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بررسیهای در زمینه شناسائی روزپرو کهای ایران

مقاله یازدهم

مناطق جدید جمع آوری پروانه *Melitaea sarvistana* Wiltshire و همچنین شرح

شناسائی حشره ماده

نگارش: Tommaso RACHELI

خلاصه

آقای Wiltshire در سال ۱۹۴۱ در راه شیراز به سروستان، کنار دریاچه مهارلو دو نمونه پروانه نر جمع آوری نموده که با اسم *Melitaea sarvistana* Wilt. نامگذاری نموده است.

در سال ۱۹۷۶ Racheli در ایران از منطقه ایزدخواست (۱۰۰ کیلومتری جنوب اصفهان) که ارتفاع آن در حدود ۲۲۰۰ متر است در بین بوته های *Astragalus* sp. هفت نر و پنج ماده از *M. sarvistana* جمع آوری نموده که با *M. Persea* Kollar و *Zygaena brandti xerxes* Tremewan پرواز میکردند. ضمناً یک نمونه ماده *M. sarvistana* در گردنه قادرآباد (۱۰۰ کیلومتری شمال شیراز) همراه با *Z. manlia askarii* Trem. و *Z. brandti xerxes* Trem. *M. Persea* Kollar جمع آوری نموده.

حشره ماده *M. sarvistana* تا بحال جمع آوری نشده بود و شرح کامل شناسائی آن در متن انگلیسی مطالعه فرمائید.

BEITRAEGE ZUR KENNNTNIS DER RHOPALOCEREN IRANS

11. Beitrag:

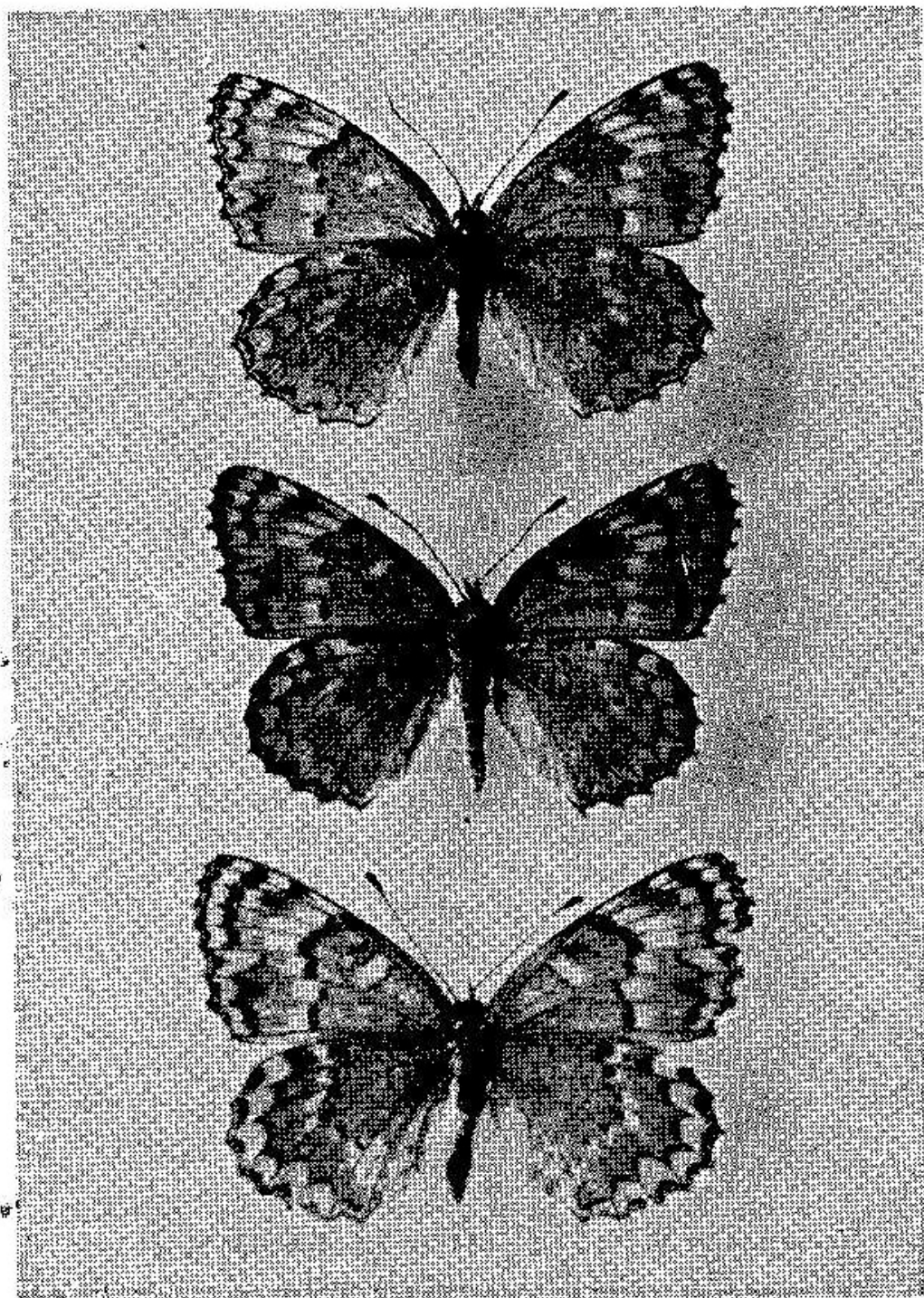
New localities for *Melitaea sarvistana* Wiltshire
and description of the female (*Lepidoptera, Nymphalidae*)

