

COURTSHIP BEHAVIOR OF *DRYADULA PHAETUSA* (LEPIDOPTERA: NYMPHALIDAE)

RICHARD TANNER

P. O. Box 2000, Bradford, Ontario L3Z 2C1, Canada



The photograph sequence shows part of the mating behavior of *Dryadula phaetusa* (Linnaeus), as witnessed in Costa Rica at the Selva Verde Lodge, near the Sarapiquí River, Heredia Prov., in October 1989 (© 1993 R. Tanner).

The interaction took place at 0745h. A number of fresh specimens, predominately males, were involved. The behavior took place near ground level. There was a short flight interaction, followed by the female alighting on a leaf. The male

immediately alighted on the leaf as well, then circled the female and palpitated her with his antennae. There was no observed rejection behavior.

The display and antennal palpation lasted about 2-3 minutes. Copulation did not take place, but this may have been due to interference from the photographer, and eventually both specimens flew away.