

## Two new species of Nymphalidae (Satyrinae) from Vietnam

(Lepidoptera, Rhopalocera)

by

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**Summary:** Two new species of Satyrinae representing the genera *Lethe* and *Elymnias* are described and illustrated. The new species of *Elymnias* is similar to *E. casiphone saueri* and the new species of *Lethe* reveals resemblance to the species belonging to the *lanaris*-group.

*Elymnias saola* spec. nov.

(colour plate IIa, figs. 1, 2)

Holotype ♂: Central Vietnam, Nghe An Province, Pu Mat Nature Reserve, secondary forest, 24.IX.1998, QUANG leg.

Paratypes: 1 ♂, the same label as the holotype; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, the same locality as the holotype, 25.VI.1998; 2 ♂♂, the same locality as the holotype, 14.VII.1998; 3 ♂♂, the same locality as the holotype, 25.VIII.1998, 1500 m; 1 ♂, the same locality as the holotype, 09.IX.1998, all specimens QUANG leg.; 1 ♂, Central Vietnam, Thanh Hoa Province, Xuan Lien Nature Reserve, 29.X.1998, A. MONASTYRSKII leg., 500 m, evergreen forest.

The holotype and one paratype are deposited in the collection of The Natural History Museum, London, UK. Two paratypes are deposited in the Toyosato Museum of Entomology, Tsukuba, Japan. Other paratypes are in the collection of the Department of Entomology, Moscow State University, Russia.

### Description

Male (col. pl. IIa, figs. 1, 2)

Upperside. Forewing: ground colour deep shiny blue; the series of submarginal spots bright shiny blue; the marginal border shiny blue, darker than submarginal spots but much paler than the rest of the wing; the marginal border serrate with a larger tooth at vein 3. Hindwing: ground colour is dark uniform brown with large shiny blue submarginal spots in spaces 2 and 3 and small shapeless submarginal spots in spaces 4 and 5; the marginal border is dentate with a tail-like tooth arising from vein 4. The oval brand inside the cell is whitish creamy and overlaid by a brown hair tuft; another smaller hair tuft is located at the base of the cell; a black oval brand at the origin of space 7 (fig. 1).

Underside. Ground colour of both wings is brown and irregularly blotchy with dark brown and black colour; forewing with nacreous area along dorsum and extending to space 1b.

Length of the forewing 35.0, 35.5, 38.0, 36.0, 36.0, 35.0, 38.5, 38.5, 38.5, 37.5 mm (x = 36.9 mm).

