

A new subspecies of *Bryopolia tsvetaevi*
Varga et Ronkay from the Hissar Mountains

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A new subspecies of *Bryopolia tsvetaevi* Varga et Ronkay from the Hissar Mountains – Description of *Bryopolia tsvetaevi hissaricola* ssp. n. from the Hissar Mts in Tadjikistan. With 12 figures.

INTRODUCTION

In the second part of the series of descriptions of new taxa from the Central Asiatic countries of the former Soviet Union we describe a subspecies of *Bryopolia tsvetaevi* Varga et Ronkay, 1990 which was not included into our former revision of this genus due to lack of a sufficient material.

***Bryopolia tsvetaevi hissaricola* ssp. n.**

Holotype: male, Tadjikistan, "Gissar" (=Hissar) Mts, Anzob pass, 3400 m, 25.07.1994., leg. Lukhtanov (coll. P. Gyulai, Miskolc). Paratypes: 5 males and 14 females with the same data as the holotype (coll. P. Gyulai, Miskolc), 1 male and 1 female dto. (coll. HNHM), 1 male and 1 female dto. (coll. G. Ronkay, Budapest), 1 male and 2 females dto. (coll. Z. Varga, ZIUD) and further 2 males and 3 females enumerated in the original description of *B. tsvetaevi* Varga & Ronkay from the following locality: "Tadjikistan, Dushanbe-Zidi, Hissarski hrebet, 2900–3300 m, Anzob pass, 05.07.1982, leg. Cerny" (coll. Peks, Schwanfeld, Germany). The subspecific relegation of the specimens, enumerated in the original description (see: Varga *et al.* 1990) from Uzbekistan and Kirghisia, needs further revision.

Slides: males 3389, 3390, 6949 (Varga), 654 (Gyulai), female 6950 (Varga).

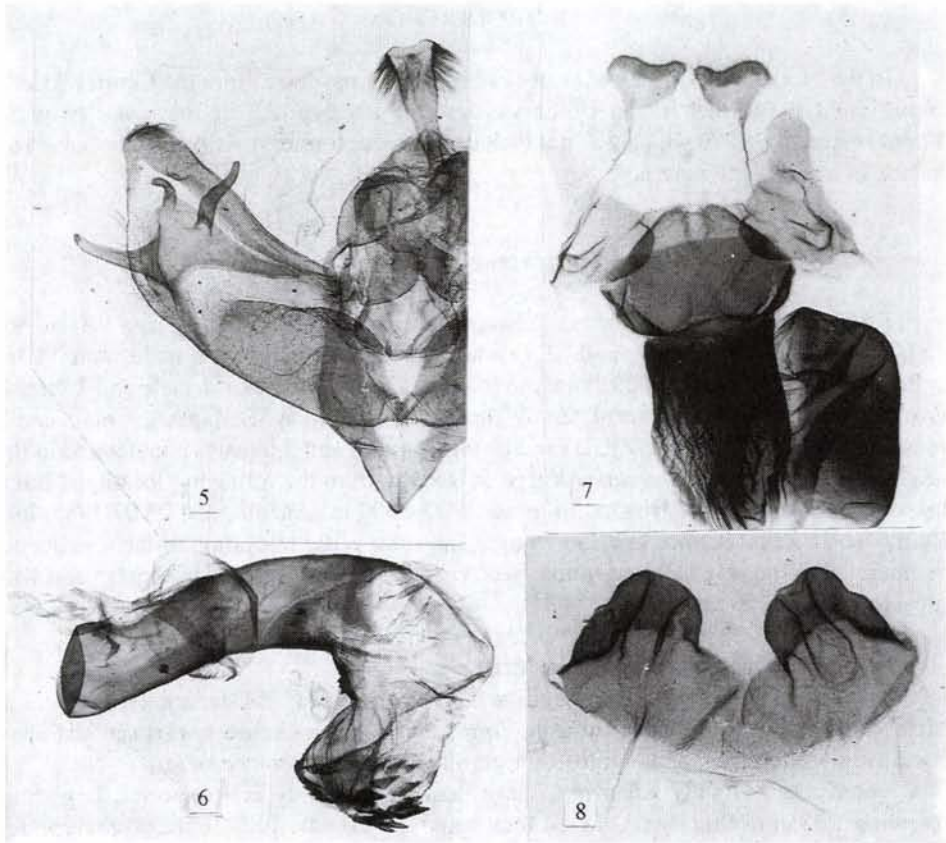
Etymology: inhabiting the Hissar Mts.

