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Records on Microlepidoptera

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Scythris rühli sp. n.

Alar expanse : 12—14 mm.

Head, scapulae, thorax, abdomen and fore wings a very dark brownish black with a dark grey suffusion and an evanescent dark violet shine ; labial palpi dark greyish black, second joint with an indistinct whitish ring on tip, second and third joints lighter (whitish) above.

Fore wings with coloration as given above, somewhat shiny ; scales elongate and rather rough ; pattern very indistinct, consisting of some few dirty-white scales along plical fold (10—12 scales), extending from base to 2/3, where they join some other whitish ones above them in cell, from 1/2 to apex, embracing a dark spot (of darker shade of ground color) at end of cell. Markings never sharp, hardly visible on one of two types. Cilia of same basic color, a bit lighter on extreme costal fourth. Hind wings with more blackish suffusion, fringe lighter (as on termen and on tornus of fore wings). (Fig. 1 : A.)

Abdomen and anal tuft without any markings or change in basic color ; all segments, with exception of last, a dull whitish grey below. Legs a shade lighter.

The new taxon is rather similar to *Scythris tenuivittella* Stt., but, among other features, this latter species has a prominent greenish shine, utterly lacking in *rühli* sp., n. Also *Scythris senescens* Stt. may be nearly related to it, but, again, it has a lighter basic color, with the underside of the abdomen whitish. *Scythris inspersella* Hbn. has a smooth wing and a distinct bluish shine ; *Scythris insulella* Stgr. with a rather distinct, even conspicuous, whitish streak along cell.

Holotype female : "Büyük Ada (Big Island), in the Sea of Marmora, near Istanbul, Turkey, 30 July 1959, leg. Dr. G o z m á n y" ; Paratype female : of same data and locality. The types are deposited in the collection of the Hungarian Natural History Museum.

The species is dedicated to Capt. L. R ü h l, Director of the Hungarian Merchant Marine, with gratitude for the realization of my collecting trip in the Near East.

Paradoxus lushanensis sp. n.

Alar expanse : 25 mm.

Forehead, basal joint of antennae and hairs around eyes white ; labial palpi grey, mixed in equal proportions with white, more whitish inside ; antennae grey, 3/4 as long as costa ; nape, scapulae and thorax dark greyish with some whitish shine. Basic color of elongate and rather robust (also relatively broad) fore wing

greyish white, with a light violaceous-brown suffusion along upper half of wing ; sole sharp feature consisting of a large triangular blotch, deep brownish-violaceous in color and of a rather strong bronzy lustre, bordered by a sharp and thin black frame, its base resting on costa at basal 1/3 of wing (from 2/5 to 3/5 of costa), reaching down to beyond fold but not attaining dorsum ; pattern otherwise very indistinct, with exception of a minute but very sharp white dot at beginning of cilia on costa ; some scattered black scales along fold and cell, a small whitish irroration above tornus ; cilia brownish grey around apex, white on termen and dark grey at tornus and on dorsum. Hind wings a very dark greyish black ; cilia grey. Abdomen dark grey, segmental borders whitish, anal tuft light grey.

