

**IDENTIFIER'S NOTES OF INTEREST ENTOMOLOGY SUPPLEMENT  
NUMBER 3: NOTES TO RECOGNIZE *Platynota***

Weisman's key to quarantine Lepidoptera larvae may be modified as follows:

On page 41, after using couplet 1, please add:

2a. SD2 of abdominal segments 1-8 either on the SD1 pinaculum or fused to the SD1 pinaculum margin; dorsal pinacula of the mesothorax elongated posteriorly; V setae of A9 approximately twice as far apart as the V setae of A8 ..... 2b

2a'. SD2 of abdominal segments 1-8 not on, or fused to, the SD1 pinaculum; dorsal pinacula of the mesothorax not elongated posteriorly, V setal spacing variable on A8 and 9 .....  
..... Tortricidae, not *Platynota* or *Amorbia*

2b. Head capsule usually flattened dorsally; D1 of anal shield usually closer to SD1 than to each other; body spinules long, slender, and spinelike ..... *Amorbia* sp.

2b'. Head capsule rounded, not dorsally flattened; D1 of anal shield usually closer to each other than the SD1 setae; body spinules appear as either round or pointed granules, short and not spinelike ..... *Platynota* sp. (go to couplet 2 of Weisman)

Comments on the couplets:

2a. MacKay (1962) used the position of the SD2 seta on A1-8, in part, to separate tribes of the Tortricinae. Within her tribe Archipsini-Sparganothini, the elongated mesothoracic dorsal pinacula (often with an elongated subdorsal pinacula too) defines a "clade" that includes *Platynota* and *Amorbia*. Although both these genera have the V setae of A9 twice as far apart as the V setae of A8, this is not true of all tortricids. By checking these three characters, a better definition of *Platynota* and *Amorbia* will result, and hopefully prevent confusion with the few Olethreutinae that have D1 on its own pinaculum on A9.

2b. MacKay used the form of the spinules to separate *Amorbia* from *Platynota*. This appears to be a valid character. However, I feel the phrase "easy to observe" is confusing because the spinules are obvious in both genera. Another problem is that the form of the spinules in *Platynota* vary depending on the power and viewing angle used. Under high power (400x), they appear as pointed granules. When viewed dorsally under low power (50-100x), they look rounded. Our recommendation is to decide the spinule shape using the high power of a stereoscope (200x) at the "edge of a body segment" on a white background. Under these conditions, the spinules of *Amorbia* will appear longer. MacKay also mentioned the larger size of the mature larva and longer L setae of *Amorbia* as distinctive features. These characters were not used in the key because most PPQ interceptions are early instars and the long L setae will likely break off if the larva is mailed in a vial without protection. Many, but not all, species of *Platynota* have cream colored pinacula; two photographs of *Amorbia* species are available, neither had cream-colored pinacula.

