

## NEW RECORDS OF *PENESTOGLOSSA DARDOINELLA* (MILLIÈRE, 1863) AND *EOCHORICA BALCANICA* (REBEL, 1919) (LEPIDOPTERA: PSYCHIDAE) ON THE BALKAN PENINSULA

ANA NAHIRNIĆ<sup>1</sup> & STOYAN BESHKOV<sup>2</sup>

National Museum of Natural History, Tsar Osvooboditel Blvd.1, 1000 Sofia, Bulgaria;  
(e-mails: <sup>1</sup>ananahirnic@nmnhs.com, <sup>2</sup>stoyan.beshkov@gmail.com)

**Nahirnić, A. & Beshkov, S.: New records of *Penestoglossa dardoinella* (Millière, 1863) and *Eo-chorica balcanica* (Rebel, 1919) (Lepidoptera: Psychidae) on the Balkan Peninsula. Nat. Croat., Vol. 25, No. 2., 305–313, Zagreb, 2016.**

*Penestoglossa dardoinella* (Millière, 1863) was found for the first time in Bulgaria. Finding of this species in southeastern Bulgaria extends its known distribution further to the east. Additional records are given for Greece and one is confirmed for Croatia. New and confirmed records of *Eo-chorica balcanica* (Rebel, 1919) are provided for Bulgaria, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Greece. This species has also been collected in southern Serbia which makes it a new member of the Serbian fauna. Previously published data on these two species and new data are presented on the map.

**Key words:** *Eo-chorica balcanica*, *Penestoglossa dardoinella*, Psychidae, distribution, Balkan Peninsula

**Nahirnić, A. & Beshkov, S.: Novi nalazi vrsta *Penestoglossa dardoinella* (Millière, 1863) i *Eo-chorica balcanica* (Rebel, 1919) (Lepidoptera: Psychidae) na Balkanskom poluotoku. Nat. Croat., Vol. 25, No. 2., 305–313, Zagreb, 2016.**

*Penestoglossa dardoinella* (Millière, 1863) nađena je prvi puta u Bugarskoj. Nalaz ove vrste u jugoi- stočnoj Bugarskoj proširuje njeno poznato rasprostranjenje dalje na istok. Daju se dodatni nalazi za Grčku i jedan potvrđen za Hrvatsku. Novi i potvrđeni nalazi *Eo-chorica balcanica* (Rebel, 1919) se daju za Bugarsku, bivšu jugoslavensku Republiku Makedoniju i Grčku. Ova vrsta je prikupljena i u južnoj Srbiji što je čini novim članom faune Srbije. Prethodno publicirani podaci o ovim vrstama i novi podaci prikazani su na karti.

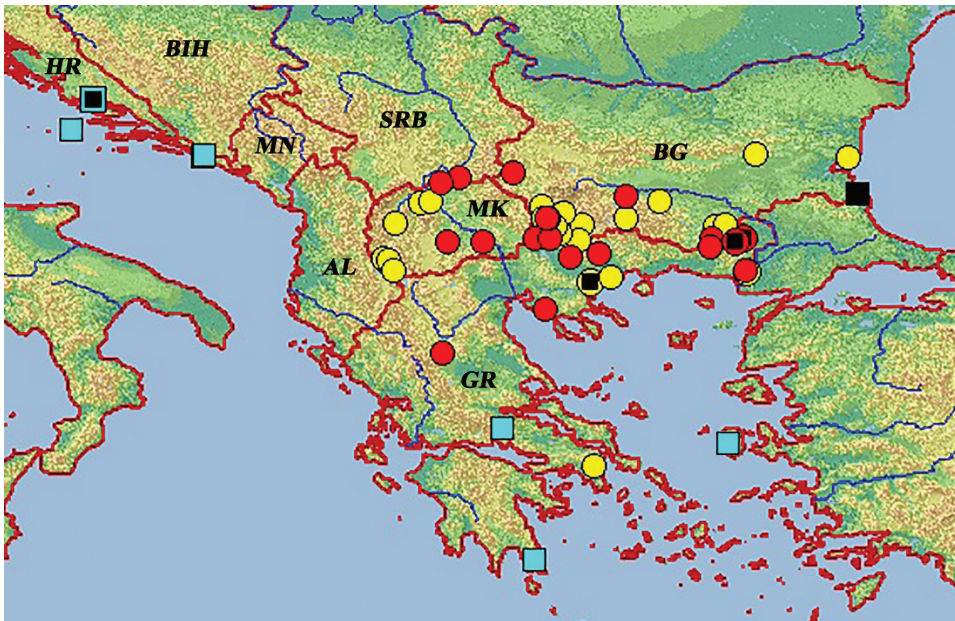
**Ključne riječi:** *Eo-chorica balcanica*, *Penestoglossa dardoinella*, Psychidae, rasprostranjenost, Balkanski poluotok

