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Protected taxonomic status and lectotype designation for *Holochila albosericea* Miskin, 1891 (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae)

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Abstract. The well-known Australian lycaenid butterfly, *Candalides albosericea* (Miskin, 1891), is a junior subjective synonym of *Holochila caeruleolactea* T.P. Lucas, 1891, which has not been used as a valid name after 1899. To protect the stability of the younger, but widely used name, the older and virtually unknown *Holochila caeruleolactea* (i.e., the senior subjective synonym) is suppressed under Article 23.9.2 of the Fourth Edition of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature*. By this action, *Holochila albosericea* Miskin, 1891 becomes a *nomen protectum* and *Holochila caeruleolactea* T.P. Lucas, 1891 a *nomen oblitum*. Lectotypes are designated for *Holochila albosericea* Miskin, 1891 and *Holochila caeruleolactea* T.P. Lucas, 1891, respectively.

Introduction

The lycaenid butterfly currently known as *Candalides albosericea* (Miskin, 1891) was described by Miskin (1891) under the name *Holochila albosericea* Miskin, 1891, with 'Expedition Range, QLD' as the type locality (Miskin, 1891; Hancock, 1995). Miskin (1891) described both sexes, but only two syntypes (both males) are currently known to be extant in the Queensland Museum (Hancock, 1995). However, Miskin (1891) did not refer to a unique type specimen, so the specimens he examined are syntypes; a lectotype has not been designated.

In the same year, Lucas (1891) described *Holochila caeruleolactea* T.P. Lucas, 1891, from near Duaringa, Queensland (Lucas, 1891; Tindale, 1923; Edwards *et al.*, 2001). According to Tindale (1923), the syntypes (both sexes) are in the South Australian Museum. Again, Lucas did not refer to a type, and a lectotype has not been designated.

It has become apparent that the nomenclature of *Candalides albosericea* (Miskin, 1891) has not been resolved. Since both names refer to the same species and were introduced in the same year, it is necessary to determine which name has priority. Waterhouse (1903a: 183), in his review of the taxonomy and nomenclature of *Candalides albosericea*, observed that: "*Holochila caeruleolactea*, described by Dr. Lucas in a newspaper in Brisbane during 1891, is probably this species, but newspaper descriptions cannot be allowed to stand". Waterhouse's comment is not correct (see below), and Lucas' species remains available under Articles 8 and 9 of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* (ICZN, 1999). Waterhouse never referred to the name again, not even in his seminal catalogue (Waterhouse, 1903b) or monograph (Waterhouse & Lyell, 1914).

Keywords: Dawson River, Expedition Range, type locality
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Tindale (1923: 343) listed *Holochila caeruleolactea* as a junior synonym of *Nesolycaena albosericea* (Miskin, 1891) and went on to say "The paper by Lucas was published at Brisbane on April 20, 1891. Miskin's Catalogue is dated 1891, the preface is dated November, 1890, and the answer to an enquiry to the Queensland Museum was "published probably in March"; it would appear that Miskin's name has priority. The status of Lucas' paper has been considered doubtful. It was apparently issued as a separate on the above date and reprinted in "The Queenslander", a newspaper, on May 2 and 9, 1891". Moulds (1977) and Daniels (2004) clarified the publication of Lucas (1891), noting that the work containing the description of *Holochila caeruleolactea* was published several times: first privately as a booklet in Brisbane on 20 April 1891; then in two parts in *The Queenslander*, a Brisbane newspaper, on 2 & 9 May 1891; and then as a separate in July 1891.

