

# *Gypsochares nielswolffi* n. sp. from Madeira (Lepidoptera: Pterophoridae)

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**Abstract:** The plume moth *Gypsochares nielswolffi* n. sp. is described from Madeira. The differences with the closely related species of the genus *Gypsochares* are given.

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## Introduction

Among other Danish collectors, Mr. Niels L. Wolff had a great interest in the insect fauna of the islands in the Atlantic Ocean. Especially on Madeira he intensively collected insects. The collection, brought together in the Zoologisk Museum Copenhagen (ZMUC), is now under revision by Mr. O. Karsholt, who is preparing a publication on this fauna. He found a small series of plume moths (Pterophoridae), which he sent to the authors for a second opinion. The results will be published by Karsholt, with the exception of the new species described below.

## *Gypsochares nielswolffi* n. sp. (figs. 1-2)

### Type Material

Holotype: ♂, Madeira, Serra d'Agua, Station Salazar, 6-7.ix.1973 (*Lomholt & Wolff*), genitalia slide NLW 4201 (ZMUC). Paratypes: 1 ♂, Madeira, Ribeira das Cales, 1000 m, 28.vi.1975 (*Niels L. Wolff*), genitalia slide NLW 4417 (CG); 1 ♂, Madeira, Pousada, Serra d'Agua, 660 m, 31.viii.1975 (*Niels L. Wolff*), genitalia slide NLW 4317 (ZMUC).

## Diagnosis

The species is characterized by the brown colour of the fore wing, with a distinct grey-white mid-costal line and second fore wing lobe. The related *Gypsochares baptodactyla* (Zeller) and

*G. bigoti* Gibeaux & Nel have only limited white scaling along the costa between the dark costal spots in the first lobe. In the male genitalia the present species is differentiated from *G. bigoti* by the single top of the saccus, and from *G. baptodactyla* by the shape of the valvae and the spines on the valvae (Gibeaux & Nel, 1989).

## Description

Male (fig. 1): Wingspan 15-18 mm. Head, thorax ochreous-brown, face and mesothorax white. Palpae ochreous-brown, short and curved up. Antennae faintly ringed grey-white and pale brown, shortly ciliated. Hind legs pale ochreous-white, with brown darkening at the base of the spur pairs. The spur pairs of equal length.

Fore wings grey-brown. From the central part of the costa in the first lobe a streak towards the discal spot, along the basal half of the costa and the costa of the second lobe grey-white. Small dark brown spots in the discus, at the base of the cleft and at the costa just beyond the base of the cleft. Fringes grey, white hairs darkened in the tornal regions of both lobes. Underside brown, with a ochreous-brown costal streak, in which a single costal dot beyond the base of the cleft.

Hind wings grey-brown. Fringes grey. Underside brown. Androconial scales in a double



Fig. 1. *Gypsochares nielswolffi*  
Gielis & Arenberger, male,  
holotype.

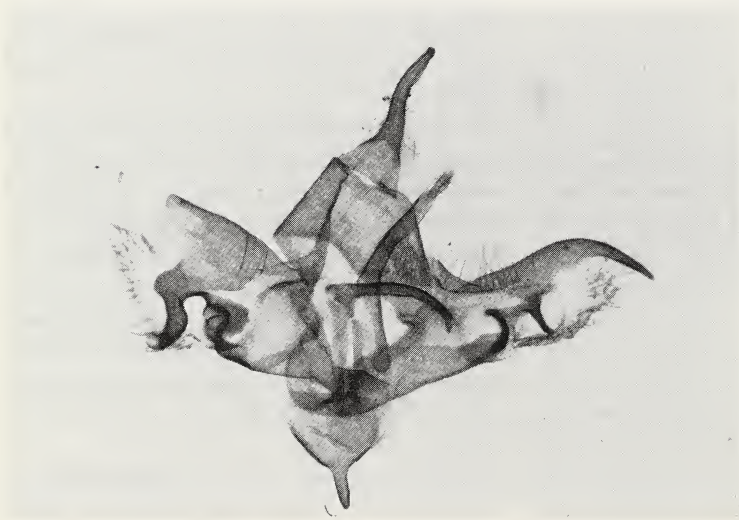


Fig. 2. *Gypsochares nielswolffi*  
Gielis & Arenberger, male  
genitalia, paratype, genitalia  
slide NLW 4417 (ZMUC).

row, black; the costal row the longer, more densely scaled, and extending well into the second lobe.

Male genitalia (fig. 2): Valvae asymmetrical. Left valve with a stout cucullar top, shorter than the membraneous sacculus. The cucullus with a ventro-basal knob-like process and a ventral stout hooked and curved process. The right valve with a spine-like cucullar top and a rather small, ventral, cucullar process. The vinculum wide and arched with a single saccus protusion. Tegumen and uncus simple. The juxta extended into a single ventrally curved process, which is as long as the uncus. Aedeagus slightly curved.

Female genitalia: Unknown.

Etymology: The species is named after its collector, the stimulator of knowledge of the Madeiran fauna, Mr. Niels L. Wolff.

### Acknowledgements

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