

## ***Catada cornesi* sp.n., a new species from western Africa (Lepidoptera, Noctuidae, Hypeninae)**

**M. Lödl**

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### **Abstract**

A new species of the genus *Catada* WALKER, [1859] 1858, *C. cornesi* sp.n., is described and illustrated. The new species is found to be member of a group of species with a helmet-like uncus and a sickle-shaped scaphium.

### **Zusammenfassung**

Eine neue Art der Gattung *Catada* WALKER, [1859] 1858, *C. cornesi* sp.n., wird beschrieben und abgebildet. Die neue Art gliedert sich gut in eine Artgruppe ein, die durch helmförmige Unci und sichelförmige Scaphia gekennzeichnet ist.

**Key words:** *Catada*, Ethiopian Region, Hypeninae, new species, Noctuidae, western Africa.

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### **Introduction**

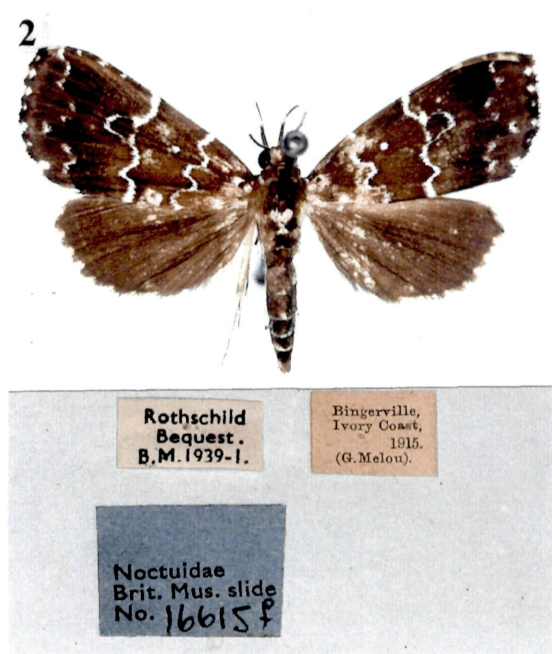
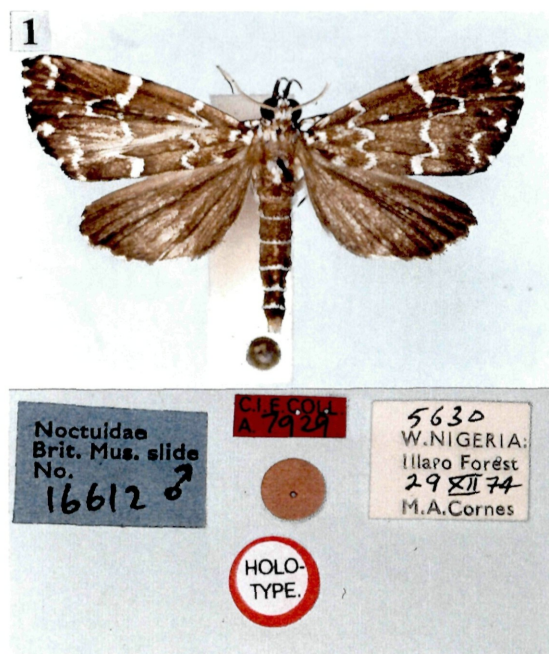
The revision of the genus *Catada* WALKER, [1859] 1858 is in progress. In addition to several papers dealing with the constitutive features of the genus (LÖDL 2000, 2001) and the redescription of the type-species (LÖDL 1999) a new species from Borneo has been described by LÖDL & PAUMKIRCHNER (2001). The new taxon contributes to the knowledge of plesiomorphic and apomorphic states of characters of the male genitalia. It belongs to a group with advanced uncus-scaphium-devices. The newly described species exhibits a helmet-like uncus and a sickle-shaped scaphium which qualifies for the *C. vagalis*-group. In the collections of the Natural History Museum, London (BMNH) this new species had been located and it is described as follows.

### ***Catada cornesi* sp.n.**

(Figs. 1-11)

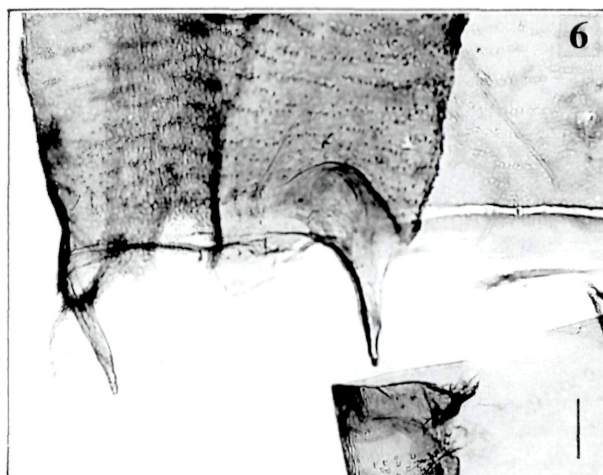
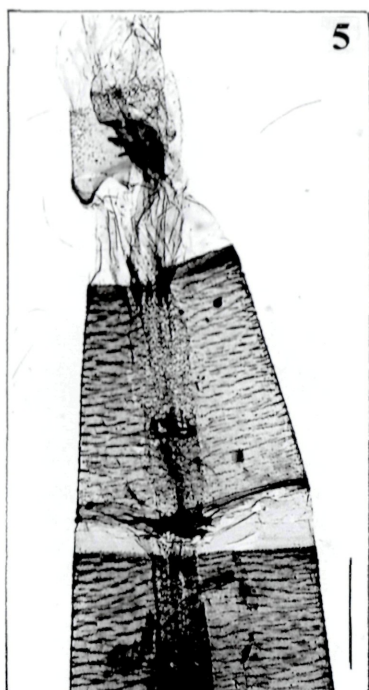
#### **Type material:**

