Aloa Walker 1855 and Amsacta Walker 1855, two distinct genera of Arctiidae (Lepidoptera)

by

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Abstract: Aloa and Amsacta are redefined as distinct genera and a catalogue of species is provided. The genus Aloa is reinstated for the type species lactinea Cramer 1777 and its relatives, i.e. the Australasian species formerly included under Amsacta. Amsacta becomes restricted to the Afrotropical region only.

Introduction

Walker (1855 b) described Amsacta as a monotypic genus within the Liparidae, now Lymantriidae, with marginalis Walker 1855 as the only included species. Hampson (1901) used Amsacta within the Arctiidae, based on venation characters, for a group of 17 species including Phalaena lactinea Cramer 1777, subsequently cited as type species for Aloa Walker 1855 by Moore ([1883]) (Watson et al. 1980). In his supplement, Hampson (1920) added another 8 species to Amsacta. Today, after further descriptions and transfers from other genera, Amsacta currently contains 31 species.
The disappearance of *Aloa* into synonymy is also due to HAMPSON (1901). HAMPSON (1901) treated *Aloa* as a synonym of *Diacrisia* HÜBNER [1819] 1816 based on his invalid designation of *Spilosoma lineata* WALKER 1855 as type species (WATSON et al. 1980). MOORE ([1883]) had already designated *Phalaena lactinea* CRAMER 1777 as type species of *Aloa*.

Subsequent authors all followed HAMPSON in treating *Phalaena lactinea* CRAMER and its relatives as congeneric with *Amsacta marginalis* WALKER.

The two type species *Amsacta marginalis* and *Aloa lactinea* are generically distinct. The genus *Aloa* is reinstated for the species *lactinea* and its relatives. All Australasian species are extracted from *Amsacta* which becomes restricted to the Afrotropical region only. In addition, many other African species must be placed outside *Amsacta* into other genera. As these species must be subject to a thorough revision to find their correct generic placement they are listed as "*Amsacta sensu lato*".

**Catalogue entries**

Each species entry includes the name, authorship, date of publication, pagination and the genus with which the name was originally combined. This is followed by a statement about the type material: Holotype or syntype(s) (the "s" in parentheses indicating that the author of the taxon neither designated a holotype nor stated how many specimens were before him when he described the taxon). Entries inset and in small types placed below a valid name are junior synonyms, homonyms, incorrect spellings or infrasubspecific names.

Country of origin is cited from the original description. Square brackets are used to indicate that we have had to rely on evidence external to the original description in determining the country of origin. Following the country is a quotation from the original description concerning the place of capture within the country.

**Catalogue**

*Aloa* WALKER, 1855 a: 699.

Type species *Phalaena lactinea* CRAMER, 1777: 58.

Forewing of type species white, with costa edged in red. Hind wing white, with dark circular markings (Figs. 1, 3 & 4). Abdomen white ven-
trally, yellow with wide dark bands dorsally. Antenna laminate. Other species are similar except for *senegalensis*, *rubricostata*, *nalonyi*, *albistriga* which have the veins on the forewing picked out in brown scales. *A. costalis* has dark fascia on the forewing and *negrita* has black forewings with white streaks.


**albistriga** WALKER, 1865: 303 (*Aloa*). Comb. rev.
Holotype "South Hindostan".

  Syntypes India.

- ab. *sarala* STRAND, 1919: 244 (*Amsacta*). Comb. n.
  Holotype [India] "Trichinopoly".

**arabicum** HAMPSON, 1896: 258 (*Spilosoma*). Comb. n.
Syntypes Aden.

- *gracilis* STAUDINGER, 1899: 354 (*Spilosoma*). Comb. n.
  Holotype Palestine.

- ab. *pedunculata* STRAND, 1919: 244 (*Creatonotos*). Comb. n.
  Holotype Aden.

**cardinalis** BUTLER, 1875: 22 (*Areas*). Comb. n.

  Syntype(s) [Philippines] "Philippine Islands".

  Holotype [Sulawesi] "Celebes".

  Holotype [Sulawesi] "Celebes".

  Syntypes Timor.

  Syntypes [Indonesia] "Toekan Besi Islands".
flavimargo HAMPSON, 1894: 27 (*Creatonotos*). Comb. n.
Syntype(s) [Myanmar] Burma "Bhama".

collaris HAMPSON, 1891: 54 (*Aloa*). Comb. rev.
Syntypes India "Nilgiris".

costalis WALKER, 1865: 301 (*Aloa*). Comb. rev.
Syntypes Northern Australia.

corsima SWINHOE, 1892: 171 (*Aloa*). Comb. rev.
Holotype Australia "Queensland".

lactinea Cramer, 1777: 58 (*Phalaena*).
Syntype(s) [Indonesia] "Batavia".

sanguinolenta FABRICIUS, 1793: 473 (*Bombyx*).
Syntype(s) "India Orientali"

frederici KIRBY, 1892: 223 (*Aloa*). Comb. rev.
Holotype Nepal.
Replacement name for marginata MOORE, 1883: 15.

f. negrita HAMPSON, 1894: 28 (*Creatonotos*). Comb. n., stat. n.
Syntypes India "Cheri-Punji".

