

TWO NEW SPECIES OF *BRACHIONYCHA* HÜBNER
(Lepidoptera, Noctuidae, Cuculliinae)

By Shigero Sugi

14-12, Omori-Kita IV, Tokyo

Two new species of the genus *Brachionycha* Hübner, [1819], from Japan are here described. The both species are structurally identical with *Brachionycha nubeculosa* (Esper), the type-species of the genus, in having the bipectinate antenna with basal segments serrate. Biologically they appear simultaneously in early spring. The following key will serve for separating Japanese species.

1. Forewing with black basal streak in submedian fold to postmedian line; cilia of both wings white *albicilia* sp. nov.
- Forewing without basal streak in submedian fold 2
2. Forewing suffused with black and pale yellow; lower part of reniform not dilated nor edged below with dark shade *permixta* sp. nov.
- Forewing grey brown; lower part of reniform dilated and edged below with black brown shade *nubeculosa jezoensis* Matsumura

***Brachionycha albicilia* sp. nov.**

♂. Expanse 40 mm. Palpus black brown laterally, clothed with long blackish hair above and below. Head and thorax brown white mixed with black. Forewing red brown thickly irrorated with grey and covered nearly entirely with fine whitish hair; the greyish irroration being heavier in costal and submarginal areas; veins slightly suffused with blackish; a black streak in submedian fold from base to antemedian line, which is diffuse, arising from black stria below costa, excurved to submedian fold, then indistinct and bent obliquely basewards; claviform small, edged with blackish, orbicular absent; a dark median shade oblique from costa to the lower angle of cell, then obsolete; reniform nearly elliptical and relatively small, slightly defined with black at lower end, not restricted at middle nor dilated below, filled in with fuscous in centre; postmedian line arising from black stria below costa, brownish, more or less diffuse, bent outwards below costa, not serrate and slightly angulated outwards at vein 5; a series of dark points between veins before termen, those below vein 5 being larger and subtriangular; cilia whitish, with pale red brown points at veins. Hindwing greyish white, irrorated with red brown, veins tinged with fuscous; discoidal spot obscure, a series of dark points before termen, cilia purely white. Underside. Forewing pale brown irrorated with white especially in the outer third; costa dark brown, a dark oblique stria below costa at near middle; median band represented by dark oblique stria below costa, then obsolete; discoidal spot rather loose, cilia nearly as above. Hindwing whitish, tinged with pale brown along subcostal nervure, discoidal spot pale brown, large;

