

# Distributional range extension of Genus *Casminola* László, Ronkay & Witt, 2010 in Deccan Plateau, India (Lepidoptera: Nolidae)

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## Abstract

The present study is the first to report the occurrence (and associated range extension) of genus *Casminola* László, Ronkay & Witt, 2010 from the state of Maharashtra, Deccan Plateau, extending its range towards South India. Images of adult and female genitalia are provided.

**Keywords:** Lepidoptera, Nolinae, *Casminola johannstumpfi*, new range, India.

**Ampliación del área de distribución del género *Casminola* László, Ronkay & Witt, 2010 en la meseta del Decán, India (Lepidoptera: Nolidae)**

## Resumen

El presente estudio es el primero en informar sobre la presencia (y la consiguiente ampliación del área de distribución) del género *Casminola* László, Ronkay & Witt, 2010 en el estado de Maharashtra, en la meseta de Deccan, lo que amplía su área de distribución hacia el sur de la India. Se proporcionan imágenes del adulto y de la genitalia de la hembra.

**Palabras clave:** Lepidoptera, Nolinae, *Casminola johannstumpfi*, nuevo rango, India.

## Introduction

The genus *Casminola* László, Ronkay & Witt, 2010 is one of the small size genera (forewing length: 5-8 mm) in the tribe Nolini Bruand, 1847. There are only four species of *Casminola* present in India (László et al. 2010; Joshi et al. 2021, 2022). In India, *Casminola* was only known from Indian Himalaya (Himachal Pradesh, West Bengal) and Mizoram. *Casminola johannstumpfi* László, Ronkay & Witt, 2010, was reported from Mizoram only, which is around 2,000 km. from the Nagpur city (Maharashtra). We have collected five female specimens from Nagpur city, with the help of a 160W mercury vapour bulb. The collected specimens were killed with the help of ethyl acetate vapours, and further processed as per the methods advocated by Sterling in Singh et al. (2024). Adult moths were photographed with Nikon D750 digital SLR camera and genitalia were photographed under the Leica S8AP0 HD binocular microscope. Female genitalia were examined and identified based on the diagnostic characters described by László & Sterling (2020). The present study is the first to report the occurrence (and associated range extension) of genus *Casminola* and *C. johannstumpfi* from the state of Maharashtra, Deccan plateau.

## Systematic accounts

Genus *Casminola* László, Ronkay & Witt, 2010

*Casminola* László, Ronkay & Witt, 2010. *Esperiana*, 15, 14

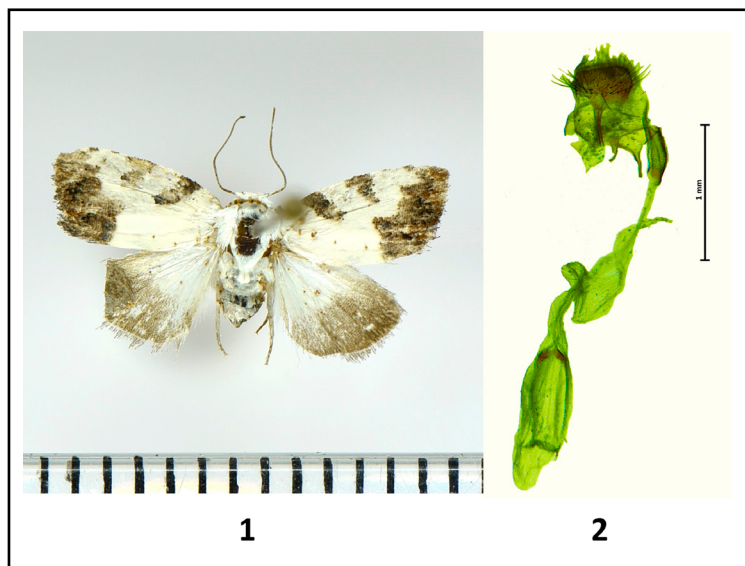
TS: *Poecilonola chionobasis* Hampson, 1901

*Casminola johannstumpfi* László, Ronkay & Witt, 2010

*Casminola johannstumpfi* László, Ronkay & Witt, 2010. *Esperiana*, 15, 18, pl. 2, fig. 2

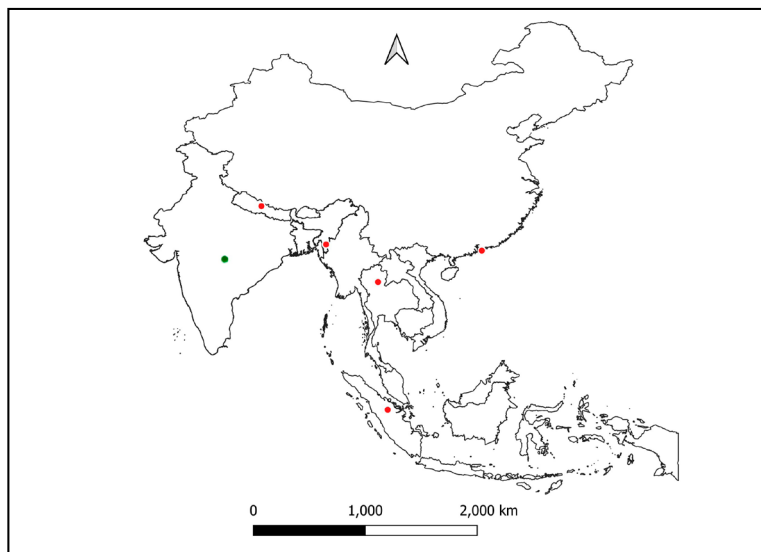
TL: NEPAL, Annapurna Himal, Geirigan village

**Figures 1-2.** *Casminola johannstumpfi*: 1. Adult. 2. Female genitalia.



Material examined: 5 ♀ Nagpur, Maharashtra (N2108.946, E7902.370, 270.2 m), 15-IX-2024 (R. Bhende), gen. slide no: Nol. -171e /Joshi-coll. NZCZSI

**Figure 3.** Distribution map of *Casminola johannstumpfi*: red circles indicate known localities; green circle marks the new record from India.



Diagnosis: Wingspan 13 mm. The forewing (Figure 1) has a pair of broad, oblique ante-medial and medial costal lines that extends to the discal cell only; the marginal band is dark brown, broader towards the termen; the hindwing has a white basal area and a fuscous terminal region. Female genitalia (Figure 2) with the anal papillae slightly broad, with the posterior apophyses slightly broad; ductus bursae long and narrow; corpus bursae bilobed; signum is short, curved with fine scobination; ostium bursae is short and funnel-like.

Distribution: Maharashtra (present study, Figure 3), Mizoram; Nepal Himalaya, northern Thailand, Sumatra, China (Hong Kong).

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### Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that they have no known financial interest or personal relationship that could have influenced the work presented in this article.

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