

Notes on the Genus *Himala* Moore with the Report

of a New Record Species from China

(Lepidoptera: Lymantridae)

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Abstract: The lymantrid species *Himala nigripennis* Kishida, 2000 described from Vietnam is reported as a new record for China from southeastern Guangxi. The species is easily separated from other two species by black wings. A key to Chinese species of the genus *Himala* is presented.

Key words: Lymantridae; *Himala nigripennis* Kishida; new record; China

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中国黑脉毒蛾属简记及一新记录种 (鳞翅目: 毒蛾科)

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摘要: 报道了新近发现于越南的黑翅毒蛾 *Himala nigripennis* Kishida, 2000为中国新记录, 标本采自中越交界的我国广西上思县垌中林场。该种以黑色的翅面极易与其他种区分, 并对中国已知的种编制了检索表。

关键词: 毒蛾科: 黑翅毒蛾: 新记录; 中国

Himala is a rather small genus in Lymantridae, it was erected by Moore in 1879 based on the species *Redoa argentea* Walker, 1855 from India. The genus is mainly distributed in Sino-Himalayan region, including China, Indian, Nepal and Vietnam. It was kept as monobasic until the second species *Himala nigripennis* Kishida was described from Vietnam by Kishida^[1], who treated *Ivela eshanensis* Chao, 1983 from Yunnan, China as the third species of the genus *Himala*^[1]. The lymantrid fauna of China was recently summarized in the series of Fauna Sinica, in which 343 species were reviewed^[2], and only the type species was included within the genus *Himala*, while *Ivela eshanensis* Chao, 1983 was still kept in the genus *Ivela* Swinhoe. The arrangement of the species here is followed that of Kishida's treatment. Since 2001, several surveys on Lepi-

doptera were conducted in southeast Guangxi, bordering by Vietnam, and the species *Himala nigripennis* Kishida, is confirmed as a new record for China from that locality. We will report it, and supply additional information on the other two species.

1 *Himala* Moore, 1879

Himala Moore, 1879, Desc. Ind. Lep. Coll. Atkinson 1:57.

Distribution: Sino-Himalayan region.

Three species is so far included, and all of them occur in China.

Key to the species

- 1 Wing black *H. nigripennis*
Wings silvery or white 2
2 Forewing upperside with veins black

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..... *H. argentea*
Forewing upperside with veins not black
..... *H. eshanensis*

2 *Himala argentea* (Walker, 1855)

Redoa argentea Walker, 1855, Cat. Lep. Het. Brit. Ind. 4: 827, no. 3. (Type locality: Kangra, India)

Himala argentea: Chao, 1994, Economic Insect Fauna of China 42: 90, pl. VI (nec VIII)-88.

Himala argentea: Zhao, 2003, Fauna Sinica Insecta 30: 305, pl. 8, fig. 132.

Specimens examined: one male, Hailuoguo, Mt. Gonggashan, Luding County, Sichuan, 1900 m.

Distribution: Sichuan (Mt. Emei, Mt. Qingchongshan, Mt. Gonggashan); India, Nepal, Vietnam (Kishida, 2000)

3 *Himala nigripennis* Kishida, 2000

Himala nigripennis Kishida, 2000, Trans. lepid. Soc. Japan 51(3): 231-232. (Type locality: N. Vietnam)

Forewing length 15.5 mm. Antenna length 6 mm.

Head orange yellow, antenna brown, plume form. Thorax grayish black, abdomen orange yellow apart from basal part black. Forewing black, much narrower, costa protruded at apical 1/4. Hindwing with basal half white, and apical half black (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1 *Himala nigripennis* Kishida, 2000, male upperside

Male genitalia with valva distinctly asymmetrical, left valva much smaller, right valva sac-like, greatly broadened distally (Fig. 2).

Early stages and host plant: Unknown.

Biology: According to the collecting date, adults of the species appear in April and October.

Specimens examined. One male, Dongzhong Forestry Farm, Shiwandashan, Shangsi County, Guangxi, 2002-IV-8, leg. Huang Guo-hua; One male, Dongzhong Forestry Farm, Shiwandashan, 2002-IV-9, leg. Huang Guo-hua.

Distribution: China (Guangxi); Vietnam.

