

Lepidoptera of South Ossetia (Northern Transcaucasia). Part IV. Microlepidoptera: Adelidae to Choreutidae

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A list of 143 species of Microlepidoptera from 27 families is provided, compiled based on the results of processing materials collected in 2021–2022; all species are recorded for the first time for the territory of South Ossetia.

Acta Biologica Sibirica 9: 1061–1072 (2023) doi: 10.5281/zenodo.10213217

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Academic editor: A. Matsyura | Received 9 November 2023 | Accepted 26 November 2023 |
Published 30 November 2023

<http://zoobank.org/BFB12430-F1B6-4095-B46D-597F66913755>

Citation: Sinev SYu, Anikin VV, Piskunov VI, Streltsov AN, Ustjuzhanin PY, Yakovlev RV (2023) Lepidoptera of South Ossetia (Northern Transcaucasia). Part IV. Microlepidoptera: Adelidae to Choreutidae. Acta Biologica Sibirica 9: 1061–1072. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10213217>

Keywords

Biodiversity, Caucasus, South Ossetia, fauna, Microlepidoptera

Introduction

This article continues the series of publications devoted to the lepidopterofauna of South Ossetia and covers most families of Microlepidoptera. Only Pyraloidea, Cossidae, Limacodidae, part of Erebiidae, Notodontidae, Lasiocampidae, Lemoniidae, Saturniidae, Sphingidae, Drepanidae, Cimeliidae, Tortricidae, Pterophoridae and Alucitidae were previously treated (Streltsov et al. 2022

a, b; Nedoshivina et al. 2023). In the fourth part we publish data on families Adelidae, Incurvariidae, Psychidae, Tineidae, Roeslerstammiidae, Gracillariidae, Yponomeutidae, Argyresthiidae, Plutellidae, Ypsolophidae, Ethmiidae, Depressariidae, Elachistidae, Scythrididae, Cryptolechiidae, Oecophoridae, Lecithoceridae, Stathmopodidae, Coleophoridae, Momphidae, Blastobasidae, Autostichidae, Lypusidae, Cosmopterigidae, Gelechiidae, Epermeniidae, and Choreutidae, information about which in South Ossetia was not previously available.

A detailed description of the natural conditions and history of studying the lepidopteroфаuna of the region is contained in the first article in the series, dedicated to Lepidoptera (Streltsov et al. 2022a) and is not discussed here.

Materials and methods

The specimens were collected in South Ossetia in eight localities (Fig. 1) by A. N. Streltsov, P. Y. Ustjuzhanin and R. V. Yakovlev in June–July 2021 and by V.V. Rudoi, P. Y. Ustjuzhanin and R. V. Yakovlev in July 2022. The collections were carried out by manual collecting during the daytime and at dusk, as well as on light screens Naturaliste-150 and Naturaliste-180 (using lamps OSRAM-160, 250 W), powered by the inverter generator Honda EU10i and autonomous light traps ENTOSPHINX lamp UV LED 12 V/19,2W (equipped with diodes 240 UV LED). Deadening of the specimens was carried out using ethyl acetate. The material was mounted on entomological pins.

The examined material is kept in the collections of Vasiliy Anikin (Saratov, Russia – Coleophoridae) and Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences (St. Petersburg, Russia – all other groups). Taxonomy and nomenclature are given according to the latest edition of the Catalogue of the Lepidoptera of Russia (Sinev 2019). The input of the authors in the identification of the material is as follows: V.V. Anikin – Coleophoridae; V.I. Piskunov – Gelechiidae; S. Yu. Sinev – all other families.