Edwards (1996) reviewed the history of dates of the two publications and determined that the earliest date of publication of Miskin's catalogue containing the description of *Holochila albosericea* was 22 July 1891, not March 1891 as indicated by Tindale (1923). Thus, since *Holochila caeruleolactea* T. P. Lucas, 1891 was published (on 20 April 1891) at least three months before *Holochila albosericea* Miskin, 1891 (published on or sometime after 22 July 1891) the former predates the latter, and is accordingly the senior subjective synonym, and the latter is the junior subjective synonym. However, Edwards (1996: 362) pointed out that "*H. caeruleolactea* Lucas has never previously been used as the valid name for this taxon and this case could be referred to the Commission under the *Code* Art. 23(b) requesting existing usage to be maintained".

The following acronyms refer to repositories where material has been examined: AMS: Australian Museum, Sydney; QM: Queensland Museum, Brisbane; SAMA: South Australian Museum, Adelaide.

Table 1. Evidence that the junior subjective synonym *Holochila albosericea* Miskin, 1891 has been used as a valid name to denote the taxon currently known as *Candalides albosericea* (Miskin, 1891) in at least 25 works, published by at least 10 authors during the last 50 years (1973–2022) and encompassing a span of not less than 10 years, and thus fulfilling the conditions of Article 23.9.1.2 of the *Code* (ICZN, 1999) in order to reverse the precedence of the senior synonym *Holochila caeruleolactea* T.P. Lucas, 1891 and declare *H. albosericea* as a *nomen protectum* and *H. caeruleolactea* as a *nomen oblitum*. References are listed in chronological order.

Reference
1. Eliot (1973: 485, fig. 73): *Nesolycaena albosericea* (Miskin)
2. Atkins (1974: 12): *Nesolycaena albosericea* (Miskin)
3. Harslett and Reeves (1974: 5–6): *Nesolycaena albosericea* (Miskin)
4. Atkins (1975: 118): *Nesolycaena albosericea* (Miskin)
5. Atkins (1976: 4): *Nesolycaena albosericea* (Miskin)
6. D'Abrera (1977: 376): *Nesolycaena albosericea* Miskin
7. Olive (1978: 8): *Nesolycaena albosericea* (Miskin)
8. Edwards (1980: 18): *Nesolycaena albosericea* (Miskin)
9. Common and Waterhouse (1981: 544): *Nesolycaena albosericea* (Miskin), 1891
10. Common and Waterhouse (1982: 312–313): *Nesolycaena albosericea* (Miskin), 1891
11. D'Abrera (1984: 171): *Nesolycaena albosericea* Miskin
12. Monteith and Yeates (1988: 17): *Nesolycaena albosericea*
13. Dunn and Dunn (1991: 398): *Nesolycaena albosericea* (Miskin), 1891
14. d'Apice and Miller (1992: 75): *Holochila albosericea* Miskin
15. Edwards (1996: 252): *Nesolycaena albosericea* (Miskin, 1891)
16. Atkins (1996: 42, 46): *Nesolycaena albosericea* (Miskin, 1891)
17. Braby (1996: 9–16, figs 5–8, 10, 14, 18): *Nesolycaena albosericea* (Miskin, 1891)
18. Braby *et al.* (1997: 211): *Nesolycaena albosericea*
19. Braby (2000: 775–776): *Nesolycaena albosericea* (Miskin, 1891)
20. Edwards *et al.* (2001: 145–146): *Nesolycaena albosericea* (Miskin, 1891)
21. Sands and New (2002: 273–274): *Nesolycaena albosericea* (Miskin)
22. Wilson (2004: 174): *Nesolycaena albosericea*
23. Braby (2004: 268, 317): *Nesolycaena albosericea* (Miskin, 1891)
24. Orr and Kitching (2010: 264): *Nesolycaena albosericea*
25. Braby (2010: 73): *Nesolycaena albosericea* (Miskin, 1891)
26. Braby (2012: 67–68): *Nesolycaena albosericea* (Miskin, 1891)
27. Atkins (2016: 8): *Nesolycaena albosericea*
28. Sankowsky (2020: 350–351): *Nesolycaena albosericea*
29. Braby *et al.* (2020: 717, 722): *Candalides albosericea* (Miskin, 1891)