The Psychidae family is one of the less studied Lepidoptera on the Balkan Peninsula. By domestic authors, the family has mostly been mentioned occasionally and usually in faunistic publications which included more Lepidoptera families. Here we provide a review of the distribution of two Psychidae on the Balkan Peninsula – *Penestoglossa dardoinella* (Millière, 1863) and *Eo-chorica balcanica* (Rebel, 1919). Our paper contains results of lepidopterological field surveys on the Balkan Peninsula by several collectors carried out in last 25 years. We also include some additional unpublished data from museum collections: Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research – Bulgarian Academy of Sciences – IBER-BAS, Museum Witt München – MWM, Zoologische Staatssammlung München – ZSM and Tirolean Landesmuseen, Ferdinandeum, Innsbruck, Austria – TLMF. Collecting of cases and rearing, not only light trapping, would increase number of records of these two species.

### *Penestoglossa dardoinella* (Millière, 1863)

Male and female have elongated wings with strongly curved tips. In males the forewing is of light grey to dark brown colour and has variable darker spots; the hindwing is of one colour from light grey to dark brown. Females are larger with a lighter wing colour and less prominent spots on the forewing. Male has bipectinate while the female has filiform antennae. Flight period is from late June to the beginning of September (REBEL, 1940). It occurs in France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Spain (SAUTER & HÄTTENSCHWILER, 1996), Croatia (REBEL, 1940) and Turkey (SOBCZYK *et al.*, 2016). Reports from Algeria (CHRÉTIEN, 1916) probably refer to *Penestoglossa gaetula* Sobczyk, Bläsius & Nuss, 2016 while those from Morocco and Tunisia (REBEL, 1940) should be considered to belong to other *Penestoglossa* species (SOBCZYK *et al.*, 2016).

*P. dardoinella* is a very rare and local species on the Balkan Peninsula. The report of REBEL (1916) after material collected by Tschorbadjiev in 1911 near Sliven Town in Bulgaria in fact concerns another species, not described by that time – *Eochorica balcanica*. SAUTER & HÄTTENSCHWILER (1996) were the first to mention it for Greece. Their source remains unknown to our knowledge. This was the only existing information for Greece until recently, when SOBCZYK (2013) reported it from Parnassus and Agios Stefanos and SOBCZYK *et al.* (2016) for island of Chios. The earliest reliable record of *P. dardoinella* in Greece is that from Strymon Delta from 1983. One male specimen was collected in the same day and locality as *E. balcanica* and placed together with several specimens of *E. balcanica* in the collection of the MWM. From this material, WITT (1985) mentioned only *E. balcanica*. Our report from Split from 1928 only confirms a historical record from REBEL (1891). It is alarming that last published data on *P. dardoinella* in Croatia originate from



**Fig. 1.** Distribution of *Penestoglossa dardoinella* (Millière, 1863) (blue squares – published records, black squares – new records), and *Eochorica balcanica* (Rebel, 1919) (yellow circles – published records, red circles – new records) on the Balkan Peninsula.

REBEL (1940), yet with no year of collecting, which was at least 76 years ago. The gap between Croatia and Greece exists probably due to poor research on Lepidoptera especially Microlepidoptera in Albania and Montenegro. *P. dardoinella* has previously not been known from Bulgaria. Localities on Eastern Rhodope Mountains are the most inland record on the Balkan Peninsula with almost 70 km distance from the Aegean Sea. Mt. Strandza represents the easternmost point of this species distribution on the Balkan Peninsula and Europe. Two males from Mt. Strandzha are at first glance bigger and darker and show slight difference in valvae. Research on this mountain will be continued.

The following literature was used to compile a map (Fig. 1): GALVAGNI, 1909; REBEL, 1891; REBEL in PRINZ, 1919; REBEL, 1940; SOBCZYK, 2013; SOBCZYK *et al.*, 2016.

