

FIRST RECORD OF *CLANIS HYPERION BHUTANA* BRECHLIN, 2014 (LEPIDOPTERA: SPHINGIDAE) FROM NAGALAND, INDIA

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ABSTRACT

The present note extends the known distribution of *Clanis hyperion bhutana* Brechlin, 2014 from Bhutan to Nagaland, India.

KEYWORDS

Sphingidae, new record, Dimapur, Nagaland

INTRODUCTION

Clanis hyperion closely resembles *Clanis titan* Rothschild & Jordan 1903, but the two species can be distinguished by the different extents of the pale apical area on the upperside of forewing. *C. hyperion* and *C. titan* are also similar to some specimens of *Clanis undulosa* Moore, 1879 but this species is easily distinguished from both by the presence of a conspicuous black streak on the underside of the forewing near the base; this streak is not present in both *C. hyperion* and *C. titan* (Irungbam & Kitching, 2014).

There is a single male in the collection of the Natural History Museum, London, UK,

from “Xuebanshan, Nanping side” (correctly “Xuebangshan, Lanping side”), Yunnan, China (Irungbam & Kitching, 2014). Cadiou & Kitching (1990) recorded this species from northwestern Thailand and Khasi Hills (Meghalaya). Recently, specimens of *C. hyperion* have been captured in Laos and southern Myanmar (Burma) (Eitschberger, 2004). More recently, Irungbam and Kitching (2014) recorded this species from southern Bhutan. Subsequently, Brechlin (2014) described the population of *Clanis hyperion* in Bhutan as *Clanis hyperion bhutana*.

RESULT

The moth was opportunistically recorded at night (20: 46 hrs) on 22.x. 2022 at Dimapur city of Nagaland (25.54°14.764' N; 93.41°20.864' E) at an altitude of 176m ASL. The individual was sighted in a dry basement besides agroforestry land, where the specimen was sitting near a table lamp.

The specimen was only photographed, not collected and later identified as *Clanis hyperion bhutana* based on the

descriptions provided in literature (Cadiou & Kitching, 1990; Irungbam & Kitching, 2014; Brechlin, 2014). The present report confirms the presence of this species in Nagaland. At present, *Clanis hyperion* *bhutana* is only known from Bhutan and north east India (Meghalaya and Nagaland) and the nominotypical subspecies *Clanis hyperion hyperion* is distributed in southern Myanmar, China (Tibet, Yunnan), Thailand and Laos.

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LEGENDS TO FIGURES

Figure 1-2: *Clanis hyperion* Cadiou & Kitching, 1990 in Dimapur, Nagaland.



Figure 1



Figure 2