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***Cilix asiatica* O. BANG-HAAS, 1907 new for Europe**

(Lepidoptera, Drepanidae)

by

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Cilix asiatica A. BANG-HAAS, 1907 is a little-known species of the Drepanidae, very similar in external characters to *Cilix glaucata* SCOPOLI, 1763, widely distributed throughout the Western Palaearctic. Both species are well characterized by the structure of their male genitalia (figured at least twice within the last years - see DE FREINA & WITT, 1987 and ZOLOTUHN, 1997). It is postulated, that *C. asiatica* is native from Asia Minor eastwards to Central Asia, reaching from southern and eastern Turkey over Transcaucasia and the Crimea (?) to eastern Afghanistan. It has been considered that in Turkey the species flies sympatric with *C. glaucata* and in Transcaucasia allopatric with *C. glaucata*. *C. asiatica* was not listed in the catalogue of european moths (KARSHOLT & RAZOWSKI, 1996). But as a matter of fact, the distribution of this species is wider and it has been found in many localities of Western Europe (mainly in its southern parts).

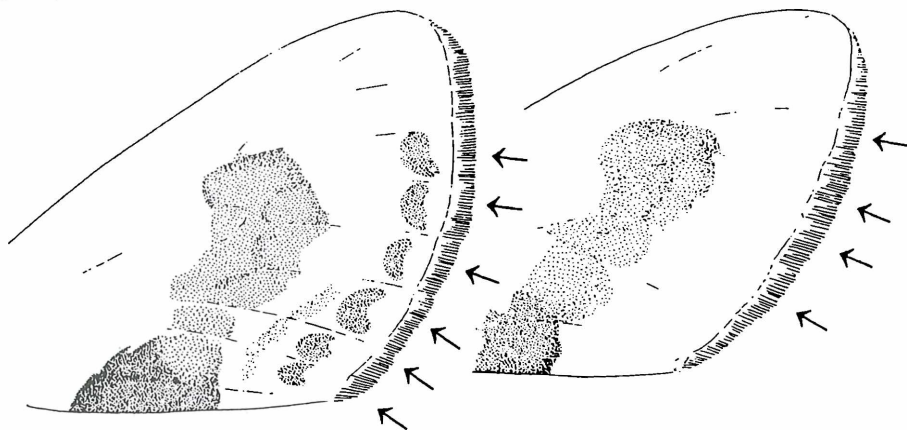


Fig. 1: Scheme of the wing pattern of *Cilix glaucata* (left) and *Cilix asiatica* (right), showing external spots.

Material¹

1 ♀, Creta occid., 150 m, Vrysses, 30.IX.1959 (MWM);

1 ♀, Graecia, Pelep., Zachlorou, 700 m, 23.-31.V.1960, R. LÖBERBAUER (MWM);

¹ The following abbreviations are used in the text:

MWM - Museum THOMAS WITT, München;

ZFMK - Zoologisches Forschungsinstitut und Museum Alexander Koenig, Bonn.

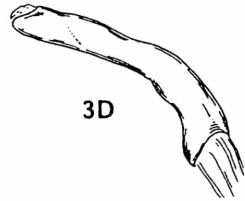
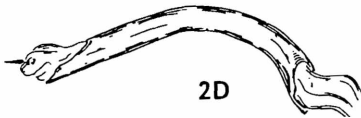
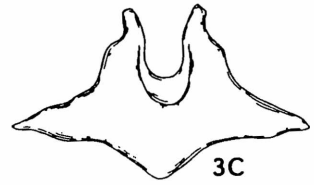
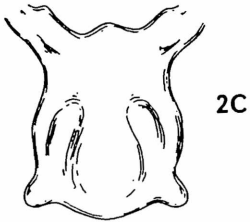
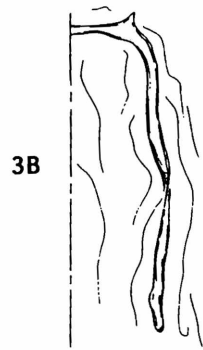
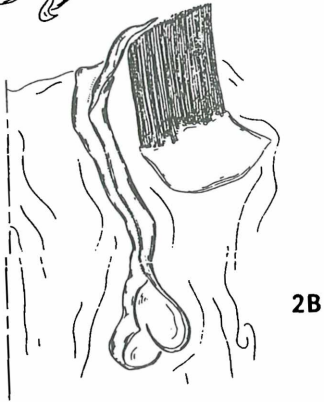
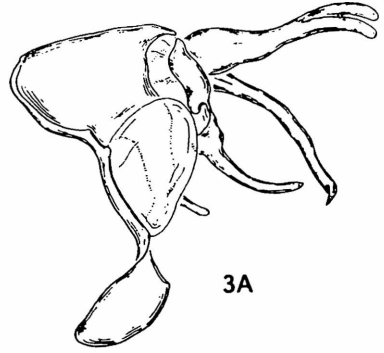
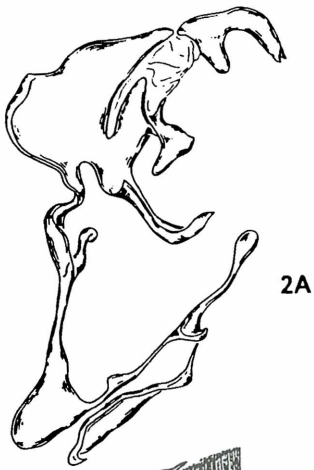


Fig. 2, 3: Male genitalia of *Cilix asiatica* (2) and *Cilix glaucata* (3)
A general side view; B VIII. tergite; C VIII. sternite; D aedeagus.

- 1 ♀, Griechenland, Maratea bei Gythion, 21.-22.IV.1956, leg. FR. BORCHMANN (ZFMK);
1 ♀, Greece sept., Makedonien, Disron Mts., 300 m, Ponto Ferassea, 22.V.1982, leg. G. ΒΕΗΟΥ-
ΝΕΚ (MWM);
1 ♀, Yugoslavia, Mazedonia, Strumica, 11.X.1973, light trap (MWM);
1 ♀, Bulgaria c., Sistov, 2.V.1934, leg. Fuss (MWM).

Thus, the range of the species covers Southern Europe (Greece, Crete, Macedonia, Bulgaria), Turkey (everywhere but more typical in its southern parts), Syria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, ?Crimea (one single specimen), Northern Iran (*asiatica asiatica*); Afghanistan and Western Pakistan (?*asiatica depalpata* STRAND). The real range of *C. asiatica* will be defined more precisely only after all European as well as Central asiatic specimens of *Cilix* will be re-determined. *Cilix asiatica* can be easily distinguished from the similar *C. glaucata* not only by analysis of the male genitalia, but also by peculiarities of wing pattern. Only four distinct grey spots in the external zone of the forewings are typical for *Cilix asiatica*, but at least five spots are found on the forewings of *C. glaucata* (fig. 1). The abdominal tuft of *C. asiatica* is larger, curved, with a distinct silk shining. Without preparation of a genitalia slide, both tips of a bifurcate uncus can be observed under this tuft by *C. glaucata*, whereas the uncus is short conical in *C. asiatica*.

References

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