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A new species of *Cogia* from Oaxaca, Mexico (Lepidoptera: HesperIIDae: Eudaminae)

ANDREW D. WARREN^{1,4}, DIEGO R. DOLIBAINA² & CLAUDIA HERNÁNDEZ-MEJÍA³

¹McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity, Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida, SW 34th Street and Hull Road, P. O. Box 112710, Gainesville, Florida 32611-2710 U.S.A.

²Laboratório de Estudos de Lepidoptera Neotropical, Departamento de Zoologia, Universidade Federal do Paraná, Caixa Postal 19020, 81531-980, Curitiba, Paraná, Brasil. E-mail: dirodrido@hotmail.com

³Museo de Zoología (Entomología), Departamento de Biología Evolutiva, Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Apdo. Postal 70–399, México, D.F. 04510, México. E-mail: claudia_hernandezm@hotmail.com

⁴Corresponding author. E-mail: andy@butterfliesofamerica.com

Abstract

A new species of *Cogia* A. Butler, 1870, is described from two localities ranging from 1470 to 2000 m elevation in the Sierra Madre del Sur of Oaxaca, Mexico; it occurs in cloud forest habitats and appears to be endemic to Mexico. *Cogia buena*, n. sp., is closely related to *C. mala* Evans, 1953 and *C. aventinus* (Godman & Salvin, 1894); these three species are the only known *Cogia* taxa whose males lack a hair tuft on the dorsal hindwing, and all have similar genitalia.

Key words: *aventinus*, cloud forest, endemic, Guatemala, *mala*

Resumen

Se describe una especie nueva del género *Cogia* A. Butler, 1870, proveniente de dos localidades ubicadas entre los 1470 y 2000 m de la Sierra Madre del Sur, Oaxaca, México. Habita en bosque mesófilo de Montaña y parece endémica de México. *Cogia buena* n. sp., está cercanamente relacionada con *C. mala* Evans, 1953 y ambas con *C. aventinus* (Godman & Salvin, 1894); las tres son las únicas especies dentro del género en que los machos carecen de un “mechón” de escamas en las alas posteriores y todas comparten similitud en estructuras genitales.

Palabras clave: *aventinus*, bosque mesófilo, endémica, Guatemala, *mala*

Introduction

The genus *Cogia* A. Butler, 1870 includes fifteen mainly neotropical species, although a few species extend into the southwestern United States. Habitats typically include lowland seasonally dry forests, but some species are found in tropical rainforest, others occur in coniferous or deciduous forests, and several others extend into chaparral and desert habitats. A few species fly in cloud forests in Mexico and Central America, including *Cogia mala* Evans, 1953, and a related new species from southern Mexico, named and described below.

Cogia mala was described from two male specimens from Guatemala in The Natural History Museum, London, England. While not detailed in the original description (Evans 1953: 24), the holotype male (Fig. 3–4) is labelled from Amatitlán (Dept. Guatemala), Guatemala, collected in “July–Aug. 1904” by A. Hall. The paratype male is labelled with the same date and collector, but from Antigua (Dept. Sacatepéquez), Guatemala. A third male specimen of *C. mala* in the Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin, Germany, had been identified as *Carrhenes fuscescens* (Mabille, 1891), and is labelled from “Guatemala,” with no further details. As with other original descriptions by Evans, that of *C. mala* included just a brief review of wing markings and a small, rather crude sketch of the male genitalia; the types were not illustrated, and no etymology was provided. We assume that the name *C. mala* is

three species are generally similar. The overall size and wing shape of *C. buena* is closest to *C. mala*. The details of wing markings on *C. buena* are similar to both species, perhaps slightly closer to *C. aventinus*. Despite this, due to the whitish areas on the dorsal hindwing of *C. buena*, it is not likely to be readily confused with any of its close relatives.

With the description of *C. buena* from Mexico, *C. mala* is thus known with certainty only from Guatemala (Fig. 12). The only *C. mala* specimens we have seen, other than the three in European collections (detailed above), are 10 males and 1 female in the MGCL from Guatemala, all collected by Dan Lindsley; all but one are from Antigua, in Dept. Sacatepéquez, from 30-VIII-1993 (1 female, Fig. 11), 1-IX-1993 (6 males), 7-IX-1993 (1 male), 9-IX-1993 (1 male), and 15-IX-1993 (1 male) (Fig. 12). The remaining male is labelled from Tikal, Dept. Petén, collected 11-IX-1993 (Fig. 10, 12). There is one additional male from “Guatemala” in the OM collection. While we have yet to examine a female of *C. buena*, we’ve included images of the only female we’ve seen of *C. mala* (Fig. 7–8), including genitalia (Fig. 11), for future comparative purposes. While all known, valid records for *C. mala* are from Guatemala, its presence in Tikal, if correctly labeled, suggests that *C. mala* may eventually be found in nearby parts of Mexico (Chiapas) or Belize. Steinhauser (1975: 33) believed there to be a “slight chance” that *C. mala* would be found to occur in El Salvador.

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