

First records of Cossidae from Gabon (West Africa) (Lepidoptera: Cossidae)

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Abstract

The present paper provides the first data on Cossidae of Gabon (seven species) based on the materials of the collection of the African Natural History Research Trust (Leominster), Royal Museum of Central Africa (Tervuren), and Museum Witt (Munich). Four species (*Macrocosmus tolininus* (Druce, 1887), *Tarsozeuzera livingstoni* Yakovlev, 2006, *Aethalopteryx squameus* (Distant, 1902), and *Strigocossus crassa* (Drury, 1782)) are recorded for the first time in the fauna of Gabon.

KEY WORDS: Lepidoptera, Cossidae, new records, Gabon.

Primeros registros de Cossidae de Gabón (Oeste de África) (Lepidoptera: Cossidae)

Resumen

El trabajo actual, proporciona los primeros datos sobre Cossidae de Gabón (siete especies) basado sobre el material de la colección del African Natural History Research Trust (Leominster), Royal Museum of Central Africa (Tervuren) y del Museum Witt (Munich). Se registran cuatro especies por primera vez para la fauna de Gabón (*Macrocosmus tolininus* (Druce, 1887), *Tarsozeuzera livingstoni* Yakovlev, 2006, *Aethalopteryx squameus* (Distant, 1902) y *Strigocossus crassa* (Drury, 1782).

PALABRAS CLAVE: Lepidoptera, Cossidae, nuevos registros, Gabón.

Introduction

Our knowledge on the Carpenter moths (Lepidoptera: Cossidae) fauna of West Africa is rather incomplete. Extensive faunistic research regarding the entire Afrotropical Region has only been conducted in a few countries: Zimbabwe (YAKOVLEV & LENZ, 2013), Malawi (YAKOVLEV & MURPHY, 2013), Zambia (YAKOVLEV, 2014), and Swaziland (YAKOVLEV & WITT, 2016a). MEY (2015, 2016, 2017) provided a detailed overview of the Southern African (including Namibian) Cossidae.

The Cossidae (as well as other Heterocera) fauna of Gabon is poorly known, single references on the distribution of the family representatives in this country are given in a few articles only (YAKOVLEV, 2011; YAKOVLEV & WITT, 2018a, b).

During the course of studying Afrotropical Cossidae, several materials collected in Gabon, have been located in the collections of the African Natural History Research Trust (Leominster), Royal Museum of Central Africa (Tervuren), and Museum Witt (Munich). This article presents the first check list of Cossidae recorded from Gabon to date.

Abbreviations

ANHRT - African Natural History Research Trust, Leominster, UK

DMP - Ditsong National Museum of Natural History (formerly Transvaal Museum), Pretoria, South Africa

MNHN - Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France

MWM - Museum Witt, Munich, Germany

NHMUK - (formerly BMNH) - The Natural History Museum (formerly British Museum of Natural History), London, UK

RMCA - Royal Museum of Central Africa, Tervuren, Belgium

Materials and methods

Images of adults were taken by the digital camera of Apple iPhone 7, illuminated in lightbox.

List of species

Macrocoossus toliminus (Druce, 1887) (Fig. 1)

Cossus toliminus Druce, 1887: 684-685

Type locality: Gambia

Type material: Holotype in NHMUK, examined.

Material examined: 1 ♂, Gabon, Ogooue Ivindo PN, Ivindo Station de Recherche d'Ipassa, 450 m, 14-26-VI-2016, N0° 30' 43" / E 12° 48' 12", Ruzzier, E., Tasane, T. leg., ANHRT: 2017.19 (coll. ANHRT).

Distribution: From Ivory Coast to Malawi, Tanzania, Namibia, S. Africa (GRÜNDBERG, 1910; SCHOORL, 1990; VÁRI *et al.*, 2002). **New record for Gabon.**

Tarsozeuzera livingstoni Yakovlev, 2006 (Fig. 2)

Tarsozeuzera livingstoni Yakovlev, 2006: 211

Type locality: Rep. Pop. Congo, Dimonica

Type material: Holotype in MNHN, examined.

