

**Bembecia guesnoni spec. nov.,
a new species of clearwing moth from North India**

(Lepidoptera, Sesiidae)

by

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received

Abstract: A new species *Bembecia guesnoni* spec. nov. is described. All specimens were collected with the help of a pheromone trap on mountain meadows near Ladakh (North India). The newly described species is similar to *Bembecia lasicera* (HAMPSON, 1906).

Bembecia guesnoni spec. nov.
(colour plate XIIIa, fig. 1)

Material: Holotype: ♂, India, Ladakh, Park Terk, 3500m, 20–21.VII.1987, leg. GUESNON, in coll. TOSEVSKI. In total 70 paratypes with same locality and date: 34 ♂♂ in coll. GUESNON (Rennes, France); 31 ♂♂ in coll. PAGES (Rennes, France); 1 ♂ in coll. TOSEVSKI; 2 ♂♂ in coll. SPATENKA (Praha, Czech Republic); 2 ♂♂ in coll. LASTUVKA (Brno, Czech Republic).

Description of holotype. ♂. Alar expanse 17 mm. Antenna black. First and second joint of labial palpus white with individual black scales dorsally, black with bristle long scales ventrally and whitish bristle scales medially; third joint black, with whitish scales anteriorly. Frons whitish grey, with prominent snow white scales posteriorly. Vertex black with blue sheen. Thorax black with yellow axilar spot; patagia shiny black. Fore leg with coxa black with yellowish scales anteriorly; tibia black with few yellow scales; tarsus pale yellow. Hind coxa black, tibia black with lemon yellow medial part, tarsus pale yellow. All three transparent area of fore wing well developed; costal margin dark brown, paler at wing base; Anterior transparent area (ATA) hyaline in outer 2/3; Posterior transparent area (PTA) hyaline in internal 2/3; anal margin lemon yellow; discal spot brown black, narrow lemon yellow across outer margin; external transparent area (ETA) elongated, divided into 4 cells; apical area lemon yellow, as broad as discal spot; outer margin brown black, as broad as 1/2 of length of cilia; cilia brown. Hind wing transparent, discal spot small, triangular shaped, reaching vein M2. Abdomen black with blue sheen; 2nd tergite narrow pale yellow bordered distally, 4th, 6th and 7th tergites with wide pale yellow band distally; anal tuft brown black with group of pale yellow scales medially; abdomen ventrally black, with wide pale yellow bands on 2nd, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th sternites distally; anal tuft ventrally yellow, with black scales medially.

Female unknown.

Variability: mainly in size (alar expanse in type series is 13–22 mm) and intensity of yellow coloured parts of body.

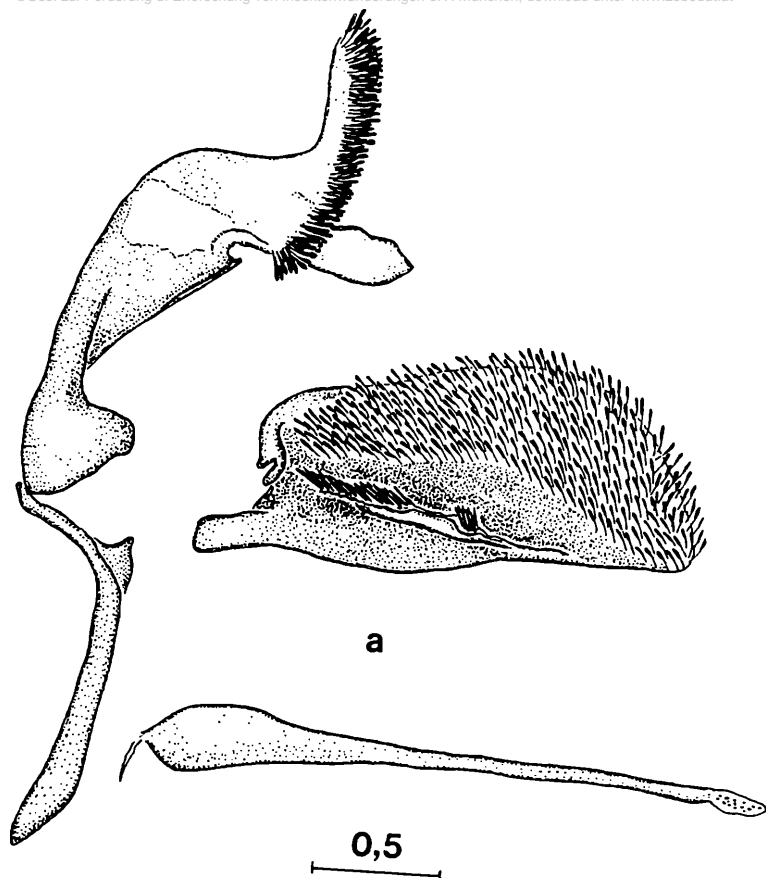


Fig. 1a: Male genitalia of *B. guesnoni* spec. nov., paratype, India, Ladakh, Park Terk, 3500m, 20–21.VII.1987, leg. GUESNON. in coll. TOSEVSKI; b – *B. lasicera*, Tibet, Gyantse, in coll. NHMB, Berlin (Germany).

