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**Review of generic limits of the tiger moth genera *Virbia* Walker
and *Holomelina* Herrich-Schäffer
(Lepidoptera: Arctiidae: Arctiinae)
and their biogeography**

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ABSTRACT

A phylogeny for *Holomelina* and *Virbia* was constructed based on adult morphology. This study included 42 of the 70 recognized species in *Holomelina* and *Virbia*, two new species, and two elevated synonyms (*H. marginata* Druce and *V. inversia* Edwards). The following outgroups were chosen from the Arctiini: *Arachnis picta* Packard, *Hypercompe permaculata* Packard, *Paracles fusca* Walker, *Phragmatobia fuliginosa* (Linnaeus), *Pyrrarctia isabella* (J. E. Smith), and *Spilosoma virginica* (Fabricius). Fifty-eight characters (195 states) were described and scored, including several newly discovered characters of the male and female abdomen and genitalia. Three male character systems, the shape and orientation of the basiphallus; the shape, orientation and ornamentation of the endophallus; and the pattern of sclerotization of the eighth male sternite, were important diagnostic characters for smaller clades and species.