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## *Assara hoeneella* — a new species of phycitid moths (Lepidoptera: Pyralidae, Phycitinae) for the fauna of Russia

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**Abstract.** *Assara hoeneella* Roesler, 1965 (Lepidoptera: Pyralidae, Phycitinae), found in Primorsky Krai near the village of Chuguevka, is reported for the fauna of Russia for the first time. In terms of the general character of the pattern, the species under consideration is close to the transpalearctic *Assara terebrella* (Zincken, 1818) and the East Asian *Assara funerella* (Ragonot, 1901). Apart from Russia, *Assara hoeneella* is also found in Japan and China. The given morphological characteristics of the species, illustrations of the appearance and genitalia of a female allow us to reliably identify the reported species. Data on the systematic position and distribution of the species are discussed briefly.

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**Keywords:** Lepidoptera, Pyralidae, Phycitinae, *Assara hoeneella*, new record, Russia, Primorsky Krai

## *Assara hoeneella* — новый вид узкокрылых огневок (Lepidoptera: Pyralidae, Phycitinae) для фауны России

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**Аннотация.** Впервые для фауны России указывается вид *Assara hoeneella* Roesler, 1965 (Lepidoptera: Pyralidae, Phycitinae), обнаруженный в Приморском крае недалеко от села Чугуевка. По общему характеру рисунка рассматриваемый вид близок к транспалеарктическому *Assara terebrella* (Zincken, 1818) и восточноазиатскому *Assara funerella* (Ragonot, 1901). *Assara hoeneella* встречается, помимо России, в Японии и Китае. Приведенная морфологическая характеристика, иллюстрации внешнего вида и гениталий самки позволяют надежно идентифицировать данный вид. Обсуждаются сведения о систематическом положении и распространении вида.

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**Ключевые слова:** Lepidoptera, Pyralidae, Phycitinae, *Assara hoeneella*, новая находка, Россия, Приморский край

### Introduction

*Assara* Walker, 1863 is currently represented by 36 species in the fauna of the world (Nuss et al., 2023), the majority of which are found in Australia and East and South-east Asia. Transpalaeartic *Assara terebrella* (Zincken, 1818) and East Asian *Assara korbi* (Caradja, 1910) are the two species known for Russia (Streltsov 2013; Sinev et al. 2019). The number of species in the genus is considerably higher in neighboring countries; for instance, eight species have been recorded in Japan (Yamanaka et al. 2013), four, in North-east China (Du et al. 2002; Qi et al. 2014), and five, in Korea (Bae et al. 2017).

During the analysis of material stored at the Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences (Saint Petersburg), a female specimen of *Assara hoeneella* Roesler, 1965 was found, the species, previously known from Japan and Northeast China. Notably, several other Pyraloidea species, whose distribution was previously believed to be restricted to Japan and Northeast China, have been found in the Russia during last years (Streltsov, Osipov

2007; Streltsov, Dubatolov 2009a; 2009b; 2020; Streltsov 2010; 2012; 2017; 2019a; 2019b).

### Results and discussion

Genus *Assara* Walker, 1863

Type species: *Assara albicostalis* Walker, 1863.

#### *Assara hoeneella* Roesler, 1965

Roesler, 1965: 43–44, figs 27, 178.

Type locality: China, Prov. Chekiang, West Tien-mu-shan.

