Microlepidoptera of Hong Kong: Oecophoridae II: description of three new species of the genus Variacma Wang

SHU-XIA WANG1,4, GAI-XIA YUAN1, 2 & ROGER C. KENDRICK3

1College of Life Sciences, Nankai University, Tianjin 300071, P. R. China
2Department of Life Sciences, Daqing Normal College, Daqing 163712, P. R. China
3Fauna Conservation Department, Kadoorie Farm & Botanic Garden, Lam Kam Road, Tai Po, New Territories, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, P. R. China
4Corresponding author. E-mail: shxwang@nankai.edu.cn

Abstract

Three new species of the genus Variacma Wang are described from Hong Kong, China: V. hongkongensis sp. nov., V. bifariafera sp. nov. and V. tomentosa sp. nov. The female is recorded for the first time for the genus and the generic characters are redescribed. Images of adults and genitalia are provided, along with a key to all the known species based on the male genitalia.

Key words: Lepidoptera, Oecophoridae, Variacma, new species, China

Introduction

The genus Variacma Wang, 2006 was established to accommodate the three Chinese species: V. saccata Wang, 2006, V. subrotunda Wang, 2006 and V. isotyra (Meyrick, 1938). During a microlepidopterological survey to the New Territories of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) in 2007, we collected 17 specimens belonging to this genus. Based on these specimens, we recognized three new species and describe them herein. The female is described for the first time for the genus, and the generic characters are emended accordingly.

Material and methods

Material examined in this study was collected by using light traps. External characters of adults were examined using an Olympus SZX9 stereo-microscope (maximum magnification 228X). Colour is based on the observations of the whole specimen illuminated with cold, white light. Wing venation and genitalia were examined using preparations mounted in Canada balsam basically following the techniques of Li and Zheng (1996). The type specimens are deposited in the Insect Collection, College of Life Sciences, Nankai University, Tianjin, China.

Taxonomy

Genus Variacma Wang, 2006


Generic characters. Adult: Labial palpus upturned, second segment thickened with appressed scales, third segment slender and shorter than second, pointed at apex. Antenna without pecten, filiform. Forewing broad, costa gently arched, termen oblique; R4 and R5 stalked slightly beyond middle, R5 reaching termen. Hindwing broad, with developed anal area; Rs and M1 widely separate. Abdominal terga with spiniform setae.