### Croatia

Split, 5.viii.1928, 1 ♂, Novak (TLMF)

### Bulgaria

Eastern Rhodopes Mts, Ivaylovgrad district, Byala Reka, Zhultichalskoto dere near Meden Buk village, 121 m, N41°22'48", E026°01'40", 25.vii.2012, 1♂, *Quercus*, *Tamarix*, *Alnus*, leg. S. Beshkov, lamps and light traps

Eastern Rhodopes Mts, Ivaylovgrad district, Likana (Kodzhakaya) between Odrintzi and Belopolyane villages, 228 m, N41°26'59", E026°08'28", 16.viii.2014, 9 ♂♂ and 1 ♀, *Phyllirea*, *Juniperus*, *Acer monspessulanum*, *Quercus*, meadow, leg. S. Beshkov & S. Abadjiev, lamps and light traps

Eastern Rhodopes Mts, Ivaylovgrad district, Likana (Kodzhakaya) between Odrintzi and Belopolyane villages, 276 m, N41°26'45", E026°08'13", 14.viii.2011, 4 ♂♂, *Quercus-Carpinus* forest with *Acer monspessulanum* and meadows with *Juniperus*, leg. S. Beshkov, lamps and light traps

S Black Sea Coast – Mt. Strandzha, Papiya Hill above Brodilovo village, 370 m, N42°06'17", E027°50'53", 31.vii.2008, 2 ♂♂, *Quercus* forest with *Phyllirea*, *Cystus*, etc., leg. S. Beshkov, lamps and light traps (Figs 2, 3)

### Greece

Strymon-Delta, 1 km S Nea Kerdilia, 2 m, N40°48', E23°51', 26.viii.1983, 1 ♂, leg. H. Hacker, LF (MWM)



Fig. 2. Male of *Penestoglossa dardoinella* (Millière, 1863) from S Black Sea Coast –Mt. Strandzha, Papiya Hill above Brodilovo village, 370 m.



**Fig. 3.** Habitat of *Penestoglossa dardoinella* (Millière, 1863) at S Black Sea Coast –Mt. Strandzha, Papiya Hill above Brodilovo village, 370 m, July 2008.

### ***Eochorica balcanica* (Rebel, 1919)**

According to KOZHANTCHIKOV (1956) the forewing length (fringe included) in males varies from 9 to 10 but our measurements showed that it is 7.5–10 mm (n=100). Forewing ground color varies from light to dark brown with yellow-whitish spots variable in size. Hindwing colour varies from light to dark brown. Females are wingless. This species occurs in warm and dry areas and flies in late July, August and September. At Demir Kapija it is syntopic with the recently described *Eochorica vardarica* Sobczyk, 2013. *E. vardarica* appears in the second half of October and the beginning of November, has a smaller forewing length of 7.2–8 mm, smaller length of antennae and has not such a contrasting wing pattern as *E. balcanica* (SOBCZYK, 2013). Wing size should not be used as a sole character to distinguish these two species because they can slightly overlap. Other characters for secure determination are the shape of forewing scales and male and female genitalia (SOBCZYK, 2013). According to SAUTER & HÄTTENSCHWILER (1996) *E. balcanica* is distributed in Albania, Bulgaria, FYR of Macedonia, Greece, Romania and Yugoslavia. In former Yugoslavia countries it is only reported from FYR of Macedonia (e.g. REBEL in PRINZ, 1919; THURNER, 1941; DANIEL, 1964). RAKOSY *et al.* (2003) consider the reporting of *E. balcanica* in Romania unreliable and we follow their opinion. Its presence in Albania is questioned by WEIDLICH (2013). Out of the Balkan Peninsula it has been found in Turkey (DE FREINA, 1994). REBEL (1916) reported a very large and yellowish specimen of *Penestoglossa dardoinella*, collected in 1911 by Tschorbadjiev near Slivno [Sliven Town] in Bulgaria as a representative of the Tineidae family. Rebel stated his opinion that this might be variability in *P. dardoinella* or might represent a new undescribed species. This report in fact concerns *E. balcanica*.

*E. balcanica* has not been known in Serbia before, thus it is a new genus and a new species for the country. We were not surprised to find this and other species with Mediterranean distribution in southern Serbia because the influence of Mediterranean climate coming through the Vardar and Pčinja river valleys is evident. Here we give two new localities for FYR of Macedonia and several new and confirmed localities for Bulgaria and Greece. The distribution gap between FYR of Macedonia, Bulgaria with Greek Eastern Macedonia and Thrace and Attica is now filled. Our knowledge on habitats confirms that *E. balcanica* is a xerothermic species. The great majority of the habitats are open with sparse vegetation, scattered bushes and trees and bare ground and rocks; the main threat to its existence could be the possibility that the habitats will become overgrown.

