



***Lamprista* gen. nov. of Lecithoceridae (Lepidoptera, Gelechioidea) from New Guinea, with descriptions of two new species**

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Abstract

Lamprista gen. nov., morphologically allied to *Crocantnes* Meyrick, 1886, is described from New Guinea, based on the type species, *L. emmeli* sp. nov., and an additional species, *L. ortholepida* sp. nov., is described. Illustrations of the imago, male and female genitalia, and wing venation of the new species are given. A new combination from *Crocantnes* is proposed: *Lamprista hemipyra* (Meyrick, 1938), comb. nov. A key to the species of *Lamprista* is given.

Key words: Lepidoptera, Lecithoceridae, *Crocantnes*, new genus, new species, new combination, taxonomy

Introduction

The family Lecithoceridae is a little-known group of microlepidoptera primarily restricted to the Oriental and Australian regions. The family comprises about 1,200 described species worldwide (van Nieukerken et al. 2011), but actual numbers, estimated from unidentified specimens in institutional and private collections, may far surpass the current level. The family is subdivided into three subfamilies: Ceuthomadarinae, Lecithocerinae, and Torodorinae (Gozmány 1978). Larvae are known to feed on detritus (Common, 1996).

The genus *Crocantnes* Meyrick (1886) is a tropical genus that occurs mainly in northeastern Australia, New Guinea (Papua New Guinea and Papua of Indonesia) and other adjacent islands of Indonesia. The genus comprises more than 60 described species (Meyrick 1925; Diakonoff 1954; Common 1996; Park 2011). Since the genus was established, no comprehensive study of the genus has been made, except for a few ancillary contributions by Meyrick (1925), Diakonoff (1954), and Clarke (1965). Most species of *Crocantnes* can be identified by their brightly patterned wings, and by the lack of a gnathos in the male genitalia.

Lamprista gen. nov. is considered to be allies of *Crocantnes* on basis of shared apomorphic characters, including length of the antenna longer than length of forewing, and absence of a gnathos in the male genitalia. Previous workers have not assigned *Crocantnes* to any of the three subfamilies proposed by Gozmány (1978).

In this study, *Lamprista* is described and separated from *Crocantnes* by distinguishable morphological characters, including uniquely specialized labial palpus, wing pattern and R₂ stalked with R₃₊₄ in the forewing.

Material and methods

Specimens examined were obtained by loan or photographed from the following museums: the National Museum of Natural History (USNM), Washington, D.C., USA; the Natural History Museum (NHM), London, UK; Netherlands Centre for Biodiversity Naturalis (NCB) (formerly Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie), Leiden, the Netherlands.