Coleophoridae collected in the North Caucasus in 1990, with description of a new species (Lepidoptera)

M.I. Falkovitsh & J. Jalava

Falkovitsh, M.I. & Jalava, J. 1997. Coleophoridae collected in the North Caucasus in 1990, with description of a new species (Lepidoptera). *Zoosystematica Rossica*, 5(2), 1996: 309-311.

20 species of casebearers (Coleophoridae) from central part of the North Caucasus are recorded. *Amselghia balkara* sp. n. is described, figures of male and female genitalia of this species are given.

M.I. Falkovitsh, Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, Universitetskaya nab. 1, St.Petersburg 199034, Russia.

J. Jalava, Finnish Museum of Natural History, P.O. Box 17, University of Helsinki, FIN-00014 Helsinki, Finland.

One of the authors of this article, Jukka Jalava, had in 1990 an opportunity to collect Lepidoptera in the region of the towns of Kislovodsk and Essentuki (Central Caucasus, Stavropol Terr.) as well as in Kabardino-Balkar Nature Reserve, 35 km south-east of Mount Elbrus (in the text of checklist – K.-B. zap.). Among 20 species collected, most were not recorded from the North Caucasus, three (*Haploptilia nairica* Flkv., *Scleriducta ochripennella* Z. and *Carpochena unipunctella* Z.) were not noted for Russia and one species appeared to be new to science (*Amselghia balkara* sp. n.). The type specimens of the new species are kept in the collections of the Finnish Museum of Natural History, University of Helsinki (among them the holotype) and Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg. The article has been written within the framework of the Russian State Scientific-Technical Programme "Biological diversity".

CHECKLIST

Haploptilia spinella Schrank. Essentuki, 700 m, 27-29.VII, 1 ♂.

H. nairica Flkv. Essentuki, 700 m, 3-29. VII, 9 ♂, 5 ♀.

Damophila mayrella L. K.-B. zap., subalpine meadows, 2300 m, 9. VII, 3 ♂.

D. deauratella Lien. & Z. Kislovodsk, steppe slope, 5.VII, 4♂; Essentuki, 700 m, 3-4.VII, 1 ♂.

D. trifolii Curt. Kislovodsk, steppe slope, 5.VII, 4 ♀.

D. frischella L. K.-B. zap., alpine meadows, 2600 m, 11-19.VII, 6 ♂, 3 ♀.

Scleriducta ochripennella Z. K.-B. zap., subalpine meadows, 2300 m, 10.VII, 1 ♂.

Amseliphora niveicostella Z. K.-B. zap., subalpine meadows, 2300 m, 12.VII, 1 ♂.

Ardania sergiella Flkv. K.-B. zap., subalpine meadows, 2300 m, 9.VII, 1 ♂.

Amselghia felixella Bldz. Kislovodsk, 800 m, steppe slope, 5.VII, 1 ♀.

A. balkara sp.n. K.-B. zap., alpine meadows, 2600 m, 11-20.VII, 5 ♂, 1 ♀.

Coleophora anatipennella Hbn. K.-B. zap., subalpine meadows, 2300 m, 17.VII, 1 ♂.

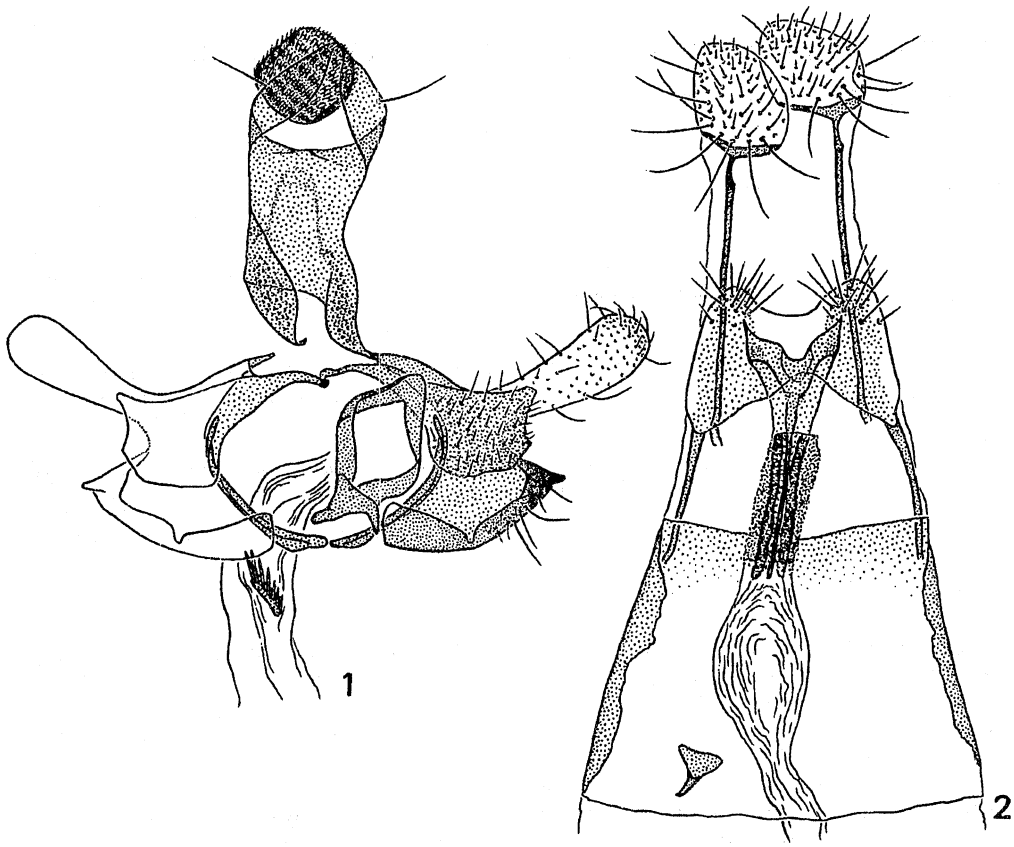
Eupista lixella Z. Kislovodsk, 800 m, steppe slope, 5.VII, 3 ♂, 2 ♀; Essentuki, 700 m, 3-4.VII, 4 ♂; K.-B. zap., stony slopes, 2400 m, 23.VII, 1 ♀.

