

A new subspecies of *Neope ramosa* LEECH, 1890 from Yunnan, S.W. China
(Lepidoptera, Nymphalidae, Satyrinae)

by
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Abstract: In this paper, a new subspecies, *Neope ramosa nanzhao* **subspec. nov.**, is described from southern Yunnan Province, Southwest China.

Neope ramosa LEECH, 1890 (= *swinhonis* MELL, 1939; *daguanica* SUGIYAMA, 2015) (Satyrini: Lethina), which had been considered as a variation or a subspecies of *Neope pulaha* (MOORE, [1858]) for a long time (LEECH, 1892; SEITZ, 1907; D'ABRERA, 1990), was known with only its nominate subspecies from E. China (Zhejiang & Fujian) to W. China (W. Sichuan) (OKANO & OKANO, 1984; HUANG, 2002, 2003; LANG, 2017). *Neope ramosa daguanica* SUGIYAMA, 2015 was described from Daguan, N.E. Yunnan, and latter, LANG (2017) sunk it as a junior synonym of the nominate subspecies *ramosa* LEECH basing upon the following reasons: first, no very obvious differences can be found between them; second, no geographical barrier can be found between *daguanica* SUGIYAMA from Daguan County, which is located at southwestern fringe of Sichuan Basin, and the typical *ramosa* LEECH from W. Hubei and C. & E. Sichuan (Provincial borderlines in China had been made based mainly upon political reasons but not barely upon natural geographical lines since the late 13th century AD, namely the Yuan dynasty, so N.E. Yunnan shares similar natural features with mountainous areas of southern Sichuan Basin). SAITO & VU (2020) first discovered *Neope ramosa* LEECH from the Indo-Chinese fauna at Hoang Lien, N. Vietnam, and identified the Vietnamese population as *N. ramosa daguanica* SUGIYAMA. However, specimen illustrated by SAITO & VU (2020: p. 28, figs. 2, 2v) is not *N. ramosa daguanica* SUGIYAMA which is only a junior synonym of the nominate subspecies, but in fact, it should be an undescribed subspecies belonging to the northern Indo-Chinese fauna. In this study, a specimen of *Neope ramosa* LEECH was collected from Lincang, S. Yunnan, S.W. China, and it is similar to the population from N. Vietnam. Considering that S. Yunnan often shares a common fauna with N. Indo-China, the present author here describes a new subspecies of *Neope ramosa* LEECH which is the inhabitant of S. Yunnan and N. Indo-China.

Materials in this study are kept in Chongqing Museum of Natural History, Beibei, CHINA (CMNH) and Dr. SONG-YUN LANG's private collection, Beibei, CHINA (LSY). Photos of the typus of *Neope goschkewitschi swinhonis* MELL kept in Zoologische Forschungsinstitut und Museum Alexander Koenig, Bonn, GERMANY (ZFMK) was provided by Mr. S. Y. HUANG (Bonn).

Neope ramosa ramosa LEECH, 1890 (figs: 1-2, 6, 9a)

Neope ramosa LEECH, 1890: 29. Type locality (TL): Chang-yang, [Hubei].

Neope goschkewitschi swinhonis MELL, 1939: 144. TL: Kuatun, Fukien [Guadun, Fujian].

Neope ramosa daguanica SUGIYAMA, 2015: 33, pl. 2: 4, 5, 12, 13. TL: Daguan, N.E. Yunnan.

Material: Photo of ♂, "Typus/ Kuatun (2300 m) 27, 40 n. Br. 117, 40 ö. L. J. KLAPPERICH 20. 6. 1938 (Fukien)/*N. goschkewitschi swinhonis* MELL Typus" (ZFMK); 2♂♂, CHINA, Sichuan, Omei, Jiulinggang, 1700 m, 8.VIII.2013, leg. SONG-YUN LANG (LSY); 1♂, CHINA, Sichuan, Nanjiang, Mt. Micangshan, Daba, 1500 m, 12.VI.2016, leg. SONG-YUN LANG (LSY); 1♂, CHINA, Chongqing, Jiangjin, Mt. Simianshan, 1500-2000 m, 29.VI.2008, leg. LI-JIANG WANG (CMNH); 3♂♂, "ginfu [Nanchuan, Mt. Jifoshan] 1400 m 1932 JUL 15 (CMNH)"; 1♂ "ginfu shan 1200 m 1932 JUL 1" (CMNH); 1♂, "ginfu 1000 m JUL11 1932" (CMNH).

Distribution: China (S. Henan, S. Shaanxi, Zhejiang, Fujian, Hubei, Hunan, Sichuan, Chongqing, Guizhou, N.E. Yunnan).

Neope ramosa nanzhao **subspec. nov.** (figs: 3, 7, 9b)

Neope ramosa daguanica: SAITO & VU (*nec* SUGIYAMA), 2020: 27, 28, figs. 2, 2v.

