

# *Turanana laspura* Evans separated from *T. cytis* (Christoph) as a distinct species (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae)

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**Samenvatting.** *Turanana laspura* Evans afgescheiden van *T. cytis* (Christoph) op soortniveau (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae)

Op basis van verschillen in de mannelijke genitalia wordt *Turanana laspura* Evans op soortniveau afgescheiden van *T. cytis* (Christoph).

**Résumé.** *Turanana laspura* Evans distinct spécifiquement de *T. cytis* (Christoph) (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae)

Sur base de différences entre leurs genitalia mâles, *Turanana laspura* Evans et *T. cytis* (Christoph) sont considérés comme deux espèces distinctes.

**Key words:** *Turanana laspura* stat. n. – *Turanana cytis* – taxonomy – distinct species – male genitalia.

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The nominal species group taxon *laspura* was established by Evans (1932) as a subspecies of *Turanana cytis* (Christoph, 1877) solely on the basis of external characters (wing pattern) which were deemed to be close enough to *cytis* to warrant conspecificity with it, but at the same time sufficiently differentiated from it to suggest distinctness at subspecific level. A comparative study of the male genitalia of nominotypical *cytis* (a sample from Elburz Mts., close to the type locality "Schahkuh" — Christoph 1877: 234, Tab. 5, Fig. 5) and of *laspura* from Chitral (topotypic population — Evans 1932: 227) suggests distinct species status, while *T. cytis kurdistanica* Eckweiler (1984: 66–69, Abb. 2, 3; type locality: "Turkei, Hakkari, Cilo-Dağları, Supadurek") is still acceptable as a subspecies of the former (fig. 2).

## *Turanana laspura* (Evans, 1932), stat. n.

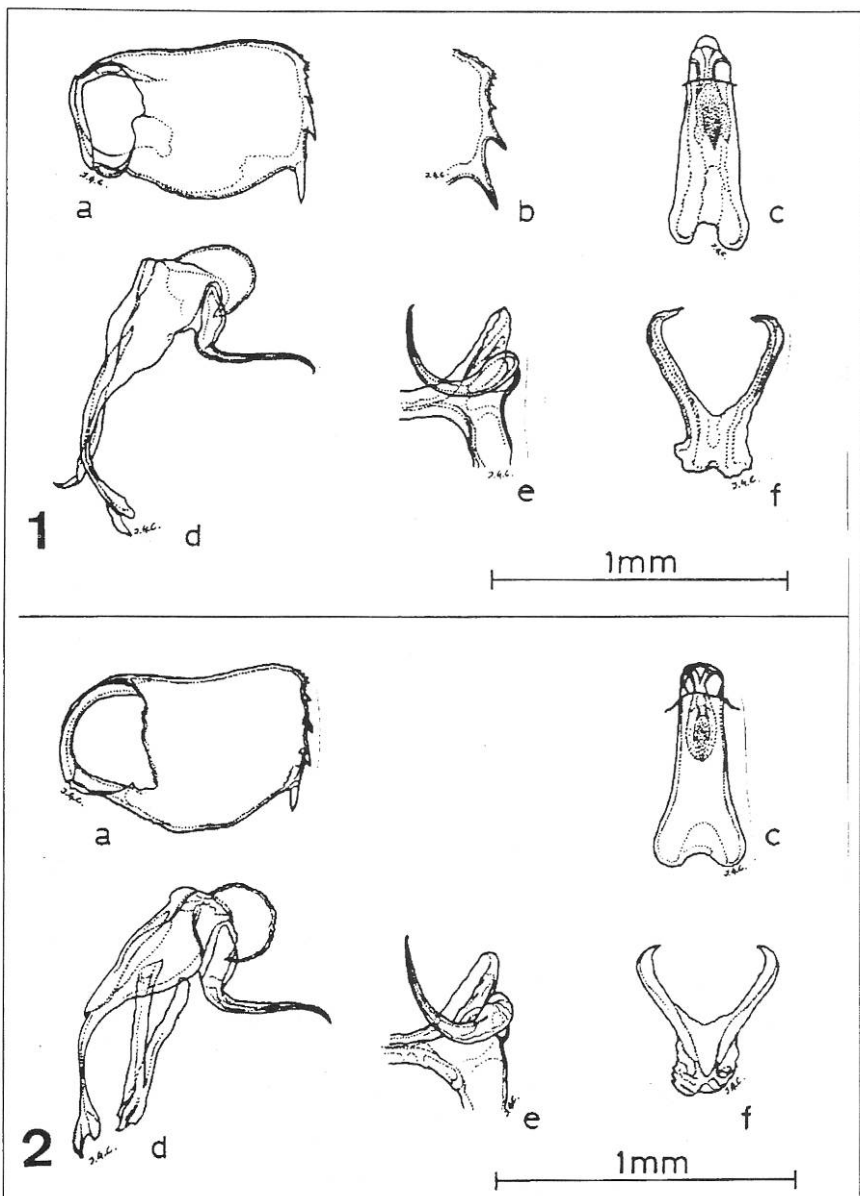
*Polyommatus cytis laspura* Evans, 1932: 227

