A PRELIMINARY LIST OF THE EUPTEROTIDAE (LEPIDOPTERA) OF VIETNAM

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The family Eupterotidae contains about 60 genera, the majority of them occurring in the tropics. The classification and phylogeny of the group remains inadequately studied, and the family has never been properly and fully catalogued, having been omitted from Junk’s Lepidopterorum Catalogus. Only Forbes (1955) published a systematic checklist of the world genera, which is somewhat incomplete and now partly out of date, and Nässig & Oberprieler (2008) produced a modern catalogue based on original point of view on score of most genera. They also clarified the nomenclature of the family-group names in Eupterotidae (Nässig & Oberprieler 2007), and this catalogue was used with changes for preparing of the present paper.

The first species of the Eupterotidae described from Vietnam was *Pseudojana vitalisi* Candèze, 1927 that pointed from Indochina. The generic attribution was obviously wrong but the type of the species has not been found so far and tentatively the taxon is placed into the genus *Eupterote* Hübner, 1820.

To date, no one work was devoted specially to Vietnamese Eupterotidae, and only in the articles of L. Candèze (1927), J. de Joannis (1929) and A. Lemée (1950) we found information and short lists of species mostly faulty identified. Some species were listed recently by vietnamese colleagues as defoliators: Plant Protection Research Institute (1976) and Tran Thieu Du (2009).

I. MATERIAL AND METHODS

Most of the material for this paper was studied in Museum Witt, München (MWM) and Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology. Also, special field trip were undertaken during 2007-2009 by authors in different parts of Vietnam. As a result of this preliminary study, 27 species of Eupterotidae are listed from Vietnam.

In this paper, a modified system of the family is used. A few preliminary changes and additions are made in the text of this work below.

II. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A generic check-list of the Subfamily Eupterotinae Swinhoe, 1892

*Eupterote* Hübner, 1820 (“1816”)


**Distribution.** From Sri Lanka and South India through the Indian subcontinent, the Himalayas, Nepal, Bhutan, southern and central China, Indochina, Sundaland to the Philippines, Sulawesi and Flores.
Comments. Over a hundred species names in *Eupterote* and its synonyms are known, but many of them are likely to be synonyms while still quite a number of species appear to be undescribed. The real number of species in this the largest genus of Eupterotidae with dominantly yellow ground colour with reddish to brownish markings remains unknown so far. The genus needed in revision and is likely polyphyletic sensu Holloway (1987) or Nässig & Oberprieler (2008). Only 4-5 species are known so far from Vietnam; a mysterious *Pseudojana vitalisi* Candèze, 1927 is also included herein forming a very special group supposedly of generic rank. *Apha strix* Bryk, 1944 is distinctly misplaced and contrary information Nässig & Oberprieler (2008) it also does not belong in *Sphingognatha* but shall to be included in the same group with *vitalisi* Candèze; probably it is the female of the species.

**Tagora** Walker, 1855

Walker, 1855: 1188, type species: *Tagora glaucescens* Walker, 1855: 1188, by subsequent designation by Moore, 1883: 142) (in Drepanidae);


**Distribution.** North India (Himalaya), Nepal, Bhutan, Thailand, Myanmar, South China including the islands of Hainan and Taiwan, Vietnam, Borneo.

**Comments.** The genus was oftenly considered within *Eupterote* but is distinctly differing in wing ground colour being always much darker, often with bluish shining, and markings there oblique postmedian fascia is diagnostic, and small but constant features in male and female genitalia. *Tagora* currently comprises 4 species and 2 of them – *pandya* Moore, 1865 and *glaucescens* Walker, 1855 are known from Vietnam.

**Sphingognatha** C. & R. Felder, 1874


**Distribution.** India, southern China, Thailand, Myanmar, Vietnam, Malaysia, islands of Sundaland and the Philippines.

**Comments.** Large sexually dimorph species with pale ground colour, concave fascia on the fore wing and 1 or 2 transparent windows on the fore wing. *Sphingognatha* comprises 9 species with *nobilis* Bryk, 1944, *pallida* Walker, 1855 and *?insulindica* Bryk, 1944 native to Vietnam.

