

A new Species of the Genus *Hyponephele* MUSCHAMP 1915

from West Iran

(Lepidoptera, Satyridae)

by

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At the determination of specimens of the Butterflies collected in Iran by the Czechoslovak Entomological Expedition (HOBERLANDT, 1974). I have found a small series of six specimens belonging to the genus *Hyponephele* and standing closely to the *Hyponephele lycaon* KUEHN, 1774. It is, however impossible to place the mentioned specimens in the forms and subspecies of the named species, described up to the present time. Morphological characters including the morphology of copulatory organs of the collected specimens are uniform. Wings of these specimens are distinctly brighter and more roundish than in *H. lycaon*, the ground color is dark grayish brown with a golden silk tint and not so monotonous as in *lycaon*. The discal zone and partially the discoidal cell are diffusely but distinctly ochre yellow lucided through. Veins in this lucided part remain darkly covered. The shape of the androconial strip is similar to that of the *lycaon* but it is a little brighter. The black apical ocellus is comparatively small but distinct without white small nucleus. In the cell S2 is a hazy indication of the dark gray small ocellus only. This one may be sometimes absent. The length of the forewing is 22–23 mm.

The hindwings are bright, the edge is almost as undulate as in *H. lupina* COSTA, 1836, fringes are silverish brown-gray, paler than in *lycaon*. There is a tract of darker submarginal band near the edge and this is formed by the continual row of halfmoon sharpless spots. Basal and discal zones are obscured and they are distinctly separated by the darker and undulate border from the paler submarginal zone.

The under side of forewings is sandy orange-yellow, paler than in *lycaon*, the marginal zone, the apex and the outer margin are pale ochre grey, not as grey-brown as in *lycaon* and these parts are slightly powdered in grey. The brown submarginal band is distinct, brighter than in *lycaon* and it diffuses into the discal zone. The apical ocellus is distinct, larger than in *lycaon*, deeply black with a white nucleus. There is usually the second, small but distinct black ocellus without the white nucleus in the cell S2. This ocellus may be sometimes absent (Fig. 1D). The discal band in the median zone is absent or it is very hazily indicated near the apical ocellus only.

The under side of hindwings has the similar ground color as the apex of forewings. The marginal and submarginal zones are diffusely obscured between tor-

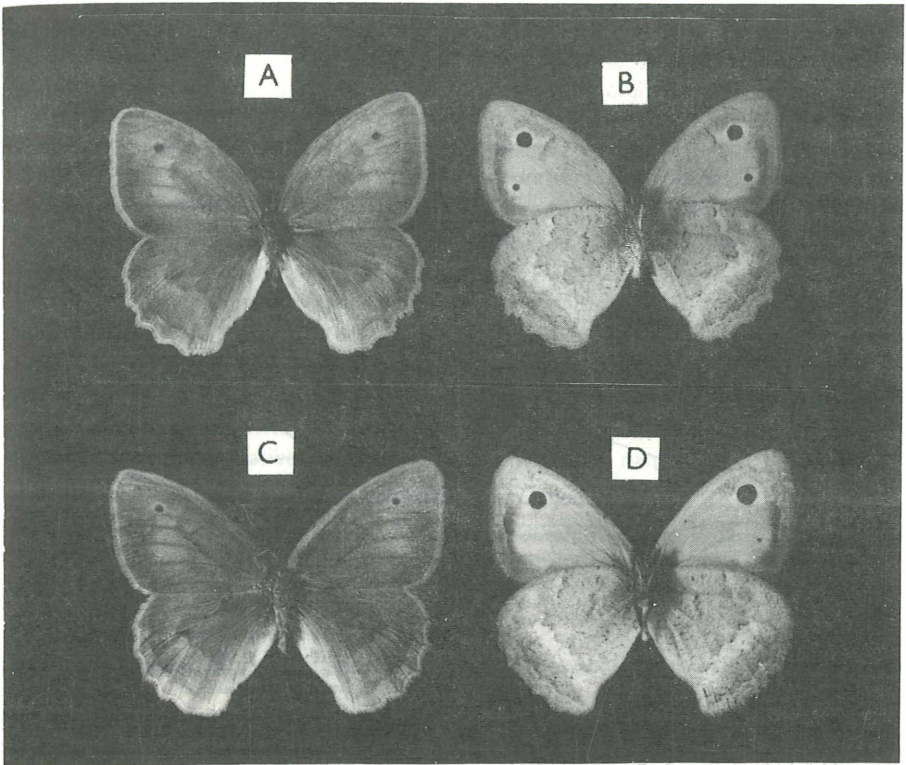


Fig. 1:

