

Short Communication

New record of *Bastilla angularis* (Boisduval, 1833) (Lepidoptera: Erebidae) from Oriental region

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Abstract

An African species, *Bastilla angularis* (Boisduval) (Lepidoptera: Erebidae) is reported from two states of India, Bihar and Jharkhand. This species is reported for the first time from Oriental region. Photographs of adults and male genitalia are also provided.

Keywords: *Bastilla angularis*, Erebidae, Lepidoptera, New record, Oriental Region

Introduction

Genus *Bastilla* Swinhoe, 1918 was established for its type species, *Ophiusa redunca* Swinhoe 1900 from Australia. Holloway and Miller (2003) reviewed the genus *Bastilla* and divided it into four sub-groups. Presently, the genus is known by more than 15 valid species distributed Worldwide (Holloway, 2005; Kononenko and Pinratana, 2005, 2013; Sivasankaran *et al.*, 2012, Gurule and Nikam, 2017).

In this paper, an African species, *Bastilla angularis* (Boisduval, 1833) is reported for the first time from Oriental region. The species is collected from Mahatma Gandhi nagar, Kankarbagh, Patna (Bihar), G.B. Pant WLS, Rajgir, Bihar and Rajderva (Hazaribagh, Jharkhand), India. *B. angularis* is a pest of medicinal plant genus, *Phyllanthus* Linnaeus (Holloway and Miller, 2003). Reporting of this species from India may be recognized as an example of exotic pest. But, establishment of *B. angularis* as a pest in India and its interaction with the host plant needs further confirmation. Images of adult and photographs of male genitalia are also provided.

Materials and Methods

Collection of adult moths was made from the localities mentioned in material examined by using vertical sheet light trap. The collected specimens were processed as per

standard techniques in Lepidopterology. The specimens are deposited in the National Zoological Collections of ZSI, Gangetic Plains Regional Centre, Patna (Bihar, India). The identification and distributional range is confirmed from Guillermet (2009) and Prins and Prins (2012).

Systematic Account

Genus *Bastilla* Swinhoe, 1918
Swinhoe, 1918; *Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.* (9) 2 (7): 78.

Type species: *Ophiusa redunca* Swinhoe, 1900 (= *Naxia hamatilis* Guenée, 1852)

Diagnosis: The genus is best defined by the male genitalia which combine bilateral symmetry with double or even treble coremata on the valves. The uncus is usually simple, though a super-uncus occurs in most African species. The costal process is usually long, with distal expansion and / or ornamentation. The juxta is often short, broad, and often somewhat H-shaped. The aedeagus is curved; the vesica is variable in shape but the diverticula usually bear some robust spines or cornuti, sometimes in groups (Holloway, 2005).

Bastilla angularis (Boisduval, 1833)
Ophiusa angularis Boisduval, 1833, *Nouv. Anns. Mus. Hist. Nat. Paris*, 2: 251.

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Taxonomic note: Forewing with medial and post medial area paler; a slightly curved ante-medial line; medial line with pointed projection at upper angle and rounded projection at lower angle; post-medial line not reaching below radial veins, inner of each line filled with dark grey-brown, a triangular grey-brown patch at apex; Hindwing with posterior half of wing more fuscous. Male genitalia with right valvae flap like; costa bears a complex, trifurcated structure, left valvae having one furcation extra ordinary large; vesica with field of spines. Female genitalia with corpus bursae slightly elongated. Ductus bursae conical and sclerotised.

Material examined: India: Jharkhand, Hazaribagh, Rajderwa, 24° 08'15"N, 85° 17'17" E, 552 m, 17.ix.2014, 1 male (Coll. Navneet Singh & Party) (Reg. no. ZSI/GPRC/A-2812); Bihar, Patna, Kankarbagh, MG Nagar, 25°36'40"N, 85°07'50"E, 60 m 10.ix.2017, 1 male. (Coll. Navneet Singh) (Reg. no. ZSI/GPRC/A-2811); Bihar, G.B. Pant WLS, Watch tower 2, 24°25'10" N, 85° 13'14" E, 260

m, 6. vi. 2018, 1 female (Coll.: Rahul Joshi & Party) (Reg. no. ZSI/GPRC/A-2845).

