

***Brachodes flagellatus* sp. n. from Tibet (Lepidoptera: Sesioidea, Brachodidae)**

Axel KALLIES

Axel KALLIES, Zionskirchstraße 48, D-10119 Berlin, Germany; email: kallies@fmp-berlin.de

**Abstract:** A new species of Brachodidae, *Brachodes flagellatus* sp. n., is described from Tibet; holotype ♂ (and only specimen known) in Tiroler Landesmuseum Ferdinandeum, Innsbruck, Austria. It is the first representative of this family from this region and differs from all congeners by its conspicuously long antennae, the reduced length of its wings and the coloration of the latter.

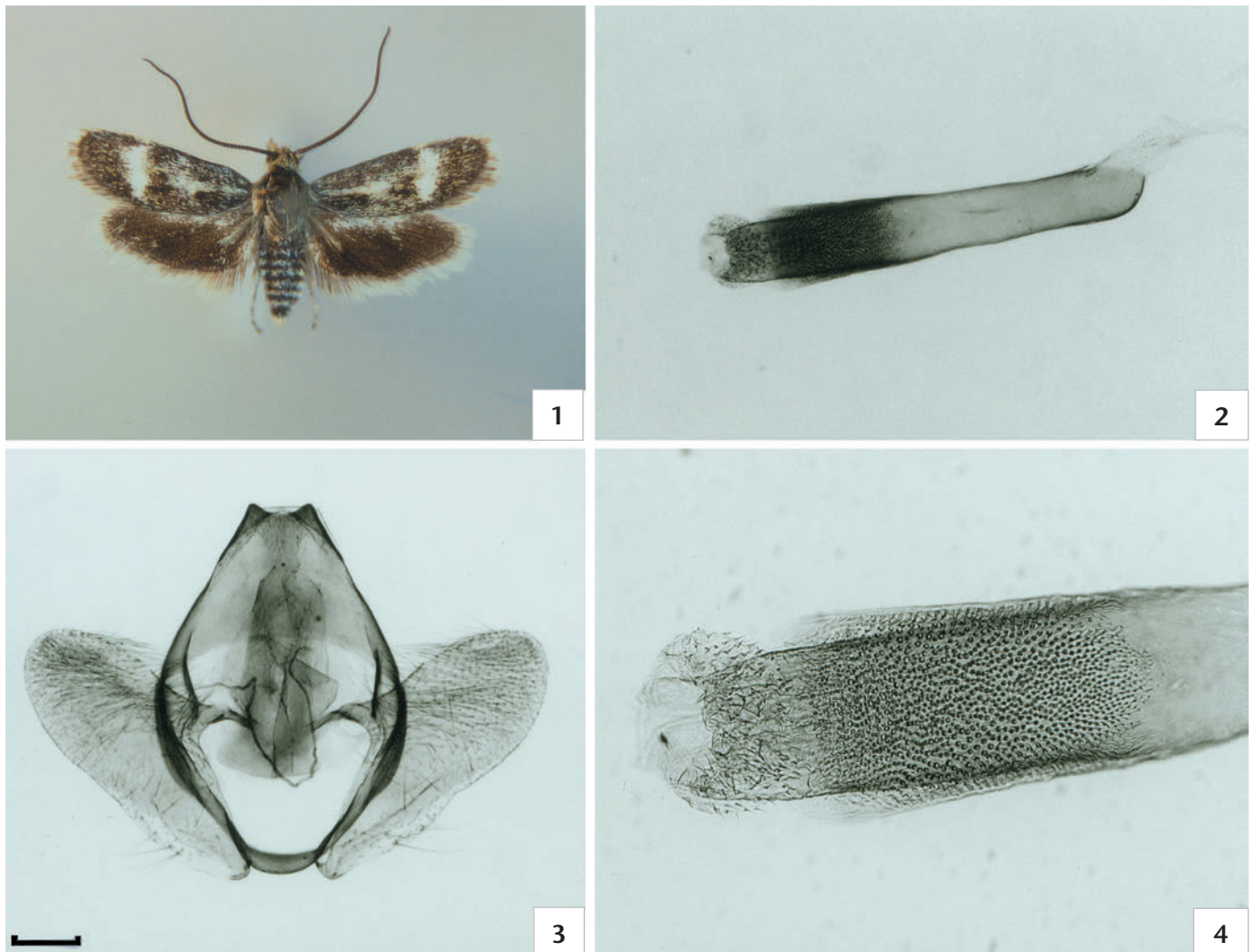
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**Zusammenfassung:** Eine neue Brachodide, *Brachodes flagellatus* sp. n., wird aus Tibet beschrieben. Es handelt sich dabei um den ersten Vertreter der Familie aus dieser Region. Die neue Art unterscheidet sich von allen anderen bekannten Arten der Gattung durch ihre auffällig langen Fühler, durch die reduzierte Flügellänge sowie durch die Färbung der Flügel.

