

New butterflies from Iran (Lep., rhopalocera)

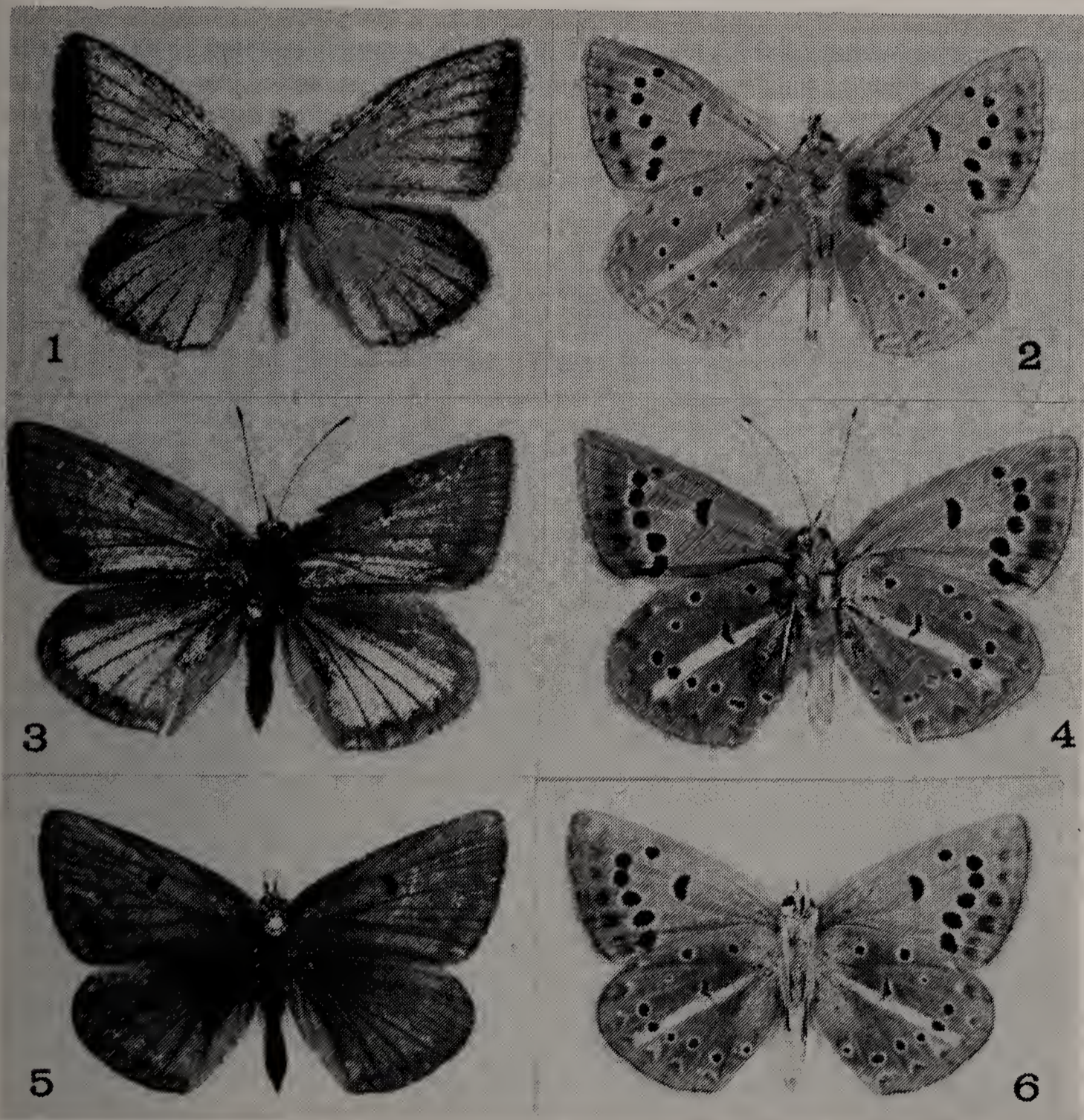
by

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ABSTRACT. — Two new taxa collected in Iran are described and figured, viz *Agrodiaetus forsteri* and *Glaucopsyche alexis safidensis* (Lycaenidae). Also a description and figure are published of the female of *Satyrus daubi* Gross & Ebert (Satyridae), which sex was so far unknown. The species is new to the fauna of Iran.

