

First approach on the identity and taxonomic position of *Bleptinodes perumbrosa* (HAMPSON, 1898) (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae: Herminiinae)

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Abstract

Bleptinodes perumbrosa (HAMPSON, 1898), the type-species of the genus *Bleptinodes* HAMPSON, 1925 is redescribed and illustrated in both sexes. The species is placed near the genus *Idia* HÜBNER, [1813].

Zusammenfassung

Bleptinodes perumbrosa (HAMPSON, 1898), die Typus-Art der Gattung *Bleptinodes* HAMPSON, 1925 wird wiederbeschrieben und in beiden Geschlechtern abgebildet. Die Art wird in die unmittelbare Verwandtschaft von *Idia* HÜBNER, [1813] gestellt.

Key words: *Bleptinodes* HAMPSON, 1925, *Bleptinodes perumbrosa* (HAMPSON, 1898), Herminiinae, *Idia* HÜBNER, [1813], Oriental region, redescription.

Bleptinodes perumbrosa (HAMPSON, 1898) [Nodaria] is the type-species of the genus *Bleptinodes* HAMPSON, 1925: 409. This species is redescribed and illustrated in both sexes.

Abbreviations (according to LÖDL 1993a and 1993b):

II	2nd joint of labial palpus	bb	width of corpus bursae	Q3	postmedial line
III	last joint of labial palpus	bl	length of corpus bursae	RM	orbicular spot
aa	apophyses anteriores	CF	costal dots	SF	dots along outer margin
A1 - A8	abdominal segments 1 - 8	Db	Ductus bursae	St 1 - 8	sternit 1 - 8
acb	width of aedeagus	Ds	Ductus seminalis	TcE	teguminal car
acd	aedeagus	hm	distance vinculum - uncus base	ub	width of uncus
acl	length of aedeagus	l	length of forewing	uh	height of uncus
ap	apophyses posteriores	NM	reniform spot	ul	length of uncus
b	width of forewing	pab	posterior abdominal brush	vb	width of valve
		Q2	antemedial line	vil	length of vinculum
				vl	length of valve

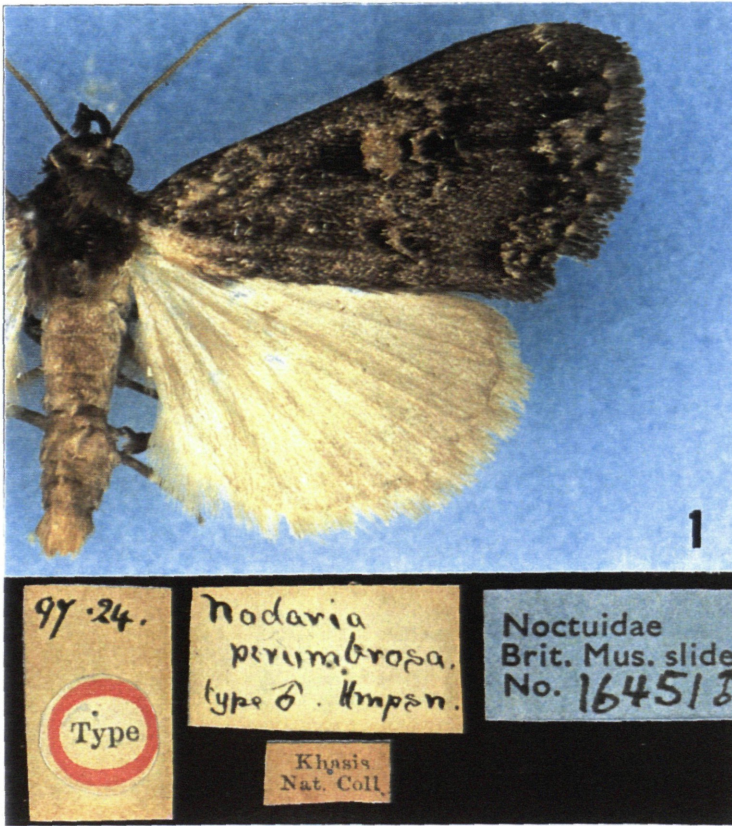


Fig. 1: *Bleptinodes perumbrosa* (HAMPSON, 1898). ♂-Holotypus (BMNH).

Fig. 2: *Bleptinodes perumbrosa* (HAMPSON, 1898). ♀ (BMNH).



Bleptinodes perumbrosa (HAMPSON, 1898)

(Figs. 1-11)

Nodaria perumbrosa HAMPSON, 1898: 701.

Examined type-material:

Holotype: ♂ [India] "Type \ 97.24 \ Khasis Nat. Coll. \ Nodaria perumbrosa type ♂. Hmpsn. \ Noctuidae Brit. Mus. slide No. 16451 ♂" (Fig. 1) (BMNH = The Natural History Museum, London).

