Noctuidae collected by Karlheinz Politzar in Bogué, Mauritania (Lepidoptera, Noctuoidea)

by

Hermann H. HACKER and Axel HAUSMANN

Contents

Introduction 97
Survey of the Noctuidae Moths, material and methods 98
List of species 98
Faunistic analysis 145
Acknowledgements 146
Literature 150

Summary

The publication presented here is a continuation of the previous article, the taxonomic and faunistic revision of the Noctuidae (Lepidoptera) of the Cape Verde Islands. It follows the same checklist style including a summary of the distribution of all species, some details of their bionomics and figures of the genitalia and typical examples, including their Variability.

Altogether 155 species of noctuid moths are dealt with here, among them three species and two subspecies are described as new to science, and two new synonyms and one nomen dubium are stated; one hitherto subspecific taxon is upgraded to species rank.

Key words: Fauna Noctuidae Boghé, Mauritania, taxonomic and faunistic revision, distribution, bionomics, figures of species and genitalia

Synopsis

Aspidifrontia pallidula HACKER & HAUSMANN spec. nov.
Aspidifrontia berioi HACKER & HAUSMANN spec. nov.
Eublemma tytrocoides HACKER & HAUSMANN spec. nov.
Pericyma metaleuca mauritanica HACKER & HAUSMANN subspec. nov.
Prionofrontia ochrosia politzar HACKER & HAUSMANN subspec. nov.
Asphiddampsonia BERIO, 1964, syn. nov. of Aspidifrontia HAMPSON, 1902
Aspidifrontia berhauti LAFORTE, 1972, syn. nov. of Aspidifrontia hemileuca (HAMPSON, 1909)
Aspidifrontia senegalensis BERIO, 1966 nomen dubium
Cerocaly albicornis BERIO, 1966 bona spec.

Introduction

The knowledge of the fauna of the family Noctuidae (SANSU LAFONTAINE & FIBIGER, 2006) of Africa, and especially West Africa is very incomplete (cf. also the article before, “Noctuidae of Cape Verde Islands”). In the case of the Cape Verde Islands at least a few taxonomic studies have been attempted in the past. This statement refers the more to the fauna of the adjacent parts of the African mainland; in Mauritania there exists only a single species list

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and overview of the Lepidoptera of the western Sahara, which includes Morocco and Mauritania (RUNGS, 1992). This list includes a mere 45 Noctuidae species for the whole of the southern half of Mauritania, which covers the areas 4, 15, 19-25 of RUNGS (1992), between 16.5º and 21º latitude. In the list given here from Boghé, at least 155 species are included, 33 of which are included by RUNGS (1992), who listed a further 12 species which were not found by H. POLITZAR in Boghé.

Heinz POLITZAR worked as field veterinarian for the animal health services of Mauritania, contracted by the European Development Fund, for four years from 1966 to 1969. In this time he collected in the vicinity of Boghé, and probably also within the town; unfortunately no further details of his methods and localities are known, and none of the participants survive today. The labels with the simple locality "Mauretanien, Boghe" and the exact date - using a stamp – give no information about the kind of biotopes and circumstances of capture.

About three quarters of Mauritania is covered by deserts or semideserts, which have been expanding in the last four decades. The country, which forms the western part of the huge central Sahara region, is flat and defined by vast, arid plains, broken by occasional ridges and clifflike outcrops. The highest point on the Adrar plateau reaches a elevation of 500 metres. Between the plateaux and the Atlantic Ocean there are alternating areas of clayey plains and sand dunes, which are very mobile in the strong winds coming from the ocean. The dunes increase in size towards the north.

Between 1975 and 1980 only 20 percent of the three million or so population of Mauritania were sedentary farmers, and herding engaged up to 70 percent of the population. Farming was restricted to the narrow band along the Senegal River where rainfall of up to 600 mm per year and annual river flooding sustained crop production as well as large cattle herds.

In the dry northern two-thirds of the country, herding was limited to widely scattered pastoral groups that raised camels, sheep, and goats, and farming was restricted to date palms and minuscule plots around oases. Boghé is situated close to the Senegal river, at an altitude of only 13 m, in the midst of the relatively fertile Senegal river valley with grazing land, farm land and trees, predominantly along the shores of the river, and not really forming a gallery forest or even a riparian area as interface between land and stream with riparian vegetation, characterized by hydrophilic plants. Often semidesert areas or sand dunes interrupt this fertile region, and for this reason, a large number of eremic species occur among tropical-subtropical species. The common problems of developing countries like overgrazing, deforestation, and soil erosion aggravated by drought all contribute to desertification. Additionally, there are very limited natural fresh water resources away from the Senegal River, which is the only one in the area.

Survey of the Noctuidae Moths, material and methods

Cf. the preceding publication on the "Noctuidae of Cape Verde Islands".

List of species

The format of the checklist follows standard checklist style. The name of the subspecies is given only if it does not correspond with the nominotypical subspecies. The section 'Distribution' includes an overview of North Africa, the Sahel zone, and a few adjacent areas; first the Arabian Peninsula, than under 'North Africa', Palaearctic and Subsaharan Africa, from North southward to the border of the tropical forest zone. These details are omitted in cases where the species was treated in the preceding publication. The same applies also to the colour figures of the species. Finally, the colour plates 1-10 of the two publications give an overview of the common species of the fauna of the western Sahel region and hence the possibility for a quick determination. Widespread, common and well-known species, usually migrants, are generally omitted.

Subfamily Nolinae

**Meganola reubeni** *Agassiz*, 2009 (pl. 5, fig. 7)

References: *Meganola reubeni* (*Agassiz*, 2009);

Notes: *M. reubeni* was recently described from East Africa: Kenyan Rift Valley; Uganda, Ethiopia; Tanzania. Male genitalia cf. fig. 1a.
**Distribution:** Afrotropical-subtropical.

**North Africa:**


**Bionomics:** The larva has been found on flowers and leaves of *Various Acacia* species (*A. gerrardii, A. tortilis*) and in pseudogalls of *A. seyal* (Agassiz, 2009).

**Subfamily Chloephorinae**

**Earias insulana** (Boisduval, 1833)


**Distribution:** Palaeotropical-subtropical, widespread in the Old World Tropics and Subtropics (cf. Hacker et al., this volume).

Mauritania: Rungs, 1992;

1 ♂, Boghé, 17.iii.1968;

**Earias biplaga** Walker, 1866


**References:** *Earias biplaga* (Hampson, 1912); *Earias biplaga* (Poole, 1989); *Earias biplaga* (Wiltshire, 1990);

**Distribution:** Palaeotropical-subtropical (cf. Hacker et al., this volume).

Mauritania: Rungs, 1992;

3 ♀, Boghé, 20.iv.1969;

**Bryophilopsis tarachoides** (Mabille, 1900) (pl. 5, fig. 8)


**References:** *Bryophilopsis tarachoides* (Hampson, 1912); *Bryophilopsis tarachoides* (Poole, 1989);

**Distribution:** Afrotropical-subtropical; throughout sub-Saharan Africa, eastward to Oman, including Madagascar; not yet recorded in Saudi Arabia.

Yemen: Wiltshire, 1980; Hacker & Fibiger, 2006;

Oman: Wiltshire, 1980b; 1986;

North Africa: Wiltshire, 1980;

Nigeria: Hampson, 1912;

Mauritania: 1 ♀, Boghé, 21.xk.1967;

**Bionomics:** The early stages and bionomics are unknown.

**Negeta luminosa** (Walker, 1759)


**References:** *Negeta luminosa* (Hampson, 1912); *Negeta luminosa* (Gaede, 1935); *Negeta luminosa* (Poole, 1989); *Negeta luminosa* (Hacker & Fibiger, 2006);

**Distribution:** Afrotropical-subtropical; throughout sub-Saharan Africa, eastward to Yemen.

Yemen: Fibiger & Hacker, 2001; 2006;

North Africa: Fibiger, 2001;

Nigeria: Hampson, 1912;

Mauritania: 1 ♀, Boghé, 21.xk.1967;

**Bionomics:** The early stages and bionomics are unknown.
**Negeta purpurascens** HAMPSON, 1912
Negeta purpurascens HAMPSON, 1912, Cat. Lep. Phal. Br. Mus. 11: 630, pl. 190, fig. 31. L. t.: Gold Coast: Kumasi

**References:** Negeta purpurascens (GADE, 1935); Negeta purpurascens (POOLE, 1989);

**Notes:** Habitus similar to that of Negeta ruficeps HAMPSON, 1912, described from RSA: Natal; the two taxa are included in a group of several species with similar habitus, but different genitalia features (gen.prep. H. HACKER 14602♂, 17746♂, Congo-Brazzaville; 14254♂, Tanzania; 14016♂, 17740♂, 17751♂, Cameroon; 17743♂, Ghana); the group needs a global revision. Male genitalia cf. fig. 1c.

**Distribution:** Afro-tropical-subtropical; probably West-African.

**Bionomics:** The early stages and bionomics are unknown.

**Neaestis mesogonia** (HAMPSON, 1905) (pl. 5, fig. 9)

**References:** Neaestis mesogonia (HAMPSON, 1912); Neaestis mesogonia (GADE, 1935); Neaestis mesogonia (WILTSHIRE, 1986); Neaestis mesogonia (POOLE, 1989);

**Notes:** N. mesogonia belongs to a group of similar congeners: N. rhoda HAMPSON, 1905 (pl. 5, fig. 10), described from Bulawayo, Zimbabwe (figured by PINHEY, 1975, figs 1020a, b; male genitalia figured by WILTSHIRE, 1986, fig. 68a), N. montivalva WILTSHIRE, 1986; described from Giza, SW Saudi Arabia (male genitalia figured by WILTSHIRE, 1986, fig. 68b) and N. piperitella (STAND, 1909), described from “Sambesi Region” (Zimbabwe or Mozambique) (male genitalia figured by HACKER, 2004, fig. 1). The male genitalia of N. mesogonia (fig. 2a) are very like those of N. rhoda; the base of the valva is narrower, the saccus as in N. montivalva, tapered from a broad base which in N. rhoda is broad throughout.

**Distribution:** Afrotropical-subtropical, so far reported from Gambia and Abyssinia (HAMPSON, 1912; GADE, 1935).

**Bionomics:** The early stages and bionomics are unknown.

**Neaestis spec.**

**Notes:** At first glance this species resembles the preceding one, but the male genitalia are distinctly different (fig. 2b). There is one further species described from the western Sahel area: Neaestis piperita (HAMPSON, 1905) (Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (ser. 7) 16: 585) from N. Nigeria: Borgu, Yelwa Lake (figured by HAMPSON, 1912, pl. 191, fig. 7). Unfortunately the genitalia of the type specimen (♂) were never checked, and therefore it is impossible to decide whether N. mesogonia and N. piperita are male and female of a single species, or whether the species present here is N. piperita or even unnamed.