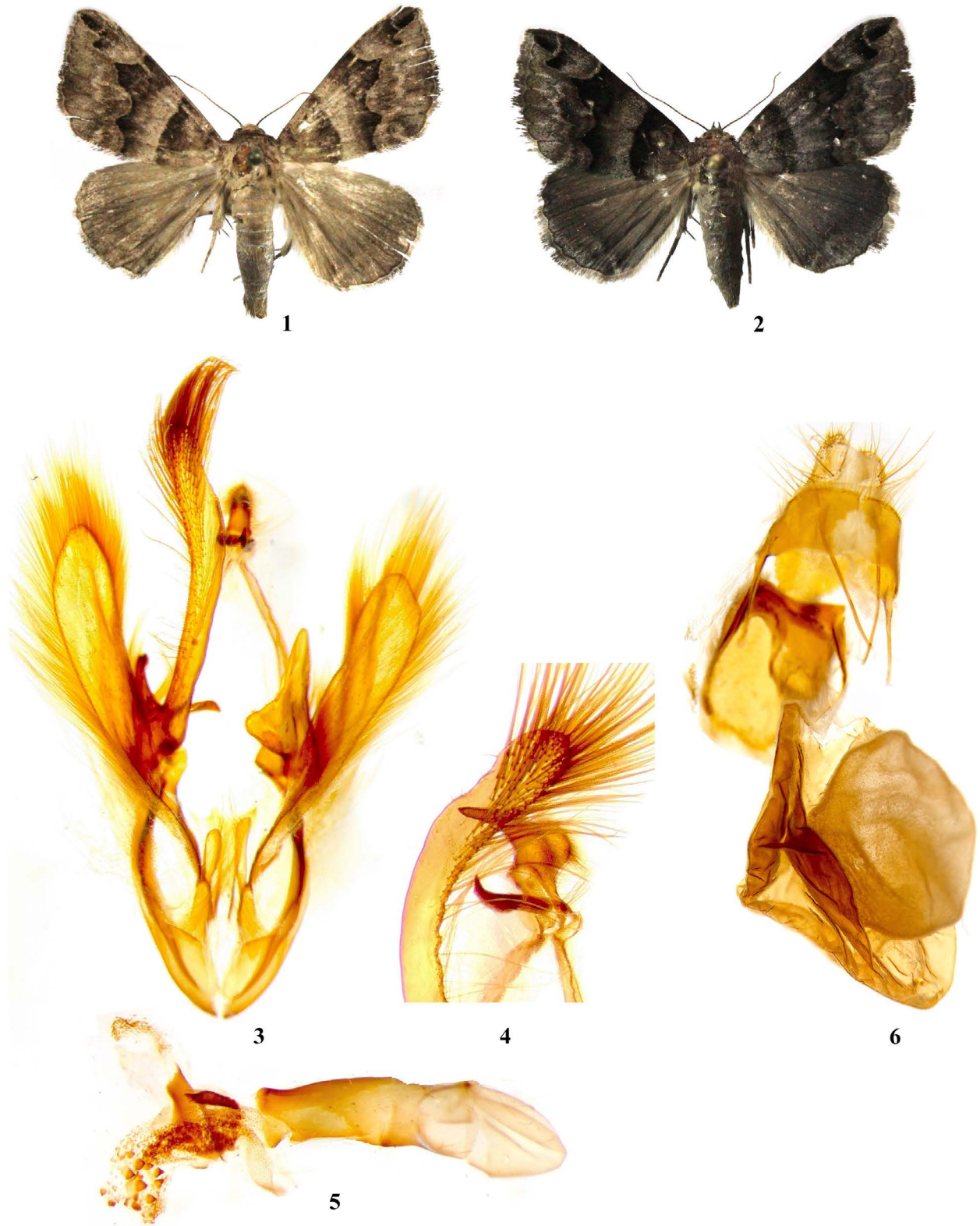
Distribution: Africa (Kenya, Zimbabwe, Gambia, South Africa, Ghana, Nigeria, Uganda, Sierra Leone, Sao Tome, Madagascar, Seychelles, Comoros, Sub-Saharan Africa) (Prins and Prins, 2012); India (Bihar and Jharkhand) (Newly recorded distribution).

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Bastilla angularis (Boisduval): 1. Adult male, 2. Adult female, 3. Male genitalia, 4. Uncus (Lateral view), 5. Aedeagus, 6. Female genitalia.