



<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3666.4.4>

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:D6621784-A587-4E75-8826-B9E6C39BCA3E>

***Ceratricula* and *Flandria*—two new genera of Afrotropical HesperIIDae (HesperIIDae (*incertae sedis*)) for species currently placed in the genus *Ceratrachia* Butler**

TORBEN B. LARSEN

Jacobys alle 2, Frederiksberg, DK 1806, Denmark. E-mail: torbenlarsen@btinternet.com

Abstract

Two genera of Afrotropical HesperIIDae are described to receive species currently placed in *Ceratrachia* Butler, where they do not belong. *Ceratricula* **gen. nov.** comprises a single species spanning most of the main rainforest zone from Sierra Leone to Uganda and south to Zambia in three subspecies, ssp. *congdoni* ssp. nov. being new and ssp. *indeterminabilis* Strand raised from synonymy. *Flandria* **gen. nov.** consists of three rare or very rare species that are limited to eastern Cameroun and the western Democratic Republic of Congo, which gives this genus a more restricted range than any other among the African forest skippers; the three *Flandria* had previously been placed in *Ceratrachia*, *Pardaleodes*, or *Andronymus*.

Key words: Afrotropical butterflies, *Ceratricula semilutea congdoni* **ssp. nov.**, *Ceratrachia semilutea* comb. nov., *indeterminabilis* comb. nov., stat. rev., *flandria* comb. nov., *weberi* comb. nov., *kelembaensis* comb. nov., *Pardaleodes*, *Andronymus*

Introduction

As part of preparatory work for my planned monograph of the African HesperIIDae, I decided to study and publish two new genera for species placed in *Ceratrachia* Butler that I had long believed could not be congeneric with other members of that genus. First a general overview of the genus *Ceratrachia* is given to justify the creation of the new genera, *Ceratricula* and *Flandria*, which are then described. New genera and species will as far as possible be described in advance so that the monograph can concentrate on presenting all species in a similar way, with an emphasis on their identification, distribution, habitats, habits, biogeography, and early stages, as well as possibly receiving feedback. The numerical system for the veins and spaces of the wings used by Evans (1937), Larsen (2005), and most other butterfly specialists, is used in the descriptions.

Most of the specimens used in the figures are from the Royal Africa Museum, Tervuren (MRAC), the Natural History Museum (BMNH), London (NHM), the African Butterfly Research Institute, Nairobi (ABRI), and my own collection (tbl).

The genus *Ceratrachia* (Butler 1870a)

The *Ceratrachia* form a large genus (20 species or so) of small skippers that are found in the evergreen forests of Africa from the Basse Casamance in Senegal to the Albertine Rift area in Kivu, Uganda, western Kenya, western Tanzania, and western Zambia. A single somewhat special species (*C. bongae* Evans) lives in isolation from other member of the genus in the coastal forest vegetation of northeastern Tanzania. Superficially they fall into four distinct groups with surprisingly different colour patterns (figure 1):