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Review of the genus *Cidariplura* Butler, 1879 (Lepidoptera, Erebidae, Herminiinae) in Taiwan with descriptions of four new species

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Abstract

The genus *Cidariplura* Butler, 1879 from Taiwan is reviewed. A total of seven species are confirmed to occur in this old landbridge island, and four new species are described: *C. shanmeii* Wu & Owada sp. nov., *C. maraho* Wu & Owada sp. nov., *C. atayal* Wu & Owada sp. nov. and *C. ilana* Wu & Owada sp. nov. The Taiwanese *C. bilineata* (Wileman & South, 1919) is superficially similar to the Indian and Nepalese *C. brevivittalis* (Moore, 1867) but their genitalia show distinct differences. *Elyra albifascia* Hampson 1929 is regarded as a junior synonym of *C. brevivittalis* (syn. nov.). All diagnostic characteristics of *Cidariplura* from Taiwan and its adjacent areas are illustrated.

Key words: *Cidariplura*, Herminiinae, Noctuoidea, Oriental region, Taiwan

The genus *Cidariplura* Butler comprises 17 species ranging from southern Palaearctic to Oriental regions (Warren, 1913; Poole, 1989; Owada, 1992a; Owada, 1992b; Chen, 1999; Zhang and Han 2009). It was established by Butler (1879) with a single species, *C. gladiata* Butler, 1879, to account for the extraordinarily long male labial palpi of the species. Such characteristics of the male labial palpi can be found in *Hademia* Moore, [1885], *Trotosema* Butler, 1879 (= *Mosopia*), and *Cidariplura*, which Owada (1978) suggested formed a clade. Owada (1994) also found a distinctive apomorphic character i.e., the male foretibia with a distal sharp spine, among the genera *Mosopia*, *Cidariplura* and *Idia* Hübner, [1813]. The definitions of *Cidariplura* and some similar genera have varied from previous studies. For example, Hampson (1895) combined several species with such long labial palpi under the New World genus *Mastigophorus* Poey, 1832, synonymizing *Mosopia* Walker, [1866] with *Mastigophorus*, and stating “the typical American section (*Mastigophorus*) has a sheath to the fore tibia containing a mass of flocculent [= fluffy] scales”. The genus *Cidariplura*, having no foretibial sheath, was synonymized with *Mastigophorus* by Leech (1900) as implicit in his combination “*Mastigophorus gladiata*”. On the other hand, Swinhoe (1900) erected the genus *Oxaenanus* (type species: *M. brontesalis* Walker, [1859]) to correspond with Section II of Hampson’s “*Mastigophorus*”. *Oxaenanus*, however, differs from *Cidariplura* in having the first segment of the labial palpus porrect directing forward and no clear boundary between elongate second and third segments (Holloway 2008). The relationships among *Cidariplura*, *Mastigophorus*, and *Oxaenanus* need further attention and merit molecular studies based on a denser taxon sampling.

Here we examine taxonomic problems involved in the species of *Cidariplura* from Taiwan and adjacent areas. These species have been studied or at least mentioned by Owada (1987; 1992a; 1992b; 1994), Poole (1989), Wang (1994) and Chen (1999). Our present study confirms the occurrence of seven species of

brown; discal spot short, transverse, dark brown; medial line straight, ochreous; marginal part covered with small black stigma in each cell; marginal scales brown. Abdomen brown, 8th segment unmodified. Male genitalia (Figs 55, 56)- Uncus broad, stout. Tegumen and vinculum long, same in length; saccus V-shaped. Valva trifurcate, costal process stout with lateral semi-circular expansion, distal portion of valva broad, membranous, saccular process small, short, digit-like without hair tufts on apex. Juxta long plate-like, transtilla indistinct. Aedeagus stout, straight, 0.67 X shorter than valva; vesica well scobinated, without cornutus. Female genitalia (Fig. 67)- Ovipositor lobe membranous with short hair-like setae; both pairs of apophyses slender, moderate length; ductus bursae long, with a pair of broad lateral sclerites fused at basal portion. Corpus bursae elliptic, as long as ductus bursae, basal half part wrinkled; ductus seminalis arising from lateral side of corpus bursae, slightly broadened and coiled at basal portion.

Etymology. The species is named after the collecting locality of type series, Ilan County, northern eastern Taiwan.

Distribution and bionomics. This new species, endemic in Taiwan, occurs in low to mid-elevations of northern Taiwan. The adults occur only in May based on collecting records, possibly univoltine.

Taxonomic notes. This new species is superficially similar to *C. nigristigmata* (Leech, 1900) (Figs 32, 51, 52, 65, 74, 89) in S. China in having the forewing reniform stigma dark brown and V-shaped. The genital structures of this new species actually shows its closest relationship with *C. ochreistigma* (Leech, 1900) (Figs 31, 53, 54, 66, 75, 88) in S. China rather than *C. nigristigmata*, which is close to *C. hani* Chen, 1992 and *C. subhani* Zhang & Han, 2009 in Xizhang (= Tibet), W. China, in the genital structures. *C. ilana* and *C. ochreistigma* form a separate lineage in *Cidariplura* based on three particular character states of the male genitalia: the costal process heavily sclerotized and broader with a ventral semi-circular expansion; the saccular process digit-like without hair tufts; and a pair of broad lateral sclerites of ductus bursae fused at the basal portion.

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