List of collecting localities

1. South Ossetia, Tskhinval Distr., 2 km NW Grom, 42°10'6" N / 44°11'53" E, 930 m, 22–25.06.2021, A. Streltsov, P. Ustjuzhanin & R. Yakovlev leg.
2. South Ossetia, Leningor Distr., 4 km E Leningor, 42°08'45" N, 44°30'55" E / 1200 m, 26–27.06.2021, A. Streltsov, P. Ustjuzhanin & R. Yakovlev leg.; 13–14.07.2022, P. Ustjuzhanin & R. Yakovlev leg.
3. South Ossetia, Dzaus Distr., 4 km NNE Kvaisa, Koz lake, 42°33'32" N / 43°37'59" E, 1580 m, 28–30.06.2021, A. Streltsov, P. Ustjuzhanin & R. Yakovlev leg.
4. South Ossetia, Dzaus Distr., Rachinsky Range, near Dodtota, 42°27'25" N / 43°43'18" E, 1750 m, 1–2.07.2021, A. Streltsov, P. Ustjuzhanin & R. Yakovlev leg.; 19–22.07.2022, V. Rudoi, P. Ustjuzhanin & R. Yakovlev leg.
5. South Ossetia, Dzaus Distr., Dvalet Range, near Kherusel't, 42°32'37" N / 43°47'32" E, 1760 m, 3–5.07.2021, A. Streltsov, P. Ustjuzhanin & R. Yakovlev leg.
6. South Ossetia, Dzaus Distr., Mtiulet Range, near Erman, 42°31'2" N / 44°14'10" E, 2140 m, 7–9.07.2021, P. Ustjuzhanin & R. Yakovlev leg.; 26–27.07.2022, V. Rudoi, P. Ustjuzhanin & R. Yakovlev leg.
7. South Ossetia, Znaur Distr., 2 km W Dzagina, 42°14'34" N / 43°43'11" E, 1100 m, 11–12.07.2021, P. Ustjuzhanin & R. Yakovlev leg.; 15–16.07.2022, P. Ustjuzhanin & R. Yakovlev leg.

8. South Ossetia, Dzaus Distr., Tli, 42°29'31" N / 43°51'22" E, 1860 m, 23–25.07.2022, V. Rudoi, P. Ustjuzhanin & R. Yakovlev leg. (Figs 2-3).

