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New records of some rare Noctuoidea and Pyraloidea in Daghestan Republic (Russia)

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Abstract

New and rare Lepidoptera species in Daghestan republic in the period 2013–2014 are reported. Among them the first records for Russia: *Aglossa asiatica* (Erschoff, 1872) and *Ecpyrrhorrhoe diffusalis* (Guenée, 1854) (Pyraloidea), *Agrotis lasserrei* (Oberthür, 1881) and *Arcyophora dentula* (Lederer, 1870) (Noctuoidea); the first records for Daghestan: *Stiphrometasia monialis* (Erschoff, 1872), *Achyra nudalis* (Hübner, 1796), *Paratalanta cultralis* (Staudinger, 1867), *Udea austriacalis* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1851), *Agrotera nemoralis* (Scopoli, 1763), *Loxostege aeruginalis* (Hübner, 1796) and *Ephelis cruentalis* (Geyer, 1832) (Pyraloidea), *Photedes morrisii* (Dale, 1837) (Noctuoidea).

Key words: Noctuoidea, Pyraloidea, republic of Daghestan, North-East Caucasus, Russia, first records.

Zusammenfassung

Neue und seltene Lepidoptera Arten aus der Republik Daghestan wurden aus dem Zeitraum 2013–2014 gemeldet. Darunter Erstnachweise für Russland: *Aglossa asiatica* (Erschoff, 1872) und *Ecpyrrhorrhoe diffusalis* (Guenée, 1854) (Pyraloidea), *Agrotis lasserrei* (Oberthür, 1881) und *Arcyophora dentula* (Lederer, 1870) (Noctuoidea). Erstnachweise für Daghestan: *Stiphrometasia monialis* (Erschoff, 1872), *Achyra nudalis* (Hübner, 1796), *Paratalanta cultralis* (Staudinger, 1867), *Udea austriacalis* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1851), *Agrotera nemoralis* (Scopoli, 1763), *Loxostege aeruginalis* (Hübner, 1796) und *Ephelis cruentalis* (Geyer, 1832) (Pyraloidea), *Photedes morrisii* (Dale, 1837) (Noctuoidea).

Introduction

There are only a few papers which include some data about Pyraloidea of Daghestan republic (Christoph 1877; Romanoff 1887; Ragonot 1893, 1901). They were revised in the modern "Catalogue of the Lepidoptera of Russia" (Sinev 2008), so that for the Eastern Caucasus (Daghestan and Chechen republics) there were recorded 118 Pyraloidea species. Undoubtedly, this is only a smaller part of the regional pyralid fauna. The recent Noctuoidea review of Daghestan (Ilyina et al. 2012) includes 646 species and applies to be almost complete. Further investigations in 2013 and 2014 by the authors revealed more rare and new Pyraloidea and Noctuoidea for Daghestan and Russia, which are presented in this paper.

Material and methods

During 2013–2014 the authors collected moths in different localities in Daghestan. Some Pyraloidea were mobilized from cotton-wools of earlier years up to 1999. Moths were collected by hand-catching on a white screen, attracted by mercury vapour lamps (HQM) 'DRL' 300 W. Collecting sites are listed below. Determination was made by A. N. Poltavsky and checked with the kind help of colleagues in the Zoological Institution of the Russian Academy of Sciences (ZIN, St. Petersburg): Pyraloidea – Dr. Sergey Sinev; Noctuoidea – Dr. Alexey Matov. Digital photos of the moths were made by a camera Nikon D-90 and retouched for publication by means of the programme CorelPhotoPaint-5. Basic planimetric maps were generated by the free Online Map Creation programme from http://omc.planiglobe.com/.

List of Collection Sites.

I. Lowland Daghestan: Leninaul (44°11'44.7"N, 46°01'21.9"E) and Terek li-Mekteb (44°10'01.0"N, 45°52'50.2"E) villages in the Nogaisky District; Chechen (43°58'08.8"N, 47°42'09.5"E) – Caspian seaborne Island in the Makhatchkala District; Kar aman-2 (42°57'56.2"N, 47°28'59.1"E) – the suburb of the town Makhatchkala; Primorsky (41°50'49.6"N, 48°34'36.9"E) and Tagirkent-Kazmaljar (41°48'54.8"N, 48°31'06.1"E) – villages in the Magaramkent District.

II. Foothill Daghestan: Tarki-Tau (42°56'27.9"N, 47°27'43.1"E) – the mount in the Makhatchkala District; Sarykum (43°00'24.4"N, 47°13'34.6"E) – big single sun dune in the Kumtor-Kale District.