Genitalia: ♂ (Fig. 1a). Scopula androconialis long, well developed; gnathos very characteristic in shape, with crista lateralis and crista medialis drastically reduced; valva trapezoid in shape, crista sacculi elevated with two distinct and separated groups of setae, obliquely situated, nearly reaching anal margin in caudal 1/3; aedoeagus nearly straight, visibly longer than valva length, distally with about twenty sclerotized formations (cornuti).

Differential diagnosis: *B. guesnoni* spec. nov. is similar to *B. lasicera* (colour plate XIIIa, fig. 2). In *B. lasicera* fore wing is brown, but costal margin is densely covered with pale

yellowish scales and discal spot is in outer 2/3 orange yellow; discal spot of hind wing is brown, nearly rectangular, reaching common stem of M3-Cu1; anal tuft is orange yellow with individual black scales dorsally. In *B. guesnoni* spec. nov., costal margin of fore wing is dark brown, sometimes with some yellowish scales; discal spot of fore wing is brown black with narrow yellow outer margin; discal spot of hind wing is pale brown, small, triangular shaped, reaching vein M2; dorsally, anal tuft is brown black with yellow scales medially. Differences in genital morphology are more visible: in *B. guesnoni* spec. nov. (fig. 1a) crista lateralis and crista medialis of gnathos are reduced and practically missing, while in *B. lasicera* gnathos has both crista well developed (fig. 1b).

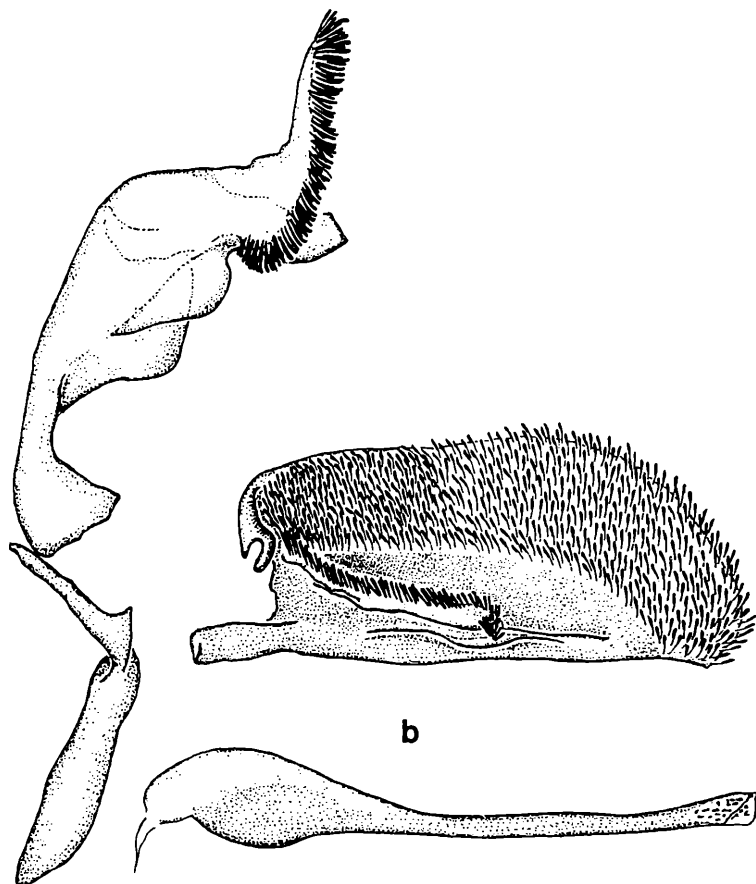


Fig. 1b: Male genitalia of *B. lasicera*, Tibet, Gyantse, in coll. NHMB, Berlin (Germany).

Bionomy and habitat: All specimens were caught by pheromone trap at mountain meadows near Ladakh at 3500m. Host plant is unknown.

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Literature

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HAMPSON, G. F. (1919): A classification of the Aegeriidae of the Oriental and Ethiopian Regions. – Novitates Zoologicae 26:46–119.

Explanation of colour plate XIIIa (p. 443)

Fig. 1: *Bembecia guesnoni* spec. nov., paratype ♂, India, Ladakh, Park Terk, 3500m, 20–21.VII.1987, leg. GUESNON.

