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## First record of genus *Westermannia* Hübner (Noctuidae: Lepidoptera) from India

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### Abstract

The species *Westermannia coelisigna* (Walker) referable to genus *Westermannia* Hübner has been recorded for the first time from two different localities of Western Ghats of India. This is the first report of the present genus from India. The male genitalia of species has been described and illustrated here for first time.

**Keywords:** Lepidoptera, Noctuidae, *Westermannia*, Western Ghats, Moths

### Introduction

Genus *Westermannia* was proposed as a monotypic genus in 1823 on its type species *superba* Hübner. Later on Moore (1877) described a new species *triangularis* under it. Hampson (1894) studied four species i.e. *superba* Hübner, *argentea* Hampson, *triangularis* Moore, *cornucopia* Hampson under genus *Westermannia* from different localities of British India. Bryk (1913) described a new species i.e., *elliptica* Bryk from Taiwan. Wileman (1914) described species *obscura* Wileman from Taiwan. Srivastava (2002) studied female genitalia of *elliptica* Bryk and synonymised two species i.e., *obscura* Wileman and *albiceps matsumara* Moore under this genus. Kumar (2013) studied three species i.e. *argentea* Hampson, *superba* Hübner and *cornucopia* Hampson from Western Ghats of India. In present work, *coelisigna* (Walker) was identified with the help of relevant literature. External male genitalic features of this species has been discussed and photographed in the present manuscript for the recharacterization of genus.

### Materials and Methods

A total number of five representatives i.e. five males of *Westermannia coelisigna* (Walker) have been collected with the help of light traps from different localities of Western Ghats of India. The collected moths were killed with the help of Ethyl Acetate vapours. An effort was made for the complete pinning and stretching of the collected specimens in the field. Dried specimens were shifted to fumigated insect boxes with the labels carrying pertinent information about locality, date of collection, altitude etc. The identification of collected specimens was done with the help of relevant literature Hampson, (1894). Genitalia slides have been prepared by following method devised by Robinson (1976). The terminology given by Klots (1970) has been followed for naming different structures of genitalia.

### Observations

#### Genus *Westermannia* Hübner

Hübner [1821] 1816, *Verz. bekannter Schmett*, 250.

**Type species:** *Westermannia superba* Hübner.

**Distribution:** Sri Lanka; Borneo.

#### *Westermannia coelisigna* (Walker)

Walker, *Cat.*, 12:769.

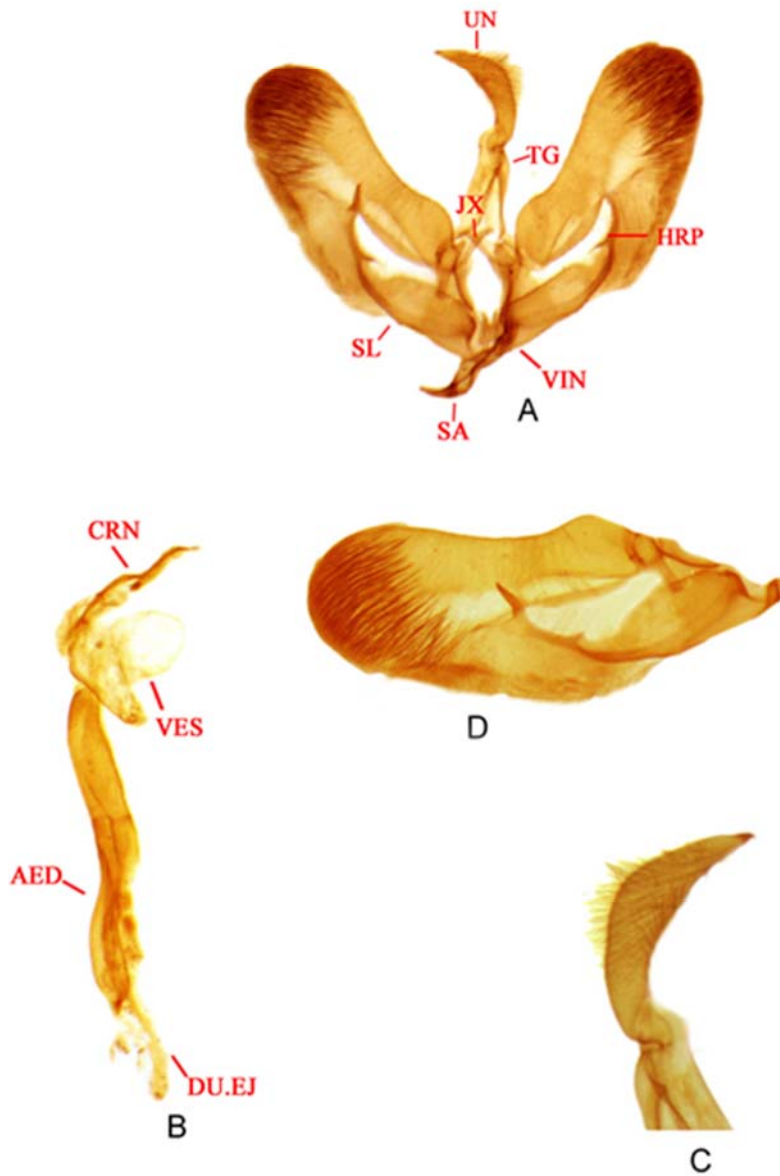
**Male genitalia:** Uncus strong, curved, sickle shaped, broad with apical spine, sclerotized with sparsely setosed setae; tegumen as long as uncus, both the arms broad, inverted v-shaped; vinculum broad, sclerotized, longer than tegumen, v-shaped; saccus well marked; valvae broad, flap-like, densely setosed with macro setae; costa humped near base; harpe well marked; sacculus smooth; juxta plate like; transtilla present; aedeagus sclerotized pipe like; vesica membranous without cornuti; ductus ejaculatorious entering medially.

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*Westermania coelisigna* (Walker)



A. Male genitalia, B. Aedeagus, C. Uncus with Tegumen (Lateral view), D. Valva (Left)

**Wing Span:** 22mm.

**Old Distribution:** Sri Lanka; Borneo.

**Material Examined:**

Gujrat: Saputara: 2.ix.07, 4♂♂.

Kerala: Devikulam: 2.xi.07, 1♂.

**Remarks:** This species has been reported for the first time from India.

**Result**

The external male genitalic features of species have been studied, photographed and illustrated for important attributes viz., uncus, valvae, vesica and cornuti for the first time.

**Abbreviations:** AED: Aedeagus; JX: Juxta; TG: Tegumen; UN: Uncus; VES: Vesica; VN: Vinculum; VLV: Valva; PAP.A: Papilla analis; CRP. BU: Corpus bursae; SIG: Signum; DU.BU: Ductus bursae.

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