

<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3745.2.7>
<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:C5AC1549-3966-46C5-A7AF-F21115A4C946>

***Polymona schellhorni* sp nov., a new lymantrid moth from Jordania (Lepidoptera: Lymantriidae)**

ALEXANDER SCHINTLMEISTER¹ & THOMAS J. WITT²

¹D- 01326 Dresden, Calberlastr. 3, Germany. E-mail: schintlm@aol.com

²Museum Witt, D-80796, München, Tengstr. 33, Germany. E-mail: thomas@witt-thomas.com

Steffen Schellhorn recently presented a pair of specimens of an unidentified tussock moth from Jordania to the Witt Museum. This moth represents a previously unknown species of *Polymona* Walker, 1855, and is described herein.

***Polymona schellhorni* Schintlmeister & Witt, sp. nov.**

(Figs. 1–2, 6–9)

Diagnosis. The new species resembles the pair of syntypes of *Polymona aboleta* (Staudinger, 1895) in ZMHU (Museum für Naturkunde, Leibniz-Institut für Evolutions- und Biodiversitätsforschung an der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) described from the Jordan valley [“Jordanthal”] (the label of the other syntype male reads Jerusalem). *Polymonia aboleta* differs from the new species by the 2 mm shorter and broader shaped forewings, the less reddish colour of the wings and the indistinct blackish pattern. The abdomen of *P. aboleta* is brown, and in *P. schellhorni* sp. nov. it is brownish-red. *Polymonia schellhorni* displays a contrasting paler brown filled rectangular area on the costa of the median area on the forewings, which is less prominently developed in *P. aboleta*. The male genitalia of *P. schellhorni* are distinguished by the longer uncus, the more slender and longer pointed process of the valval apex and a large juxta, which is short in *aboleta*. Adults and genitalia of *P. aboleta* and other *Polymona* species such as *P. ellisoni* Collenette, 1938, *P. finitorum* Collenette, 1931 are illustrated in Schintlmeister, 2004, figs. 1041–1078. *Polymonia ellisoni* holotype female, type locality: Harar in Ethiopia, is similar to *P. aboleta* in external appearance, but the female genitalia of a paratype illustrated by Witt & Speidel, 2007: fig. 12 resemble *P. schellhorni* rather than *P. aboleta*. These differ from *P. schellhorni* by the longer anal papillae and the much shorter and less robust ductus bursae.

Type material: Holotype: ♂, Jordania, Gouv. Ma'an, 9 km N Petra, 30°22'48.1" N, 35°29'41.1" E, 1.650 m, 4.–15.v.2010 leg. S. Schellhorn & P. Schnitter (Genitalia slide T. Karisch 3006)—in Museum Witt, München. Paratypes: 1 ♀, Jordania, Gouv. Ma'an, 7 km N Petra, 30°22'47" N, 35°29'41" E, 1.660 m, 23.v.2010 leg. R. & S. Fiebig (Genitalia slide T. Karisch 3022) in coll. S. Schellhorn, Halle/Saale; 1 ♀, Jordania, Gouv. At Tafila, Dhana Nature Reserve, 30°37'11" N, 35°37'37" E, 1.300 m, 22.–24.v.2010 leg. R. & S. Fiebig in coll. R. Fiebig, Roßlau. 1 ♀, Jordania, Gouv. At Tafila, Wadi Arabica, 10 km N of Little petra, 30°26'26" N, 35°24'37" E, 680 m, 23.v.2010 leg. R. & S. Fiebig by light trap in coll. R. Fiebig, Roßlau. The holotype was collected at light in an *Artemisia* steppe between 2000–2200 hrs. At Dhana Nature Reserve both *P. aboleta* and *schellhorni* occur in sympatry.

Description. Forewing length male (from base to the apex of the right forewing) 20.0 mm, female 22.0 mm. Antennae of the male long bipectinate and blackish; those of the females show shorter pectinations. The fore legs are yellowish and fuscous brownish checkered. Abdomen covered with blackish hairs; brownish-red with a broad blackish dorsal line. Ground colour of forewings reddish-brown. Fringe checkered pale reddish brown/blackish. Blackish-brown forewing pattern is clearly visible. Basal, postbasal and postmedian fasciae marked pale reddish brown; a fuscous brown spot in the pale postmedian area between the postmedian fascia and the margin. Hindwings semitransparent, of a pale reddish brown colour accompanied by a broad blackish submarginal fascia. Underside of all wings and the body pale reddish brown. Male genitalia with long and slender uncus and a pair of triangular socii; long tegumen ends in a clearly distinguished saccus with rounded tip; juxta large and narrow. Valve with three processes, as is usual in the genus *Polymona* (Witt & Speidel, 2007). Upper valval process relatively large with pointed tip; phallus straight, slender and longly everted endophallus displays a small chitinized structure. Female genitalia characterized by two pairs of long

References

- Schintlmeister, A. (2004) The Taxonomy of the genus *Lymantria* Hübner, [1819] (Lepidoptera: Lymantriidae). *Quadrifina*, 7, 1–248. Available from: <http://www.landesmuseum.at/datenbanken/digilit/?litnr=28936> (Accessed 29 Nov. 2013)
- Witt, T.J. & Speidel, W. (2007) Eine neue Art der Gattung *Polymona* Walker, 1855 aus Algerien (Lepidoptera, Lymantriidae). *Entomofauna*, 28, 33–44.