

First record of the genus *Haritalopha* Hampson, 1895 from India (Noctuoidea, Erebidae, Hypeninae)

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Abstract

In this manuscript, *Haritalopha biparticolor* Hampson, 1895 is reported for the first time from India, that represents the first record of genus *Haritalopha* Hampson, 1895 from India. The genus is recharacterised with male genitalia for the first time. Diagnosis and illustrations of adults and genitalia are also provided.

Keywords: Lepidoptera, *Haritalopha*, new record, recharacterisation, India.

Primer registro del género *Haritalopha* Hampson, 1895 de la India (Lepidoptera: Noctuoidea, Erebidae, Hypeninae)

Resumen

En este manuscrito se cita por primera vez *Haritalopha biparticolor* Hampson, 1895 de la India, lo que también representa el primer registro del género *Haritalopha* Hampson, 1895 de la India. Se vuelve a caracterizar el género incorporando por primera vez los genitales masculinos. También se proporcionan imágenes de los adultos y de la genitalia.

Palabras clave: Lepidoptera, Noctuoidea, Erebidae, Hypeninae, nuevo registro, *Haritalopha*, recharacterización, India.

Introduction

Genus *Haritalopha* was erected by Hampson, 1895 as a monotypic genus for placement of new species, *H. biparticolor* Hampson, 1895 (type species) from Bhutan. The genus was treated under subfamily Deltoidinae, family Noctuidae by Hampson (1895). Though, Nye (1975) treated it under Ophiderinae and Poole (1989) catalogued another species *H. indentalis* (Wileman, 1915) from Taiwan under *Haritalopha*. Yoshimoto, 1995 extended the range of genus upto Nepal. Kononenko & Pinratana, 2005 treated the genus under Hypeninae and is known only from Bhutan, Nepal, Taiwan, and Thailand.

In this manuscript, reporting of *H. biparticolor* Hampson, 1895 from Himachal Pradesh is its first record from India. This also represents the first record of genus *Haritalopha* from India. The male genitalia is studied for the first time and thus, the genus is recharacterised. Images of *H. biparticolor* and *H. indentalis*, along with male genitalia of *H. biparticolor* are given.

Haritalopha Hampson, 1895

Trans. ent. Soc. Lond., 1895(2), 309

Type species: *Haritalopha biparticolor* Hampson, 1895

Diagnosis: Adult: Labial palpi oblique, covered with hairs, 2nd joint reaching upto the frontal tuft and the 3rd joint is long; antennae ciliated; thorax with triangular tuft. Forewings have outer margin excised from apex to vein M1, apex acute and produced; vein R3 from the areole. Hindwing with vein M2 from middle of disco-cellulars. Abdomen with conical tufts. Male genitalia, with uncus long and narrow, that tapers towards apex; valva undivided, membranous, slightly narrowing towards apex; basal saccular process broad, thumb like, sclerotized, slightly curved; harpe mushroom shaped, not much sclerotized; juxta bipartite; transtilla sclerotized; tegumen longer as compared to vinculum; vinculum narrowing into small saccus. Aedeagus long, curved medially, vesica without cornutus. Female unknown

Distribution: India (present study), Nepal, Bhutan, Taiwan, Thailand.

