

Four butterfly species to be excluded from the Estonian fauna

(Lepidoptera, Rhopalocera)

by

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In 1995 two catalogues concerning Lepidoptera were issued in Estonia (LUIG & KESKÜLA, 1995; VIIDALEPP, 1995). Four species mentioned in them are expedient to be excluded from further listing by certain reasons. Three of them have never been found here evidently and the other one has been included by mistake.

1. *Parnassius apollo* (LINNAEUS, 1758) (LUIG & KESKÜLA, 1995: 61)

The species was mentioned by G. v. REHEKAMPFF in his manuscript (REHEKAMPFF, 1937), whose dates inform us the species founding place being Koltz (= Koltsi) village in Saaremaa in 1895 (leg. COULIN). As the specimen is not present in any collection and new findings are missing up to now, it is reasonable to exclude it from lists of the current fauna. Yet, the possibility of *P. apollo* to drap here from Finland or Gotland carried by fair winds is theoretically probable. The foodplant of larvae *Sedum album* LINNAEUS grows on Saaremaa.

2. *Polyommatus dorylas* ([DENIS & SCHIFFERMÜLLER], 1775) (= *corydon* ESP.) (VIIDALEPP, 1995: 25, sp. No 156)

This species was included by mistake instead of species *P. coridon* (PODA, 1761). The listing in this part was based on the list of Swedish Lepidoptera (SVENSSON et al., 1987). In Sweden the species *P. dorylas* is really present but the species *P. coridon* is absent.

As for synonyms: *P. dorylas* ([D. & S.], 1775) = *argester* BERGSTRÄSSER, [1779], = *hylas* ESPER, 1793 nec LINNAEUS, 1758 and *P. coridon* (PODA, 1761) = *corydon* [DENIS & SCHIFFERMÜLLER], 1775 nec SCOPOLI, 1763, = *corydonis* BERGSTRÄSSER, [1779].

3. *Argynnis pandora* ([DENIS & SCHIFFERMÜLLER], 1775) (LUIG & KESKÜLA, 1995: 62; VIIDALEPP, 1995: 22, sp. No 92)

Three specimens were truly present in the collection of the Institute of Zoology and Botany of the Estonian Agriculture University in Tartu and according to their labels have been caught by E. BRUHL in 1937 in Aegviidu. The specimens were noted to be absolutely correct and safe.

Although, in literature (HENSLE, 1995) the species *A. pandora* is noted as a possible migratory butterfly, it is impossible all the specimens could be not broken and caught in a very short period of time from the same place. The possibility the specimens could be loaded in Estonia is doubtful for *A. pandora* has two generations in only subtropical regions (coast of Caucasia, southern coast of Crimea, Mediterranean countries). Even in Crimea steppes *A. pandora* has only one generation (NEKRUTENKO, 1985). It is impossible the first generation could be hatched in the middle of August out of last year laid eggs. Our winters are too rough.

The species *A. pandora* should be excluded of lists for evidently we have to deal with a mistake on the labels, wrong labels or intentional falsification.

4. *Erebia medusa* ([DENIS & SCHIFFERMÜLLER], 1775) (LUIG & KESKÜLA, 1995: 63)

In the collection of the Institute of Zoology and Botany of the Estonian Agriculture University in Tartu there is a specimen with the label "Rappin" (= Räpina), caught in the 19th century. As the species is missing in Baltic countries and the nearest place of finding is Mid-Poland, it is reasonable to exclude it from the list of Estonian insects. The label of the specimen is likely a mistake.

Literature

- HENSLE, J. (1995): Ist *Pandoriana pandora* ([DENIS & SCHIFFERMÜLLER], 1775) ein Wanderfalter? (Lepidoptera, Nymphalidae). – *Atalanta* **26** (1–2): 121–122.
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