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Some remarks on the genus *Euproctis* Hübner, [1819] 1816 (Lepidoptera : Lymantriidae)

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Abstract

Euproctis chrysorrhoea (L.) and *E. similis* (Fuess) are compared with the Ethiopian *Euproctis*-complex. Evidence is found that they belong to different genera. Since the generic name *Porthesia* Steph. is invalid a new name is proposed : *Sphrageidus* gen. nov. with type species *S. similis* (Fuess.)

According to several authors (e. g. Pierce 1941, South 1977, Leraut 1980) the genus *Euproctis* Hübner [1819] 1816 comprises two species : *E. chrysorrhoea* (L.) and *E. similis* (Fuess.).

The genitalia of both species show some similarity. In both the male genitalia have a well developed saccus and a single lobed uncus, while the valvae are identical. The juxta and aedoeagus differ clearly. Female genitalia differ more : the pseudopapillae, a pair of fingerlike papillae ventrally between the papillae anales and posterior to the ostium bursae are markedly different. The antrum is also quite different. Both species have a signum on the corpus bursae.

Forster & Wohlfahrt (1960) consider both species under separate genera and retain only *E. chrysorrhoea* (L.) in the genus.

Kozhantchikov (1930) lists five species under the genus *Euproctis* Hübner for the palaearctic region namely *E. chrysorrhoea* (L.) ; *E. similis* (Fuess.) ; *E. karghalica* Moore ; *E. melanica* Staud. ; *E. suzanna* Staud.

Griveaud (1977) in his "Faune de Madagascar" distinguishes three groups of species within the *Euproctis* complex in the Ethiopian region. The first group comprises small species with a yellow-orange anal brush. The front wings have a white brown or slightly yellow ground color ; the second group is only characterized by greater size. The ground color is also white or yellow varying to brown ; the third group comprises medium and big sized species with a yellow ground color and black spots on the front

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wings. The distinction based on external characters is supported by drawings of the genitalia published by GRIVEAUD.

E. similis (FUESS.) (fig. 1, A) belongs to the first group whereas *E. chrysorrhoea* (L.) (fig. 1, D) clearly fits in the second group. The differences are judged sufficient to warrant generic separation.

The type species of *Euproctis* HÜBNER [1819] 1816 is *E. chrysorrhoea* (L.) but the same species was made type species of the genus *Porthesia* STEPHENS, 1828 which invalidates the latter generic name (FLETCHER *et al.*, 1980) and article 25 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature.

Since no other species belonging to the first group has been selected as type species for a genus and *Porthesia* STEPH. being invalid for the reason given above, a new generic name is proposed for these species :

Sphrageidus gen. nov.
(σφραχις : ring)
masculine

Diagnosis : single lobed uncus, simple valvae and well developed saccus ; juxta ring-shaped, aedoeagus with a hook.
Type species : *Sphrageidus similis* (FUESS.) comb. nov.
Other species : *Sphrageidus producta* (WALKER) comb. nov.
Sphrageidus perixesta (COLLENETTE) comb. nov.
Sphrageidus putilla (SAALMÜLLER) comb. nov.
Sphrageidus bipuncta (GRIVEAUD) comb. nov.
Sphrageidus incommoda (BUTLER) comb. nov.
Sphrageidus lemuria (HERING) comb. nov.
Sphrageidus imerina (GRIVEAUD) comb. nov.
Sphrageidus fervida (WALKER) comb. nov.
Sphrageidus brunea (GRIVEAUD) comb. nov.
Sphrageidus turlini (GRIVEAUD) comb. nov.
Relationship : The new genus is closely related to the genus *Euproctis* HBN. but differs from it by his ring-shaped juxta and aedoeagus with a hook.

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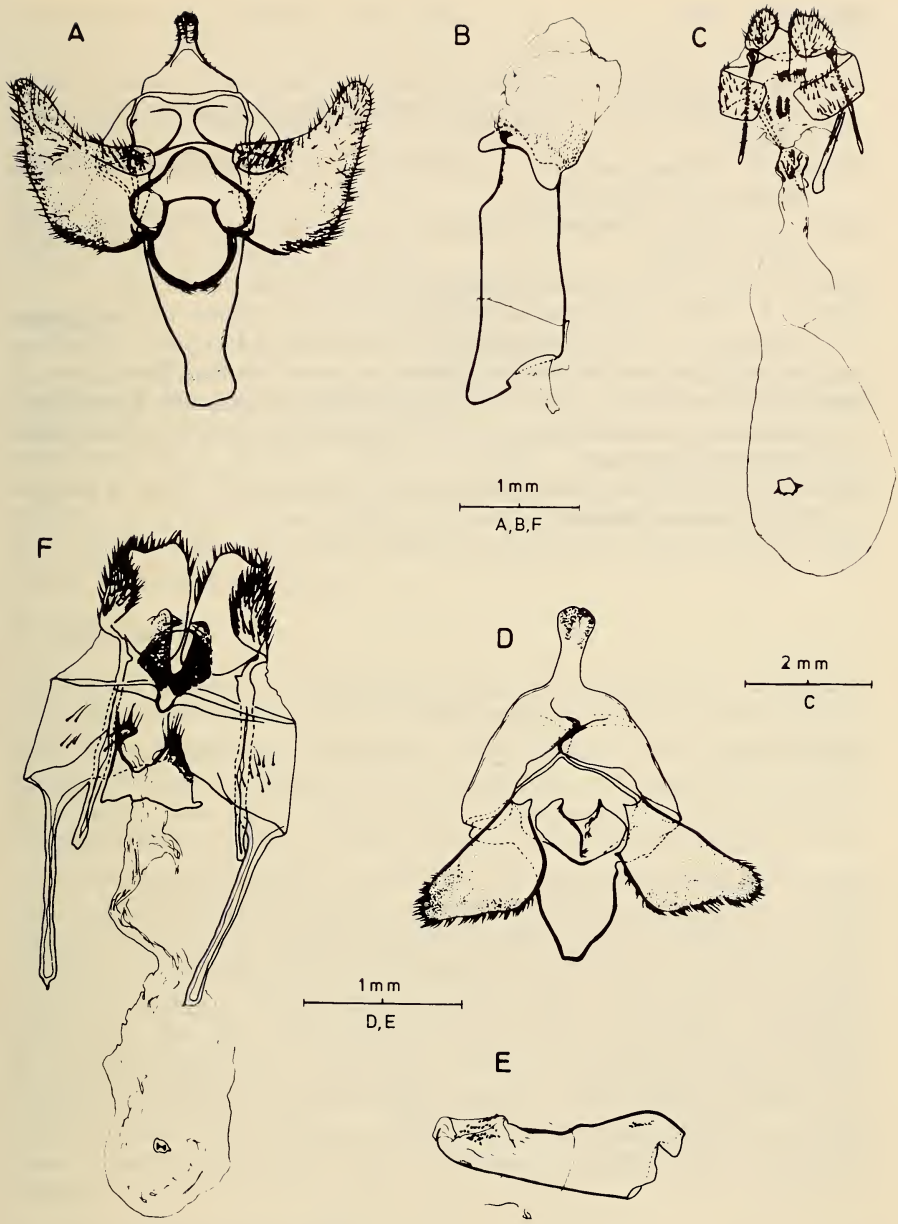

A, B, C : *Sphrageidus similis* (Fuess.) typ. gen. :
A : male genitalia ; B : aedoeagus ; C : female genitalia.
D, E, F : *Euproctis chrysorrhoea* (L.) :
D : male genitalia ; E : aedoeagus ; F : female genitalia.

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