

A new species of Lasiocampidae from Tajikistan

(Lepidoptera)

by

VADIM V. ZOLOTUHN & VLADIMIR V. DUBATOLOV

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Summary. *Phylodesma hyssarum* spec. nov. is described from the Hissar Mountains of Tajikistan. The types are kept in the Zoological Museum of Moscow University and in the Institute of Zoology of the Ukraine Academy of Sciences.

A new species of Lasiocampidae from the genus *Phylodesma* HBN. was found in the collection of A. V. TSVETAEV at the Zoological Museum of Moscow University:

Phylodesma hyssarum spec. nov.

Type Material

Holotype ♂: Tajikistan, Hissar mts., Kondara gorge, 11.V.1965, A. TSVETAEV.

Paratypes: 2 ♂♂, 1 ♀, same locality, 11.V.1965, A. TSVETAEV; 7 ♂♂, same locality, 6.-14.VIII.1953, A. TSVETAEV; 3 ♂♂, Hissar mts., Takobskoe gorge, VIII.1951, V. POTOPOLSKIJ. Type series are designated by the red labels of standard sizes and are kept in the Zoological Museum of Moscow University in the collection of A. V. TSVETAEV. 1 ♂, Kondara gorge, 26.V.1980, I. PLUSTSCH, was also investigated as a type but is kept in the Institute of Zoology of the Ukraine Academy of Sciences (Kiev).

Male (1st generation): Head, thorax, abdomen and legs crimson-brown. Forewing length 16-16.5 mm, expanse 26-28 mm. Forewings (fig. 1) crimson-brown with a darker external zone. Central cellula whitish, standing out well on the wing background and bordered by broad dark-grey discal spots. Median bands dark-grey, external grey-brown and consisting of half-moon spots. Adexternal band clearly defined, whitish, continuing distally as teeth on the veins. Hindwings dark crimson-brown with a lighter costal area and a distinct anal patch, trimmed with white. This patch continues as a white dab as far as the radial vein along the distal edge of the central transverse dark-grey band, which curves round to the base of the wing in the region of the medial veins but cliss appear on the background of the anal spot. External edges of both wings wavy; cilia white with dark crimson proximal border. Veins rose-crimson, clearly visible. Venation is typical of the genus.

Male (2nd generation): Body brownish-yellow. Size as with specimens of the first generation. Forewing orange-brown with an indistinctly defined cream adexternal band and blurred median bands. indwings dark brownish with cream anal spot broader than in the first generation's central transverse band; strongly blurred in the region of the distal veins.