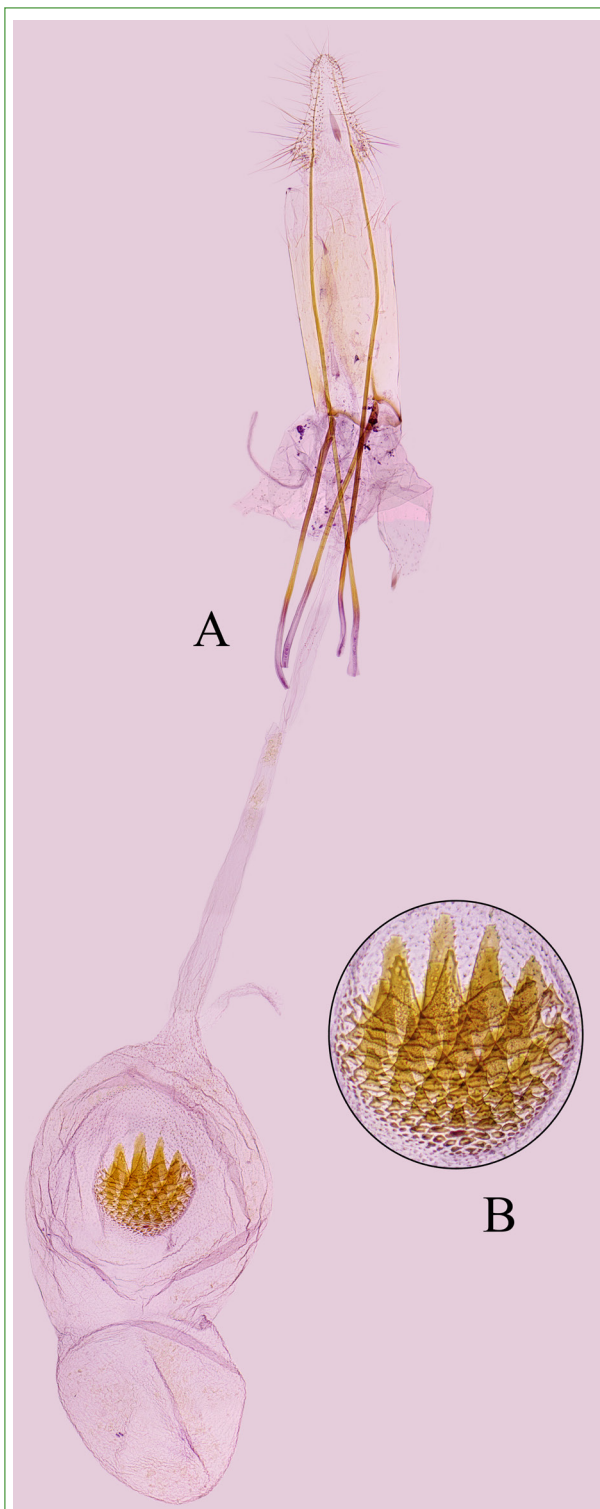
**Material:** 1♀ — Russia, Primorsky Krai, 31 km SE of Chuguyevka, Verkhne-Ussuriysky station, 44°22'N, 134°12'E, h=590 m, 18.07.2018, S. Yu. Sinev.

**Description** (Fig. 1). Head rounded, forehead wide, equal to the eye diameter, covered with blackish-brown, slightly protruding scales. Labial palps thin, curved upwards. Antennae simple. Thorax and tegulae blackish brown. Wingspan 17 mm. Forewings blackish brown, its pattern consists of curved light gray basal band, diffuse light gray discal spot, and thin, almost straight, whitish gray postdiscal line.



**Fig. 1.** *Assara hoeneella*, female, Russia, Primorsky Krai, 31 km SE of Chuguevka

**Рис. 1.** *Assara hoeneella*, самка, Россия, Приморский край, 31 км ЮВ Чугуевки



**Fig. 2.** *Assara hoeneella*, female genitalia: A — general view; B — signum, enlarged

**Рис. 2.** *Assara hoeneella*, гениталии самки: A — общий вид; B — сигнум, увеличено

Fringe uniformly blackish-brown. Hindwings unicolorous, gray with brown scales, fringe light gray. Legs light grey.

**Female genitalia** (Fig. 2). Papillae anales wedge-shaped from lateral view, more than

three times shorter than apophyses posteriores and covered with short setae, which only at the base of papillae are longer. Apophyses posteriores more than two times longer than anterior ones. Apophyses anteriores thin, slightly curved apically. Antrum moderately wide, funnel-shaped, smoothly passes into ductus bursae. Ductus bursae membranous without traces of sclerotization, thin, only slightly widened before bursa. Corpus bursae oval, slightly constricted anteriorly. Signum large, consists of several rows of columnar teeth.

**Distribution.** Russia (Primorsky Krai); China (Liaoning, Hebei, Henan, Tianjin, Shanxi, Zhejiang, Fujian, Jiangsu, Hunan, Hubei, Guizhou, Chongqing, Sichuan), Japan (Honshu, Shikoku, Kyushu) (Yamanaka et al. 2013; Qi et al. 2014).

**Remark.** The genus *Assara* Walker, 1863, consists of two morphologically distinct groups: the species of the first group are similar in appearance and in the structure of female genitalia with *Assara albicostalis* Walker, 1863, the type species of the genus; the second group includes species close to *Assara terebrella* (Zincken, 1818). The species of the first group has a more or less contrasting coloration with clearly expressed particularly light elements of the pattern. Besides, female genitalia have a kind of signum in the form of a transverse strip. Of the species found in Russia, *Assara korbi* (Caradja, 1910) belongs to this group. The species of the second group is characterized by a darker coloration with an indistinct light pattern, and the female genitalia have a more or less rounded signum representing a group of serrated formations, similar with those found in the closely related genus *Euzophera* Zeller, 1867 (type species: *Myelois cinerosella* Zeller, 1839). In Russian fauna, this group includes the transpalearctic *Assara terebrella* (Zincken, 1818) and east asian *Assara hoeneella* Roesler, 1965. The latter species is very close to *Assara funerella* (Ragonot, 1901), which is known from Japan (Yamanaka et al. 2013) and South Korea (Bae et al. 2017), but differs considerably in the structure of female genitalia having ductus bursae much longer and not widened before bursa copulatrix.

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