**Holotype:** ♂, "HOLOTYPE. \ 5630 W.NIGERIA: Illaro Forest 29 XII 74 M.A. Cornes \ [round reddish label] \ C.I.E.COLLA. A.7929 \ Noctuidae Brit. Mus. slide No. 16612 ♂" (BMNH) (Fig. 1).



**Figs. 1-4** *Catada cornesi* sp.n.:

**Fig. 1:** Holotype ♂, Nigeria (BMNH).- **Fig. 2:** dto.- ♀, Ivory Coast (BMNH).- **Fig. 3:** Holotype ♂, genitalia, Noctuidae Brit. Mus. slide No. 16612, left valve. Scale = 0.1 mm.- **Fig. 4:** dto.- Uncus and scaphium. Scale = 0.1 mm.



**Figs. 5-8** *Catada cornesi* sp.n., holotype ♂, Noctuidae Brit. Mus. slide No. 16612:

**Fig. 5:** Abdomen, caudal segments. Scale = 0.5 mm.- **Fig. 6:** Apodemes of 3<sup>rd</sup> sternite. Scale = 0.1 mm.- **Fig. 7:** Genital, total. Scale = 0.5 mm.- **Fig. 8:** Aedeagus in situ. Scale = 0.1 mm.



**Additional material:** No further specimens from the type locality had been available, so the additional material is not constituted as a paratype series. Ivory Coast: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, Bingerville, Ivory Coast, 1915, (G. Melou), Noctuidae Brit. Mus. slide No. 16615 ♀ (Fig. 2) (BMNH).- Nigeria: 1 ♂, Nigeria, Ibadan, 13.-24. VI. 1977, J. C. Deeming; 1 specimen broken into parts, Nigeria, Lagos, 12. I. 75, M. A. Cornes; (BMNH).- Cameroons: 1 ♂, Cameroon, Bitje Ja River, '20 (BMNH).- Congo: 1 ♀, Kassai district, Congo F. St. (Taymans) (BMNH).

## Description

**Derivatio nominis:** The new species is named after M.A. Cornes, the collector of the holotype specimen.

**Head:** Ground colour of the head white and dark greyish brown. The antennae are of typical *Catada*-shape, without longer cilia, pale brown and carry small white plates on their sides. The labial palps are upcurved and thin. Its scales are reddish brown with a small row of white scales. The eyes are big and globular. The third joint is very thin, upcurved and fine pointed. The labial palps are of dark brown colour with white and greyish white scales.

**Thorax and abdomen** (Fig. 5-6): Both are greyish or dark greyish brown and smoothly scaled, the abdominal segments are significantly marked with white. The bundles of hair-like scales on the distal end of the abdomen are white. The thorax is speckled with white scales. The 3<sup>rd</sup> abdominal sternite wears two horn-like, protruding lobes (Fig. 6). The 8<sup>th</sup> sternite exhibits an indented proximal margin (Fig. 5).

**Wings:** Small species, wingspan only 19-21 mm. Forewings greyish brown or dark greyish brown with significantly waved, white bands and lines. The antemedial band, the median line and the subterminals are simple and white. The orbicular spot is a white dot, the reniform spot is marked by a white loop. The outer margin is marked by white dots. The hindwings are also greyish brown and have a beige fringe.

**Male genitalia** (Figs. 3-4, 7-8): The typical feature "long coremata of the sacculus" is fully developed (Fig. 7). The uncus exhibits the most advanced state (Fig. 4) and is very similar to the uncus of *C. vagalis*, *C. charalis* SWINHOE, 1900 and *C. bellaria* LÖDL & PAUMKIRCHNER, 2001. The helmet-shaped uncus is huge and has a prominent distal cap, the scaphium is shorter and slenderer than in the other species but also significantly sickle-shaped. The distal end of the valve is blunt (Fig. 3). A longitudinal sail is situated in the middle of the valve and runs to the middle of the vinculum-frame. The dorsal margin of the valve is enlarged (Fig. 3). The anellus is a long, blunt tube, densely covered with spines in the caudal half. The aedeagus is quite long, slender and has a curved coecum (Fig. 8).

