



<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3619.4.4>

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:B9798FD4-FAF9-4510-812C-ADBE31D1ACE6>

## A new species of the *Callophrys mystaphia* Miller, 1913—group from Iran (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae: Eumaeini)

ANATOLY V. KRUPITSKY<sup>1</sup> & KIRILL A. KOLESNICHENKO<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>A.N. Severtsov Institute of Ecology and Evolution, Russian Academy of Sciences, Leninsky prospect, 33, Moscow 119071 Russia.  
E-mail: [nephurus@yandex.ru](mailto:nephurus@yandex.ru)

<sup>2</sup>Department of Entomology, Faculty of Biology, Moscow State University, 119991 Moscow, Russia.  
E-mail: [kkolesnichenko@gmail.com](mailto:kkolesnichenko@gmail.com)

### Abstract

A new species, recently misinterpreted as *Callophrys mystaphia* Miller, 1913, *Callophrys mystaphioides* Krupitsky & Kolesnichenko **sp. n.**, is described from Central Iran (Esfahan Province). The new species differs from *C. mystaphia* in the combination of external characters and morphology of genitalia. Possible relations of *C. mystaphia*—species group with other Palaearctic *Callophrys* are discussed.

**Key words:** systematics, zoogeography, Zagros, Turkey

### Introduction

*Callophrys mystaphia* Miller, 1913 was described from Eastern Turkey (vicinity of modern Igdyr (=İğdir) on the border with Armenia in the valley of Arax (=Aras) river). This taxon differs from those previously known in special characters such as rounded wings, shape and localization of spots of postdiscal row on underside of wings unusual for *Callophrys* and extremely small size. For a long time only the type specimens (2 males and 2 females) were known. Lectotype (male) was designated by Nekrutenko in Hesselbarth *et al.* (1995). Three surviving specimens (lectotype and two paralectotypes) are deposited in the collection of type specimens of Zoological Museum of Moscow State University, location of the last specimen still remains unknown.

For a long time the situation with *C. mystaphia* has been unclear due to the absence of additional material. All specimens figured in the literature as «*C. mystaphia*» (Hesselbarth *et al.* 1995; Nazari 2003) don't belong to the species in question. All records of *C. mystaphia* from the territory of the former Soviet Union (Tuzov 1993; Korb & Bolshakov 2011) are doubtful and require confirmation. Some authors (Hesselbarth *et al.* 1995) mentioned this species as «status incertus». Wagener and van Oorshot (1998) concluded that *C. mystaphia* and *C. paulae* Pfeiffer, 1932 were conspecific and erroneously united these species under the older name *mystaphia*.

In 2007–2008 a new population of *C. mystaphia* was found in South-Eastern Turkey in Van Province (Erek Mountain, situated in ca. 200 km from the type locality of *C. mystaphia*); a video with all stages of development of *C. mystaphia* was taken (Kemal 2009). According to this video, *C. mystaphia* develops on *Rheum* sp. (Polygonaceae), but Miller in the original description mentioned *Prangos* sp. (Apiaceae) as a probable host plant (Miller 1913).

A specimen of *C. mystaphia* from South Turkey (Adiyaman Prov.) is figured in Tshikolovets (2011). The same author recorded this species from adjacent province Kahramanmarash but the published data are too general for proper locating the mark on the map (see below).

Populations of the undescribed taxon related to *C. mystaphia* were found in South-Western Iran (Kuh-e-Dinar Mts.) by W. ten Hagen in the end of May 2004. Ten Hagen erroneously identified these butterflies as *C. mystaphia* after analysis of photos of the type specimens of *C. mystaphia*, which are figured in the same paper near the photos of Iranian specimens.