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Taxonomic Studies on Some of the Syntypes of Indian Lymantriidae in British Museum (Nat. Hist.), London. Part IV: *Lymantria* spp.¹⁾ (Lepidoptera, Noctuoidea)

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Genus *Lymantria* HÜBNER, 1818

Type species *Bombyx monacha* LINNAEUS, 1758 (designated by MOORE, 1883)

Diagnostic characters Palpi porrect, hairy; antennae bipectinate with the branches long in male and short in female; forewings with the veins 3, 4, 5 from close to angle of cell, 6 from below upper angle, 7, 8, 9 and 10 stalked, 10 given off near the cell than 7; hind wings with veins 3, 4, 5 from close to angle of cell, 6 and 7 from upper angle. Female with the wings either fully developed or partially aborted or reduced to scales.

Distribution India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burma, Sri Lanka, Japan, Europe. This genus is known by 150 spp. from the world including 24 from India. However the present study include 16 species only from India.

1. *L. albolunulata* MOORE, 1879

Liparis albolunulata: SWINHOE, 1923

Lymantria serva subsp. *albolunulata*: BRYK, 1934

MOORE (1879) described this species on the basis of unspecified number of male and female specimens from Simla, Dharamsala and N. W. Himalaya available in his own collection. One male specimen from Dharamsala and two female specimen (one from Dharamsala and the other from Simla) could be examined in British Museum (Natural History) (BMNH) which are labelled as types in MOORE's own handwriting and appear to be of original syntypic series. Since the holotype was not selected by the original author, the male specimen out of the above syntypes is hereby designated as lectotype and the two female specimens as paralectotypes.

Distribution India: Dalhousie, Dharamsala, Kashmir, Khasi Hills, Mussoorie, Nainital, Simla.

Material examined 1 ♂, "Type" (red and white, circular, printed), "Moore Coll., 94/106" (white, square, printed), "Dharamsala, N. W. India" otherside of the label "Lymantria albolunulata (type) Moore" (white, rectangular, handwritten) (Lectotype designated); 1 ♀, "TYPE" (white, circular, printed), "Moore Coll., 94/106" (white, square, printed), "Dharamsala, ♀" otherside of the label "Lymantria albolunulata (type) Moore" (white,

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rectangular, handwritten); 1 ♀ same data as above, from Simla (Paralectotypes designated) (BMNH).

2. *L. ampla* (WALKER, 1855)

Enome ampla WALKER, 1855

Lymantria ampla: STRAND, 1915

The original description was based on two male specimens (one from Ceylon presented by TEMPLETON, and the other from North India collected by Mr. JAMES). In BMNH a single male specimen from Ceylon could be examined with reg. no. 52/62 which appears to be of original syntypic series. Since the holotype was not selected by the original author the above male is hereby designated as lectotype.

Distribution India: Calcutta, North Kanara, Kangra, Malabar, Nilambur, Poona, Sikkim, Surat, Trichonopoly.

Material examined 1 ♂, "52/62" other side of the label "Ceylon" (dirty gray, circular, handwritten), "ENOME AMPLA" (white, rectangular, printed) (Lectotype designated) (BMNH).

3. *L. concolor* WALKER, 1855

Liparis concolor: SWINHOE, 1923

Lymantria concolor: COLLENETTE, 1929

WALKER (1855) based his description for this species on a single female specimen from Sikkim collected and presented by Dr. HOOKER. In BMNH, there is a female specimen from North India with reg. No. 56/8, kept as type. BUTLER (1881) illustrated the above specimen also as a type specimen. The reg. No. with the above specimen indicates that it is from North India presented by Mrs. HAWES. In view of the above facts the above specimen may not be treated as type specimen. Any specimen from Sikkim presented by Dr. HOOKER is not available in BMNH collection.

Distribution India: Dehradun, Kangra Valley, Kumaon, Mussoorie, Naga Hills, Shillong, Sikkim, Simla.

Material examined 1 ♀, "n. India" other side of the label "56/8" (gray, circular, handwritten), "LYMANTRIA CONCOLOR" (white, rectangular, printed) (BMNH).

4. *L. detersa* WALKER, 1865

Enome detersa SWINHOE, 1885

Lymantria detersa BRYK, 1934

WALKER's description for this species was based on two males "a" and "b" from Mauritius of Entomological Society Collection. In BMNH, there is a male specimen from India, collected by HAMILTON and presented by Entomological Society to British Museum (Nat. Hist.) with reg. No. 58/60 kept as type. The data labels with the above specimen and statement in the text are not tallying with each other. However, in one of the copy of original publication by WALKER on page No. 356 available in BMNH, Sir G. F. HAMPSON in his own handwriting has struck off the locality Mauritius and mentioned it as India. Also there is no literature saying the distribution of species upto Mauritius. This species is restricted only to India. In view of the above facts the present author is inclined to accept the views expressed by HAMPSON and suppose that the two males examined by WALKER were from India and not from Mauritius as mentioned by the original author and treating the above male in BMNH as a specimen of original syntypic series. Since the holotype had not been selected by the original author, the above male is hereby designated as lectotype.