**Distribution:**
Mauritania 1 ♀, Boghé, 21.ix.1967 (gen.prep. H. HACKER 17725♀);
**Arcyophora patricula** (HAMPSON, 1902) (pl. 5, fig. 11)

**References:** Setoctena patricula (HAMPSON, 1912); Setoctena patricula (GAÉDE, 1915); Arcyophora patricula (BÜTTIKER, 1970; 1973); Arcyophora patricula (PINNEY, 1975); Arcyophora patricula (POOLE, 1989);

**Distribution:** Afrotropical-subtropical.
Saudi Arabia Wiltshire, 1960a; 1990;
Nigeria Bütiker, 1970; 1973;
Mauritania 1 ♂, Boghé, 12.vi.1967;

**Bionomics:** Foodplant Acacia. The species are well-known tear-drinkers, which imbibe lacrymal juices of cattle, reedbuck and other mammals (Bütiker, 1964; 1968; 1970; 1973; 1979; Pinney, 1975).

**Leocyma appollinis** GUÉNÉE, 1852 (pl. 5, fig. 12)

**References:** Leocyma appollinis (HAMPSON, 1912); Leocyma appollinis (GAÉDE, 1935); Leocyma appollinis (PINNEY, 1975); Leocyma appollinis (POOLE, 1989);

**Distribution:** Afrotropical-subtropical; L. appollinis was previously known only from the southern Africa (RSA, Mozambique; Zimbabwe) and Madagascar.
North Africa: Mauritania 1 ♂, Boghé, 30.xi.1966;

**Bionomics:** Larva described by HAMPSON (1912).

**Odontestis striata** HAMPSON, 1912 (pl. 5, fig. 13)

**References:** Odontestis striata (HAMPSON, 1912); Odontestis striata (WILTSHERE, 1988b); Odontestis striata (POOLE, 1989);

**Note:** WILTSHERE (1988b, figs 16, 34) described Odontestis murina from the Arabian Peninsula as endemic and compared it with O. striata HAMPSON, 1912. Unfortunately the male genitalia of the African O. striata were not figured, and the drawing (fig. 16) of the genital capsule, valvae and appendages of O. murina seems to be rather unhelpful, because details are not really comparable. O. striata is a very variable species, and O. murina might be synonymous with the widespread species. Male genitalia cf. fig. 5b.

**Distribution:** Afrotropical-subtropical. Known from Zimbabwe, Kenya, Ethiopia, Socotra, Mauritania.

**Bionomics:** Unknown.

### Subfamily Hypeninae

**Hypena lividalis** (HÜBNER, 1796)
Pyralis lividalis HÜBNER, 1796, Samml. Eur. Schmett., Pyral. 1, pl. 2, fig. 11. L. t.: [Europe]

**Distribution:** Afro-Tropical, perhaps Circum-tropical. (cf. HACKER et al., this volume).
Mauritania 1 ♂, Boghé, 27.xii.1967;
**Hypena laceratalis** Walker, [1859]


**Distribution:** Palaeotropical-subtropical (cf. Hacker et al., this volume).

Mauritania 1 ♀, Boghé, 22.xi.1967;

**Hypena obacerralis** Walker, [1859] (pl. 5, fig. 14)


**References:** Ophiuche masurialis (Wiltshire, 1990; 1994); *Hypena masurialis* (Hacker & Schmitz, 1996); *Hypena masurialis* (Pool, 1989); *Hypena obacerralis* (Lo, 1994);

**Notes:** The African representatives of genus *Hypena* Schrank, 1802 were revised by Lödl (1994). This species was confused for a long time with *H. obliqualis* Kollar, 1844 (=*masurialis* Guenee, 1854)

**Distribution:** Palaeotropical-subtropical, from W Africa as far east as the Fiji Islands (Robinson, 1975); also on islands far away from the mainland, like St. Helena (Karsch, 2001; Lödl, 1994) and Ascension (Lödl, 1994).

Saudi Arabia Wiltshire, 1982; 1990; Lödl, 1994;
Yemen Lödl, 1994; Hacker, 1998; Hacker et al., 2001; Hacker & Fibiger, 2006;
North Africa:

**Bionomics:** On Fiji, the larva of *H. obacerralis* feeds on *Commelina pacifica* (Commelinaceae) (Robinson, 1975).

**Zekelita leucodonta** (Hampson, 1910) (pl. 5, fig. 15)


**References:** Zekelita leucodonta (Lödl & Mayerl, 1998);

**Notes:** The genus *Zekelita* Walker, 1863 was revised by Lödl & Mayerl (1998).

**Distribution:** Afrotropical-subtropical; known from Madagascar, Zambia, Malawi, Tanzania and the areas given below (Lödl & Mayerl, 1998).

North Africa:
Senegal Mayerl & Lödl, 1998;
Gambia Mayerl & Lödl, 1998;
Ghana Mayerl & Lödl, 1998;
Nigeria Mayerl & Lödl, 1998;
Mauritania 1 ♀, Boghé, 17.iii.1968;

Subfamily Thiacidinae

**Thiacidas meii** Hacker & Zulli, 2007 (pl. 5, fig. 16)

*Thiacidas meii* Hacker & Zulli, 2007, Esperiana Memoir 3: 203, pl. 27, fig. 8; pl. 28, fig. 1. L. t.: Senegal, Sedhiou

**References:** Thiacidas meii (Hacker & Zulli, 2007);
Notes: The genus *Thiacidas* *Walker*, 1855 was revised by Hacker & Zilli (2007), including the description of the subfamily; the species *T. meii* was known only from two males, from Senegal and Guinea.

**Distribution:** Westafrotropical-subtropical; so far known from Senegal and Rep. Guinea.

**North Africa:**
- Senegal: Hacker & Zilli, 2007;
- Guinea: Hacker & Zilli, 2007;
- Nigeria: 1♀♀, Kaduna, 12.iii.1970; 1♂, Kwangi, 17.iii.1975; 1♂, Kogin Game Reserve, 12.i.1974;
- Mauritania: 1♂, Boghé, 29.ii.1966;

**Subfamily Catocalinae**

**Ulotrichopus primulina** *(Hampson, 1902)*


**Distribution:** Afrotropical-subtropical (cf. Hacker et al., this volume).

- Mauritania: 1♀♀, Boghé, 28.xii.1966;

**Ulotrichopus tinctipennis** *(Hampson, 1902)*

*U. tinctipennis* was described from syntypes from “[Namibia]: Damarland, Kuisip and [Botswana]: N’Gamilandi”. The species is widespread in tropical West, South and East Africa (Gaede, 1936; Hampson, 1902; 1913; 1916; Kühne, 2005; Rougeot, 1977; Wilthshire, 1973). It extends to the Sahel Zone (Hampson, 1913), to Sudan and Egypt and to the Arabian Peninsula (Saudi Arabia; Yemen; United Arab Emirates; Oman), northwards as far as the Jordan Valley (Hacker, 1999; Hacker, 1999; Legrain & Wilthshire, 1998; Püngeler, 1907; Rebel, 1907; Shalaby, 1961; Wilthshire, 1977; 1980; 1990).

- Saudi Arabia: Wilthshire, 1980; 1990;
- Yemen: Rebel, 1907; Hacker, 1999; Hacker et al., 2001; Hacker & Fibiger, 2006; Kühne, 2005;
- Oman: Wilthshire, 1970b; 1990;
- UAE: Fibiger & Legrain, 2009;
- North Africa:
  - Egypt: Wilthshire, 1948; 1973;
  - Sudan: Kühne, 2005;
  - Nigeria: Kühne, 2005;
  - Burkina Faso: 1♀♀, Bobo Dioulasso, 20.iv.1980;

**Bionomics:** The early stages and bionomics are unknown. In Israel, *U. tinctipennis* has been collected from December to April, in Yemen in April and June. It might be multivoltine.

**Audea paulumnodosa** Kühne, 2005

*Audea paulumnodosa* Kühne, 2005, Esperiana Memoir **2**: 72. L. t.: Ghana, Umg. Abetifi

**References:** Audea paulumnodosa (Kühne, 2005);

**Note:** The genus *Audea* *Walker*, [1858] 1857, which includes at least 22 species with predominately Afrotropical-subtropical distribution, was reviewed by Kühne (2005). Nine species were described by him as new to science, among them the two species mentioned here.

**Distribution:** Afrotropical-subtropical; south of the Sahel region from Cameroon, Ethiopia, Uganda.
North Africa:
Sudan Kühne, 2005;
Burkina Faso Kühne, 2005;
Ivory Coast Kühne, 2005;
Gambia Kühne, 2005;
Senegal Kühne, 2005;
Nigeria Kühne, 2005;
Mauritania 1 ♂, Boghé, 13.v.1967;
Ghana Kühne, 2005;

**Audea kathrina** Kühne, 2005

**References**: Audea kathrina (Kühne, 2005);

**Note**: The male genitalia of this species differ from the figure given by Kühne (2005, fig. 48) in the following respects (fig. 2c):
- uncus longer, basally distinctly more recurved;
- valvae asymmetrical, costa of the left valva less sclerotised;
- posterior part of the left valva much longer and larger; this detail might be lost in the preparation figured by Kühne, but there is no comment in the description.

The single male from Boghé might belong to a distinct species, but it is reported here as *A. kathrina* with the most probability.

**Distribution**: Afrotropical-subtropical; reported from the countries given below, Uganda and Congo.

**Crypsotidia maculifera** (Staudinger, 1898)

*Hydnia maculifera* Staudinger, 1898, Dt. Ent. Z. Iris 10: 287, pl. IV, fig. 22. L. t.: Israel: Jaffa
=*Crypsotidia confira* Hampson, 1913, Cat. Lep. Phal. Br. Mus. 12: 249, pl. CCIII, fig. 4. L. t.: Br. E. Africa: Rukuru Valley

**Distribution**: Afrotropical-subtropical (cf. Hacker et al., this volume).

**Crypsotidia remanei** Wiltshire, 1977


**Distribution**: Afro-eremic (cf. Hacker et al., this volume).

**Hypotacha ochribasalis** (Hampson, 1896)


**References**: Hypotacha ochribasalis (Graee, 1935); Hypotacha ochribasalis (Poole, 1989); Hypotacha ochribasalis (Kühne, 2005);

**Distribution**: Afro-eremic; on the Arabian Peninsula northward to Iraq, in East Africa southward to Ethiopia and Kenya.

**Yemen**

Saudi Arabia Wiltshire, 1980; 1990; Kühne, 2005;

Oman Hampson, 1908; Hacker, 1999; Hacker et al., 2001; Hacker & Fibiger, 2006; Kühne, 2005;

Hacker & Saldaitis (this volume);
**North Africa:**
- Sudan: Rebel & Zerny, 1917; Gaede, 1935;
- Burkina Faso: Kühne, 2005;
- Ghana: Kühne, 2005;
- Mauritania: 1 ♀, Boghé, 3.i.1967; 12.x.1966;

**Bionomics:** Nothing is known at present about the early stages and bionomics.

**Tachosa fumata** (Wallengren, 1860)

**References:** Tachosa fumata (Kühne, 2005);

**Note:** The harpe of the valva of the male genitalia is shorter, stronger and less acutely tipped than in the figure given by Kühne (2005, Fig. 35).

