Three taxa from Hulstaert (1924) transferred from Arctiinae (Erebidae) to Lacturidae and Immidae (Lepidoptera) and synonymised

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Abstract: Darantoides lineolata Hulstaert, 1924 and D. plagiata Hulstaert, 1924, currently placed in the Lithosiini (Erebidae, Arctiinae), are found to belong to the Lacturidae. Darantoides lineolata Hulstaert, 1924 syn. nov. is synonymized with Lactura pyronympha Meyrick, 1923 and Darantoides plagiata Hulstaert, 1924 syn. nov. is synonymised with Lactura pyrilampis (Meyrick, 1886). Dichrostoptera basilinea Hulstaert, 1924 syn. nov., currently placed in the Lithosiini (Erebidae, Arctiinae), is found to belong to the Immidae and is synonymised with Bursadella timetica (Durrant, 1915).


Key-words: Darantoides, Lactura, Lithosiinae, new synonym, New Guinea, Gustaaf Hulstaert.

R.P. Gustaaf Hulstaert

Reverend Father (R.P.) Gustaaf Hulstaert (1900-1990) is known for his publications on Lepidoptera from the Dutch Indies, New Guinea and Belgian Congo. He obtained material from the Dutch Indies and New Guinea from colleagues who where stationed as missionares, like R.P. Petrus Vertenten and Mr D. van Roessel. This material was identified and described by himself in 1923 and 1924 in more than 20 publications. Most of that material was kept in his collection in Heverlee (Belgium) and is at present in the Naturalis Biodiversity Center in Leiden. In 1925 Gustaaf Hulstaert became a missionary himself and was stationed in Belgium Congo where he continued his hobby in Lepidoptera. The material from that period is for the greater part stored in Musee Royal de l'Afrique Centrale in Tervuren, Belgium.
Discoveries

Unfortunately, the publications of Hulstaert are also known of the many synonyms they generated. Hulstaert probably was not in the opportunity to visit important entomological collections, like the Natural History Museum in London or the Humboldt University Museum in Berlin, or to contact the specialists of his time. On the other hand, it seems that type material from the Hulstaert collection only very occasionally has been verified by revisions, partly due to the suggested loss of the types.

During a recent reordering of the Lepidoptera moth collection in the Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden, The Netherlands (RMNH) an important part of the New Guinea and Kai Islands type collection of Gustaaf Hulstaert was rediscovered, including some intriguing colourful moths with the holotype and paratype of *Darantoides lineolata* and *Darantoides plagiata*, and the holotype of *Dichrostoptera basilinea*. Hulstaert (1924) considered them to belong to the Arctiidae (Erebidae, Arctiinae, Lithosiini) which is not at all surprisingly considering the bright orange colours in the first two and the beautiful yellow and black patterned third one. However, seeing finally the actual specimens it becomes clear that they respectively belong to the genus *Lactura* in the Lacturidae family, also bright coloured species, and *Bursadella* in the Immidae family.

Transference

*Darantoides lineolata* Hulstaert, 1924 and *Darantoides plagiata* Hulstaert, 1924 are transferred to the genus *Lactura* Walker, 1854 (Lacturidae).

*Lactura pyronympha* Meyrick, 1923 appears to be conspecific with *Darantoides lineolata* Hulstaert, 1924 *syn. nov.* and *Enaemia pyrilampis* Meyrick, 1886 (now positioned in *Lactura*) is conspecific with *Darantoides plagiata* Hulstaert, 1924 *syn. nov.*

*Lactura* is a species rich and widely distributed genus, with some species in Africa and North America, but with most species in the Indo-Australian tropics.

*Dichrostoptera basilinea* Hulstaert, 1924 is transferred to the genus *Bursadella* Snellen, 1880 (Immidae). *Imma timetica* Durrant, 1915 (now positioned in *Bursadella*) appears to be conspecific with *Dichrostoptera basilinea* Hulstaert, 1924 *syn. nov.* The genus *Dichrostoptera* Hulstaert, 1924 *syn. nov.* is a junior synonym of *Bursadella* Snellen, 1880.

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Literature


Fig. 1. Darantoides lineolata Hulstaert, 1924 syn. nov. ♀ holotype [= Lactura pyronympha Meyrick, 1923], Digoel [Dutch South New Guinea] (RMNH);
Fig. 2. Darantoides plagiata Hulstaert, 1924 syn. nov. ♂ holotype [= Lactura pyrilampis (Meyrick, 1886)], Digoel [Dutch South New Guinea] (RMNH);
Fig. 3. Lactura pyrilampis (Meyrick, 1886) ♂, Getentiri, Papua, Indonesia (RMNH);
Fig. 4. Dichrostoptera basilinea Hulstaert, 1924 syn. nov. ♀ holotype [= Bursadella timetica (Durrant, 1925)], Digoel [Dutch South New Guinea] (RMNH).