Zootaxa 4052 (2): 251–296
www.mapress.com/zootaxa/

Article

ISSN 1175-5326 (print edition)
ZOOTAXA
ISSN 1175-5334 (online edition)

http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.4052.3.1
http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:775796D2-BEDF-459B-B937-FAC0EC457B92

Contribution to the knowledge on the Palaearctic and Oriental taxa of the *Meganola* s.l. (Lepidoptera, Noctuoidea, Nolidae, Nolinae) generic complex with descriptions of 4 new genera and 11 new species

GYULA M. LÁSZLÓ[1,4], GÁBOR RONKAY[2] & LÁSZLÓ RONKAY[3]

[1] *Fadrusz u. 25, H-1114 Budapest, Hungary.*
[2] *Heterocera Press Ltd., Szt. István krt. 4, H-1137 Budapest, Hungary.*
[3] *Hungarian Natural History Museum, Department of Zoology, Baross u. 13, H-1088 Budapest, Hungary.*
[4] *Corresponding author. E-mail: gyula.m.laszlo@gmail.com*

Abstract

Present paper contains the descriptions of four new genera distinguished from the collecting genus *Meganola* s.l. (*Hampsonola, Wittonola, Fragilonola* and *Maculonola* **gen. n.**) and 11 new species (*Meganola pseudobasalactifera, Hampsonola diehli, H. subbasirufa, H. angustifasciata, H. stueningi, H. micra, Wittonola latifasciata, Nanola rothschildi, Fragilonola fragilis, F. parentela* and *Maculonola dolokmerangirensis* **spp. n.**) from South East Asia. Based on genital morphology the concept of the genus *Nanola* is extended, involving several species treated earlier as *Meganola*. *Meganola yakovlevi* László, Ronkay & Ronkay, 2010 is synonymised with *M. tetrodon* (de Joannis, 1928), and *M. pekarskyi* László, Ronkay & Ronkay, 2014 is synonymised with *Nanola liaoningensis* (Han & Li, 2008), **syn. n**. 45 new combinations and 2 new stati are established. With 48 colour photos and 42 genitalia figures.

Key words: *Meganola*, *Nanola*, Nolini, Nolinae, Nolidae, Noctuoidea, taxonomy, new genera, new species, new synonymy, new combination, new status, South East Asia

Introduction

The genus *Meganola* was established by Dyar (1898) for a Nearctic species *Meganola conspicua* Dyar, 1898. The generic name has been introduced for the Old World fauna by Poole (1989) who applied it for practically all taxa previously treated by authors as *Roeselia* Hübner, 1825 except e.g. *Sarbena* Walker, 1862 and *Proneca* Swinhoe, 1890, which were considered by Poole as distinct genera. It is worth to note that *Roeselia* is synonymous with *Nola* Leach, 1815 due to its unfortunate type-species designation. Grote choose *Phalaena Tinea cucullatella* Linnaeus, 1758 as type-species of *Roeselia*, since the type-species of *Nola* is, by monotypy, *Phalaena Noctua palliola* [Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775. As these two names refer to the same species, both genera have the common type-species, therefore *Roeselia* is a mere synonym of *Nola*.

The delineation of this major genus has long been problematic, lacking a proper and consistent generic diagnosis. The quadrifine hindwing venation has long been deemed as a distinctive morphological character of *Meganola* (s.l.), but this concept produced an undoubtedly paraphyletic assemblage. Holloway (2003) clarified first the taxonomic position of the (otherwise also extraordinarily species rich) genus *Manoba*, correcting the erroneous traditional treatment of the group which considered *Manoba* as synonymous with the lithosiine genus *Stictane* Hampson, 1900, and restored its status as a valid noline genus based on the trifine hindwing venation as main diagnostic character besides the characteristic configuration of the genitalia. The species belonging to the other large branches of this generic complex remained, however, in the paraphyletic and diverse generic unit of *Meganola* (s.l.). It is worth to note that concerning the hindwing venation of the *Meganola* complex some discrepancies between publications of several authors have been found. Holloway (2003) divided *Meganola* and *Manoba* based on the quadrifine hindwing venation (with M_3 and CuA_1 stalked) of the former and trifine one (with

Accepted by M. Pellinen: 13 Oct. 2015; published: 3 Dec. 2015