

Dichagyris (Albocosta) batanga Gyulai & Saldaitis, sp. n. from China (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae)

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Abstract

The diagnosis and description of a new species *Dichagyris (Albocosta) batanga* Gyulai & Saldaitis, sp. n. is given, with four colour figures and four genitalia figures.

KEY WORDS: Lepidoptera, Noctuidae, *Dichagyris*, new species, China.

Dichagyris (Albocosta) batanga Gyulai & Saldaitis, sp. n. de China
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Resumen

Se da la diagnosis y descripción de una especie nueva *Dichagyris (Albocosta) batanga* Gyulai & Saldaitis, sp. n., con cuatro figuras en color y cuatro figuras de genitalia.

PALABRAS CLAVE: Lepidoptera, Noctuidae, *Dichagyris*, nueva especie, China.

Introducción

For the most recent revision of the subgenus *Albocosta* Fibiger & Lafontaine 1997 of the genus *Dichagyris* Lederer, 1857, with checklist of taxa, distribution, taxonomic interpretation, and new descriptions see GYULAI (2021). The further dissections of the late autumnal (from the second half of September to the end of November) *Albocosta* specimens from China, led to the recognition of a new species, was collected by the second author near Batang, Sichuan. The new one is the sister species of the *Dichagyris (Albocosta) stentzi* (Lederer, 1853), which is a widely distributed species in Asia (Russia (Altai, Tuva, Sayan and Baikal area, Transbaikalia, Amur region, Primorye territory, Sakhalin, Kuriles; pers. comm. V. Kononenko), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Korea, China, Tibet, Nepal, India, Pakistan). All of the further *Albocosta* species dissected from late autumnal materials from China proved to *Dichagyris (Albocosta) triangularis sinangularis* Gyulai, 2021.

Abbreviations

- AFM = Alessandro Floriani (Milan, Italy)
- HNHM = Hungarian Natural History Museum (Budapest, Hungary)
- PGYM = collection of Péter Gyulai (Miskolc, Hungary)
- GYP = genitalia slide of Péter Gyulai
- HT = holotype