Material examined: 1 ♂, Gabon, Ogooue Ivindo PN, Ivindo Station de Recherche d'Ipassa, 450 m, 14-26-VI-2016, N0° 30' 43" / E 12° 48' 12", Ruzzier, E., Tasane, T. leg., ANHRT: 2017.19 (coll. ANHRT).

Distribution: Congo, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe (YAKOVLEV, 2011; YAKOVLEV & MURPHY, 2013; YAKOVLEV, SOKOLOVA & WITT, 2018). **New record for Gabon.**

Pseudozeuzera biatra (Hampson, 1910) (Fig. 3)

Duomitus biatra Hampson, 1910: 131-132

Type locality: S. Nigeria, Old Calabar [Calabar city]

Type material: Holotype in NHMUK, examined.

Material examined: 1 ♂, Gabon, Monila, 30-II-1964, Rec. V. Allard (coll. RMCA).

Distribution: Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Ghana, Uganda, Cameroon, Togo, Central African Republic, Congo, Gabon (SCHOORL, 1990; YAKOVLEV, 2011; YAKOVLEV & WITT, 2018a).

Aethalopteryx squameus (Distant, 1902) (Fig. 4)

Duomitus squameus Distant, 1902: 213

Type locality: Transvaal, Pretoria (S. Africa)

Type material: Cotypes in coll. NHMUK and DMP, examined.

Material examined: 1 ♂, Gabon, Ogooue Ivindo PN, Ivindo Station de Recherche d'Ipassa, 450 m, 14-26-VI-2016, N0° 30' 43" / E 12° 48' 12", Ruzzier, E., Tasane, T. leg., ANHRT: 2017.19 (coll. ANHRT).

Distribution: South Africa, Botswana, Mozambique, Malawi, Ghana, Angola, Tanzania, CAR (PINHEY, 1979; VÁRI *et al.*, 2002). **New record for Gabon.**

Strigocossus moderata (Walker, 1856) (Fig. 5)

Zeuzera moderata Walker, 1856: 1533

Strigocossus vosseleri; Yakovlev, 2011: 83

Strigocossus moderata; Yakovlev & Murphy, 2013: 381

Type locality: Sierra Leone

Type material: Holotype in NHMUK, examined.

Material examined: 5 ♂♂, Gabon, Monts Cristal, 5-X-1991, leg. Dr. Politzar (coll. MWM).

Distribution: South Africa, Mozambique, Zambia, Malawi, Tanzania, Kenya, Cameroun, Gabon etc. (PINHEY, 1979; VÁRI *et al.*, 2002; YAKOVLEV, 2011; YAKOVLEV & MURPHY, 2013).

Strigocossus crassa (Drury, 1782) (Fig. 6)

Phalaena (Noctua) crassa Drury, 1782: Pl. 2: fig. 1

Type locality: Sierra Leon [Sierra Leone]

Type material: It is lost.

Material examined: 2 ♂♂, Gabon, Andok foula, 0° 25' 51"N / 10° 7' 43"E, 19-22-V-2011, 72 m, leg. Viktor Siniav & Yury Bezverkhov (MWM); 4 ♂♂, Gabon, Monts de Cristal, SONG, 0° 31' 59"N / 10° 12' 55"E, 25-V-2011, 139 m, leg. Viktor Siniav & Yury Bezverkhov; 3 ♂♂, Baraka, 3 km NE No-Ayong Village, 0° 38' 24" / 9° 41' 37"E, 1-3-VI-2011, 35 m, leg. Viktor Siniav & Yury Bezverkhov (coll. MWM).

Distribution: From Central to Southern Africa. New record for Gabon.

Eburgemellus geminatus (Gaede, 1930) (Fig. 7)

Xyleutes geminatus Gaede, 1930: 546, Taf. 80c

Eburgemellus geminatus; Yakovlev & Witt, 2018: 4

Type locality: Kriby, S. Cam. [Kribi, SW Cameroon]

Type material: Holotype in NHMUK, examined.

Material examined: 2 ♂♂, Gabon, Baraka, 3 km NE No-Ayong village, 0° 36' 24" N / 9° 41' 37"E, 1-3-VI-2011, leg. Viktor Siniav & Yury Bezverkhov (coll. MWM).

Distribution: Cameroon, Cot d'Ivoire, Congo, Gabon (YAKOVLEV & WITT, 2018b).

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