

A new species of the genus *Meleonoma* MEYRICK, 1914 from Nepal

(Lepidoptera, Lypusidae)

by

ALEXANDER L. LVOVSKY

received 18.XII.2018

Abstract: The moth genus *Meleonoma* MEYRICK, 1914 is spread in South and South-Eastern Asia and was represented by 28 species (CLARKE, 1963; LVOVSKY, 2015; YIN & WANG, 2016 a, 2016 b). A new species of this genus is described from Nepal. This moth is close to *M. stomota* (MEYRICK, 1910) from Assam (India).

Key words: Lepidoptera, Lypusidae, *Meleonoma*, new species, Nepal.

Meleonoma pultschukella spec. nov. (fig. 1)

Holotype ♂: Nepal, Prov. N 1, East Pultschuk, 23 – 2500 m, 14.VI.1967, leg. DIERL, FORSTER, SCHACHT, Gen. prep. N 34, det. LVOVSKY.

Paratype ♂: The same place and date. Holotype and paratype are deposited at Zoologische Staatssammlung in München, Germany (ZSM).

Description: Forewing length 6 mm, wingspan 13 mm. Antennae light yellow with dark dotted line. Head pale yellow. Labial palpi narrow, upcurved, covered by appressed pale yellow scales. Middle joint is approximately 1,5 times longer than apical one. Distal end of middle joint with some dark brown scales. Thorax pale yellow, tegulae black. Forewing elongate lanceolate, pale yellow with four black small spots. One spot near apex of the wing. The second spot near costal margin at 1/3 from the apex. The third one near tornus and the fourth one at the base of the wing. One black point on the discal vein and another black point in the middle of the cell. Under this point sometimes an additional black point in the fold of the wing. Hindwings pale grey.

♂ genitalia (fig. 1): Uncus long and narrow with pointed apex. Gnathos rudimentary. Valva long, rather narrow with rounded apex. Saccus large, pointed at apex, without processes. Saccus triangular with the pointed apex. Aedeagus straight with tiny cornuti. ♀ unknown.

Differential diagnosis: The new species is close to *Meleonoma stomota* (MEYRICK, 1910) and differs from it by a pale yellow terminal joint of the palpi without blackish median band. The black point in the middle of the cell of forewing is more close to the base of the wing than a black point in the fold under the cell. Male genitalia differs by larger saccus and smaller cornuti in aedeagus (fig. 1).

Distribution: Nepal.

Etymology: the species is named after its type locality.

Acknowledgements: I am grateful to Dr. AXEL HAUSMANN (ZSM) for the opportunity to study the specimens of the new species. The study was performed in connection with the state research project AAAA-A19-119020690101-6.

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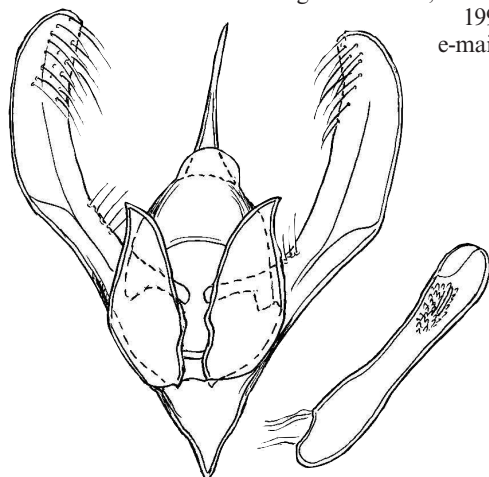


Fig. 1: *Meleonoma pultschukella* spec. nov.- ♂ genitalia, holotype.

A new species of the genus *Dysspastus* GOZMÁNY, 1964 from the United Arab Emirates

(Lepidoptera, Autostichidae)

by

ALEXANDER L. LVOVSKY

received 18.III.2019

Abstract: A new species of the genus *Dysspastus* GOZMÁNY, 1964 is described from the United Arab Emirates. The moths were collected by MR. ROLAND BREITHAAPT at light in the Hajar Mountains in the eastern part of the UAE (fig. 1, 2). The specimens are partially deposited in the collection of Senckenberg Deutsches Entomologisches Institut, Müncheberg, Germany (holotype and 18 paratypes); Natural History Museum of Denmark, Copenhagen (4 paratypes); and in the Zoological Institute Academy of Sciences, St.-Petersburg, Russia (10 paratypes).