Additional material:

1 ♀ [India], 97.24, Khasis, Jan. 1895, Nat. Coll., Noctuidae Brit. Mus. slide No. 16452 ♀ (Fig. 2) (BMNH) [Though this specimen is obviously member of the original series, it is not cited in the original description. So the male clearly is the holotype and this specimen remains without paratype status].

Description:

Head: Dark brown, labial palps long, curved upwards, brown. III dorsally with a fan of long scales. The base of II ventrally with long scales. The antennae are ciliated (♂ ciliae of double length of diameter of shaft, ♀ shortly ciliated).

Thorax and abdomen: Thorax dark brown, abdomen pale light brown with a greyish touch, soothly scaled. No tufts on the first abdominal segments. Legs greyish brown. A8 without remarkable features, pab absent. St4 in the ♀ with a straight skinfold, St3 in the ♀ with a curved skinfold.

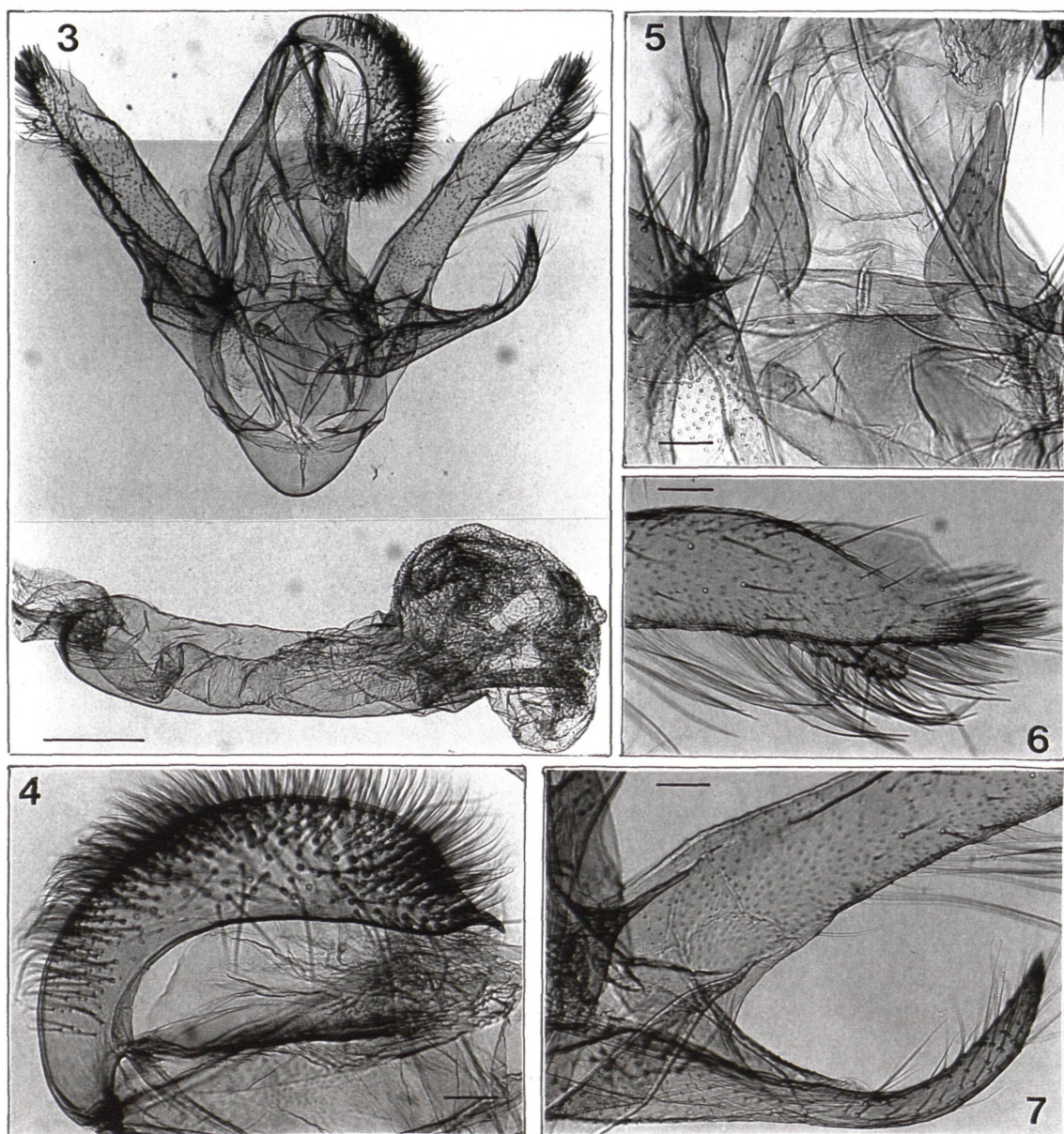
Wings: Wingspan = 32 - 34 mm; l : b = 1.8 - 1.9. Forewings dark brown, dull, with yellowish brown and black patterns. Apex rounded. Q2 insignificant, dark, slightly shaded. RM a yellowish brown, insignificant dot. NM big, yellowish brown, marked by black within the discal cell. Q3 yellowish brown and black, significantly waved and marked by a black shadow on the outer margin. CF missing. W as yellowish brown dots in a waved line. SF black, marked yellowish brown on the outer margin. Fringe dark brown. Hindwings pale, whitish brown with a dark brown adterminal line.

