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***Hypena paliscia* (BETHUNE-BAKER, 1911)**
[*Rhynchina*] Comb. Nov. a misinterpreted African deltoid moth
(Lepidoptera: Noctuidae)

By MARTIN LÖDL¹⁾

(With 1 Figure and 1 Plate)

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S u m m a r y

Hypena paliscia (B.B., 1911) is transferred from the genus *Rhynchina* GUENÉE, 1854 to the genus *Hypena* SCHRANK, 1802. Illustrations of the holotype and the male genitalia are given. The relations to allied *Hypena*-species are discussed.

Z u s a m m e n f a s s u n g

Hypena paliscia (B.B., 1911) wird aus der Gattung *Rhynchina* GUENÉE, 1854 in die Gattung *Hypena* SCHRANK, 1802 transferiert. Der Holotypus und das männliche Genitale werden abgebildet. Die verwandtschaftlichen Beziehungen zu anderen *Hypena*-Arten werden diskutiert.

The taxon "*paliscia* BETHUNE-BAKER" was described 1911 as a species of the genus *Rhynchina* GUENÉE, 1854. It belongs undoubtedly to the genus *Hypena* SCHRANK, 1802.

***Hypena paliscia* (BETHUNE-BAKER, 1911)**

New Combination

Plate 1: Figs. 1–2

Material examined:

Holotype: Male: "100 miles N. of Lokoja. N.Nigeria. D.Cator.", "G.T.B.-BAKER Coll. Brit.Mus.1927–360.", "Type", "Noctuidae genitalia slide No.2915"

In British Museum (Natural History)

D i s c u s s i o n :

Hypena paliscia is known only from the holotype. It is placed near *Hypena jussalis* WALKER, [1859]1858.

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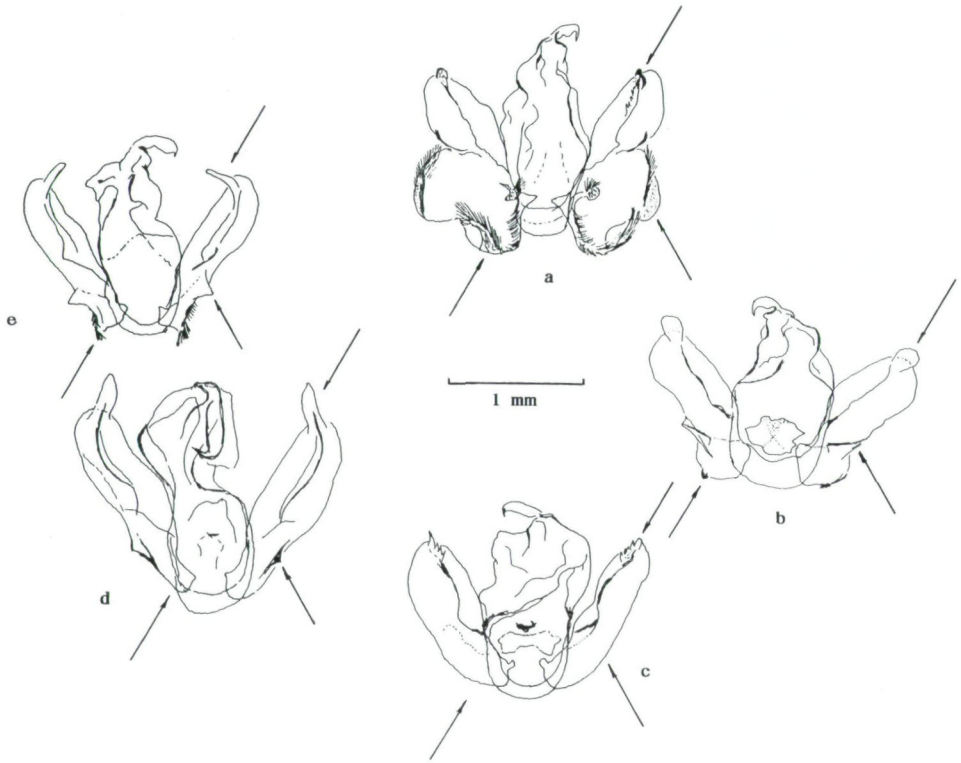


