

THE GENUS *ABROSTOLA* OCHSENHEIMER, 1816 (LEPIDOPTERA, NOCTUIDAE, PLUSIINAE) IN SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

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ABSTRACT: Previous results of research on the genus *Abrostola* Oschsenheimer (1816) do not present a clear picture of the presence of this genus in Serbia and Montenegro. This paper systematizes all previous results of faunistic research on species of the genus that have been registered in Serbia and Montenegro: *Abrostola tripartita* (Hufnägel, 1766), *A. asclepiadis* (Denis & Schiffermüller, 1775), *A. triplasia* (Linnaeus, 1758), and *A. agnorista* Dufay, 1956. The authors discuss the consistency of morphological characteristics of the wings, review the chitinized genitalia armature of species, and give synonyms of the presented species of this genus.

KEY WORDS: Noctuidae, *Abrostola*, Lepidoptera, fauna, Serbia, Montenegro

INTRODUCTION

In Europe, five species are classified in the genus *Abrostola* Ochsenheimer, 1816. Three species are distributed throughout all of Europe, only one occurs in Southern Europe, while the species *A. clarissa* Staudinger, 1900 has been registered only in Bulgaria (BESHKOV, 2000). Due to numerous synonyms appearing in the literature and because of inexact quoting of the names of species, errors constantly appear in papers treating members of this genus from Serbia and Montenegro.

The aim of this paper is to give a precise review of previous data for Serbia and Montenegro.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Moths were collected at night using a light trap with a 250 W or 400 W mercury lamp.

All available old data were reviewed.

The systematic sequence was constructed following FIBIGER and NOWACKI (in KARSHOLT & RAZOWSKI, 1996); determination was done according to GOATER *et al.* (2003).

Localities of finds are marked with circles on a UTM map of Serbia and Montenegro whose squares represent an area of 10 km x 10 km. Original data are marked by color-filled circles, data from other authors by clear circles.

Table 1. Localities and their description

Locality	UTM grid	Altitude a. s. l. (m)	Species at this locality	Sources
Avala	DQ54*		<i>tripartita</i>	VASIĆ (2002)
Bar	CM46		<i>tripartita</i>	CARNELLUTTI and MICHIELI (1958)
Belgrade	(DQ56)		<i>tripartita</i> <i>triplasia</i>	
Boranja	CQ61*		<i>asclepiadis</i>	VASIĆ (2002)
Brestovačka Banja	EP87	350	<i>tripartita</i> <i>asclepiadis</i> <i>triplasia</i> <i>agnorista</i>	Original authors data
Čuprija	EP36		<i>tripartita</i>	VASIĆ (2002)
Čeline	CN46	1500	<i>tripartita</i>	CARNELLUTTI <i>et al.</i> (1991)
Debeli Lug	EQ71	293	<i>tripartita</i> <i>asclepiadis</i> <i>triplasia</i>	VASIĆ (2002) Vasić (collection, following ZEČEVIĆ, 2002)
Devojački Bunar	DQ98	160	<i>tripartita</i>	VASIĆ (1969)
Draževac	DQ33*		<i>tripartita</i>	VASIĆ (2002)
Dren			<i>tripartita</i>	VASIĆ (2002)
Dubovac	EQ26	68	<i>asclepiadis</i>	VASIĆ (1975)
Djerdap	(FQ04)		<i>tripartita</i>	VASIĆ (2002)
Gnjilane	EN30	520	<i>tripartita</i> <i>asclepiadis</i>	VULEVIĆ (1988)
Goč	(DP82)		<i>tripartita</i> <i>asclepiadis</i>	VASIĆ (2002)
Jazovo	DR48	85	<i>tripartita</i> <i>triplasia</i>	Original authors data (following Radovanović's compilation)
Canyon of the Tara	CN65 CN66 CN75	700–1000	<i>tripartita</i>	CARNELLUTTI <i>et al.</i> (1991)
Canyon of the Tara towards Prijespa	CN36 CN46 CN47	540–2400	<i>asclepiadis</i>	CARNELLUTTI <i>et al.</i> (1991)

Table 1. Continued.