Nomenclature

Order Lepidoptera Linnaeus, 1758

Family Lycaenidae Leach, 1815

Tribe Candalidini Eliot, 1973

Candalides Hübner, 1819

Candalides albosericea (Miskin, 1891)

Holochila albosericea Miskin, 1891: 65 [*nomen protectum*]
Holochila caeruleolactea T.P. Lucas, 1891: 1 [*nomen oblitum*]
Candalides albosericea (Miskin, 1891). – Waterhouse (1903a: 183); Braby *et al*. (2020: 717, 722)
Nesolycaena albosericea (Miskin, 1891). – Waterhouse & Turner (1905: 801)

Type material

Holochila albosericea Miskin, 1891

Lectotype ♂ "Dawson R"; "159"; "Misk. Type ♂ | 27/7/10. GAW, CJW"; "SYNTYPE ♂, Holochila albosericea, Miskin, det. D.L. Hancock 1992, T.12401"; "LECTOTYPE ♂ *Holochila albosericea* Miskin, 1891 designated by M.F. Braby" [on red card] (QM). **Paralectotypes** 2♂, 1♀. Queensland: 1♂ "Dawson R"; "SYNTYPE ♂, Holochila albosericea, Miskin, det. D.L. Hancock 1992, T.12400"; "PARALECTOTYPE ♂ *Holochila albosericea* Miskin, 1891 designated by M.F. Braby" [on blue card] (QM); 1♂ "Dawson R"; "L1966"; Ex. coll. Miskin"; "FIG. 193 UNDERSIDE IN "THE BUTTERFLIES OF AUSTRALIA," by WATERHOUSE & LYELL was taken from this specimen | KL21389"; "PARALECTOTYPE *Holochila albosericea* ♂" [designated by M.F. Braby, on yellow card] (AMS); 1♀ "Dawson R"; "L1967"; "Ex. coll. Miskin"; "KL21390"; "G.A. Waterhouse Collection"; "PARALECTOTYPE *Holochila albosericea* ♀" [designated by M.F. Braby, on yellow card] (AMS).

Holochila caeruleolactea T.P. Lucas, 1891

Lectotype ♂ "Range, 4.10.[18]90"; "Dawson R., Queensland"; "I.13447, *Holochila caeruleolactea* Lucas, id. by N. B. Tindale, ♂ TYPE"; "specimen photog for CHECKLIST AUST LEP, Film 192133, 34"; "SAMA Database No. 31-001721", "LECTOTYPE ♂ *Holochila caeruleolactea* T.P. Lucas, 1891 designated by M.F. Braby" [on red card] (SAMA). **Paralectotype** 1♀. Queensland: 1♀ "Range, 4.10.[18]90"; "Dawson R., Queensland"; "I.13447, *Holochila caeruleolactea* Lucas, id. by N. B. Tindale, ♀ TYPE"; "SAMA Database No. 31-001722", "PARALECTOTYPE ♀ *Holochila caeruleolactea* T.P. Lucas, 1891 designated by M.F. Braby" [on yellow card] (SAMA).

Remarks

Despite Edwards' (1996) plea 28 years ago, it is apparent that the nomenclature of this case has not yet been resolved. However, the ICZN (1999) allows a *nomen protectum* status for *Holochila albosericea* Miskin, 1891 (i.e., the junior subjective synonym) under Article 23.9 (Reversal of Precedence) provided two conditions are met: (1) the senior synonym has not been used as a valid name after 1899 (Article 23.9.1.1), and (2) the junior synonym has been used in at least 25 works, published by at least 10 authors in the immediately preceding 50 years and encompassing a span of not less than 10 years (Article 23.9.1.2). In my opinion, conditions of both articles are met. Whereas I find no evidence that *Holochila caeruleolactea* T.P. Lucas, 1891 has been used as a valid name since 1900, there is substantial evidence that *Holochila albosericea* Miskin, 1891 has been used as a valid name by more than 25 publications of more than 10 authors since 1972 (Table 1). As both requirements of Article 23.9.1 are met, *Holochila albosericea* Miskin, 1891 becomes a *nomen protectum* and *Holochila caeruleolactea* T.P. Lucas, 1891 a *nomen oblitum* under Article 23.9.2 of the *Code* (ICZN, 1999).

