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Landstrekenlaan 21, 5235 LH 's-Hertogenbosch.

Description of a new *Prochoreutis* species from Japan (Lepidoptera: Choreutidae)

by

YUTAKA ARITA

Meijo University, Nagoya

ABSTRACT. — Description of *Prochoreutis diakonoffi* sp. n. from Japan, collected sitting on flowers of *Eupatorium chinense* var. *simplicifolium* (Makino) Kitam.

On the following pages a description is presented of a new *Prochoreutis*, found sitting in numbers upon flowers of the Composite plant, *Eupatorium chinense* L. var. *simplicifolium* (Makino) Kitam., on the Island of Honshu, Japan. The species is closest to *P. delicata* (Arita) and also related to *P. hadrogastra* (Diakonoff).

Prochoreutis diakonoffi spec. nov.

Syn. *Choreutis delicata* Arita, 1976 (in part). *Choreutis hadrogastra* Diakonoff, 1978 (in part).

♂, ♀ 8.5-10.5 mm. Externally quite similar to the nearest species, *P. delicata* (Arita).

Male genitalia. Tegumen rather wide, triangular. Subscaphium long, tubular, tapering, sparsely set with short hairs. Vinculum wide, saccus moderate, rather broad and pointed. Valva with costa conspicuously produced into a long curved process, covered with dense bristles; sacculus sparsely clothed with short hairs. Aedeagus long and slender, regularly sinuate.

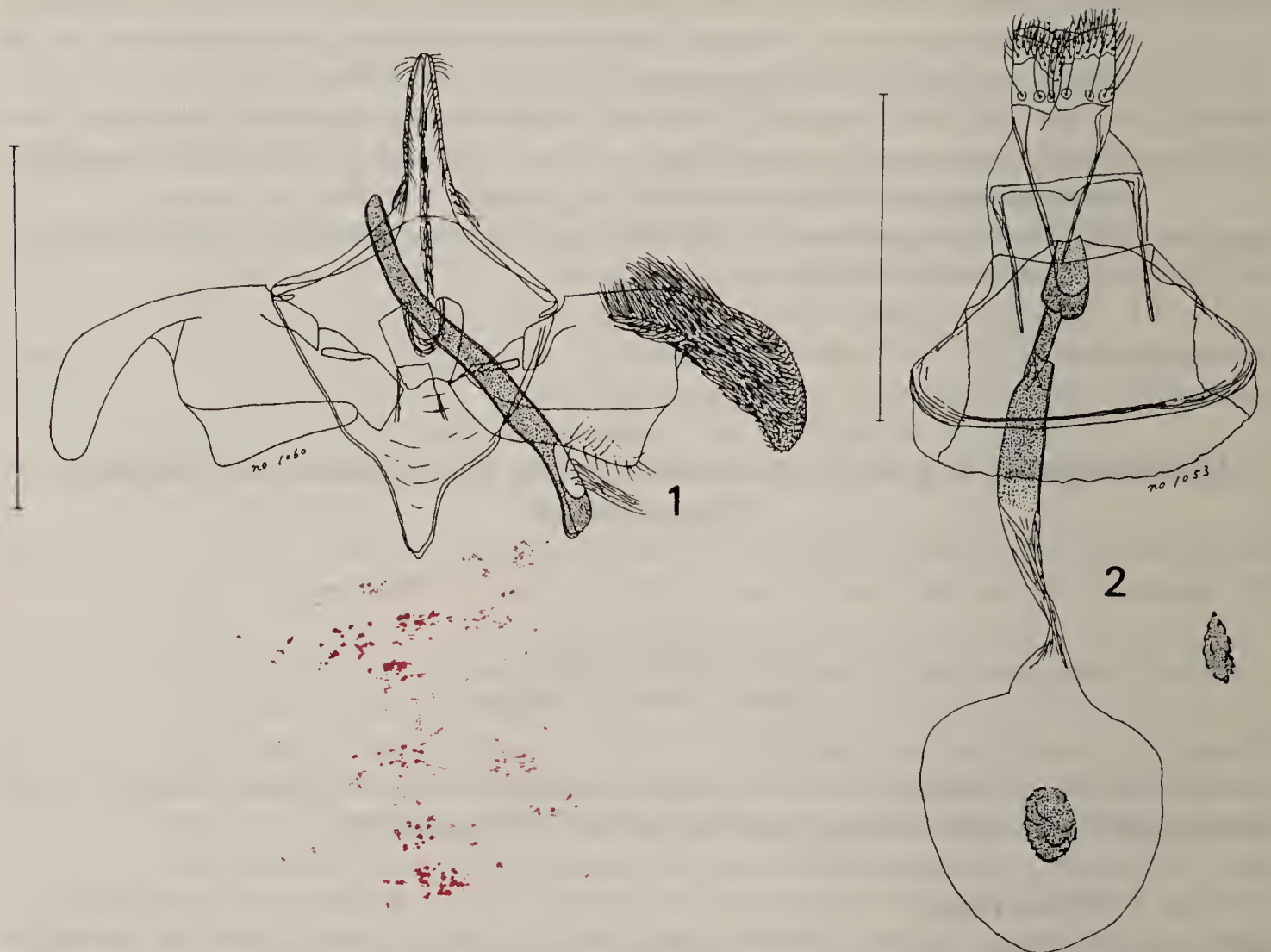
Female genitalia. Seventh abdominal sternite well sclerotized, with anterior corners rounded. Ostium bursae oval. Ductus bursae sclerotized along posterior half, anterior half membranous, posterior third narrow. Corpus bursae oval, with a conical top. Signum, a rounded or sometimes oblong scobination.