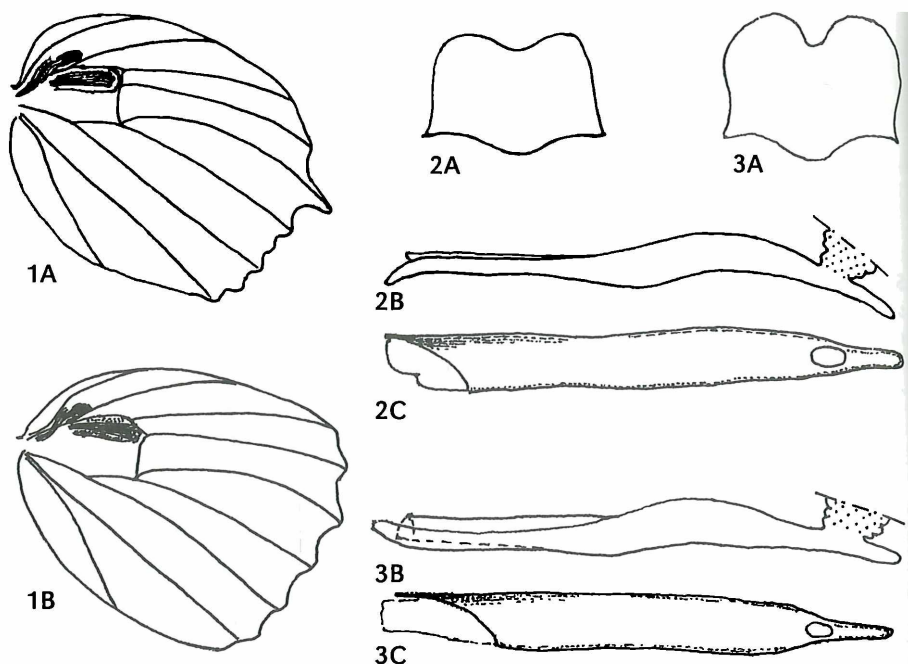


Fig. 1: Hindwing sexual brand in *Elymnias saola* (A) and *Elymnias casiphone* (B).

Figs. 2, 3: Genitalia of 2. *Elymnias casiphone saueri*; 3. *Elymnias saola*.

A – juxta in ventral view; B – aedeagus in lateral view; C – aedeagus in dorsal view.

#### Male genitalia (fig. 3).

The general pattern of the armature including the ring, tegumen, uncus, clasps, socium and saccus are somewhat similar to that of *casiphone saueri* from N. and C. Vietnam, however the juxta (figs. 2A, 3A) and the apex of the aedeagus in lateral and dorsal views have different shape (figs. 2B, C; 3B, C).

#### Female

The female is slightly larger; the pattern in both sides of the wings is very similar to that of the male, however ground colour is much paler (pale brown). There is a single specimen in rather damaged condition.

Length of the forewing 40 mm.

#### Discussion

Generally the new species is most similar to *Elymnias casiphone saueri* distributed from E. Burma and Tenasserim through Thailand to Indo-China and the Malay Peninsula. However the latter species has a series of distinct characteristics: more elongated shape of the forewing

and a single shiny blue spot at the origin of space 3; hindwing is uniformly brown without submarginal spots; the border of both wings is not serrate and the oval brand in the cell on the hindwing has dark colour. At the same time both species have very similar irregularly blotchy pattern on the underside of both wings. A similar kind of pattern can be seen in other subspecies of *E. casiphone* and also in *E. nelsoni* from the Philippines, *E. amoena* from Sumba; *E. harterti* from the Malay Peninsula and W. Borneo. It is possible that *E. casiphone saueri* and *E. saola* fly at the same sites in Vietnam.

*Lethe huongii* spec. nov.  
(colour plate 11a, figs. 3, 4)

Holotype ♀: N. Vietnam, Lang Son Province, Huu Lien Nature Reserve, 15.VIII.2000, ROB SHORE leg. (Frontier/Vietnam). Secondary evergreen forest on limestone. The holotype is deposited in the collection of The Natural History Museum, London.

Description

Male is unknown.

Female (col. pl. 11a, figs. 3, 4)

Upperside. Forewing: ground colour brown; apical and marginal areas paler than discal and basal; wide white postdiscal band extends from the costal edge to the tornus; the inner border of the band is very distinct from space 2 to costa; the outer border is diffused; inner and outer borders of the band converge at costa and tornus; veins crossing the band are dark; there are obscure black submarginal spots in spaces 4 and 5. Hindwing: ground colour uniform brown with a series of black submarginal spots in spaces 2–6; the spot in space 2 is much larger than others, white pupilled and surrounded by an obscure yellow ring.

Underside. Forewing: ground colour brown, paler than the upperside; the cell with a single dark bar slightly curved towards the end of cell; a series of more or less equal submarginal spots extends from space 2 to space 6; all spots are black, pupilled by white and ringed by yellow; all of them more or less in line, crossing the white postdiscal band in spaces 2 and 3; the inner border of the white band against the cell and the dark bar inside the cell are at the same distance from the cell end. Hindwing: ground colour brown, similar to the forewing; two dark fasciae cross the wing from costa to tornus; a series of black and unpupilled submarginal spots extends from space 1b to 6 and shows similarity to many other *Lethe* species, however in space 1b there is a single unpupilled ocellus while in most other species the ocellus in space 1b is double-centred.