- 1(2). The valva (fig. 1a, 2a) is relatively wide, with straight distal margin which bears four evenly spaced, well developed spikes, that extend over 4/5 the length of the distal margin, their size being gradually augmented from dorsum to ventrum; a cluster of very small spikes is also present at the apex ..... *cytis* (Christoph)
- 2(1). The valva (fig. 3a, 4a, 5a) relatively narrow, with rounded distal margin, apex bears two closely situated spikes, of which one placed ventrally is the longest; a third spike, barely visible, may also be present dorsally to the other two ..... *laspura* Evans

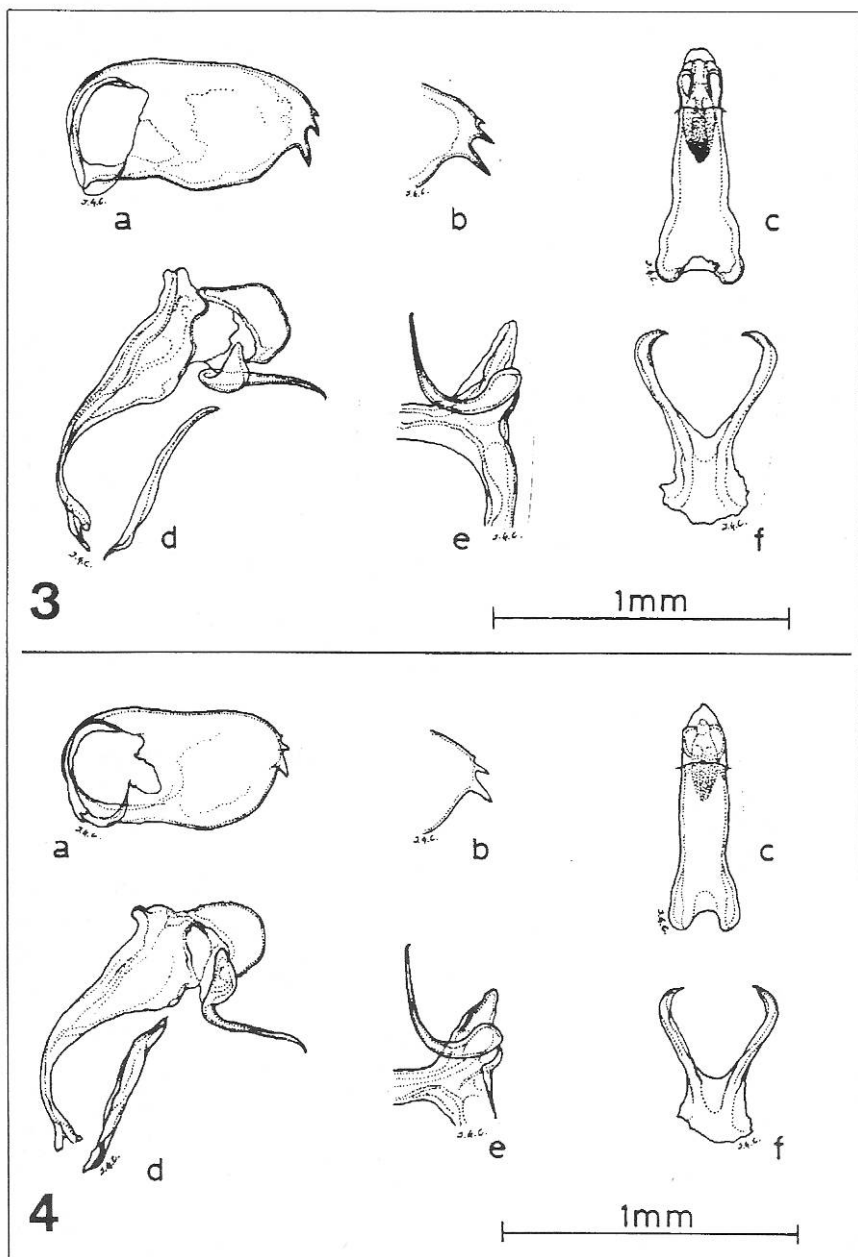
The male genitalia of *laspura* were figured by Mattoni (1979: 263, fig. 25) and Zhdanko (1984: 100, fig. 3) under the name of *cytis* and by Sakai (1981: 229–230, fig. 165) as *cytis laspura*; in all cases the figures fairly agree with our finds.