Diagnosis. Slightly larger, markings more irrorate than the nominate subspecies. Male genitalia: uncus broader, more lyriform; female genitalia: ductus bursae and apex bursae more sclerotized and rugulose, on sternites VIII protuberance larger.

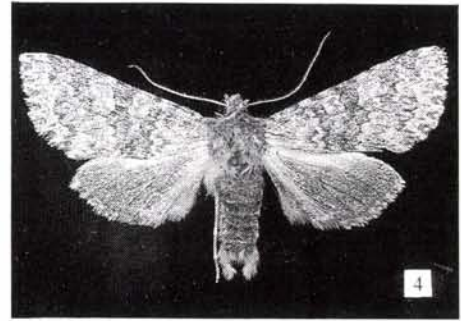
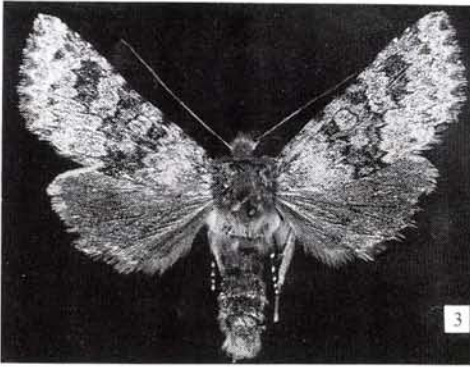
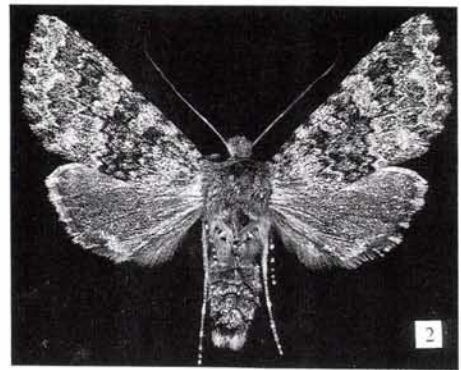
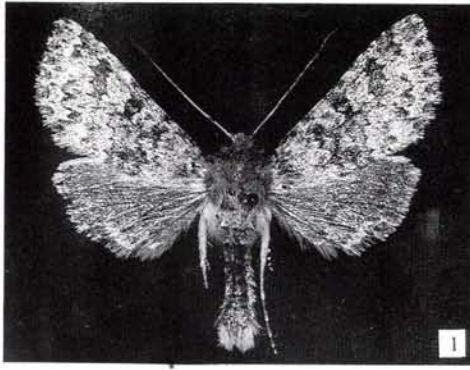
Description: Slightly larger in average than the nominotypic subspecies. Length of forewings: 19 mm (holotype), 18–20 mm (paratype males), 19.5–21 mm (paratype females). Wingspan: 32 mm (holotype male), 28–33 mm (paratype males), 32–36.5 (paratype females). Antennae shortly bipectinate and ciliate (males) or filiform (females). Head and thorax dark grey with finely dispersed silvery and ochraceous hairs. Abdomen dull ochraceous grey with whitish-ochraceous tuft. Forewings ochraceous, densely

covered with silvery, bluish- or greenish-grey scales. Medial field darker blackish-grey. Transversal lines double, their inner parts heavily marked, zigzag-like. Reniform and orbicular large, regular, light ochraceous grey, often with diffuse darker filling. Claviform obsolete. Subterminal line obsolete, regularly with 2–3 blackish-grey arrowheads. Fringes dark grey, dissected by ochraceous spots at the ends of the veins. The general impression of the forewings is a very irrorate one. Hindwings nearly unicolorous brownish-grey with some ochraceous scales. The darker medial and the lighter subterminal lines obsolete. Fringe ochraceous grey. Underside of wings dull ochraceous grey with dense blackish-grey suffusion on the forewings and with darker medial lines on the hindwings (Figs 1–3).