Holotype: ♂, CHINA, Yunnan, Lincang, Wulao-shan (Lincang Daxue Shan), 2450 m, 16.VII.2023, leg. SONG-YUN LANG, kept in CMNH.

Diagnosis: A) The new subspecies can be distinguished from the only known subspecies of *Neope ramosa* LEECH, viz. the nominate subspecies, by the combination of the following characters: 1) it is smaller than the nominate subspecies; 2) on the hindwing underside, the postdiscal ocelli in the spaces 1b to 3 are much closer to the termen than in the nominate subspecies; 3) on the hindwing underside, the darkish submarginal line is located medially between the postdiscal ocelli and the marginal line in the spaces 2 and 3, whereas it is located far away from the ocellus in the nominate subspecies; 4) ♂ uncus (fig. 7) is thinner than in the nominate subspecies (fig. 6); 5) the lamina of the androconium (fig. 9b) is shorter and much narrower than in the nominate subspecies (fig. 9a).

B) The new subspecies is similar to and sympatric with *Neope pulaha pulaha* (MOORE) (figs: 4, 8, 9c1-2), but it can be distinguished from *N. pulaha* (MOORE) (figs: 4-5, 8, 9c-d) by the combination of the following characters: 1) it is larger than *N. pulaha* (MOORE); 2) on the hindwing underside, the postdiscal ocelli are obviously larger than in *N. pulaha* (MOORE); 3) on the hindwing underside, the whitish pupils of the postdiscal ocelli are prominent, whereas they are somewhat obscure in *N. pulaha* (MOORE); 4) ♂ uncus (fig. 7) is swelled mediodorsally, whereas in *N. pulaha* (MOORE) (fig. 8) it is straight throughout and only sharply acute near the tip; 5) the lamina of the androconium (fig. 9b) is longer and slightly wider than in *N. pulaha* (MOORE) (figs. 9c-d).

Etymology: The subspecific name *nanzhao* is named after Nanzhao (738A.D.-902A.D.), which was a dynastic kingdom including nowadays Yunnan and several of its surrounding areas. Nanzhao was an independent neighbour of the Chinese Tang Empire (618A.D.-907A.D.).

Distribution: China (S. Yunnan), N. Vietnam.

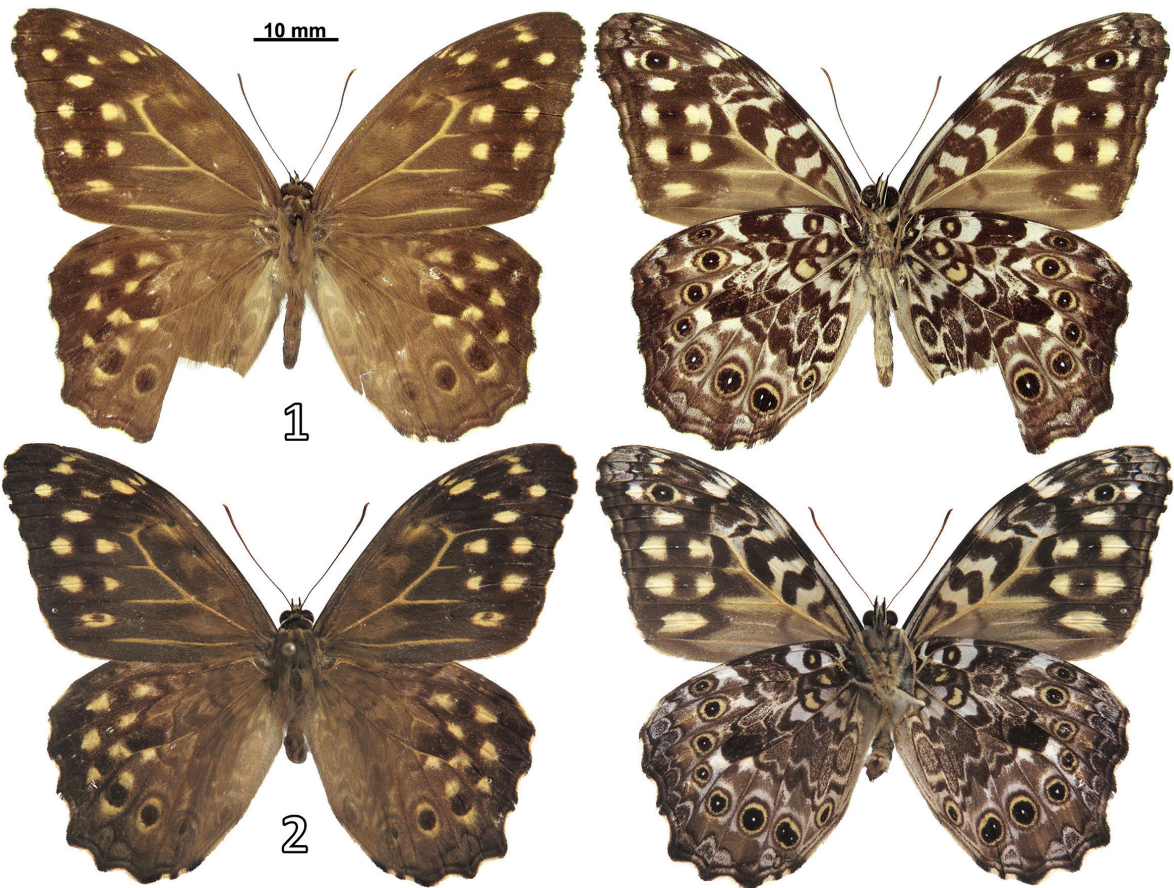
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Neope ramosa ramosa