As noted earlier, neither Miskin (1891) nor Lucas (1891) designated a holotype or delineated a type series, which indicates that the specimens they examined are syntypes. Therefore, it is necessary to determine which specimen of their type material (i.e., of the syntypic series) represents the name-bearing "type" in order to fix Miskin's name *albosericea* and to fix Lucas' name *caeruleolactea*, respectively, to the species in question. According to Article 74 of the *Code* (ICZN, 1999), the fixation of a name from syntypes is dependent on the designation of a lectotype; that specimen then becomes the unique bearer of the name of the nominal species group taxon and the standard for its application.

Hancock (1995) noted that two of three syntype males of *Holochila albosericea* were located in the Queensland Museum. These specimens, both collected from Dawson River, which according to Hancock (1995) refers to Expedition Range, were collected by George Barnard sometime during or before 1875. A further two specimens (1 male, 1 female) from the Miskin collection were located in the Australian Museum based on examination of Waterhouse's register and material curated in the entomological collection. Given that these specimens in AMS are from the same location (i.e., Dawson River), with the same handwritten labels, they are almost certainly syntypes. Thus, Miskin (1891) must have had at least four specimens (3 males, 1 female) at the time of description. One of the males in the Queensland Museum (QM T.12401) (Fig. 1A–C) is hereby designated as the lectotype to fix the identity of the species. A paralectotype female in AMS (KL21390) (Fig. 1D–F) is illustrated for comparison. A paralectotype male in AMS was previously illustrated in Waterhouse and Lyell (1914: pl. 13, fig. 193) and in the plate index the location is given as "Expedition Range", although the authors seem to have been unaware that the specimen represented a syntype.

Tindale (1923) referred to two syntypes (1 male, 1 female) of *Holochila caeruleolactea* in the South Australian Museum. Lucas (1891) stated that they were "Obtained by Mr. G. Barnard on hills beyond Duaringa". Examination

