



## A review of *Micardia* Butler, 1878 from China (Lepidoptera, Noctuidae, Eustrotiinae)

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### Abstract

Six species of the genus *Micardia* Butler, 1878 are recognized from China. Three new species, *M. pallens*, *M. distincta* and *M. minuta*, closely allied to *M. pulcherrima* (Moore, 1867), are described. The adults and the genitalia are illustrated for all examined species.

**Key words:** *Micardia*, Eustrotiinae, Noctuidae, Lepidoptera, new species

### Introduction

The genus *Micardia* (type species *Micardia argentata* Butler, 1878) was erected by Butler (1878), and originally included the three species, *Micardia argentata* Butler, 1878, *Micardia pulchra* Butler, 1878 and *Micardia pulcherrima* (Moore, 1867). Later, five species of *Micardia* (*M. munda* Leech, 1900, *M. quadrilinea* Scriba, 1921, *M. pulchrargentea* Bryk, 1942, *M. subobscura* Berio, 1973 and *M. simplicissima* Berio, 1973) were described from China, Japan, Russia (Kurile Isl.) and Myanmar (Leech 1900; Scriba 1921; Bryk 1942; Berio 1973). Among them, *M. pulchrargentea* Bryk, 1942 was synonymised with *M. pulchra* (Kononenko 1987, 2005) and the status of *M. quadrilinea* remained uncertain. Berio (1954) and Viette (1982) described four species of *Micardia* from Madagascar, however their systematic position requires clarification. So far, eleven species of the genus *Micardia* reported by Poole (1989), including *M. pulchrargentea* as full species, but missing *M. subobscura*.

The genus is distributed predominantly from the south to the east of Asia and in Madagascar. Three species have been reported from China: *Micardia munda*, from Sichuan (Leech 1900); a male of *M. argentata* from Zhejiang (Hampson 1910); *M. pulcherrima* from Tibet and Sichuan (Chen 1982, 1999). In this paper, three new species closely allied to *M. pulcherrima* are described: *M. pallens* sp. nov., *M. distincta* sp. nov. and *M. minuta* sp. nov. The "*M. pulcherrima*" from Sichuan (Chen 1982, 1999) is revised and reidentified as *M. distincta* sp. nov. The brief diagnosis of the genus *Micardia* is provided.

### Materials and Methods

The specimens examined are from the collection of the Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IZCAS). The types of the species *M. pulcherrima*, *M. argentata* and *M. munda* are revised by photos from Natural History Museum, London, UK (BMNH). The materials were mainly sampled by light traps. Photos of adults and genitalia were taken with a digital camera attached to a Zeiss Stereo Microscope and compiled with Auto-Montage software version 5.03.0061 (Synoptics Ltd). Wing venation terminology follows Comstock (1918) and Scoble (1992); external and genitalic terminology follow Nichols (1989), Klots (1970) and Chen (1999).