Agrodiaetus forsteri sp. nov. (figs. 1-6)

Male. — Length of fore wing 10 mm. Ground colour upperside of wings dark blue with a strong somewhat greenish gloss. Costa of fore wings white, nervures, the very narrow discal streak and outer border black. Black outer border of hind wings gradually narrowing into a black line at the tornus, most nervures only black in the distal half.



Figs 1-6. *Agrodiaetus forsteri* nov. sp. 1, 2. ♂, holotype; 3, 4. ♀, allotype; 5, 6. ♀, paratype. All figures double size. Photos J. Huisenga.

Underside pale grey, fore wings with black discal streak and seven postdiscal spots, the streak and all spots with white rings, a row of dark grey submarginal spots which gradually disappear near the apex; hind wings with hardly contrasting discal mark, a row of six small black postdiscal spots, all with white rings, submarginal spots a little darker than the ground colour (like the discal mark), feebly bordered with white. White streak from base to submarginal spots, straight, narrow.

Female. — Length of fore wing of allotype 14 mm, of paratype 10 mm. Fore wings brownish black, dusted with greenish-blue scales between the dark nervures, especially along the inner border, dark discal spot visible; hind wings greenish-blue with broad brown-black borders along costa and outer margin and dark nervures. Underside brown, all spots larger than with ♂ and especially on the hind wings more strongly contrasting.

In the paratype ♀ the blue colour is absent. Upperside of the wings of a uniform brownish-black; discal spot of fore wing distinct. Underside as in the allotype.

Holotype: ♂ Khoshyeylaq, Kuh e Sovar, prov. of Māzandarān, Iran, 2000-2500 m, 23-25.VII.1975, W. L. Blom leg. Allotype: ♀, same data. Paratypes: one ♂ and one ♀, same data.

All specimens in my collection. I dedicate this species to Dr. W. Forster, München, the well-known authority on the genus *Agrodiaetus*.

Agrodiaetus forsteri differs from all other species of the genus with black outer border of the wings found in Western Asia. It is distinguished from *A. iphigenia* (Herrich-Schäffer) and *A. phyllis* (Christoph) by the deeper black outer border, sharply separated from the blue ground colour and not dusted with blue scales. In *A. damon* (Herrich-Schäffer) and *A. baytopi* de Lesse the black outer border is broader and on the basal side dusted with blue scales. Moreover none of the above mentioned species has so distinct submarginal spots on the underside of the wings as *A. forsteri*.

Glaucopsyche alexis Poda, subsp. *safidensis* nov. (figs. 7-10)

Description. Male. — Length of fore wing 9-12 mm. Upperside of a rather dark shining blue, darker than in *Lysandra bellargus* (Rottemburg). Black outer margin very narrow. Underside: fore wing pale grey with black discal mark and two or three very striking postdiscal spots, the



Figs 7-10. *Glaucopsyche alexis safidensis* nov. subsp. 7, 8. ♂, holotype; 9, 10. ♀, allotype. All figures double size. Photos J. Huisenga.

position of which differs markedly from the spots of the nominate form, all black markings with white rings; hind wing unicolorous green without any markings.

Female. — Length of fore wing 11-12 mm. Ground colour of upperside blackish, basal half of fore wing strongly dusted with blue, discal spot visible; inner half of hind wing blue with black streaks along outer half of nervures 2 and 3. Underside as in ♂, but the number of postdiscal spots varies from 2-4.

Holotype: ♂, Avaj, east of Hāmādān, prov. of Hāmādān, Iran, 2000-2300 m, 21-24.IV.1978, W. L. Blom leg. Allotype: ♀, same data. Paratypes: 13 ♂, 3 ♀. All specimens in author's collection.

Subsp. *safidensis* resembles subsp. *aeruginosa* Staudinger, but differs by the colour of the upperside, the smaller size, and the reduced number of spots on the underside. The butterflies were captured on a southern slope of the Kuh-i-Safid mountains east of Avaj (between Qazvin and Hāmādān, prov. of Hāmādān), but only when the wind went down for a few minutes. Otherwise they were resting on small plants and could hardly be detected.

The female of *Satyrus daubi* Gross & Ebert (figs. 11, 12)

In 1975 Gross & Ebert described *Satyrus daubi* from Achal Tekke and Askhabad (Turkmenia, USSR), after a series of 19 males. I detected the species in Iran in the Kuh-e-Sovar near Khosh Yeilaq (between Shah Pasand, prov. of Mazandaran, and Shahrud, prov. of Semnan) and caught both sexes in about equal numbers. The species is new to the fauna of Iran.