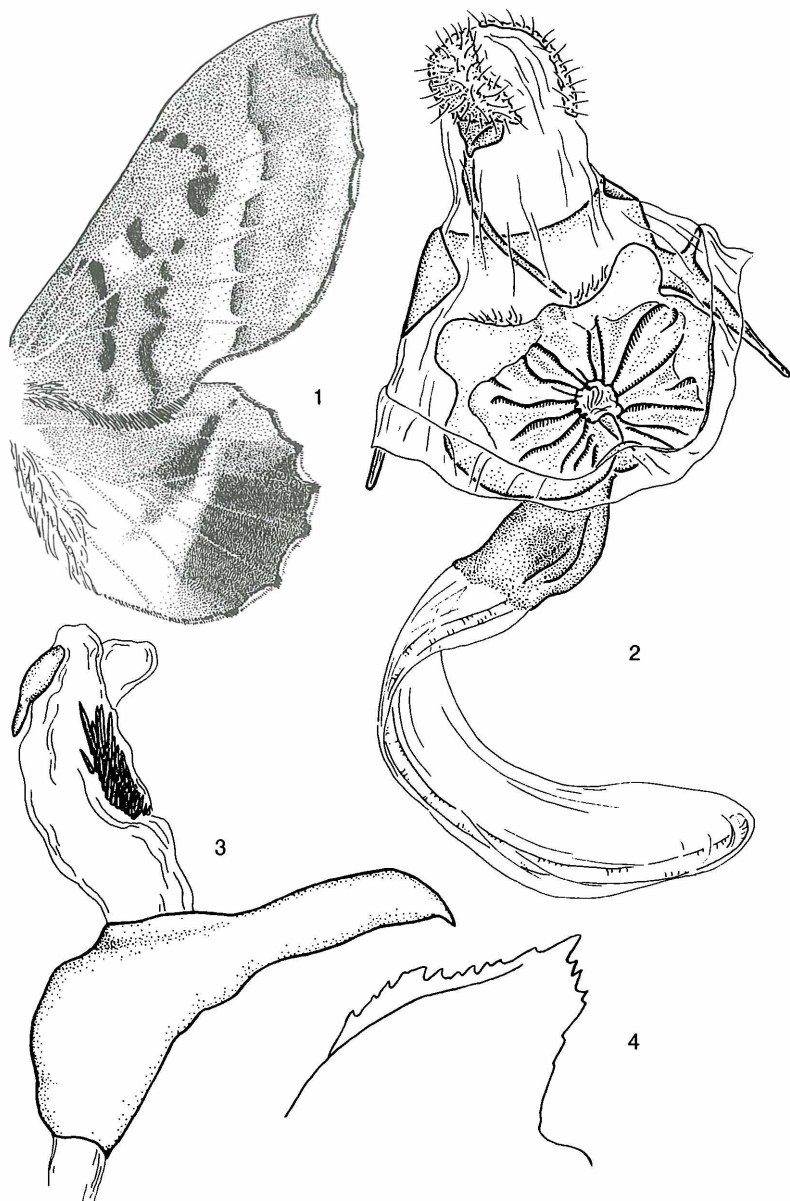


Fig. 1-4: *Phyllodesma hyssarum* spec. nov.; 1 pattern of the wings, 2 female genitalia, 3 aedoeagus, 4 top of the valva.

Male genitalia (fig. 3-4): Top of valva with 3-5 teeth. Aedoeagus with a single upper cornutus and possessing only a lateral compact group of needle-shaped cornuti on the right side of the vesica.

Female (1st generation): Forewing length 21 mm, expanse 30 mm. Colour and pattern as in the males of the first generation but median bands of the forewings wider and central transverse band of the hindwings clearly defined around the anal white spot. The female of the second generation is unknown.

Female genitalia (fig. 2): Anal lobes round and densely haired. Apophysis anteriores significantly shorter than posteriores. Ostium membranous, situated in the centre of the genital plate. Coarse crude folds radiate from the ostium. Distal part of the genital plate is flat. Antrum is not expressed, ductus powerfully sclerotized, flattened and bearing some furrows on its surface.

Remarks

In its external characters this species is similar to *Phyllodesma albofasciatum* BANG-HAAS, which was reduced by LAJONQUIÈRE (1963) in a synonym to *Ph. ambigua* STAUDINGER. DEGTJARJOVA (1973) marked this taxon for Hissar Mountains as *Ph. tremulifolium* ssp. nov. without a precise name. But *Ph. hyssarum* spec. nov. clearly differs from all *Phyllodesma* of the former USSR by possessing only a lateral group of cornuti on the vesica, the form of the aedoeagus and the pattern of the wings.

Range: Middle Asia, Tajikistan: Hissar Mountains (Kondara and Takobscoe Gorges).

Biology: A central-asiatic mountain species flying in two generations: in May-June and in August. The life cycle is unknown. DEGTJARJOVA (1973) cites the feeding of its larvae on *Populus tadshikistanica* KOM.

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Literature

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Adresses of the authors

VADIM V. ZOLOTUHN
University, Entomology Dept.
Universitetskaja 7/9
SU-199034 St.-Petersburg

VLADIMIR V. DUBATOLOV
Biological Institute, Zoomuseum
ul. Frunze 11
SU-630091 Novosibirsk

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