Length of the forewing: 37.0 mm.

Discussion

According to the classification by LESSE (1957) based on male genitalia features, the new species reveals similarity to the females of some species belonging to the *minerva*-group (FABRICIUS) (*L. philemon* FRUHSTORFER, 1902, *L. philesana* MONASTYRSKII & DEVYATKIN, 2000 and *L. philesanoides* MONASTYRSKII & DEVYATKIN, 2003) and to the *lanaris*-group (BUTLER) (*L. lanaris* BUTLER, 1877, *L. naga* DOHERTY, 1889 and *L. helena* LEECH, 1891). All of them demonstrate an external similarity. Table 1 shows the results of the wing pattern comparisons between the females belonging to these two groups.

Table 1

Characteristics	<i>minerva</i> -group	<i>lanaris</i> -group	new species
Underside of the forewing with a single dark bar in cell		<i>L. lanaris</i> ♀ <i>L. helena</i> ♀ <i>L. naga</i> ♀	<i>L. huongii</i> ♀
Underside of the forewing with two dark bars in cell	<i>L. philesana</i> ♀ <i>L. philemon</i> ♀ <i>L. philesanoides</i> ♀		
All submarginal ocelli on the forewing underside more or less equal and in line		<i>L. lanaris</i> ♀ <i>L. helena</i> ♀ <i>L. naga</i> ♀	<i>L. huongii</i> ♀
Submarginal ocelli on the underside forewing differ in size	<i>L. philesana</i> ♀ <i>L. philemon</i> ♀ <i>L. philesanoides</i> ♀		
Underside of the forewing with submarginal ocelli in spaces 3-6	<i>L. philesana</i> ♀ <i>L. philemon</i> ♀ <i>L. philesanoides</i> ♀		
Underside of the forewing with submarginal ocelli in spaces 2-6		<i>L. lanaris</i> ♀ <i>L. helena</i> ♀ <i>L. naga</i> ♀	<i>L. huongii</i> ♀

According to the table, the female of the new species shows resemblance to other representatives of *lanaris*-group. At the same time, the new species can be easily distinguished from other species belonging to the *lanaris*-group by the following characters:

- 1) The female of *L. lanaris* BUTLER lacks white postdiscal band on the forewing;
- 2) The female of *L. helena* LEECH and *L. naga* DOHERTY have a white postdiscal band going very close to the end of the cell.
- 3) The female of *L. lanaris* BUTLER, *L. helena* LEECH and *naga* DOHERTY have a double-centred ocellus in space 1b on the hindwing underside.
- 4) The veins crossing the white band in *L. helena* LEECH and *L. naga* DOHERTY are white.

The species is dedicated to my good friend NGUYEN THU THI HUONG.

#### Acknowledgements

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#### References

- LESSE DE, H. (1957): Revision du genre *Lethe* (S.L.) (Lep. Nymphalidae Satyrinae). – Ann. de la Soc. Ent. de France, vol. 125 (1956): 75-95.

Explanation of colour plate IIa (p. 155):

Fig. 1: *Elymnias saola* spec. nov., holotype ♂, C. Vietnam, Nghe An Province.

Fig. 2: Id. underside.

Fig. 3: *Lethe huongii* spec. nov., holotype ♀, N. Vietnam, Lang Son Province, Huu Lien Nature Reserve.

Fig. 4: Id. underside.

1	2
3	4

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Colour plate IIa

MONASTYRSKII, A. L.: Two new species of Nymphalidae (Satyrinae) from Vietnam (Lepidoptera, Rhopalocera). – *Atalanta* **35** (1/2): 45–49.

Fig. 1: *Elymnias saola* spec. nov., holotype ♂, C. Vietnam, Nghe An Province.

