

**The First Record in Southern Illinois of *Celastrina ebenina*
(Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae)**

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ABSTRACT

The first record of *Celastrina ebenina* Clench in southern Illinois is reported.

The dusky blue, *Celastrina ebenina* Clench, based on scattered collection records, occurs from Pennsylvania and Maryland south to North Carolina, and west to Illinois, Missouri and Arkansas (Wagner and Mellichamp 1978). Specific localities along the western edge of its range include Elsah, Jersey Co., Illinois; Creve Coeur Lake, St. Louis Co., Missouri; and Hickory Flat Hollow, Washington Co., Arkansas (Wagner and Mellichamp 1878).

The dusky blue's range lies within that of goat's-beard, *Arunca dioicus* (Walter), its only reported larval foodplant (Wagner and Mellichamp 1978). This plant is found locally in southern Illinois (Mohlenbrock and Voigt 1959), including in the La Rue-Pine Hills Ecological Area, Union Co. (Mohlenbrock and Voigt 1965).

During 1979, we collected 2 adult female specimens of *C. ebenina* in Pine Hills, one on 27 April and the other on 5 May; Pine Hills is ca. 100 miles south of Elsah, the site of the only other Illinois record. On each occasion, it was flying with *C. argiolus pseudargiolus* (Boisduval & Le Conte). We also found an adult male among unidentified material in the SIU-C collection, which was collected in Pine Hills on 14 April 1962 by E. J. Dobbs.

The three specimens are housed in the SIU Entomology Collection, Zoology Research Museum.

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LITERATURE CITED

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