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**The Occurrence of
Micropterix Mansuetella Zeller,
1844 (Lepidoptera,
Micropterigidae) in Romania**

(Abstract)

Micropterix mansuetella Zeller is reported from Romania for the first time. Description of the adult and the male genitalia, distributional and biological data are given. With 3 figures.

Key words: *Micropterix mansuetella*, Romania, faunistics.

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Material examined

7 males (M), 2 females (F): Carpații Orientali [Eastern Carpathians], Munții [Mountains] Harghita, Cekend, 800 m, 19. 05. 1999. (M), 20. 05. 1999. (6 M, 1 F), (genitalia preparation no. 898/M/KOVÁCS); Carpații Orientali, Munții Perșani, Cheile Vârghișului, 700 m, 23. 05. 1999. (F), legit & coll. Sándor KOVÁCS & Zoltán KOVÁCS.

Description

Wing expanse 7–8 mm. Head, thorax and abdomen black. Antenna black, slightly longer than half of the forewing. Forewing (Fig. 1) long and narrow, ground colour greenish-purple. Drawing shiny golden-green, formed by two, posteriorly fused fasciae in the basal half of the wing. Apical half of the wing without drawing. Fringes fuscous purple. Hindwing narrow, fuscous purple. On the male genitalia (Fig. 2) the dorsal process of the 9th segment elongate; the lateral

processes wide with a row of long, stout setae. Valvae long. Cucullus large with long setae on the inner surface; with short, thorn-shaped setae on the dorsal margin; and with a spur on the ventral margin. Distal part of the aedeagus forked.

Discussion

Micropterix mansuetella Z. is relatively difficult to differentiate from *Micropterix calthella* L. and the female *Micropterix aruncella* Sc., but its black head and shiny golden-green drawing on the basal half of the wing formed by only two fasciae makes the diagnostic possible. The spur on the ventral margin of the cucullus is the main characteristic of the male genitalia.

Biology

Adults were found in middle of May on daytime in sunshine flying between the grasses in wet, mossy grassland at 700–800 m above the sea level.

Distribution

This north-western palaearctic species was hitherto known in Europe only from the northern, western and central part of the continent (HEATH, 1996). This first Romanian observation in the Eastern Carpathians (Fig. 3) represents the southern limit of its actually known distribution in Europe.

Remarks

Micropterix mansuetella Z. was not included in the list of the Romanian microlepidoptera (POPESCU-GORJ, 1984). Its first report from Romania by CĂPUŞE & KOVÁCS (1987) is based on a misidentification, in reality the specimen in the Diószeghy-collection is a male *Micropterix aruncella* Sc. In the revision of the Micropterigidae of Romania (KOVÁCS & KOVÁCS, in press) *Micropterix mansuetella* Z. is treated as an expected species.



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Semnalarea speciei *Micropterix Mansuetella* Zeller, 1844 (Lepidoptera, Micropterigidae) din România

(Rezumat)

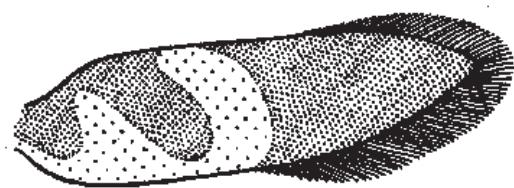
Micropterix mansuetella Zeller este semnalată pentru prima dată din România din Munții Harghita și Munții Perșani (Fig. 3). Capul, toracele și abdomenul sunt negri. Antenele sunt mai lungi decât jumătatea aripilor anterioare. Anvergura aripilor este de 7–8 mm. Fondul aripilor anterioare este purpurie-verzuie. Desenul este format din două benzi transversale verde-aurii, confluente posterior, situate în jumătatea bazală a aripilor. Jumătatea apicală a aripii nu are desen (Fig. 1). Aripile posterioare sunt cenușii cu vârfuri purpuriu. Pintenul situat pe marginea ventrală a cucullusului reprezintă caracterul cel mai important al armăturii genitale masculine (Fig. 2). Adulții zboară ziua în plină soare, deasupra solului în pajiști umede cu o vegetație abundantă de mușchi. Specia este răspândită în țările central-, nord- și vest-europene (HEATH, 1996), Carpații Orientali aflându-se la extremitatea sudică a răspândirii sale. Nu figurează în lista speciilor de microlepidoptere din România (POPESCU-GORJ, 1984). Semnalarea ei de către CĂPUŞE & KOVÁCS (1987) se bazează pe o greșală de

determinare, exemplarul în cauză fiind un mascul de *Micropterix aruncella* Sc. În revizia familiei Micropterigidae din România (KOVÁCS & KOVÁCS, sub tipar) *Micropterix mansuetella* Z. este tratată între speciile probabile pentru fauna României.

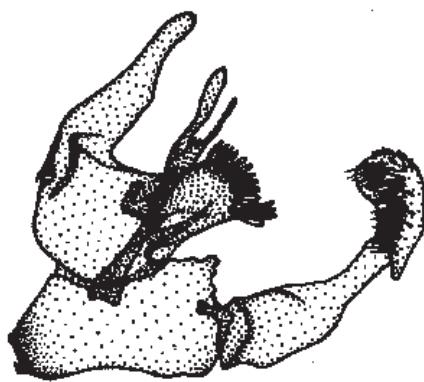
A *Micropterix Mansuetella* Zeller, 1844 (Lepidoptera, Micropterigidae) előfordulása Romániában (Kivonat)

A szerzők a *Micropterix mansuetella* Zeller faj előfordulását jelzik a Keleti Kárpátokból, a Hargita- és Persányi hegységből. Az külső bélyegek és a hím genitalia bemutatása mellett a faj életmódjára és elterjedésére vonatkozó adatokat is közölnek. A faj nem szerepelt a romániai, POPESCU-GORJ (1984) féle fajlistán. CĂPUŞE & KOVÁCS (1987) jelzi, de téves meghatározás alapján. A Micropterigidae család nyomtatás alatt álló revíziójában (KOVÁCS & KOVÁCS) Romániában valószínűsítető előfordulású fajként szerepel.





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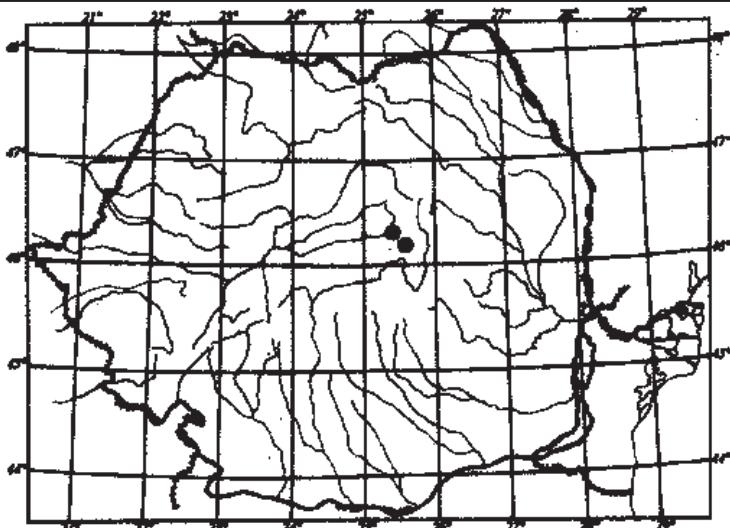


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Fig. 1-2 *Micropterix mansuetella* Z. – 1, fore wing pattern; 2, male genitalia in lateral view (genit. prep. no. 898/KOVACS)

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Fig. 3: The distributional map of *Micropterix mansuetella* Z. in Romania.