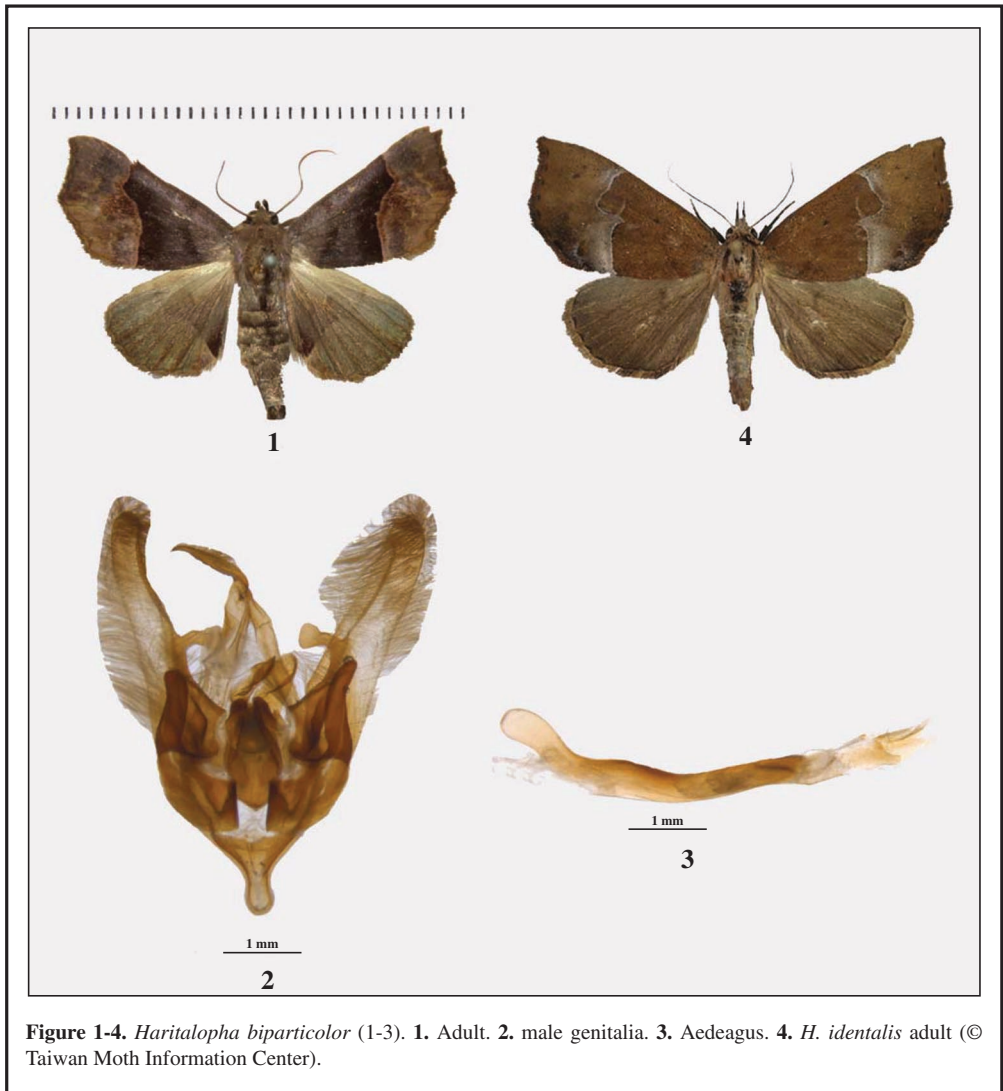


Figure 1-4. *Haritalopha biparticolor* (1-3). 1. Adult. 2. male genitalia. 3. Aedeagus. 4. *H. identalis* adult (© Taiwan Moth Information Center).

Haritalopha biparticolor Hampson, 1895 (Figures 1, 2, 3)

Trans. ent. Soc. Lond., 1895(2), 309

Type Locality: Bhutan

Material examined: INDIA, Himachal Pradesh, Barog, 1680 m, 1 ♂, 29-VI-2009, Coll. R. Joshi. (NZCZSI)

Diagnosis: Wingspan 34 mm. Adult with head red-brown, labial palpi oblique and hairy, 2nd joint reaches frons, 3rd joint long upturned; antennae ciliated. Forewing purplish red brown; indistinct curved antemedial line; a rufous post-medial line, angled outwards below costa and then sharply incurved reaching the dorsum; area beyond line is greyish fuscous, a brown blotch is present in the middle, some traces of wavy post-medial line; cilia brown. Hindwing fuscous, basal area paler, fuscous blotch near anal angle narrowing towards middle, not reaching beyond discal cell. Underside greyish, both wings with a faint post-medial line, that is incurved below costa on forewing and is uniformly curved on hindwing. Abdomen fuscous with a dark tinge at tip, crossing the margin of hindwings. Male genitalia as described under genus.

H. biparticolor resembles another known member of the genus *H. indentalis* (Wileman, 1915) (Figure 4). However, in *H. indentalis*, the anterior of the forewing is less brown, a discal spot is present in the cell, post medial line with whitish area towards outer margin, black buff more dominating at termen than apex, hindwing is without dark patch at anal angle.

Distribution: India: Himachal Pradesh (present study), Bhutan, Nepal, Thailand.

Remark: This seems to be the small form as the type is having a wingspan of 46 mm.

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