**Distribution:** Afrotropical-subtropical; probably throughout sub-Saharan Africa.

**North Africa:**
- Burkina Faso: Kühne, 2005;
- Mauritania: 1 ♀, Boghé, 20.x.1968 (gen. prep. H. Hacker 17742);

**Bionomics:** Early stages and bionomics unknown.

**Cerocala caelata** Karsch, 1896 (pl. 5, fig. 17; pl. 6, fig. 1)

**References:** Cerocala caelata (Hampson, 1913); Cerocala caelata (Gaede, 1936); Cerocala caelata (Berio, 1965); Cerocala caelata albicornis (Berio, 1966); Cerocala caelata (Poole, 1989);

**Notes:** The genus Cerocala Boisduval, 1829 is represented in the Subsaharan Africa by the following 23 taxa (alphabetical; specific taxa bold); according to Poole (1989), 18 of which are accorded specific rank (synonymy cf. Poole, 1989)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>name</th>
<th>type locality</th>
<th>figures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>albicornis Berio, 1966</td>
<td>Senegal: Badi</td>
<td>[Hampson, 1913, text fig. 65]</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gaede, 1936, pl. 30, row e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>albinomacula</td>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>Hampson, 1916, pl. 1, fig. 42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>basilowskyl Berio, 1954</td>
<td>Congo: Elisabethville</td>
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<tr>
<td>caelata Karsch, 1896 (Cerocala)</td>
<td>Togo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>confusa Warren, 1913</td>
<td>[Ethiopia] Abyssinia</td>
<td>Warren, 1913, fig. 62, row f</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>contraria (Walker, 1865)</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Hampson, 1913, pl. 226, fig. 19</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gaede, 1936, pl. 30, row f</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>decaryi Grivaudeau &amp; Viette, 1961 (Cerocala)</td>
<td>Madagascar: Ambovone</td>
<td>Grivaudeau &amp; Viette, 1961, pl. 1, fig. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>grandirena Berio, 1954</td>
<td>Somalia: Basso Scebeli</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>illia Viette, 1973 (Cerocala)</td>
<td>Madagascar: Mahafaly</td>
<td>Viette, 1973, fig. 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>illustrata Holland, 1897 (Cerocala)</td>
<td>Through Unknown, African Countries: 417</td>
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<td>Littoral zone</td>
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<td>[Somalia]: Hargesa</td>
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<tr>
<td>lineata (Drucie, 1900) (Pseudophia)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Two species are represented in the material from Boghé. At first glance they appear similar, but the male genitalia are clearly different. The two species with probably Afro- or Westafro-eremic distribution are *C. caelata karscH, 1896* and *C. albicornis Berio, 1966*. The second taxon was described by Berio (1966) as subspecies of *C. caelata Karsch, 1896* from a single female from Senegal (Badi).

The species figured by Hampson (1913, text fig. 65) is *C. albicornis*, and all data from Nigeria very likely refer to this species. The same applies to the figure given by Gaede (1936, pl. 30, row e) (1♀ figured; the type specimen is a ♂). Male genitalia cf. figs 8a-c).

**Distribution**: Afro-eremic, perhaps Westafro-eremic (cf. “Notes”).

**North Africa**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>GAED, 1936;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>GAED, 1936; Berio, 1965;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Togo</td>
<td>Karsch, 1986; Hampson, 1913;</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mauritania</td>
<td>1♂, Boghé, 28.ii.1967 (gen.prep. H. Hacker 17791♂);</td>
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</table>

**Bionomics**: Unknown.

### Cerocala albicornis Berio, 1966 bona spec.

(pl. 5, fig. 18, pl. 6, figs 2, 6)


**References**: *Cerocala caelata albicornis* (Poole, 1989);

**Note**: The two sympatric species *C. caelata Karsch, 1896* and *C. albicornis Berio, 1966* are different in habitus in the following respects:
- *C. caelata* is larger and generally more like the East African *C. contraria* (Walker, 1865); wingspan of *C. caelata* 25 to 30 mm, that of *C. albicornis* 20 to 24 mm;
- ground colour in *C. albicornis* brownish, in *C. caelata* darker grey-brown, especially distal to the relatively pale median area;
- dorsal half of the median field of *C. albicornis* distinctly broader; basal field small and pale coloured;
- Costal part of the postmedian fascia of both species S-shaped and curved inwards towards the base of the reniform stigma; in *C. caelata* the fascia is more or less straight towards costa and distally ostrongly darkened, in *C. albicornis* the fascia is more irregular and vaulted distally in the centre of the wing;
- Pale subterminal band more or less regular in *C. albicornis*; somewhat irregular with slight jags in *C. caelata*.

The differences in the male genitalia are figured (figs 8a–c).

*C. albicornis* Berio, 1966 might be a senior synonym of *C. basilewskyi* Berio, 1954, described from S Congo.

**Distribution:** Westafrica-eremic, so far known from the localities listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>North Africa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senegal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivory Coast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mauritania</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bionomics:** Unknown.

*Clitie sancta* (Staudinger, 1898) (pl. 6, fig. 6)

*Pseudophia illunaris sancta* Staudinger, 1898, DL. Ent. Z. Iris 10: 301. L. t.: [Israel] Jordantal; Totes Meer

**References:** *Clitie sancta* (Hampson, 1913); *Clitie sancta* (Warren, 1913); *Clitie sancta* (Rothschild, 1920); *Clitie sancta* (Gnade, 1936); *Clitie sancta* (Wiltshire, 1948); *Clitie sancta* (Speidel & Hassler, 1989); *Clitie sancta* (Wiltshire, 1990; 1994); *Clitie sancta* (Rungs, 1992); *Clitie sancta* (Hacker, 2001).

**Notes:** For taxonomy cf. revision of the genus by Hacker (2001).

**Distribution:** Saharo-Sindian; from W Africa to S Iran (cf. Hacker, 2001).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>North Africa</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morocco</td>
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<tr>
<td>Algeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunisia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Libya</td>
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<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mauritania</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bionomics:** Probably multivoltine. The larvae feed on *Tamarix*.

*Clitie tropicalis* Rungs, 1975 (pl. 6, fig. 7)

*Clitie tropicalis* Rungs, 1975, Alexanor 9: 72, figs. 6, 7, Pl. A. L. t.: Mauritanie, Coppolani

**References:** *Clitie tropicalis* (Pool, 1989); *Clitie tropicalis orientalis* (Wiltshire, 1990; 1994); *Clitie tropicalis* (Rungs, 1992); *Clitie tropicalis* (Hacker, 2001).

**Notes:** For taxonomy cf. revision of the genus by Hacker (2001).

**Distribution:** Afro-eremic; Arabian Peninsula, western parts of the Sahel region. The populations of the Arabian Peninsula and the adjacent regions of Sudan and Somalia belong to the subspecies *orientalis* Rungs, 1975 (L. t.: Saudi Arabia: Hejaz, Jidda).

| Saudi Arabia |
| Yemen        |
| Oman         |
| North Africa |
| Somalia      |
| Sudan        |
Algeria  Hacker, 2001;
Mauritania  Rungs, 1975; 1992; Poole, 1989; Hacker, 2001;
  1  ♂, Boghé, 27.x.1968; 1  ♂, Boghé, 20.xi.1966;

Bionomics: Early stages and bionomics unknown; the larvae probably feed on Tamarix, like other species of Clytie.

Clytie infrequens (Swinhoe, 1884) (pl. 6, fig. 8)

Hypoglaucitis benenotata Moses Rothschild, 1920; Hypoglaucitis benenotata moses (Wiltshire, 1948); Clytie benenotata moses (Rungs, 1992); Clytie infrequens moses (Hacker, 2001);

References: Hypoglaucitis benenotata (Hampson, 1913); Hypoglaucitis benenotata (Warren, 1913); Hypoglaucitis benenotata moses (Rothschild, 1920); Hypoglaucitis benenotata moses (Wiltshire, 1948); Clytie benenotata moses (Rungs, 1992); Clytie infrequens moses (Hacker, 2001);

Notes: For taxonomy cf. revision of the genus by Hacker (2001).

Distribution: Saharo-Sindian; from West Africa to Iran and Pakistan.

Saudi Arabia  Wiltshire, 1980a; 1990;
Yemen  Hacker, 1999; Hacker et al., 2001; Hacker & Fibiger, 2006;
Oman  Wiltshire, 1977b;
North Africa:
Morocco  Rungs, 1938; 1982; De Freina & Behounek, 1996; Hacker, 2001;
Algeria  Hampson, 1913; Warren, 1913; Rothschild, 1920; Herbulot & Vézina, 1951; Rungs, 1958; Speidel & Hassler, 1989; Speidel et al., 1991;
Tunisia  NE Tunisia, 2  ♂♂, Korbha, 26.10.1989 (leg. A. Legrain & Cl. Warnotte);
Libya  Krüger, 1929; Turati, 1930; Berio, 1933; Zavattari, 1934; Krüger, 1939; Hacker et al., 2001; Hacker, 2001;
Egypt  Bethune-Baker, 1894; Staudinger, 1895; Warren, 1913; Andres, 1913; Andres & Seitz, 1923; Wiltshire, 1948; Hacker, 2001;
Sudan  Kasy, 1963;
Mauritania  Rungs, 1992;
  1  ♂, Boghé, 5.i.1967;

Bionomics: Multivoltine; larvae on Tamarix articulata. The species inhabits the oases and tamarix plantations of the desert.

Achaea lienhardi (Boisduval, 1833) (pl. 6, fig. 9)

Ophthalma lienhardi Boisduval, 1833, Fauna Madag., Lep., 1: 102, pl. 15. L. t.: Madagascar

References: Achaea lienhardi (Hampson, 1913); Achaea lienhardi (Gaede, 1936); Achaea lienhardi (Berio, 1965);

Notes: An extraordinarily variable species and hence described several times from various regions (cf. Hampson, 1913; Poole, 1989).

Distribution: Afrotropical-subtropical; widespread throughout tropical Africa (Hampson, 1913; Gaede, 1936; Pinney, 1975).

Yemen  Hacker et al., 2001; Hacker & Fibiger, 2006;
North Africa:
Sierra Leone  Hampson, 1913;
Ghana  Hampson, 1913;
Nigeria  Hampson, 1913;
Sudan  Hampson, 1913;
Mauritania  1  ♂, Boghé, 20.iv.1969;

Bionomics: Larvae on Maerua, Pappea, Ptaeroxylon, Rhus, Schotia, Sideroxylon, Citrus leaves (Pinney, 1975);
**Achaea catella** Guenée, 1852 (pl. 6, fig. 10)


**References:** *Achaea catella* (Hampson, 1913); *Achaea catella* (Gaede, 1936); *Achaea catella* (Wiltshire, 1948); *Achaea catella* (Berio, 1965); *Achaea catella* (Pinhey, 1975); *Achaea catella* (Wiltshire, 1990; 1994); *Achaea catella* (Rungs, 1992); 

**Distribution:** Afrotropical-subtropical; widespread throughout tropical-subtropical Africa (Gaede, 1936).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>References</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>Wiltshire, 1952b; 1980a; 1990;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oman</td>
<td>Wiltshire, 1985;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yemen</td>
<td>Butler, 1884; Hampson, 1896; Hampson, 1913; Hacker et al., 1999; Hacker et al., 2001; Hacker &amp; Fibiger, 2006;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Africa</td>
<td>Senegal Guenée, 1852;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>Rothschild, 1921;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>Wiltshire, 1946;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>Hampson, 1913;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mauritania</td>
<td>Runge, 1992; 1°, Boghé, 27.x.1968;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bionomics:** Larva on *Bauhinia, Ricinus, Lonchocarpus, Tamarindus, and Eucalyptus* (Pinhey, 1975).

