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**Description of a new species of Laspeyresiini,
Lathronympha sardinica sp.n. (Lepidoptera Tortricidae) (*)**

Abstract - A new Tortricidae, *Lathronympha sardinica* sp.n., is described. The new species was collected in the mountains of Gennargentu, Sardinia (Italy).

Riassunto - Descrizione di una nuova specie di Laspeyresiini, *Lathronympha sardinica* sp.n. (Lepidoptera Tortricidae).

Viene descritta *Lathronympha sardinica* sp.n. (Lepidoptera Tortricidae), raccolta in provincia di Nuoro, sui Monti del Gennargentu, lungo la strada per Broncu Spina, a 1550 m/slm. Le caratteristiche esterne della nuova specie richiamano quelle di *Lathronympha strigana* (Fabricius, 1775), si separa da questa e dalle altre congeneri per la conformazione degli apparati genitali. Il maschio differisce da quello di *L. strigana* e di *L. christenseni* Aarvik and Karsholt, 1993, per la conformazione sub-conica della valva. Si distingue invece da *L. albimacula* Kuznetsov, 1962, e da *L. balearici* Diakonoff, 1972, per avere il *cucullus* più stretto della parte basale della valva. Nel genitale femminile le differenze risultano meno marcate. La forma della *lamella post-vaginalis* e del settimo sternite addominale separa *L. sardinica* sp.n. da *L. strigana*. Le dimensioni molto ridotte del settimo sternite addominale sono caratteristiche di *L. christenseni*.

Key words: *Lathronympha sardinica*, Lepidoptera Tortricidae, new species, Sardinia.

The genus *Lathronympha* Meyrick, 1926, includes five species distributed in the western and eastern parts of the Palaearctic subregion, with large Siberian disjunction; three species are present in Europe.

Lathronympha strigana (Fabricius, 1775) is widely spread in Palaearctic, *L. irrita* Meyrick, 1935, was found in Oriental Cina, *L. albimacula* Kuznetsov, 1962, is reported from far east of Soviet Union (Danilevsky & Kuznetsov,

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1968). Two species was recently described from Mediterranean area: *L. balearici* Diakonoff, 1972, was reported from mountains of Mallorca Island and *L. christenseni* Aarvik and Karsholt, 1993, was found in Lakonia, Greece (Diakonoff, 1972; Aarvik & Karsholt, 1993).

At these species we added *Lathronympha sardinica* sp.n. here described.

Lathronympha sardinica sp. n.

Alar expanse, 15-18 mm. Male. Head thorax and tegulae ferruginous-orange. Palpus rather long strongly dilated, brushy, dark grey, basal half appearing pale. Abdomen grey. Forewing long and narrow, sublanceolate, apex obtusely pointed. Ground colour of forewing ferruginous-orange, sometimes suffused with yellow, costa strigulate with black or brown-black and white, the strigulae in apical half producing blackish striae; ocellus containing three fine black horizontal lines and edged laterally with pale sylver metallic, black scales on each side of it, a few additional black scales near apex. Cilia ferruginous-ochreous suffused and mixed with light grey, apex with cilia dark grey.

Hindwing anthracite-grey; cilia paler, with a dark sub-basal line.

Female. Similar to the male but darker with hindwing dark grey.