♂-genitalia (Figs. 3-7): Genitalia of the *Idia* Hübner, [1813] type with clumsy and clubshaped uncus and significant sacculus process. Valves narrow, skinny, at the distal end parted into flabby folds covered with hair-like scales (Fig. 6). Sacculus process originated at the base of the valve, long and hornshaped covered with bristles (Fig. 7). Articulation of the valves at the teguminal corpus far from each other, so the whole genitalia exhibits a broad and clumsy shape at its cephal end. Vinculum broad and rounded. Anellus skinny and like a cone, transtilla with two long (17 % of hm) caudal oriented horns (Fig. 5). Uncus thick, clumsy and densely covered with bristles (Fig. 4). Uncus is slightly curved and wears a small terminal hook. The aed is of the Herminiinae type, thick, slightly concave from dorsal view. The coecum is short, very thick and rounded. Vesica densely covered with little spines and sclerotized teeth. Relations: ul : ub = 3.8; ul : hm = 0.41; vl : hm = 0.92; vl : vb (in the middle) = 8.3; ael : hm = 0.92; ael : aeb = 4.6.

♀-genitalia (Figs. 8-11): Long genitalia (total length = 6,4 mm) with narrow and slender papillae anales and long apophyses. A8 particularly ventrally densely covered with small spines (Fig. 11). Ostium skinny, rounded, laying between a pair of sterigma pockets (Fig. 9). Db short, skinny, slightly curved and with longitudinal folds (Fig. 10). Bursa formed like a broad sack, cephalad slightly narrower. On the caudal shoulder of the bursa with an area of fine sclerotized spines (Fig. 10). Ds running in a cervix at the dorso-cephal third of the bursa. The cervix area is slightly granular. Relations: bl : bb = 1.6; ap : aa = 1.2; ap : gl = 0.2.

