

New blue butterfly taxa from Central Asia (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae) – Communication 4*

V. V. Tshikolovets

Abstract. *Turanana mizildigara* sp. n. is described from Tajikistan, Gorno-Badakhshan province, kishlak (village) Verkhniy Namatgut, Ishkashim mountain range southern slope, river Sangdzhegar near mazar Mizildigar and upwards of town Ishkashim, Niyyut, 3500–3700 m.

Samenvatting. Nieuwe blauwtjessoorten uit Centraal-Azië (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae) – Mededeling 4
Turanana mizildigara sp. n. wordt beschreven uit Tadzjikistan, provincie Gorno-Badakhshan, Verkhniy Namatgut, zuidelijke hellingen van het Ishkashim gebergte, rivier Sangdzjegar nabij Mizildigar en stroomopwaarts tot de stad Ishkashim, Niyyut, 3500–3700 m.

Résumé. Espèces nouvelles de lycènes d'Asie centrale (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae) – Communication 4
Turanana mizildigara sp. n. est décrit du Tadjikistan, province de Gorno-Badakhshan, village Verkhniy Namatgut, versant sud des monts Ishkashim, rivière Sangdzhegar près de Mizildigar et en amont jusqu'à la ville d'Ishkashim, Niyyut, 3500–3700 m.

Резюме. Новые таксоны голубянок из Центральной Азии (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae) – Сообщение 4

Turanana mizildigara sp. n. описывается из Таджикистана, провинция Горный Бадахшан, кишлак Верхний Наматгут, южные склоны Ишкашимского хребта, долина р. Санджегар, в районе мазара Мизильдигар и выше кишлака Нют возле пос. Ишкашим, 3500–3700 м.

Key words: Lycaenidae – Polyommagini – *Turanana mizildigara* sp. n. – Badakhshan – Tajikistan.

Tshikolovets, V. V.: Zoological Museum, Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, UA-252601 Kiev MSP, B. Khmel'nitsky Str. 15, Ukraine.

Turanana mizildigara sp. n.

Type material

Holotype ♂ (Pl. I, II: fig. 3) “Tadjikistan Gorno-Badakhshanskaya AO [avtonomnaya oblast’], Ishkashimskiy Mts., kishlak Verkhniy Namatgut, river Sangdzhegar, mazar Mizildigar 3600 m, 18.VII.1991, leg. Tshikolovets”. Paratypes (Pl. I, II: fig. 4–6), 45 ♂, 7 ♀ with label data as for holotype; 5 ♂, ♀ “Tadjikistan Gorno-Badakhshanskaya AO, Ishkashimskiy Mts., upwards of the town Ishkashim, Niyyut, 3500 m, 24.VII.1991, leg. Tshikolovets”. Holotype and a part of paratypes are deposited in the collection of the Zoological Museum, Ukrainian Academy of Sciences (Kiev), a part of paratypes is forwarded to The Natural History Museum (London) and Entomologisches Museum Dr. U. Eitschberger (Marktleuthen, Germany).

Description

Male. Holotype forewing length 10.5 mm. Upperside greyish-brown-black. Forewing with black discal ocelli. Fringes greyish-brown with white patch at the forewing apex. Underside grey-brown with “standard” for the genus *Turanana* number and arrangement of the ocelli. Basal, discal and postdiscal black ocelli broadly ringed white. Marginal ocelli grey-brown, one black marginal ocellus near anal angle. Border zone and part marginal zone pale grey. Basal zone with faint blue-green-silver scales.

* Communication 1: *J. Ukr. ent. Soc.* 1993(1994) 1(2): 9–12, fig. 1 (a–e); Communication 2: *J. Ukr. ent. Soc.* 1993(1995) 1(3/4): 39–42, fig. 1–2 (a–f); Communication 3: *J. Ukr. ent. Soc.* 1994(1996) 2(3/4): 41–46, figs. 1–4.