**Ophiodes mejanesi** (Guenée, 1852) (pl. 6, fig. 11)


**References:** *Ophiodes mejanesi* (Hampson, 1913); *Anua mejanesi* (Gaede, 1936); *Trichanua mejanesi* (Berio, 1965); *Trichanua mejanesi* (Pinhey, 1975); *Ophiodes mejanesi* (Pinhey, 1975); *Ophiodes mejanesi* (Vani et al., 1989);

**Notes:** The taxonomic status of some taxa, including *Wahlbergi wallengrenii*, 1856 (RSA), *tettensis Hofffer*, 1857 (Mozambique) and *expedita Walker*, 1858 (Congo), which are often treated as synonyms of *O. mejanesi*, needs revision.

**Distribution:** Afrotropical-subtropical; widespread throughout Subsaharan Africa from West Africa (Senegal) to South and East Africa; the species is said to extend to India (Hampson, 1913).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>References</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oman</td>
<td>Wiltshire, 1980b; 1984; 1986;1990;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yemen</td>
<td>Hacker et al., 2001; Hacker &amp; Fibiger, 2006;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Africa</td>
<td>Sudan Hampson, 1913; Berio, 1965;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>Hampson, 1913; Berio, 1965; Poole, 1988;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mauritania</td>
<td>1°, Boghé, 10.x.1968;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bionomics:** Multivoltine. The early stages and foodplants are unknown.

**Grammodes stolida** (Fabricius, 1775)

*Noctua stolida* Fabricius, 1775, Syst. Ent.: 599. L. t.: E. India

**Distribution:** Palaeotropical-subtropical (cf. Hacker et al., this volume).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>References</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
**Grammodes congenita** Walker, 1858

**References:** *Grammodes congenita* (Hampson, 1913); *Grammodes congenita* (Gaede, 1936); *Grammodes congenita* (Berio, 1965); *Grammodes congenita* (Poole, 1989);

**Note:** The differences in habitus between *G. congenita* and *G. bifasciata* (Petagna, 1788) (=*geometrica* auct. nec Fabricius, 1775) are well shown by Pinney (1975, figs 1065, 1066).

**Distribution:** Afrotropical-subtropical; widespread throughout tropical Africa south of the Sahara (Hampson, 1913; Gaede, 1936; Berio, 1985; Vari et al., 2002).

**North Africa:**
- Burkina Faso: 1 ♀, Folonzo am Fluss, Comoe, 10.-14.vi.1986;
- Mauritania: 2 ♀♂, Boghé, 30.ix.1968; 16.x.1968;

**Bionomics:** Multivoltine. Foodplants are probably *Cistus* spp., especially *C. salviifolius*, *Polygonum*, *Smilax* and *Rubus* like those of *G. bifasciata*.

**Dysgonia torrida** (Gueneé, 1852)

**Distribution:** Palaeotropical-subtropical (cf. Hacker et al., this volume).

**Mauritania:** 1 ♀, Boghé, 4.xii.1969;

**Parachalciope benitensis** (Holland, 1894) (pl. 6, fig. 12)
*Grammodes benitensis* Holland, 1894, Psyche 7: 85, pl. 2, fig. 25. L. t.: [Gabon]: Benita

**References:** *Grammodes benitensis* (Hampson, 1913); *Parachalciope benitensis* (Gaede, 1936); *Parachalciope benitensis* (Poole, 1989);

**Notes:** The male genitalia correspond to the figure of *Parachalciope inornata* given by Berio (1985, fig. 215), and are less like those of *P. benitensis* (fig. 121a – uncus! shape of valva!) but the habitus of the specimen from Boghé is just like *Parachalciope benitensis* (Holland, 1894), figured by Holland (1894, pl. 2, fig. 25) or Gaede (1936, pl. 29, row g).

**Distribution:** Afrotropical-subtropical, widespread from the Sahel area to South Africa (Vari et al., 2002).

**North Africa:**
- Nigeria: Hampson, 1913;
- Sierra Leone: Hampson, 1913;
- Burkina Faso: 1 ♂, Folonzo am Fluss, Comoe, 10.-14.vi.1986 (gen.prep. H. Hacker 17748♂);
- Mauritania: 1 ♀, Boghé, 20.xii.1968;

**Bionomics:** Unknown.

**Chalciope pusilla** (Holland, 1894) (pl. 6, fig. 13)
*Grammodes pusilla* Holland, 1894, Psyche 7: 86, pl. 2, fig. 26. L. t.: [Gabon]: Ogowe River

**References:** *Chalciope pusilla* (Hampson, 1913); *Chalciope pusilla* (Gaede, 1936); *Chalciope pusilla* (Poole, 1989);

**Notes:** The male genitalia were figured by Berio (1985, fig. 213); those of the specimen from Boghé show some small differences:
- cucullus with a triangular tip;
- the heavily sclerotised area along the costa broader throughout
- the two small cornuti of the vesica lacking.

It is necessary to study the Variation of those characters to decide if there is an overlooked sister species or not. The habitus of the specimen present agrees with the figure given by Holland (1894, pl. 2, fig.26).
Distribution: Afrotropical-subtropical, widespread from the Sahel area to South Africa (Vare et al., 2002).

North Africa:
- Nigeria: Hampson, 1913;
- Mauritania: 1 ♂, Boghé, 19.xii.1968 (gen. prep. H. Hacker 17729♂); 1 ♀, 28.iv.1968;

Plecopterodes moderata (Wallengren, 1860) (pl. 6, fig. 14)

References: Plecopterodes moderata (Hampson, 1913); Plecopterodes moderata (Gaede, 1936); Plecopterodes moderata (Pinhey, 1975); Plecopterodes moderata (Poole, 1989); Plecopterodes moderata (Vare et al., 2002);

Notes: Figure cf. Hampson (1913, fig. 40), Gaede (1936, pl. 30, rows de, e), Pinhey (1975: 219, plts. 54, 60, fig. 1076). If all the varieties examined really are conspecific, an extremely variable species.

Distribution: Afrotropical-subtropical, widespread throughout tropical-subtropical Africa from West to East Africa (Hampson, 1913).

North Africa:
- Senegal: Mabille, 1890; Bethune-Baker, 1911; Poole, 1989;
- Niger: Rothschild, 1921;
- Sudan: Hampson, 1913;
- Nigeria: Hampson, 1913;
- Sierra Leone: Hampson, 1913;
- Mauritania: 1 ♂, Boghé, 14.x.1968;

Bionomics: Early stages and bionomics unknown

Anumeta spilota harterti Rothschild, 1913 (pl. 6, fig. 15) Anumeta henkel harterti Rothschild, 1913, Novitates Zool. 20: 469. L. t.: Algeria: El Goléa

References: Anumeta harterti (Warren, 1913); Palpangula Atrosignata (Oberthür, 1918); Palpangula Harterti (Oberthür, 1918); Anumeta atrosignata harterti (Rothschild, 1920); Anumeta azelikoula (Draudt, 1936); Anumeta atrosignata spilota (Wiltshire, 1948); Anumeta atrosignata harterti (Rungs, 1982); Anumeta harterti (Speidel & Hassler, 1989); Anumeta atrosignata (Wiltshire, 1990; 1994); Anumeta spilota (Wiltshire, 1990; 1994); Anumeta spilota harterti (Rungs, 1992); Anumeta spilota harterti (Hacker, 2001); Anumeta spilota (Krivchikov, et al., 2007);


Distribution: Pan-eremic. From Mauritania (West Sahara) and Morocco to Central Asia, Pakistan and India. All populations from North Africa belong to the subspecies harterti Rothschild, 1913, described from El Goléa (Algerian Sahara).

Saudi Arabia: Wiltshire, 1980a; 1990;
Yemen: Hacker et al., 2001; Hacker & Fibiger, 2006;
Oman: Wiltshire, 1961a; 1985; 1990;
North Africa:
- Morocco: Rungs, 1942; 1943; 1973; 1982;
- Algeria: Oberthür, 1918; Rothschild, 1913; 1920; Warren, 1913; Dumont, 1920; Draudt, 1936; Herbulot & Viette, 1951; Rungs, 1958; Speidel & Hassler, 1989; Speidel et al., 1991;
- Libya: Küger, 1939; Hacker et al., 2001;
- Egypt: Andrés, 1913; Andres & Seitz, 1923; Wiltshire, 1948;
- Mauritania: Rungs, 1992;

5 ♂♂, Boghé, 27.x.1966; 15.xi.1966; 27.xii.1967;

Bionomics: Probably univoltine. Most specimens have been collected between March and May, some single specimens also in summer. The early stages are described by Dumont (1920); in Israel the larvae feed on Colligonum comosum.
Drasteria kabylaria (Bang-Haas, 1906) (pl. 6, fig. 16)

Leucanitis kabylaria Bang-Haas, 1906, Di. Ent. Z. Iris 19: 136, pl. 5, fig. 7. L. l.: Tunisia: Gafsa

**References:** Leucanitis kabylaria (Hampson, 1913); Leucanitis kabylaria (Warren, 1913); Leucanitis Kabylaria (Oberthür, 1918); Syneada kabylaria (Wiltshire, 1948); Leucanitis kabylaria (Rungs, 1982); Drasteria kabylaria (Speidel & Hassler, 1989); Drasteria kabylaria (Wiltshire, 1990; 1994); Drasteria kabylaria (Rungs, 1992); Drasteria kabylaria (Hacker, 2001); Drasteria kabylaria (Krauchenko et al., 2007);

**Distribution:** Saharo-Sindian. Described from Tunis with range from Mauritania (West Sahara) (Rungs, 1992) and Morocco in the west to the Arabian Peninsula, south to Oman, and south Iran in the east (Brandt, 1941; Hacker, 1999; John, 1910; Legrain & Wiltshire, 1998; Wiltshire, 1948; 1952; 1983; 1986; 1990). This eremic species is also widespread in the central Sahara.

- Saudi Arabia: Wiltshire, 1983; 1990;
- Yemen: Hacker et al., 2001; Hacker & Fibiger, 2006;
- Oman: Wiltshire, 1985;
- UAE: Legrain & Wiltshire, 1998; Fibiger & Legrain, 2009;

**North Africa:**

- Morocco: Rungs, 1945; 1982;
- Algeria: Rothschild, 1913; 1916; 1920; Oberthür, 1918; Rungs, 1948; 1958; Speidel & Hassler, 1989; Speidel et al., 1991;
- Tunisia: A. Bang-Haas, 1906; Hampson, 1913;
- Libya: Turati, 1935; Krüger, 1938;
- Egypt: Wiltshire, 1948;
- Mauritania: Rungs, 1992;

**Bionomics:** Bivoltine, March to May and October to November. According to Rungs (1948) the larva probably feeds on Tamarix; in UAE only among the Calligonae; in Israel the larvae live mainly in dense thickets of shrubs and semi-shrubs dominated by Atriplex, Suaeda and Ochradenus baccatus (Krauchenko et al., 2007; Fibiger & Legrain, 2009). Hostplant in Israel Haloxylon persicum (Chenopodiaceae) (Krauchenko et al., 2007).