Distribution India: Ahmednager, Belgaum, Bombay, S. Coorge, S. India, Nagpur, Poona.

Material examined 1 ♂, "58/60" (sky blue, circular, handwritten), "India, Mr. Hamilton" (white, circular, handwritten), "LYMANTRIA DETERSA" (white, rectangular, printed) (Lectotype designated) (BMNH).

5. *L. fuliginosa* MOORE, 1883

Liparis fuliginosa SWINHOE, 1923

Lymantria fuliginosa BRYK, 1934

This species was originally described by MOORE (1883) based on unspecified number of male as well as female specimens from Bombay collected by Dr. LEITH. In BMNH, the senior author could examine three male and two female specimens from Bombay collected by Dr. LEITH with reg. No. 94/106, labelled as type. It appears from the data labels of the above specimens that they belong to original syntypic series. As the holotype was not selected by the original author, one male out of the above three is hereby designated as lectotype and rest of the two males and two females as paralectotypes.

Distribution India: Bombay, Kanara, Mussoorie.

Material examined 1 ♂, "Moore Coll., 94/106" (white, rectangular printed), "Bombay, Dr. Leith" otherside of the label "Lymantria fuliginosa ♂, Moore" (white, rectangular, handwritten) (Lectotype designated); 1 ♂, "TYPE" (red and white, circular, printed), "Bombay, Dr. Leith" otherside of the label "Lymantria fuliginosa ♂ type, Moore" (white, rectangular, handwritten); 1 ♀, same data as above; 2 ♀♀, "Moore Coll., 94/106" (white, square, printed), "Bombay, Dr. Leith" otherside of the label "Lymantria fuliginosa ♀ Moore" (white, rectangular, handwritten) (Paralectotypes designated) (BMNH).

6. *L. grisea* MOORE, 1879

Liparis grisea SWINHOE, 1923

Lymantria grisea BRYK, 1934

MOORE (1879) described this species based on unspecified number of male as well as female specimens from Darjeeling. There is one male and one female specimen in BMNH which are kept as type. The data labels with the male, indicates that it was collected by Mr. GROTE from N. E. India. Since the above male is not having the same locality label as mentioned in the text, it cannot be treated as specimen of original syntypic series. The genitalia is dissected out and kept in a tube by the side of the specimen. However, because of the morphological characters this specimen may be treated as comparing specimen to identify the male of this species. As regard female specimen kept as type, the data labels indicate that this is of original syntypic series and hereby designated as lectotype of *L. grisea* MOORE.

Distribution India: Darjeeling, Sikkim.

Material examined 1 ♀, "Type" (red and white, circular, printed), "Moore Coll., 94/106" (white, square, printed) "Darjeeling ♀" otherside of the label "Lymantria grisea ♀ (type) Moore" (white, rectangular, handwritten) (Lectotype designated); 1 ♂, "TYPE" (red and white, circular, printed), "Moore Coll., 94/106" (white, square, printed), "N. E. India, Grote" otherside of the label "Lymantria grisea ♂ (type) Moore" (white, rectangular, handwritten), "1" (white, square, handwritten) (BMNH).

7. *L. incerta* WALKER, 1855

Enome incerta KIRBY, 1892

Lymantria incerta BRYK, 1934

A single male from N. India collected by Mr. STEVENS, on which WALKER (1855) based his description for this species, is present in BMNH, under reg. No. 48/131. Since the

original description was based on a single specimen, the above specimen is hereby treated as holotype.

Distribution: India: Bapatla, Bombay, Coimbatore, Dehradun, Gorakhpur, Kanara, Kangra, Kheralu, Nilgiri Hills, Palni Hills.

Material examined 1 ♂, "48/131" otherside of the label "N. India" (white, circular, handwritten), "16. LYMANTRIA INCERTA" (white, rectangular, printed) (Holotype) (BMNH).

8. *L. lepcha* (MOORE, 1879a)

Porthetria lepcha MOORE, 1879a

Lymantria lepcha KIRBY, 1892

MOORE (1879a) described this species based on unspecified number of male specimens from Darjeeling present in the collection of Dr. STAUDINGER and in his own collection. The present study include two males in BMNH from Darjeeling with reg. No. 94/106, which are labelled as type in MOORE's own handwriting and appear to be of original syntypic series. Since the holotype was not selected by the original author, one male out of the above two, is hereby designated as lectotype and the remaining one as paralectotype. BRYK (1934) has wrongly mentioned the type locality Sikkim.