Plate 1

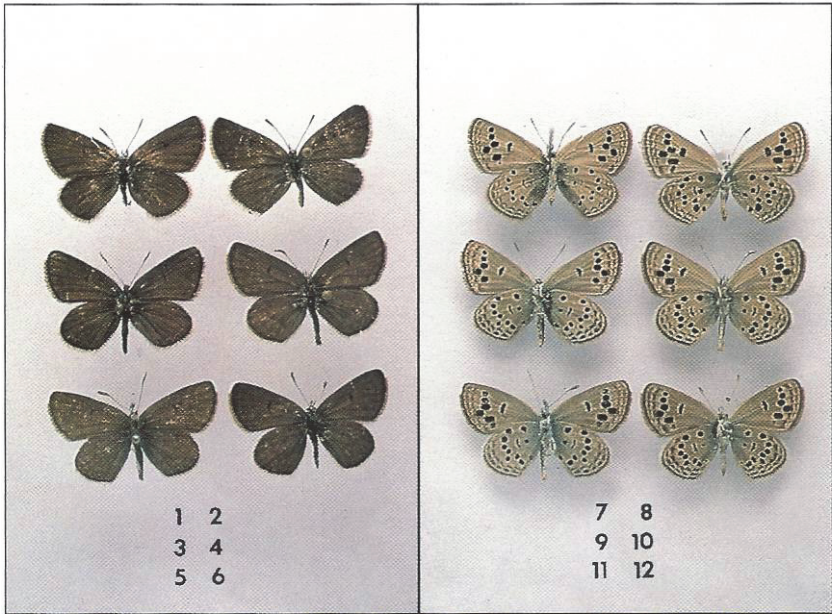
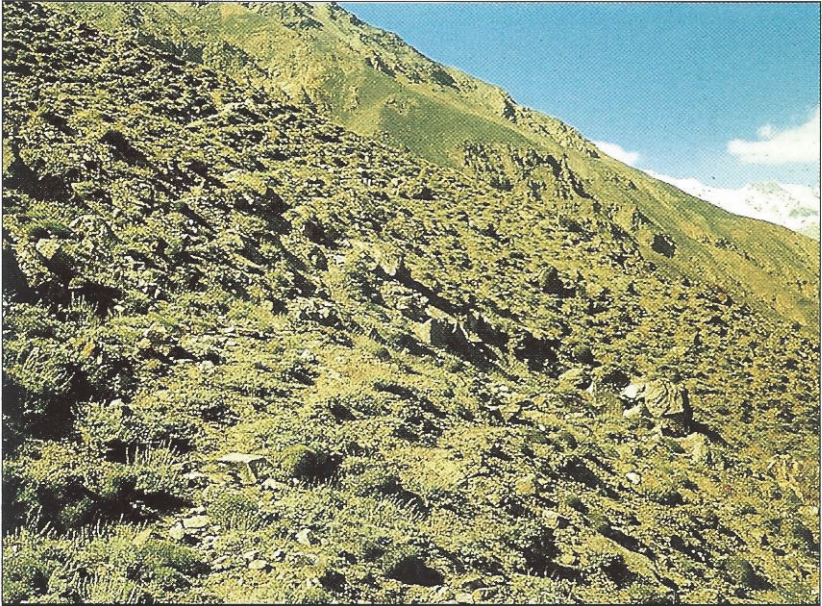