N. ramosa nanzhao



N. pulaha pulaha

N. pulaha emeinsis

Fig. 1-2: *Neope ramosa ramosa* LEECH, 1890: (1) ♂, Typus of *Neope goschkewitschi swinhonis* MELL, 1939, Fukien, Kuantun, ZFMK; (2) ♂, Sichuan, Nanjiang, SATY0442, ANDR0077, LSY. **Fig. 3:** *Neope ramosa nanzhao* *subspec. nov.*, holotype, ♂, Yunnan, Lincang, SATY1206, ANDR0315, CMNH. **Fig. 4:** *Neope pulaha pulaha* (MOORE, [1858]), ♂, Yunnan, Nanjian, SATY1207, ANDR0316, LSY. **Fig. 5:** *Neope pulaha emeinsis* LI, 1995, ♂, Sichuan, Nanjiang, SATY0441, ANDR0076, LSY.

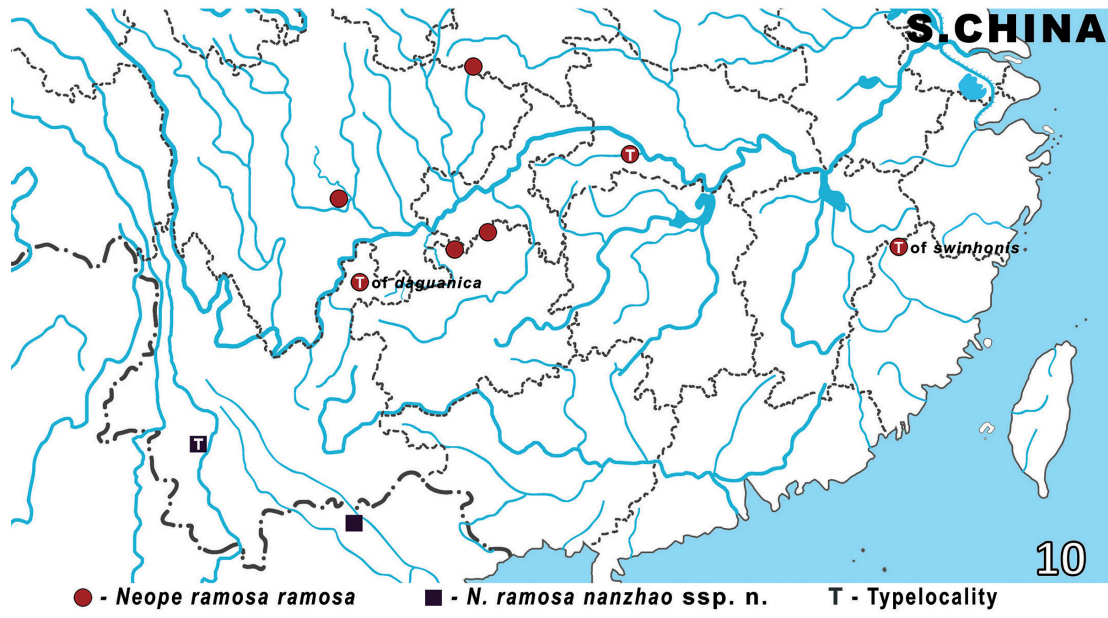
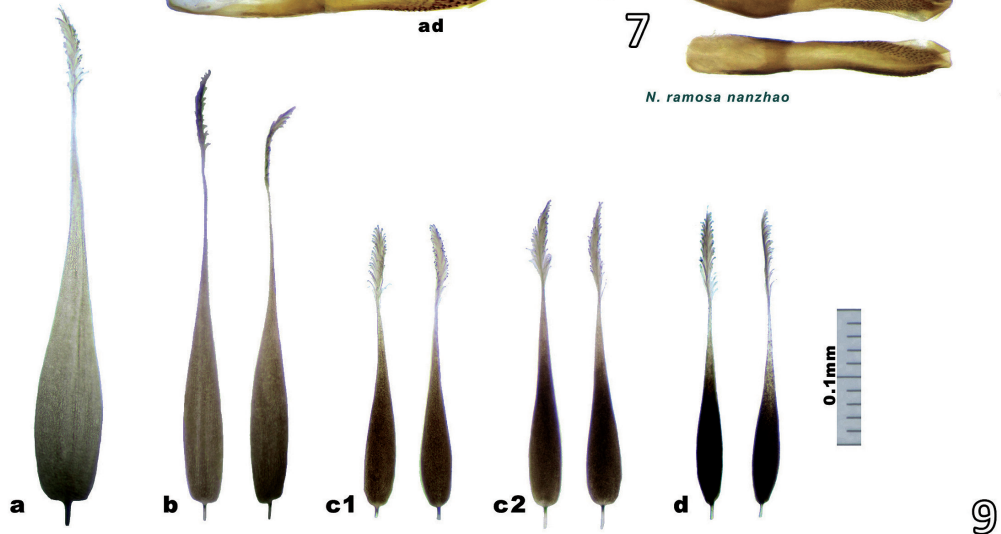
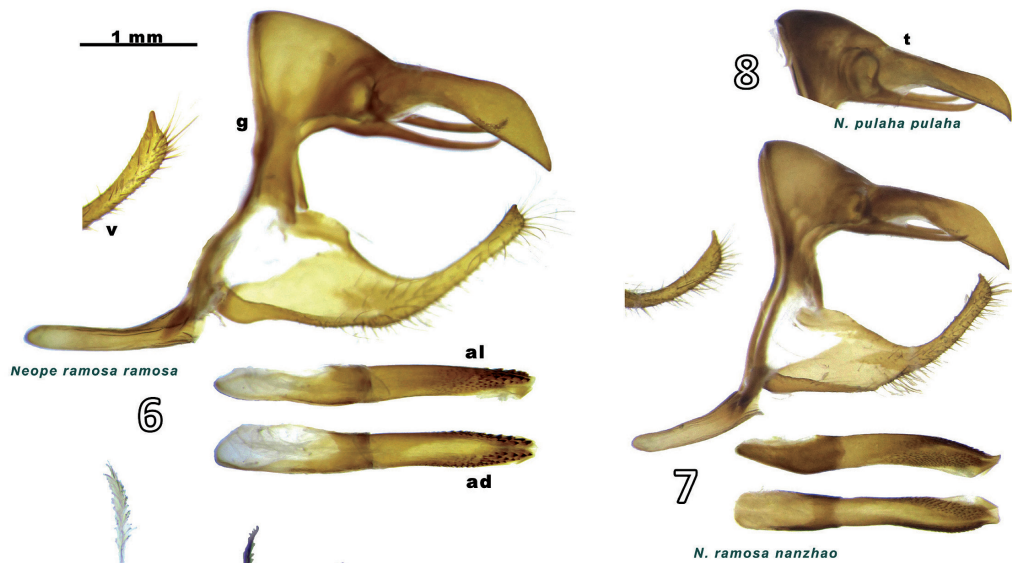


Fig. 6-8: ♂ genitalia. g: ♂ genitalia in lateral view with left valva and aedeagus removed; t: tegumen+uncus+gnathos in lateral view; al: aedeagus in lateral view; ad: aedeagus in dorsal view; v: tip of left valva in dorsal view. **Fig. 6:** *Neope