First records of Cossidae from Gabon  
(West Africa)  
(Lepidoptera: Cossidae)

R. V. Yakovlev, G. M. Laszlo & T. J. Witt †

Abstract

The present paper provides the first data on Cossidae of Gabon (seven species) based on the materials of the collection of the African Natural History Research Trust (Leominster), Royal Museum of Central Africa (Tervuren), and Museum Witt (Munich). Four species (Macrocossus toluminus (Druce, 1887), Tarsozeuzera livingstoni Yakovlev, 2006, Aethalopteryx squameus (Distant, 1902), and Strigocossus crassa (Drury, 1782)) are recorded for the first time in the fauna of Gabon.

KEY WORDS: Lepidoptera, Cossidae, new records, Gabon.

Introduction

Our knowledge on the Carpenter moths (Lepidoptera: Cossidae) fauna of West Africa is rather incomplete. Extensive faunistic research regarding the entire Afrotropical Region has only been conducted in a few countries: Zimbabwe (YAKOVLEV & LENZ, 2013), Malawi (YAKOVLEV & MURPHY, 2013), Zambia (YAKOVLEV, 2014), and Swaziland (YAKOVLEV & WITT, 2016a). MEY (2015, 2016, 2017) provided a detailed overview of the Southern African (including Namibian) Cossidae.

The Cossidae (as well as other Heterocera) fauna of Gabon is poorly known, single references on the distribution of the family representatives in this country are given in a few articles only (YAKOVLEV, 2011; YAKOVLEV & WITT, 2018a, b).

During the course of studying Afrotropical Cossidae, several materials collected in Gabon, have been located in the collections of the African Natural History Research Trust (Leominster), Royal Museum of Central Africa (Tervuren), and Museum Witt (Munich). This article presents the first check list of Cossidae recorded from Gabon to date.
Abbreviations

ANHRT - African Natural History Research Trust, Leominster, UK
DMP - Ditsong National Museum of Natural History (formerly Transvaal Museum), Pretoria, South Africa
MNHN - Muséum National d’Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France
MWM - Museum Witt, Munich, Germany
NHMUK - (formerly BMNH) - The Natural History Museum (formerly British Museum of Natural History), London, UK
RMCA - Royal Museum of Central Africa, Tervuren, Belgium

Materials and methods

Images of adults were taken by the digital camera of Apple iPhone 7, illuminated in lightbox.

List of species

*Macrocossus toluminus* (Druce, 1887) (Fig. 1)

*Cossus toluminus* Druce, 1887: 684-685
Type locality: Gambia
Type material: Holotype in NHMUK, examined.

Material examined: 1 ♀, Gabon, Ogooue Ivindo PN, Ivindo Station de Recherche d’Ipassa, 450 m, 14-26-VI-2016, N0º 30’ 43” / E 12º 48’ 12”, Ruzzier, E., Tasane, T. leg., ANHRT: 2017.19 (coll. ANHRT).

Distribution: From Ivory Coast to Malawi, Tanzania, Namibia, S. Africa (GRÜNDBERG, 1910; SCHOORL, 1990; VÁRI et al., 2002). New record for Gabon.

*Tarsozozeuzera livingstoni* Yakovlev, 2006 (Fig. 2)

*Tarsozozeuzera livingstoni* Yakovlev, 2006: 211
Type locality: Rep. Pop. Congo, Dimonica
Type material: Holotype in MNHN, examined.

Material examined: 1 ♀, Gabon, Ogooue Ivindo PN, Ivindo Station de Recherche d’Ipassa, 450 m, 14-26-VI-2016, N0º 30’ 43” / E 12º 48’ 12”, Ruzzier, E., Tasane, T. leg., ANHRT: 2017.19 (coll. ANHRT).


*Pseudozeuzera biatra* (Hampson, 1910) (Fig. 3)

*Duomitus biatra* Hampson, 1910: 131-132
Type locality: S. Nigeria, Old Calabar [Calabar city]
Type material: Holotype in NHMUK, examined.

Material examined: 1 ♀, Gabon, Monila, 30-II-1964, Rec. V. Allard (coll. RMCA).


*Aethalopteryx squameus* (Distant, 1902) (Fig. 4)

*Duomitus squameus* Distant, 1902: 213
Type locality: Transvaal, Pretoria (S. Africa)
Type material: Cotypes in NHMUK and DMP, examined.

Material examined: 1 ♀, Gabon, Ogooue Ivindo PN, Ivindo Station de Recherche d’Ipassa, 450 m, 14-26-VI-2016, N0º 30’ 43” / E 12º 48’ 12”, Ruzzier, E., Tasane, T. leg., ANHRT: 2017.19 (coll. ANHRT).

Strigocossus moderata (Walker, 1856) (Fig. 5)
Zeuzera moderata Walker, 1856: 1533
Strigocossus vosseleri; Yakovlev, 2011: 83
Strigocossus moderata; Yakovlev & Murphy, 2013: 381
Type locality: Sierra Leone
Type material: Holotype in NHMUK, examined.

Strigocossus crassa (Drury, 1782) (Fig. 6)
Phalaena (Noctua) crassa Drury, 1782: Pl. 2: fig. 1
Type locality: Sierra Leon [Sierra Leone]
Type material: It is lost.
Material examined: 2 ♂♀, Gabon, Andok foula, 0° 25' 51”N / 10° 7' 43”E, 19-22-V-2011, 72 m, leg. Viktor Siniaev & Yury Bezetkhov (MWM); 4 ♂♀, Gabon, Monts de Cristal, SONG, 0° 31' 59”N / 10° 12’ 55”E, 25-V-2011, 139 m, leg. Viktor Siniaev & Yury Bezetkhov; 3 ♂♀, Baraka, 3 km NE No-Ayong Village, 0° 38’ 24” / 9° 41’ 37”E, 1-3-VI-2011, 35 m, leg. Viktor Siniaev & Yury Bezetkhov (coll. MWM).
Distribution: From Central to Southern Africa. New record for Gabon.

Eburgemellus geminatus (Gaede, 1930) (Fig. 7)
Xyleutes geminatus Gaede, 1930: 546, Taf. 80c
Eburgemellus geminatus; Yakovlev & Witt, 2018: 4
Type locality: Kriby, S. Cam. [Kribi, SW Cameroon]
Type material: Holotype in NHMUK, examined.
Material examined: 2 ♂♀, Gabon, Baraka, 3 km NE No-Ayong village, 0° 36’ 24” N / 9° 41’ 37”E, 1-3-VI-2011, 35 m, leg. Viktor Siniaev & Yury Bezetkhov (coll. MWM).
Distribution: Cameroon, Cot d’Ivoire, Congo, Gabon (YAKOVLEV & WITT, 2018b).

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*Corresponding author

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