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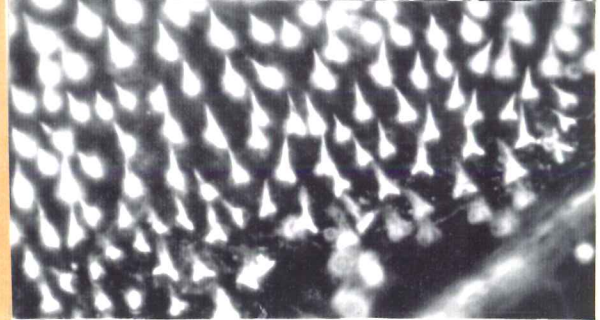
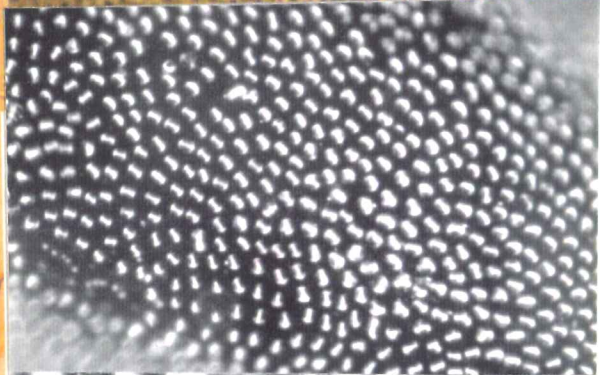
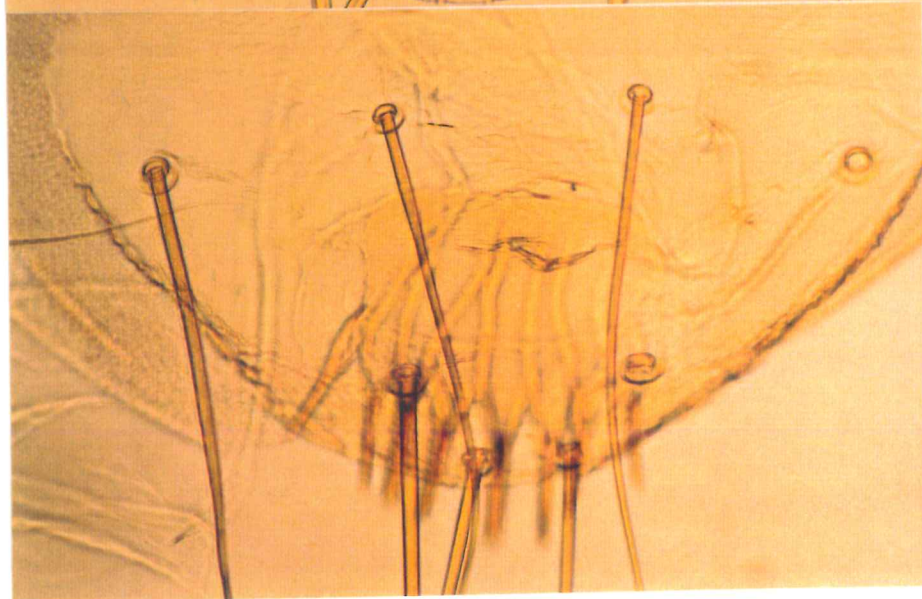
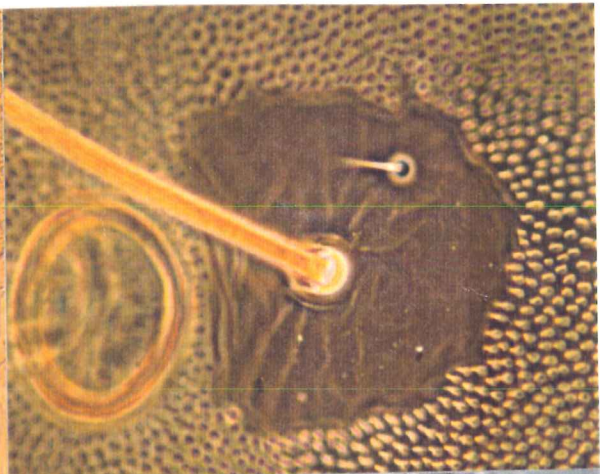
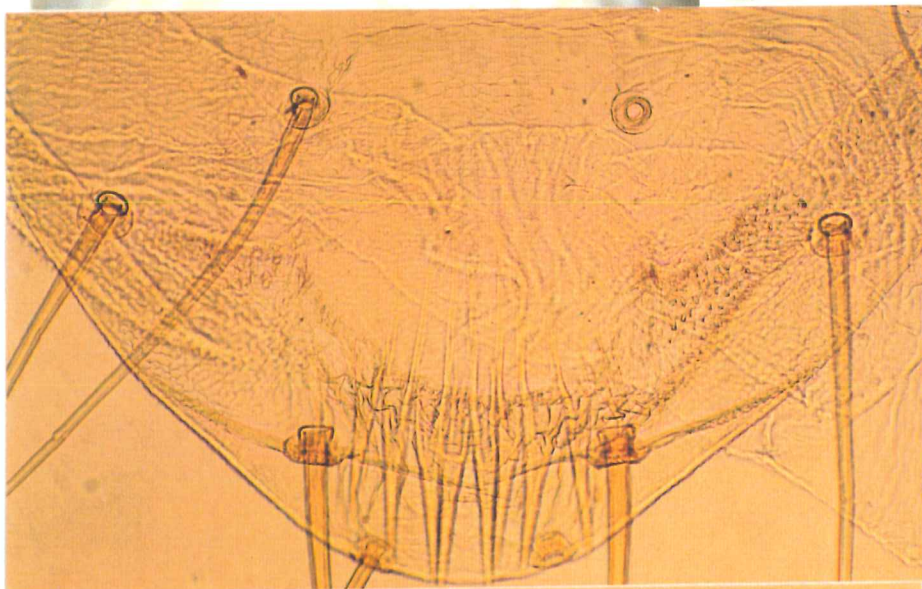
## FIGURE LEGENDS FOR *PLATYNOTA/AMORBIA* HANDOUT

Top row: dorsal view of *Amorbia* larva, dorsal view of *Platynota flavedana* larva

2nd row: dorsal view of *Amorbia* larval head, lateral view of *Amorbia* larval head

3rd row: dorsal view of anal shield of *Amorbia* larva, SD1-SD2 abdominal pinaculum of *Platynota flavedana* larva

4th row: dorsal view of anal shield of *Platynota flavedana* larva, abdominal cuticular texture of *Platynota flavedana*, abdominal cuticular texture of *Amorbia* sp.



Dorsal view of *Platynota flavedana* larva



Dorsal view of *Platynota flavedana* larval abdominal pinaculum and associated spines