Karbulovo	FP19	180	<i>tripartita</i>	Original authors data
Kosmaj	DQ62		<i>tripartita</i>	VASIĆ (2002)
Kosovska Mitrovica	DN84	510	<i>tripartita</i> <i>triplasia</i>	VASIĆ (2002) VULEVIĆ (1988)
Kožnjar	DN31	1200 - 1500	<i>tripartita</i> <i>asclepiadis</i> <i>triplasia</i>	VULEVIĆ (1988)
Kraljevica	FP06	204	<i>triplasia</i>	ZEČEVIĆ (2002)
Kruševac	EP22		<i>tripartita</i>	VASIĆ (2002)
Ledinci – Stokuća	DR00	300	<i>tripartita</i> <i>asclepiadis</i> <i>triplasia</i>	Original authors data
Lugovo	CR56	89	<i>tripartita</i> <i>triplasia</i>	Original authors data
Majdanpečka Domena	(EQ71)	560	<i>tripartita</i>	ŽIVOJINOVIĆ (1950) Vasić (collection, followed ZEČEVIĆ, 2002)
Meljine	CN00	35	<i>tripartita</i> <i>agnorista</i>	Original authors data
Novi Sad	DR01	82	<i>tripartita</i>	PETRIK and JOVANIĆ (1952)
Niš	EN79*		<i>agnorista</i> <i>triplasia</i>	PETTERSON (1990)
Palić	DS00	115	<i>asclepiadis</i>	VASIĆ (2002)
Paragovo	DR00	200	<i>tripartita</i>	VASIĆ and JODAL (1976)
Priština	EN12*		<i>tripartita</i>	VASIĆ (2002)
Šćepan Polje	CN20	450	<i>tripartita</i> <i>triplasia</i>	CARNELLUTI <i>et al.</i> (1991)
Sokolovica	FP07	94	<i>tripartita</i> <i>asclepiadis</i>	ZEČEVIĆ and RADOVANOVIĆ (1974)
Sombor	CR56	90	<i>tripartita</i> <i>triplasia</i>	Original authors data
Tara	(CP75)		<i>tripartita</i>	VASIĆ (2002)
Timočka Krajina	(FP06)		<i>tripartita</i>	ZEČEVIĆ (2002)
Topčider	DQ55		<i>tripartita</i>	VASIĆ (2002)
Topli Do	FP30	700	<i>triplasia</i>	ZEČEVIĆ (2002)
Užice	DP05*		<i>tripartita</i>	VASIĆ (2002)
Vitimirica	DN42	501	<i>tripartita</i> <i>asclepiadis</i> <i>triplasia</i>	VULEVIĆ (1988)
Vladičin Han	EN82		<i>asclepiadis</i>	VASIĆ (2002)
Vrska Čuka	FP15	350	<i>triplasia</i>	ZEČEVIĆ (2002)
Zemun	DQ47	95	<i>tripartita</i>	HADŽISTEVIĆ (1969)
Žljeb	(DN33)		<i>tripartita</i>	REBEL and ZERNY (1934)
Zlot	EP77	259	<i>tripartita</i>	ZEČEVIĆ and RADOVANOVIĆ (1974)

The list of localities is given in Table 1. Localities that have UTM in brackets are spread over several UTM squares. Localities marked with an asterisk (*) are entered approximately because the UTM position and altitude of finds were not mentioned in the original papers. The authors of this paper therefore could not precisely locate them.

RESULTS

Abrostola tripartita (Hufnägel, 1766) (Figs. 1, 5, and 9)

ORIGINAL AUTHORS' DATA: Description of more important external characteristics of genital armature in male (Fig. 9): clavus with two arms of irregularly creased shape. Arm directed to tegumen with an extension. Penis at tube exit containing one lengthened, slightly curled cornutus and many sharp thin cornuti. Description of major morphological characteristics of front wing (Fig. 5.): area between round and kidney-shape smear is noticeably darker.