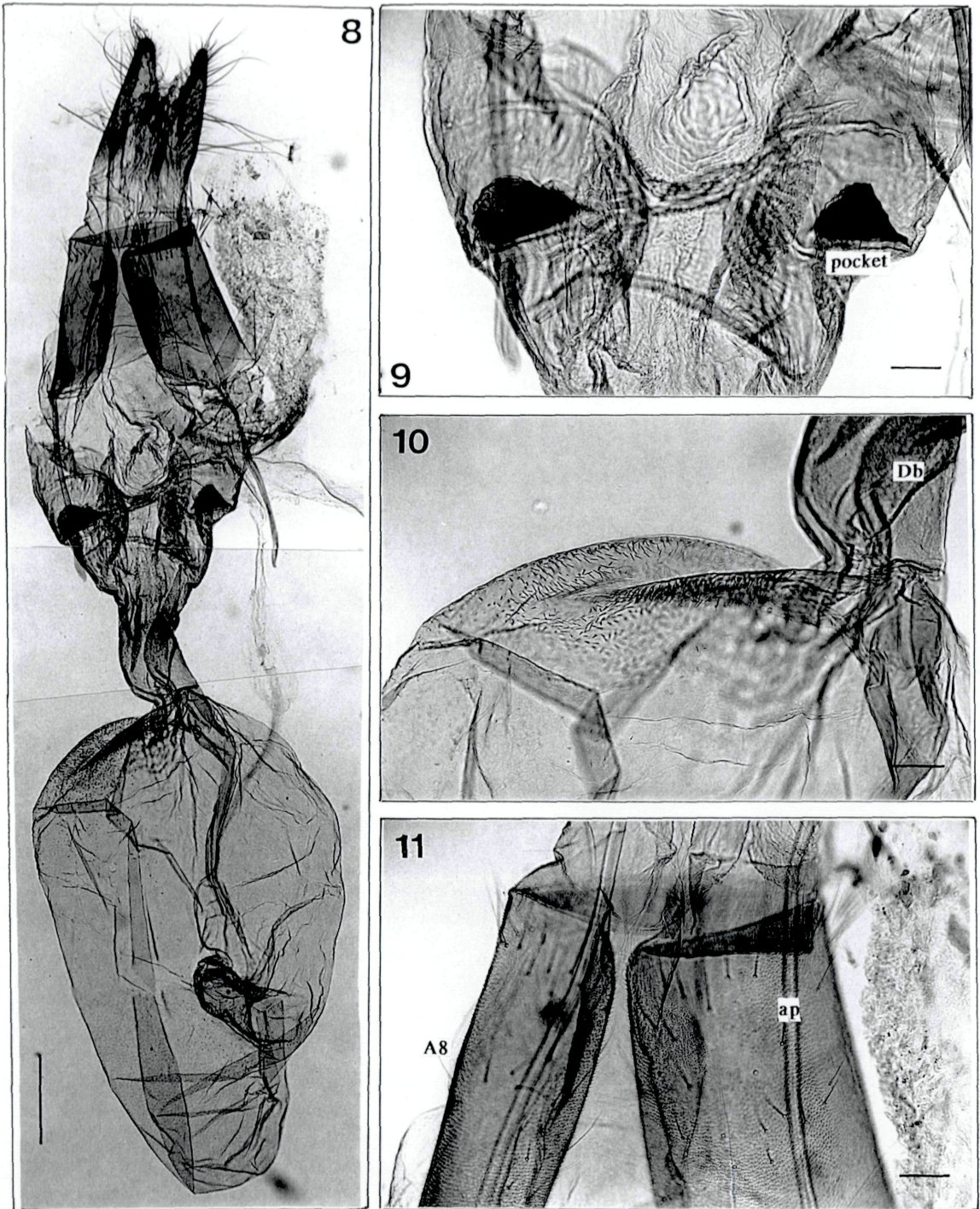
Discussion

Though there is no final concept to define the genus *Idia*, *Bleptinodes* belongs without doubt to a genus group near *Idia*, which most likely is forming a monophyletic unit. These species have rounded wings with dull colours and - normally - contrasting wing patterns with dominant, zigzag Q2, Q3 and W and a predominant NM. The labial palps are upcurved. The male forelegs do not wear a tibial sheet. The male genitalia exhibit a divided valve with a dominant sacculus process, in most species a vinculum like an ice-cone and an extraordinarily club-shaped and clumsy uncus. The aed is of the Herminiinae type (concave from the dorsal view or short and stout, never with a knee or boomerang-shaped). The female genitalia are also of the Herminiinae type, in many genera a pair of sclerites of the Db is present, the base



Figs. 3-7 *Bleptinodes perumbrosa* (HAMPSON, 1898). ♂-Holotype, genitalia. Noctuidae Brit. Mus. slide No. 16451:

Fig. 3: Genitalia, total. Scale = 0.5 mm.- **Fig. 4:** Uncus. Scale = 0.1 mm.- **Fig. 5:** Transtilla - anellus - area. Scale = 0.1 mm.- **Fig. 6:** Distal end of right valve. Scale = 0.1 mm.- **Fig. 7:** Process of sacculus. Scale = 0.1 mm.



Figs. 8-11 *Bleptinodes perumbrosa* (HAMPSON, 1898). ♀-genitalia. Noctuidae Brit. Mus. slide No. 16452:

Fig. 8: Genitalia, total. Scale = 0.5 mm.- **Fig. 9:** Sterigma. Scale = 0.1 mm.- **Fig. 10:** Ductus bursae. Scale = 0.1 mm.- **Fig. 11:** A8. Scale = 0.1 mm.

of *Ds* forms a short cervix and in many species a signum like the eye of a „Cyclops“ or of a „hurricane“ is present. To our present knowledge the following genera contribute to the monophyletic *Idia*-unit:

Idia HÜBNER, [1813]
Bleptinodes HAMPSON, 1925
Mormoscopa MEYRICK, 1897 (possibly congeneric with *Idia*)
Subsimplicia A.E. PROUT, 1928 (possibly congeneric with *Idia*)
Aulocheta A.E. PROUT, 1927
Ctenypena A.E. PROUT, 1927
Ableptina A.E. PROUT, 1927
Tosacantha FLETCHER, 1961
Naarda WALKER, 1866
Chibidokuga MATSUMURA, 1933 (possibly congeneric with *Naarda*)
Gynaephila STAUDINGER, 1892
Trigonistis MEYRICK, 1902
Edessena WALKER, [1859] 1858
Cristatopalpus BETHUNE-BAKER, 1908

Further information on the *Idia*-group is found in LÖDL (1996a, b, c, 1997) and OWADA (1987).

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