Figs 11, 12. *Satyrus daubi* Gross & Ebert, ♀. Natural size. Photos J. Huisenga.

As the ♀ had so far not yet been known, I give a description of this sex, made after nine specimens.

Length of fore wing 26-28 mm. Ground colour upperside dark brown, but lighter than with the ♂. Fore wing with two black white centered eye spots surrounded by yellowish-brown, between them two small white spots. Hind wing with somewhat paler postdiscal and submarginal bands and two tiny eye spots in cells 2 and 3. Ground colour of underside grey-brown, fore wings with yellow-brown postdiscal band, greyish-marginal band and chequered fringe, hind wing with greyish postdiscal and marginal bands. Spots as on the upperside.

Differs from the ♀ of *Satyrus iranica* Schwingenschuss as follows: eye spots on upper side of fore wing much larger, always enclosed by the yellowish-brown band. In *iranica* the band is more proximal and narrower, so that it does not enclose the eye spots. On the under side of the fore wing *S. daubi* is much less yellow-brown than *S. iranica*.

In 1975 I was at Khosh Yeilaq on July 22 and 23 and caught one ♂ of *S. daubi*. In 1977 I was there from 9-12 July and caught besides a number of males also females, but all badly damaged. In 1978 I visited the same locality from 24-26 June, but the season was late and I only captured some males. So I returned to the same place from 1-4 July and then I was lucky enough to

capture besides some more males also five females, not all undamaged, but in better condition than in 1977.

Thanks are due to Dr. W. Forster for his help and advice and to Mr. J. Huisenga for the excellent photos.

LITERATURE

Gross, F. J. & G. Ebert, 1975. Neue Taxa der Pieridae, Satyridae und Nymphalidae. — *In* G. Ebert, F. J. Gross, K. Rose & S. Wagener, 1975. Beiträge zur Kenntnis der Phopaloceren Irans. — *J. ent. Soc. Iran*, suppl. 1: 1-62, fign. (p. 8-45, fig. 3-61).

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NAYAR, K. K., T. N. ANANTHAKRISHNAN & B. V. DAVID, 1976. GENERAL AND APPLIED ENTOMOLOGY. pp. X, 589; Algemene index 39 kolommen, systematische index 51 kolommen. Tata-McGraw-Hill, Delhi. Prijs (gebonden) DM 51,60.

This book gives a comprehensive account on various aspects of entomology. It contains three main sections: (1) Morphology, physiology, ethology and ecology (120 pp); (2) Insect Orders (245 pp); (3) Applied Entomology (195 pp). In an extensive appendix a list of insects infesting shrubs, plants and trees in India (including storage pests) has been given (96 pp). The treatment of the contents is up-to-date, as the most recent developments are shortly and adequately mentioned. The price is moderate and the authors are to be congratulated with their efforts. — P. A. van der Laan.

NEMAPOGON CLOACELLA (HAWORTH) (LEP., TINEIDAE). Tijdens een wandeling met een deel van mijn gezin in het Zwolse bos te Heerde vonden we een stuk berkestam waaraan een grote zwam (*Piptoporus betulinus* (Bull. ex. Fr.) P. Karst.) groeide. Het stuk was wel erg zwaar, maar met vereende krachten kregen we het toch in mijn auto. Thuis werd het in de tuin tegen een schuurmuur in de open lucht gezet.



Nemapogon cloacella (Haworth), ♂, Heerde, 3.VI.1978 (links) en 29.V.1976. × 4.
Foto's J. Huisenga.

Uiteraard werd de zwam dagelijks gecontroleerd omdat ik hoopte er *Morophaga boleti* (Fabricius) uit te kweken. Dit gebeurde echter niet, maar in de periode van 25.V tot en met 5.VI.1976 verschenen op de stam een zestal kleine vlindertjes, die verzameld werden. De motjes vlogen snel op als ze gestoord werden, maar keerden steeds weer op de berkestam terug. Opvallend zijn de oranje-gele kopbehangen en de geel-witte vlekjes op de donkere ondergrond van de voorvleugels. Vers zijn ze werkelijk een schoonheid. Na determinatie door de heer G. R. Langohr bleken het exemplaren van *Nemapogon cloacella* (Haworth) te zijn, één van onze gewonere Tineiden. Zoals de beide foto's laten zien varieert de soort nogal in grootte en tekening.

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