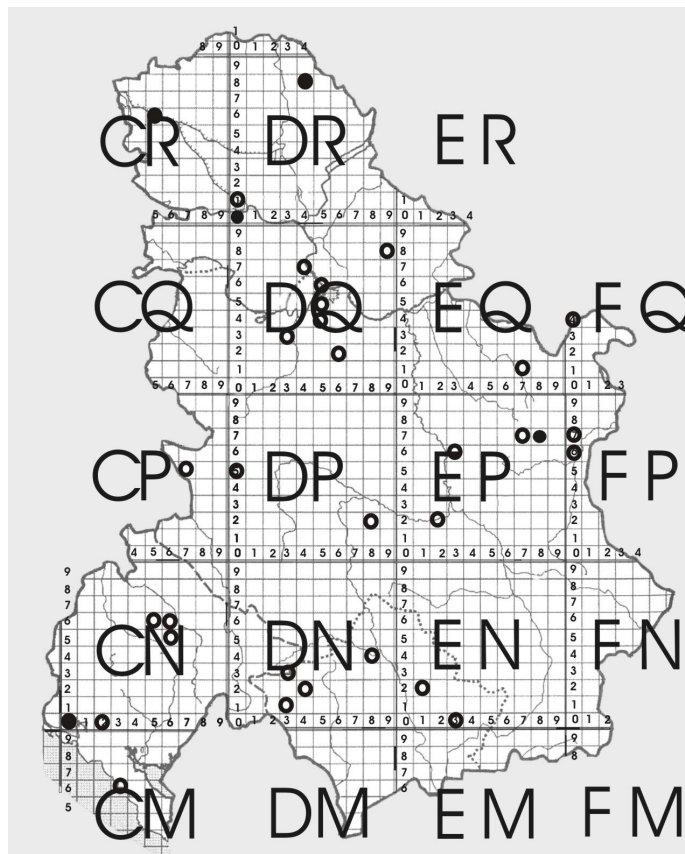


Fig. 1. Map of Serbia and Montenegro with UTM grid -Localities of *A. tripartita* findings.



Fig. 5. *Abrostola tripartita* Hufnagel, 1766. Male.

BIONOMY: The species is present at different localities in deciduous and mixed forests, in open places within woods, and in wooded steppes.

FLIGHT PERIOD: May to September, two generations. The larva feedson *Urtica* spp.

DATA FROM THE LITERATURE: This species is mentioned for the localities of Belgrade (LAZAREVIĆ, 1898) and Žljeb (REBEL AND ZERNY, in PENTHER, 1934); Majdanpečka Domena: a few specimens during the period of July – September (ŽIVOJINOVIĆ, 1950); Novi Sad in August (PETRIK AND JOVANIĆ, 1952); Bar in March (CARNELUTTI and MICHELI 1958); Zemun: two specimens (HADŽIS-TEVIĆ, 1969); Devojački Bunar in August (VASIĆ, 1969); Zlot and Sokolovica: rare and local from April to September in two generations (ZEČEVIĆ and RADOVANOVIĆ, 1974); Paragovo: 153 specimens from May to September (VASIĆ and JODAL, 1976); Vitomirica, Kožnjara and Gnjilane in May, July, and August (VULEVIĆ, 1988); canyon of the Tara as a species frequently encountered in the first and second generation; Čeline in July and Ščepan polje in May (CARNELUTTI *et al.*, 1991); the whole territory of Timočka Krajina as a temporary species (ZEČEVIĆ, 2002); Majdanpečka Domena (VASIĆ collection, in ZEČEVIĆ, 2002); and Topčider, Avala, Kosmaj, Draževac, Dren, Čuprija, Goč, Kruševac, Užice, Tara, Debeli Lug, everywhere in Timočka Krajina, Đerdap, Kosovska Mitrovica, and Priština (VASIĆ, 2002).

DISTRIBUTION: a common Eurasian species known throughout all of Europe.

Abrostola asclepiadis (Denis & Schiffermüller, 1775) (Figs. 1, 6, and 10)

ORIGINAL AUTHORS' DATA: Description of more important external characteristics of genital armature in male (Fig. 10): clavus without significant tubercles, chitinized. Ends with small swelling towards the ampulla. Penis at tube exit containing one short cornutus, finger shaped. Description of major morphological characteristics of front wing: in the region of the outer transverse stripe, wing veins are emphasized with black scales gathered in lines.

BIONOMY: Appears in dry, open and warm places: on steppes, wooded steppes, hillsides.

PERIOD OF FLIGHT: June to August. The larva feeds from July to September on *Vicentoxicum* spp.