III. Front mountain-ranges of Daghestan: Upper Kazanishe (42°44'35.2"N, 47°08'10.1"E) – village in the Buinaksk District; Barshamay (42°07'07.2"N, 47°51'18.2"E) – village in the Kajtagsky District; Ahsu (42°55'25.8"N, 46°41'36.7"E) – vil lage in the Kazbekovsky District.

IV. Central mountain area of Daghestan: Chirkata (42°46'58.1"N, 46°43'16.5"E) – village in the Gumbetovsky District; Salda (41°58'27.8"N, 46°30'31.6"E) – village in the Tljarata District; Tsudahar (42°20'24.2"N, 47°09'39.3"E) – village in the Gergebyl District.

V. Highland Daghestan: Upper Gakvary (42°32'56.8"N, 46°01'50.7"E) – village in the Tsumada District; Tohota (42°01'12.6"N, 46°27'59.8"E) – village in the Tljarata District; Kala (41°34'36.5"N, 47°21'11.4"E) and Kufa (41°33'49.8"N, 47°22'37.5"E) villages in the Rutul District; Kurush (41°17'04.7"N, 47°49'58.7"E) – village in the Dokuzparinsky District.

Abbreviations:

ZIN coll. = collection of the Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, St.-Petersburg;

DSU coll. = collection of the Daghestan State University, Makhatchkala.

Annotated list of Noctuoidea and Pyraloidea

Stiphrometasia monialis (Erschoff, 1872) (Fig. 1)

(Crambidae, Cybalomiinae)

Distribution area Turano-Irano-Sindian (Fig. 15): North-East Caucasus (Sinev 2008), Azerbaijan (Ordubad, ZIN coll.), Turkmenistan (ZIN coll.), Uzbekistan (Erschoff 1872), Northern Pakistan (Koçak & Kemal 2012), United Arab Emirates, Iran (Fars province) (Koohnavard et al. 2011).

Daghestan: Leninaul, 22.v.1999 (1 ex.); Sarykum, 21.ix.2013 (1 ex.).

The first published record from Daghestan with exact collecting sites and dates.

Ecpyrrhorrhoe diffusalis (Guenée, 1854) (Fig. 2)

(Crambidae, Pyraustinae)

Distribution area European-Anatolian (Fig.16): Canary Islands, France, Spain, Greece, Switzerland, Italy, Hungary, Balkan Peninsula, Turkey (Nuss et al. 2013), Crimea Peninsula (www.lepidoptera.crimea.ua/).

Daghestan: Leninaul, 22.v.1999 (1 ex.).

The first record from Russia.

Achyra nudalis (Hübner, 1796) (Fig. 3)

(Cramidae, Pyraustinae)

Distribution area Mediterranean (Fig. 18): Southern Europe from the Iberian Peninsula to Anatolia and Transcaucasus; Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iran, India, Mongolia, Niger, South Africa; in Russia – Astrakhan area (Zolotuhin 2005).

Daghestan: Chechen, 7.v.2000 (1 ex.); Karaman-2, 12.vii.2013 (1 ex.), 21.v–1.ix.2014 (20 ex.); Primorsky, 15.v.2014 (1 ex.); Terekli-Mekteb, 29.vii.2014 (9 ex.).

The second record from Russia and the first from Daghestan.

Paratalanta cultralis (Staudinger, 1867) (Fig. 4)

(Crambidae, Pyraustinae)

Distribution area Transasiatic temperate, disjunctive (Fig. 24): Turkey, Japan (Nowacki & Fibiger 1996, Koçak & Kemal 2009); in Russia – North-West Caucasus, Altai, south of the Far East (Sinev 2008).

Dagestan: Ahsu, 23.vii.2010 (1 ex); Upper Kazanishe, 25.vi.1999 (1 ex.).

The first record from Daghestan.

Udea austriacalis (Herrich-Schäffer, 1851) (Fig. 5)

(Crambidae, Pyraustinae)

Distribution area Euro-Siberian, disjunctive (Fig. 21): West and South Europe, China (Nowacki & Fibiger 1996); in Russia – North-Western Caucasus, West Siberia (Sinev 2008).

Daghestan: Upper Kazanishe, 25.vi.1999 (1 ex.); Salda, 26.vii.2014 (1 ex.); Kurush, 2.vii.2014 (1 ex.); Tsudahar, 16.vii.2014 (1 ex.).

The first record from Daghestan.

Agrotera nemoralis (Scopoli, 1763) (Fig. 6)

(Crambidae, Pyraustinae)

Distribution area Euro-Siberian (Fig. 27): from West Europe to Japan (Nowacki & Fibiger 1996); European Russia (Sinev 2008).