Rhabdophera arefacta (Swinhoe, 1884) (pl. 6, fig. 17)


* * Rhabdophera messrae Staudegger, 1988, Di. Ent. Z. Iris 10: 296. L. l.: [Israel/Jordan]: Messra, Todtes Meer; Jordanthal

**References:** Rhabdophera arefacta (Hacker, 2001); Rhabdophera arefacta (Krauchenko et al., 2007);


**Distribution:** Saharo-Sindian. The taxon arefacta was described from Kurrachee [Karatschi], the taxon messrae from the Dead Sea area and the Jordan Valley. Both are treated as synonyms by Wiltshire (1957a) and Hacker (2001). Until now, the species was only known eastward of the Suez area in Egypt, the Levante, Iraq (Heydemann & Schulte, 1963; Wiltshire, 1957a) easternmost to Pakistan (Hacker, 2001; Krauchenko et al., 2007). First record for the Sahel area.

- South Africa:
  - Egypt: Wiltshire, 1970;
  - Burkina Faso: 1♂, Bobo Dioulasso, 16.III.1979 (gen.prep. H. Hacker 17736♂); 1♂, Folonzo am Fluss, Comoe, 21.XII.1984 (gen.prep. H. Hacker 17750♂);

**Bionomics:** Multivoltine. In Israel recorded from January to November. The caterpillar feeds in Iraq on Prosopis stephaniana, in captivity also on Acacia farnesiana, an ornamental garden-tree.

Rhabdophera hansali (Felder & Rougenhofer, 1874) (pl. 6, fig. 18)

Remigia hansali Felder & Rougenhofer, 1874, Reise der österreichischen Fregatte Novara... Zool. 2 (2): pl. 117, fig. 5. L. l.: Africa

**References:** Homaea hansali (Hampson, 1913); Homaea hansali (Gaede, 1935); Homaea hansali (Pinhey, 1975); Beriohansa hansali (Poole, 1989); Rhabdophera hansali (Hacker, 2001);

**Notes:** Taxonomy cf. Hacker (2001). Male genitalia fig. 3c.
Distribution: Afrotropical-subtropical; *R. hansali* is distributed from the Cape throughout tropical/subtropical Africa. The species is figured by *Felder & Rogehof* (1874, pl. 117, fig. 5); *Hampson* (1913, fig. 83); *Gae* (1935, pl. 24) or *Piney* (1975, pl. 53). The two *Rhabdophera* species occur sympatrically in the localities noted below.

North Africa:
- Burkina Faso 1 ♂, Folonzo, 17.xi.1981 (gen. prep. H. Hacker 17744♂);
- Mauritania 1 ♂, Boghé, 22.xi.1966 (gen. prep. H. Hacker 17747♂);

Bionomics: The early stages and bionomics are unknown.

*Rhabdophera clathrum* (Guenée, 1852) (pl. 7, fig. 1)


References:
- *Homaea clathrum* (Hampson, 1913);
- *Homaea clathrum* (Gaede, 1935);
- *Homaea clathrum* (Pinhey, 1975);
- *Homaea clathrum* (PooLe, 1989);
- *Rhabdophera clathrum* (Hacker, 2001);


Distribution: Palaeotropical-subtropical; *R. clathrum* is known mostly from the Indian Subcontinent, but also from the Sahel area: Ethiopia and the countries given below.

Yemen
- Harmoon, 1996;
- Hacker, 1999;

North Africa:
- Nigeria numerous ♀, Maiduguri, 22.-26.x.1970; 1 ♀, Keduna, 1.x.1974;
- Burkina Faso 1 ♀, Bobo Dioulasso, 8.x.1981; 1 ♀, Folonzo, Comoe, 22.i.1985;
- Mauritania 1 ♀, Boghé, 20.xi.1966;

Bionomics: The early stages and bionomics are unknown.

*Polydesma umbricola* Boisduval, 1833


Distribution: Afrotropical-subtropical (cf. *Hacker* et al., this volume).

Mauritania
- Rungs, 1992;

*Heteropalpia acrosticta* (Pungeler, 1904) (pl. 10, fig. 18)

*Pericyma acrosticta* Pungeler, 1904, Dt. Ent. Z. Iris 16: 290, pl. VI, fig. 6. L. t.: [Israel] Ain-Dschidi [En Gedi], westl. Totes Meer

References:
- *Cortyta vetusta* (Hampson, 1913);
- *Cortyta rosacea* (Hampson, 1913);
- *Cortyta acrosticta* (Warren, 1913);
- *Cortyta acrosticta* (Rothschild, 1920);
- *Cortyta acrosticta* (Rothschild, 1920);
- *Cortyta acrosticta* (Gaeđe, 1937);
- *Cortyta acrosticta* (Gaeđe, 1937);
- *Cortyta acrosticta* (Wiitch, 1948);
- *Heteropalpia acrosticta* (Speidel & Hassler, 1989);
- *Heteropalpia acrosticta* (Wiltsch, 1990, 1994);
- *Heteropalpia vetusta, H. acrosticta* and *H. rosacea* (Rungs, 1992);
- *Heteropalpia acrosticta* (Hacker, 2001);

Distribution: Afro-eremic. Widely distributed from Maurtania (West Sahara) (Rungs, 1992) and Morocco to Egypt and the Levante and most of the Arabian Peninsula, but not east of the Persian Gulf (Bahrain; Oman; UAE) (Legrain & Wiltsch, 1998). The species extends southwards to Oman, Yemen, Sudan and Niger, but is so far unrecorded from tropical Africa. *Speidel & Hassler* (1989) believe that all populations of the North African deserts formerly reported as *H. rosacea* or *H. acrosticta* rosacea belong to *H. acrosticta*.

Saudi Arabia
- Wiltshire, 1970a; 1980a; 1988b; 1990;

Yemen
- Hacker, 1999; Hacker et al., 2001; Hacker & Fibiger, 2006;

Oman
- Wiltshire, 1977b; 1988b;
UAE

Legrain & Wiltshire, 1998; Fibiger & Legrain, 2009; North Africa:

Morocco

Rungs, 1942; 1945; 1982; Wiltshire, 1970; De Freina & Behcunek, 1996; Algeria

Rothschild, 1913; 1920; 1921; Gaede, 1937; Herbulot & Viette, 1951; Rungs, 1958; Wiltshire, 1970; Speidel & Hassler, 1989; Speidel et al., 1991; Tunisia

S-Tunisia: 1 ♂, nr. Tozeur, 28.10.1994 (A. Legrain & Ph. Fastré); Libya

Turati, 1930; 1935; Zavattari, 1934; Krüger, 1939; Wiltshire, 1970; Hacker et al., 2001; Niger

Rothschild, 1921; Gaede, 1937; Chad

Herbulot & Viette, 1952; Egypt

Andres & Seitz, 1925; Gaede, 1937; Wiltshire, 1948; 1970; Sudan

Hampson, 1913; Gaede, 1937; Mauritania


Bionomics: Multivoltine, depending to the condition of the foodplant Acacia. The larvae are undescribed. Foodplants in Morocco are Acacia raddiana and A. gummifera (Hassler & Speidel, 1988; Rungs, 1942; 1981; Wiltshire, 1970). An eremic species.

Heteropalpia exarata (Mabille, 1890) (pl. 7, figs 2, 3)


References: Heteropalpia exarata (Poole, 1989); Heteropalpia illiae (Wiltshire, 1970a); Heteropalpia exarata (Wiltshire, 1990; 1994);

Distribution: Mostly reported from the Sahel area, but probably with an Afrotropical-subtropical distribution.

Saudi Arabia

Wiltshire, 1980a, b; 1982; 1988b; 1990; Yemen

Hacker et al., 1999; Hacker et al., 2001; Hacker & Fibiger, 2006; Oman

Wiltshire, 1977b; 1980

North Africa:

Sudan

Wiltshire, 1970; Mauritania


Bionomics: The foodplant is Acacia (Wiltshire, 1990).

Pericyma metaleuca Hampson, 1913 (pl. 7, fig. 6)


References: Pericyma metaleuca (Hampson, 1913); Pericyma metaleuca (Gaede, 1937); Pericyma metaleuca (Wiltshire, 1980b);

Note: The male genitalia of the holotype specimens of the nominotypical subspecies, and the subspec. obscura Wiltshire, 1980 from Oman were figured by Wiltshire (1980a, fig. 17, 17a). The Westafrican specimens belong to a subspecies which is much more closely related to obscura than to the nominotypical subspecies from East Africa.

Distribution: Afro-eremic; at present known from Kenya, Tanzania, Somalia, Ethiopia, SE Arabia. New for the western part of the Sahel zone.

Saudi Arabia

Wiltshire, 1980a; 1990; Oman

Wiltshire, 1980b; Yemen

Hacker et al., 1999; Hacker et al., 2001; Hacker & Fibiger, 2006;

North Africa:

Mauritania

1 ♂, Boghé, 20.x.1968 (gen.prep. H. Hacker 17742♂);

Bionomics: Early stages and bionomics unknown.
**Pericyma metaleuca mauritanica** HACKER & HAUSMANN subspec. nov. (pl. 7, figs 4, 5)

**Material**

**Holotype**: ♂, Mauritania, Boghé, 24.i.1967 (gen.prep. H. Hacker 17714:);

**Paratype**: 1 ♂, Mauritania, Boghé, 15.xii.1968 (gen.prep. H. Hacker 17715:);

Locus typicus: Mauritania, Boghé

Derivatio nominis: The name of the species is derived from the name of the country of origin.

**Description**

Similar to the nominotypical East African subspecies; forewings and hindwings brownish-beige suffused.

**Male genitalia** (fig. 5a)

Generally like those of the holotype of the nominotypical subspecies and the subspec. obscura WILTSHIRE, 1980, figured by WILTSHIRE (1980a, fig. 17, 17a). The subspecific differences are as follows:

- posterior part of the valva slender as in subspec. metaleuca, the finger-shaped process of the cucullus longer than in both the other subspecies;
- posterior process of the costa similar to that in subspec. obscura, but longer; absent in subspec. metaleuca;
- the heavily sclerotised process on the costal side of the anterior part of the valva 1/3 shorter and broader, more strongly asymmetrical than in either of the other subspecies;
- caecum of the aedeagus intermediate between those of subspec. metaleuca and subspec. obscura, long and strong, but even longer and stronger than in subspec. obscura, and more inwardly curved than in subspec. metaleuca.

**Female genitalia**

So far unknown.

**Distribution**

Only known from the type locality Boghé in Mauritania.

