

A new species of the genus *Amselghia* from the North Caucasus (Lepidoptera: Coleophoridae)

V.V. Anikin

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Amselghia azishtella sp. n. from the North Caucasus (Adyga) is described.

V.V. Anikin, Department of Ecology and Morphology of Animals, Biological Faculty, Saratov State University, Astrakhanskaya ul. 83, Saratov 410026, Russia.

Amselghia azishtella sp. n. (Figs 1-3)

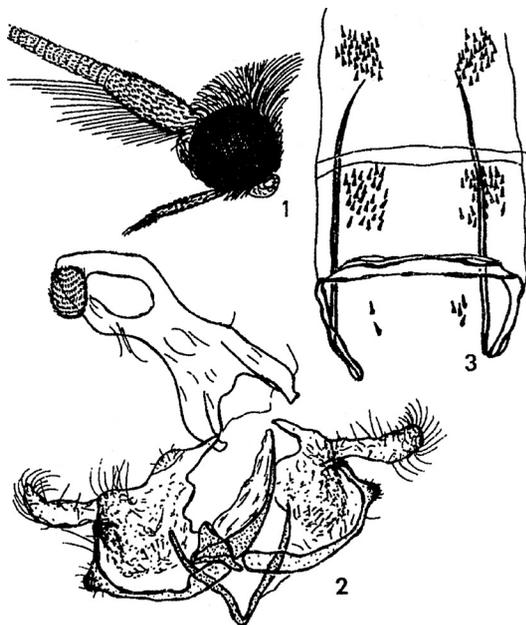
Holotype. ♂, Russia, Krasnodar Terr., North Caucasus, Adyga, Azish-tau Mts, Kamyshanova polyana, fir-beech forest, 1350 m, 6.VII.1996, V. Shchurov leg.; Zoological Institute, St.Petersburg.

Description. Wing expanse 11.5 mm. Labial palps on inner and outer sides ochreous-whitish; 2nd segment 1.2-1.3 times as long as diameter of eye; 3rd segment (without scales) 0.37-0.40 times as long as 2nd. Basal anten-

nal segment with scale tuft; flagellum ochreous-whitish, not ringed. Head, thorax and tegula light ochreous. Fore wings mostly ochreous brown, apex with yellow-brownish scales. Fringes pale yellow-grey, near base of wing grey. Hind wings grey; fringes coloured as wing, with whitish shine.

Male genitalia (female unknown). Gnathos oval with rounded corners. Tegumen without distinct lateral lobes; transtilla with narrow terminal parts. Valva short and narrow basally; valvula with small sclerotization and indistinct caudal margin. Sacculus with pigmented hooked top in ventro-caudal angle, with right dorso-caudal angle. Aedeagus short, with only one sclerotized band. Cornuti probably lost. Cucullus V-shaped, not widening in all its length. 1st abdominal tergite bristled, with only 2-4 spinelets on each plate; on the following tergites, the patches of spinelets compact, elongate, about 1.5 times as long as wide.

Comparison. The species is closely related to *A. balkara* Flkv. The main differences are the following: fore wings darker, without stripes; basal antennal segment with scale tuft; in male genitalia, valva shorter, aedeagus with one sclerotized band, sacculus pigmented, with right dorso-caudal angle, cucullus V-shaped, not widening in its terminal part.



Figs 1-3. *Amselghia azishtella* sp. n.: 1, head; 2, male genitalia; 3, abdominal tergites.

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