Fig.1: *Hypena* male genitalia in comparison. Aedeagi not illustrated. a) *Hypena paliscia* (BETHUNE-BAKER, 1911) – b) *Hypena jussalis* WALKER, [1859]1858 – c) *Hypena laceratalis* WALKER, [1859]1858 – d) *Hypena albizona* FLETCHER, 1961 – e) *Hypena puncticosta* A.E.PROUT, 1925

(Note: The synonymy of *Hypena jussalis* and *Hypena strigatus* FABRICIUS, 1798, although frequently cited (PINHEY, 1975; POOLE, 1989), is doubtful. Beyond that the doubtful ZELLER-taxa *Hypena commixtalis* ZELLER, 1852 and *Hypena fumidalis* ZELLER, 1852 should be taken into consideration. However, the author was able to study the type of the African *Hypena jussalis* which clearly is the mentioned taxon (namely the sibling species of *Hypena laceratalis* WALKER, [1859]1858) and therefor decided to treat it as “*jussalis*” in the present paper.)

It exhibits clear *Hypena*-characters not only in external morphology but in particular in the male genitalia, e.g. the aedeagus cuff, which is a constitutive feature of *Hypena* s.l.. This spiny tissue primarily seems to be a part of the anellus where the aedeagus is inserted. The vinculum is rounded, the hook shaped uncus is comparatively small and an elongated clasper-fold with distal digitus is present. These features and the quite intricately built sacculus place *Hypena paliscia* most likely near *Hypena jussalis*. The sacculus is much more complex than in most other *Hypena* species but represents with its detailed features a typical synapomorphy. For the present systematic knowledge of the genus *Hypena*, *paliscia* is an important contribution because of its most complicated realization of basically typical *Hypena* genitalia characters.

Fig. 1 sketches different types of *Hypena* male genitalia which are supposed to be closely related to *paliscia*. The aedeagi are not pictured. Parts of relational importance are discretely marked by arrows.

Due to the lack of more comprehensive material the relations to *Hypena biangulatoides* POOLE, 1989 (= *Hypena biangulata* FLETCHER, 1961 preoccupied name) cannot be pointed out in this paper although a detailed study of the palps in particular seems to be advisable.

Acknowledgements

The author is indebted to Mr. M.HONEY (BMNH, London) for his generous assistance.

References

- PINHEY, E.C.G.(1975): Moths of Southern Africa. – Tafelberg, Cape Town, 273 pp.
POOLE, R.W. (1989): Lepidopterorum Catalogus (New Series). Fasc.118 Noctuidae Pt. 1–3. – Brill, Leiden-New York.