**Introduction**

Within the Palearctic region the family Brachodidae is almost exclusively represented by the genus *Brachodes* GUÉNÉE, 1845. Considering size and coloration, and even structural characters such as presence of proboscis and shape of antennae, *Brachodes* moths are very diverse, although they display a very homogenous morphology of the genitalia. About 40 species of *Brachodes* have been described from the Palearctic, most of them occurring in the xerothermic steppe habitats of Asia Minor, the Middle East and Central Asia.

In the course of ongoing studies on Palearctic Brachodidae (KALLIES 1998, 2001, ZAGULAJEV 1999, NUSS & KALLIES 2001, KALLIES & ŠPATENKA in press) the author gained



**Figs. 1–4:** *Brachodes flagellatus* sp. n., Tibet. **Fig. 1:** holotype, ♂, alar expanse 16 mm. **Fig. 2:** ♂ genitalia, ventral view, aedeagus removed. **Fig. 3:** aedeagus. **Fig. 4:** distal portion of aedeagus. — Scale bar 0.2 mm.

access to an unusual and conspicuous species of this family which was collected at high altitude in Tibet. Due to its unfamiliar appearance, especially the extremely long antennae, the generic classification of the specimen was not immediately clear. Examination of the genitalia revealed that it belongs to an unknown species of the genus *Brachodes* which is described below.

Up to now, only three species of the genus *Brachodes* have been known from China: *Brachodes fallax* (STAUDINGER, 1900), *Brachodes staudingeri* KALLIES, 1998, and *Brachodes straminella* (REBEL, 1916) (KALLIES 1998 and unpublished). *Brachodes flagellatus* is the first species of the genus found in Tibet and as mentioned above is very unusual among the known representatives of *Brachodes* owing to its external appearance.

***Brachodes flagellatus* sp. n.** (Figs. 1–4)

**Holotype:** ♂ (Fig. 1), China, Tibet, Yung la, 5100–5300 m, 13./14. vi. 1999, leg. K. HUBER (coll. Tiroler Landesmuseum Ferdinandeum, Innsbruck, Austria).

**Etymology.** The latin name of the new species relates to the conspicuously long, flagellum-like antenna.

**Description.** Alar expanse 16 mm, forewing length 7 mm, body length 6.5 mm.

Head: antenna very long, about as long as forewing, black, smooth; labial palps cream-white, mixed with individual black scales, basal and mid joint long and rough-scaled, apical joint smooth; proboscis developed, but weak; frons black, shining, with yellow-white scales at the upper portion; vertex consisting of a mixture of black and yellowish scales. Thorax: black, with single white scales; patagia with a narrow white lateral margin. Forewing: black, dusted with individual white scales, especially in subbasal portion; a large white half moon-shaped maculation at about  $2/3$ ; a narrow white streak along cubitus; fringe very long, black basally, white distally; ventral side similar but white maculation and scaling more extensive

and defined. Hindwing: black, whitish subbasally and close to anterior margin; ventral side similar; fringe as in forewing. Legs: black, mixed with white scales. Abdomen: tergites black, each with a white band along posterior margin, at tergites 1–3 less pronounced; sternites black, partly mixed with white scales, with white bands along posterior margins; anal tuft black, white ventrally and at the tip.

♂ Genitalia (Gen. Prep. AK291, Figs. 2–4). Simple, uncus with two apical hooks; aedeagus straight, relatively short and thick, with numerous small cornuti apically.

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Autor(en)/Author(s): Kallies Axel

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