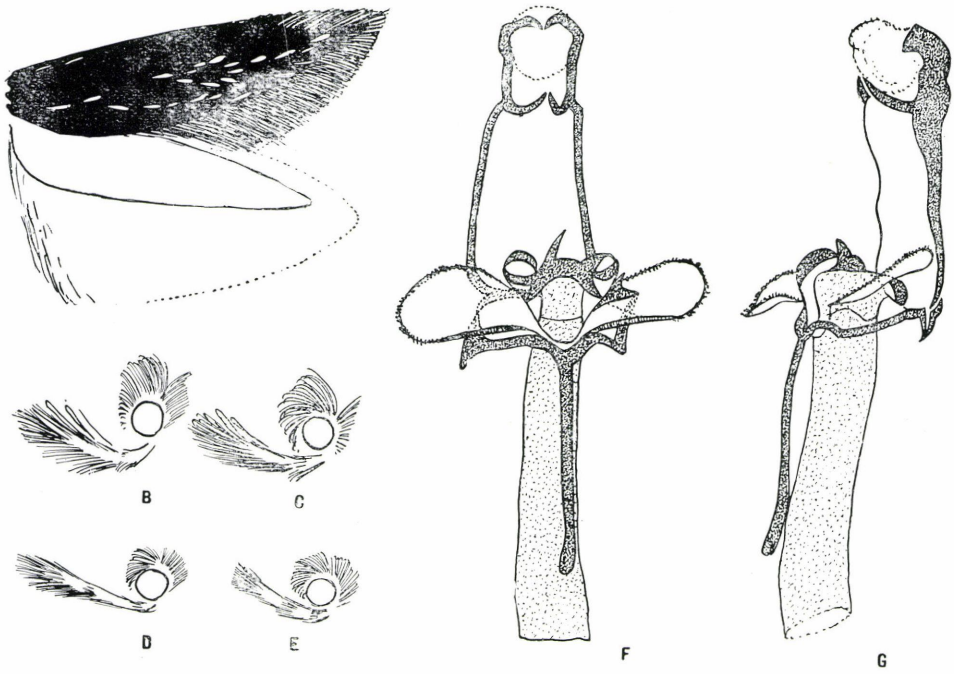

Fig. 1. — A : Fore and hind wings of *Scythris rühli* sp. n. — B : Lateral views of the head of *Paradoxus osyridellus* Stt. — C : *Paradoxus lushanensis* sp. n. — D : *Zelleria hepariella* Stt. — E : *Hoffmannia saxifragae* Stt. — F : Male genital organ of *Tetanocentria ochraceella* Rbl., ventrally and — G : lateroventrally.

At first glance, the structure of its pattern rather resembles a species ot the *Caloptilia stigmatella*-group, while the shape of its wings that of a narrow-winged *Cerostoma* taxon. But, as far as I know them, it cannot be nearer compared to any species of the subfamily Hofmanniinae, wherein it surely belongs.

The exact regulation of the species caused the investigation of some taxonomic problems. I was sure about its place in the subfamily, but, since M e y r i c k synonymized *Hofmannia* Wck. with *Zelleria* Stt. (Lep. Cat., pars 19 : Hyponomeutidae, Plutellidae, Amphitheridae, p. 11, 1914), and later drew also *Paradoxus* Stt., *Xyrosaris* Meyr., and *Lycophantis* Meyr. beneath *Zelleria* Stt. (M e y r i c k : Exot. Micr., III, part 13, p. 414), the problem was whether he was

justified in his above treatment of the respective genera, or, if not, to which of these groups the new species rightfully belongs. After an examination of the type species of *Zelleria* Stt., *Hofmannia* Wck., and *Paradoxus* Stt., I arrived at the following results.

Concerning the structure of the head, the hairs in *Paradoxus* Stt. are „parted" in two portions, they are very high and dense ; the labial palpi appear rather arched (due to the single scales and hairs separating themselves from the main tuft dorsally), and the third joint is very short and hidden in the hairs (fig. 1 : B, C). The hairs of *Zelleria* Stt. and *Hofmannia* Wck. are shorter, though still loose, yet set more compact ; the labial palpi straighter (on account of the much shorter and smoother, adherent scales and hairs), with the second and third joints clearly visible. The palpi of *Zelleria* Stt. are longer than those of *Hofmannia* Wck. (fig. 1 : D, E).

With regard to the venation of the wings, the three groups mentioned also differ from each other. In the fore wings of *Zelleria* Stt., m_3 and cu- are wholly coincident, while they are well separated in *Hofmannia* Wck., with m_{2+3} frequently on a short stalk. In *Paradoxus* Stt., r_1 is longer on the fore wings than in any of the related genera, m_{2+3} are clearly stalked, and this stalk is conascent with m_1, a special feature of this genus. The structure of the hind wings is generally the same in all three genera, with the important difference, however, that there is a large hyaline area basally between the cubital and anal veins in *Paradoxus* Stt. (fig. 2 : A).

I had no occasion to examine the preponderantly exotic genera *Lycophantis* Meyr. and *Xyrosaris* Meyr., but in the description of the latter M e y r i c k points out that the third joint of the labial palpi is even longer than the second, and that its antenna is longer than the length of the fore wing. These are very special features indeed, and they justly allow the erection of a new genus. Later, however, the species relegated to *Xyrosaris* Meyr., — and showing some characters differring from those of the type species *(dryopa* Meyr.) — resulted in the genus becoming a heterogenous composition. So M e y r i c k concluded (l. c.) that it cannot be maintained any more, and synonymized it with *Zelleria* Stt.

