

THE RARE EPIRRHANTHIS GEOMETER MOTH AT THE PAS, MANITOBA

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There are many kinds of Geometer Moths known. They are worldwide in distribution. Each area has its own particular kinds. Many of the species are tied to certain environments involving food plants and soils. The Epirrhanthis Geometer is a northern species in Manitoba. It occurs around Hudson Bay and is, therefore, a cold zone species.

In 1955 when I was first teaching at Gillam, Manitoba — mile 326 on the Hudson Bay Railway, a good number of Epirrhanthis came to incandescent lights at night at the school. Some 15 specimens were collected on dates between 15-23 May 1955. These are in the author's collection in The Pas. There are

also a few specimens collected in Lynn Lake in May, 1958.

In over 30 years of moth collecting in Manitoba, I have found this nowhere else before. This last season, however, a single specimen came to my back porch light on the night of 13 May 1982. This is a unique record for The Pas area. It proves that this subarctic species reaches as far south as The Pas in the province. No other specimens are known. It may well be at its most southern range at The Pas. Its full scientific name is *Epirrhanthis substriataria*. It has no common English name. The illustrated specimen is the unique one from The Pas.



Epirrhanthis substriataria, The Pas, Manitoba; 13 May 1982; collector W. Krivda.