

A new species of *Phyllonorycter* (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae) from Kenya discovered by using the sex attractant Z8-tetradecen-1-yl acetate

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Abstract

Phyllonorycter obandai, new species, was discovered in Kenya using traps baited with the synthetic sex attractant Z8-tetradecen-1-yl acetate. This is the first species of *Phyllonorycter* recorded from Kenya. External morphological features of adult males, along with their genitalia are described and illustrated from specimens attracted to the traps. A distribution map for *P. obandai* is also presented.

Key words: *Phyllonorycter obandai*, new species, Kenya, *Phyllonorycter*, Lithocolletinae, Gracillariidae, morphology, sex attractant, pheromone, Afrotropical.

Introduction

Gracillariidae is one of the largest families of plant-mining Lepidoptera with 1818 species currently recognized (Scoble 1992; Davis & Robinson 1998; De Prins & De Prins 2005; World Gracillariidae Database of the Royal Museum for Central Africa). However, the Afrotropical Gracillariidae fauna still remains poorly explored. Only 235 species of Gracillariidae are recorded from the Afrotropical region (Dall'Asta *et al.* 2001; De Prins 2002; De Prins & De Prins 2005). The genus *Phyllonorycter* Hübner, 1822 (= *Lithocolletis* Hübner, 1825) is undisputedly assigned to the subfamily Lithocolletinae in all main systematic works on the Gracillariidae (Davis 1983, 1987; Common 1990; Davis & Robinson 1998; Kumata 1998; Kuznetsov & Baryshnikova 2001, 2004; De Prins & De