



Description of a new species of *Lygephila* Billberg, 1820 (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae, Catocalinae) from Russian Far East and North China

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Abstract

A new species in the genus *Lygephila* Billberg, 1820, *L. dubatolovi* sp. n. was discovered in the Primorye territory of Russian Far East and in the Liaoning province of North China. The new species is compared with its closest relatives *L. maxima* and *L. ludicra*. In addition, the East Asian *Lygephila nigricostata* (Graeser, 1890) is established as a new synonym of the European *Lygephila procax* Hübner, [1813].

Key words: Noctuidae, Catocalinae, *Lygephila*, new species, synonymy, Russian Far East, North China

Introduction

Among noctuids collected from the Primorye Territory of Russia, Vladimir Dubatolov (Siberian Zoological Museum, Novosibirsk) and the third author discovered material of an interesting *Lygephila*. Initially, the specimens were curated as a species near *Lygephila maxima* (Bremer, 1861) and *L. ludicra* (Hübner, 1790). Genitalic dissection of two females (taken in 2002 in Gornotaezhaya Biological station by D. Nilsson) indicated that the Primorye material differed from both *L. maxima* and *L. ludicra*, as well as the other described species of *Lygephila*. The second author found three males in the same institutional collection (two collected by V. Dubatolov from the same locality in 1995, and one collected by G. A. Grigoryev from the vicinity of Arsenjev [Primorye Territory] in 1987), and another two males in the private collection of G. A. Grigoryev (St. Petersburg). More recently, the second author found an additional male (collected in the Liaoning Province of North China) in the collection of the Northeast Forestry University, Harbin, China. We describe this *Lygephila* as a new species as follows.

Lygephila dubatolovi Fibiger, Kononenko & Nilsson, new species

(Figs. 1, 2, 4, 9, 12, 17, 22, 23)

Type material. Holotype: male, RUSSIA: Primorye Territory, Arsenjev, 25.vii.1987, G. A. Grigoriev leg., in coll. Siberian Zoological Museum, Institute for Systematics and Ecology of Animals (Siberian Branch of Russian Academy of Sciences, Novosibirsk). Paratypes: 2 males, same locality and collector, 1 and 27.vii.1987, in coll. G. A. Grigoryev, St. Petersburg; 2 males, Primorye territory, Gornotaezhnoe, 18 km SE Ussuriisk, 8.viii.1995, V. Dubatolov leg., genit. prep. 5852 M. Fibiger, in coll. Siberian Zoological Museum, Institute for