MALE GENITALIA

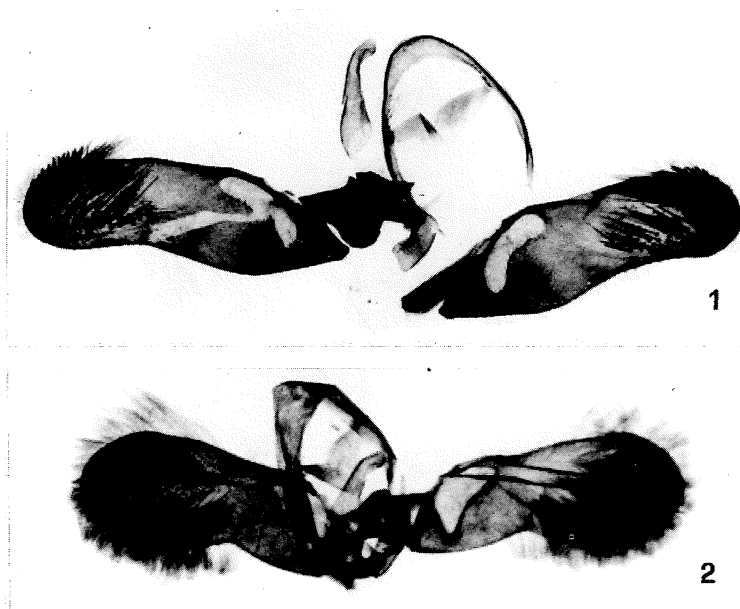
Reported in figures 1-4. *Tegumen* broader and more truncate than in *L. strigana*. *Uncus* small, entirely membraneous, hardly defined, numerous bristles under top of *tegumen* (figs. 1 and 3).

Valva thick, elongate, conical-shaped, with rounded *cucullus*, compared to basal part of *valva* the *cucullus* is smaller; the bristly area, with spine and hairs, not exceeding middle of *valva* (fig. 4).

Aedeagus simple (fig. 3), with less than apical half abruptly narrowed.

FEMALE GENITALIA

Reported in figures 5-7. *Sterigma* weakly sclerotized with straight, well demarcated lateral side (fig. 5); *lamella postvaginalis* trapezium-shaped, upper edge straight with two small terminal hairs laterally (fig. 6). Seventh abdominal sternite large, trasversely elongated, about three times wider than medial height. *Ostium* situated in a concavity; *ductus bursae* long, entirely membraneous apparently without any sclerites, *ductus seminalis* median. *Corpus bursae* simple, *signa* well developed (fig. 7). As in other species of the genus, the sixth sternite is strongly sclerotised.



Figs. 1-2 - Male genitalia of *Lathronympha sardinica* sp.n. (fig. 1) and of *Lathronympha strigana* (Fabricius, 1775) (fig. 2).

TYPE MATERIAL

Holotype, male: Sardegna, Nuoro, M.ti Gennargentu, St.da per Broncu Spina, 1550 m. ca., 7.VII.1995, leg. P. Trematerra & M. Mancini. G.S. 1273, Coll. P. Trematerra (Italy).

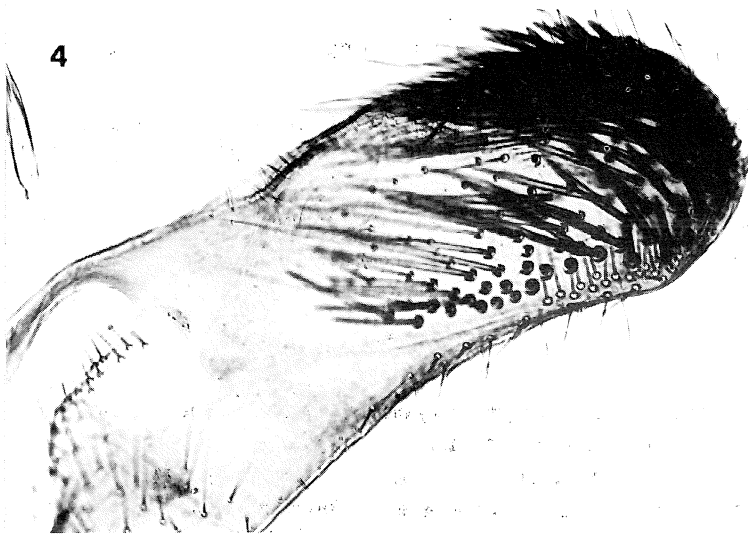
Paratypes: 4 males and 1 female, identically labelled. G.S. 1275 and G.S. 1280, Coll. P. Trematerra (Italy).