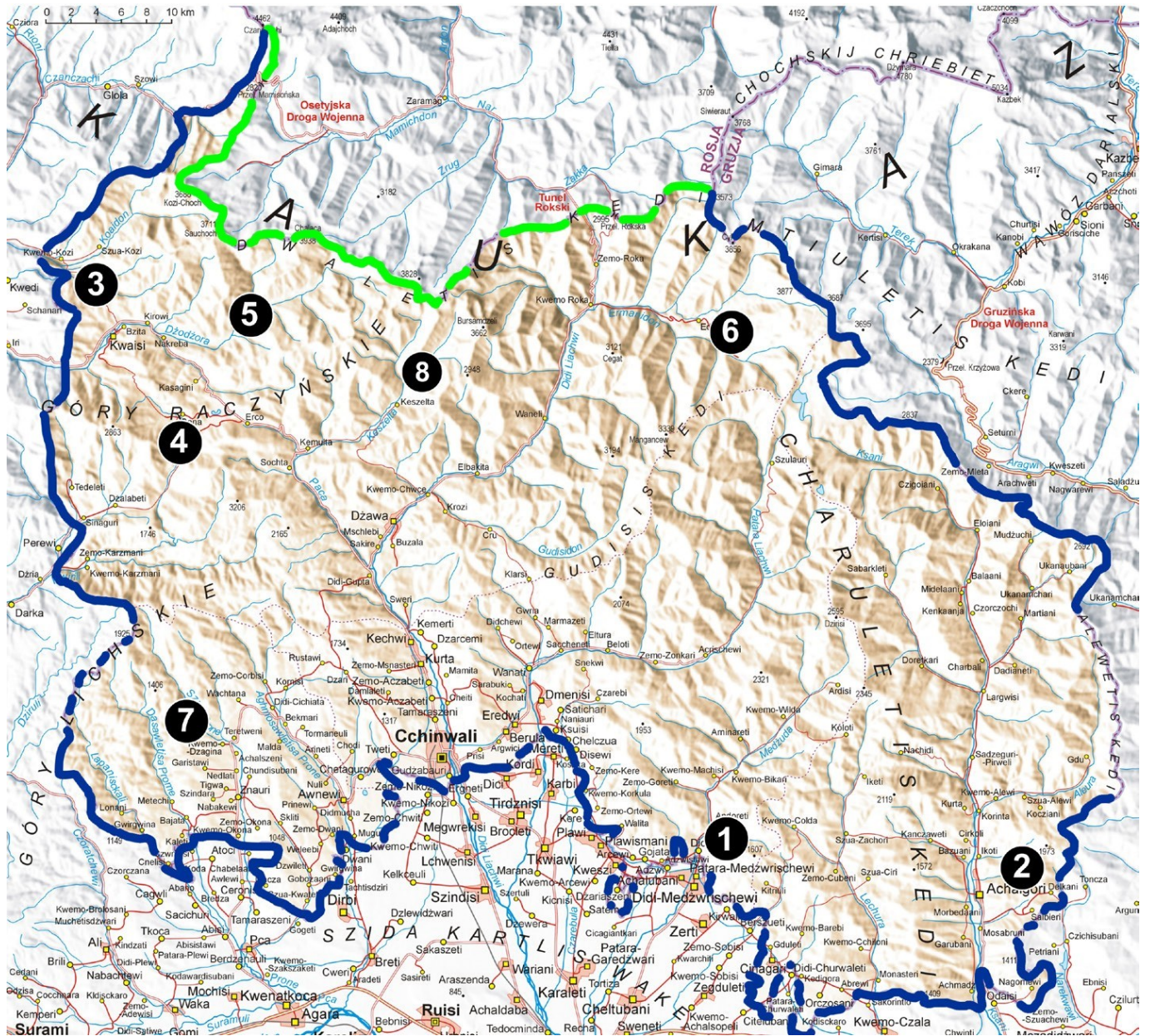


Figure 1. Map of South Ossetia with collecting localities.



Figure 2. South Ossetia, Dzaus Distr., Tli, $42^{\circ}29'31''$ N / $43^{\circ}51'22''$ E (photo by Roman Yakovlev).



Figure 3. South Ossetia, Dzaus Distr., Tli, 42°29'31" N / 43°51'22" E (photo by Roman Yakovlev).

Result

#	Taxa	Localities							
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	ADELIDAE								
1	<i>Nemophora deceptoriel</i> la Kozlov, Mutanen, Lee et Huemer, 2017 ¹	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-
	INCURVARIIDAE								
2	<i>Incurvaria oehlmannii</i> (Hübner, 1796)	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-
	PSYCHIDAE								
3	<i>Pseudoban</i>	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-

	<i>kesia caucasica</i> (I. Kozhats hikov, 1956) ²								
	TINEIDAE								
4	<i>Ateliotum hungaricell um</i> Zeller, 1839	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
5	<i>Eudarcia</i> sp. ³	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
6	<i>Scardia c au casica</i> Zagulajev, 1965 ⁴	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
7	<i>Morphaga</i> (Denis et S chiffermüll er, 1775)	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	<i>Morphago ides iranensis</i> (Petersen, 1960)	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-
9	<i>Nemapogo n glirella</i> (Heyden, 1865)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	<i>N. inconditella</i> (D. Lucas, 1956)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	<i>Niditinea striolella</i> (Matsumura , 1931)	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	<i>Monopis obviella</i> (Denis et S chiffermüll er, 1775)	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	<i>Euplocamu s anthracin alis</i> (Scopoli, 1763)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	ROESLER STAMMIID AE								
14	<i>Roeslersta mmia</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-

	(Denis et Schiffermüller, 1775)								
	GRACILLARIIDAE								
15	<i>Aspilapteryx tringipennella</i> (Zeller, 1839)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
16	<i>Parornix favigivora</i> (Frey, 1861)	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
17	<i>Dialectica scaliella</i> (Zeller, 1850)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-
	YPONOMEUTIDAE								
18	<i>Yponomeuta</i> (Hübner, 1813)	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-
19	<i>Paraswammerdamia ebulella</i> (Goeze, 1783)	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
	ARGYRESTHIIDAE								
20	<i>Argyresthia albistria</i> (Haworth, 1828)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	<i>A. bergiella</i> (Ratzeburg, 1840)	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-
22	<i>A.</i> (Hübner, 1813)	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-
23	<i>A. conjugella</i> Zeller, 1839	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	-
24	<i>A. goedartella</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+

25	<i>A. pruniella</i> (Clerck, 1759)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26	<i>A. spinosella</i> Stainton, 1849	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
	PLUTELLIDAE								
27	<i>Plutella xylostella</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+
28	<i>Eidophasia messingiella</i> (Fischer von Röslerstamm, 1840)	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
	YPSOLOPHIDAE								
29	<i>Ypsolopha alpella</i> (Denis et Schiffermüller, 1775)	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
30	<i>Y. dentella</i> (Fabricius, 1775)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31	<i>Y. parenthesella</i> (Linnaeus, 1761)	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
32	<i>Y. sequella</i> (Clerck, 1759)	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-
	ETHMIIDAE								
33	<i>Ethmia bipunctella</i> (Fabricius, 1775)	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	-
34	<i>E. haemorrhoidella</i> (Eversmann, 1844)	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-
35	<i>E. quadrillella</i>	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

