



Review of *Homaloxestis* Meyrick (Lepidoptera, Lecithoceridae) of the Philippine Islands, with descriptions of two new species

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Abstract

The six species of *Homaloxestis* Meyrick recorded from the Philippine Islands are reviewed: *H. aganacma* Diakonoff, *H. alopecopa* Meyrick, *H. cholopis* (Meyrick), *H. luzonensis* **sp. nov.**, *H. plocamandra* (Meyrick), and *H. quadralis* **sp. nov.** *Homaloxestis plocamandra* (Meyrick), formerly known from continental southeastern Asia, is newly recorded from the Philippines. A key to the species is provided, along with photographs of the adults and genitalia of the two new and one newly recorded species.

Key words: Taxonomy, systematics, new species, *Homaloxestis*, Lecithoceridae, Lepidoptera, Philippines

Introduction

The genus *Homaloxestis* Meyrick, 1910 (Lecithoceridae: Lecithocerinae) is restricted to the Oriental Region with few exceptions: *H. briantiella* (Turati) occurs in Europe, and *H. hemigastra* Meyrick and *H. subpallida* Meyrick are found in Africa. Building on the foundation of early workers (Turati, 1879; Snellen, 1903; Meyrick, 1906, 1907, 1910, 1918, 1926, 1929, 1932; Diakonoff, 1968; and Gozmány, 1973, 1978), Wu & Liu (1992) and Wu (1994, 1997) described three species from China; Park (1999) described a species from Taiwan; Wu & Park (1999) described two species from Sri Lanka; and Park (2004) described five species from Thailand, bringing to 41 the total number species in the genus.

In the Philippines, *H. alopecopa* Meyrick, 1929 was described from Mindanao, and *H. aganacma* Diakonoff, 1968, based on a single female, and *H. surrepta* Diakonoff, 1968, based on a single male, were described from Luzon. *H. surrepta* was synonymized with *H. cholopis* (Meyrick) by Gozmany (1978), and *H. aganacma* Diakonoff and *H. alopecopa* Meyrick are known only from their holotypes. In this paper, two new species, *H. luzonensis*, **sp. nov.**, and *H. quadralis*, **sp. nov.**, are described and *H. plocamandra* Meyrick is newly reported from the Philippines. No additional specimens of *H. cholopis*, *H. aganacma*, or *H. alopecopa* were discovered during the course of this study.

Homaloxestis is characterized by the forewing usually (but not always) bearing a pale orange or whitish band along the costa contrasting with the ground color; veins M_2 , M_3 , CuA_1 , and CuA_2 separate at the base; a pair of extremely long rods with extensible hair-pencils at their apex on the 7th segment; and male genitalia with irregularly concave ventral margin bearing numerous short spines.