

A NEW SPECIES OF PYRRHOPYGE. (LEP. HESP.)

By

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Pyrrhopyge Molinai nov.

Wing expanse 47 mm.

Upperside black; the forewings with a dull bluish-green sheen; the hindwings with a more purplish sheen, in certain lights it is possible to distinguish faint greenish rays in the basal third of the wing, the area between the costal margin and the radial vein distinctly lighter, more brownish. The fringes white, broader in the hind wing, not darkened at the apices of the wings, darkened in the forewing at the extreme inner angle and in the hindwing at the outer edge of the lower anal angle.

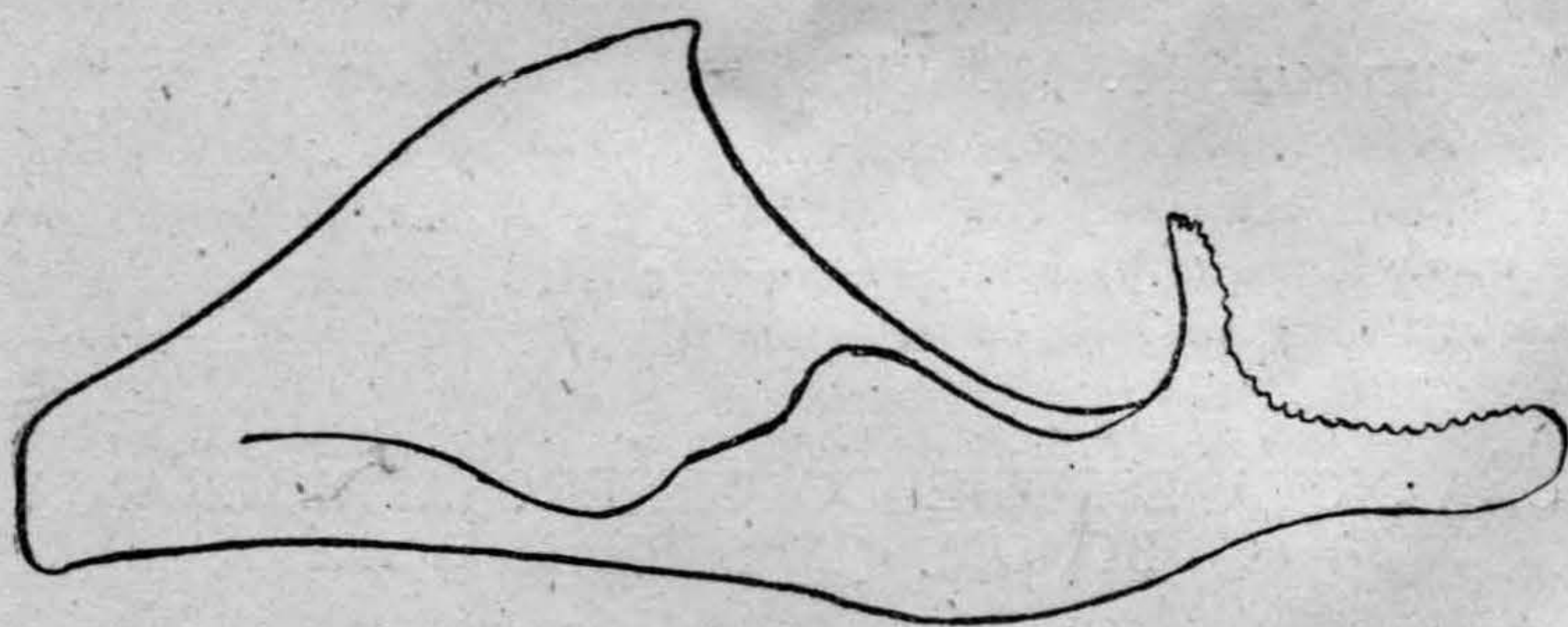


Fig. 2.—Male genitalia of *Pyrrhopyge Molinai*, Hayw.—valve.

Beneath the wings are black, distinctly darker in the hindwing, a slight purplish sheen that in certain lights appears more greenish; the forewing with the discoidal veins indicated by a thin line of green scales and with the area between the lower cubital vein and the inner margin lighter, still lighter towards the base and on this lighter area near the inner margin at one third, a small whitish shade. The fringes as above.

Head orange-red with a black horizontal line between the antennae. Palps black above and orange-red beneath. Collar orange-red with some more yellowish hairs towards the centre. Tegulae black. Thorax black with a slight greenish sheen. Abdomen black with the same greenish sheen, the

anal segment reddish-orange. Anterior legs black with a sheen, the pectus with some light reddish orange hairs at the anterior end. Median and posterior legs black with a greenish sheen.

The genitalia of the unique example were crushed beyond repair but the valves were luckily intact and differ from those of any species of *Pyrrhopyge* known to me. From an examination of the remains of the uncus I have decided to place the species provisionally in the group *hyperici*, though an examination of a complete specimen may eventually prove this an error.

Holotype male in my collection from Matto Grosso, Brasil, genitalic preparation Nº 590. (see fig. 2).

I have much pleasure at the suggestion of Dr. Porter in dedicating this species, that cannot be superficially separated from many others of this group, to the memory of the illustrious and first Chilean naturalist, the Abbott Juan Ignacio Molina, in the bicentenary of his birth.

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