Daghestan: Upper Gakvary, 1.vii.1999 (1 ex.); Upper Kazanishe, 25.vi.1999 (3 ex.). Tagirkent-Kazmaljar, 16.v.2014 (1 ex.).

The first record from Daghestan.

Loxostege aeruginalis (Hübner, 1796) (Fig. 7)

(Crambidae, Pyraustinae)

Distribution area Euro-Siberian (Fig 20): West and South Europe, Ukraine, Anatolien (Nowacki & Fibiger 1996); in Russia – Mid-Wolga region, Southern Ural, south of Siberia and the Far East (Sinev 2008); Japan.

Daghestan: Leninaul, 22.v.1999 (1 ex.); Sarykum, 21.ix.2013 (1 ex.), 9.v.2014 (1 ex.); Kala, 10.vii.2011 (1 ex.); Tsudahar, 16.vii.2014 (1 ex.); The first record from Daghestan.

Ephelis cruentalis (Geyer, 1832) (Fig. 8)

(Crambidae, Odontiinae)

Distribution area Euro-Asiatic (Fig. 22): Southern Europe, Anatolien, Central Asia (Nowacki & Fibiger 1996, Kemal & Koçak 2008); in Russia – North-East Caucasus (Sinev 2008).

Daghestan: Barshamay, 29.vi.2010 (1 ex.); Tohota, 1.vii.2007 (1 ex.); Salda, 25–26. vii.2014 (6 ex.).

The first record published from Daghestan with exact collecting sites and dates and the second one from Russia

Aglossa asiatica (Erschoff, 1872) (Fig. 9)

(Pyralidae, Pyralinae)

Distribution area East-Mediterranean (Fig. 17): Sardinia, Corsica, Crete, Cyprus, Bulgaria, North-East Africa, Turkey, Syria, Iran, Uzbekistan, Pakistan (Slamka 2006).

Daghestan: Tarki-Tau, 1.vi.2006 (1 ex.); Barshamay, 29.vi.2010 (2 ex.); Kufa, 21.vi.2014 (1 ex.); Tsudahar, 16.vii.2014 (1 ex.).

The first record from Russia.

Raparna conicephala (Staudinger, 1870) (Figs. 10, 11)

(Erebidae, Phytometrinae)

Distribution area Saharo-Sindian (Fig. 28): Northern Africa, Anatolia, Levante, Middle East, Saudi Arabia; locally in South Spain and Macedonia (Hacker & Hausmann 2010).

Daghestan: Chirkata, 15.vii.2013 (1 ex.). The second record from Russia. The first one was from village Hadjalmahi (Daghestan), 29.vi.1926 (ZIN, 2 ex.) (Ilyina et al. 2012).

On the colour plate there is a fresh specimen from ZIN's collection and the recently caught shabby specimen.

Arcyophora dentula (Lederer, 1870) (Fig. 12)

(Nolidae, Chloephorinae)

Distribution area Irano-Turanian (Fig. 19): Armenia Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, India, Israel, Jordan (Müller et al. 2010).

Daghestan: Karaman-2, 12.vii.2013 (1 ex.); Tagirkent-Kazmaljar, 16.v.2014 (1 ex.).

The first record from Russia.

Mormo maura (Linnaeus, 1758)

(Noctuidae, Noctuinae)

Distribution area Mediterranean-Asiatic (Fig. 26): Europe, North-West Africa, Anatolia, Levante, Middle East, Transcaucasus (Fibiger & Hacker 2007).

Daghestan: Sarykum, 21.ix.2013 (1 ex.). The second record from Daghestan.

The first one was from Makhatchkala without date (DSU coll.) (Ilyina et al. 2012).

Photedes morrisii (Dale, 1837) (Fig. 13)

(Noctuidae, Noctuinae)

Distribution area European-Asiatic (Fig. 23): West and South-East Europe, East Kazakhstan, South-West Iran (Zilli et al. 2005); in Russia – Krasnodar area (Poltavsky 2010, Poltavsky et al. 2010).

Daghestan: Tagirkent-Kazmaljar, 4.vi.2013 (1 ex.), Karaman-2, 13.vi.2014 (1 ex.).

The first record from Daghestan and the second one from Russia.

Agrotis lasserrei (Oberthür, 1881) (Fig. 14)

(Noctuidae, Noctuinae)

Distribution area European-Asiatic (Fig. 25): south Spain, northern seaside of Africa, Lebanon, Malta, Syria, Anatolia, Iraq, Iran, Turkmenia (Fibiger 1990, Poltavsky et al. 1997, Hacker 2001).

Daghestan: Sarykum, 21.ix.2013 (1 ex.).

The first record from Russia.