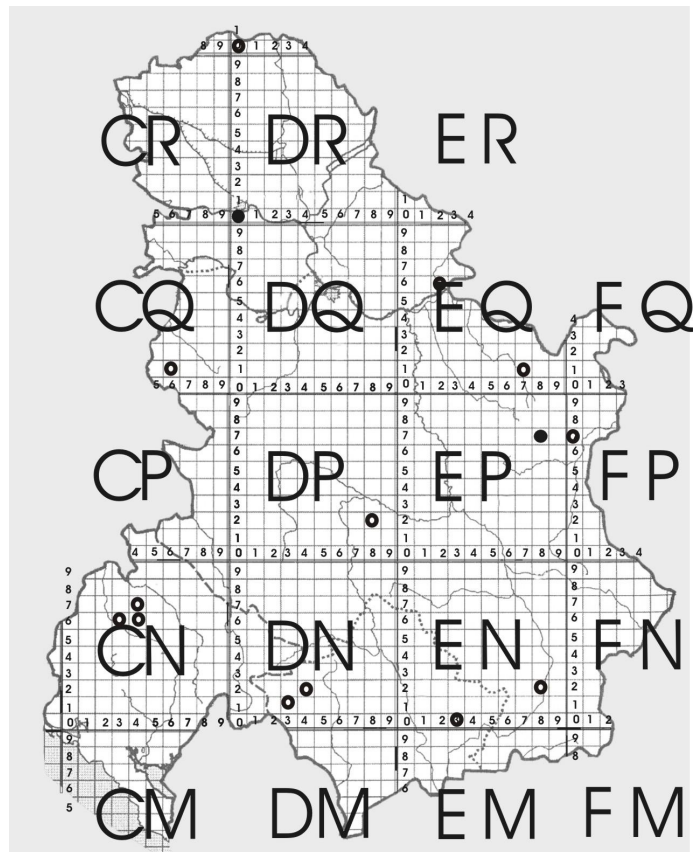


Fig. 2. Map of Serbia and Montenegro with UTM grid -Localities of *A. asclepiadis* findings.

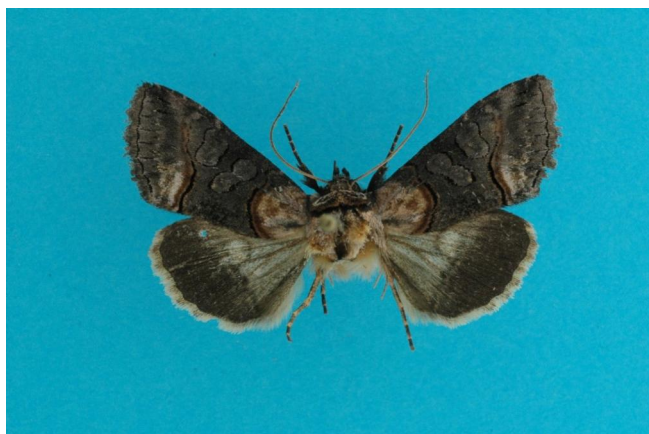


Fig. 6. *Abrostola asclepiadis* Denis & Schiffermüller, 1775. Male.

DATA FROM THE LITERATURE: This species is mentioned for the localities of Sokolovica: 10 specimens on only one night in July of 1971 (ZEČEVIĆ and RADOVANOVIĆ, 1974); Dubovac: July (VASIĆ, 1975); Vitimirica, Kožnjari and Gnjilane in April, May, June, July, and August (VULEVIĆ, 1988); canyon of the Tara near Prijespa in July and August (CARNELLUTI *et al.*, 1991); Debeli Lug (VASIĆ collection, in ZEČEVIĆ, 2002); Deliblatska Peščara, Sombor, Palić, Boranja, Debeli Lug, Goč, and Vladičin Han (VASIĆ, 2002). The locality of Sombor is omitted on Map 2 because these data (VASIĆ, 2002) are considered to be unreliable.

DISTRIBUTION: a Holomediterranean species, rare and local. Known throughout almost the whole of Europe.

Abrostola triplasia (Linnaeus, 1758) (Figs. 1, 7, and 11)

ORIGINAL AUTHORS' DATA: Description of more important external characteristics of genital armature in male (Fig. 11): clavus a finger-like tubercle directed towards the juxta, penis at tube exit containing a serrate surface of chitin whose margin is filled with sequence of thorns, one larger lengthened cornutus and small cornuti in two groups. Description of major morphological characteristics of front wing (Fig. 7): middle transverse stripe on lower side of wings semicircular.

