

Hermann Hacker & Heinz Peks (eds.) 2004. Esperiana. Buchreihe zur Entomologie. Vol. 10 [incl. one extra sheet with corrigenda and addenda for volumes 8 and 9]. – Delta Druck und Verlag Schwanfeld: 784 pp. – Hardcover (ISBN: 3-9802644-9-1). 199 €. (in English)

The book series *Esperiana*, of which the first volume became published in 1990, predominantly deals with the taxonomy and faunistic of Palaearctic Noctuidae and insects from Yemen. Now, the tenth volume of the series has been published, containing three works on Noctuidae. The majority of this volume, altogether 683 pages and 27 colour-plates, is occupied by a comprehensive revision of the genus *Caradrina* Ochsenheimer, 1816 (Noctuidae: Amphipyriinae: Caradrini) by Hermann Hacker. Two other papers are dealing with a first record of *Caradrina suscianja* from Italy (two pages written by Stoyan Beshkov, Andrea Grassi & Alberto Zilli) and the *Eublemma*-species from Yemen (26 pages and two colour-plates written by Michael Fibiger & Hermann Hacker). The entire volume is completed by an alphabetic index of the scientific names.

The *Caradrina*-revision gives diagnoses and autapomorphies for the *Caradrina*-genus group, comprising beside *Caradrina* the genera *Hoplodrina* Boursin, 1937, *Stenodrina* Boursin, 1937, and *Stygiodrina* Boursin, 1937. Diagnoses and autapomorphies are also given for the eight subgenera of *Caradrina*, of which four are newly described. 33 species and 11 subspecies are described as new, the status of 12 species-group-names is changed, 21 species group names are regarded as new synonyms, and 26 species are transferred to other genera. Altogether, *Caradrina* now comprises 155 species. Most of them occur in the Palaearctic region, a few are known from the Nearctic and Afrotropical regions. For each species, historical descriptions are cited with full text, the examined material is listed and a diagnosis of external and genitalia characters including variability and possibilities for misidentifications are given. The distribution of each species is explained in detail and supported by a distribution map. Finally, reference is made to life-history data. The entire revision concludes with the numerous colour-figures of the moths and high quality black and white photographs of the genitalia slides. Text and figures of the revision enable the reader to identify the taxa dependably. Outstanding are the explanations on male genitalia characters and their terminology, the quality of the many genitalia figures as well as the colour figures of the moths specimens and their labels.

Although the author writes much about the phylogeny of the taxa treated and that 'the results were scored and documented in matrices', no details are presented. Indeed, nothing is stated which program has been used, a character matrix and a tree are absent. It remains questionable for the reader, why the results of this huge work are not shown and thus all the statements on the phylogeny can not be verified. The English text contains several vague wordings and the distribution maps do not show the precise dots of available records given in the material chapters. However, despite of these three critical points, the revision is well done and illustrated and follows the normal standards for a revision. All taxonomic information given can be verified and the results allow to identify the superficial very similar species of *Caradrina*.

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