The following literature was used to compile a map (Fig. 1): BESHKOV & GOATER, 2000; BESHKOV & LANGOUROV, 2004; BESHKOV & LANGOUROV, 2011; BESHKOV & NOWACKI, 1998; DANIEL, 1964; DRENOWSKY, 1921; DRENOWSKI, 1931; KASY, 1956; LEVY, 1968; REBEL IN REBEL, 1915; REBEL, 1916; REBEL IN PRINZ, 1919; REBEL, 1940; RETZLAFF, 1973; SOBczyk, 2013; THURNER, 1936; THURNER, 1940; WEIDLICH, 1989; WEIDLICH, 2013; WITT, 1985; ZLATKOV, 2007. DRENOWSKY (1921) was the first to report this species from area of Ohrid and Resen (as Resna) town and Mt Galičica, with just an elevation of 500 m [sic!] and no precise locality. The lowest elevation in that area is in Ohrid town, but at 700 m. This elevation could be a printer's error. Later, DRENOWSKI (1930) mentioned *E. balcanica* in south-western Macedonia without a precise locality, which is probably a citation from his paper from 1921.

### Serbia

Starac Mt., Turski Grob, 799 m, N42°20'39", E021°53'02", 26.viii.2015, 10 ♂♂, leg. A. Nahirnić & S. Beshkov, lamps and light traps

Preševo town municipality, 2 km W from Trnava village, 696 m, N42°16'33", E021°36'57", 27.viii.2015, 35 ♂♂, leg. A. Nahirnić & S. Beshkov, serpentine steppes in forest belt of *Quercus pubescens* Wild. and *Q. petraea* (Matt.) Liebl. and thickets as result of degradation of this forest, lamps and light traps (Figs 4, 5)

### Macedonia

Vardar river valley, Demir Kapija Gorge, 100 m, N41°24'23", E022°16'06", 7.ix.1997, 1 ♂, river valley with *Platanus orientalis* in limestone gorge, leg. S. Beshkov & V. Gashtarov, lamp and light trap



**Fig. 4.** Male of *Eochorica balcanica* (Rebel, 1919) from Preševo town municipality, 2 km W from Trnava village, 696 m.



**Fig. 5.** Habitat of *Eochorica balcanica* (Rebel, 1919) at Preševo town municipality, 2 km W from Trnava village, 696 m, September 2015.

Babuna Mts, Prilep district, near Pletvar Pass, above Trojanci village, 740 m, N41°23'07", E021°43'31", 8.ix.1997, 3 ♂♂, dry limestone mountain slopes with *Quercus* forest around, leg. S. Beshkov & V. Gashtarov, lamp and light trap

### Bulgaria

Kyustendil municipality, [Zemen Gorge] Skakavica, 1.ix.1980, 3 ♂♂, leg. J. Ganev (ZSM)

Zemen Gorge, Skakavitza Railway station, 568 m, N42°24'54", E022°41'25", 19.viii.1993, 1 ♂, leg. V. Gashtarov, river valley in warm limestone area, lamp

Kresna Gorge, 23.viii.1980, 3 ♂♂, leg. J. Ganev (ZSM)

Struma Valley, Kresna [Gorge, N41°48'15", E023°09'49"], 18.ix.1965, 1 ♂, leg. H. Lukov, (IBER-BAS)

Pirin Mts – Kresna Gorge, Vlahi village, 556 m, N41°44'27", E023°13'46", 28.viii.2009, 2 ♂♂, rocky gorge with *Palliurus*, *Pistacia*, *Juniperus excelsa*, *Quercus*, leg. S. Beshkov, light traps and lamps.

Pirin Mts – Kresna Gorge, between Kresna town and Vlahi village, 482 m, N41°44'21", E023°12'18", 12.ix.2009, 1 ♂, rocky gorge with *Palliurus*, *Pistacia*, *Juniperus excelsa*, *Quercus*, leg. S. Beshkov, light trap.

Ograzden Mt., below Churicheni village, 670 m, N41°27'41", E023°08'30", 05.ix.1999, 1 ♂, leg. S. Beshkov & D. Vassilev, lamps

Struma Valley, Rupite near Kozuh hill, 94 m, N41°27'36", E023°15'44", 28.viii.2000, 1 ♂, 04.ix.1999, 1 ♂, ruderal area below slopes with bushes, leg. S. Beshkov, lamps.