**Palirisa** Moore, 1884

Moore, 1884: 360, type species: *Jana lineosa* Walker, 1855: 912, by original designation (in Lasiocampidae); Swinhoe, 1892: 279 (in Eupterotidae).

**Distribution.** Northern India, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, southern China including the islands of Hainan and Taiwan, Vietnam, Thailand.

**Comments.** Medium sized to large species with cream to brown groundcolour with diagnostic rather parallel forewing fasciae. The genus is neede in revision; it currently comprises over a dozen species but many more are yet undescribed. From Vietnam, at least 8 species are known, most of them are undescribed. Among them *lineosa* WALKER, 1855 and *salex* Pugaev et Tran Thieu, sp. nov.
Subfamily insertae sedis probably close to Janinae Aurivillius, 1892

In Nässig & Oberprieler (2008) all members of the group have been considered within the Striphnopteryginae Wallengren, 1858 as so-called “Ganisa-group”; hence neither in general appearance nor in genitalic characters they are related. This “Ganisa-group” seems to be a monophyletic grouping with unclear so far phylogenetic relationship but surely they should be considered outside the Striphnopteryginae Wallengren, 1858 and presence of tergal appendages in male genitalia and weakly modified valvae confirm this supposition.

Apha Walker, 1855

Walker, 1855: 1180 [key: 1158], type species: Apha subdives Walker, 1855: 1180, by monotypy (in Drepanidae); Swinhoe, 1892: 272 (in Eupterotidae).

Distribution. Continental South-East Asia from northern India, Nepal, Bhutan, Thibet and southern China to Japan, Taiwan, Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam.

Comments. Medium sized speckled species with diagnostic oblique and straight postmedia. 12 species are known and 4 of them are native to Vietnam: subdives Walker, 1855, kantonensis Mell, 1929 and 2 undescribed species.

Apona Walker, 1856

Walker, 1856: 1762, type species: Apona pallida Walker, 1856: 1763, by monotypy (in Drepanidae); Swinhoe, 1892: 278 (in Eupterotidae).


Comments. Apona contains only 7 valid species with khasiana Swinhoe and hoenei Mell, 1937 known from Vietnam.

Ganisa Walker, 1855


Distribution. From Pakistan, India and Nepal to China, Vietnam, Myanmar, Malaysia, the Philippines, Sulawesi and Flores.

Comments. Diagnostically dark, often dark grey to black moths, generally resemble Tagora Walker, 1855, but smaller. Ganisa comprises about 10 species and 3 of them are components of Vietnamese biota: similis Moore, 1884, postica Walker, 1855 and longipennata Mell, 1958.

Melanothrix C. & R. Felder, 1874


Comments. Melanothrix C. & R. FELDER, 1874 is strongly sexually dimorph genus, sometimes with unclear relationship between sexes; moth s are colourfull and sometimes are
day-fliers. The genus is needed in revision; 18 species are already described but only about 10 of them are valid. From Vietnam. Only 3 species are known, among them *leucotrigna* Hampson, 1892 and *nymphalaria albidior* Rothschild, 1917.

**Pseudojana** Hampson, 1893

*Pseudojana* Hampson 1893(: 48 [key: 41]), type species: *Jana incandescens* Walker 1855(: 910), by original designation (in Eupterotidae).

**Distribution.** South-eastern Asia from North India through South China and Indochina to Sundaland, the southern Philippines and part of the Indonesian islands.

**Comments.** Large and robust dark coloured species with zic-zac submarginal fascia and more or less parallel medial fasciae. 7 species were described but only *incandescens* Walker, 1855 is known from Vietnam.

**REFERENCES**


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HỌI NGHỊ KHOA HỌC TOÀN QUỐC VỀ SINH THÁI VÀ TÀI NGUYÊN SINH VẬT LẦN THỨ 4

DANH LỤC BUÔC ĐẦU VỀ CÁC GIỚ NGƯỜI THUỘC HỌ NGÀI VƯỢN EUPTEROTIDAE (LEPIDOPTERA) CỦA VIỆT NAM

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TÓM TẮT