Key words: Lepidoptera, Autostichidae, *Dysspastus*, new species, Arab Emirates.

The Autostichidae are middle-sized gelechioids with more or less wide wings of white, pale yellow, grey or brown coloration and with usually recurved labial palpi. Hind wings usually with veins Rs and M1 stalked from end of the cell, sometimes running from one point. Abdominal terga with spiniform setae in band across segment. In ♂ genitalia uncus developed, gnathos as a mesial hook. Moths are wide-spread except South America. The foodplants of many species are unknown, some of them feed on dead, sometimes decaying plant tissue or on lichens. The genus *Dysspastus* Gozmány belongs to the subfamily Symmocinae. It differs from other subfamilies by labial palpi without bundle of long scales on second joint; forewing with vein R5 present and stalked with R4; vein CuP absent (HODGES, 1999). GOZMÁNY (1963, 2008) consider this taxon as separate family.

Hitherto genus *Dysspastus* was represented by 12 species distributed in Southern Europe and Near East (GOZMÁNY, 2008).

Material and methods: Moths were collected by Mr. ROLAND BREITHAAPT, German engineer who collects insects in the UAE since end of 2012 for various scientists and institutions.

Specimens were collected at a light trap in location at the Hajar mountains in the eastern part of the UAE, Fujairah Emirate, Wadi Wurrayah, where the wadi leaves the mountains towards the Indian Ocean. The nearest settlement is Fakkan. Biotopes are steep to moderate rocky slopes where vegetation 20.II. to 20.III.2015.

Dysspastus rolandi spec. nov. (fig. 3, 4)

Holotype ♂ (fig. 3): United Arab Emirates; Fujairah Emirate, Wadi Wurrayah, 219 m., 20.II.2015, 25° 23' 50" N / 56° 16' 40" E, gen. prep. № 29 (A. LVOVSKY), leg. R. BREITHAAPT. Coll. DEI, Müncheberg.

Paratypes: 5 ♂♂, the same locality 20.II.2015, leg. R. BREITHAAPT; 27 ♂♂, the same locality, 20.III.2015, leg. R. BREITHAAPT.

Description: Forewing length 5-7 mm, wingspan 11,5-15,5 mm. Antennae without cilia. One side of antenna white, another one pale gray. Labial palpi recurved, covered with white and black scales. Apical joint much shorter than second one. Head white. Thorax and forewing white with numerous black scales. Hindwing pale gray.

♂ genitalia (fig. 4): The end of uncus obtuse; gnathos a large and strong hook. Valva with wide rounded apex. Sacculus pointed at apex. Saccus very small. Aedeagus very short, straight, with small bundle of cornuti.

Female is unknown.

Differential diagnosis: New species is similar to *D. jimn* (GOZMANY, 1963), differing in larger size (wing expanse more than 11 mm); more shorter aedoeagus (shorter than sacculus) and numerous black scales on the white background of forewing.

Distribution: United Arab Emirates; Fujairah Emirate, Wadi Wurrayah.

Etymology: Named after ROLAND BREITHAAPT, collector of the specimens.

Acknowledgements: I thank Mr. R. BREITHAAPT and Dr. R. GAEDIKE (Senckenberg Deutsches Entomologisches Institut, Müncheberg, Germany) for the opportunity to investigate collected specimens. The study was performed in connection with the state research project AAAA-A19-119020690101-6 and supported by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research (grant no. 17-04-00754).

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Figs. 1, 2: *Dysspastus rolandi* spec. nov., biotopes - United Arab Emirates; Fujairah Emirate, Wadi Wurrayah, 219 m., 20.II.2015, 25° 23' 50" N / 56n° 16' 40" E, leg. R. BREITHAUPT.