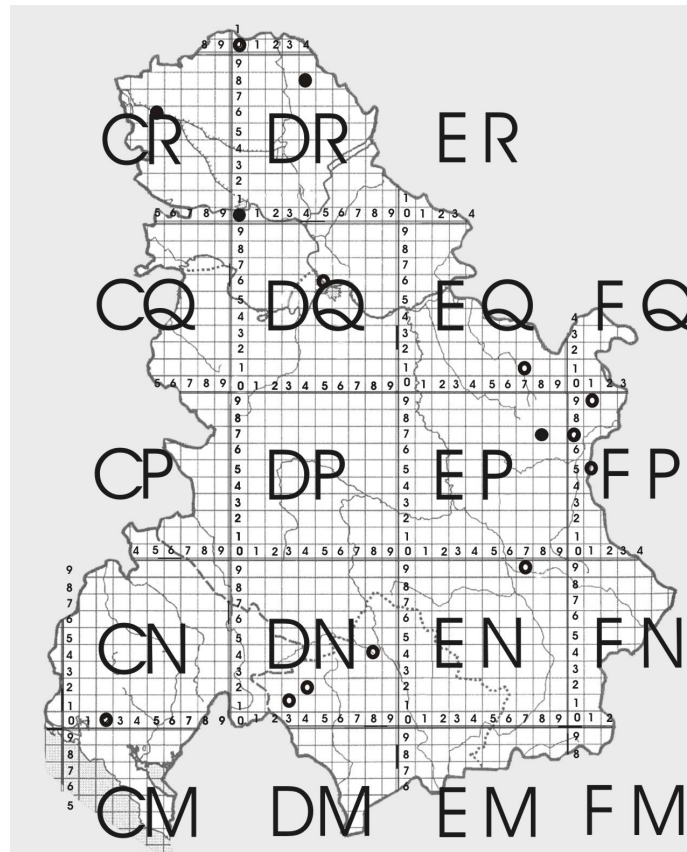


Fig. 3. Map of Serbia and Montenegro with UTM grid -Localities of *A. triplasia* findings.



Fig. 7. *Abrostola triplasia* Linnaeus, 1758.

BIONOMY: The species appears in deciduous and mixed forests, on wooded steppes, and in open places within woods.

PERIOD OF FLIGHT: May to September, two generations. The larva feeds on *Urtica* spp.

DATA FROM THE LITERATURE: This species is mentioned for the localities of Vitomirica, Kožnjar, and Kosovska Mitrovica in May, June, July, and August (VULEVIĆ, 1988); Niš in April (PETTERSSON, 1990); Šćepan Polje: two specimens in May (CARNELLUTI *et al.*, 1991); Kraljevica, Topli Do, and Vrška Čuka (ZEČEVIĆ, 2002); Debeli Lug (Vasić collection, in ZEČEVIĆ, 2002); and Belgrade in August (ZEČEVIĆ and VAJGAND, 2001).

DISTRIBUTION: a common Eurasian species known throughout all of Europe.

Abrostola agnorista Dufay, 1956 (Figs. 1, 8, and 12)

BIONOMY: A xerophilic species that appears in dry, warm, and open places.

PERIOD OF FLIGHT: May to September, two generations.

ORIGINAL AUTHORS' DATA: Description of more important external characteristics of genital armature in male (Fig. 12): clavus with two arms that are directed towards the peniculus. Arm directed towards the vinculum is larger and of circular shape. Penis at tube exit with large curved cornuti. Description of major morphological characteristics of front wing (Fig. 8): middle transverse stripe on wing bottom ending in an almost straight line.

DATA FROM THE LITERATURE: This species is mentioned for the locality of Niš (Pettersson, 1990).

DISTRIBUTION: Found in Romania, ex-Yugoslavia, Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, and France. In Central Europe, known only in Hungary. A Holomediterranean species, rare and local.