S Pirin Mts – Alibotush Mt, between Nova Lovcha and Paril village, Gradishteto, 756 m, N41°25'57", E023°42'02", 13.viii.2015, 1 ♂, arid area with *Juniperus*, *Quercus*, *Populus*, leg. B. Zlatkov, lamps and light traps

- Pazardzhik Region, Bessaparski Vazvisheniya Hills, Garkov Dol near Byaga village, 316 m, N42°03'60", E024°21'09", 18.ix.2015, 1 ♂, meadow, leg. D. Kaynarov, light trap
- Eastern Rhodopes, Kroumovgrad district, Ada Tepe, below Svezhest Chalet, 315 m, N41°26'35", E025°39'39" 16.viii.2005, 1 ♂, meadows near *Quercus* forest and abandoned gardens, leg. S. Beshkov, 160 W MVL and 18 W black tube + light trap
- Eastern Rhodopes, Ivaylovgrad district, „Meandrite na Byala Reka”, above Zhultichalskoto Dere Valley near Meden Buk village, 170 m, N41°22'51", E026°01'24" 15.ix.2006, 1 ♂, dry area with *Cystus* in *Quercus* forest, leg. S. Beshkov & B. Zlatkov, 160W MVL and 15W + 9W black tubes and ultraactinidic light trap
- Eastern Rhodopes Mts, Ivaylovgrad district, Byala Reka, Zhultichalskoto Dere near Meden Buk, 111 m, N41°22'48", E026°01'39", 8.ix.2014, 1 ♂, *Quercus*, *Tamarix*, *Alnus*, leg. S. Beshkov & S. Abadjiev, lamps and light traps.
- Eastern Rhodopes, Ivaylovgrad district, Likana (Kodzchakaya) between Odrintzi and Belopolyane villages, 228 m, N41°26'59", E026°08'28", 16.viii.2014, 1 ♂, *Phyllirea*, *Juniperus*, *Acer monspessulanum*, *Quercus*, meadow, leg. S. Beshkov & S. Abadjiev, lamps and light traps.
- Eastern Rhodopes, Egrek village, 495 m, N41°19'17", E025°38'17", 13.viii.2011, 1 ♂, *Quercus* and *Carpinus* forest and open limestone stony meadows with *Juniperus*, leg. S. Beshkov, lamps and light traps.

## Greece

- Seres district, Menikio (Zmiinitza) Mts, above Timios Prodromos (Sveti Ivan) monastery near the abandoned village Lakosh, 442 m, N41°09'15", E023°32'46", 19.ix.2000, 1 ♂, dry stony mountain slopes with Mediterranean vegetation including *Q. coccifera* shrubs, leg. S. Beshkov, B. Petrov & P. Stoev, lamp.
- Drama, between Drama and Kato Nevrokopi, 391 m, N41°13'21", E023°58'16", 6.ix.2013, 11 ♂♂, *Q. coccifera* shrublands on marble, leg. S. Beshkov, lamps powered by generator and light traps.
- Halkidiki region, Katsika Mt., near Petralona cave, 365 m, N40°22'33", E023°10'09", 17.ix.2000, 1 ♂, *Q. coccifera* shrubs in a limestone area, leg. S. Beshkov, B. Petrov & P. Stoev, lamps.
- Trikala, Kalabaka, between Megalon Meteoron Monastery and Vlachavi village, 580 m, N39°43'26", E021°38'49", 31.viii.2010, 2 ♂, *Quercus* forest and meadows, leg. S. Beshkov, lamps, light traps
- Itea village, 7 km N Feres, 100 m, N40°56', E026°15' [N40°58'; E026°10'], 2.ix.1985, 2 ♂♂, leg. H. Hacker, LF (MWM)

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## SUMMARY

### **New records of *Penestoglossa dardoinella* (Millière, 1863) and *Eochorica balcanica* (Rebel, 1919) (Lepidoptera: Psychidae) on the Balkan Peninsula**

A. Nahirnić & S. Beshkov

The family Psychidae by domestic authors on the Balkan Peninsula was mostly mentioned occasionally and usually in faunistic publications which included several Lepidoptera families. Here we give a review of the distribution of two Psychidae in the Balkan Peninsula – *Penestoglossa dardoinella* (Millière, 1863) and *Eochorica balcanica* (Rebel, 1919). Our paper contains results of lepidopterological field surveys on the Balkan Peninsula by several collectors carried out in the last 25 years. We also included some additional unpublished data from museum collections.

New records of *P. dardoinella* are given for Bulgaria and Greece and one confirmed record for Croatia. Mt Strandza represents the easternmost point of the range of this species in Europe. It is a new genus and species for Bulgaria.

New and confirmed records of *Eochorica balcanica* (Rebel, 1919) are provided for Bulgaria, FYR Macedonia and Greece. *E. balcanica* has also been collected in southern Serbia, which makes it a new genus and a new species for the Serbian fauna. The distribution gap between FYR Macedonia, Bulgaria with Greek Eastern Macedonia and Thrace and Attica is now filled.

Not only light trapping but also collection of cases together with rearing would increase the number of records of both species.