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**Pericyma mendax** (WALKER, [1858])


**Distribution**: Afrotropical-subtropical (cf. HACKER et al., this volume).

Mauritania 1 ♂, Boghé, 15.xii.1968;

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**Tytroca leucoptera** (HAMPSON, 1896) (pl. 7, figs 8, 9)


**References**: Cortyta leucoptera (HAMPSON, 1913); Cortyta leucoptera (ROTHSCHILD, 1920); Cortyta leucoptera (GNAEDE, 1936); Cortyta leucoptera (DIAUDT, 1936); Tytroca leucoptera (WILTSHIRE, 1970a); Tytroca leucoptera (SPEIDEL & HASSTER, 1989); Tytroca leucoptera (WILTSHIRE, 1990, 1994); Tytroca leucoptera (RUNGS, 1992); Tytroca leucoptera (HACKER, 2001);

**Notes**: The Tytroca species recorded from Boghé is *T. leucoptera*, and not *T. dispar PUNGERL, 1904*, which was recorded by numerous authors from NW Africa, including RUNGS (1992 (Mauritania), POWELL & RUNGS (1943), RUNGS (1945; 1967; 1982), WILTSHIRE (1970), de FREINE & BEHOUNEK, 1996 (Morocco), ROTHSCHILD (1915), WILTSHIRE (1970), SPEIDEL & HASSTER (1989), POOLE (1989) (Algeria) or Le CERF (1935), HERBILLOT & VETTE (1952), POOLE (1989) (Chad). The two species cannot be separated on habitus alone; the distribution of both needs reassessment, including the report of *T. leucoptera* from Israel (KRIVCHENKO et al., 2007, pl. 6, figs B4 – females). Genitalia features of the two sister species were figured by WILTSHIRE (1970a, figs 9, 10, 20, 21). *T. leucoptera* was originally described from Yemen (Aden), *T. dispar* from Israel (Dead Sea, Ain-Dschidi). *T. leucoptera* is very variable in habitus.

**Distribution**: Afro-eremic. *T. leucoptera* is known mainly on the Arabian Peninsula, but it seems likely that it
ranges throughout North African deserts, westward to Morocco, in the east to Sudan and Somalia (Berio, 1941; Hampson, 1916; Rothschild, 1920; Speidel & Hassler, 1989; Speidel et al., 1991; Wiltshire, 1970). The species is not known further east than Arabia (cf. also under "Notes").


Bionomics: Multivoltine. The early stages and bionomics are unknown. T. leucoptera inhabits deserts and semideserts.

Gnamptonyx innexa (Walker, 1858)


Distribution: Saharo-Sindian (cf. Hacker et al., this volume).


Pandesma robusta (Walker, [1858])


Distribution: Palaeotropical-subtropical (cf. Hacker et al., this volume).


Pandesma muricolor Berio, 1966 (pl. 7, fig. 11)


References: Pandesma muricolor (Berio, 1966a); Pandesma muricolor (Poole, 1989);

Notes: This species replaces P. quenavadi Guenée, 1852, which is very widespread in tropical SE Asia, on the African Continent (Berio, 1968). Male genitalia fig. 7a.

Distribution: Afrotropical-subtropical; from Senegal and Ethiopia to southern Africa (Berio, 1966a; Varì et al., 2002).


Bionomics: Larva, as in P. robusta, probably on Acacia.

Brevipecten confluentus Hampson, 1926


References: Oglasa confluentus (Hampson, 1926); Oglasa confluentus (Poole, 1989); Brevipecten confluentus (Hacker & Fibiger, 2007);

Notes: The genus Brevipecten was revised by Hacker & Fibiger (2007).
Distribution: Saharo-eremic; reported from Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Mauritania, Togo, Yemen.

Yemen
Hacker & Fibiger, 2007;

North Africa
Hacker & Fibiger, 2007;

Togo
Hacker & Fibiger, 2007;

Burkina Faso
Hacker & Fibiger, 2007;

Mauritania
1 ♂, 1 ♀, Boghè, 28.xii.1966; 24.ix.1967;

Bionomics: Probably multivoltine, collected from November to May.

Prionofrontia ochrosia Hampson, 1926

Prionofrontia ochrosia Hampson, 1926, New Gen. and Spec. of Lepid. (Phal.) of the fam. Noctuidae: 81. L. t.: Sudan: Port Sudan

References: Prionofrontia ochrosia (Hampson, 1926); Prionofrontia ochrosia (Gaede, 1939); Prionofrontia ochrosia (Poole, 1989);

Notes: The taxonomic situation in regard to the specific taxa Prionofrontia ochrosia Hampson, 1926, Proconis arabica Wiltshire, 1949 and Prionofrontia anaerygidia Berio, 1984 has already been discussed by Hacker & Fibiger (2006). The male genitalia of Proconis arabica were figured by Wiltshire (1949, fig. 9) and Hacker & Fibiger (2006, fig. 4). The specimen from Boghè resembles Proconis arabica in the male genitalia and in habitus the figure given by Wiltshire (1990, fig. 395) of Prionofrontia ochrosia Hampson, 1926, while the type specimen of Proconis arabica, shown as fig. 394 seems to be a different species. It seems likely that the type specimen of Proconis arabica is in fact a specimen of Prionofrontia ochrosia. This disturbing situation needs to be solved by the check of all the type material. In Yemen and Oman Prionofrontia ochrosia (which was designated by Wiltshire, 1949, 1990 as arabica) was the only species found (Hacker et al., 2001; Hacker & Fibiger, 2006; Hacker, in litt.). It had already been reported for the Arabian fauna (Aden) by Hampson (1926)

The specimens from Mauritania are described below as a subspecies. They are usually dark suffused, and the male genitalia are slightly different.

Distribution: Afro-eremic; from the Arabian Peninsula in the East to Mauritania in the West.

Saudi Arabia
Wiltshire, 1949; 1980a; 1984; 1990;

Yemen
Hacker, 1999; Hacker et al., 2001; Hacker & Fibiger, 2006;

Oman
Wiltshire, 1984; 1985; 1990;

North Africa
Sudan
Hampson, 1926; Gaede, 1939; Poole, 1989;

Mauritania
Boghè, cf. type material;

Nigeria
cf. type material of subspec. politzari;

Bionomics: Bionomics and early stages are unknown; the larvae of a congeneric species, on Acacia, were bred by Agassiz & Harper (2009) in the Kenyan Rift Valley.

Prionofrontia ochrosia politzari Hacker & Hausmann subspec. nov. (pl. 7, figs 12, 13)

Material
Holotype: ♂, Mauritania, „Mauretanien, Boghe, 26.x.1967 (leg. H. Politzari)“ (ZSM);

Paratypes:

Locus typicus: Mauritania, Boghè

Derivatio nominis: The subspecies is dedicated to its first collector Dr. Heinz Politzari.

Description
Similar to the East African nontypical subspecies; forewing dark brownish-grey suffused so as to obscure the markings, which are thus poorly contrasted and scarcely in evidence. Terminal shading of the hindwing of both sexes broader and more distinct.
Male genitalia (fig. 6a-b)
Similar to those of typical *P. ochrosia*, but posterior half of valva and appendages broader, and the three posterior tips of the valva shorter and broader-based.

**Distribution**
Subspecies *politzari* is so far known from Mauritania and N Nigeria.

**Attatha metaleuca** HAMPSON, 1913 (pl. 7, fig. 10)
*Attatha metaleuca* HAMPSON, 1913, Cat. Lep. Phal. Br. Mus. 13: 11, pl. 222, fig. 4. L. t.: N. Nigeria, Zungeru

**References**: *Attatha metaleuca* (HAMPSON, 1913); *Attatha metaleuca* (GADEE, 1936); *Attatha metaleuca* (POOLE, 1989); *Attatha metaleuca* (WILTSHIRE, 1990);

**Distribution**: Afrotropical-subtropical; known at present from West Africa (Nigeria, Mauritania) and SW Arabia (Saudi Arabia, Yemen), with other unpublished records from Togo, Ivory Coast, Tanzania (HACKER in litt.).

**Leoniloma convergens** HAMPSON, 1926 (pl. 7, fig. 14)
*Leoniloma convergens* HAMPSON, 1926, Descriptions of New Genera and Species of Lepidoptera Phalaenae of the Subfamily Noctuinae in the British Museum: 144. L.t.: Sierra Leone: Batharu

**References**: *Leoniloma convergens* (HAMPSON, 1926); *Leoniloma convergens* (GADEE, 1939); *Leoniloma convergens* (POOLE, 1989); *Leoniloma convergens* (VARI et al., 2002);

**Distribution**: Afrotropical-subtropical; from West to East and South Africa.

**Tathorhynchus exsiccata** (LEDERER, 1855)

**Distribution**: Palearctic (cf. HACKER et al., this volume).

**Melanephia nigrescens** (WALLENGREN, 1856)
*Anophia nigrescens* WALLENGREN, 1856, Anteck. i Zool. Kafferlandets: 64. L. t.: [South Africa] Kafferlandets

**Distribution**: Afrotropical-subtropical (cf. HACKER et al., this volume).

**Sphingomorpha chlorea** (CRAMER, 1777)
*Phalaena chlorea* CRAMER, 1777, Uitl. Kapellen 2: 12. L. t.: Surinam
**Distribution:** Palaeotropical (cf. Hacker et al., this volume).

Mauritania
- Rungs, 1992;
- 4 ♀, Boghé, 10.X.1967; 16.X.1967;

*Cyligramma magus* (Guérin-Ménilville, [1844]) (pl. 7, fig. 15)

_Erebus magus* Guérin-Ménilville, [1844], Icon. Règn. Anim.: 521. L. t.: Madagascar
= *Cyligramma buchholzi* Plotz, 1880, Stett. Ent. Z. 41: 301. L. t.: [Ghana]: Artibut

**References:** Cyligramma magus (Hampson, 1913); Cyligramma magus (Gaebe, 1936); Cyligramma magus (Berio, 1965); Cyligramma magus (Poole, 1989); Cyligramma magus (Rungs, 1992);

**Distribution:** Afrotropical-subtropical; widespread throughout tropical Africa from West Africa to Madagascar (Hampson, 1913; Vari et al., 2002).

North Africa:
- Nigeria
  - Hampson, 1913;
- Mauritania
  - Rungs, 1992;
  - 1 ♀, Boghé, 17.V.1967;

**Bionomics:** Unknown.

*Cyligramma fluctuosa* (Drury, 1773) (pl. 7, fig. 16)

_Phalaena Noctua fluctuosa* Drury, 1773, Ill. Ex. Ins. 2: 24, pl. 14, fig. 1. L. t.: Sierra Leone

**References:** Cyligramma fluctuosa (Hampson, 1913); Cyligramma fluctuosa (Berio, 1965); Cyligramma fluctuosa (Poole, 1989); Cyligramma fluctuosa (Rungs, 1992);

**Distribution:** Afrotropical-subtropical; throughout tropical Africa from West Africa to Madagascar (Hampson, 1913; Vari et al., 2002).

North Africa:
- Sierra Leone
  - Drury, 1773; Hampson, 1913;
- Mauritania
  - Rungs, 1992;
  - 1 ♀, Boghé, 30.IX.1969;

**Bionomics:** Unknown.

**Calliodes pretiosissima** Holland, 1892 (pl. 7, fig. 17)

_Calliodes pretiosissima* Holland, 1892, Entomologist, Suppl. 25: 94. L. t.: [Tanzania] Zanzibar

**References:** Calliodes pretiosissima (Hampson, 1913); Calliodes pretiosissima (Gaebe, 1935); Calliodes pretiosissima (Pinhey, 1975); Calliodes pretiosissima (Poole, 1989);

**Distribution:** Afrotropical-subtropical; throughout tropical-subtropical Subsaharan Africa; not from Madagascar (Hampson, 1913; Pinhey, 1975; Vari et al., 2002; Viette, 1990).

