



A taxonomic study of *Epipristis* Meyrick, 1888 from China, with descriptions of two new species (Lepidoptera: Geometridae, Geometrinae)

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Abstract

The genus *Epipristis* Meyrick, 1888 from China is reviewed, and two new species are described: *E. roseus* **sp. nov.**, from North China and *E. pullusa* **sp. nov.**, from Central China. The three previously known species from China are redescribed. A key to all species from China is provided. Illustrations of adults and genitalia are presented.

Key words: *Epipristis*, taxonomy, new species, China, Geometridae, Lepidoptera

Introduction

The genus *Epipristis* was erected by Meyrick, 1888 based on *Epipristis oxycyma* Meyrick, 1888. Two generic synonyms of *Epipristis*, *Terpnidia* Butler, 1892 (type species *Hypochroma nelearia* Guenée, 1858) and *Pingarmia* Sterneck, 1927 (type species *P. transiens* Sterneck, 1927) were established by Swinhoe (1894) and Prout (1934) respectively. Additionally, three species have been transferred from other genera by Swinhoe (1894) and Prout (1932): *E. minimaria* Guenée, 1858 from *Hypochroma* (= *Hypobapta* Prout), *E. truncataria* Walker, 1861 from *Acidalia* (= *Scopula* Schrank), and *E. rufilunata* Warren, 1903 from *Pingasa* Moore. Prout (1927–1937) gave descriptions of two species, *E. storthophora* Prout and *E. oxyodonta* Prout, as well as another two subspecies *E. rufilunata antelucana* Prout and *E. nelearia accessa* Prout.

Holloway (1996) gave the diagnostic characters of *Epipristis*, recorded *E. truncataria* Walker and *E. nelearia* Guenée from Borneo, and included this genus in Pseudoterpniti (=Pseudoterpnini). Pitkin *et al.* (2007) listed eight species: *E. minimaria*, *E. nelearia*, *E. oxycyma*, *E. oxyodonta*, *E. rufilunata*, *E. storthophora*, *E. transiens*, *E. truncataria*, following Scoble (1999). Pitkin *et al.* (2007) also included *Epipristis* in the Pseudoterpnini, described the external features and provided a detailed diagnosis of the genus. On the basis of wing pattern, *Epipristis* can usually be recognized by a lacy band of whitish-edged spots between the postmedial and submarginal lines. The geographical distribution of all known species is restricted to an area from East Asia to Australia.

Herein, two new species of *Epipristis* are described. The purpose of this paper is to describe the two new species and redescribe all the known species from China, and to provide illustrations of external features and genitalia.

Materials and Methods

Specimens of *Epipristis* were obtained from the following institutions: Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China (IZCAS); Expósito Hermosa, Andrés collection, Spain; The Natural