**Female genitalia** (Figs. 9-11): The female genitalia measure about 4.4 mm in length. The papillae anales are of normal shape, the apophyses anteriores are quite long (Fig. 10). The relation of apophyses anteriores to apophyses posteriores is 0.75. The ostium is insignificant and the ductus bursae very thin (Fig. 9). The bursa is a flabby sack covered with tiny spines (Fig. 11). A distinct signum is not visible.

**Distribution:** Known only from the holotype from Borneo.

## Discussion

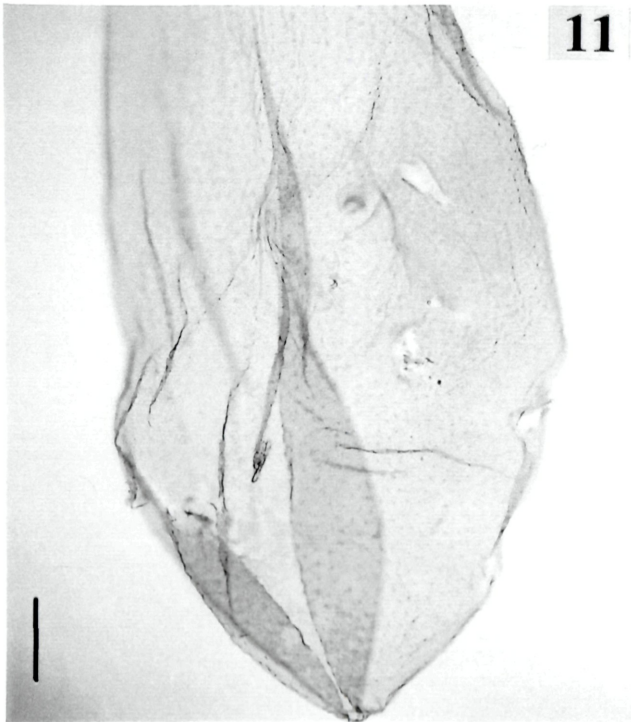
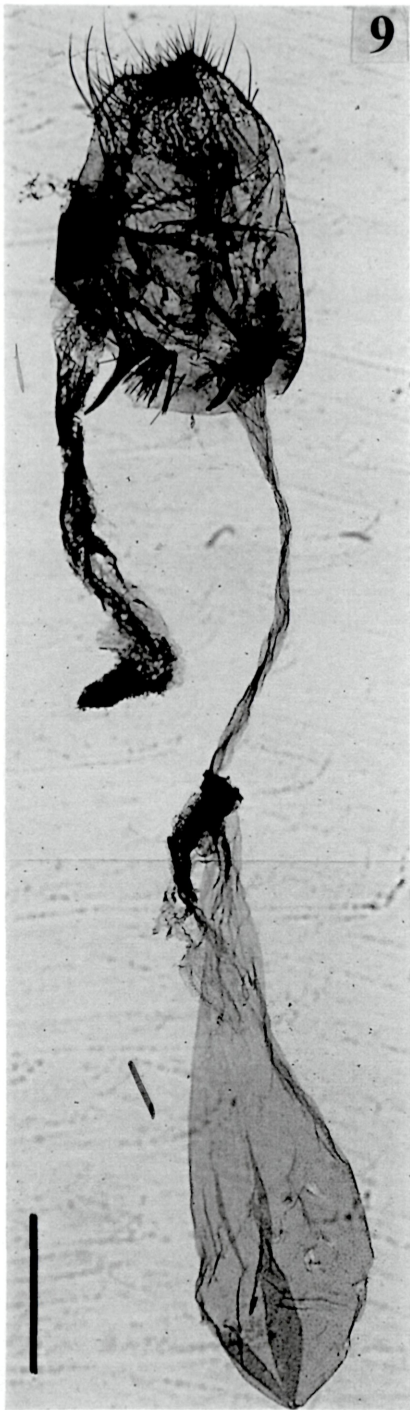
The new species belongs to a group of species with helmet-shaped uncus and sickle-shaped scaphium: *C. vagalis*, *C. charalis* and *C. bellaria*. So the new species is the first species of this group known to occur in Africa. *C. cornesi* sp.n. can be easily recognized by the typical wing pattern with striking bands and lines in white and by the short and small, sickle-shaped scaphium.

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**Figs. 9-11** *Catada cornesi* sp.n., ♀, Noctuidae Brit. Mus. slide No. 16615 (next page / nächste Seite):

**Fig. 9:** Genital, total. Scale = 0.5 mm.- **Fig. 10:** Papillae anales and apophyses. Scale = 0.1 mm.- **Fig. 11:** Bursa. Scale = 0.1 mm.

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### Literature

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### Author's address:

Mag. Dr. Martin Lödl, Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, Burgring 7, A-1014 Wien, Austria.- e-mail: [martin.loedl@nhm-wien.ac.at](mailto:martin.loedl@nhm-wien.ac.at)

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