



Article

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A revision of the “*Belciana*” *kala* Prout, 1924 species group with description of a new genus and two new species (Lepidoptera, Noctuidae: Pantheinae) from East Asia. Revision of Pantheinae, contribution VI

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Abstract

The new genus *Anabelcia* **gen. n.** (Type species *Belciana kala* Prout, 1924) is separated from the heterogeneous complex called “*Belciana*” (sensu auctorum) and described here. Four new combinations are introduced by transferring four species to the genus *Anabelcia*: *A. kala* (Prout, 1924) (*Belciana*) **comb. n.**, *A. nepalensis* (Haruta, 1993) (*Belciana*) **comb. n.**, **stat. rev.**, *A. siitanae* (Remm, 1983) (*Belciana*) **comb. n.** and *A. staudingeri* (Leech, 1900) (*Polydesma*) **comb. n.** The status of the subspecies *Anabelcia kala nepalensis* (Haruta, 1993) is changed, the taxon is upgraded to full species (**stat. n.**). Two new species, *A. thai* **sp. n.** and *A. taiwana* **sp. n.** are described. The imagines, male and female genitalia of all species of *Anabelcia* are illustrated. The checklist of the genus *Anabelcia* is presented.

Key words: Lepidoptera, Noctuidae, Pantheinae, new genus, *Anabelcia*, new species, new combinations, SE Asia, Thailand, Taiwan, Russian Far East

Introduction

The article is devoted to the revision of the group of pantheine species distributed predominantly in the Oriental region, placed by authors to the genus *Belciana* Walker, 1862. Facially this group is characterised by bluish-green or green ground colour of forewing and yellowish with dark terminal band hindwing. The revision of the Oriental genera of the Pantheinae revealed that the genus *Belciana* in current treatment is apparently an assembly of species of heterogeneous origin and represents a complex of allied species which belong to several genera. Poole (1989) treated *Belciana* in Ophiderinae (sensu auctorum) and listed 16 species in the genus. He placed *Diptheroides* Bethune-Baker, 1906 (type-species: *Diptheroides kenricki* Bethune-Baker, 1906) in the synonymy to *Belciana*. Kobes (1992) transferred *Belciana* to Pantheinae. Holloway (2009) separated *Diptheroides* from *Belciana*, and included to the genus *Donda striatovirens* Moore, 1884 and *Ancara viridipicta* Hampson, 1902 listed by Poole (1989) in genera *Donda* Moore, 1882 and *Chlorognesia* Warren, 1913 respectively. According to comparative study of this group, these species are not congener with *Belciana biformis* (Walker, 1858), the type species of *Belciana*, and apparently belong to different genera. The *Belciana striatovirens* species group and the genus *Diptheroides* will be treated separately. The new genus for *Belciana kala* species group is described herein.

By examining of the extensive material from museums, private collections and literature sources we find five species being congeneric with *Belciana kala*. The status of *nepalensis* Haruta, 1993, described as a subspecies of *B. kala*, is raised to full species, further two new species are distinguished and described below. The holotypes of the new species deposited in the collections of Armin Becher, Freistadt (Germany) and Gottfried Behounek, Grafing (Germany), both type-specimens will be subsequently deposited in the ZSM, Munich.

Acronyms for institutional and private collections are as follows: ABF—coll. A. Becher Freistadt; APB—coll. Amnuay Pinratana, Bangkok; AZR—coll. Alberto Zilli, Roma; BMNH—British Museum Natural History (The