

## News in the distribution of *Melitaea punica telona* FRUHSTORFER, 1908 in Bulgaria

(Lepidoptera: Nymphalidae)

by

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The range of *Melitaea punica telona* FRUHSTORFER, 1908 comprises Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Transcaucasia, Anatolia and the Balkan Peninsula (HESSELBARTH, VAN OORSCHOT & WAGENER, 1995: (2): 1031).

In Bulgaria it was known from a single locality (ABADJIEV, 1995: 67, footnote). During some revisional work done in the collections of National Museum of Natural History, Sofia (NMNH) and the Institute of Zoology, Sofia (IZS) more material has been found, usually amongst *Melitaea phoebe* ([DENIS & SCHIFFERMÜLLER], 1775) specimens. Additional material has been accumulated from personal collecting also. As a result valuable additions to the distribution of the subspecies in Bulgaria can be added.

Generally *Melitaea punica telona* FRUHSTORFER, 1908 occurs at low and moderate altitudes (0–1000 m) in the regions of Podbalkan Kettles, Struma Valley, Mt Slavyanka, Rhodopi Mts and Strandzha and S Black Sea Coast (fig. 1). In the following account some details concerning the exact localities, specimens, depositories, etc. are given.

### Localities and material examined

[The dates cited here are the same as in the original labels; the abbreviation “[OS]” means old style; for eventual usage (in contemporary phenological studies) of those containing such a suffix 13 days need to be added.]

#### Podbalkan Kettles

35TMH42: Sliven: 22.IV.1910 [OS] 2 ♂♂: P. TSCHORBADJIEV leg.: coll. NMNH (BURESCH & TULESCHKOW, 1929: 201: “*Melitaea phoebe* KNOCH.”; ABADJIEV, 1995: 67: “*Melitaea phoebe phoebe* ([DENIS & SCHIFFERMÜLLER], 1775)”).

#### Struma Valley

34TFL89: Lebnitsa: 24.V.1984 – 1 ♂: J. GANEV leg.: coll. Dr. P. S. WAGENER (ABADJIEV, 1995: 67, footnote: “*Melitaea punica* OBERTHÜR, 1876”).

34TFM72: Kresna Gorge: 15.V.1917 – 1 ♂: [D. ILTSCHEW] leg.; coll. NMNH (BURESCH & TULESCHKOW, 1929: 201: “*Melitaea phoebe* KNOCH.”); Kresna (W): 16.V.1917 1 ♂: D. ILTSCHEW leg.; coll. NMNH.

34TFM73: Stara Kresna: 4–7.VI.1987 – 1 ♂: A. SLIVOV leg.: coll. IZS.

#### Mt. Slavyanka

34TGL08: Petrovska Reka: 20[17].VI.1929 – 1 ♂: K. TULESCHKOW leg.: coll. NMNH (BURESCH & TULESCHKOW, 1929: 201: “*Melitaea phoebe* KNOCH.”).

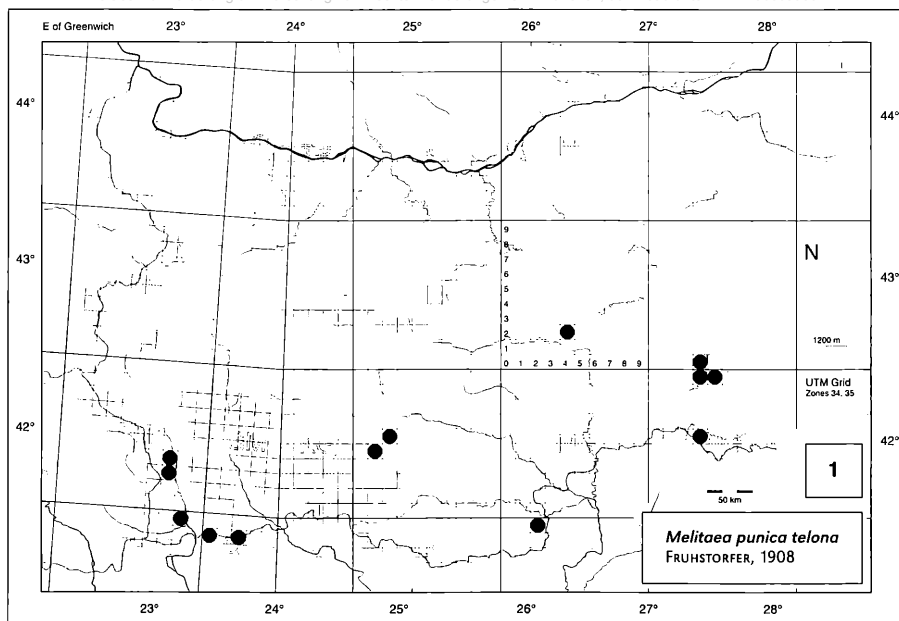


Fig. 1: Provisional distribution map of *Melitaea punica telona* FRUHSTORFER, 1908 in Bulgaria.

34TGL28: Hambar Dere: 1000 m: 22.V.1996 1 ♂: S. ABADJIEV leg. et coll.; Nova Lovcha: 800 m: 23.V.1996 – 2 ♂♂, 1 ♀: S. ABADJIEV leg. et coll.

#### Rhodopi Mts

35TLG14: Narechenski Bani: 5.VII.1915 [OS] – 1 ♂: A. MARKOWITSCH leg.: coll. NMNH.

35TLG25: Asenovgrad: (30.IV.1906 [OS] – 1 ♀; 30.IV.1909 [OS] – 1 ♂, 1 ♀ (BURESCH & TULESCHKOW, 1929: 201: "*Melitaea phoebe* KNOCH.") : I. BURESCH leg.: coll. NMNH.

35TMF29: Ivaylovgrad: (10–12.V.1981 – 2 ♂♂; 13.V.1981 1 ♂, 1 ♀): A. SLIVOV leg.: coll. IZS.

#### Mt. Strandzha and S Black Sea Coast

35TNG35: Kovach: 29–30.V.1984 – 1 ♂: A. SLIVOV leg.: coll. IZS.

35TNG39: Poda: 17.VII.1910 [OS] – 1 ♀: P. TSCHORBADJIEV leg.: coll. NMNH.

35TNG49: Ala Tepe: 18.VII.1910 [OS] – 1 ♀: P. TSCHORBADJIEV leg.: coll. NMNH; Chengene Skele: 8.V.1911 [OS] – 1 ♀: P. TSCHORBADJIEV leg.: coll. NMNH.

35TNH30: Burgas: 12.VI.1912 [OS] – 1 ♂: P. TSCHORBADJIEV leg.: coll. NMNH.

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