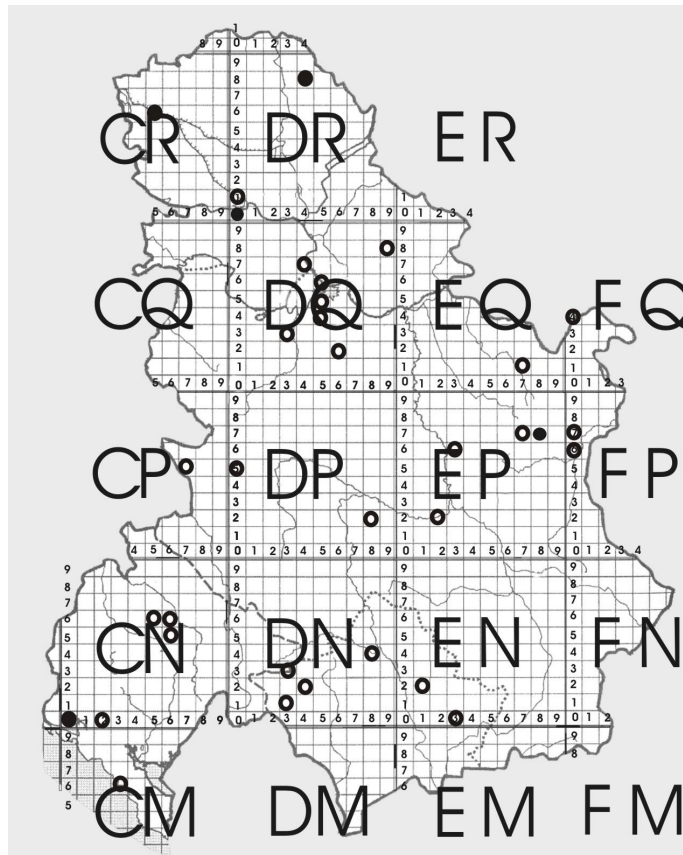


Fig. 4. Map of Serbia and Montenegro with UTM grid -Localities of *A. agnorista* findings.



Fig. 8. *Abrostola agnorista* Dufay, 1956. Male.

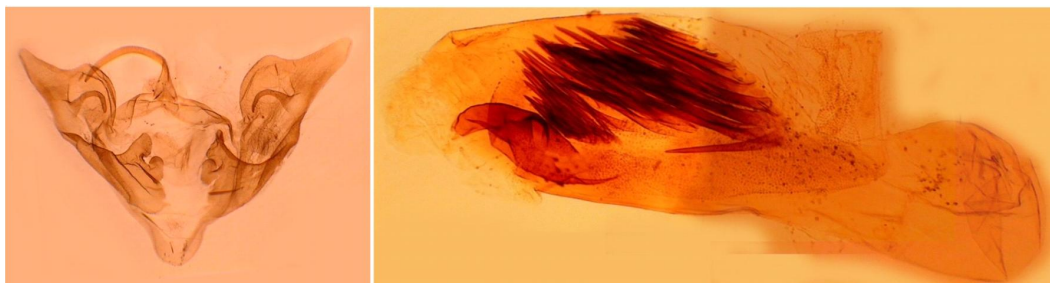


Fig. 9. *Abrostola tripartita*. Male genitalia.

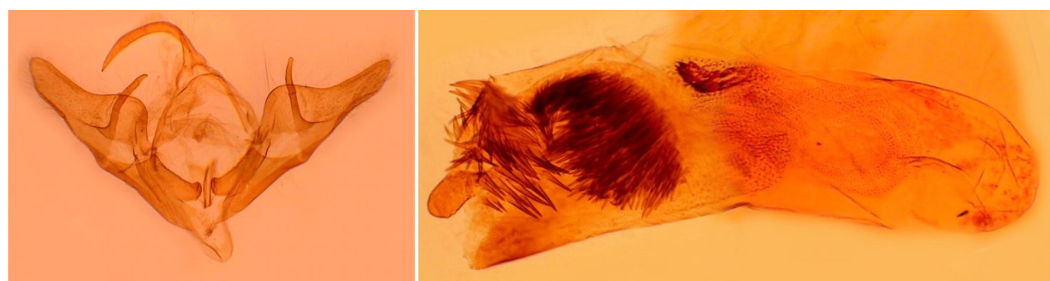


Fig. 10. *Abrostola asclepiadis*. Male genitalia.