marginata MOORE; 1883: 15 (*Aloa*).
Junior homonym of marginata DONOVAN, 1805.

marginata DONOVAN, 1805: t. 34 fig. 2 (*Bombyx*). Comb. n.
Australia.

roseicostis BUTLER, 1875: 23 (*Areas*). Comb. n.
Syntype(s) Cape York.

punctipennis BUTLER, 1876: 126 (*Areas*). Comb. n.
Syntypes Australia.

gangara SWINHOE, 1892: 171 (*Aloa*). Comb. rev., syn. n.
Syntypes Australia.

ab. flaveola ROTHSCILD, 1914: 251 (*Amsacta*). Comb. n.
Syntypes numerous localities.

ab. simplicans STRAND, 1919: 243 (*Amsacta*). Comb. n.
Syntypes Western Australia

ab. gangarides STRAND, 1919: 240 (*Amsacta*). Comb. n.
Syntypes Western Australia.
Figs. 1, 3, 4: *Phalaena lactinea* Cramer 1777. Type species of *Aloa* Walker 1855. Male specimen, male genitalia and aedeagus.

Figs. 2, 5, 6: *Amsacta marginalis* Walker 1855. Type species of *Amsacta* Walker 1855. Male specimen, male genitalia and aedeagus.
moloneyi DRUCE, 1887: 670 (Areas). Comb. n.
Syntype(s) Gambia.

Holotype Ghana "Gambaga".

senegalensis ROTHSCCHILD, 1933: 180 (Amsacta). Comb. n.
Syntypes Senegal "Sedhiou".

moorei BUTLER, 1875: 23 (Areas). Comb. n.
Syntype(s) "Almarah".

Syntypes [Pakistan] "Karachi".

Amsacta WALKER, 1855 b: 804.

Type species: Amsacta marginalis WALKER, 1855 b: 805.

Unmarked brown wings bordered with yellow. Male antenna bipectinate.
Foretibia with well developed terminal spines (Figs. 2, 5 & 6).

Uncus broad; weakly trifurcate posteriorly; dorsal surface spinose posteriorly. Valve digitate. Juxta tubular; emarginate posteriorly; fused with arms of transtilla. Vesica scobinate, but without cornuti. Eighth abdominal sternum with lateral sclerites. Coremata present between seventh and eighth sterna.

Lectotype Togo "Bismarckburg".

latimarginalis ROTHSCCHILD, 1933: 180 (Amsacta). Comb. n.
[Sudan] "Tambura, Southern Bahr-el-Ghazal".

Syntypes Sierra Leone.

Amsacta sensu lato

Holotype Zaïre "Kabongo (Lualaba)".

aureolimbata ROTHSCCHILD, 1910: 157 (Amsacta).
Syntypes Angola "Bihe".
**bicoloria** GaeDe, 1916: 125 (*Acantharctia*).
Holotype Cameroun, north "Garua-Reibuba".

**stygioides** Rothschild 1916: 271 (*Estigmene*).
Syntypes Nigeria "Abinsi, River Benue".

**duberneti** Toulgoet, 1968: 76 (*Amsacta*).
Holotype Madagascar "Nord d'Ankazobe".

**emittens** Walker, 1855: 638 (*Creatonotos*).
Syntypes Sri Lanka.

**flora** Swinhoe, 1885: 296 (*Aloa*).
Syntype(s) India "Bombay".

**grammiphlebia** Hampson, 1901: 323 (*Amsacta*).
Syntypes [Zimbabwe] "Mashonaland, Salisbury".

**lineola** Fabricius, 1793: 465 (*Bombyx*).
India.

**punctistriga** Walker, 1855 a: 676 (*Spilosoma*).
Holotype Northern India.

**candidula** Walker, 1855 a: 704 (*Aloa*).
India "Kimorak".

**diminuta** Walker, 1855 a: 705 (*Aloa*).
Holotype India.

**strigata** Walker, 1869: 10 (*Spilosoma*). "Punjab".

**rubricosta** Moore, 1872: 573 (*Creatonotos*).
Syntypes India "Manpuri & Bombay".

**insolata** Swinhoe, 1889: 404 (*Aloa*).
Syntypes India.

**felderi** Rothschild, 1910: 124 (*Diacrisia*).
India "Kotegurh".

**octomaculata** Rothschild, 1933: 185 (*Estigmene*).
Syntypes "Solane".

ab. **assamica** Strand, 1919: 242 (*Amsacta*).
Syntypes India "Assam".

ab. **kaschmirica** Strand, 1919: 242 (*Amsacta*).
Syntypes "Kashmir".

ab. **insolatana** Strand, 1919: 240 (*Amsacta*).
Syntypes Burma "Myingyan".
melanogastra HOLLAND, 1897: 410 (Cycnia).
Syntype(s) [Somalia or Ethiopia] "Gof".

epicaste FAWCETT, 1915: 93 (Diacrisia).
Syntype(s) [Kenya] "Masongaleni"

occidentalis BARTEL 1903: 191 (Spilosoma).
Syntype(s) [Namibia] "Outjo".

Holotype [South Africa] "E. Transvaal, Karino".

paolii BERIO, 1936: 27 (Amsacta).
Holotype Somalia "Villaggio Duca degli Abruzzi".

References


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