Discussion

Among the 14 reported new and rare moths of Daghestan there are six southern, thermoxerophyllous species with the basic area in a desert of the Palearctic region: *Stiphrometasia monialis*, *Achyra nudalis*, *Aglossa asiatica*, *Arcyophora dentula*, *Agrotis lasserrei*, and *Raparna conicephala*. The territory of Daghestan forms the northern boundary of their geographic areas. If to take into consideration the low intensity of moths catching (without automatic light-traps) and analysing only 450 specimens of Noctuoidea and 214 specimens of Pyraloidea altogether, such addition to the regional faunistic list is not casual. It is possible to expect that during the last years the populations of these moths increased considerably as a result of Global climate warming. It raises the chances of rare moths being collected even by hand-catching. Our new data extend the geographic areas of two species to the east or south-east: *Ecpyrrhorrhoe diffusalis* and *Photedes morrisii*. The occurrence in Daghestan of the last six species: *Loxostege aeruginalis*, *Udea austriacalis*, *Agrotera nemoralis*, *Ephelis cruentalis*, *Paratalanta cultralis*, and *Mormo maura* could be expected.

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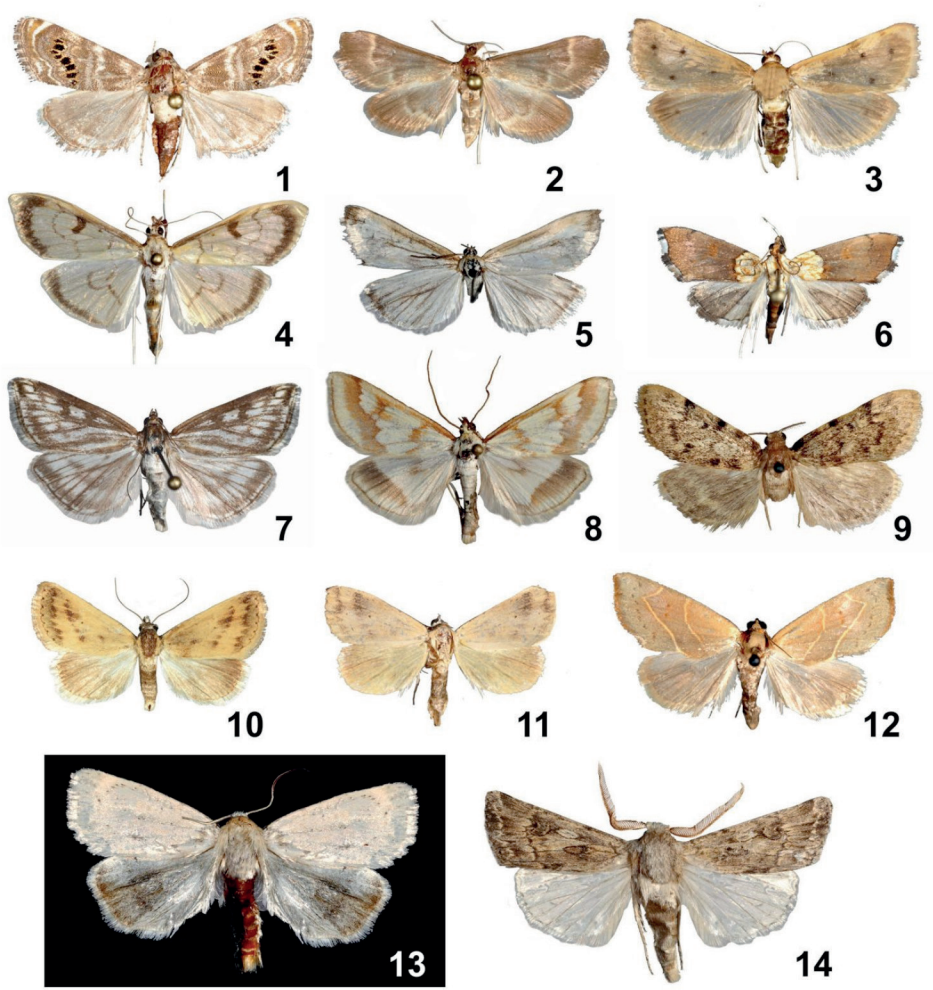
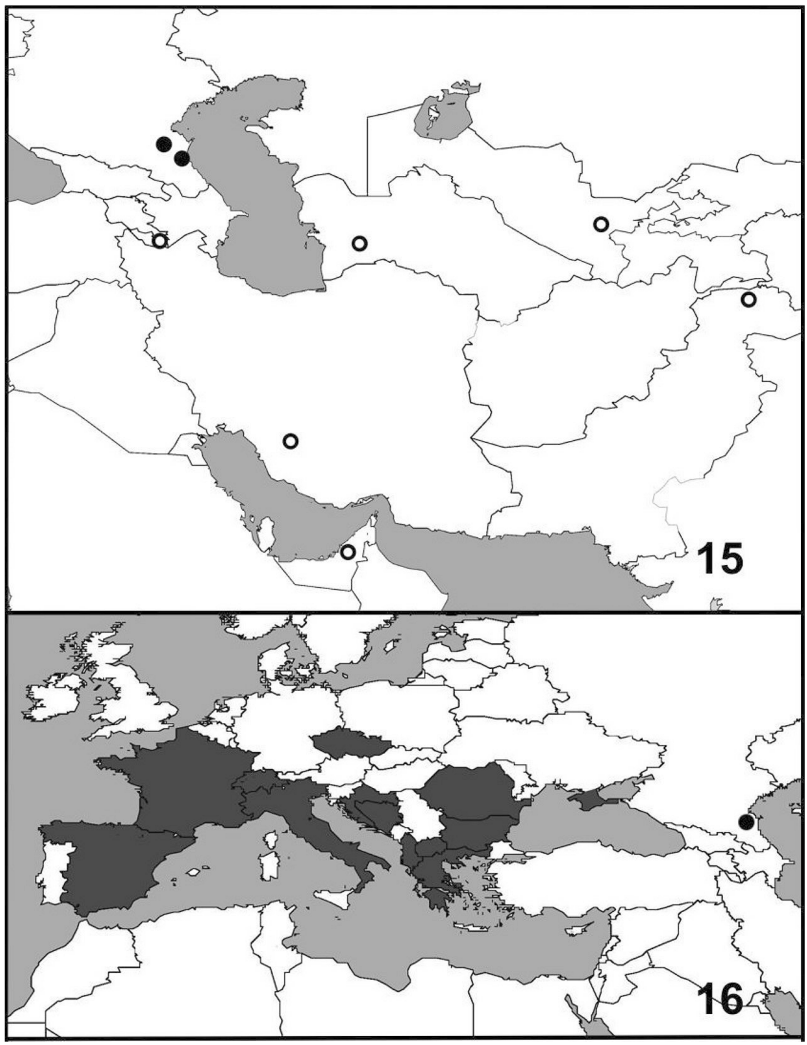
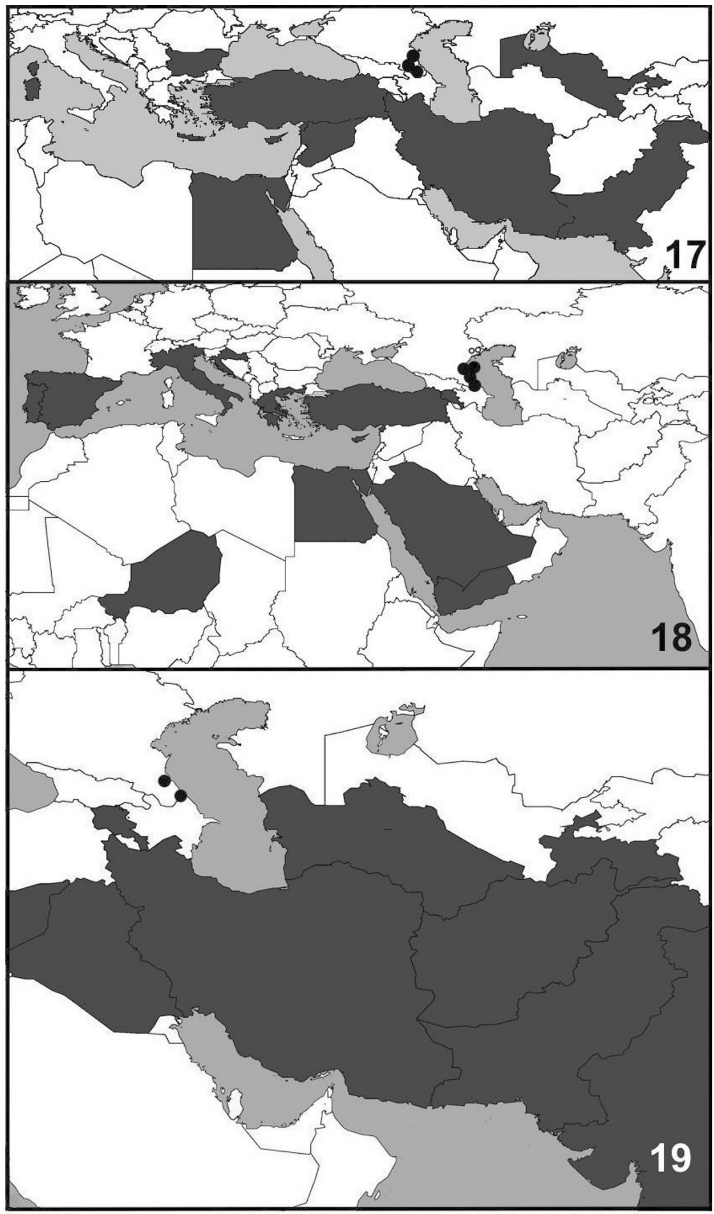


