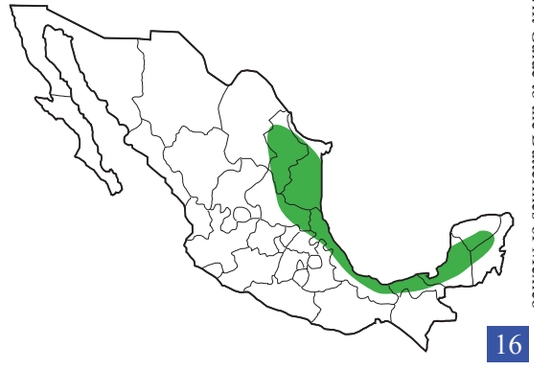

16

Swift Guide to the Butterflies of Mexico

White-skippers do show-off more white than do other skippers. Although East-Mexican Skippers do stray to the United States, their normal range is restricted to eastern Mexico.

15. There are about ten records of East-Mexican White-Skippers from the United States. Nov. 4, 2013. National Butterfly Center Hidalgo Co., TX.
16. A map of Mexico, showing the areas where East-Mexican White-Skippers are found.

Heliopetes sublinea is adopted by NABA as the scientific name for the *Heliopetes* reported from the Lower Rio Grande by: Reese, M. 2004. Hot Seens, Fall 2004. *American Butterflies* **12**(4): 44-47.

English Names Subcommittee

English names already in use for this species:
East-Mexican White-Skipper
Huastecan White-Skipper

Group Name
As currently conceived, there are 17 species in the genus Heliopetes. There are currently 6 species in this genus on the NABA Checklist. All are called white-skipper. In general each species is recognizable as belonging to this group.

Species Name
This species ranges from northern Nuevo Leon and northern Tamaulipas south along the Mexican Gulf coast through eastern San Luis Potosi, Veracruz, Tabasco and the Yucatan Peninsula.

The name Huasteca refers to the region of Mexico historically occupied by the Huastecan people, a much more limited region of east-central Mexico.

There are more than ten times as many web hits for East-Mexican White-Skipper as there are for Huastecan White-Skipper.

English Name Discussion

One members said "Although East-Mexican White-Skipper is a mouthful, it works for me." Another said "As far as the common name for the species, between East-Mexican and Huastecan, I think you have to go with the easier choice. The latter is going to be too difficult for people to pronounce."

English Name Decision

Votes cast for species name: 5 cast for East-Mexican, 0 cast for Huastecan.

East-Mexican White-Skipper is adopted as the NABA name for *Heliopetes sublinea*.

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