

A New Symmocid Species from Bangui, French Equatorial Africa (Lepidoptera)

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In a Tineid material sent to me for indentification, by DR. P. E. L. VIETTE, Natural History Museum, Paris, from Bangui, French Equatorial Africa, I found two specimens of a Symmocid species new for science. The description is as follows.

Neospastus ubangi sp. n.

Alar expanse: 12—13 mm. Head, labial palpi, thorax, scapulae yellowish grey, palpi mixed fuscous laterally, antennae ringed grey and black; fore wing yellowish grey irrorated with fuscous, especially dense along costa, its basal section almost black, yellowish grey basic colour thus delimited to three streaks: in and below cell and in fold; discal spots at $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{2}{3}$, small, black, sharp, accompanied by two plical dots slightly displaced toward termen; cilia concolorous, with numerous fuscous scales protruding onto them; hind wing medium pearl grey, cilia lighter yellowish grey.

Female genital organ: ovipositor short, introitus vaginae convex, wide, conduplicate caudally, hanging on quadrangular genital plate, ductus wide, thick, sclerotized, widening and convolute toward bursa, this latter first slightly constricted then expanding sacculiform, with two scrobiculated, approximately circular areas laterally, another similar, band shaped area below, bearing hat-shaped, revoluted, triangular signum (Fig. 1).

Male unknown.

The new species is relegated but temporarily to the genus *Neospastus* GOZMÁNY, 1957 (Ann. Hist.-nat. Mus. Nat. Hung., S. N., 8, p. 342). The venation of the new taxon stands nearest to that of this genus, with, however, the following differences: fore wing with rudiments of coalescent cu_{1+2} , as a perpendicular continuation of discal border, cell of hind wing even more constricted and $rr+m_1$ originating more basad. There is also a strong resemblance to the type-species,



Fig. 1. Female genital organ of *Neospastus ubangi* sp. n.

N. delicatellus (WALSINGHAM, 1901), from Corsica, in the longitudinal arrangement of the pattern. On the other hand, the female genital structure resembles that of *Kertomesis* GOZMÁNY, 1962 (Acta Zool. Ac. Sci. Hung., 8, p. 39—41), ranging in India, and *Eremicamura* GOZMÁNY, 1962 (Opusc. Zool., Nr. 64, p. 5—6), from the Amur. Until the male of the new species is not found, any nearer allocation would be a hasty procedure. Very little is as yet known about the Symmocid taxa of Central Africa; none of the known South African forms or any of the recently described Central African species seem to be nearly related to the new species.

Holotype female: "Museum Paris, Afrique Equat. Franc., Bangui, J. Primot rec., I—1952"; Paratype female: same locality, "XII—1951 + gen. prep. 2596". Holotype deposited in the Natural History Museum, Paris; Paratype in the Natural History Museum, Budapest.