Fig. 2: Id. underside.

Fig. 3: *Lethe huongii* spec. nov., holotype ♀, N. Vietnam, Lang Son Province, Huu Lien Nature Reserve.

Fig. 4: Id. underside.

1	2
3	4

Colour plate IIb

DEVYATKIN, A. L. & A. L. MONASTYRSKII: A new species of *Aemona* HEWITSON, [1868] from Vietnam (Lepidoptera, Amathusiidae). – *Atalanta* **35** (1/2): 51–55.

Fig. 1: *Aemona falcata* spec. nov., holotype ♂, C. Vietnam, Khanh Hoa Province, Dien Khanh district, Hon Ba Provincial Nature Reserve, 1300 m, 13.IV.2003, A. L. MONASTYRSKII leg., upperside.

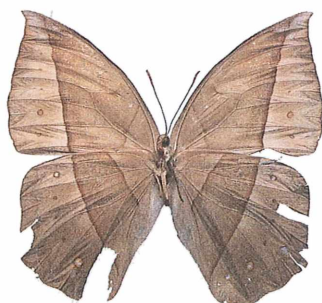
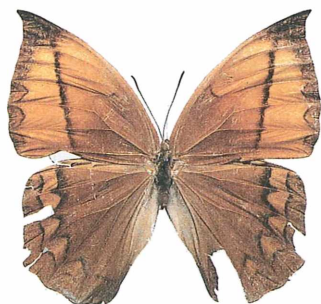
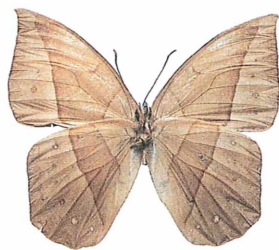
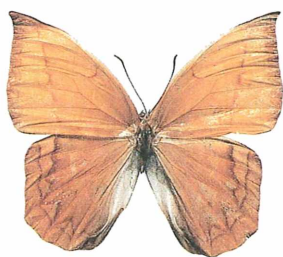
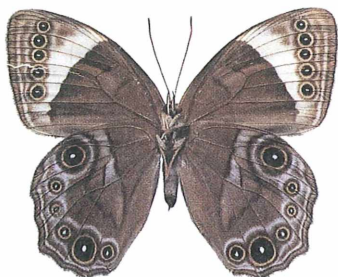
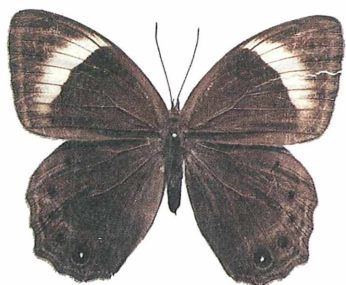
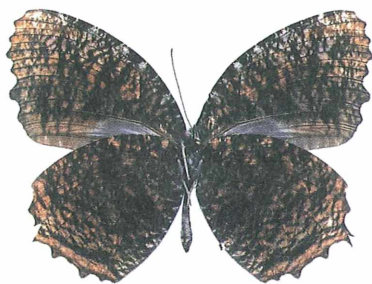
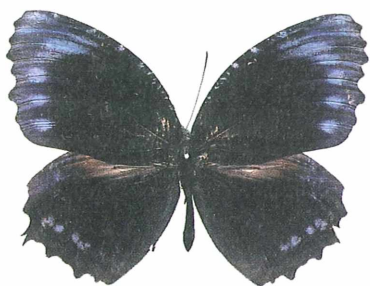
Fig. 2: Id., underside.

Fig. 3: *Aemona falcata* spec. nov., paratype ♀, C. Vietnam, Khanh Hoa Province, Dien Khanh district, Hon Ba Provincial Nature Reserve, 1200 m, 12.IV.2003, A. L. MONASTYRSKII leg., upperside.

Fig. 4: Id., underside.

1	2
3	4

Colour plate IIa/b



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