by Tommaso RACHELI

During my 1976 trip to Iran, together with friends of the Zoology Department, University of Rome, I came unexpectedly across this fine species on an arid, bare plateau near Izadkhast (or Yezd-i-khast) about 2200 m, 100 km south of Esfahan. At first glance, I supposed it was *Melitaea sibina* Alpheraky, but a closer examination revealed that it was *Melitaea sarvistana* Wiltshire. The discovery puzzled me, because I knew that the areal of this species was confined to south of Shiraz, i.e. Sarvistan, near Shiraz Salt Lake (Wiltshire, 1941). *M. sarvistana*, on this biotop, was flying together with *Melitaea perseae* Kollar and *Zygaena brandti xerxes* Tremewan; it was not at all common because only 7 ♂ 5 ♀ were found, while more than hundred specimens of *M. perseae* were collected. *M. sarvistana* had a fast and steady flight, found shelter in the shadow of the bushes of *Astragalus* sp. and its behaviour was easily distinguishable from *M. perseae*. Another ♀ specimen was found on Qader Abad Pass, approx. 100 km north of Shiraz, on a biotop where *M. perseae*, *Z. brandti xerxes* and *Z. manlia askarii* Tremewan were common.

Examination of a longer series of specimens, rather than the only two specimens described by Wiltshire (1941), reveals that the species, as suggested by the same author (1946), is different from *M. sibina* but, however, closely related to it. The genitalia show very well the differences between *M. sibina* and *M. sarvistana*: in the former the posterior process is flattened and with three spines, in *M. sarvistana* it is more slender and with only two spines.

According to the literature, *M. sibina* has a central asiatic distribution, with the most southern locality: Pamir, Mark (Higgins, 1941). The locality "Persia" quoted by Higgins (1941) is uncertain or at least incomplete. More recently, Wyatt and Omoto (1966) reported finding this species also from Afghanistan (Badachshan N.E., Shiva Mts. and Lake) which represents the most



LEGENDS TO FIGURE

- a) *M. sarvistana* Wilt. Female Iran, Esfahan, Izadkhast, 2000 m 24.V.76.
 - b) *M. sarvistana* Wilt. Female Same data.
 - c) *M. sarvistana* Wilt. Female Iran, Fars, Qader Abad Pass, 2200 m 2.VI.76.
- a) in coll. Racheli, b) and c) in coll. Stefanelli.

southern locality to date. Apparently there is a gap of more than 4000 km between *M. sibina* and *M. sarvistana*. (1)

I think it is worthwhile describing the hitherto unknown female from the short series of 6 ♀ specimens I have available.

Length of fore wing 22 – 26 mm. Ground colour more yellowish than the male. Fringes white chequered with black. Fore wings: cell with a small light yellow patch surrounded by two fine parallel black lines, which in some specimens are obsolete. Median band formed by a series of black spots, separated or united, from the costa to anal angle. At least the anterior spots are evident, the posterior often obsolete. The margin lunules are bordered with black, except the sixth, as in the male.

Hind wings: the upper surface is devoid of median band, with the exception of some black scales along the costa; the marginal lunules large, bordered inwardly by a continuous submarginal black line. These lunules are, on an average, much larger than those in *M. sibina*. On the underside the fore wings are as in the male; the most striking character is the black marginal spot conjoined in $m_1 - m_2$ as in *M. sibina*. Usually the four black median spots are evident.

On the hind wings, the greyish postdiscal band includes series of yellow spots surrounded inwardly by a black line. The lunules near the outer border are yellowish. The specimen from Qader Abad Pass shows an exaggeration of all the black marks on the upperside where the median band is complete on both wings.

Literature

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(1) G. Ebert, Karlsruhe, has collected 50 male and 5 female of *M. sibina* in NE-Afghanistan: Province Badachshan north of Shiva Mts. in 1957 (see his report in: *Bemerkungen zur Verbreitung, Ökologie und Phaenologie afghanischer Schmetterlinge - Beitr. naturk. Forsch. Südwdt.* 35: 169-179, Karlsruhe, 1967).