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## An Annotated List of the Crambid Moths Known To Occur in Iowa (Pyralidae, Lepidophera)

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**AN ANNOTATED LIST OF THE CRAMBID MOTHS KNOWN  
TO OCCUR IN IOWA (PYRALIDAE, LEPIDOPHERA)\***

GEORGE C. DECKER

For the past fifteen years the writer has been interested in sod webworms and their parents the Crambid moths. During this period light trap and field collections have resulted in the building of a fairly complete collection of the moths of the genus *Crambus* that are found in Iowa.

The moths of this genus are rather small and inconspicuous. Flight is mostly at night except when disturbed and most species are strongly attracted to lights. The rather long narrow front wings are usually white, yellow or brown, often ornamented with golden and silvery scales. When at rest the front wings are wrapped closely around the body and conceal the much larger unmarked hind wings that are folded beneath.

The larvae are for the most part grass feeders and usually they construct silken tubes or tunnels at or below the surface of the ground in which they secret themselves throughout their larval life.

In addition to his own collection the writer has examined the collections of the late C. N. Ainslie and H. F. Wickham. The writer is indebted to Carl Heinrich and Geo. G. Ainslie for checking determinations on most of the species.

The numbers and names used are those given by J. McDunnough; Check List of the Lepidoptera of Canada and the United States of America, Part II Microlepidoptera; Mem. So., Calif. Acad. Sci., II, No. 1, 177 pp. 1939.

- 5852 *CRAMBUS HASTIFERELLUS* Wlk.  
Rare. 1 Ottumwa, June 28, 1933; 2 Creston, July 6, 1936.
- 5855 *C. HAMELLUS* Thun.  
Rare. 2 Ames, Aug. 10, 1932, Aug. 30, 1936; 1 Sioux City, Sept. 2, 1937.
- 5857 *C. PASCUELLUS* Linn.  
Rare. 1 Rock Rapids, July 26, 1936.
- 5860 *C. GIRARDELLUS* Clem.  
Rare. 2 McGregor, July 17, 1933.
- 5861 *C. LEACHELLUS* Zinck.  
Common. State wide distribution. June 1 to Aug. 15.  
Seldom abundant but found everywhere in pastures and meadows.
- 5862 *C. UNISTRIATELLUS* Pack.  
Rare. 1 Ames, July 12, 1937.
- 5863 *C. PRAEFECTELLUS* Zinck.  
Common. State wide distribution. June 30 to Sept. 20. An occasional pest of corn and grass land.

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3  
28 spp. all  
in genus  
Crambus

- 5871 *C. DUMETELLUS* Hbn.  
Rare. Sioux City, Aug. 10, 1934; 1 Akron, Aug. 11, 1934.  
Virgin prairie meadows.
- 5874 *C. ALBOCLAVELLUS* Zell.  
Common. State wide distribution. June 25 to Aug. 3.
- 5876 *C. AGITATELLUS* Clem.  
Common. State wide distribution. June 22 to Aug. 20.
- 5878 *C. MYELLUS* Hbn.  
Rare. 4 Boone, July 20, 1933; 3 Mt. Vernon, Aug. 6, 1933.  
On moss in shaded grass pasture.
- 5880 *C. LAQUEATELLUS* Clem.  
Common. State wide distribution. May 29 to June 30.  
Most abundant in partly shaded grass lands.
- 5883 *C. HORTUELLUS* Hbn.  
Abundant. State wide distribution. May 31 to Aug. 27. Most  
abundant in timothy meadows and weedy grasslands. Specimens  
vary in color from light (*toparius* Zeller) to dark (*vachellellus*  
Kear.).
- 5884 *C. ALBELLUS* Clem.  
Common. 16 Ames, June 10 to July 15. Most abundant on low  
wet grasslands.
- 5887 *C. INNOTATELLUS* Wlk.  
Rare. 3 Ames, July 16, July 28, and Aug. 12.
- 5888 *C. TURBATELLUS* Wlk.  
Rare. 2 Ames, July 15, 1937.
- 5889 *C. ELEGANS* Clem.  
Common. State wide distribution. June 25 to Sept. 29.
- 5892 *C. VULGIVAGELLUS* Clem.  
Very abundant. State wide distribution. Aug. 18 to Oct. 11.  
Probably the most common Crambid on grasslands during Aug-  
ust and September.
- 5893 *C. PLUMBIFIMBRIELLUS* Dyar  
Rare. 3 Sioux City, June 20, 1928.
- 5895 *C. RURICOLELLUS* Zell.  
Common to abundant. State wide distribution. Aug. 22 to  
Sept. 24. Nearly always associated with *vulgivagellus*.
- 5896 *C. TETERRELLUS* Zinck.  
Very abundant. State wide distribution. May 20 to Sept. 15.  
At times this species is very abundant and destructive on lawns  
and golf turf.
- 5898 *C. COLORADELLUS* Fern.  
Quite rare. 16 Ames, July 30 to Sept. 2. All at trap lights.
- 5910 *C. MUTABILIS* Clem.  
Very abundant. State wide distribution May 18 to Sept. 27. A  
common pest on lawns and seedling corn plants.

1943]

CRAMBID MOTHS OF IOWA

339

5912 C. HEMIOCHRELLUS Zell.

Rare. 2 Sioux City, July 14, 1936; 1 Creston, June 25, 1934;  
6 Ames, June 20 to Sept. 8.

5919 C. TRISECTUS Wlk.

Very abundant. State wide distribution. Common May 20 to  
Oct. 31. Often a serious pest on lawns, golf greens, pastures  
and young corn.

5925 C. CALIGINOSELLUS Clem.

Common but seldom abundant. State wide distribution. June  
14 to Sept. 4. Most abundant in weedy pastures.

5927 C. ZEELLUS Fern.

Fairly common. State wide distribution. June 16 to Aug. 28.

5928 C. LUTEOLLUS Clem.

Common. State wide distribution. June 25 to Aug. 30.

IOWA STATE COLLEGE

AMES, IOWA