Mauritania
- 1 ♀, Boghé, 26.II.1969;

**Bionomics:** unknown.

**Pantydia spec.**

**Notes:** The specimen from Boghé agrees in habitus with others from Yemen, mentioned by Hacker et al. (1999), Fibiger & Hacker (2001), and figured by Fibiger & Hacker (2006, pl. 4, fig. 19). The male genitalia differ slightly from those of the Arabian specimens (gen. fig. Hacker & Fibiger, fig. 5), but it remains uncertain whether these differences are infraspecific or specific (fig. 7b). The four described species of the genus *Pantydia Guenée, 1852* were discussed by Fibiger & Hacker (2006); there is some indication that the species under consideration is *P. chalciope* (Strand, 1918).
Acantholipes circumdata (Walker, 1858) (pl. 8, fig. 3)


References: Acantholipes circumdataus (Wiltshire, 1948); Acantholipes circumdata (Wiltshire, 1990; 1994); Acantholipes circumdata (Rungs, 1992); Acantholipes circumdata (Hacker, 2001).

Notes: Acantholipes circumdata, together with its synonym vetustalis Walker, [1866], was originally described from "Congo". The name is usually applied to the widespread Saharo-Sindian species which is very common, for instance in the Arabian deserts. It remains uncertain if it is really conspecific with the species described from "Congo" by Walker (1958). This species is rather easy to separate from the much darker A. trimeni Felder & Rogenhofer, 1874 (cf. Pinhey, 1975, pl. 63, fig. 1132), which has an Afro-tropical-subtropical distribution. A thorough global revision of the genus is necessary; the taxon A. circumdata is used here in its traditional sense as proposed by many authors, especially Wiltshire.


Distribution: Saharo-Sindian (eremic), from India and Pakistan through Afghanistan and Iran to the Arabian Peninsula (including its Western part and Yemen) and East Africa (Berio, 1938; 1941; Hacker, 1999; Hacker, 1999; Hampson, 1903; 1916; Leclaire & Wiltshire, 1996; Rebel, 1907; Rebel, 1917; Rothschild, 1921; Wiltshire, 1948; 1951; 1961; 1962; 1964; 1977; 1980; 1990).

Saudi Arabia: Wiltshire, 1980a; 1990;
Yemen: Hampson, 1903; Rebel, 1907; Hacker, 1999; Hacker et al., 2001; Hacker & Fibiger, 2006;
Oman: Wiltshire, 1977b; 1980b;
North Africa:
Niger: Rothschild, 1921;
Egypt: Wiltshire, 1948;
Sudan: Rothschild, 1901; Warren, 1905; Rebel & Zerny, 1917; Kasy, 1963;
Mauritania: Rungs, 1992;

Bionomics: Multivoltine. The early stages were described by Wiltshire (1962). The larva feeds nocturnally on Taverniera spartea.

Oraesia intrusa (Krüger, 1939)


Distribution: Afro-eremic; (cf. Hacker et al., this volume).

Mauritania: Rungs, 1992;

Maxera nigriceps Walker, 1858


Distribution: Afrotropical-subtropical (cf. Hacker et al., this volume).

Mauritania: 1 ♂, Bóghe, 26.ii.1969;
Antarchaea conicephala (Staudinger, 1870) (pl. 8, fig. 1)

Thalpocares conicephala STAUDINGER, 1870, Berl. Ent. Z. 14: 121. L. t.: Spain; Malaga; Macedonia; Persia

References: Raparna conicephala (Warren, 1913); Raparna conicephala (WILTSHERE, 1948); Raparna conicephala (RUNGS, 1982); Antarchaea conicephala (WILTSHERE, 1990; 1994); Antarchaea conicephala (Hacker, 2001);

Distribution: Saharo-Sindian; A. conicephala ranges from southern Spain, Morocco and Mauritania to Sudan, the Arabian Peninsula and Near and Middle East.

Sudan

Yemen 2005

North Africa

Morocco

Egypt

Sudan

Mauritania

Assumed the taxa

Distribution: Early stages and bionomics unknown.

Notes: Figured by Sugi (1982, pl. 219, Fig. 7) and Holloway (2005, pl. 27, fig. 40). Male genitalia (fig. 9a) illustrated by Wiltshire (1977, fig. F), Holloway (2005, pl. 27, fig. 918), female genitalia by Holloway (2005, pl. 27, fig. 916).

Notes: The male genitalia of this Indian species were figured by Bero (1955d). GAEDE (1939) and Pinhey (1975) assumed the taxa rostrata Fabriucus, 1794 and deflorata Gaede 1939 (both described from India and said to occur in Africa) to be conspecific. According to the figures of the male genitalia given by Zimmermann (1958, fig. 330) and Holloway (2005, fig. 250) those of deflorata from Hawaii and Borneo do not correspond to those determined here from Mauritania and Yemen. Holloway (1977) reviewed the taxonomy of deflorata and stated that all subspecies

Gesonia obeditalis Walker, [1859] (pl. 8, fig. 2)


References: Gesonia obeditalis (Sugi, 1982); Gesonia obeditalis (POOL, 1989); Gesonia obeditalis (Holloway, 2005);

Bionomics: Hostplants of the larvae are Poaceae (Gramineae) and Fabaceae (Leguminosae) (Holloway, 2005); habitats are usually open, cultivated and disturbed areas in the lowlands (Holloway, 2005).
are defined by minor differences in the male genitalia; according to him *H. deflorata* occurs in Africa, Sri Lanka, India, China, Australia, the New Hebrides, New Caledonia, Norfolk I., Rotuma I., New Zealand, Fiji, Samoa and Hawaii.

The taxonomic status of the Asian species *H. rostrata*, *H. plumicornis* Guenée, 1852 *H. violacea* Butler, 1879 and *H. bicarta* Walker, 1858 was discussed by Kishida & Yoshimoto (1975); figures of the facies of all species were given by Sugi (1982, pl. 212, figs 15-25) and Haruta (1993, pl. 52, figs 1-4). Kishida & Yoshimoto (1975) and Holloway (1977, fig. 256) figured the male genitalia of *H. violacea* and *H. subsaturata* Guenée, 1852, which are somewhat similar to those of *H. rostrata*.

The species described from African countries are as follows:

- bohemi*n* Wallengren, 1856 (described from "Kaffern" - considered by Berio and Poole as synonym of *H. rostrata*)
- dyadamata A.E. Phout, 1927 (described from Sao Tome)
- florens Mabille, 1879 (described from Madagascar - according to Viette, 1990 in species rank)
- gaedei Berio, 1955 (described from Cameroon - male genitalia figured by Berio, 1955)
- genuina Wallengren, 1856 (described from "Kaffern" [RSA] - considered by Berio and Poole as synonym of *H. rostrata*)
- plumicornis Guenée, 1852 (described from "Cafrerie" [RSA] - considered by Berio and Poole as synonym of *H. rostrata*)
- tenuis Walker, 1866 (described from Sierra Leone)

To bring light in this difficult group it is necessary to check all types originating from the Old World. Presently, one cannot say how many *Hypocala* species occur in Africa, or whether that from Mauritania and Yemen is in fact *H. rostrata*. Male genitalia cf. fig. 1b.

**Distribution:** According to present understanding, *H. rostrata* is a Palearctic-subtropical species which is widespread in Subsaharan Africa, and in most parts of West Africa.

Yemen

North Africa:

Mauritania

2 ♂, Boghé, 30.xi.1966 (gen.prep. H. Hacker 17755♂), 15.xi.1966 (gen.prep. H. Hacker 17757♂);

**Bionomics:** Multivoltine. Larva in India on *Diospyros* sp. (Ebenaceae) (Gardner, 1941; Holloway, 2005), in Fiji and Rotuma on *Pouteria* (Sapotaceae) (Robinson et al., 2001), in Africa on *Royena* (Pinhey, 1975). The biology of was described by Holloway (2005).

**Subfamily Euteliinae**

**Eutelia polychorda** Hampson, 1902 (pl. 8, fig. 4)


**References:** Eutelia polychorda (Hampson, 1912); Eutelia polychorda (Gaebe, 1935); Eutelia polychorda (Pinhey, 1975); Eutelia polychorda (Poole, 1989); Eutelia polychorda (Van et al., 1989);

**Note:** The species group around *E. polychorda* needs a revision, because of its extensive variability and various transitions in habitus between closely related taxa.

**Distribution:** Afrotropical-subtropical; evidently throughout Subsaharan Africa.

Yemen

North Africa:

Nigeria

Burkina Faso

Mauritania

1 ♀, Boghé, 17.IX.1967;

**Bionomics:** Early stages and bionomics unknown.

**Marathyssa cuneata** (Saalmüller, 1891) (pl. 8, fig. 5)

Marathyssa cuneata Saalmüller, 1891, Lepid. Madag.: 258. L. t.: Madagascar: Nossi Be

**References:** Marathyssa cuneata (Hampson, 1912); Marathyssa cuneata (Gaebe, 1935); Marathyssa cuneata (Pinhey, 1975); Marathyssa cuneata (Poole, 1989); Marathyssa cuneata (Van et al., 1989);
**Subfamily Plusiinae**

**Trichoplusia ni** (Hübner, [1803])

**Distribution:** Palaeotropical-subtropical (cf. Hacker et al., this volume).

- **Mauritania:** Rungs, 1992;

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**Argyrogramma signata** (Fabricius, 1775) (pl. 8, fig. 6)
*Noctua signata* Fabricius, 1775, Syst. Ent.: 608. L. t.: India

**References:** Phytometra signata (Hampson, 1913); Phytometra signata (Gaede, 1937); Argyrogramma signata (Behounek & Ronkay, 1989); Argyrogramma signata (Hacker & Schmitz, 1996);

**Distribution:** Palaeotropical-subtropical, widespread in the Subtropics and Tropics of the Old World (Behounek & Ronkay, 1989; Gaede, 1937), as far eastward as Tonga and the Cook Islands (Holloway, 1985).

