Pedaliodes manis (C. & R. Felder, 1867)

[Pronophila pisonia Hewitson var.; Hewitson, 1862: 7, pl. 3, fig. 20].

Pronophila manis C. & R. Felder, 1867: 469.

Pedaliodes manis (C. & R. Felder); Butler, 1868: 174.

Remarks: P. manis, P. drymaea (Hewitson), P. palaepolis (Hewitson) and P. parepa (Hewitson) are among the few pedaliodines associated with nonforested secondary habitats below the tree line. Of all three, P. manis has the widest range, being found in Central America and throughout the Andes, from northern Venezuela to Bolivia. There are apparently some geographical races that could be identified, especially in Bolivia and the Venezuelan Cordillera de la Costa but to date no subspecies have been described. P. manis is the commonest pronophiline in many Colombian and Venezuelan localities (ADAMS 1986) but in northern Peru it is mostly rare and is found as single individuals flying, usually within secondary cloud forest and rarely in pastures, contrary to P. drymaea and P. perepa. P. manis is difficult to separate from P. montagna. The two differ most of all in the shape of the forewing, acute apex and straight outer margin in P. montagna and blunt apex and slightly convex margin in P. manis, and also in the shape of the forewing scent brand, extending further distally along veins M3 and Cu1 in P. montagna. P. montagna is generally slightly darker on the upperside, but this can be appreciated only by comparing large series.