	(Herrich-Schäffer, 1854)								
36	<i>E. pu siella</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
37	<i>E. t e r m i n e l l a</i> Fletcher, 1938	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
	DEPRESSARIIDAE								
38	<i>Agonopterix</i> (Treitschke, 1832)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
39	<i>A.</i> (Zeller, 1839)	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
40	<i>A. n i c e l l a</i> (Treitschke, 1832)	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-
41	<i>A. o c e l l a n a</i> (Fabricius, 1775)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
42	<i>A. p r o p i n q u e l l a</i> (Treitschke, 1835)	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
43	<i>Depressaria douglasella</i> Stainton, 1849	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
	ELACHISTIDAE								
44	<i>Elachista unifasciella</i> (Haworth, 1828)	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
45	<i>Elachista</i> sp. ⁵	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
	SCYTHRIDIDAE								
46	<i>Scythris apicalis</i> (Zeller,	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

	1847)								
	CRYPTOL ECHIIDAE								
47	<i>Orophia i m but ella</i> (Christoph, 1888) ⁶	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+
48	<i>O. s or dide lla</i> (Hübner, 1796)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
49	<i>Hypercallia ci trin alis</i> (Scopoli, 1763)	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
	OECOPHO RIDAE								
50	<i>Colchia</i> (Erschoff, 1877)	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
51	<i>C. z a gul ajevi</i> Lvovsky, 1995 ⁷	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
52	<i>Callimodes he ringii</i> (Lederer, 1864) ⁸	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
53	<i>Fabiola pokorny</i> (Nickerl, 1864)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
54	<i>Alabonia s taintoniella</i> (Zeller, 1850)	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
55	<i>Crassa uni tella</i> (Hübner, 1796)	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
56	<i>Denisia co eruleopicta</i> (Christoph, 1888) ⁹	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
57	<i>D. l u</i>	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-

	<i>tic iliella</i> (Erschoff, 1877)								
58	<i>Pleurota malatya</i> Back, 1973	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
59	<i>P. nite ns</i> Staudinger, 1870	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
60	<i>P. pla nella</i> (Staudinge r, 1859)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
61	<i>Holoscolia huebneri</i> Koçak, 1980	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
	LECITHO CERIDAE								
62	<i>Odites k oll arella</i> (O. Costa, 1832)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
	STATHMO PODIDAE								
63	<i>Stathmopo da ped ella</i> (Linnaeus, 1761)	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-
	COLEOPH ORIDAE								
64	<i>Haploptilia drymophila</i> Falkovitsh, 1991	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-
65	<i>Amseliphor a niveicost ella</i> (Zeller, 1839)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
66	<i>Coleophora be tulel la</i> Heinemann , 1876	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
67	<i>Orthograph is conyzae</i> (Zeller, 1868)	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
68	<i>Phagolamia auricella</i>	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-

	(Fabricius, 1794)								
69	<i>Ph. serpyll etorum</i> (E. Hering, 1889)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
70	<i>Damophila alcyonipennella</i> (Kollar, 1832)	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
71	<i>D. deauratella</i> (Lienig et Zeller, 1846)	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-
72	<i>D. paramaryrella</i> (Nel, 1993) ¹⁰	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
73	<i>Eupistaca casica</i> (Stainton, 1867)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
74	<i>Eu. lan dryi</i> (Baldizzone, 2016) ¹¹	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-
75	<i>Eu. pr. lixella</i> (Zeller, 1849) ¹²	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
76	<i>Eu. ornati pennella</i> (Hübner, 1796)	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
77	<i>Eu. samarensis</i> Anikin, 2001	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
78	<i>Multicoloria partitella</i> (Zeller, 1849)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+
79	<i>M. vibiella</i> (Hübner, 1813)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-
80	<i>Klimeschja oriolella</i> (Zeller, 1849)	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
81	<i>Ardania bilineatella</i> (Zeller, 1849)	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
82	<i>A. colutella</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-

	(Fabricius, 1794)								
83	<i>A. congeriella</i> (Staudinger, 1859) ¹³	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
84	<i>Razowskia coronillae</i> (Zeller, 1849)	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-
85	<i>Casignetella argentula</i> (Stephens, 1834)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
86	<i>C.</i> (Vallot, 1802)	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
87	<i>C.</i> (Mühlig et Frey, 1857)	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
88	<i>C. pseudorepentis</i> (Toll, 1960)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
	MOMPHIDAE								
89	<i>Mompha conturbatella</i> (Hübner, 1819)	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-
	BLASTOBASIDAE								
90	<i>Blastobasis ponticella</i> Sinev, 2007	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
	AUTOSTICHIDAE								
91	<i>Oegoconia quadripuncta</i> (Haworth, 1828)	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
	LYPUSIDAE								
92	<i>Agnoea flava</i>	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-

