



A review of Palaearctic *Metachrostis* Hübner, [1820] 1816 with description of three new species (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae, Eublemminae)

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Abstract

Eleven of the thirteen Palaearctic species of the genus *Metachrostis* Hübner, [1820] 1816 are reviewed. Three new species, *M. djakonovi* **sp. n.**, *M. hoenei* **sp. n.** and *M. sinevi* **sp. n.** are described from south east Kazakhstan and western Mongolia, south China, Sichuan Prov. and south of Russian Far East. *Metachrostis miasma* (Hampson, 1891), **comb. n.** and *M. batanga* (Draudt, 1950) **comb. n.** are transferred from the genus *Eublemma* to *Metachrostis*. The combination *Eublemma melabela* Hampson, 1910, **comb. rev.** for *Metachrostis melabela* is revalidated. Most treated species are redescribed and the adults and genitalia are illustrated. The genus *Metachrostis* is reported for the first time from Russia. A checklist of the genus *Metachrostis* is presented.

Key words: Lepidoptera, Noctuidae, Eublemminae, *Metachrostis*, new species, Palaearctic, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, China, Russian Far East

Introduction

The genus *Metachrostis* Hübner, [1820] 1816 is a member of the subfamily Eublemminae belonging to the *Eublemma* Hübner, [1821] 1816 generic group. It comprises 22 exclusively Old World species. Poole (1989) listed 17 species. One species, “*Metachrostis*” *amanica* (Osthelder, 1933), in fact belongs to the genus *Plecoptera* of the subfamily Catocalinae (Hacker 1990). Another species, *Eublemma melabela* Hampson, 1910, was erroneously transferred by Poole to the genus *Metachrostis*, and its original generic placement is restored here. Some additional unidentified species of *Metachrostis* from Yemen were recently figured by Hacker & Fibiger (2006: pl. 5, figs. 11–14). However, one of these (Hacker & Fibiger 2006: Pl. 5, fig. 13) appears to belong to the genus *Paragona* Staudinger, 1892 or is closely allied to it. In this article we review eight Palaearctic species and describe three new species of *Metachrostis*; two species treated by authors (Poole 1989; Yoshimoto 1999) as *Eublemma* are transferred to the genus *Metachrostis*. Material of *Metachrostis parvisi* (Berio, 1940) and *M. costiplaga* Warren, 1903 was unavailable in the course of the present study.

Materials and methods

The present article is based on the collections of the Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences (ZISP, St. Petersburg, Russia), Zoological Institute and Museum Alexander Koenig (ZFMK, Bonn, Germany) and Siberian Zoological Museum, Institute of Animal Systematic and Ecology (SZM, IASE).