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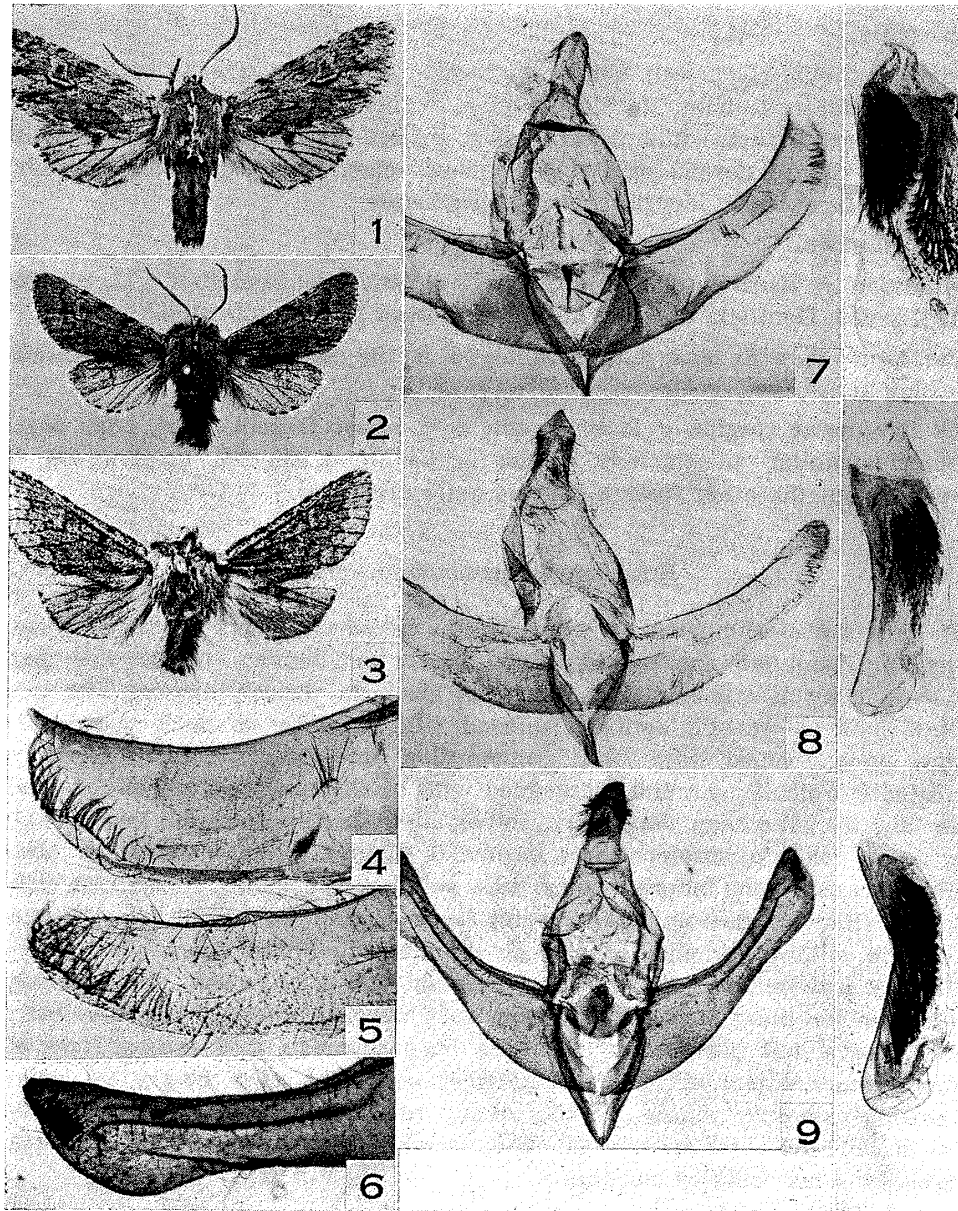


Fig. 1. *Brachionycha nubeculosa jezoensis* Matsumura ♂ (Hokkaido).
 Fig. 2. *Brachionycha albicilia* sp. nov. Holotype ♂.
 Fig. 3. *Brachionycha permixta* sp. nov. Holotype ♂.
 Figs. 4-6. Apical part of left valva of the male genitalia (enlarged).
 Figs. 7-9. Male genitalia and aedeagus.
 4, 7: *Brachionycha nubeculosa jezoensis* Matsumura.
 5, 8: *Brachionycha albicilia* sp. nov. Holotype.
 6, 9: *Brachionycha permixta* sp. nov. Paratype.

median line represented by pale brown points on veins except below vein 2; cilia white.

Male genitalia. Generally similar to those of *nubeculosa*. Uncus more pointed apically, widest at about apical one-third. Valva narrow, slightly tapered to apex, the apex peaked without dorso-apical projection as in *nubeculosa*; marginal and some diffuse corona of slender spinous setae. Aedoeagus slender, with inner armature nearly identical with in *nubeculosa*.

♀. Unknown.

Holotype ♂. Kuzu-onsen, 940 m, in Takase Valley, Nagano Pref., 12. iv. 1964 (M. Kurata). Genitalia on slide SS-603. Preserved in my collection.

Paratype 1♂, with same data as holotype, in the collection of Mr. M. Kurata, Matsumoto.