The pronounced valval differences shown above form a basis to consider the two taxa as separate species.

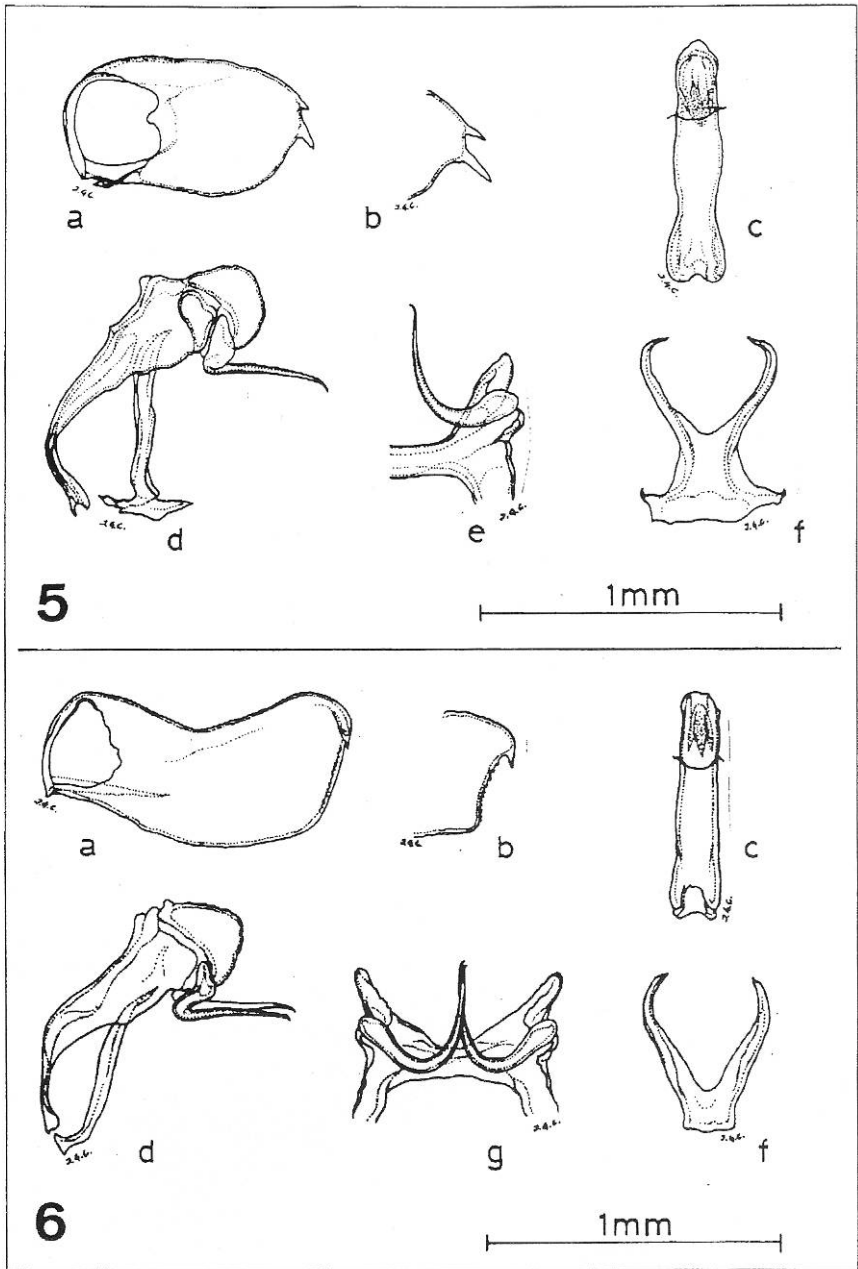
*T. cytis cytis* is confined to the Central Elburz Mts. (Iran) and *T. cytis kurdistanica* to the province of Hakkari and the southeast of the province of Van (Turkey). *T. laspura* is known from Afghanistan, Kirghizstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Pakistan.



