

## A new subspecies of *Aemona lena* ATKINSON, 1871 from S. Yunnan, China

(Lepidoptera, Nymphalidae)

by

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received 26.XI.2016

**Abstract:** A new subspecies, *Aemona lena houae* **subspec. nov.** from Pu'er, Southern Yunnan Province, China, is described and illustrated in this paper.

**Introduction:** The genus *Aemona* HEWITSON, [1868] (Morphinae: Amathusiini) was reviewed by NISHIMURA (1999) based upon typical materials kept in the Natural History Museum, London, and two species were recognised by him, viz. *A. amathusia* (HEWITSON, 1867) and *A. lena* ATKINSON, 1871. Soon afterwards, DEVYATKIN & MONASTYRSKII (2004, 2008) and DEVYATKIN (2007) studied *A. amathusia* (HEWITSON) again in a more meticulous way and additionally recognised 7 species and 1 subspecies similar to *A. amathusia* (HEWITSON) and thereafter MONASTYRSKII (2011) divided *Aemona* into two species group, viz. *amathusia*-group and *lena*-group. *Aemona lena* ATKINSON was described, based upon specimen collected by ANDERSON from S.-W. Yunnan [Momien = Tengchong (ANDERSON, 1876)] and additional 5 subspecies were described by TYTLER (1926, 1939), they are *A. l. haynei* TYTLER, 1926 from Maymyo, N. Shan States, *A. l. kalawrica* TYTLER, 1939 from Kalaw, S. Shan States, *A. l. karenia* TYTLER, 1939 from Thandaung, Karen Hills, *A. l. kentunga* TYTLER, 1939 from Loimwe in the extreme south-east of the Southern Shan States, and *A. l. salweena* TYTLER, 1939 from Papun, Mal-hong-song, Salween District, Upper Tenasserim and W. Thailand (Melamung and Bangkok). NISHIMURA (1999) sunk all subspecific names mentioned above described by TYTLER to junior synonyms of *A. lena* ATKINSON. Based upon their research experience on *Aemona*, DEVYATKIN & MONASTYRSKII (2008) suspected that *A. lena* ATKINSON which displays a number of externally different subspecies and forms may have a similar case with *A. amathusia* (HEWITSON) and according to MONASTYRSKII (2011), NISHIMURA (1999) showed that *A. lena* ATKINSON has large variation in wing colouration which could be the result of separation into similar species. Therefore, before a carefully study has been done, it is somewhat inappropriate to sink all TYTLER's names to junior synonyms of *A. lena* ATKINSON. In this paper, the present author simply describes a new subspecies of *A. lena* ATKINSON from S. Yunnan and its ♂ genitalia is illustrated.

### *Aemona lena houae* **subspec. nov.** (figs. 1-4, 5)

Holotype ♂: China, Yunnan, Pu'er, S. of Simao town, 1400 m, 6.V.2017, leg. SONGYUN LANG, kept in Collection Chongqing Museum of Natural History, China (CMNH). Paratype: 1 ♀, same data as the holotype, in Collection of SONGYUN LANG, BEIBEI, Chongqing, China (LSY).

**Diagnosis:** The new subspecies can be distinguished from the other subspecies of *Aemona lena* ATKINSON by the combination of the following characters:

1. The ground colour of the forewing upperside in the ♂ is greyish in the new subspecies, whereas it is yellowish in *A. l. haynei* TYTLER and *A. l. salweena* TYTLER.
2. The ground colour of the anterior half of the hindwing upperside in the ♂ is yellowish in the new subspecies, whereas it is greyish in *A. l. lena* ATKINSON, *A. l. karenia* TYTLER and *A. l. kalawrica* TYTLER.
3. The postdiscal pale spots on the forewing upperside of the new subspecies are smaller than those of *A. l. kentunga* TYTLER in both sexes.
4. The postdiscal markings on the hindwing upperside of the new subspecies are narrower than those of *A. l. kentunga* TYTLER in the ♂.
5. The postdiscal ocelli on the forewing underside in the ♂ are obscure, whereas they are clear in *A. l. kentunga* TYTLER.

