A revision of the “Belciana” kala Prout, 1924 species group with description of
a new genus and two new species (Lepidoptera, Noctuidae: Pantheinae)
from East Asia. Revision of Pantheinae, contribution VI

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Abstract

The new genus Anabelcia gen. n. (Type species Belciana kala Prout, 1924) is separated from the heterogeneous complex
called “Belciana” (sensu auctorum) and described here. Four new combinations are introduced by transferring four species
to the genus Anabelcia: A. kala (Prout, 1924) (Belciana) comb. n., A. nepalensis (Haruta, 1993) (Belciana) comb. n., stat.
rev., A. siitanae (Remm, 1983) (Belciana) comb. n. and A. staudingeri (Leech, 1900) (Polydesma) comb. n. The status
of the subspecies Anabelcia kala nepalensis (Haruta, 1993) is is changed, the taxon is upgraded to full species (stat. n.).

Key words: Lepidoptera, Noctuidae, Pantheinae, new genus, Anabelcia, new species, new combinations, SE Asia,
Thailand, Taiwan, Russian Far East

Introduction

The article is devoted to the revision of the group of pantheine species distributed predominantly in the Oriental
region, placed by authors to the genus Belciana Walker, 1862. Facially this group is characterised by bluish-green
or green ground colour of forewing and yellowish with dark terminal band hindwing. The revision of the Oriental
genera of the Pantheinae revealed that the genus Belciana in current treatment is apparently an assembly of species
of heterogeneous origin and represents a complex of allied species which belong to several genera. Poole (1989)
treated Belciana in Ophiderinae (sensu auctorum) and listed 16 species in the genus. He placed Diptheroides
Kobes (1992) transferred Belciana to Pantheinae. Holloway (2009) separated Diptheroides from Belciana, and
included to the genus Donda striatovirens Moore, 1884 and Ancara viridipicta Hampson, 1902 listed by Poole
(1989) in genera Donda Moore, 1882 and Chlorognesia Warren, 1913 respectively. According to comparative
study of this group, these species are not congener with Belciana biformis (Walker, 1858), the type species of
Belciana, and apparently belong to different genera. The Belciana striatovirens species group and the genus
Diptheroides will be treated separately. The new genus for Belciana kala species group is described herein.

By examining of the extensive material from museums, private collections and literature sources we find five
species being congeneric with Belciana kala. The status of nepalensis Haruta, 1993, described as a subspecies of B.
kala, is raised to full species, further two new species are distinguished and described below. The holotypes of the
new species deposited in the collections of Armin Becher, Freistadt (Germany) and Gottfried Behounek, Grafing
(Germany), both type-specimens will be subsequently deposited in the ZSM, Munich.

Acronyms for institutional and private collections are as follows: ABF—coll. A. Becher Freistadt; APB—coll.
Amnuay Pinratana, Bangkok; AZR—coll. Alberto Zilli, Roma; BMNH—British Museum Natural History (The