

***Satyrium giacomazzo* spec. nov. from Shaanxi, China**

(Lepidoptera, Lycaenidae, Theclinae)

by

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Summary: *Satyrium giacomazzo* spec. nov. is described from Shaanxi, China. The wing underside of the new species has characters not found in any known species of the genus *Satyrium* SCUDDER, 1876. The male genitalia on the contrary are typical of this genus.

Introduction

The butterfly fauna of the mountain area extending from Southern Shaanxi and Southern Gansu to North-Western Sichuan is one of the most interesting and less studied in all the Palearctic region. In recent years many new species of Lycaenidae, subfamily Theclinae, have been described from this region (FUJIOKA, 1992, 1994; KOIWAYA, 1993; SUGIYAMA, 1992, 1993, 1994a, 1994b; BOZANO, 1993). Nevertheless almost every collecting expedition in that area continues to bring to the light previously unrecorded taxa. In spite of the dense population and of the heavy agricultural exploitation and deforestation, there are still beautiful and well preserved spots hosting, even if very close to each other, an extraordinary variety of different species, among which the Theclinae are possibly the most localised and scarce in quantity.

***Satyrium giacomazzo* spec. nov.**

Holotype ♂: Hu Xian 50 km South, mt. 1300, Qin Ling mountains, Shaanxi, China, 21.V.1995. Deposited in the Museum A. Koenig, Bonn, Germany.

Paratypes: 10 ♂♂ and 5 ♀♀, same locality and date, in coll. E. GIACOMAZZO, Venice, Italy; 1 ♂, same locality and date, in coll. G. C. BOZANO, Milan, Italy.

Distribution

Satyrium giacomazzo is known so far only from the type locality.

Etymology

The new species is dedicated to Mr. ENZO GIACOMAZZO who first collected it.

Description

Eyes hairy. Wingspan 26–27 mm. Tail white-tipped, very long and slender.

Male upperside (colour plate VIIb, fig. 1): uniformly dark brown; fringes white; sex brand absent; hindwing with a white submarginal line from the anal angle up to one third of the outer margin.

Female upperside (colour plate VIIb, fig. 2): same as the male, with a vestigial orange discal flush on the forewing.

Underside, male and female (colour plate VIIb, figs. 3a and 3b): ground colour grey with greenish reflections, a black narrow marginal line, bordered inwardly white, along all the wings; forewing with a white stripe at the end of the cell; a postmedian white stripe bordered black inwardly; a white submarginal line becoming obsolete towards the apex, bordered black outwardly; hindwing with a white stripe at the end of the cell; a postmedian white stripe forming a W before terminating at the abdominal margin; a white submarginal line; an orange band becoming obsolete on the upper half of the pre-marginal area, including a series of spots, the one in space 1c being blue and the following black; anal lobe black.

Male genitalia (fig. 4): valvae small, basally joined together, appearing in ventral view enclosed within the vinculum; falces long and slender; penis with two dense cornuti and a third less dense ventral cornutum.

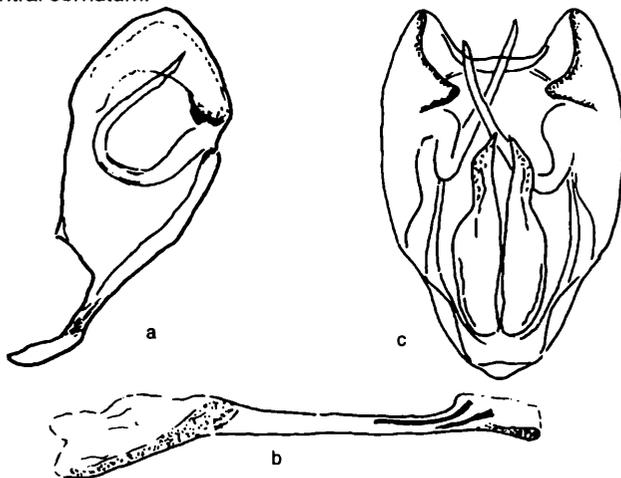


Fig. 4: *Satyrium giacomazzo*, male genitalia, a: lateral view, aedeagus removed; b: aedeagus; c: postero-ventral view

Diagnosis

The new species is quite different from any other known taxon of the genus *Satyrium* or allied genera. Some similarity exists with *S. austrina* MURAYAMA, 1943, *S. patrius* LEECH, 1891 and *S. esakii* SHIRÔZU, 1941 (D'ABRERA, 1993; LEECH, 1892–1894; SHIRÔZU, 1960). The following characters make it very easy the identification of *S. giacomazzo* (Fig. 5):

1. underside white line at the end of the cell in both wings, not present in any Palearctic species of the genus *Satyrium*, except in *S. redae* BOZANO, 1993,
2. upper hindwing white submarginal line at the anal angle, not present in any Palearctic species of the genus *Satyrium*,
3. underside ground colour greenish-grey.

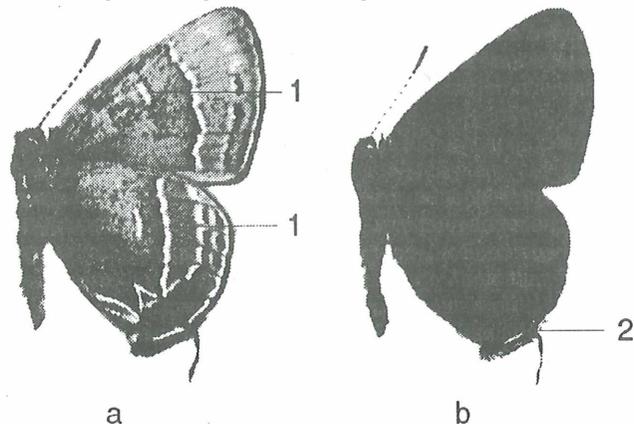


Fig. 5: *Satyrium giacomazzo*, a: underside, b: upperside.

Discussion

The external characters of *S. giacomazzo* show two features (points 1 and 2 above) unusual for the genus *Satyrium*.

Nevertheless the male genitalia are in total agreement with those of all the species that have been included by various authors in the genera *Satyrium*, *Nordmannia* TUTT, 1907 and *Strymonidia* TUTT, 1908.

The author joins the position of CLENCH (1979) and of KAABER & SKULE (1985), who acknowledge *Satyrium* as the only valid generic name for all that group of species.

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Explanation of colour plate VIIb (p. 463):

1	2
3a	3b

Fig. 1: *Satyrium giacomazzo*, male upperside x 2, Holotype Hu Xian 50 Km South, m. 1300, Qin Ling Mts., Shaanxi, 21.V.1995

Fig. 2: *Satyrium giacomazzo*, female upperside x 2, Paratype same data as Holotype

Fig. 3: *Satyrium giacomazzo*, underside x 2, a: male, Holotype; b female, Paratype
Black/white in the text.

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