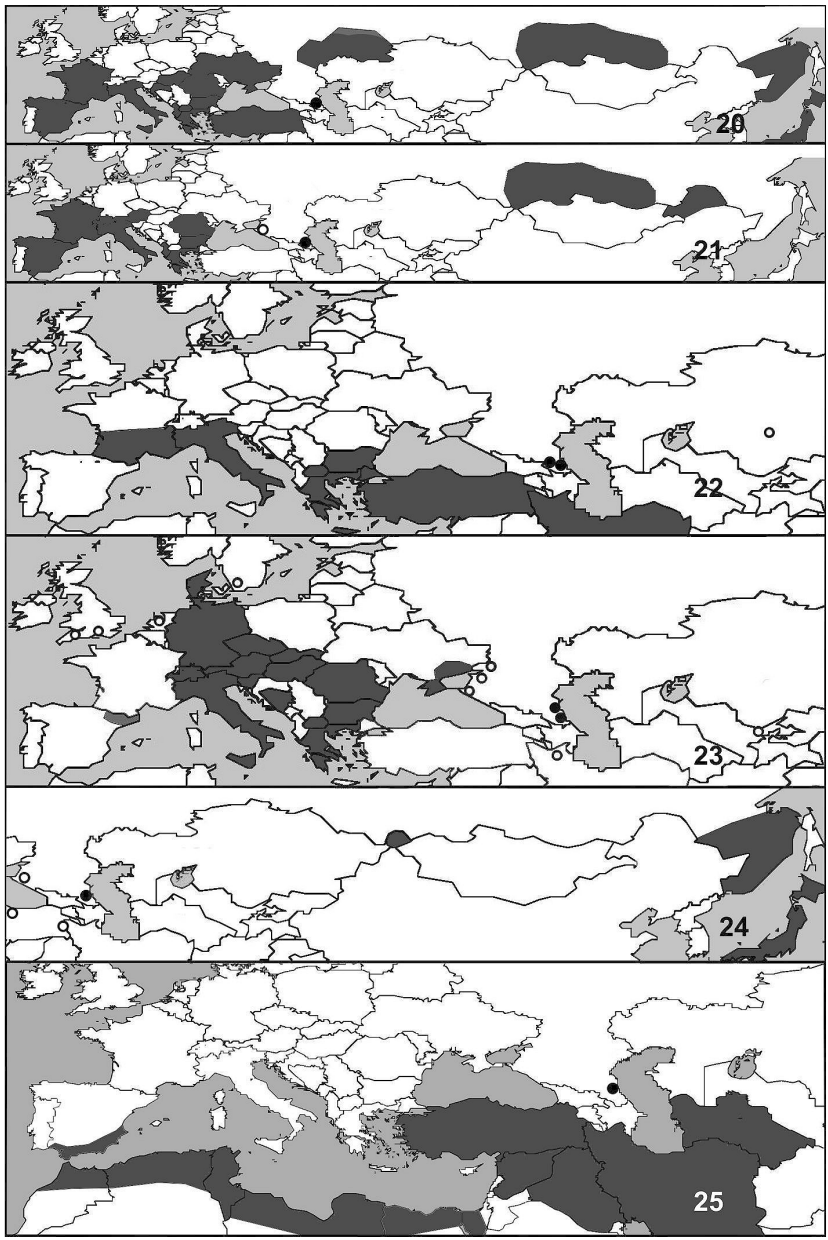
Figs. 1–14: New and rare Pyraloidea and Noctuoidea from Daghestan: **(1)** *Stiphrometasia monialis* (Erschoff, 1872); **(2)** *Ecpyrrhorrhoe diffusalis* (Guenée, 1854); **(3)** *Achyra nudalis* (Hübner, 1796); **(4)** *Paratalanta cultralis* (Staudinger, 1867); **(5)** *Udea austriacalis* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1851); **(6)** *Agrotera nemoralis* (Scopoli, 1763); **(7)** *Loxostege aeruginalis* (Hübner, 1796); **(8)** *Ephelis cruentalis* (Geyer, 1832); **(9)** *Aglossa asiatica* (Erschoff, 1872); **(10)** *Raparna conicephala* (Staudinger, 1870) – Hadjalmahi, 1926 (ZIN coll.); **(11)** *Raparna conicephala* – Chirkata, 15.07.2013; **(12)** *Arcyophora dentula* (Lederer, 1870); **(13)** *Photedes morrisii* (Dale, 1837); **(14)** *Agrotis lasserrei* (Oberthür, 1881).



