

## A new subspecies of *Sumeria dipotamica* TAMS, 1938 from North Oman

(Lepidoptera, Notodontidae)

by

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**Zusammenfassung:** Eine neue Unterart der Notodontidae, *Sumeria dipotamica flavoalata* **subspec. nov.**, wird aus dem Oman, Umgebung Nizwa, beschrieben. Die ♂-Genitalstrukturen der neuen Unterart, sowie die ♀-Genitalstrukturen der von Mesopotamien beschriebenen Nominatunterart werden erstmals abgebildet und eine abgrenzende habituelle Diagnose beider wird gegeben. Das von WILTSHIRE (1957) beschriebene punktuelle Vorkommen der Art in den Oasengärten eremischer Gebiete Mesopotamiens konnte auch für den Oman bestätigt werden. Ferner werden Nachweise der Falter für die Monate Oktober, Dezember und April erbracht, was auf eine wohl ganzjährige Flugzeit in mindestens zwei Generationen schließen läßt.

**Summary:** A new subspecies of Notodontidae *Sumeria dipotamica flavoalata* **subspec. nov.** from North Oman, Nizwa, is described. Its ♂ genital structure and the ♀ genital structure of the nominate subspecies from Mesopotamia is described and illustrated for the first time. Both subspecies are compared and their characteristic diagnostic differences are illustrated. The appearance of the moth in oases and town gardens of Eastern Eremic areas mentioned by WILTSHIRE (1957) can also be confirmed as true for Oman. Furthermore, records for October, December and April suppose a flight period all over the year in at least two generations.

الخلاصة: تصنيف نوعي جديد ل *Notodontidae Sumeria dipotamica flavoalata* من شمال عمان، نيزوا، يوصف وهو تركيب تناسلي ذكر يحسب ويصور. إن التصنيف النوعي الجديد بالمقارنة مع يرشخ تصنيف نوعي من الخليج الفارسي وهو إختلافات تشخيصية مميزة مصورة. ظهور العث في حدائق البلدة وواحات مناطق شرق إريميك (Eastern Eremic) ذكر من قبل ويلتشاير (1957, Wiltshire) يمكن أيضا أن يؤكد كحقيقي لعمان. علاوة على ذلك، سجلات لديسمبر/كانون الأول وأكتوبر/تشرين الأول وأبريل/نيسان يفترضان فترة طيران في جميع أنحاء السنة في الأقل جيلين.

*Sumeria dipotamica flavoalata* **subspec. nov.**

Holotype ♂ (colour plate. 21, fig. 1): North Oman, close to Nizwa city, Majan guest house, N 22°53'11", E 57°31'34", 500m, 8. X. 2004, leg. GÖRGNER, E & H. FISCHER.

Paratypes: 5 ♂♂, the same locality as holotype, 3.-16.X. 2004, leg. GÖRGNER, E. & H. FISCHER; 4 ♂♂, the same locality as holotype, 14.-29.XII. 2003, leg. GÖRGNER, E. & H. FISCHER; 4 ♂♂, the same locality as holotype, 27.III.-6.IV. 2004, leg. STRÖHLE, M. & H. FISCHER; 1 ♂, the same locality as holotype, 10.II. 2005, leg. STRÖHLE.

The holotype and 8 paratypes are deposited in coll. FISCHER (Tegernsee), 1 paratype is deposited in coll. SALDAITIS (Vilnius), 5 paratypes are deposited in coll. STRÖHLE (Weiden i. d. Opf.).

**Etymology:** The new subspecies is named after its sand - like yellow coloured forewings.

**Description** ♂ (colour plate 21, fig. 1): Alar expanse 40–43 mm, 42 mm in holotype; body length 24–26 mm; antenna yellow, with long pectinations reaching almost apex. Upperside of forewing sand - like yellow unicoloured, covered with simple and longer specialized scales between. Labial palpus, thorax and all tarsi covered with long scales in the same colour all over. Outer margin of forewings with long almost white scales embraced. Veins R2, R3, R4, R5 and even M1 of forewings step by step stalked in agreement with definition of the genus by TAMM (1938). Upperside of hindwing yellowish white unicoloured, veins covered with little darker scales. Abdomen densely covered with long yellowish white scales, anal tuft almost white with very long and specialized scales. Underside of all wings buffly unicoloured with a pinkish white sheen.

♂ genitalia (figs. 1–4): Valva conspicuously divided, smaller part much more sclerotized, covered with some long and simple setae. Uncus short, gnathos bilobed, well developed and one third shorter than tegumen-uncus-complex, saccus rounded. 8th sternite almost quadratic. Aedoeagus almost as long as valva, rounded and well sclerotized. The ♀ is unknown.