- A. Holotype of *Hyponephele lycaonoides* n. spec. (♂)
- B. The under side of the same specimen (A)
- C. Paratype of *Hyponephele lycaonoides* (♂)
- D. The under side of the same species (C)

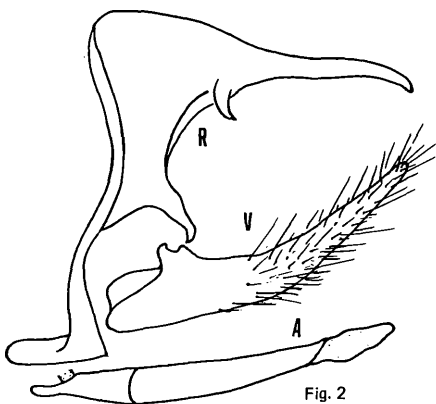


Fig. 2

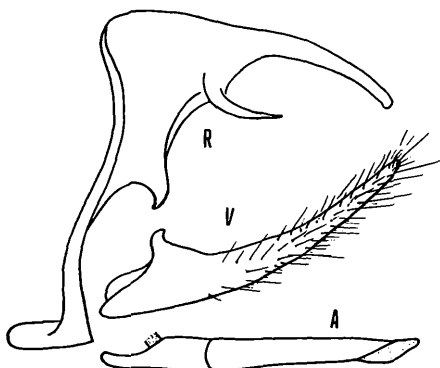


Fig. 3

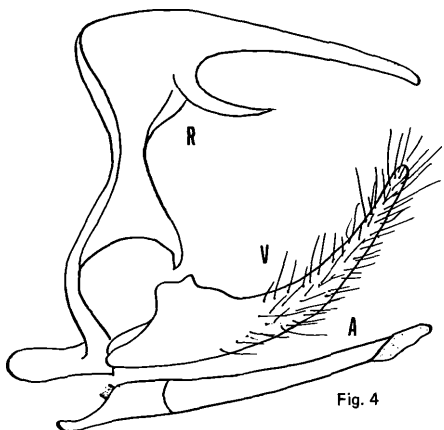


Fig. 4

Fig. 2 Male genitalia of *Hyponephela lycaonoides* n. spec.

R – Lateral aspect of ring
V – Inner aspect of right-hand valva
A – Lateral aspect of aedeagus

Fig. 3 Male genitalia of *Hyponephela lycaon collina* RÖBER, 1897 (Mt. Demavend, 3.600 m, Nord Iran)

R – Lateral aspect of ring
V – Inner aspect of right-hand valva
A – Lateral aspect of aedeagus

Fig. 4 Male genitalia of *Hyponephela lycaon lycaon* (KUEHN, 1774) (Central Bohemia, 150 m, Czechoslovakia)

R – Lateral aspect of ring
V – Inner aspect of right-hand valva
A – Lateral aspect of aedeagus

nus and the vein M₁ (V₆) and within of this part there is a tract of the slightly undulate orange submarginal band and the color of this band is a little covered by the obscured part of the submarginal zone. A little darker discal zone is separated from the basal and from the submarginal parts of the wing by undulate borders of darker yellowbrown color. The color of upper side of wings of the above described specimens is altogether gayer than in the monotonous *lycaon* so that it a little reminds of under side of wings of females of *Hyponephele maroccana* BLACHIER, 1908.

The copulatory organs of the described specimens are very uniform (Fig. 2). Tegumen, valvae und aedeagus are altogether similar as in male genitalia of *lycaon* (Fig. 4) and as in Iranian ssp. *collina* RÖB. (Fig. 3) but brachiae are quite rudimentar in their form and size (Fig. 2), uncus is slightly bent not so stright as in *lycaon* and aedeagus is a little brighter than in *lycaon*.

Regarding the distinct morphological characters of the above described specimens in comparison with the other species of the genus *Hyponephele* I take them to be representatives of a new species with the name

Hyponephele lycaonoides n. spec.

Holotype ♂ (Fig. 1): Marg-e-Malek (32° 29'N, 50° 30'E), 30 km East of Kuhrang 3200 m, Kuhha-ye Zagros (chain of East Zagros mountains) Lorestan, West Iran, 1.VII.1970.

Paratypes 5 ♂♂ (Fig. 1): Same data as holotype.

Holotype and Paratypes are deposited in coll. National Museum in Prag, Czechoslovakia.

No female has been collected.

Habitat: High mountains pastures with growth of *Centaurea*, *Astragalus*, *Paris*.

Mountain stream with stony banks.

Literature

HOBERLANDT, L. (1974): Results of the Czechoslovak-Iranian Entomological Expedition to Iran 1970. — Acta Ent.Mus.Nat.Pragae Supp. 6: 9–20.

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