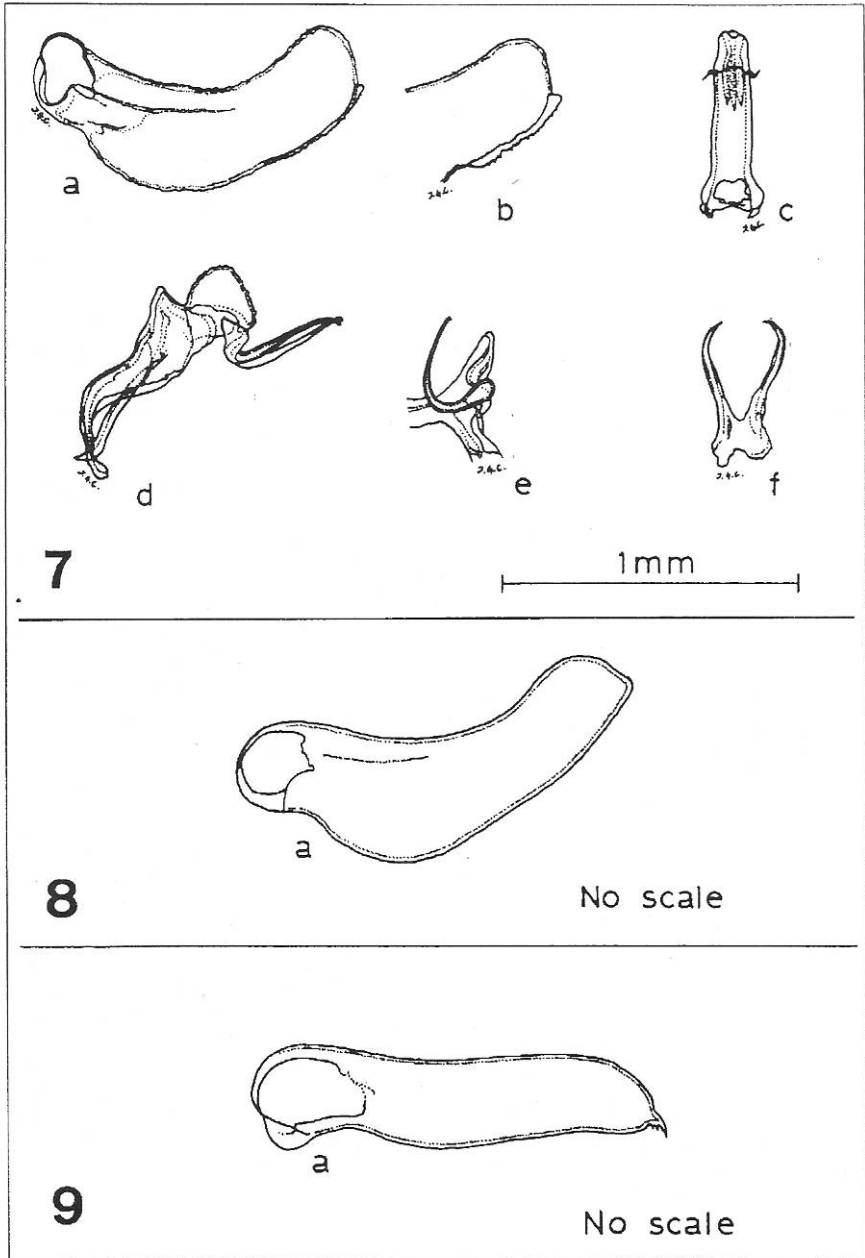
1 – *Turanana cytis cytis* (Christoph), Iran, Elburz Mts., Dizin, 3500–4000 m, 28.VII.1976 (genit. prep. nr. 2545); 2 – *T. cytis kurdistana* Eckweiler, Turkey, Hakkari, Altın Dağları, 3000 m, 11.VII.1991 (genit. Prep. nr. 2168).  
 a – lateral view, interior surface of right valva; b – same, distal end of right valva flattened; c – aedeagus, ventral view; d – lateral view (left) of the genitalia, valvae and aedeagus removed; e – right half of tegumen with right labis and falx, ventral view; f – furca, ventral view; g (fig. 6) – tegumen with labides and falces, ventral view.