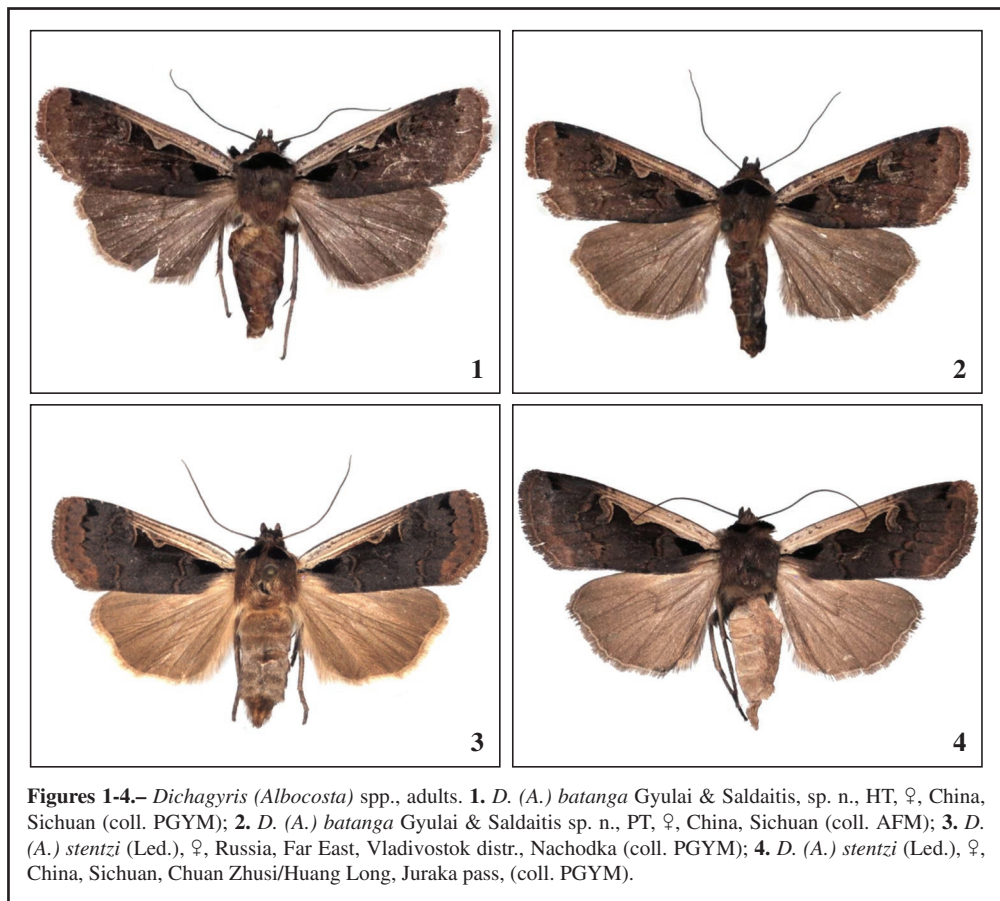
PT = paratype
f = female

Description of new taxa

Dichagyris (Albocosta) batanga Gyulai & Saldaitis, sp. n. (Figs 1-2, 5-6)

Holotype 1 ♀ (Fig. 1): CHINA, W Sichuan, 25 km N from Batang, 3100 m, dry valley, 30°12,049'N, 99°14,078'E, 19-20-IX-2007, leg. A. Saldaitis, slide no. GYP 5350 (coll. PGYM, later to be deposited in the HNHM). Paratype: 1 ♀, with same data, slide no. GYP 5367 (coll. AFM).

Diagnosis: The females of the new species (Figs 1-2) are slightly larger than most of the females of the closest relative *D. (A.) stentzi* (Figs 3-4); forewing length is 18-19 mm wingspans 37-38 mm, versus 15-19 mm and 30-38 mm. The new species differs in its broader triangular basal black dash, darker costal area, less elongate orbicular stigma costally and slightly less sinuous subterminal line in the forewings and darker, fuscous, unicolourous hindwings.



Figures 1-4.– *Dichagyris (Albocosta)* spp., adults. **1.** *D. (A.) batanga* Gyulai & Saldaitis, sp. n., HT, ♀, China, Sichuan (coll. PGYM); **2.** *D. (A.) batanga* Gyulai & Saldaitis sp. n., PT, ♀, China, Sichuan (coll. AFM); **3.** *D. (A.) stentzi* (Led.), ♀, Russia, Far East, Vladivostok distr., Nachodka (coll. PGYM); **4.** *D. (A.) stentzi* (Led.), ♀, China, Sichuan, Chuan Zhusi/Huang Long, Juraka pass, (coll. PGYM).

In the female genitalia (Figs 5-6), the most conspicuous difference is the large lateral diverticulum in the inner side of the appendix bursae, which is very unique and well differs from that section of the *D. (A.) stentzi* (Figs 7-8) and those of the further relative species (see: GYULAI, 2021), as well. The

appendix bursae of the holotype is affected in shape by the presence of spermatophores, however the large lateral diverticulum is well defined, too.

Description (Figs 1-2): Forewing length 18-19 mm wingspans 37-38 mm. Palpi covered with dark red-brown scales, third segment tiny. Vertex light brown, collar blackish brown with broad light brownish-ochreous base; vesture of thorax and legs dark reddish-brown, that of abdomen brown. Forewings triangular, apex pointed. Ground colour of forewings dark reddish-brown, slightly lighter in the marginal area. Costa broadly pale brownish-ochreous until the tip of the reniform stigma, conjoining with the same-coloured orbicular macula and the light brownish reniform stigma; claviform stigma small, blackish. Basal dash black, broadly triangular. Transverse lines faint, antemedian line wavy, postmedian line evenly arcuate, subterminal line finely lacy with a small black dash in the costa; fringe brown. Hindwings evenly fuscous brown, discal spot a fine arch; fringe pale brown.

Female genitalia (Figs 5-6): The main characters are the followings: setose, quadrangular papillae anales, short apophyses anteriores and much longer apophyses posteriores; sclerotized, broadly V-shaped antrum with more sclerotized, pincer-like, bilateral, symmetrical lobi; tubular, membranous, posteriorly broaden, longitudinally wrinkled ductus bursae; saccate appendix bursae and corpus bursae with numerous fine longitudinal wrinkles; the former one bears a large lateral diverticulum in the inner side.

Bionomics and distribution: Two females were collected at ultraviolet light during two nights on 19-20-IX-2007 in remote part of west China Sichuan province near the Batang. *Dichagyris (Albocosta) batanga* was collected at altitude ranging 3100 meters in mountain river dry valley rarely covered by mixed forests dominated by various deciduous trees and bushes.

Etymology: The specific epithet refers to the type locality.

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