Distribution India: Andaman, Darjeeling, Goalpara, Khasi Hills, Sikkim.

Material examined 1 ♂, "TYPE" (red and white, circular, printed), "Moore Coll., 94/106" (white, square, printed), "Darjeeling" otherside of the label "Lymantria lepcha ♂ (type) Moore" (white, rectangular, handwritten) (Lectotype designated); 1 ♂ "Moore Coll., 94/106" (white, square, printed), "Darjeeling ♂" otherside of the label "Lymantria lepcha ♂ (type) Moore" (white, rectangular, handwritten) (Paralectotype designated) (BMNH).

9. *L. mathura* MOORE, 1865

Liparis mathura SWINHOE, 1923

Lymantria mathura DE JOANNIS, 1929

MOORE's description is based on unspecified number of male specimens from N. E. Bengal present in the collection of A. E. RUSSEL and in his own collection. In BMNH, there is a male specimen with reg. No. 94/106 from N. India, labelled as type. Since the locality label with the above specimen is not in agreement with that of text, it is very difficult to ascertain whether it belongs to original syntypic series or not. Wing span of the above specimen is 1.8 inch as compared to 2.25 inch mentioned in the text.

Distribution India: Bengal, Dehradun, Garo Hills, Kangra, Kashmir, N. W. Himalaya, Surat.

Material examined 1 ♂, "TYPE" (red and white, circular, printed), "Moore Coll., 94/106" (white, square, printed), "N. India, ♂" otherside of the label "Lymantria mathura ♂, Moore (type)" (white, rectangular, handwritten) (BMNH).

10. *L. moesta* SWINHOE, 1903

Liparis moesta SWINHOE, 1923

Lymantria moesta BRYK, 1934

This species was described by SWINHOE (1903) on the basis of one male specimen from Kasauli collected by REED and one female specimen from Kangra Valley collected by DUDGEON. In BMNH both the specimen are present and labelled as type. Out of them the male with reg. No. 94/106 is hereby designated as lectotype and female with reg. No. 99/245 as paralectotype.

Distribution India: Kangra Valley, Kasauli, Kashmir.

Material examined 1 ♂, "TYPE" (red and white, circular, printed), "Moore Coll., 94/106" (white, square, printed), "Kussowlee, N. W. Himalaya" (white, rectangular, handwritten), "Lymantria moesta ♂, Swinhoe type" (white, rectangular, handwritten) (Lectotype designated); 1 ♀, "TYPE" (red and white, circular, printed), "Kangra Valley 4500 ft, July, 1899, Dudgeon" (white, rectangular, handwritten), "94/245" (white, rectangular, handwritten), "Lymantria moesta ♀ Swinhoe, type" (white, rectangular, handwritten) (Paralectotype designated) (BMNH).

11. *L. obfuscata* WALKER, 1865

Porthetria obfuscata KIRBY, 1893

Enome obfuscata SWINHOE, 1903

Liparis obfuscata SWINHOE, 1923

Lymantria obfuscata DE JOANNIS, 1929

A single male from N. India presented by Captain STRACHEY on which WALKER (1865) based his description, is present in BMNH under reg. no. 60/39 and hereby treated as holotype of *L. obfuscata* WALKER. BRYK (1934) has wrongly mentioned the sex of type as female. Genitalia is dissected out and kept in tube No. 1966/132.

Distribution India: Almorah, Campelpore, Kangra, Kashmir, Kullu, Mussoorie, N. India, Simla, Solan.

Material examined 1 ♂, "60/39" otherside of the label "N. India" (white, circular, handwritten), "LYMANTRIA OBFUSCATA" (white, rectangular, printed), "1966/132" (blue, rectangular, handwritten) (Holotype) (BMNH).

12. *L. semicincta* (WALKER, 1855)

Alope semicincta WALKER, 1855

Nagunda semicincta BUTLER, 1881

Lymantria semicincta HAMPSON, 1893

Liparis semicincta SWINHOE, 1923

Lymantria semicincta DE JOANNIS, 1929

Out of two the female specimens from N. India collected by Mr. L. JAMES, on which WALKER (1855) based his description for this species, only one female is present in BMNH under reg. No. 43/10. Since the holotype had not been selected by the original author, the above specimen is hereby designated as lectotype.

Distribution India: Balaghat, Bassein Fort, Bengal, Chapra, Dehradun, Pusa, Ranchi, Sadiya, Saran, Shillong, Sikkim, Simla, Solan.

