THREE SPECIES OF THE GENUS MYTHIMNA (LEPIDOPTERA: NOCTUIDAE, HADENINAE) NEW FOR THE FAUNA OF SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

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Abstract - Five hundred and twenty species have been recorded for the fauna of Noctuidae (Lepidoptera) in Serbia (Vasić, 2002). In addition to this, there are the research data for Mt. Durmitor in Montenegro (about 260 species have been recorded for the fauna of Noctuidae in Montenegro). The species Mythimna languida (Walker, 1858), Mythimna congrua (Hübner, 1817), and Mythimna riparia (Rambur, 1829), represent species of the genus Mythimna (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae, Hadeninae) new for the fauna of Serbia and Montenegro. These species were found in the Bay of Kotor or Boka kotorska (southwest Montenegro). The finding of Mythimna languida represents the northernmost finding of that species in Europe.

Key words: Noctuidae, Lepidoptera, moths, fauna, Serbia and Montenegro

INTRODUCTION

Previous research in Serbia and Montenegro shows that 520 species of the family Noctuidae have been recorded in Serbia and 265 species of the same family in Montenegro until now. The present paper treats several interesting species of the genus Mythimna (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae, Hadeninae), namely Mythimna languida (Walker, 1858), Mythimna congrua (Hübner, 1817) and Mythimna riparia (Rambur, 1829). All of these species were found on the Bay of Kotor or Boka Kotor (southwest Montenegro) and have not been recorded until now for the fauna of Serbia and Montenegro.

Thirty-seven species are known for the genus Mythimna in Europe (Persson, 1990, Hacker, 1989; Karscholt and Razovski, 1996). Twenty-three species of that genus have been recorded in Serbia and Montenegro until now (including the findings reported in this paper). Based on the geographical distribution of species, it can be expected that some additional species will be found in the future. Here we will speculate which unrecorded species could also be present in Serbia and Montenegro.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The present research was carried out by field and laboratory methods. Field work included standard methods of entomological research on moths. The species in question were found on the Bay of Boka or Boka Kotor (southwest Montenegro). The locality of finding is marked on the map with UTM grids (Fig. 1). Each side of the quadrants on the given map is 10 km long. The locality is marked as (CN00). The altitude is about 35 m.
The following five species of the genus *Mythimna* (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae, Hadeninae) were found on the Bay of Boka or Boka Kotorska (southwest Montenegro):

*Mythimna languida* (Walker, 1858). One male (Fig. 2a) was found in Meljine on the Bay of Kotor or Boka Kotorska (southwest Montenegro) on May 2-18, 2002. One male and one female (Fig. 2b, c) were found on October 4, 2004.

*Mythimna congrua* (Hübner, 1817). Two males (Fig. 3) were found in Meljine on the Bay of Kotor or Boka Kotorska (southwest Montenegro) on October 2, 2004.
Mythimna riparia (Rambur, 1829). One male (Fig. 4) was found in Meljine on the Bay of Kotor or Boka Kotor- 
ska (southwest Montenegro) on October 1, 2004.

DISCUSSION

The species Mythimna languida (Walker, 1858). Distribution: Paleotropical-subtropical species. It is very rare

in Europe. The species has been found in Turkey, Greece and Macedonia. It is a Mediterranean species. Bionomy: it occurs in warm and wet coastal habitats. Migratory spe-
cies. Flight period: III-V, X-XII. The polyphagous larvae feed on herbaceous plants. Description of male genital ar-
mature (Fig. 5): cucullus paddled, clavus rounded, saccu-

Fig. 5. Mythimna languida (Walker, 1858). Male.

Fig. 6. Mythimna languida (Walker, 1858). Aedeagus.

Fig. 7. Mythimna congrua (Hübner, 1817). Male.

Mythimna riparia (Rambur, 1829). One male (Fig. 4) was found in Meljine on the Bay of Kotor or Boka Kota-
ska (southwest Montenegro) on October 1, 2004.

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Fig. 8. Mythimna congrua (Hübner, 1817). Aedeagus.

Fig. 9. Mythimna riparia (Rambur, 1829). Male.

Fig. 10. Mythimna riparia (Rambur, 1829). Aedeagus

lus extended, aedoeagus at the end of a tube. One group of larger teeth and two groups of smaller teeth inside present on aedeagus (Fig. 6).

The species Mythimna congrua (Hübner, 1817).
Distribution: Near Eastern-Mediterranean species, previously found in Spain, Albania, Bulgaria, Romania, Croatia, France, Turkey, Greece and Italy. Bionomy: It occurs in warm and wet Mediterranean coastal habitats. Flight period: III-VI, VIII-X. The polyphagous larval feed on herbaceous plants. Description of male genital armature (Fig. 7): cucullus padded, clavus scrobinate and rounded, clasper thick and dumpy, sacculus elongated, aedeagus near ductus seminalis, with an elongated larger cornutus and several smaller and shorter ones (Fig. 8). The species *Mythimna riparia* (Rambur, 1829). Distribution: Near Eastern-Mediterranean species, previously found around the entire Mediterranean coast, in Spain, Portugal, Bulgaria, France, Greece, Italy, Turkey, Macedonia and Albania (B e s h k o v, 1995, 2000). Bionomy: Xerophilous species. It occurs in warm Mediterranean coastal habitats. Flight period: III-VI, VIII-X. Larvae feed on Calamagrostis species. Description of male genital armature (Fig. 9): cucullus padded, apex like a small thorn, clavus rounded, juxta a scobination, sacculus elongated, aedeagus containing a group of larger, long teeth (Fig. 10). It can be expected that seven more species will be found in Serbia and Montenegro, viz.: *Mythimna palaestinae* (Staudinger, 1897), *Mythimna zeae* (Duponchel, 1827), *Mythimna joannisi* (Boursin and Rungs, 1952), *Mythimna herringi* (Herrick and Schaffer, 1849), *Mythimna umbriger* (Saalmüller, 1891), *Mythimna andereggii* (Boisdouval, 1840), and *Mythimna prominens* (Walker, 1856). The remaining seven species of the genus *Mythimna* are from distant geographical locations and cannot be expected here (H a c k e r, 1989; K a r s h o l t and R a z o v s k i, 1995, 2000), An Annotated Systematic and Synonymic Checklist of the Noctuidae of Bulgaria (Insecta, Lepidoptera, Noctuidae). Neue entomologische Nachrichten 49, 301 pp. Marktleuhten.


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