

A new species of *Amphipoea* Billberg, 1820, from northwestern Iran (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae)

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Abstract

Amphipoea maryamae, **sp. n.**, is described from the low mountains of West Azerbaijan province in northwestern Iran. The habitat is semi-steppe with herbaceous vegetation and scattered trees. Adults and male and female genitalia are described and illustrated and compared with presumably closely related *Amphipoea* species. The genus *Amphipoea* previously was unrecorded from Iran.

Key words: new species, Iran, Noctuidae, *Amphipoea*

Introduction

Over the last two decades several Iranian entomologists have collected large samples of moths from different parts of Iran, and these are deposited in the Hayk Mirzayans Insect Museum (HMIM), Insect Taxonomy Research Department, Plant Pests and Diseases Research Institute. During the second ALI (Association Lepidoptera Iranica) meeting in May 2005, some of this material was identified, among which the authors discovered several specimens of an undescribed species of *Amphipoea* Billberg, 1820. The specimens were collected in Urumiyeh (Rezaiyeh) in northwestern Iran.

According to the current classification of Noctuidae (Fibiger and Lafontaine 2005), *Amphipoea* is placed in the subfamily Xyleninae Guenée 1837, tribe Apameini Guenée, 1841, and subtribus Apameina Guenée, 1841. *Amphipoea* is entirely holarctic and comprises 17 species from the Palaearctic region (Zilli et al. 2005), 5 of which occur in Europe (Fibiger and Hacker 2005), and 9 species from the Nearctic region (Hodges et al. 1983). The purposes of this paper are to describe the new species from Iran and compare it with *A. oculea* (Linnaeus, 1761) and *A. bifurcata* Gyulai and Ronkay, 1994.