	(Denis et Schiffermüller, 1775)								
93	<i>Agnoea subocchrellata</i> (Doubleday, 1859)	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-
94	<i>Agnoea</i> sp.n. ¹⁴	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
	COSMOPTERIGIDAE								
95	<i>Pyroderces argyrogammus</i> (Zeller, 1847)	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
96	<i>Eteobalea anonymella</i> (Riedl, 1965)	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	-
	GELECHIIDAE								
97	<i>Metzneria aestivella</i> (Zeller, 1839)	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
98	<i>M. intestinella</i> (Mann, 1864)	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
99	<i>M. metzneriella</i> (Stainton, 1851)	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+
100	<i>Isophrictis anthemidella</i> (Wocke, 1871)	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+
101	<i>Apodia</i> (Duponchel, 1843)	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
102	<i>Monochroa parvulata</i> (Gozmány, 1957)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
103	<i>Eulamprotes</i> (Heinemann, 1870)	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-

104	<i>Metanarsia modesta</i> Staudinger, 1871	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
105	<i>Megacraspedus pellus</i> Herrich-Schäffer, 1860	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
106	<i>Xystophora pulveratella</i> (Herrich-Schäffer, 1854)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-
107	<i>Bryotropha boreella</i> (Douglas, 1851)	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
108	<i>B. senectella</i> (Zeller, 1839)	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
109	<i>B. similis</i> (Stainton, 1854)	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
110	<i>Gelechia nigra</i> (Haworth, 1828)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
111	<i>G. scotinella</i> Herrich-Schäffer, 1854	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-
112	<i>Mirificarmata cytisella</i> (Treitschke, 1833)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
113	<i>M. eburnella</i> (Denis et Schiffermüller, 1775)	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
114	<i>Chionodes</i> (Zeller, 1839)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-

115	<i>Recurvaria leucatella</i> (Clerck, 1759)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
116	<i>Scrobipalpa acuminatella</i> (Sircom, 1850)	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
117	<i>Parachronistis albiceps</i> (Zeller, 1839)	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
118	<i>Teleiodes vulgella</i> (Denis et Schiffermüller, 1775)	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
119	<i>Carpatolechia notatella</i> (Hübner, 1813)	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
120	<i>C.</i> (Hübner, 1796)	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-
121	<i>Teleiopsis diffinis</i> (Haworth, 1828)	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
122	<i>Altenia scriptella</i> (Hübner, 1796)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
123	<i>Sophronia illustrella</i> (Hübner, 1796)	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
124	<i>S.</i> (Zeller, 1839)	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
125	<i>Aproaerema anthylidella</i> (Hübner, 1813)	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
126	<i>Syncopacma cinctella</i> (Clerck, 1759)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-
127	<i>S.</i>	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-

	<i>coronillella</i> (Treitschke , 1833)								
128	<i>S. sangiella</i> (Stainton, 1863)	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-
129	<i>S.</i> (Zeller, 1839)	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	-
130	<i>S. vinella</i> (Banks, 1898)	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-
131	<i>Prolita solutella</i> (Zeller, 1839)	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-
132	<i>Mesophleps silacella</i> (Hübner, 1796)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
133	<i>Brachmia bl and ella</i> (Fabricius, 1798)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
134	<i>B. dimidiella</i> (Denis et Schiffermüller, 1775)	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	-
135	<i>Helcystogramma rufescens</i> (Haworth, 1828)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
136	<i>Acompsia cinerella</i> (Clerck, 1759)	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-
137	<i>Dichomeris derasella</i> (Denis et Schiffermüller, 1775)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
138	<i>D. polypunctata</i> Park, 1994	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
139	<i>Ananarsia lineatella</i> (Zeller, 1839)	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
140	<i>Anarsia</i>	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-

	<i>s pa rtiell a</i> (Schrank, 1802)								
	EPERMEN IIDAE								
141	<i>Epermenia</i> (Stainton, 1849)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
142	<i>Ochromolo pis z a gul ajevi</i> Budashkin et Sachkov, 1991	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	CHOREUT IDAE								
143	<i>Anthophila</i> sp. ¹⁵	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 1. Distribution of *Microlepidoptera* in South Ossetia

Faunistic and systematic notes

1. *Nemophora deceptoriella* Kozlov, Mutanen, Lee et Huemer, 2017 Endemic to the Caucasus. A recently described species previously classified as widespread *Nemophora degeerella* (Linnaeus, 1758).