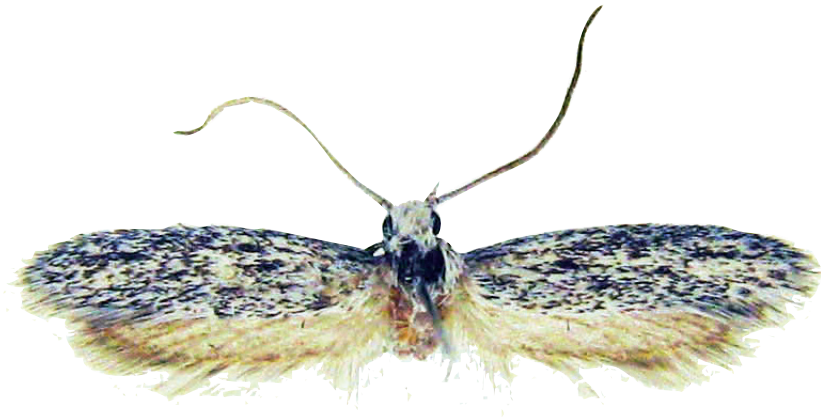


Fig. 3: *Dysspastus rolandi* spec. nov., moth holotype. United Arab Emirates; Fujairah Emirate, Wadi Wurrayah, 219 m., 20.II.2015, 25° 23' 50" N / 56° 16' 40" E, leg. R. BREITHAUPT.

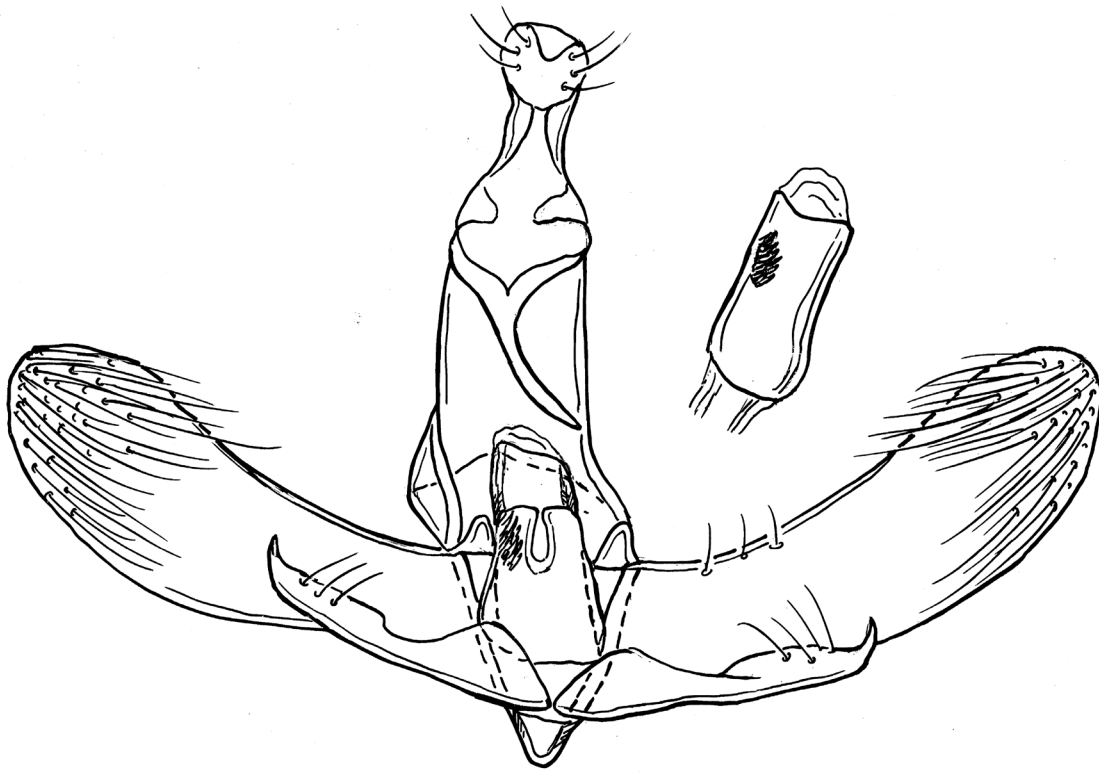


Fig. 4: *Dysspastus rolandi* spec. nov., genitalia holotype. United Arab Emirates; Fujairah Emirate, Wadi Wurrayah, 219 m., 20.II.2015, 25° 23' 50" N / 56° 16' 40" E, leg. R. BREITHAUPT.