Of the known species of *Brachionycha*, only *sajana* Draudt, 1934, from Sajon Mount, is similar to this new species in having a blackish basal streak in forewing, but the other feature appears quite dissimilar.

***Brachionycha permixta* sp. nov.**

♂. Expanse 40-43 mm. Palpus pale yellow mixed with black laterally, fringed with long black hair above and below. Head and thorax clothed with pale yellow and black hair admixed. Abdomen blackish, densely clothed with long yellow hair. Forewing entirely suffused with mixture of black and yellow scales, veins tinged with black; antemedian line black, diffuse, claviform indistinct; orbicular a round spot defined with black, reniform somewhat quadrate, slightly paler than the ground colour, ill-defined; postmedian line strongly serrate on veins, submarginal area beyond it slightly paler; a series of black points between veins before termen, cilia pale greyish yellow mixed with black brown. Hindwing heavily suffused with fuscous grey, the costal area irrorated with pale yellow; discoidal spot large, terminal line dark, somewhat heavy, cilia pale grey yellow. Underside. Forewing pale grey yellow, suffused with fuscous in the inner area, veins tinged with fuscous, the subcostal area paler, with median and postmedian striae on it; postmedian line arising from the latter, excurved and diffuse, strengthened on veins; cilia nearly as above. Hindwing pale grey yellow, slightly infuscated, with a black short streak from base in cell; discoidal spot large, dark, terminal line broad and diffuse, interrupted by veins; cilia as above.

Male genitalia. Uncus thick, bluntly pointed. Saccus well bulged. Valva relatively well sclerotized, slightly restricted at middle, apex nearly obliquely truncate, cucullus with marginal corona of short spines, which are denser and limited to at dorsal two-fifths of the width of the apical margin. Aedoeagus with inner armature nearly identical with in *nubeculosa*.

♀. Unknown.

Holotype ♂. Doaiguchi, 750 m, Minakami, Gumma Pref., 14. iv. 1969 (T. Nakazato). Preserved in my collection.

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Paratypes. 1♂, with same data as holotype, genitalia on slide SS-1532; 1♂, the type-locality, 13. iv. 1969 (R. Nakamura).

In concluding this paper my best thanks are due to Mr. M. Kurata, Matsumoto, and Messrs. T. Nakazato and R. Nakamura, Maebashi, for their kind assistance in valuable specimens.

摘 要

属 *Brachionycha* の2新種を記載した。模式標本のデータは次のとおりである。

Brachionycha albicilia Sugi タカセモクメキリガ (新称)。長野県大町市葛温泉, 2♂, 12. iv. 1964 (倉田稔採集)。

Brachionycha permixta Sugi タニガワモクメキリガ (新称)。群馬県水上町土合口駅, 3♂, 13-14. iv. 1969 (中村亮司および中里孝行採集)。

日本からはすでに *Brachionycha nubeculosa jezoensis* Matsumura エゾモクメキリガが知られているので、日本産の本属は3種となる。

DISCOVERY OF *LASIONYCTA SKRAELINGIA* (H.-SCHAEFFER) FROM JAPAN (Noctuidae)

By Shigero Sugi

Lasionycta skraelingia (Herrich-Schäffer, 1845), a purely boreal species so far known as a resident in Scandinavia and Lapland, was discovered on the Daisetsu Mountains in Hokkaido. Several specimens were captured by Mr. T. Nagano in 1962, and later in 1969, Mr. K. Jinbo, Tokyo, has again confirmed their abundance in the same area. The earliest specimens I know of *skraelingia* is the ones captured there by Dr. E. Asahina, Sapporo, in 1933. In my collection there is a male from this source, with the data as follows: Kurodake, Daisetsu Mts., 11. vii. 1933 (E. Asahina leg.). The discovery of *L. skraelingia* in Japan is of great significance, as it is the first record other than from the above stated areas.

In identification of this interesting species I am much indebted to M. Ch. Boursin, Paris, to whom I must express my best thanks.

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