ramosa ramosa* LEECH, 1890, Sichuan, Nanjiang, SATY0442, ANDR0077, LSY. **Fig. 7:** *Neope ramosa nanzhao* subsp. nov., holotype, Yunnan, Lincang, SATY1206, ANDR0315, CMNH. **Fig. 8:** *Neope pulaha pulaha* (MOORE, [1858]), Yunnan, Nanjian, SATY1207, ANDR0316, LSY. **Fig. 9:** Androconia. a. *Neope ramosa ramosa* LEECH, 1890, Sichuan, Nanjiang, SATY0442, ANDR0077, LSY. b. *Neope ramosa nanzhao* subsp. nov., holotype, Yunnan, Lincang, SATY1206, ANDR0315, CMNH. c1-2. *Neope pulaha pulaha* (MOORE, [1858]): (c1) Tibet, Medog, SATY0491, ANDR0078, LSY; (c2) Yunnan, Nanjian, SATY1207, ANDR0316, LSY. d. *Neope pulaha emeinsis* LI, 1995, Sichuan, Nanjiang, SATY0441, ANDR0076, LSY. **Fig. 10:** Distribution map of *Neope ramosa* LEECH, 1890 (Sources of data: LEECH, 1890; MELL, 1939; SUGIYAMA, 2015; LANG, 2017; SAITO & VU, 2020; specimens kept in LSY, CMNH).

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