Material examined 1 ♀, "43/10", N. India" (white, circular, handwritten), "2. ALOPE SEMICINCTA" (white, rectangular, printed) (Lectotype designated) (BMNH).

13. *L. similis* MOORE, 1879

Porthetria similis KIRBY, 1892

Liparis similis SWINHOE, 1923

Lymantria similis BRYK, 1934

Description for this species was based on unspecified number of male specimens from Calcutta collected by FARR. In BMNH, there is a male specimen from Calcutta collected by FARR, with reg. No. 94/106, which appears to be of original syntypic series and hereby designated as lectotype because the holotype was not selected by the original author.

Distribution India: Assam, Calcutta, Sikkim.

Material examined 1 ♂ "Type" (red and white, circular, printed), "Moore Coll., 94/106" (white, circular, printed), "Calcutta District, ♂, Ferr, 144" otherside of the label „*Lymantria similis* ♂ (type) Moore" (white, rectangular, handwritten) (Lectotype designated) (BMNH).

14. **L. sobrina** MOORE, 1879

MOORE described this species from Dharmshala (N. W. Himalaya) on the basis of unspecified number of male and female specimens present in his own collection. In BMNH, one male and one female specimen could be examined which are labelled and kept as type and appear to be of original syntypic series. Out of them, the male specimen is hereby designated as lectotype and the female as paralectotype.

Distribution India: Dharamshala.

Material examined 1 ♂, "TYPE" (red and white, circular, printed), "Moore Coll. 94/106" (white, square printed), "Dharmshala, N. W. India" otherside of the label "*Lymantria sobrina* ♂ (type) Moore" (white, rectangular, handwritten) (Lectotype designated); 1 ♀, same data as above (Paralectotype designated) (BMNH).

15. **L. todara** MOORE, 1879

MOORE's description was based on unspecified number of male specimens from Nilgiri (South India) present in his own collection. In BMNH, there is a male and a female specimen labelled as type. As regard the female specimen, it can not be the type because the original description was based on only male sex. It appears that the female was collected from Nilgiri later on and identified by Sir G. F. HAMPSON as *L. todara* MOORE and labelled as female type of that species. However, the male specimen labelled as type, appears to be of original syntypic series and hereby designated as lectotype.

Distribution India: Goalpara, Kochugaon, Nilgiri Hills, Shillong.

Material examined 1 ♂, "TYPE" (red and white, circular, printed), "Moore Coll. 94/106" (white, square, printed), "Nilgiris, ♂" otherside of the label "*Lymantria todara* ♂ (type) Moore" (white, rectangular, handwritten) (Lectotype designated); 1 ♀, "TYPE" (red and white, circular, printed), "NILGIRIS, Hampson Coll., 89/129" (white, rectangular, printed), "*Lymantria todara* Moore type ♀ Hampson" (white, rectangular, handwritten) (BMNH).

16. **L. viola** SWINHOE, 1889

SWINHOE (1889) based his description for this species on two males and number of female specimens collected in Nov. 1888 from Wangni forest of Thana district near Bombay. The present study include two male and 5 female specimens in BMNH which appear to be of original syntypic series. Since the holotype was not selected by the original author, one male out of the above two is hereby designated as lectotype and the remaining one male and 5 females as paralectotypes.

Distribution India: Kanara, Thana, Motinala.

Material examined 1 ♂, "TYPE" (red and white, circular, printed), "2443, ♂, Wangni, Thana District, 11.88" otherside of the label "90/121" (white, rectangular, handwritten), "*Lymantria viola* ♂ Swinhoe type" (white, rectangular, handwritten) (Lectotype designated); 1 ♀, same data as above; 2 ♀♀, "2443 ♀, Wangni, Thana District, 11.88" otherside of the label "*Lymantria viola* Swinhoe ♀" (white, rectangular, handwritten), "90/121" (white, rectangular, handwritten); 1 ♀, "2443 ♀, Wangni, Thana District, 11.88" (white, rectangular, handwritten); 1 ♀, "2443 ♀, Wangni, Thana District, 11.88" (white, rectangular, handwritten), "Moore Coll. 94/106" (white, rectangular, printed); 1 ♂, "2443 ♂, Wangni, Thana District, 11.88" (white, rectangular, handwritten), "*Lymantria viola* ♂ Swinhoe type" (white, rectangular, printed), "O. Gen. Slide No. 49" (blue, square, printed), "Swinhoe Coll., Brit. Mus., 1926/239" (white, rectangular, printed) (Paralectotypes designated) (BMNH).

A c k n o w l e d g e m e n t s

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