

On the presence of *Phytometra sanctiflorentis* and *Heterophysa dumetorum* in Italy (Noctuidae)

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Summary. The presence of *Heterophysa dumetorum* (Geyer, 1834) in Italy is confirmed, whereas *Phytometra sanctiflorentis* (Boisduval, 1834) is to be definitively excluded from the list of the Italian fauna.

Zusammenfassung. Das Vorkommen von *Heterophysa dumetorum* (Geyer, 1834) in Italien wird bestätigt. *Phytometra sanctiflorentis* (Boisduval, 1834) wurde aufgrund einer Fehlbestimmung für Italien gemeldet und ist damit nicht für die Fauna Italiens bekannt.

Résumé. La présence en Italie de *Heterophysa dumetorum* (Geyer, 1834) est confirmée, alors que *Phytometra sanctiflorentis* (Boisduval, 1834) est à exclure définitivement de la faune italienne.

The examination of the original material, preserved in the collections Attilio Fiori (Museo Civico di Storia Naturale of Milan) and Roger Verity (Museo Zoologico de “La Specola” of Florence), has allowed to confirm the presence of *Heterophysa dumetorum* in Italy and to exclude *Phytometra sanctiflorentis* definitively from the list of the Italian fauna.

Phytometra sanctiflorentis (Boisduval, 1834)

Verity (1905) recorded the presence of *Prothymnia sanctiflorentis*, “new species for Italy”, on the coast of Tuscany at Forte dei Marmi. This only record is taken up by Mariani (1941–43), who reports it for Tuscany. Raineri & Zilli (1995) and Nowacki & Fibiger (1996) raised doubts about its presence in Italy. In the Verity collection there are three specimens determined as belonging to this species, one of which was caught at Forte dei Marmi in September 1903. They completely lack the red colour, which is generally present in *Phytometra viridaria* (Clerck 1759), but they lack the other characteristics typical of *P. sanctiflorentis*: brown median shade of fore wing more perpendicular, less slanted, reniform stigma lighter than the ground colour and marked by two overlapping blackish spots, etc. Therefore they are specimens of *P. viridaria* which can be attributed to f. *fusca* Tutt, 1892, as recorded by Berio (1991).

According to Calle (1982) *P. sanctiflorentis* is endemic to the Iberian peninsula where it is recorded from Spain and Portugal (Nowacki & Fibiger 1996). It is to be definitively excluded from the Italian fauna.

Heterophysa dumetorum (Geyer, [1834])

Costantini (1922) signalled the presence of *Luperina dumetorum* Hb.-Geyer in central Italy, on the basis of a specimen collected by Attilio Fiori at Arapietra (on the northern

slope of Gran Sasso, in Abruzzo) on 27 July 1898 (Turati det.). The record, however, was ignored by the following faunal catalogues and neither Mariani (1941–43), nor Raineri & Zilli (1995), nor Nowacki & Fibiger (1996) reported the species as present in Italy. The above mentioned specimen is stored in the Fiori collection: besides the label with the place and date of collection (the same reported by Costantini), it bears another label written by Boursin, who confirmed the previous determination by Turati. The determination was further confirmed by examination of the male genital armature, which is depicted in Calle (1982).

The species is also known from Spain and France (Nowacki & Fibiger, 1996). Outside Europe, *H. dumetorum* is represented by the subspecies *mutica* (Christoph, 1885), which is distributed in Anatolia, Caucasus, Transcaucasia, Armenia, Turkestan, and Mazandaran.

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