Plate 2



14



15

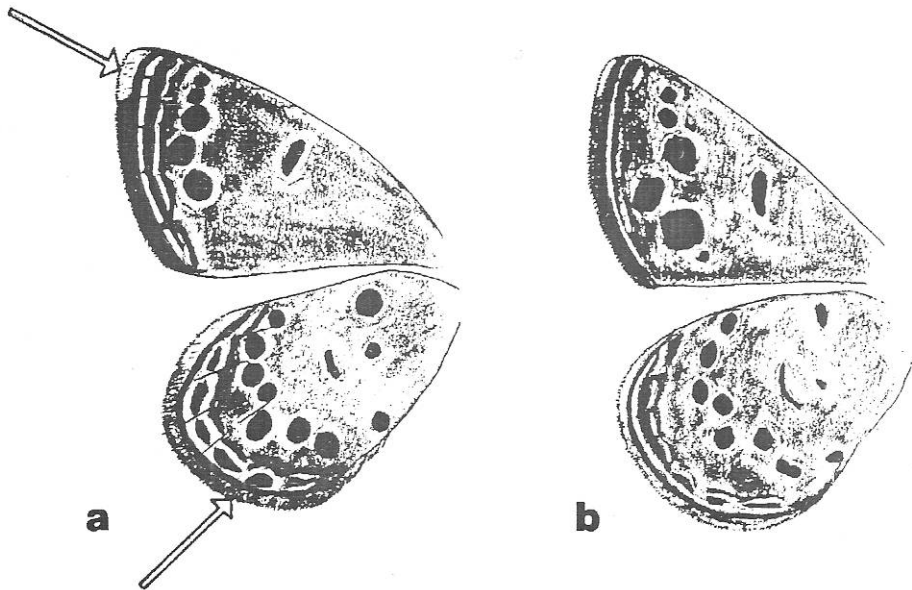


Fig. 16. a – *Turanana mizildigara* sp. n. ♂, (Paratype, Tajikistan, Gorno-Badakhshanskaya AO, Ishkashimskiy Mts, Upper Ishkashim, Niyt, 3500 m, 26. VII. 1991, leg. Tshikolovets) b – *Turanana anisophthalma* (Kollar, 1849) ♂, (Turkmenistan, Kopet-Dagh Mts, Mt. Dushak, 1700 m, 4.VII.1991, leg. V. Tuzov) (del. V. Tshikolovets).

Male genitalia not significantly different from those of other species of the *Turanana anisophthalma* (Kollar, 1849) group (fig. 8) (original spelling cannot be corrected to *anisophthalma* as "incorrect transliteration" – see Art. 32 (ii) of International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, 3rd ed.).

Female. Paratype wing pattern and ground colour as in male.

Individual variation

Forewing length 8–11.5 mm. Underside colour from pale greyish-brown to greyish-brown.

Legend of colour plates:

Plate 1

- Fig. 1: *Turanana anisophthalma* (Kollar, 1849), ♂ Turkmenistan, Kopet-Dagh Mts., Mt. Dushak, 1900 m, 28.VII.1992, leg. A. Zykov.
 Fig. 2: *Turanana anisophthalma* (Kollar, 1849), ♀ Turkmenistan, Kopet-Dagh Mts., Mt. Dushak, 1700 m, 4.VII.1991, leg. V. Tuzov.
 Fig. 3: *Turanana mizildigara* sp. n., Holotypus, ♂ Tajikistan, Gorno-Badakhshanskaya AO, Ishkashimskiy Mts., kishlak Verkhniy Namatgut, river Sangdzhegar, mazar Mizildigar, 3600 m, 18.VII.1991, leg. V. Tshikolovets.
 Figs. 4–6: *Turanana mizildigara* sp. n., Paratypes (♀♀ fig. 4–5; ♂ fig. 6) Tajikistan, Gorno-Badakhshanskaya AO, Ishkashimskiy Mts., kishlak Verkhniy Namatgut, river Sangdzhegar, mazar Mizildigar, 3600 m, 18.VII.1991, leg. V. Tshikolovets.
 Figs. 7–12: same as figs. 1–6, undersides.
 Fig. 13: Habitat (type locality) of *Turanana mizildigara* sp. n.: Tajikistan, Gorno-Badakhshanskaya AO, Ishkashimskiy Mts, Verkhny Namatgut, near mazar Mizildigar, 3500–3700 m, 18–19.VII.1991.