**Etymology:** The subspecific name *houae* is named after Ms. HOU JIANG, who joined my recent trip to S. Yunnan.

**Distribution** (fig. 6): S. Yunnan (Pu'er).

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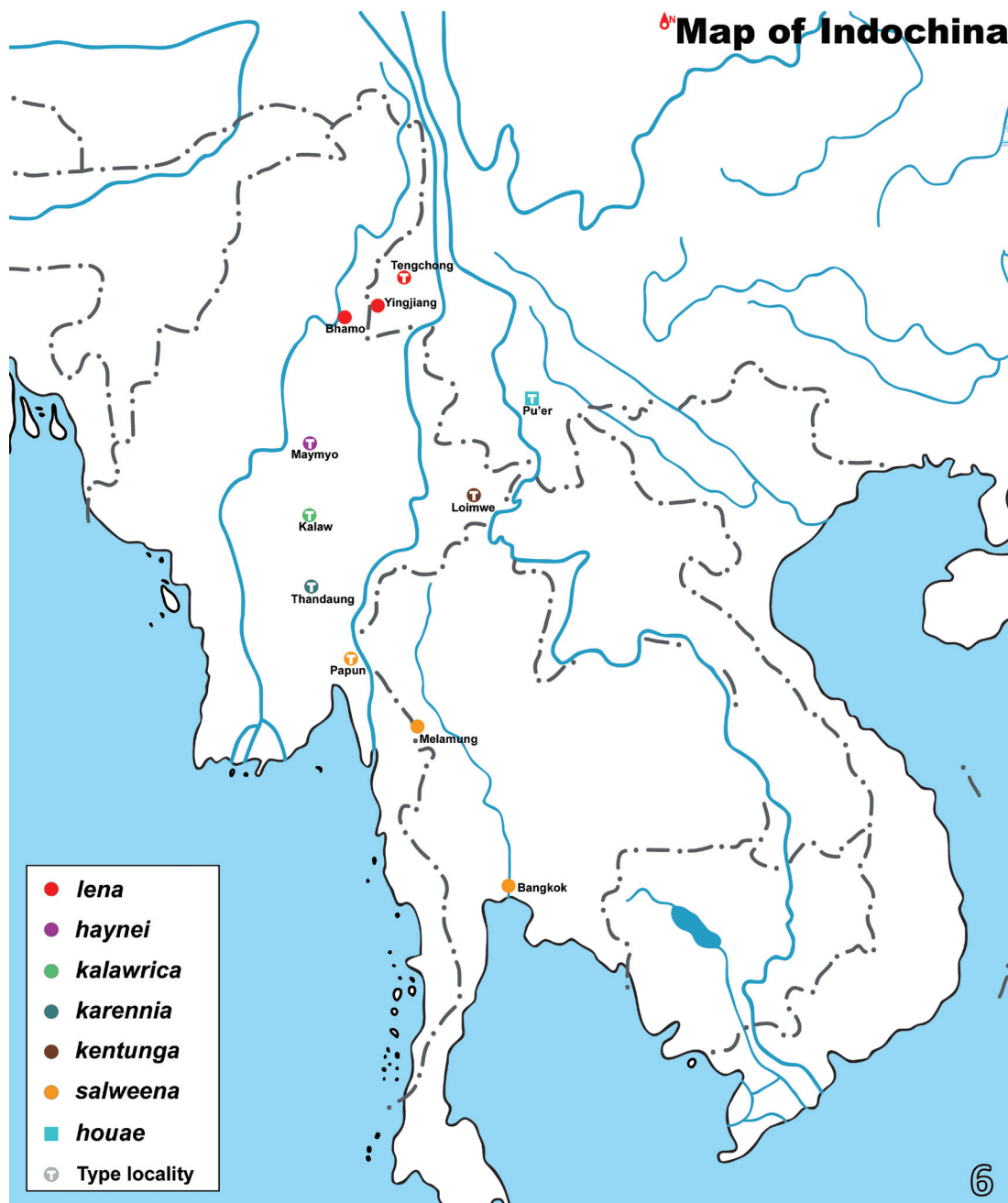


FIG. 6: Distribution of *Aemona lina* ATKINSON, 1871 (Sources of data: TYTLER, 1926, 1939; LANG, 2012).