The present trend in systematics, justified by our better understanding now of what constitutes a genus, is that no heterogenous group should be maintained. Genera like *Gelechia* Z., *Tinea* Z., etc. have all been split up into several well definable taxa, — satisfactorily homogenous —, on the basis of comprising only species which agree in well-characterizable features of generic value, such as head, wing and genitalic structure, foodplants (or the means of feeding), habits, habitats, etc., — even if this procedure should result in creating as many genera as there were species originally included in the old „genus". As was shown above, we do dispose of such characters concerning *Zelleria* Stt., *Hofmannia* Wck. and *Paradoxus* Stt. Should one detailedly examine the species relegated up to now to *Xyrosaris* Meyr., *(Lycophantis* Meyr. includes hitherto the type species only), I am sure that one could find several features common to some of them and again various characteristics common to others, yet with all of them together differring among each other, thus allowing the creation of homogenous genera. The fact that „the type of the genus *(Zelleria* Stt.), *hepariella* Stt., is really an exceptional form with palpi unusually slender", and that those of other taxa show „all degrees of development of the rough scaling of the terminal joint" (M e y r i c k, l. c.), is no cause yet why they should all be united, — without having examined and grouped all other relevant features to see whether the species really consti-

tute one genus or several nearly related ones — within the single unit *Zelleria* Stt. Let me point out, for example, that of the species considered hitherto as belonging to *Xyrosaris* Meyr., *dryopa* Meyr. and *maligna* Meyr. have the same hyaline area in their hind wings, while the others apparently lack it. On the other hand, C h r é t i e n never mentioned this feature in the description of his new „*Paradoxus*" species, *restrictellus* Chrét., originating from Gafsa. This consideration alone schould incite us to reexamine all species, with the view to segregate them into earlier (if they exist) or new genera *(dryopa* Meyr. being the type species of *Xyrosaris* Meyr., the genus cannot be synonymized with *Paradoxus* Stt. on the very basis of its different wing venation and the length of the antennae). M e y r i c k himself mentions that there is no hyaline area in „*Xyrosaris*" *secreta* Meyr. (South Africa) and in „*Xyrosaris*" *scambota* Meyr. (Marocco). A knowledge of the foodplants, habits and habitats of the several species included in the present discussion would help us further in the solution of this problem, but at present I feel justified in regarding only *Paradoxus* Stt., *Zelleria* Stt., and *Hofmannia* Wck., together with *Xyrosaris* Meyr. (comprising with any surety only its type, until further examinations are made) as distinct genera, and thereby resurrect them as such.

With regard to the genital structure of the above taxa, this corresponds to the pattern prevailing in Plutellidae. I have dissected and studied but a few species, and found that the main differences of the male organs lie in the shape of the valvae and in the aedoeagi (fig. 2 : B—F).

In conclusion, the new species satisfies all demands (the shape and structure of the head and of the labial palpi, as well as the venation of the wings) at our disposal at the present time to designate it as a *Paradoxus* unit ; the first taxon to originate from China in the whole complex of the above treated species, as „*Xyrosaris*" *lirinopa* Meyr. from Shanghai (M e y r i c k : Exot. Micr., II, part 18, p. 551) is utterly different (smaller, with a sharply outlined and dissimilarly construed pattern, etc.) it is probably not even a true *Xyrosaris* (e. g. no mention of a hyaline area in the hind wing is made in its description).

Holotype female : "Lu-shan, Prov. Tian-Tsi, China, 2—5 September, 1959, leg. Dr. V. S z é k e s s y". The type is deposited in the collection of the Hungarian Natural History Museum.

Tetanocentria ochraceella Rbl.

Finally, I wish to make a new contribution to our knowledge on *Tetanocentria ochraceella* Rbl.

When I last treated this species (Ann. Hist.-nat. Mus. Nat. Hung., s. n. Tom. **6**, 1955, p. 317), — described by R e b e l in 1903 — there were still only female specimens known of this rare Cosmopterygid. They were captured in Vienna and in the Hungarian Transdanubium (Mt. Velence and Kaposvár). Since then, and at long last, also the male was found, caught in the Transdanubium too, in Pécs, south of the Mts. Mecsek. Externally, the male is absolutely identical with the female, but I give herewith a description and some figures of the male genital organ.

The general structure is well referable to among those of the other Cosmopterygid taxa. A well developed uncus and gnathos sit up on the elongated tegumen ; the valvae are small and lap-like, rounded, with minute thorny dots along their costae ; the aedoeagus is very long, terminating in highly sclerotized and complicated appendages anteriorly, with a large thorn out of the vesica ; the

vinculum is almost quadrangular, the saccus also very long ; the aedoeagus is free of cornuti (fig. 1 : F, G).

