



Two new species of the genus *Loxopamea* Hreblay & Plante 1995 (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae) from China

PETER GYULAI¹ & AIDAS SALDAITIS^{2,3}

¹H-3530 Miskolc, Mélyvölgy 13/A, Hungary. E-mail: gyulainegarai.adrienne@upcmail.hu

²Nature Research Centre, Akademijos 2, LT-08412 Vilnius, Lithuania. E-mail: saldrasa@gmail.com

³Corresponding author

The genus *Loxopamea* Hreblay & Plante, 1995 (Noctuidae, Xyleninae: Apameini) was erected by Hreblay & Plante (1995) with type species *Loxopamea albitracta* Hreblay & Plante, 1995, comprises seven known species with very restricted range in Himalayan–Sino-Pacific subregions. Recently a detailed revision of the tribe Apameini, including the genus *Loxopamea* was elaborated by Zilli *et al.* (2009). Taxonomic nomenclature used in this study is constituted according to that revision. In 2014 two further species of the genus were discovered in Sichuan Province of China during a zoological expedition by A. Floriani & A. Saldaitis, which were recognized as new to science. The descriptions of the new species are presented below.

Abbreviations for personal and institutional collections used herein: AFM = Alessandro Floriani (Milan, Italy); ASV = Aidas Saldaitis (Vilnius, Lithuania); HNHM = Hungarian Natural History Museum (Budapest, Hungary); NSMT = National Science Museum Tsukuba (Japan); PGM = collection of Péter Gyulai (Miskolc, Hungary); TFRI = Taiwan Forestry Research Institute (Taipei, Taiwan).

Loxopamea augustasi sp. n. (Figs 1, 2, 7, 11–13)

Type material. Holotype: Female (Figs 1, 11), China, North Sichuan, road Jiuzhaigou–Songpan, 2900 m, N29°87.340', E102°30.970', 27.viii.2014, leg. Floriani & Saldaitis; slide No PGY4131f (coll. PGM, later to be deposited in the HNHM).

Paratypes: 2 males, 6 females (Figs 2, 7, 12, 13), with the same data as the holotype; slide Nos PGY4163m, PGY4088f, PGY4107f (colls AFM & ASV).

Diagnosis and description. Wingspan 29–31 mm, length of forewing 14–16 mm. The new species is the sister species of the poorly known *Loxopamea albistigma* Hreblay & Ronkay, 1998 (Hreblay *et al.*, 1998: pp 146–147 and p. 862, figs. 113, 114 and Zilli *et al.* 2009: p 117, pl. 33, figs 1, 2; pl. 33, figs 9, 10), however, the two species are much dissimilar externally. The vesture of the head and body, the ground colour of the forewing in the *L. augustasi* sp. n. are the various shades of ochre brown, the middle and the marginal area are the darkest, however the vertex, the collar and the basal area of forewing are with rufous tone. The orbicular spot is tiny, circular; the reniform stigma and the claviform spot are regular and also brown, with some white or ochre scales in the reniform stigma. The antemedial and postmedial crosslines are clearly visible, defined by blackish and ochreous-brown scales. The ground plan of the wing pattern and coloration of the wings resembles apparently *Loxopamea brunnea* (Leech, 1900), which is less close relative species by the genitalia armatures; in the new species the forewing apex is more elongated, the ground colour much lighter and unicolorous and the transversal crosslines are more distinctly marked and somewhat differently shaped, the lunulate discal spot in the hindwing less defined or conjectural. By comparison the closest relative *L. albistigma*, the distinctive external features for the separation of the two species are as follows: *L. augustasi* has much more unicolorous, less variegated, ochre brown ground colour of the forewing, however darker middle area; regular, brown orbicular spot and claviform stigma; almost lack of the white filling in the reniform stigma, more distinctive transverse lines and the rufous tone of the vertex, collar and the basal area of forewing. The new species is somewhat smaller on average, with the wingspan 29–31 mm (versus 32–34 mm of *L. albistigma*).

The distribution of the two sister-species is not known exactly due to the very few found specimens, therefore the collecting locality cannot help in the identification. However, the differences between the genitalia of the two species are remarkably large in case of both sexes, therefore the study of the genitalia can easily confirm the species identity of the