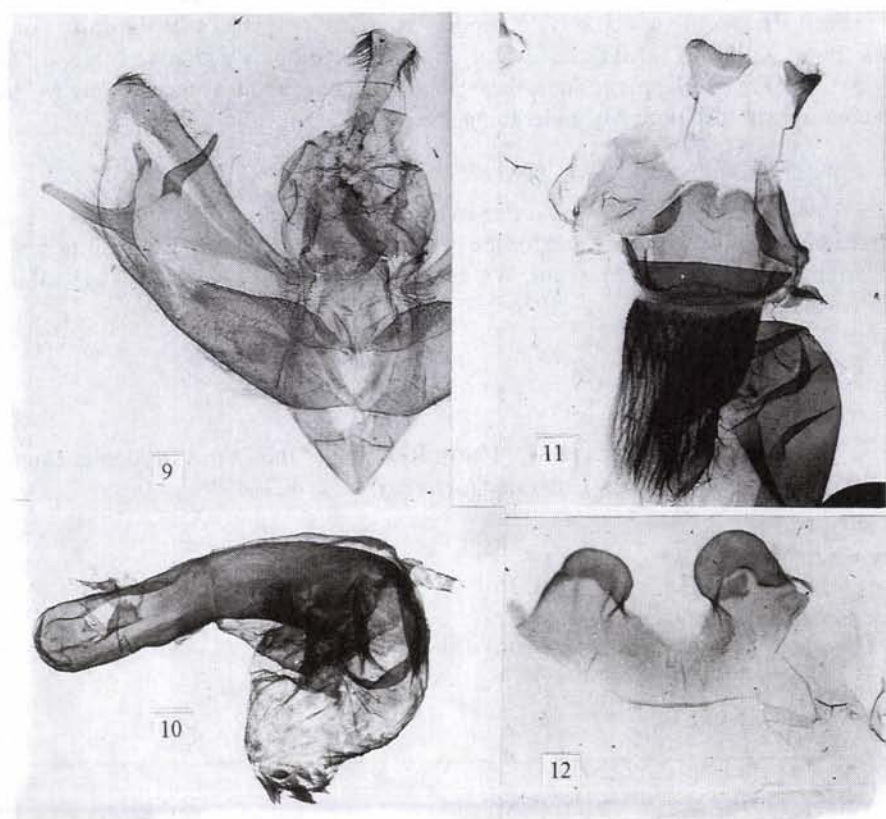
Male and female genitalia display the same basic features as those of the nominotypic subspecies from NE Afghanistan. Some differentiating features are given in the discussion.



Figs 5–8. *Bryopolia tsvetaevi hissaricola* ssp. n. 5 = paratype male, genital capsula; 6 = dto, aedeagus with everted vesica; 7 = paratype female, genitalia; 8 = dto, protuberances of sternite VIII;



Figs 1–4. 1 = *Bryopolia tsvetaevi hissaricola* ssp. n., holotype, male; 2-3 = dto, paratype, females with different coloration; 4 = *Bryopolia t. tsvetaevi* Varga et Ronkay, paratype, male



Figs 9–12. *Bryopolia t. tsvetaevi* Varga et Ronkay: 9 = paratype male, genital capsula, 10 = dto, aedeagus with everted vesica; 11 = paratype female, genitalia; 12 = dto, protuberances of sternite VIII

DISCUSSION

The specimens of the new subspecies gives the impression of a distinct species by their very irrorated markings. They show some parallel variations with *B. chrysozona* Boursin and do not resemble on the mostly very unicolorous typical *B. tsvetaevi* Varga & Ronkay (Fig. 4), known from the Darwaz Mts in NE Afghanistan (Badakhshan). It is known, however, that the contrasted markings alone are often insufficient for taxonomic characterisation in these genera of Noctuidae (*Bryopolia* and *Bryoxena*, resp.). In this case, the external features, mentioned above, are combined with some structural ones in the genitalia of both sexes. Males have broader, more "lyriform" uncus and slightly shorter external processus on the valvae, somewhat more sclerotized and dentate carina and larger cornuti in the vesica (Figs 5–6, 9–10). Females have somewhat more sclerotized

and rugulose ductus and apex bursae, more acute ovipositor lobes and larger protuberances on the VIII. sternite which serve obviously as attaching surfaces for the valvae on the males (Figs 7–8, 11–12). All these features have, however, only a relative value, because the variations are overlapping. Thus, these allopatric taxa can be evaluated only as clearly distinct subspecies, probably undergoing speciation.

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REFERENCE

- Varga, Z., Ronkay, L. and Hacker, H. (1990): Revision of the Genus *Bryopolia* Boursin, 1954 (Lep.: Noctuidae). – *Esperiana (Schwanfeld)* 1: 427–469.

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