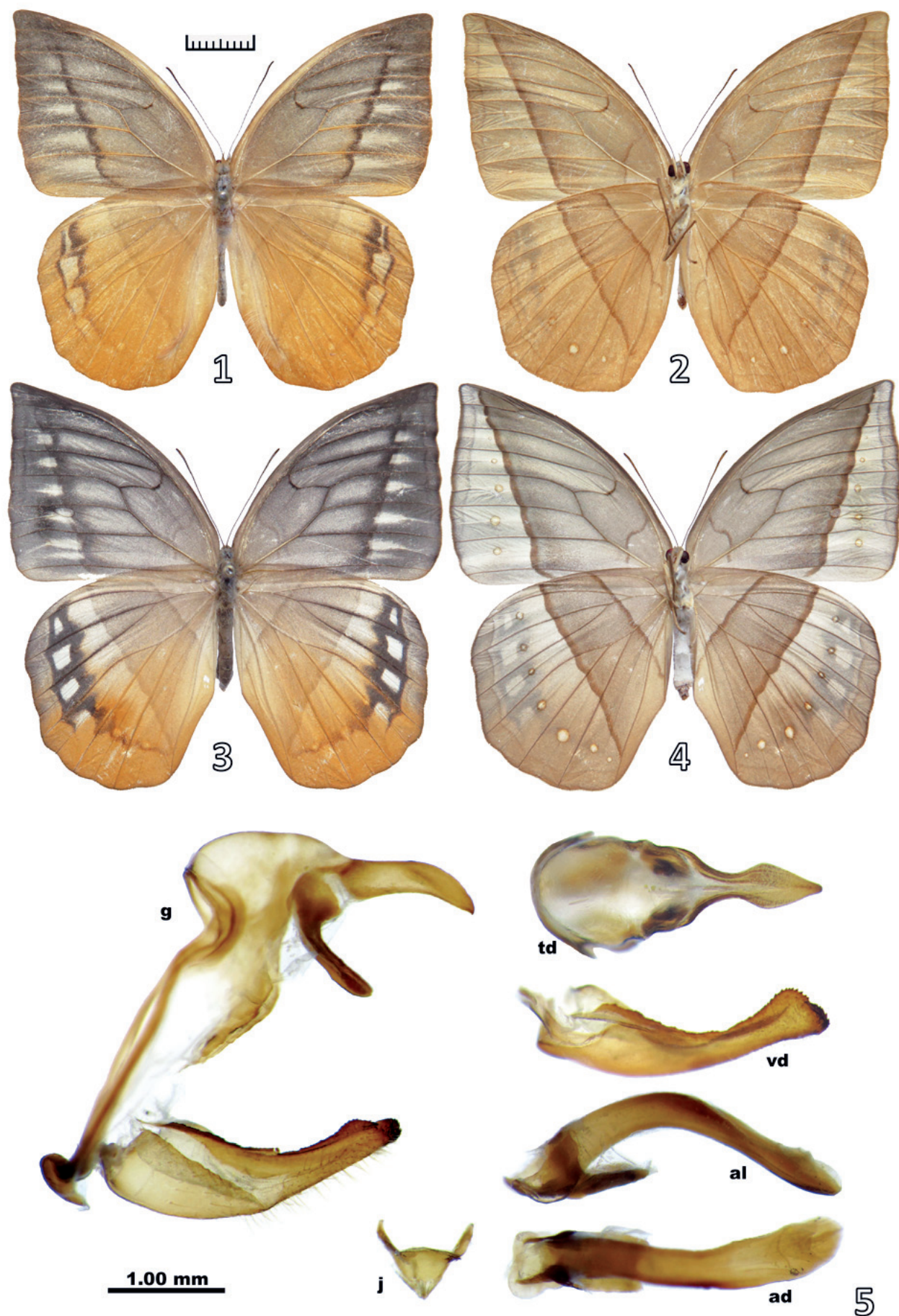


Fig. 1-5: *Aemonia lena houae* subspec. nov., China, Yunnan, Pu'er, S. of Simao Town.

Fig. 1, 2: Holotype ♂, upper- and underside.

Fig. 3, 4: Paratype ♀, upper- and underside.

Fig. 5: Genitalia of the holotype ♂- g: ♂ genitalia in lateral view with left valva and aedeagus removed; td: tegumen+uncus in dorsal view; vd: valva in dorsal view; al: aedeagus in lateral view; ad: aedeagus in dorsal view; j: juxta.



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Autor(en)/Author(s): Lang Song-Yun

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