



Revisionary checklist of the Southern African Sesiini (Lepidoptera: Sesiidae) with description of new species

DANIEL BARTSCH

Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde Stuttgart, Rosenstein 1, 70191 Stuttgart. E-mail: daniel.bartsch@smns-bw.de

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Summary

A revisionary checklist of the Sesiini of southern Africa is presented. All known genera of the region and their type species are redescribed. The following genera are placed in Sesiini for the first time: *Alonina* Walker, 1856; *Anaudia* Wallengren, 1863; *Austrosetia* Felder & Felder, 1874; *Megalosphecia* Le Cerf, 1916 and *Vespanthedon* Le Cerf, 1917. The genera *Cicinnoscelis* Holland, 1893 **rev. stat.** (from synonymy with *Alonina* Walker, 1856) and *Felderiola* Naumann, 1971 **rev. stat.** (from synonymy with *Monopetalotaxis* Wallengren, 1859) are resurrected from synonymy and included in Sesiini. One new genus, *Hagnogyna* **new gen.**, and seven new species, *Cicinnoscelis flavipes* **new sp.**, *C. krooni* **new sp.**, *Alonina*

rufa new sp., *A. fusca* new sp., *Anaudia thyranthrena* new sp., *Felderiola karooensis* new sp. and *F. xanthogaster* new sp., are described. The following new combinations are introduced: *Cicinnoscelis longipes* Holland, 1893 **rev. comb.**, *Alonina pyrethra* (Hampson, 1919) **new comb.**, *A. pyrocraspis* (Hampson, 1910) **new comb.**, *A. luteopunctata* (Freina, 2011) **new comb.**, *Felderiola candescens* (Felder & Felder, 1874) **rev. comb.**, *Hagnogyna sanguicosta* (Hampson, 1919) **new comb.**, *H. bartschi* (Freina, 2011) **new comb.** and *Vespanthedon chalciphora* (Hampson, 1919) **new comb.** *Alonina difformis* Hampson, 1919 **new syn.** is considered a subjective junior synonym of *A. rygchiiiformis* Walker, 1856. A lectotype is designated for *Austrosetia semirufa* Felder & Felder, 1874 and the previously unknown males of this species and of *Anaudia felderi* Wallengren, 1863 are described. Bionomical data for some of the species discussed are given for the first time.

Key words: descriptive taxonomy, systematics, synonymy

Zusammenfassung

Eine revidierte Checklist der Sesiini des südlichen Afrikas wird vorgestellt. Alle bisher aus der Region bekannten Gattungen einschließlich ihrer Typusarten werden wiederbeschrieben. Erstmals zu den Sesiini gestellt werden die Gattungen: *Alonina* Walker, 1856; *Anaudia* Wallengren, 1863; *Austrosetia* Felder & Felder, 1874; *Megalosphecia* Le Cerf, 1916 und *Vespanthedon* Le Cerf, 1917. Aus der Synonymie genommen und ebenfalls den Sesiini zugeordnet werden: *Cicinnoscelis* Holland, 1893 **stat. rev.** (aus der Synonymie von *Alonina* Walker, 1856) und *Felderiola* Naumann, 1971 **stat. rev.** (aus der Synonymie von *Monopetalotaxis* Wallengren, 1859). Eine Gattung, *Hagnogyna* **gen. nov.**, sowie sieben Arten *Cicinnoscelis flavipes* **sp. nov.**, *C. krooni* **sp. nov.**, *Alonina rufa* **sp. nov.**, *A. fusca* **sp. nov.**, *Anaudia thyranthrena* **sp. nov.**, *Felderiola karooensis* **sp. nov.** und *F. xanthogaster* **sp. nov.** werden beschrieben. Folgende nomenklatorischen Änderungen werden vorgenommen: *Cicinnoscelis longipes* Holland, 1893 **comb. rev.**; *Alonina pyrethra* (Hampson, 1919) **comb. nov.**; *A. pyrocraspis* (Hampson, 1910) **comb. nov.**; *A. luteopunctata* (Freina, 2011) **comb. nov.**; *Felderiola candescens* (Felder & Felder, 1874) **rev. comb.**; *Hagnogyna sanguicosta* (Hampson, 1919) **comb. nov.**; *H. bartschi* (Freina, 2011) **comb. nov.**; *Vespanthedon chalciphora* (Hampson, 1919) **comb. nov.** Als subjektives jüngeres Synonym zu *A. rygchiiiformis* Walker, 1856 wird *Alonina difformis* Hampson, 1919 **syn. nov.** angesehen. Ein Lectotypus von *Austrosetia semirufa* Felder & Felder, 1874 wird festgelegt und die bisher unbekanntenen Männchen dieser Art sowie von *Anaudia felderi* Wallengren, 1863 werden beschrieben. Von einigen der hier besprochenen Arten werden erstmals bionomische Angaben mitgeteilt.

Introduction

Clearwing moths of the tribe Sesiini Boisduval, 1828 have a predominantly old world distribution. Only three species, all belonging to the Holarctic genus *Sesia* Fabricius, 1775, including the introduced European *Sesia apiformis* (Clerck, 1759), are known from the Americas (Eichlin & Duckworth 1988, Eichlin & Taft 1988, Pühringer & Kallies 2004). The highest species diversity is known from the eastern and south-eastern parts of Asia with currently 86 species assigned to 10 genera (Špatenka et al. 1999, Pühringer & Kallies 2004, Kallies & Arita 2004, Heppner 2011, Kallies 2011). The current knowledge of the Afrotropical Sesiini fauna was gathered predominantly in recent years and is still fragmentary. Three nominal species of the genera *Callisphecia* Le Cerf, 1916 and *Madasphecia* Viette, 1982 were placed in Sesiini by Pühringer & Kallies (2004). A review of the five Sesiini species of the Madagascan subregion belonging to the genera *Hovaesia* Le Cerf, 1957, *Melittosesia* Bartsch, 2009, *Lenyrhova* Le Cerf, 1957 and *Madasphecia* Viette, 1982 was published and the monotypic genus *Afrokona* Fischer, 2006 from Congo was transferred to Sesiini by Bartsch (2009). Freina (2011) placed five species of *Monopetalotaxis* Wallengren, 1859 in Sesiini and Pühringer & Sáfíán (2011) described *Barbasphecia*, a genus from Ghana comprising two species, in Sesiini. Meanwhile, the classification of the majority of African Sesiidae, in particular of the southern part (Namibia, South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe and Mozambique south of river Zambezi), was established and several genera as well as some misplaced species were regarded belonging to Sesiini (Vári, Kroon & Krüger 2002). With currently fifteen recognized genera, all of which are endemic, the Afrotropical Sesiini fauna appears to be exceedingly diverse. So far, this diversity is not reflected by high numbers of described species, but, considering the insufficient level of exploration, this is not surprising. Just as in other regions of the world, the Afrotropical Sesiini includes some of the largest and most colourful Sesiidae species known, but also some inconspicuous and rather small species.

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