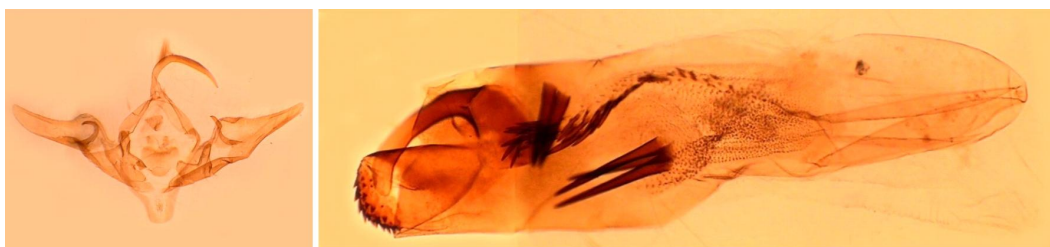


Fig. 11. *Abrostola triplasia*. Male genitalia.

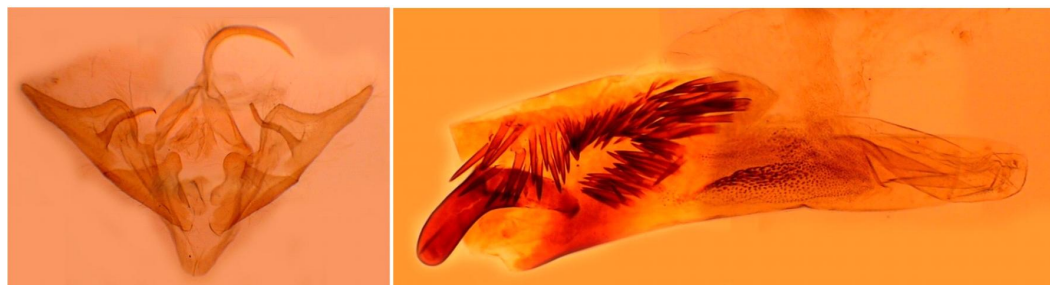


Fig. 12. *Abrostola agnorista*. Male genitalia.

DISCUSSION

Information about the species *A. agnorista* Dufay, 1956 and *A. asclepiadis* (Denis & Schiffermüller, 1775) is clear. Nevertheless, several synonyms of the species *A. triplasia* (Linnaeus, 1758) and *A. tripartita* (Hufnägel, 1766) are present in the literature.

According to FORSTER and WOHLFAHRT (1980), LERAUT (1980), HACKER (1989) and RÁKOSY (1996), the species *A. triplasia* L. has synonyms in *A. tripartita* Hufn. and *A. urticae* Hbn.; for the species *A. trigemina* Wernbg., the synonym *A. triplasia* auct. nec. L., i.e. *A. triplasia* sensu auct., has been mentioned.

According to FIBIGER and NOWACKI (in KARSHOLT – RAZOWSKI, 1996) and NOWACKI (1998), besides *A. agnorista* Dufay and *A. asclepiadis* Denis & Schiffermüller, 1775, Europe is also home to *A. tripartita* Hufnägel, 1766, (for which the synonym *A. triplasia* auct. nec. Linnaeus has been used) and *A. triplasia* Linnaeus, 1758 [a synonym of which is *A. trigemina* (Werneburg, 1864)]. BESHKOV (2000) also mentions the species *A. clarissa* Staudinger, 1900 for Bulgaria. REZBANYAI – RESER (1973), while GOATER *et al.* (2003) noted all the aforementioned species.

When pictures of genital armature, wings of imagoes and synonyms are compared, it can be concluded that in many cases errors were committed in determination and faunistic research.

In old faunistic papers, *trigemina* WERNEBURG, 1824 should be replaced with *triplasia* Linnaeus, 1758, while *triplasia* Linnaeus, 1758 is actually the species *tripartita* (Hufnägel, 1766). This has not been respected. Unfortunately, we could not obtain the paper of DUFAY (1958), which might put an end to our dilemmas.