Plate 2

- Figs. 14–15: Habitat (type locality) of *Turanana mizildigara* sp. n.: Tajikistan, Gorno-Badakhshanskaya AO, Ishkashimskiy Mts, Verkhny Namatgut, near mazar Mizildigar, 3500–3700 m, 18–19.VII.1991.
 (Figs. 1–12 – photo F. Slamka; Figs. 13–15 photographs V. Tshikolovets).

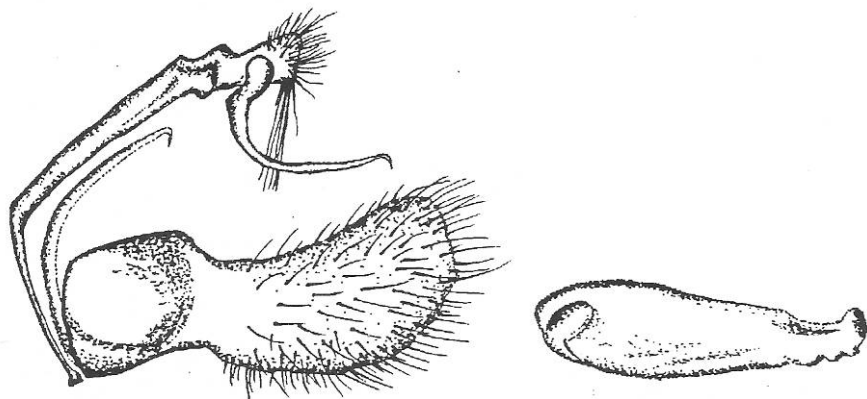


Fig. 17. *Turanana mizildigara* sp. n. male genitalia (del. V. Tshikolovets).

Habitat and ecology

The main habitat at the type-locality of *Turanana mizildigara* sp. n. is situated over the arid rocky slopes of southern exposition at an altitude of 3500–3700 m. Village Verkhny Namatgut is situated in a dry rocky semidesert with common *Acantholimon pamiricum* and *Artemisia lehmaniana*, *A. vachanica* (fig. 9–12). I have observed a female laying the eggs on *Acantholimon pamiricum*. *Turanana mizildigara* sp. n. roosts during the night on *Artemisia lehmaniana* together with other Lycaenids: *Turanana kotzschiorum*, *T. cytis*, *Polyommatus devanica*, *P. neotiris*. In this locality fly also: *Colias alpherakii*, *Karanasa alpherakyi*, *Hyponephele capella*, *H. tenuistigma*. The new species was found also in a clayey semidesert with poor vegetation at an altitude of 3500 m together with *Pieris brassicae*, *Pseudochazara droshica*, *Hyponephele davendra*, *Satyrrium hyrcanica*, *Muschampia staudingeri* over the town Ishkashim. Flies in July–August.

Diagnostic characters

The described species belongs to the representatives of the *Turanana anisophtalma* group (*T. anisophtalma* (Kollar, 1849) (Pl. I, II: fig. 1–2) and *T. kugitangi* Zhdanko, 1984). It is characteristic with somewhat greyish underside wing colour; bright marginal ocelli and black anal angle ocellus. In other species of this is group fringe is greyish-brown without white patch at the apex (fig. 8).

Distribution

Turanana mizildigara sp. n. is only known from the type-locality. It may occur also in Afghanistan, Sebak-Tal, Nuksan-Pass as "*Glaucopsyche anisophtalma* Koll." (Forster 1937: 59).

Etymology

The name *mizildigara* refers to the mazar (Moslem sacred place or a cemetery) Mizildigar in south-western part of Ishkashimskiy Mts.

Reference

Forster, W., 1937. Liste der von H. und E. Kotzsch im Hindukusch erbeutete Lycaeniden. — *Mitt. münch.ent Ges.* 27(2): 57–64, Taf. 4, 5.