3 - *T. laspura* (Evans), Pakistan, Chitral, Shandur Pass, 3600-3900 m, 9-10.VII.1982 (genit. prep. nr. 2846); 4 - *T. laspura* (Evans), Uzbekistan, Prov. Kashkadarya, Chakchar mountain range, Tashkurgan Pass, 2100-3100 m, 30.VI. - 11.VII.1995 (genit. prep. nr. 2670).



5 - *T. laspura* (Evans), Uzbekistan, Durkhandarya Prov., Kugitang Mts., 40 km W. of Sherabad, Kyzylalma, 2000-3000 m, 24-25.VI.1994 (genit. prep. nr. 2669); 6 - *T. anisophtalma* (Kollar), Hyrcania (genit. prep. nr. 2569).



7 - *T. panaegides* (Staudinger), Kazakhstan, Alatau, Aram Kungei, 3000-3500 m, 14-20.VII.1992 (genit. prep. nr. 2568); 8 - *T. panaegides alaica* (Staudinger), no label data, based on drawing of "*T. grumi*" by Zhdanko (1984); 9 - *T. kugitangi* Zhdanko, no label data, based on drawing by Zhdanko (1984).

The male genitalia of the following *Turanana* species are also shown for comparison purposes.

*Turanana anisoptalma* (Kollar, [1849]) (fig. 6). Valva longer than in *cytis* and *laspura* and possessing a single relatively large spike at apex and numerous minutes spikes along whole length of distal margin. Iran, Afghanistan.

*Turanana panaegides* (Staudinger, 1886) (fig. 7). Valva very slender and upturned, outer margin free of spikes and smooth, but possessing ventro-distally a carinate structure with imperceptible teeth. Kazakhstan, Kirghizstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan.

*Turanana panaegides alaica* (Staudinger, 1886) (fig. 8). Valva as in *T. panaegides panaegides*, but devoid of any spikes, or carinate structures. The drawing is after the figure of *T. grumi* (Forster, 1937) by Zhdanko (1984) but this name has recently been synonymised under *T. panaegides alaica* (Tshikolovets [1997]: 44). The subspecies occurs in the Zaalaisky mountain range in S. Kirghizstan.

*Turanana kugitangi* Zhdanko, 1984 (fig. 9). Valva slender and straight, with a single large distal spike and a few minute ones placed right under it. Turkmenistan.

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