- **Yemen:** Hacker et al., 1999; Hacker et al., 2001; Hacker & Fibiger, 2006;
- **North Africa:**
  - Macaronesia: Rebel, 1899; 1910; Stertz, 1912; Gaede, 1937; Dufay, 1970; Kitching, 1987; Kobes, 1992; Hacker & Schmitz, 1996; Báez, 1998;
  - Burkina Faso: Behounek & Ronkay, 1989;
  - Ghana: Hampson, 1913;
  - Mauritania: 1♂, Boghé, 11.x.1967;

**Bionomics:** A. signata has been reared in New Guinea from Eucalyptus (Holloway, 1985).

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**Thysanoplusia orichalcea** (Fabricius, 1775)
*Noctua orichalcea* Fabricius, 1775, Syst. Ent.: 607. L. t.: India

**Distribution:** Palaeotropical-subtropical (cf. Hacker et al., this volume).

- **Mauritania:** 2♂♀, 20.xii.1966;

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**Chrysodeixis chalcites** (Esper, [1789])
*Phalaena Noctua chalcites* Esper, [1789]. Die Schmetterlinge in Abbildungen nach der Natur mit Beschreibungen 4/2/1): 447, pl. 141, Noct.62, fig. 3. L. t.: Italy: Mitteres Italien

**Distribution:** Palaeotropical-subtropical (cf. Hacker et al., this volume).

- **Mauritania:** 1♂, Boghé, 15.xi.1966;
Chrysodeixis acuta (Walker, [1858])

Distribution: Palaeotropical-subtropical (cf. Hacker et al., this volume).
Mauritania 1 ♂, Boghé, 10.x.1967;

Abrostola confusa Dufay, 1968 (pl. 8, fig. 7)

References: Abrostola confusa Dufay, 1958e; Abrostola confusa (Poole, 1989); Abrostola confusa (Behounek & Ronkay, 1989);

Notes: The male genitalia were figured by Dufay (1958e, figs 15, 16).

Distribution: Afrotropical-subtropical; reported from Sudan; Nigeria; Kenya; Ethiopia; Mali; Burkina Faso; Guinea (Behounek & Ronkay, 1989).

North Africa:
Sudan Behounek & Ronkay, 1989;
Mali Dufay, 1958e;
Nigeria Behounek & Ronkay, 1989;
Burkina Faso Behounek & Ronkay, 1989;
Mauritania 1 ♂, Boghé, 5.x.1966 (gen.prep. H. Hacker 17719); 1 ♂, Boghé, 20.xii.1966 (gen.prep. H. Hacker 17723);

Bionomics: Early stages and bionomics unknown.

Subfamily Eublemmiinae

Metachrostis quinaria (Moore, 1881) (pl. 8, figs 8, 9)

References: Leptosia quinaria (Warren, 1913); Eublemma quinaria (Gaede, 1935); Metachrostis quinaria (Poole, 1989);

Notes: This species of the African Sahel area was reported by WILTSHIRE (1977) from Sudan (Ed Damer) under the name of the Indian species (determination label by W.H.T. TAMS). The specimens from Ed Damer (gen.prep. H.HACKER 16876♂) (ZSM) match those of the species which occurs in Boghé (gen.prep. H.HACKER 16878♂; 16880♂). The habitus of this species comes close to that of M. sefidi BRANDT, 1938) from Iran, but the male genitalia are different in several characters, including the posterior valva half, which is short and tipped in sefidi, longer and rounded in M. "quinaria"; and the finger-shaped harpe, which is short and broad in M. sefidi, longer and more slender in M. "quinaria". The determination made by WILTSHIRE (1977) was not checked in this context.

One further taxon, M. costiplaga Warren, 1903 (Entomologist 1903: 225, pl. 4, figs. 1, 2), described from Egypt: Wady el Natron, Bir Victoria has a closer resemblance to M. velox (Hübner, [1813]), which occurs in Egypt and the Levante (WILTSHIRE, 1948; HACKER, 2001; Kraichenko et al., 2007). According to WILTSHIRE (determination labels – not published) in Sudan there occurs a second species, M. snelleni Wallemgren, 1975 (described from RSA, Transvaal) as well as M. quinaria. M. snelleni is reported to occur also in Arabia: Taif (HACKER, 1999); it strongly resembles M. velox.

Investigation of the species of the genus Metachrostis Hübner, [1820] have also revealed that European specimens of M. velox (HÜBNER, [1813]) (gen.prep. H.HACKER 16872♂) from S France are not conspecific with the 'so-called' M. velox from Morocco (gen.prep. H.HACKER 16874♂), which was reported in numerous publications under this name from:
- Macaronesia (Calle, 1982; Pinker & Bacallado, 1982; Hacker & Schmitz, 1996; Báez, 1998);
- Morocco (Warren, 1912; Rothschild, 1920; Oberthür, 1922; Prout, 1928; de Joannis, 1931; Reisser, 1933; Draudt, 1934; Zerny, 1935; Lepiney & Mineur, 1932; Jourdan, 1935; Rungs, 1935; 1982);
- Algeria (Hampson, 1910; Warren, 1912; Rothschild, 1914; 1920; Oberthür, 1918; Schwingenschuss, 1930; Draudt, 1934; de Freina, 1986; Speidel & Hassler, 1989);
- Tunisia (de Freina, 1989);
- Libya (Rebel, 1908; Turati & Zanon, 1922; Turati, 1926, 1930; Krüger, 1931; Zavattari, 1934; Draudt, 1934; Poole, 1989; Hacker
et al., 2001);
- Egypt (Wiltshire, 1948).

Therefore a taxonomic revision is needed to sort out the status of the following taxa:
- *griseimargo* *Warren*, 1912 (Novitates Zool. 19: 36, pl. 51, fig. L. t.: Algeria)
- *velocissima* *TURAR*, 1926 (Atti Soc. Ital. Sci. Nat. 65: 48, fig. 10. L. t.: Libya: Cirenaica, Derna)

Figures of the male genitalia: figs 9b-e.

**Distribution**: Provided that the Indian species occurs in Africa, *M. quinaria* has a Saharo-Sindian distribution.
- Yemen  Hampson, 1896 (Aden: Shaik Othman);
- North Africa: Sudan Wiltshire, 1977; Mauritania 1♂, 1♀, Boghé, 9.ii.1966, 6.ix.1967 (gen.prep. H. HACKER 16878♂, 16880♀);

**Bionomics**: Early stages and bionomics unknown.

**Odice spec. 1** (pl. 8, fig. 10)

**Notes**: A specimen from Boghé appears to be of an undescribed species of *Odice* *HÜBNER*, [1823], close to the Palearctic *O. arcuinna* *HÜBNER*, 1790 and *O. blandula* *RAMBUR*, 1858, but lacking the characteristic dark median line of the forewings, which is present in all other *Odice* species, including *O. stygiochroa* (HAMPSH, 1910) from East Africa and *E. mukallai* *FiBiGiER & HACKER*, 2002 from Yemen. Facies and male genitalia of the last two species were figured by *FiBiGiER & HACKER* (2002, pl. 24, figs 1-3, gen. figs 1-4). The Mauritanian specimen is not conspecific with *Eublemma perkea* *ROTSCHiLD*, 1921 (Novitates Zool. 28: 161. L. t.: Niger: Zinder, Damagarim), which has a wingspan of only 11 mm (holotype) and which was collected by H. *POLTZAR* in Burkina Faso: Bobo Dioulasso. There is a second species, *E. dissoluta*, described by *ROTSCHiLD* (1921) from North Nigeria with similarity to *E. syrtensis* (HAMPSH, 1910) and *O. suava* (HÜBNER, 1818), but this large species has a wingspan of 30 to 35 mm. The description of the species from Boghé will follow in a further contribution. Male genitalia cf. fig. 11b.

**Distribution**: Probably Westafro-eremic, so far known from Mauritania, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Togo.
- Mauritania 1♂, Boghé, 10.i.1967 (gen.prep. H. HACKER 17758♂);

**Odice spec. 2**

**Notes**: Probably also undescribed, resembling the preceding species, but smaller, darker, wing uppersides more unicolorous.

**Distribution**: Probably Westafro-eremic, another female discovered from Burkina Faso, Bobo Dioulasso, 17.vi.1977.
- Mauritania 1♀, Boghé, 27.xii.1968;

**Eublemma spec. [*gratissima*]** (pl. 8, fig. 11)

**Notes**: This species is exactly like *E. gratissima* *STAUDINGER*, 1892, which was described from Turkey in facies. *E. gratissima* has an Iranian distribution and is widespread in Asia Minor and the Levante (HACKER, 2001; KRAVCHEIko et al., 2007), eastward to Iraq (SCHAWERDA, 1923; WILTSHiRE, 1957a), Turkmenistan ([ViNSKi & MiatLeuSKi, 1999; PoLTAvSKy et al., 1997-98]), Iran (BRANDT, 1939; 1941; EBER & HACKER, 2002; WILTSHiRE, 1971) and Afghanistan (WILTSHiRE, 1961; 1971). It seems highly unlikely that *E. gratissima* occurs in the Sahel area, but there are numerous *Eublemma* taxa described from North Africa, including the Sahel area, which are not yet sufficiently checked and poorly known, so for the time being these specimens from Mauritania and Gambia cannot be named. Male genitalia cf. fig. 11a.

**Distribution**: ?, Two specimens of this unnamed species are known from Gambia and Mauritania.
Mauritania  1 \\
Gambia  1 \\

Eupsoropsis robertsi (BERIO, 1969) (pl. 8, fig. 12)


References: Eupsoropsis robertsi (BERIO, 1969); Eupsoropsis robertsi (POOLE, 1989); Eupsoropsis robertsi calida (WILTSHIRE, 1990);

Notes: The genus Eupsoropsis BERIO, 1969 was synonymised with Eublemma HÜBNER, [1821] by Fibiger & Hacker (2002). The authors described Eublemma maxima Fibiger & Hacker, 2002 from Yemen (Hadramaut), which is a sister species of E. robertsi from West Africa (pl. 24, figs 9-11; gen.figs 8, 9). Male genitalia of E. robertsi cf. fig. 10a.

Distribution: Afro-eremic; known from Nigeria, Congo, Sudan and Saudi Arabia (ssp. calida) (BERIO, 1969).

Bionomics: Early stages and bionomics unknown.

Eublemma tytrocoides HACKER & HAUSMANN spec. nov. (pl. 8, figs 13, 14)

Material

Holotype: ♂, Mauritania, "Boghé, 10.x.1967" (gen.prep. H. HACKER 16866♂) (leg. H. POLITZAR) (ZSM);


Locus typicus: Mauritania, Boghé

Derivatio nominis: The name of the species is derived from that of the noctuid genus Tytroca WILTSHIRE, 1970 (genotype leucoptera HAMPSON, 1896), which is superficially similar in habitus.

Diagnosis and description

According to the characters given by Fibiger & Hacker (2002), this species belongs to the E. costimacula species group, which includes some of the largest known Eublemma species, such as E. maxima Fibiger & Hacker, 2002 and the preceding species E. robertsi. The male genitalia of these two are extremely similar, but those of the species described here are more different.

Wingspan very variable, from 14.5 to 23.5 mm. Ground colour of forewing a mixture of dark brown and some purple-violet. Pattern and coloration of the forewing upperside rather unusual compared with common Eublemma species: venation relatively strong and usually darkened; antemedian, median, and postmedian fasciae distinct, dark, the last zaggling at the veins; area between median and antemedian fascia usually darkened; basal and subterminal fields often brightened, especially towards the postmedian fascia; fringe pale and dark chequered. Hindwings with indistinct terminal shading, basally slightly brightened, crosslines towards the anal edge indicated, otherwise merged in the ground colour; fringe chequered as in forewing.

Underside of the wings of the ground colour, poorly contrasted; hindwings slightly paler and with a dark blotch at the dorsal margin.

Male genitalia (figs 10 c-d)

Similar to those of E. maxima and E. robertsi, but distinguished by the following respects: