

## On the presence of the genus *Amephana* (Noctuidae: Cuculliinae) on the Balearic Islands

## Sobre la presència del gènere *Amephana* (Noctuidae: Cuculliinae) a les illes Balears

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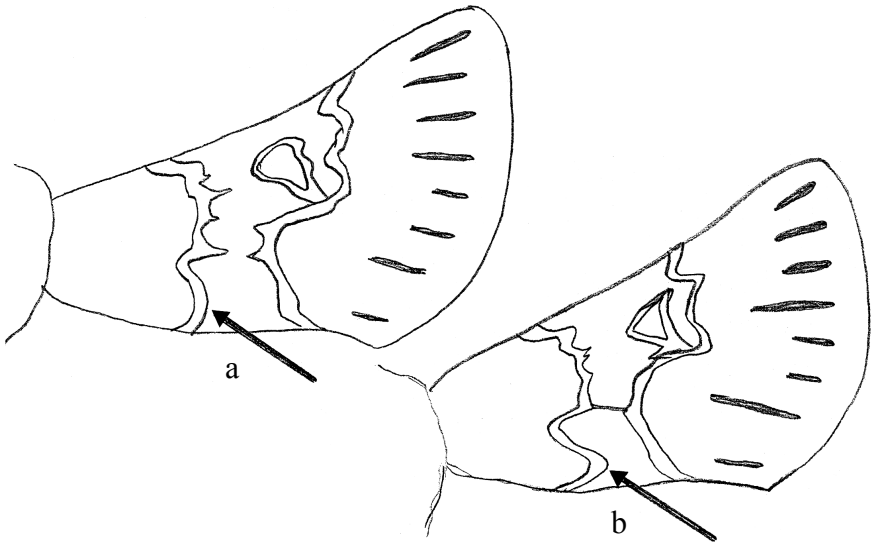
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Recently, Pérez De-Gregorio & Vallhonrat (2001) reported the finding of two females of *Amephana dalmatica* (Rebel, 1919), on the Balearic Island of Formentera. One female was collected at the locality of Es Ca Mari (20-22.IV.2000) (31SCC68, 5 m asl) whereas the other at Es Caló (22.IV.2000) (31SCC78, 5 m asl). These two females were figured in that work on plate 2, figure 1c and 1d, together with two *Amephana aurita* (Fabricius, 1787) specimens from neighbouring Catalonia (fig. 1a and 1b).

These authors pointed out that this would be the first finding of this Ponto-Mediterranean species in the Balearic Islands. If this were the case, it would also be new to Spain. However, close examination of these two pictured females from Formentera reveals that they belong in fact to *A. aurita*, a species which is new to the Balearic Islands (although it is already known to occur in mainland Spain).

Both species, *A. dalmatica* (fig. 1a) and *A. aurita* (fig. 1b) are quite similar but clearly distinguished by the antemedial line, which in *A. dalmatica* is much less sinuous, its angles being less pronounced below the cell and at inner margin, therefore resulting a broader and less constricted lower third of the median zone (Ronkay & Ronkay 1995). Arrows in figures 1a and 1b indicate a specific spot on the antemedial line where those differences are more obvious. Ronkay & Ronkay (1995)



**Fig. 1** Ales anteriors de: **a**, *Amephana dalmatica* (Rebel, 1919); **b**, *Amephana aurita* (Fabricius, 1787).

also provided further minor differences concerning the moths habitus as well as differences in the male and female genitalia.

Berio (1985) reported *A. dalmatica* from Belvi, M. Istiddu (Sardinia) –not from Sicily, as mistakenly indicated by Ronkay & Ronkay (1995), who pointed out that such record would require confirmation. In fact, the female specimen pictured in Berio's as *A. dalmatica* is *Cleonymia baetica* (Rambur, [1840]) as Yela (2002) established. The latter also pointed out that the specimens figured by Pérez De-Gregorio & Vallhonrat (2001) correspond in fact to *aurita* –not to *dalmatica*.

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