COMMENTS

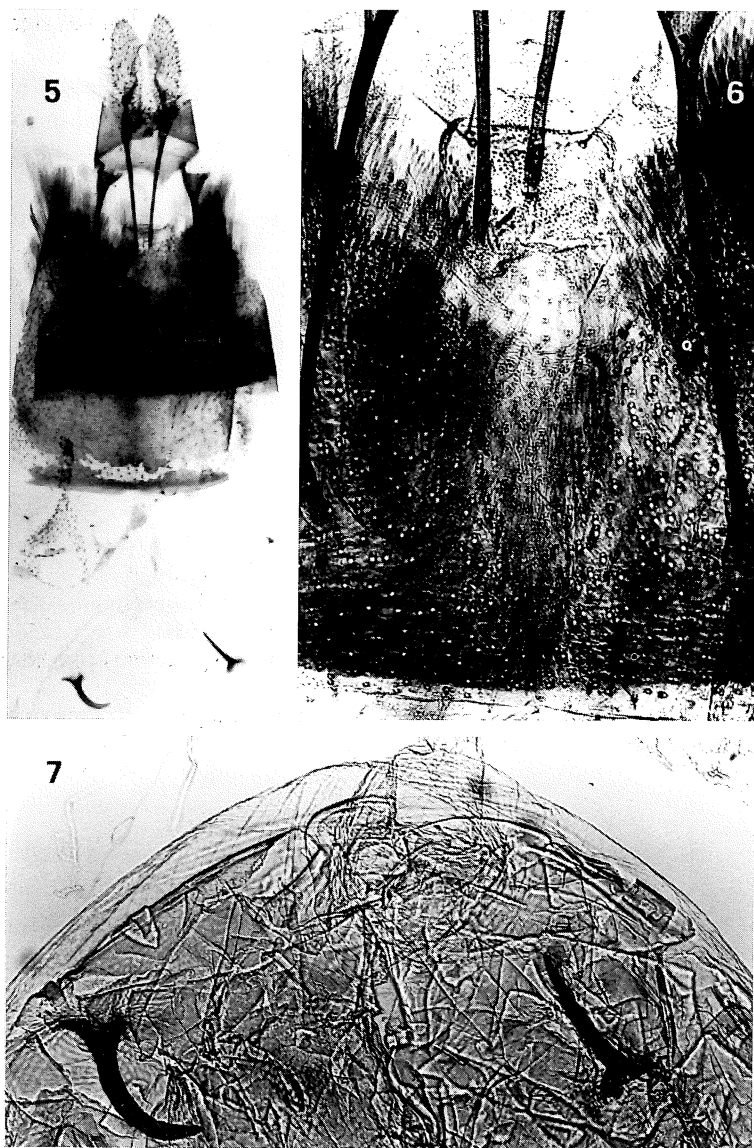
The new species is externally very similar to the common *L. strigana*, while *L. balearici* and *L. christenseni* are smaller.

The male genitalia differs from those of *L. strigana* and *L. christenseni* by the absence of the club-claved valva (figs. 1-4). The valva of *L. sardinica* sp.n. is more like that of *L. albimacula* and *L. balearici*, but differs by its conical-shaped and by much smaller *cucullus*.

In the female genitalia the differences among the species are light marked. The shape of *lamella postvaginalis* and seventh abdominal sternite distinguishes *L. sar-*



Figs. 3-4 - *Lathronympha sardinica* sp.n.: aedeagus, tegumen and juxta. (fig. 3); valva (fig. 4).



Figs. 5-7 - *Lathronympha sardinica* sp.n.. Female genitalia (fig. 5); lamella postvaginalis and seventh abdominal sternite (fig. 6); bursa copulatrix and signa (fig. 7).

dinica sp.n. from *L. strigana* (figs. 5-7). The short seventh abdominal sternite distinguishes *L. christenseni* from the other species of the genus.

BIOLOGY. Unknown. The adults of *L. sardinica* sp.n. was collected by net on *Hypericum* plants along an embankment. Larva of *L. strigana* feed in roots then in stems and in spun leaves, flowers or seeds of *Hypericum*. *L. balearici* was beaten from leaves of *Hypericum balearicum* L.

DERIVATIO NOMINIS. The species is dedicated to the Sardinia name of the Island of the *locus typus*.

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