Plate explanations

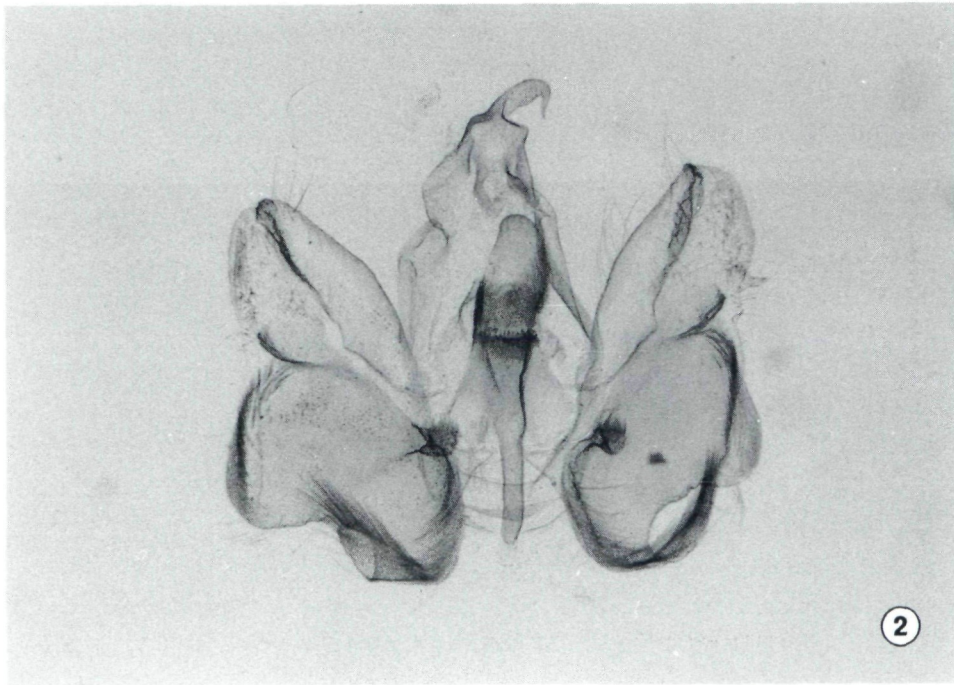
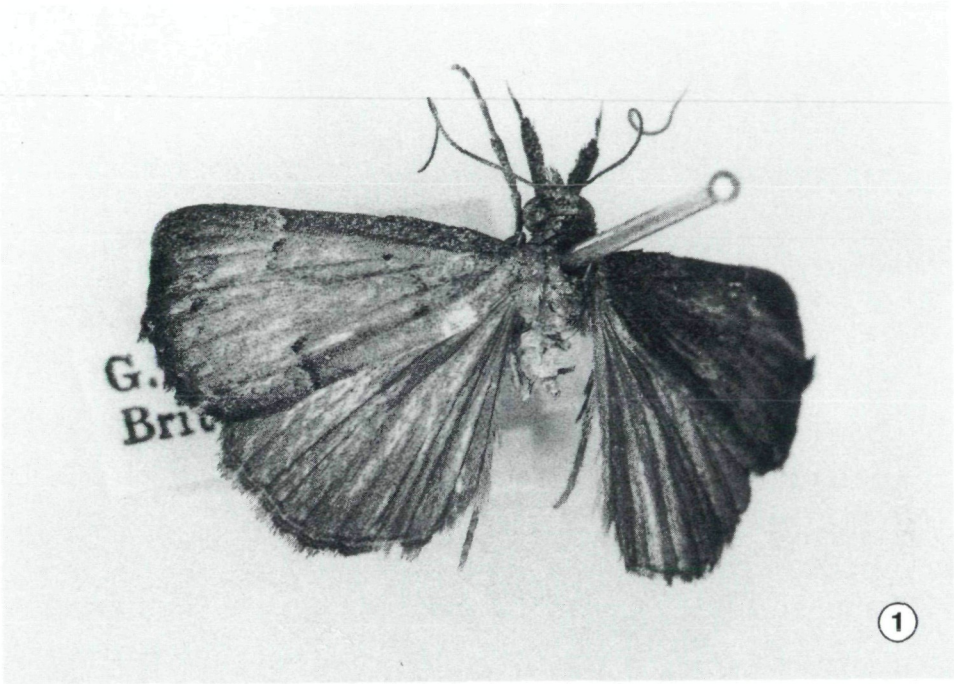
Plate 1

Fig.1: *Hypena paliscia* (BETHUNE-BAKER, 1911) Male, Holotype (Nigeria)(BMNH, London)

Fig.2: *Hypena paliscia* (BETHUNE-BAKER, 1911) Holotype, male genitalia total, aedeagus in situ;
Brit.Mus.gen.slide no.2915 (BMNH, London)

M. LÖDL: *Hypena paliscia* (BETHUNE-BAKER 1991) (*Rhynchina*) Comb. Nov.
a misinterpreted African deltoid moth (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae)

Plate 1



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