

Two new species of the genus *Pleurota* Hübner, 1825 from Middle Asia (Lepidoptera: Oecophoridae)

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Pleurota brevipalpella sp. n. from Turkmenistan and *P. margelanica* sp. n. from Uzbekistan are described.

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The moths of the genus *Pleurota* Hbn. are widely distributed, mainly in the Mediterranean Region and in semi-deserts, deserts and mountains of Middle Asia. Till now about 100 species have been described (Gaede, 1938; Back, 1973; Lvovsky, 1992, 1994). Two new species from Staudinger's collection are described below. The holotypes and paratypes of these species are deposited at the Museum of Natural History, Humboldt University, Berlin. One paratype of each species is deposited at Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg.

***Pleurota brevipalpella* sp. n.**
(Figs 1-3; see p. 132)

Holotype. ♂, Turkmenistan, Krasnowodsk [now Turkmenbashi], ex coll. Staudinger, 17/ 4; genit. prep. no. 60, Lvovsky det.

Paratypes. 3 ♂, same data as holotype, one of them with genit. prep. no. 17545, Lvovsky det.; 1 ♂, Krasnowodsk, Fh. 1884, genit. prep. Dr. L. Gozmany no. 6805 (undetermined).

Description. Forewing length 5.5-7 mm; wingspan 12-14.5 mm. Labial palpi short, with white scales mixed with brownish grey ones (Fig. 1). Head, thorax and forewing with white scales mixed with brownish grey ones. Forewing without dark longitudinal stripe. Dark discal point indistinct. Hindwing whitish, hardly lighter than forewing.

Male genitalia (Fig. 2). Gnathos elongate, narrowing to apex. Juxta with 2 long branches. Aedeagus long, bent, with tiny cornuti (Fig. 3).

Comparison. The new species differs clearly from the majority of species of the genus in the very short labial palpi and the absence of dark longitudinal stripe on forewing. It is close to *P. amaniella* Mann, 1873, but differs from it in the smaller size and shorter labial palpi. The new species has labial palpi not more than 0.8 times as long as diameter of the eye, whereas in *P. amaniella* they are 5 times as long as the eye diameter. Branches of the juxta in the new species are twice as long as in *P. amaniella* and reaching the apex of aedeagus.

***Pleurota margelanica* sp. n.**
(Figs 4-7; see p. 132)

Holotype. ♂, Uzbekistan, Margelan, ex coll. Staudinger, 1885 Hbr.; genit. prep. no. 57, Lvovsky det.

Paratypes. 2 ♂, same data as holotype, genit. prep. no. 58 and 17544, Lvovsky det.

Description. Forewing length 6.5-7.5 mm; wingspan 13.5-16 mm. Head white. Labial palpi with white scales mixed with brown ones, the latter concentrated in lower part of middle segment. Labial palpus 3.8 times as long as diameter of eye; its apical segment short, 0.6 times as long as diameter of eye. Forewing white, with considerable touch of brown scales, without dark longitudinal stripe. Brown discal point distinct. Very small, short brown stroke in fold under the middle cell. Hindwing light grey.

Male genitalia (Figs 4-7). Gnathos short, with obtuse apex (when seen from above). Juxta with 2 short branches (Fig. 5).

Comparison. The new species differs clearly from the majority of species of the genus in the very short branches of juxta in male genitalia and the absence of dark longitudinal stripe on forewing. It is close to *P. karatauella* Lvovsky, 1984, but differs from it in the absence of dark longitudinal stripe on forewing and shorter gnathos.