In older faunistic papers treating Serbia and Montenegro, usually only *A. triplasia* was mentioned. It is therefore not clear if Linnaeus or auct. nec. Linnaeus means *A. triplasia* or *A. tripartita* According to current systematics. In order to solve this problem, we reviewed the Materials and Methods sections in older faunistic papers. In the literature consulted, the species *A. triplasia* was classified as *A. triplasia* (Linnaeus, 1758) or *A. tripartita* (Hufnägel, 1766) (Fibiger and Nowacki in KARSHOLT and RAZOWSKI, 1996).

CONCLUSION

Due to numerous synonyms appearing in the literature on species from the genus *Abrostola* Ochsenheimer, 1816 and because of inexact quoting of the names of species, errors constantly appear in papers treating members of this genus from Serbia and Montenegro.

This paper systematizes all previous results of faunistic research in Serbia and Montenegro. It also includes original data for new localities.

The following species from the genus *Abrostola* Ochsenheimer, 1816 are present in Serbia and Montenegro: *A. tripartita* (Hufnägel, 1766), *A. asclepiadis* (Denis & Schiffermüller, 1775), *A. triplasia* (Linnaeus, 1758), and *A. agnorista* Dufay, 1956.

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ПОД *ABROSTOLA* OCHSENHEIMER, 1816 (LEPIDOPTERA,
NOCTUIDAE, PLUSINAE) У СРБИЈИ И ЦРНОЈ ГОРИ

Д. Стојановић и Д. Вајганд

ИЗВОД

На основу досадашњих фаунистичких истраживања може се закључити да су регистроване четири врсте рода *Abrostola* Ochsenheimer, 1816 на територији Србије и Црне Горе. Међутим, подаци о локалитетима на којима су регистровани нису били упоредиви јер се назив врсте *A. triplasia* појављује и као синоним и као исправан, важећи назив врсте. Да би подаци били упоредиви, у старим радовима су прегледана и поглавља Методе рада. На основу кориштене литературе подаци су систематизовани.

Аутори рада су својим истраживањима потврдили присуство све четири врсте на подручју Србије и Црне Горе. Такође је дат приказ и дискусија о проблемима усклађености морфолошких особина крила, хитинских гениталних арматура врста и синонима врста: *Abrostola tripartita* (Hufnagel, 1766), *A. asclepiadis* (Denis and Schiffermüller, 1775), *A. triplasia* (Linnaeus, 1758) и *A. agnorista* Dufay, 1956.

Abrostola tripartita (Hufnagel, 1766): Опис важнијих карактера спољашње гениталне арматуре мужјака (Фиг. 12.): *Clavus* израштај попут прста усмерен према *Juxta. Penis* на излазу цеви садржи тестерасту површину од хитина испуњену низом бодљи по ободу, а има и један већи издужени *Cornuti*. Опис главних морфолошких карактеристика цртежа предњег крила (Фиг. 8.): Средишња попрешна пруга на доњем крају завршава полукругом.

A. asclepiadis (Denis and Schiffermüller, 1775) Опис важнијих карактера спољашње гениталне арматуре мужјака (Фиг. 10.): *Clavus* без већих израштаја, хитинизиран. Завршава малим брегом према *Ampulla*-и. *Penis* на излазу из цеви садржи један кратак *Cornuti* облика прста. Опис главних морфолошких карактеристика цртежа предњег крила (Фиг. 5.): У простору спољашње попрешне пруге, нерватура крила је наглашена црним љуспицама груписаним у линије.

A. triplasia (Linnaeus, 1758) опис важнијих карактера спољашње гениталне арматуре мужјака (Фиг. 11.): *Clavus* има два крака неправилног згужваног облика. На краку који је према *Tegumen*-у има проширење. *Penis* на излазу из цеви садржи један издужени благо савијени *Cornuti* и мноштво оштрих и танких *Cornuti*-ја. Опис главних морфолошких карактеристика сртежа предњег крила (Фиг. 10.): Поље између кружне и бубрежасте мрље је уочљиво тамније.

A. agnorista Dufay, 1956 Опис важнијих карактера спољашње арматуре мужјака (Фиг. 12.): *Clavus* има двокраки израштај који је окренут према *Peniculus*-у. Крак окренут према *Vinculum*-у је већи и округласт. *Penis* на улазу из цеви има већи савијени *Cornuti*. Опис главних морфолошких карактеристика цртежа предњег крила (Фиг. 11.): Средишња попрешна пруга на дну завршава скоро усправном линијом.

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