Fig. 2: *Bembecia lasicera* ♀, Samada, 20.VI.39, Exp. SCHÄFER.

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Colour plate XIIIa

SPATENKA, K. & I. TOSEVSKI: *Bembecia guesnoni* spec. nov., a new species of clearwing moth from North India (Lepidoptera, Sesiidae). – *Atalanta* **25**(1/2):313–316.

Fig. 1: *Bembecia guesnoni* spec. nov., paratype ♂, India, Ladakh, Park Terk, 3500m, 20–21.VII.1987, leg. GUESNON.

Fig. 2: *Bembecia lasicera* ♀, Samada, 20.VI.39, Exp. SCHÄFER.

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Colour plate XIIIb

GORBUNOV, O., BUDA, V., MOZURAITIS, R. & J. MIATLEUSKI: A new species of clearwing moth from the Far East of Russia and its sex attractant (Lepidoptera, Sesiidae). *Atalanta* **25**(1/2):307–311.

Fig. 1: *Synanthedon cerskisi* spec. nov., holotype ♂

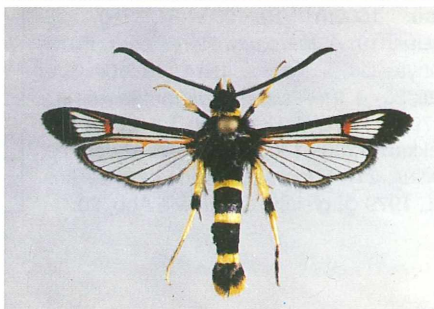
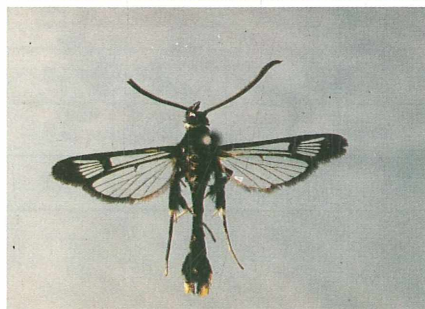
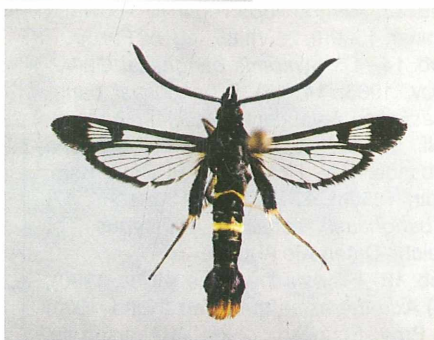
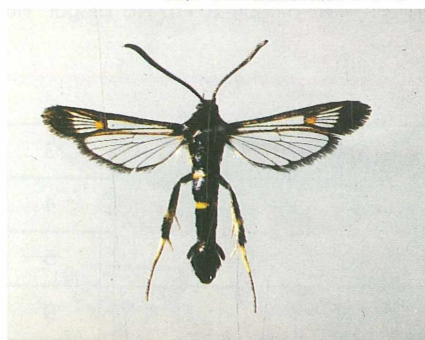
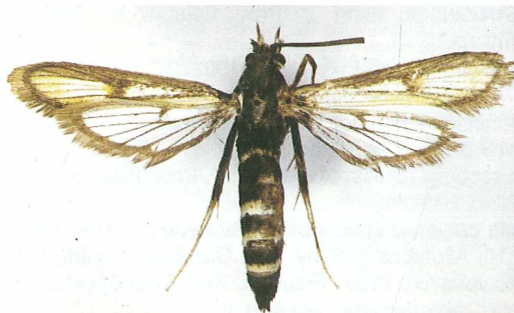
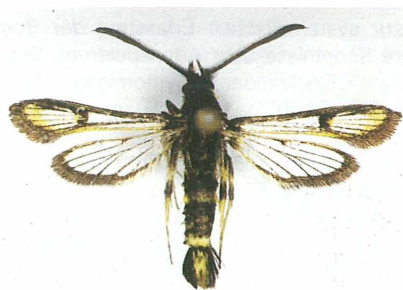
Fig. 2: *Synanthedon andrenaeforme* (LASPEYRES, 1801), ♂, Slovakia, 1981, ex l., Z. LASTUVKA leg. (CG).

Fig. 3: *Synanthedon ulmicolum* YANG & WANG, 1989, ♂, Far East of Russia, Ussuri region, Spask distr., Jakovlevka, 26.VII.1926, DIAKONOV, FILIPJEV leg. (CG).

Fig. 4: *Synanthedon tosevsii* SPATENKA, 1987, ♂, Kirgizstan, Sarykamys Mts., 2000m, 41°55'N, 74°03'E, 24. – 26.VII.1993, O. GORBUNOV leg. (CG).

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Colour plate XIIIa/b



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