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Contribution to the knowledge of the *Polia praecipua* (Staudinger, 1895) species complex with description of a new species from China (Lepidoptera, Noctuidae, Noctuinae, Hadenini)

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A new species of *Polia* Ochseneimer, 1816, *Polia minae* sp. n., related to *P. praecipua* (Staudinger, 1895) and *P. sublimis* (Draudt, 1950) from northeastern Sichuan province, China is described. Adults and male and female genitalia of *P. praecipua* (Staudinger, 1898), *P. praecipua angusta* Hreblay & Ronkay, 1998, and *P. sublimis* (Draudt, 1950) are figured. Lectotypes and paralectotypes of *P. praecipua praecipua* and *P. sublimis* are designated. *Polia* is a well defined and complex noctuid genus in the tribe *Hadenini* with a Holarctic distribution. In the Palaearctic region, *Polia* is represented by 25, mostly large or medium-sized moths. The highest species richness is found in the Himalayan region. European species of *Polia* was recently revised by Hacker et al. (2002) with the check list of the known Palaearctic species. Recent collecting trips to China provided additional *Polia* material, including long series of *P. praecipua* and *P. sublimis*. During the study of those specimens, a third, externally different species was discovered by comparing the genitalia of *P. minae* sp. n., with *P. praecipua* and *P. sublimis*. The moths studied were all collected at ultraviolet lights. Fifteen male and female genitalia dissections follows Lafontaine (2004) and slides were mounted in euparal. The abdominal integument was cut lengthwise, descaled, and slide mounted. Wild M3Z microscope and Canon EOS 350D camera were used to produce images. For systematic classification we follow Lafontaine & Schmidt (2010). Nomenclature used in this study relied upon taxonomic experts and relevant literature Draudt (1950); Boursin (1964); McCabe (1980); Chen (1982 and 1999); Yoshimoto (1995). Hreblay & Ronkay 1998; Hreblay et al. 1998; and Gyulai & Ronkay (2001). Repository acronyms are as follows: AFM = Alessandro Floriani (Milan, Italy); GBG/ZSM = Gottfried Behounek (Grafing)/Zoologische Staatssammlung, München (Germany); NKM = Naturkundemuseum, Berlin; NRCV = Nature Research Centre (Vilnius, Lithuania); PGM = Peter Gyulai (Miskolc, Hungary); WSM = Wolfgang Speidel (München, Germany); ZFMK = Zoologisches Forschungsmuseum, A. König, Bonn.

Polia minae Saldaitis, Benedék & Behounek sp. n.

(Figs. 5–8, 13–16, 19, 20)

Type material. Holotype: male (Fig. 5), China, N. Sichuan, near Jiuzhaigou, N 33°18.855', E 103°55.531', 24.ix.2011, 2100 m, Floriani leg., in GBG/ZSM collection; (Slide No. BJ 1877m) Paratypes: 3 males and 6 females (Figs. 6–8), with the same data as holotype, deposited in the collections of AFM, NRCV and PGM. Slide Nos. BJ 2095 male; BJ 1878 female; BJ 2096 female.

Diagnosis. *Polia minae* (Figs. 5–8) has pale and dark colour forms and is externally similar to *P. sublimis*. Compared with *P. sublimis* (Figs. 1, 2, 22, 24) *P. minae* is larger (wingspan 48–59 mm versus 46–50 mm in *P. sublimis*). The pale form can easily be distinguished from *P. sublimis* by the creamy-sandy coloured forewings. Specimens of both forms have more elongate, broader forewings, more reticulate scaling without reddish shine of ground colour, and the pattern somewhat more defined compared to *P. sublimis*. *Polia sublimis* has a lighter band medially on thorax, while the thorax is generally unicoloured in *P. minae*. The male genitalia of *P. minae* is more similar with *P. sublimis* (Figs. 9, 10, 23) but differs by a stronger vinculum, larger fultura, shorter and not acute ventral process, less curved and broader apical-third of valve. The aedeagus is somewhat longer, vesica more curved with longer sclerotization on the inner side, and subterminal cornutal field is more well developed with longer cornuti. The female genitalia differs from those of *P. sublimis* (Figs. 17, 25), by the narrower eighth abdominal segment, wider, arcuate shape of ostium, shorter and broader ductus bursae, and larger, more sclerotized cervix bursae. The habitat and phenology of *P. minae* differs from that of *P.*