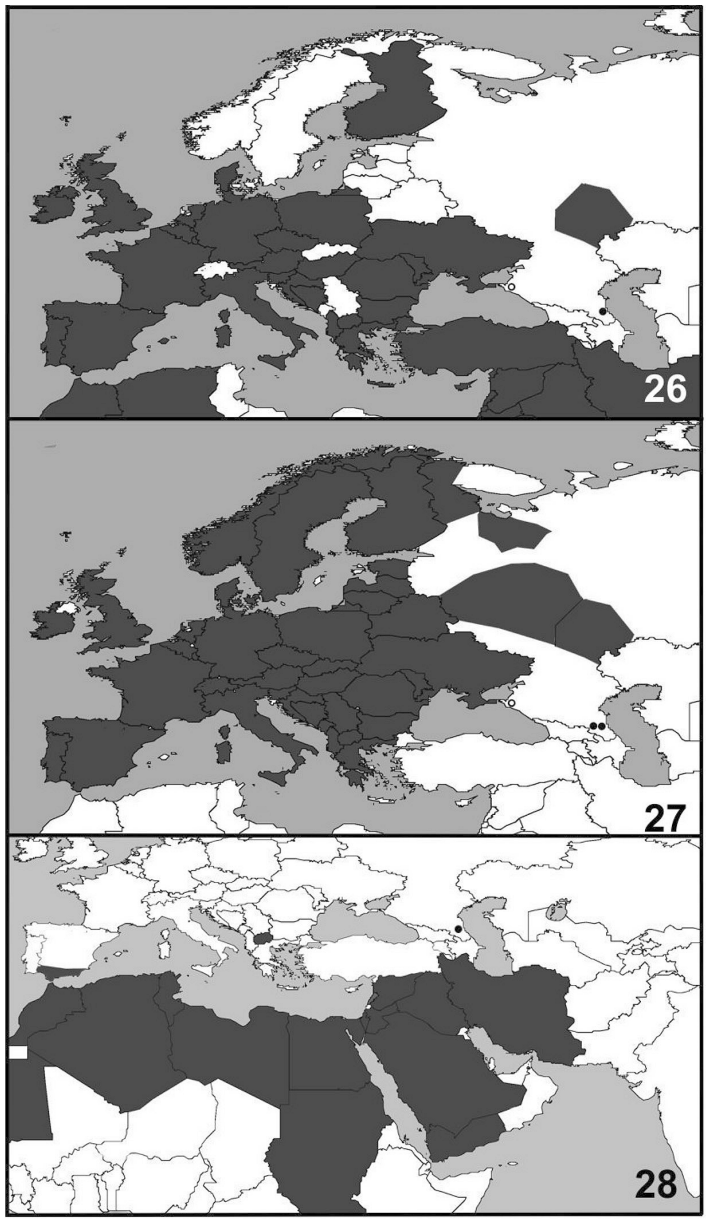
Figs. 15–16: Distribution of moths: **(15)** *Stiphrometasia monialis*; **(16)** *Ecpyrrhorrhoe diffusalis*. Black dots – new localities in Daghestan; dark painted areas and white points – data from references.



Figs. 17–19: Distribution of moths: **(17)** *Aglossa asiatica*; **(18)** *Achyra nudalis*; **(19)** *Arcyophora dentula*. Black dots – new localities in Daghestan.



Figs. 20–25: Geographic areas of moths: **(20)** *Loxostege aeruginalis*; **(21)** *Udea austriacalis*; **(22)** *Ephelis cruentalis*; **(23)** *Photedes morrisii*; **(24)** *Paratalanta cultralis*; **(25)** *Agrotis lasserrei*. Black dots – new localities in Daghestan; dark painted areas and white points – data from references.



Figs. 26–28: Geographic areas of moths: **(26)** *Mormo maura;* **(27)** *Agrotera nemoralis*; **(28)** *Raparna conicephala*. Black dots – new localities in Daghestan; dark painted areas and white points – data from references.

