

A new *Utetheisa* species from Papua New Guinea (Lepidoptera: Erebidae, Arctiinae, Arctiini)

Rob de Vos



Naturalis Biodiversity Center (RMNH),
dept. Entomology, Darwinweg 2,
NL-2333 CR Leiden, The Netherlands
Email: rob.devos@naturalis.nl

Suara Serangga Papua 8 (5): 137-140

Abstract: A new species in the genus *Utetheisa* is described from Papua New Guinea. *Utetheisa sedlaceki* spec. nov. is known from one female only. The moth and genitalia are described and depicted.

Rangkuman: Spesies baru genus *Utetheisa* dipertelakan dari Papua New Guinea. *Utetheisa sedlaceki* spec. nov. hanya diketahui dari betina saja. Ngengat tersebut serta genitalianya dideskripsi dan digambarkan.

Keywords: sedlaceki, semihyaline wings

Introduction

In the revision of De Vos (2007) all Indo-Australian *Utetheisa* species were revised, described and depicted. During the process of the manuscript this specimen was set aside to do further study on it. It is somewhat different from all other treated *Utetheisa* species and there was only one female specimen. The extremely pale patterned and semihyaline forewings, together with the somewhat different constructed female genitalia confused the author at first. It is however without doubt that this species belongs to the genus but it is hard to define the correct position because male specimens are not available yet and those are more accurately diagnostic. However, even the female genitalia of this holotype specimen shows that it is closely allied to the subgenus *Raanya*. Hopefully male specimens will come available in the near future to identify its infrageneric position.

Abbreviations

BPBM - Bernhard P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu, USA

Fwl - Forewing length

RMNH - Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden, The Netherlands

SI - Smithsonian Institute, Washington, USA

Utetheisa sedlaceki spec. nov.

(figs 1-3)

Holotype: ♀, New Guinea, NE, Wau, 1200 m, 8-11.viii.1964, leg. J. Sedlacek, M.V. light [BPBM].

Description: Fwl. 23.1 mm. Black antennae of female filiform. Head bone-white with a black spot on the vertex. Patagia bone-white with yellow and a large central black patch. Tegulae bone-white, at base yellow, Abdomen bone-white with a black band anterior on each segment which broadens dorsally. Legs all without pattern, bone-white.

Forewings and hindwings subhyaline with a very pale cinnamon coloured pattern. Forewings with a faint white basal streak and a narrow streak in the cell along the subcostal vein. A faint white median row of three patches and an irregular row of submarginal spots of different sizes. A darker discal spot at the end of the cell. Hindwings with a faint broad band along the margins, the center being subhyaline white.

Female genitalia: [prep. RV1057] Ostium quite simple, without deeply folded rim as seen in other *Utetheisa* species. Antrum, like in most other species, strongly sclerotized without coil. The ductus seminalis positioned at the right side at the abrupt and oblique transition of antrum and unsclerotized first part of the ductus bursae. In the second half the ductus bursae is strongly broadening and gradually sclerotized and flattened at the connection to the bursa copulatrix. Bursa copulatrix without signum but in the first half the surface covered with tiny chitinous drops.

Etymology: The species is named in honour of the collector of the holotype, Mr. J. Sedlacek.

Acknowledgement: I thank Scott Miller (SI, Washington) for his curatorious help to borrow Arctiinae material from the BPBM which led to the discovery of this new species. Kees van den Berg (RMNH, Leiden) I am grateful for giving

the opportunity to make digital images of the genitalia with a motorized Zeiss V20 binocular microscope and a digital Axio MRC5 camera controlled by Axio manager M2 software.

Literature

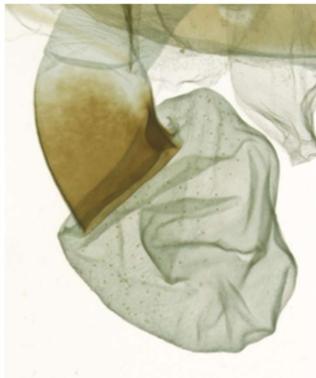
De Vos, R., 2007. The *Utetheisa* species of the subgenera *Pitasila*, *Atasca* and *Raanya* subgen. (Insecta, Lepidoptera: Arctiidae). *Aldrovandia* 3: 31-120.



1



2



3

Figs 1-3. *Utetheisa sedlaceki* spec. nov. holotype ♀: 1. Specimen (dorsal); 2-3. Female genitalia (prep. RV1057): 2. Habitus; 3. Close up of bursa copulatrix and sclerotized part of ductus bursae.