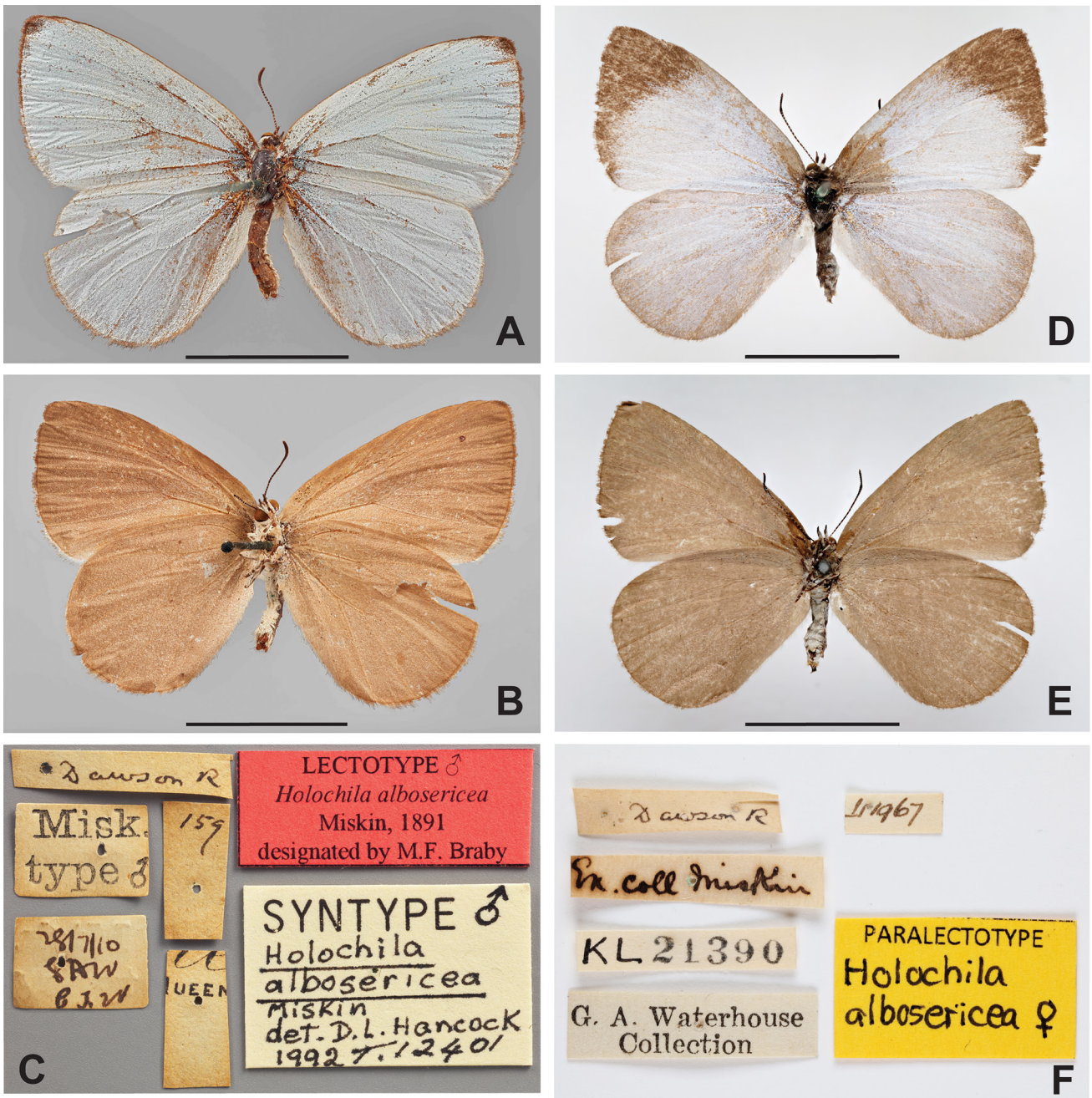

Figure 1. Type material of *Holochila albosericea* Miskin, 1891 showing dorsal and ventral views and labels: (A–C) lectotype male in QM (T.12401); (D–F) paralectotype female in AMS (KL21390). Scale bars = 10 mm. Photo credits: 1A–C by Geoff Thompson; 1D–F by Natalie Tees.

of the specimen labels revealed that they were collected in 1890 from Dawson River, which, as noted above, refers to the Expedition Range approximately 60 km west of Duaringa, Queensland. Thus, the type locality of *Holochila caeruleolactea* ought to refer to Expedition Range, rather than near Duaringa. The male in the South Australian Museum (SAMA 31-001721) (Fig. 2A–C) is hereby designated as the lectotype. The paralectotype female in the South Australian Museum (SAMA 31-001722) (Fig. 2D–F) is illustrated for comparison.

It is curious that the type material of both *Holochila albosericea* and *Holochila caeruleolactea* was collected by George Barnard of Coomooboolaroo Station near Duaringa, Queensland in the late nineteenth century, and from the same general location (i.e., Expedition Range, given as Dawson River). Hence, both names have the same broad type locality, but were collected at different times approximately 15 years apart (<1875 and 1890).

