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Correction of the publication date of *Lithocolletis helianthemella* Herrich-Schäffer based on additional data of the taxonomic history of this species (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae)

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Recently De Prins *et al.* (2013) published a description of the new genus *Triberta* and transferred to it two species, *T. cistifoliella* (Groschke) and *T. helianthemella* (Herrich-Schäffer), formerly assigned to the genus *Phyllonorycter* Hübner. In the upcoming studies related to this new genus the need arose to clarify whether the publication year of *T. helianthemella* is 1860 or 1861 (Buszko 1996, 2013; De Prins & De Prins 2005, 2013).

Lithocolletis helianthemella was described by Herrich-Schäffer on page 20 of his publication *Neue Schmetterlinge aus Europa und den angrenzenden Ländern*. Although this publication contains only 28 pages (numbered 1–32, pages 21–24 were never issued) and 26 unnumbered colour plates, it was published in three parts ('Heft') in the years 1856, 1860 and 1861, each *Heft* in a bluish grey wrapper bearing the title of the work, name of its author [author not stated on 'Erstes Heft'] and the date of publication. After completion of the work a title page with date 1856–1861 was also issued (Fig. 1). Our examination of several sets indicates that there are few copies in libraries complete with the three original wrappers and even fewer with the title page. Three sets exist in the Natural History Museum, London, including one with Herrich-Schäffer's pattern plates [SB q H. 7c], but none has a title page and only one is accompanied by one of the original wrappers, that of part three ('Drittes Heft'). A set in the Zoologische Staatssammlung, Munich, is bound in with the *Systematische Bearbeitung der Schmetterlinge von Europa* and is accompanied by only one wrapper, that of 'Erstes Heft, Mai 1856', which is altered, probably in Herrich-Schäffer's hand, to 'Zweites Heft, Januar 1860'. A set in Naturhistorisches Museum, Vienna, has the wrapper of 'Drittes Heft' adapted with hand-written additions ('1.-Drittes Heft'; 'mit 26 illuminierten Kupfertafeln'; '1856-Januar 1861') in lieu of a title page.

KS owns an unbound personal set, complete with all three original wrappers, but without the title page. A photocopy of the title page has been added but it is unknown from which original it was taken. The previous ownership of this set, which was purchased in 1978 from the London book dealer E.W. Classey, is unknown. It is in superb condition; when received the pages were still uncut and there are no annotations by any previous owner. Further complete sets, with the three original wrappers but without a title page, are held in the libraries of the Royal Entomological Society, St Albans, UK, and the Senckenberg Deutsches Entomologisches Institut, Müncheberg, Germany. A set in the library of the Nederlandse Entomologische Vereniging is accompanied by an ornate title page that is probably not original; the name Herrich-Schäffer is spelt without the hyphen whilst the name of the distributor (G.J. Manz) is omitted at the bottom (Fig. 2).

The three parts are dated: Erstes Heft—Mai 1856; Zweites Heft—Januar 1860; Drittes Heft—Januar 1861. In accordance with the provisions of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature*, edition 4 (ICZN 1999), Article 21.3.1, the date of publication has to be 'the last day of the month, when month and year, but not day, are specified'; i.e. [31] Mai 1856; [31] Januar 1860 and [31] Januar 1861. It should be noted that pages 21–24 were never issued; page 20 ends with species number 90 and page 25 continues with species number 91, indicating that no text is missing. Following the ICZN Article 21.5, which determines the date of the work issued in parts, the date of publication of each part is to be separately determined, we establish here the date of publication of *Triberta helianthemella* (Herrich-Schäffer) as [31] January 1860.

It may be worth noting here that the individual dates of publication of Herrich-Schäffer's (1843–1856) major work *Systematische Bearbeitung der Schmetterlinge von Europa* are tabulated in Hemming (1937) *Hübner* 1: 579–589 (Heppner 1982).

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