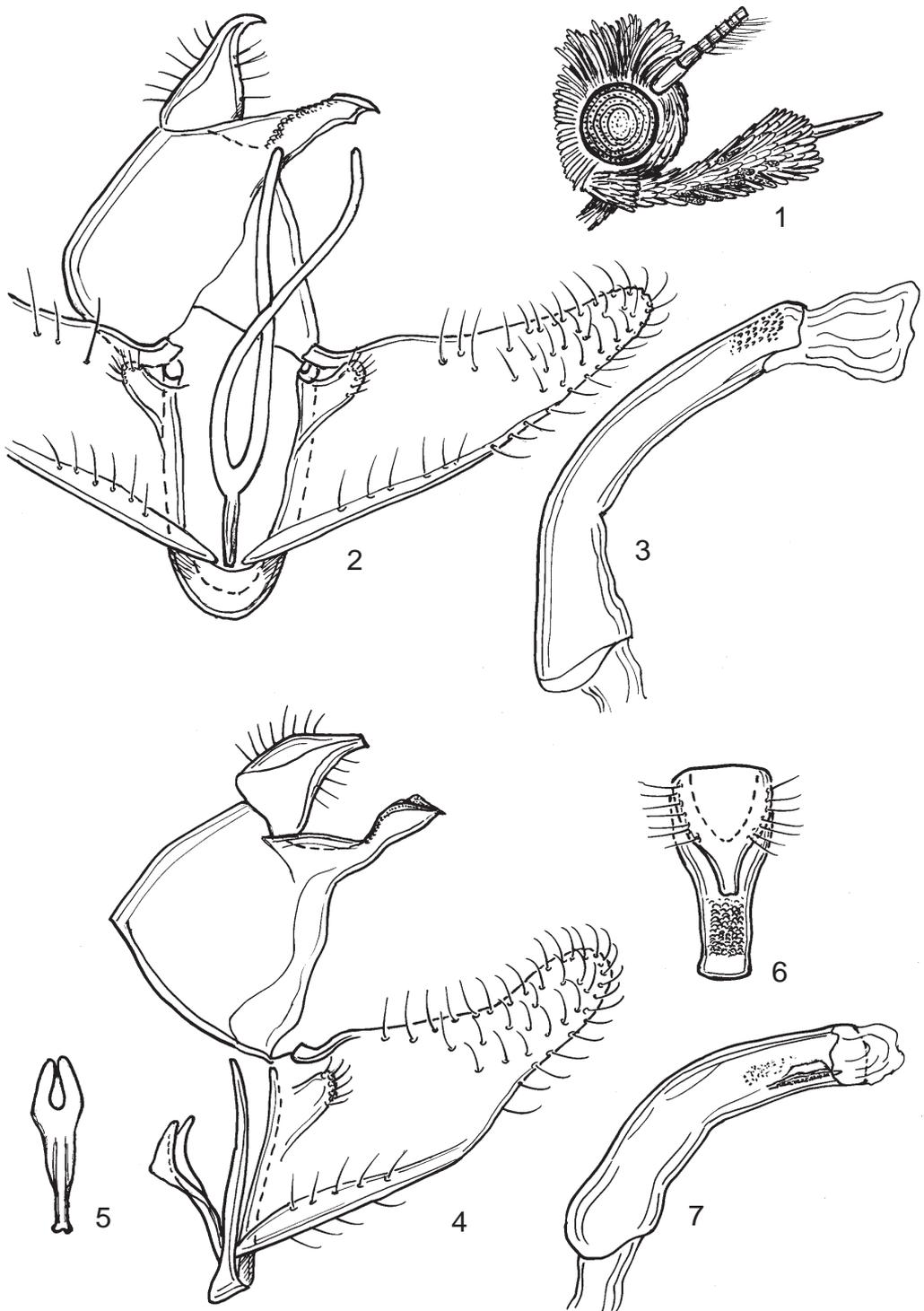
Acknowledgements

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Figs 1-7. 1-3, *Pleurota brevipalpella* sp. n.: 1, head; 2, male genitalia without aedeagus; 3, aedeagus; 4-7, *P. margelanica* sp. n.: 4, male genitalia without aedeagus; 5, juxta; 6, uncus and gnathos (view from above); 7, aedeagus.