Material examined. 16 ♂, 12 ♀.

Holotype: ♂, Mt. Sanage-yama, Aichi-ken, Honshu, 3.IX.1980 (Y. Arita), resting on flowers of *Eupatorium chinense* var. *simplicifolium* (Makino) Kitam. Genitalia slide no. 1060 YA, MU. In the author's collection.

Paratypes. The same locality as of the holotype, 1-13.IX.1980, genitalia slides ♂♂: 88, 751, 1048, 1050, 1056, 1066, 1067, 1073, 1077, 1086, 1087, 1089; ♀♀: 1032, 1033, 1054, 1061, 1063, 1065. Sekine, Mutsushi, Aomori-ken, 25.VIII.1982, 3 ♂, genitalia slides 981, 1046, 1047. Ut-sukushigahara, Nagano-ken, 22.VII.1959 (K. Fujisawa), 1 ♀, gen. sl. 1084 (Originally identified as "*Choreutis delicata* Arita, ♀ paratype"). Mt Iwawaki-san, 25.V.1951 (A. Mutuura), 1 ♀, gen. sl. 63 (identified as ♀ paratype of "*Choreutis*" *delicata* Arita, 2 ♀, gen. sl. 63, 1048; the same misidentification).

Shikoku, Kuroson, Tosa, 29.IV.1956 (M. Okada), 1 ♀, gen. sl. 415.



Figs 1-2. *Prochoreutis diakonoffi* spec. nov. 1. holotype ♂, Sanage-yama, Aichi-ken, genitalia, slide 1060 YA; 2, paratype, ♀, the same locality, genitalia slide 1053 YA. Scale = 1 mm.

Distribution: Japan, Honshu and Shikoku. Host plant unknown.

Remarks. Originally the new species was confused with *Prochoreutis delicata* (Arita) and also with *P. hadrogastra* (Diakonoff). The three species are very similar externally and can be separated with certainty only with the use of the genital characters. The genitalia in the two sexes are quite distinct. So *diakonoffi* appears to be nearest to *delicata*, but differs markedly by the much longer process of the costa of the valva and by the much broader ductus bursae. It is also applied to *hadrogastra*, but easily distinguished by the presence of the costal process and by the distinctly smaller colliculum.

The new species is dedicated to the prominent microlepidopterist, Dr. Alexey Nikolayevich Diakonoff, of the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden.

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Zoological Laboratory, Faculty of Agriculture, Meijo University, Tenpaku-ku, Nagoya 468, Japan.