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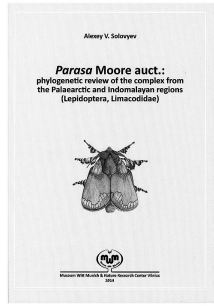

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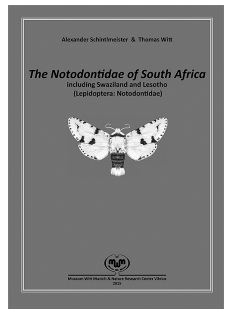

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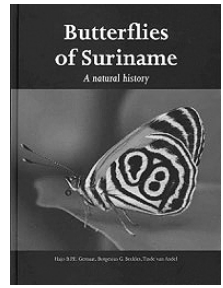

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5 Karten, 1475 Farbbilder, 19 s/w Fotos, 329 figs. Hardcover.
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Das vorliegende Buch behandelt die derzeit 150 Arten bekannter Tagfalter (Rhopalocera) von Surinam. Fast alle Arten werden umfangreich, nicht nur in ihrer Taxonomie, sondern auch in ihren Präimaginalstadien, Parasiten, ökologischen Ansprüchen (inklusive Nahrungspflanzen der Raupen), und in ihrer Verbreitung behandelt. Dazu gehören auch zahlreiche hervorragende Farbabbildungen von Habitaten, Raupen, Puppen, Imagines in freier Wildbahn. Der Lebenszyklus von Callima illioneus (Cramer, 1775) vom Ei bis zum Schlüpfen des Falters wird beispielsweise auf 13 technisch ausgezeichneten Einzelbildern dokumentiert. Natürlich werden auch Serien der Imagines aller Arten auf insgesamt 52 Tafeln in präpariertem Zustand (Ober-und Unterseite) vor dezent hellgrauem Hintergrund ästhetisch perfekt illustriert.

Das Buch ist aber, wie der Untertitel bereits andeutet, weit mehr als nur eine monographische Bearbeitung der Tagfalter Surinams.
Teil I befasst sich allgemein mit den biologischen Namen (Nomenklatur), der Klassifikation, der Geographie, Geologie und den Böden in Surinam.
Teil II beschäftigt sich auf 41 Seiten mit den Pflanzen und Habitaten (Küstenbereiche, Savannen, Gebirge).
Teil III führt in die Tagfalter Surinams ein. Dazu gehören auch reich illustrierte Kapitel über Migration, Überlebensstrategien und Mimikry der Schmetterlinge. Besonders interessant ist auch das hier untergebrachte Kapitel über die Historie der Erforschung Surinamesischer Tagfalter. Eine wahre Fundgrube für den Interessierten: Von Maria Sibylla Merian, die Verwertung Ihrer Publikationen durch Linnaeus bis zu den Prachtwerken von Cramer und Sepp fehlt hier wirklich nichts. Auch weniger bekannte Werke, wie das Diarium Surinamicum von Daniel Rolander (1725-1793), ein Linnaeus-Schüler oder „Surinam, sein Land, seine Natur, Bevölkerung und seine Kultur-Verhältnisse mit Bezug auf Kolonisation" von August Kappler (1815-1887) werden detailliert besprochen.
Auch werden alle bekannten 51 Typenexemplare von Cramer und Stoll (in 45 Arten), die im Netherlands Centre for Biodiversity Naturalis in Leiden aufbewahrt werden, auf 4 Tafeln abgebildet. An manchen Exemplaren hat allerdings der Zahn der Zeit die letzten 230 Jahre doch schon erheblich genagt.
In Teil III sind auch alle wesentlich Expeditionen nach Surinam mit vielen historischen Fotografien und die Bearbeiter Surinamesischer Tagfalter bis hin zur National Zoological collection of Suriname in Paramaribo und dem Butterfly Park Lelydorp auf Surinam dargestellt.
Teil IV behandelt dann die einzelnen in Surinam vorkommenden Arten. Insgesamt 7 Anhänge erläutern z.B. Details aller Cramer'schen Typen und ihre Besitzerwechsel, das berühmte Merian'sche Werk Metamorphosis Insectorum Surinamensium oder auch Fachausdrücke (Glossary) . Appendix IV beinhaltet die genauen Daten der abgebildeten Falter. Der Appendix VII widmet sich dem Autorenteam, den Unterstützern und dem „SLI" (das muss offenbar das Suriname Lepidoptera Institute sein) und dem „making off" des Buches. Das Literaturverzeichnis umfasst 333 Einträge.

Das gesamte Buch in einer derartig exzellenten Ausstattung, welche weit über das „normale" hinausgeht, war wohl nur möglich weil zahlreiche Sponsoren gefunden werden konnten, die auf den Innentitel präsentiert werden. Ihr zweifellos starker finanzieller Einsatz hat sich ganz offensichtlich gelohnt!

Alexander Schintlmeister

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