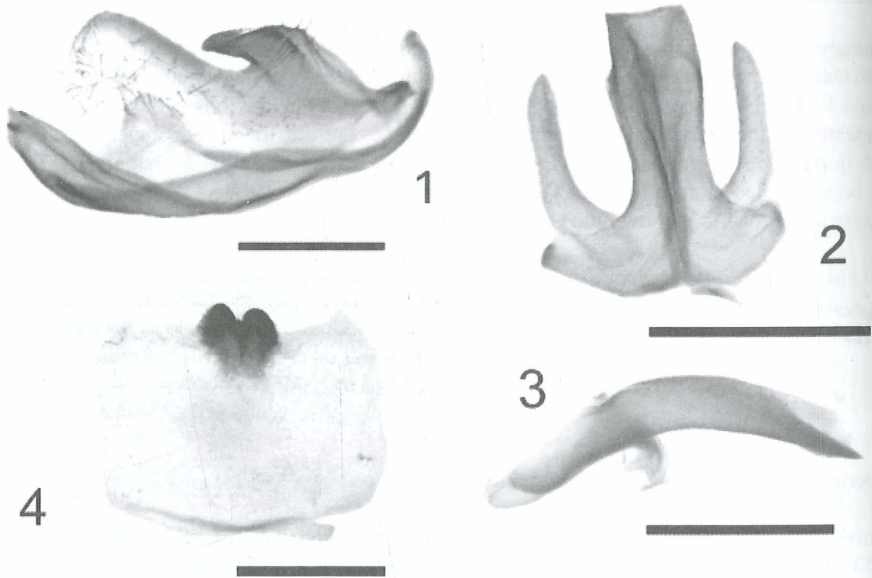


Fig. 1-4: *Sumeria dipotamica flavaolata* subspec. nov., paratype ♂, valva, tegumen, uncus and gnathos, aedoeagus, and 8th sternite. Scalebars: 1 mm.

♀ genitalia (fig. 5): Papilla analis short and broad, covered with short simple hairs. 8th sternit very short but strong sclerotized. Anterior apophysis remarkably long, biloped basally and strongly sclerotized. Posterior apophysis one third in length of anterior apophysis and less sclerotized. Ductus bursae very long and thin, especially on base. Corpus bursae consisting of a very transparent skin without diagnostic features.



Fig. 5: *Sumeria dipotamica dipotamica* TAMS, 1938, ♀ genitalia.  
Scalebar: 1 mm.

**Diagnosis:** The new subspecies shows sand - like yellow coloured scales on forewings and thorax in comparison to the greyish appearance of the nominate subspecies described from Mesopotamia (col. pl. 21, figs 3, 4). Also antenna are much more bright yellow in *S. dipotamica flavoalata* **subspec. nov.** The thorax is also broader and more sturdy. Abdomen of *S. dipotamica flavoalata* **subspec. nov.** is much more longer and reaches 19 mm in holotype including anal tuft (14 mm in specimens of *Sumeria dipotamica dipotamica* TAMS, 1938). In alar expanse *S. dipotamica flavoalata* **subspec. nov.** surpasses the nominate subspecies 2-3 mm averagely. Between both subspecies the shape of forewing also differs, showing more surface and being broader in diameter in *S. dipotamica flavoalata* **subspec. nov.**

**Discussion:** TAMS (1938) described the species listing holotype and 4 paratypes from Iraq and 2 paratypes from Iran (only ♂♂). Later also the ♀ is figured by WILTSHIRE (1957) who confirms the ecological facts that are now observed in Oman. *S. dipotamica flavoalata* **subspec. nov.** is separated from the nominate subspecies by the Persian Gulf and the Arabian desert. The senior author could collect a few specimens of the new subspecies on three trips to North Oman at one locality only. It proves to be an indolent flyer by inhabiting only town gardens near Nizwa with date palms and other large-foliaged plants like WILTSHIRE (1957) has described from Bagdad and Basra in Irak. It appears (also only ♂♂) in the first half of night on bright lamps close to irrigated areas. Considering the records of the first specimens of the new subspecies known from Oman (Wahiba Sands) for January and March (WILTSHIRE, 1989), a flight period all over the year in at least 2 generations can be supposed. WILTSHIRE figured the new subspecies from Oman in one ♂ only but considered the population as nominate subspecies (WILTSHIRE, 1989).

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## Colour plate 21

Fig. 1: *Sumeria dipotamica flavoalata* subsp. nov., holotype ♂, North Oman, close to Nizwa city, Majan guest house, N 22°53'11", E 57°31'34", 500m, 08. X. 2004, leg. GÖRGNER, E & H. FISCHER.

Fig. 2: *Sumeria dipotamica dipotamica* TAMS, 1938, ♂, Iran, Prov. Hormozgan, Hajjiabad, 1400m, 14. IV. 2004, leg. BENEDEK, HÁ CZ.

Fig. 3: *Sumeria dipotamica dipotamica* TAMS, 1938, ♀, Iran, Prov. Hormozgan, Hajjiabad, 1400m, 14. IV. 2004, leg. BENEDEK, HÁ CZ.

## Farbtafel 21/ Colour plate 21

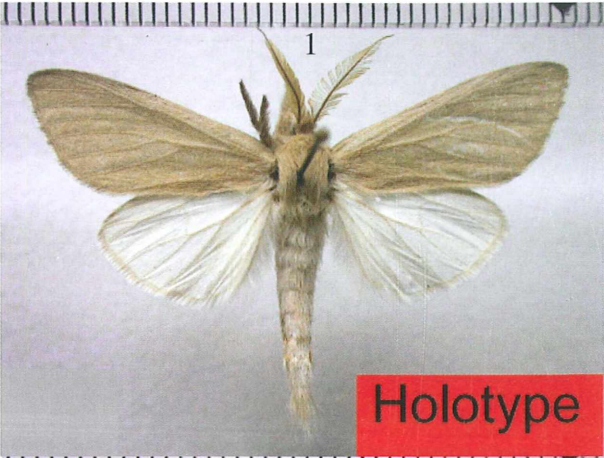
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# Farbtafel 21/ Colour plate 21



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