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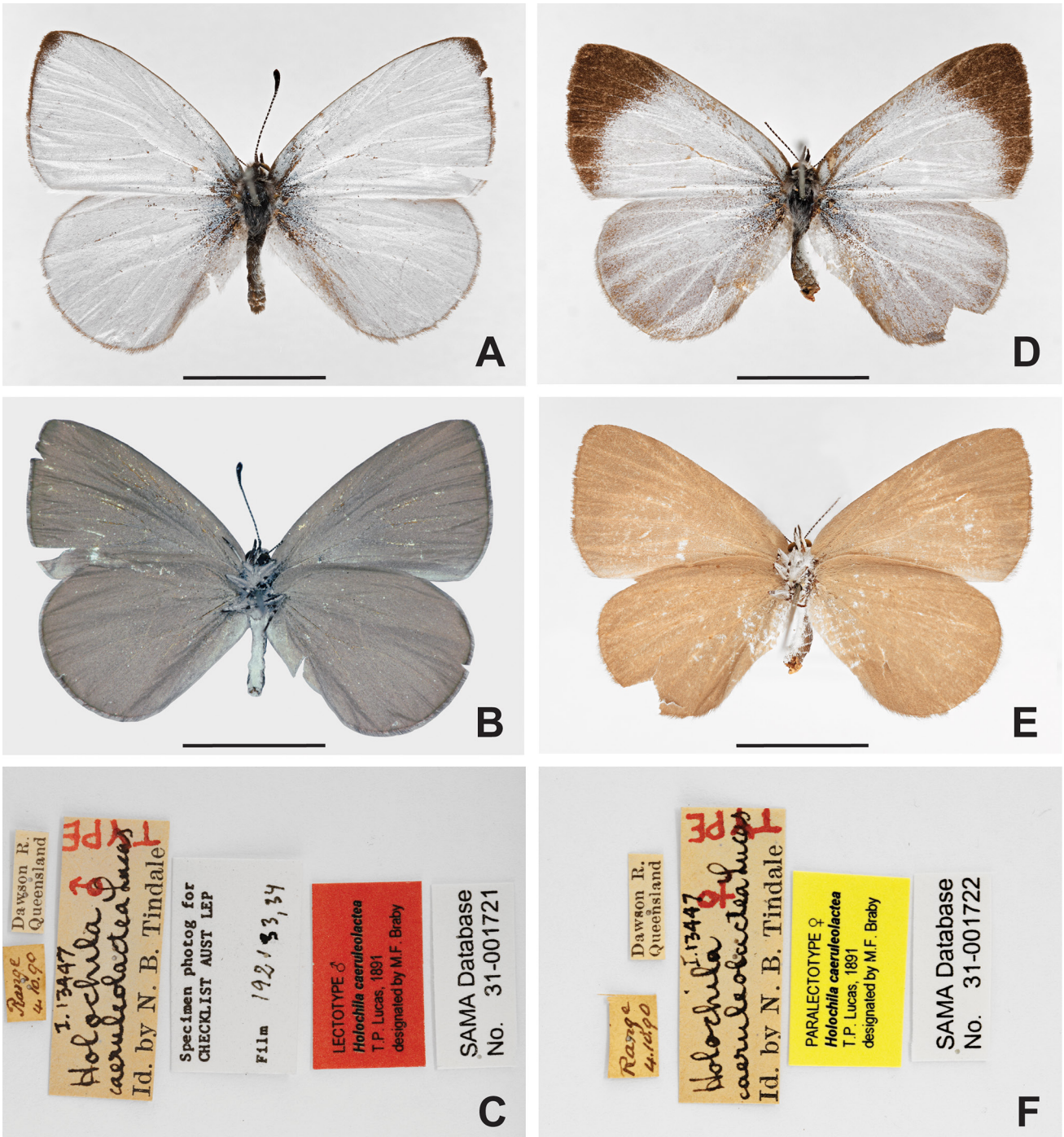

Figure 2. Type material of *Holochila caeruleolactea* T.P. Lucas, 1891 showing dorsal and ventral views and labels: (A–C) lectotype male in SAMA (31-001721); (D–F) paralectotype female in SAMA (31-001722). Scale bars = 10 mm. Photo credits: 2A, C–F by Ben Parslow; 2B by Ted Edwards.

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