



## The Tortricidae described by J. C. Fabricius (Lepidoptera)

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### Abstract

The identity and nomenclature of the 88 species of Tortricidae (Lepidoptera) described by J. C. Fabricius are reviewed. Type material deposited in the Natural History Museum Denmark is illustrated. Lectotypes for *Tinea compositella* (Fabricius, 1775), *Pyralis rivellana* (Fabricius, 1775) and *P. strigana* (Fabricius, 1775) are designated. Two new synonymies are proposed: *Pyralis marmorana* (Fabricius, 1798), **syn. n.**, of *Ancylis achatana* (Denis and Schiffermüller, 1775), and *P. rusticana* (Fabricius, 1794), **syn. n.**, of *Epinotia solandriana* (Linnaeus, 1758). In an appendix, the identity and nomenclature of the 49 species of non-Tortricidae described by Fabricius in the genus *Pyralis* Linnaeus, 1758 are reviewed. According to provisions of Article 23.9 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, suppression of priority of *Pyralis obscurana* Fabricius, 1798 over *Eucosma aspidiscana* (Hübner, 1817), *Pyralis posticana* Fabricius, 1794 over *Clepsis spectrana* (Treitschke, 1830) and *Pyralis trifasciana* Fabricius, 1794 over *Isotrias rectifasciana* (Haworth 1811) is proposed. Appendices with references on the prevailing use of these three junior synonyms are included.

**Key words:** Tortricoidea, type material, Natural History Museum Denmark, *Pyralis*, *Isotrias rectifasciana*, *Clepsis spectrana*, *Eucosma aspidiscana*

### Introduction

Johann Christian Fabricius (1745–1808) was a student of Carolus Linnaeus in Uppsala, Sweden. He became a professor in Copenhagen and later in Kiel (at that time a part of Denmark). He travelled throughout Europe visiting a number of other entomologists, worked through their collections, and described new taxa. From these collections he retained specimens which he included in his own collection, together with material sent to him by collectors in different countries. Therefore, his collection is rich in type specimens. Historical reviews of Fabricius' work and collections are outlined by Tuxen (1959, 1967a) and Zimsen (1964); Tuxen (1967b) provided a bibliography of Fabricius' publications. After his death, Fabricius' personal collection was kept in the University of Kiel until it was transferred to the Zoological Museum, University of Copenhagen (ZMUC) on a long-term loan (Tuxen 1967a: 9).

Fabricius described more than 9,523 species of insects, about 1,650 of them Lepidoptera (Zimsen 1964). Very few of these species were collected by Fabricius himself. The Lepidoptera are mostly in relatively good condition, although part of the material (especially the Noctuidae) has been damaged by dermestid beetles, leading to the loss of many type specimens. It is a remarkable stroke of good fortune that Fabricius was given so many specimens (i.e., syntypes) for his own collection because most of the collections from which he described new species no longer exist. There are, however, a few notable exceptions. Nearly every year, Fabricius visited Copenhagen where he stayed with two of his pupils and friends, Ove Ramel Sehested and Niels Tønder Lund. They amassed a large collection, and Fabricius identified their material and described new species from it. According to Tuxen (1959), about one third of all Fabrician insect descriptions are based on material in the Sehested-Tønder Lund collection. This collection is now in the ZMUC and is mostly in good condition. The collections of Fabricius (the 'Kiel collec-