I hereby also designate the male specimen as Allotype : „Pécs, 26 June 1958, leg. I. B a l o g h, gen. prep. 1042 by Dr. G o z m á n y". It is deposited in the collection of the Hungarian Natural History Museum.

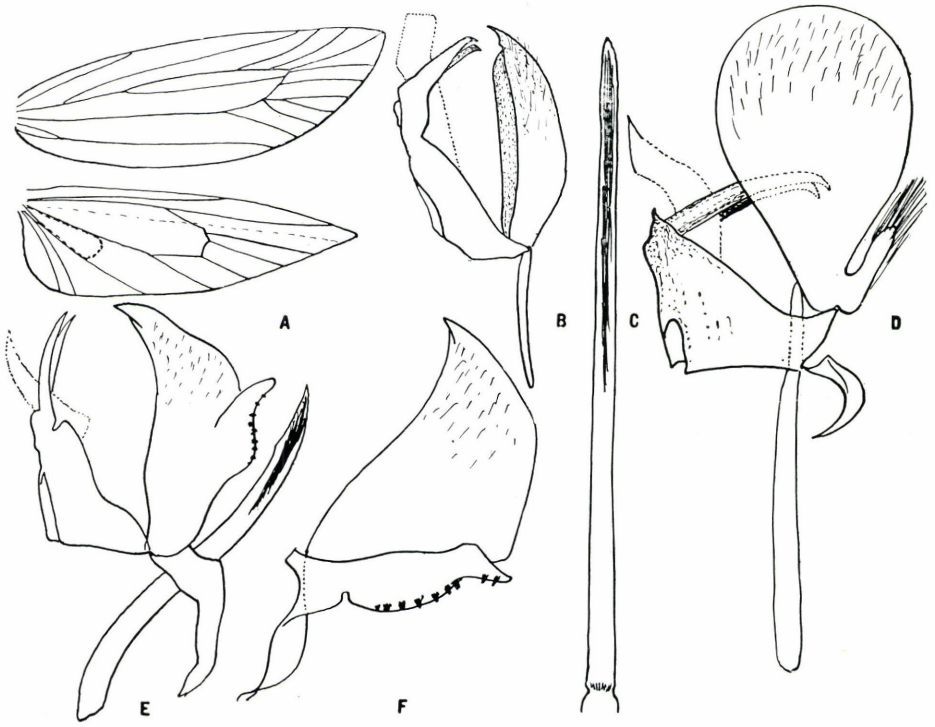

Fig. 2. — A: Wing venation of *Paradoxus lushanensis* sp. n. — B: Male genital organ of *Paradoxus osyridellus* Stt. laterally and — C: its aedoeagus (drawn to the same scale). — D: Male genital organ of *Zelleria hepariella* Stt. laterally. — E: Male genital organ of *Zelleria ribesiella* de Joann. laterally, and — F: right valva of same (removed), ventrally.

ЗАПИСКИ О МОЛЯХ

Л. А. Гозмань, Будапешт

(Резюме)

Автор дает описание уловленной им в ходе своего собирательного путешествия по Ближнему Востоку и определенной новым ивдом моли *Scythris rühli* sp. n. (Scythridae) (остров Бююкада, Турция).

Собранный коллекционером В. Скеешши в Китае (Лушан, провинция Цзянси) вид *Paradoxus lushanensis* р. н. также оказался новым видом. В связи с описанием последнего вида автор подвергает ревизии относящиеся к подсемейству Hofmanniinae роды *Zelleria* Stt., *Hofmannia Wck.*, *Paradoxus* Stt. далее род *Xyrosaris* Meyr., преимущественно экзотического распространения, которые Мейрик синонимично отнес в род *Zelleria* Stt. Автор устанавливает, что эти роды на основании имеющихся в распоряжении данных и результатов исследований ныне также действительны, и следовало бы провести также таксономическое исследование причисленных к ним видов. В заключение дается описание структуры половых органов собранного за новейшее время (в Венгрии, г. Печ) самца весьма редкого вида *Tetanocentria ochraceella* Rbl. о котором в 1903 году впервые сообщил Ребел. Этот вид до сих пор был известен лишь на основе описаний нескольких самок Вена и Трансданубия).