Perygra alticolella Z. K.-B. zap., subalpine meadows, 2300 m, 9-24.VII, 13 ♂, 5 ♀; alpine meadows, 2600 m, 11.VII, 1 ♀.

Ecebalia therinella Tngstr. Essentuki, 700 m, 3-4. VII, 1 ♂.

E. vestianella L. K.-B. zap., subalpine meadows, 2300 m, 24.VII, 1 ♂.

E. squamosella Stt. K.-B. zap., subalpine meadows, 2300 m, 12-19.VII, 2 ♂.



Figs 1, 2. *Amselghia balkara* sp. n.: **1**, male genitalia; **2**, female genitalia (holotype).

Casignetella absinthii Hein. & Wck. K.-B. zap., subalpine meadows, 2300 m, 14.VII, 1 ♂.

C. peribenanderi Toll. Essentuki, 700 m, 3-27.VII, 2 ♂.

Carpochena unipunctella Z. Essentuki, 700 m, 3-4.VII, 1 ♂.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW SPECIES

Amselghia balkara sp. n.
(Figs 1, 2)

Holotype. ♀, **Russia**, 43° N, 43° E, *Central Caucasus*, Kabardino-Balkar zap. [Nature Reserve], 35 km SE of Mt Elbrus, alpine meadow, 2600 m, 20.VII.1990, J. Jalava leg.

Paratypes. 5 ♂, as holotype, but 11-14.VII.1990.

Description. Wing span in male 17.5-18.5 mm, in female about 17 mm. Labial palps rather smooth, with dense adpressed scales, on inner side whitish, on outer side with admixture of light brown scales; terminal brush of second segment composed of a few scales, some of them almost reaching to top of third segment; length of second segment 1.7-1.8 times greater than transverse diameter of eye; third segment (without scales) almost 2.5 times shorter than second segment. Basal segment of antennae simple, without scale tuft, dorsally whitish, ventrally light brownish; flagellum whitish, not ringed, in female its basis over a distance equal to length of basal segment covered with slightly larger and denser scales so that boundaries between segments disappearing here. Head whitish, dorsally light brownish. Thorax whitish, dorsally with longitudinal pale brownish stripe. Fore wings mostly dirty white; costal, medial and anal stripes white, but scarcely contrasting with general background of wing or imperceptible. Veins, especially radial stem and its branches, with

pale (sometimes indistinct) yellow-brownish lines. Fringes pale yellow-grey, near termen of wing whitish. Hind wings light grey; fringes pale grey, with some yellowish shine. Hind tibia whitish, on external side without dark strike. Spiny plates on abdominal tergites long, as in *A. rectilineella* F.R., caudally narrowing (in female poorly, in male rather sharply), the largest number of spines (till 40 or more) on second or third segments.

Male genitalia. Gnathos square with rounded corners, dorsally almost straight, lateral and ventral margins arch-like. Tegumen without distinct lateral lobes. Branches of transtilla with narrow terminal parts. Phallotheca rods arch-like, bent laterally; dorsal sclerotization between their tops well visible. Basal part of aedeagus completely membranous, without sclerotized band. Cornuti in form of tooth-comb with 8 spines on small basal plate. Sacculus with strongly pigmented hooked top, as in other species of the genus. Valvula clearly delimited, with concave caudal margin. Cucullus claviform, gradually but strongly widening in its terminal part.

Female genitalia. Papillae anales short, wide, with moderately long bristles. Apophyses of equal thickness; apophyses anteriores 2.2 times longer than apophyses posteriores. Lateral portions of VIII sternite (subgenital plate) almost triangular, narrower than in *A. rectilineela* F.R., caudal border with rather long and dense bristles. Antrum cup-form, moderately wide, with more strongly sclerotized roundly-angulate protuberance. Spiny portion of ductus short, spines small and dense; lateral and central rods well-defined. Next portion of ductus ovately swollen, tight-walled but transparent, finely folded. Signum small, its form normal of the genus.

Comparison. The species is closely related to *A. rectilineela* F.R. The main differences are the following: fore wings lighter, longitudinal white stripes not contrasting, antennae completely whitish, not annulated; in male genitalia, cucullus is shorter and more extending caudally, angulate protuberance of caudal margin of valvula not darker than other parts of valvula; in female genitalia, antrum has a lateral protuberance, spiny section of ductus bursae considerably shorter.

Received 5 May 1996