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The Cossidae (Lepidoptera) of Afghanistan with description of three new species and special notes on the fauna of Band-e-Amir National Park

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Abstract

The annotated list of Cossidae of Afghanistan consists of 44 species in 17 genera from the four subfamilies Catoptinae, Cossinae, Zeuzerinae, and Mehariinae. Three new species are described: *Cossulus habibae* Yakovlev, Pljustch, Skrylnik & Pak, sp. nov., *Semagystia bamiani* Yakovlev, Pljustch, Skrylnik & Pak, sp. nov., *Phragmacossia bandeamiri* Yakovlev, Pljustch, Skrylnik & Pak, sp. nov.; all from Band-e-Amir National Park in Bamian Province. Three species (*Dervishiya cadambae* (Moore, 1865), *Semagystia cossoides* (Graeser, 1892), *Phragmacossia territa* (Staudinger, 1879)) are reported for the first time from Afghanistan. A brief biogeographical analysis of the Cossidae of Afghanistan is given.

Key words: Cossidae, new species, Afghanistan, fauna

Introduction

The Cossidae fauna of Afghanistan is rather well studied. Materials in different regions of Afghanistan were collected in 1942 by the Finnish entomologist Brandt; in 1963 by the Japanese K. Omoto; in 1962, 1963 and 1965 by Eva and Avvad Vartian and by Austrian entomologist F. Kasy; in 1950, 1963–1967 by Czechoslovak biologists (O.H Volk, O. Jakeš, D. Povolný, Fr. Tenora, J. Šimek, J. Gaisler and Z. Šebek); and by German entomologists (J. Klapperich in 1952–1953, G. Ebert in 1957 and 1961, H.G. Amsel in 1956, W. Kaesweber in 1962, C. Naumann in 1970–1972, Liedgens in 1974, W. Thomas in 1975. Most of the material collected by these entomologists was analyzed and five papers published by F. Daniel (1953, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1971). Daniel has described several new species and subspecies from Afghanistan: *Catopta kendevanensis anjumanica* Daniel, 1964; *Catopta eberti* Daniel, 1964; *Cossus cossus afghanistana* Daniel, 1953; *Holcocerus holosericeus darwesthana* Daniel, 1959; *Cossulinus turkomanica albus* Daniel, 1971; *Cossulus kabulense* (Daniel, 1965); *Phragmacossia paghmana* Daniel, 1963, and *Zeuzera regia afghanistanensis* Daniel, 1964. The first author of the present paper recently described several additional new species from the same old material: *Cossulus griseatellus* Yakovlev, 2006; *Dervishiya vartiana* Yakovlev, 2011; *Semagystia pushtunica* Yakovlev, 2007; *S. witti* Yakovlev, 2007; *S. wernerithomasi* Yakovlev, 2007; *Phragmacossia micromaculata* Yakovlev, 2009; *Phragmataecia dushman* Yakovlev, 2009 (Yakovlev 2006, 2007, 2009a; 2011).

In recent decades material was not collected in Afghanistan because of war and military operations on its territory. But in 2012–2013 a group of Ukrainian entomologists managed to collect some Cossidae in Band-e-Amir National Park. This national park is located in central Afghanistan and covers an area of about 600 km². Administratively it belongs to the province of Bamyan, located about 60 km west of the town of Bamyan. The key