2. *Pseudobankesia caucasica* (I.Kozhatshikov, 1956) Endemic to the Caucasus. The species was described from two males without an abdomen from the vicinity of Borjomi (Georgia). The material was determined taking into account the external similarity of moths and the small (only 80 km) distance of the collection point from the type locality.

3. *Eudarcia* sp. The only specimen of poor condition. To determine the species, additional material must be studied.

4. *Scardia caucasica* Zagulajev, 1965 Endemic to the Caucasus. Some authors consider it as a synonym of widespread *Scardia boletella* (Fabricius, 1794).

5. *Elachista* sp. The only specimen of poor condition. To determine the species, additional material must be studied.

6. *Orophia imbutella* (Christoph, 1888) Subendemic to the Caucasus. Previously known only from Eastern Georgia (Borjomi), northern Turkey and Israel (Lvovsky, 2006).

7. *Colchia zagulajevi* Lvovsky, 1995 Endemic to the Caucasus. Previously known only from Western Georgia (Adzharia) (Lvovsky, 2006).

8. *Callimodes heringii* (Lederer, 1864) Endemic to the Caucasus. Previously known only from Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan and the Krasnodar Region of Russia (Lvovsky, 2006).

9. *Denisia coeruleopicta* (Christoph, 1888) Endemic to the Caucasus. Previously known from Georgia, Armenia and the Krasnodar region of Russia (Lvovsky, 2006).

10. *Damophila paramayrella* (Nel, 1993) Previously known from Armenia, South Europe (Baldizzone 2016) and Crimea (Anikin 2019).

11. *Eupista landryi* (Baldizzone, 2016) Subendemic to the Caucasus. Previously known only from Armenia and Turkey (Baldizzone 2016).

12. *Eupista* pr. *lixella* (Zeller, 1849) The external morphology and genitalia of both male and female are similar with the species of *lixella* complex (Baldizzone et Nel 2014). The safe identification requires the DNA barcoding.

13. *Ardania congeriella* (Staudinger, 1859) New species for Caucasus, previously known from South and Central Europe (Baldizzone 2016) and Crimea (Anikin 2019).

14. *Agnoea* sp.n. Probably an undescribed species, one of the smallest in the genus *Agnoea* Walsingham, 1907 recently revised on the Palaearctic scale (Sinev et Lvovsky 2014).

15. *Anthophila* sp. The only female, possibly conspecific with *Anthophila colchica* or *A. decolorana*, described from Western Transcaucasia (Abkhazia) from males (Danilevsky, 1969).

Conclusions

Since Microlepidoptera have not previously been studied on the territory of South Ossetia, all 143 species listed above are new to the republic. Data on this group on the scale of Transcaucasia still remain rather fragmentary, so the potential volume of regional fauna is difficult to estimate; apparently, only 10–15 percent of its composition is known to date. Representatives of some families (Micropterigidae, Eriocraniidae, Nepticulidae, Tischeriidae, Opostegidae, Prodoxidae, Bucculatricidae, Heliozelidae, Acrolepiidae, Glyphipterigidae, Praydidae, Lyonetiidae, Bedelliidae, Douglasiidae, Parametriotidae, Carcinidae, Batrachedridae, Chrysopeleiidae, Schreckensteiniidae, Urodidae, Carposinidae) have not yet been recorded here, but will undoubtedly be found later. For comparison, the relatively well-studied fauna of the northern macroslope of the Greater Caucasus Range already numbers about one and a half thousand species of Microlepidoptera (Sinev 2019). Thus, to reveal the regional fauna of this group as completely as possible, additional field collections are required in different biotopes and throughout the entire growing season.

Acknowledgements

The authors express their gratitude to R. Bakhanov (Gorno-Altai), A. Dzhussoev†, V. Tedeev, and V. Gabaev (all Tskhinvali) for organizing the field studies in Southern Ossetia. Research of Sergey Sinev was performed in the frames of the State research project no. 122031100272-3 “Systematics, morphology, ecophysiology and evolution of insects”.

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