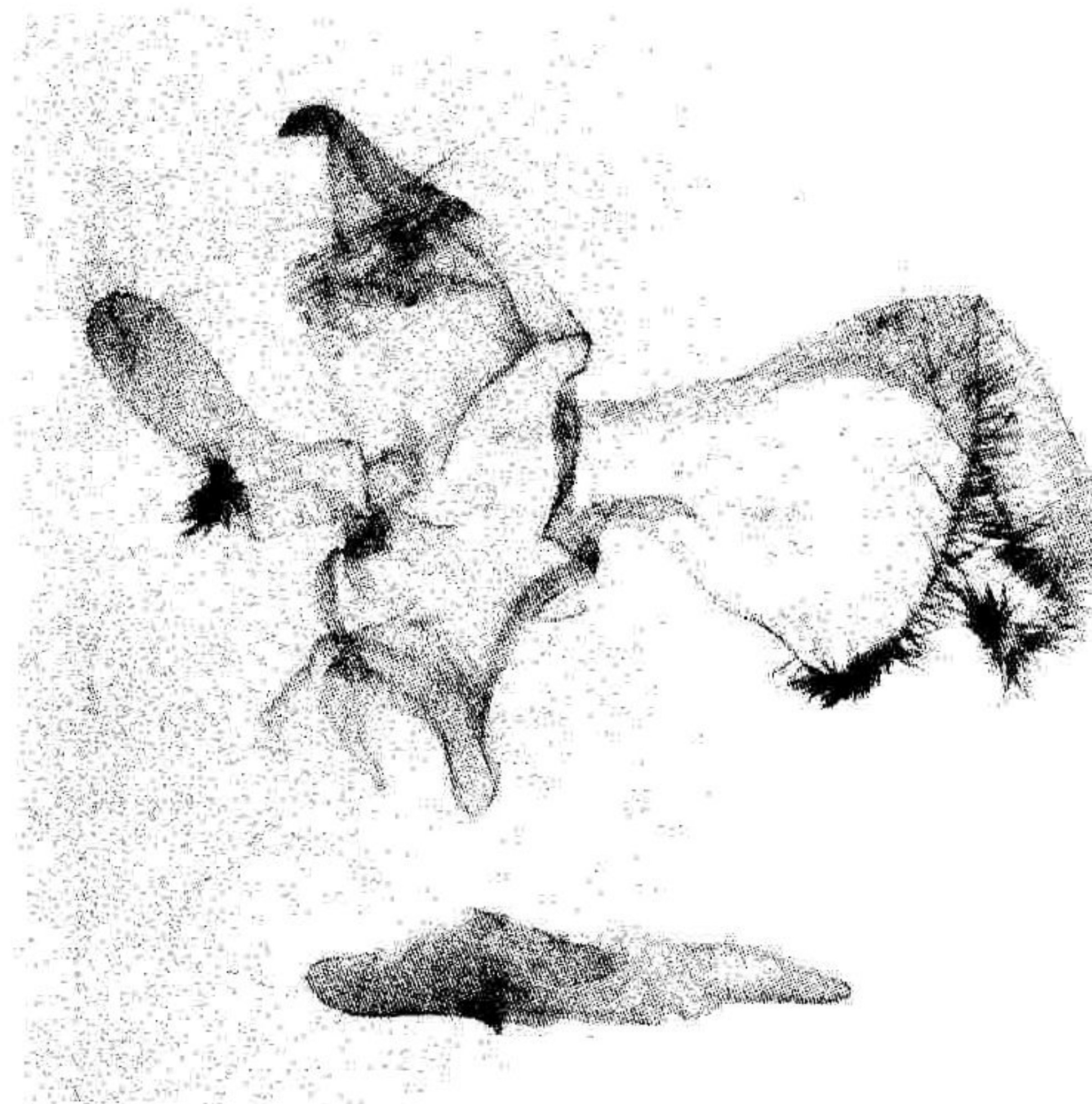


Fig. 2 Male genitalia of *Himala nigripennis* Kishida, 2000

4 *Himala eshanensis* (Chao, 1983)

Ivela eshanensis Chao, 1983, Acta Entomologica Sinica 26(3): 336-337. (Type locality: Eshan, Yunnan).

Ivela eshanensis Chao: Chao, 1994, Economic Insect Fauna of China 42: 61, pl. IV (nec VI)-63, fig. 37.

Himala eshanensis Chao: Kishida, 2000, Trans. lepid. Soc. Japan 51(3): 231-232.

Ivela eshanensis Chao: Zhao (Chao), 2003, Fauna Sinica, Insecta 30: 298-299.

The species was originally placed in the genus *Ivela* Swinhoe, and was transferred to *Himala* Moore by Kishida. Judging from the figures of both adult and male genitalia illustrated by Chao (1994), it is quite distinct from the proceeding two species, and similar to some species of the genus *Leucoma* Hübner.

No material was examined.

Distribution: Yunnan; Fujian^[2-3].

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