Spotlight on rearing
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Amphion floridensis  B. P. Clark

The common Louisiana sphingid species Amphion floridensis B.P. Clark is very easy to rear in desktop containers. The common foodplants grape and virginia creeper were utilized in rearing the specimens illustrated. Ova of floridensis are difficult to obtain, as most females in captivity expire without producing a single egg. Larvae start out translucent white with a purple tail turning to light green in second instar, then pinkish in third instar. then light green in fourth instar, in fourth instar pale light green with pinkish markings, then in ultimate instar a mottled yellowish ground color with blackish markings in which the yellowish color gradually turns to a very dark brown color with pale orange highlights. A. floridensis usually has six annual broods in Louisiana (Brou & Brou, 1997).

Literature cited