

Pasquale TREMATERRA*

Description of *Clepsis lesinana* sp. nov. and the female of *Clepsis semiana* (Chrétien, 1915) (Lepidoptera Tortricidae)

Abstract: In this paper, *Clepsis lesinana* Trematerra sp. nov., collected in a location of Lesina Lake (Apulia Region, Italy), and the female of *Clepsis semiana* found in Pantelleria Island (Sicily, Italy) are described. In the family Tortricidae *C. lesinana* belongs to the group of *rogana*, while *C. semiana* is included in the *neglectana* group.

Riassunto: Descrizione di *Clepsis lesinana* sp. nov. e della femmina di *Clepsis semiana* (Chrétien, 1915) (Lepidoptera Tortricidae). Sono descritte *Clepsis lesinana* Trematerra sp. nov. e la femmina di *Clepsis semiana* (Chrétien) (Lepidoptera Tortricidae), la prima trovata in Puglia in prossimità del lago di Lesina, la seconda raccolta sull'isola di Pantelleria. Tra i Tortricidae *C. lesinana* appartiene al gruppo *rogana*, mentre *C. semiana* è inclusa nel gruppo *neglectana*. Delle due specie vengono forniti i principali caratteri morfologici ed ecologici, le foto degli adulti e dei genitali maschili e femminili.

Key words: *Clepsis lesinana*, *Clepsis semiana*, Lepidoptera Tortricidae.

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INTRODUCTION

Clepsis is a large genus in the tribe Archipini with 36 species present in Europe (Aarvik, 2013; Lepiforum, 2026) and 17 species present in Italy (Trematerra unpubl.data).

In this paper, the new species *Clepsis lesinana* Trematerra sp. nov. is described, collected in a location of Lesina Lake, Apulia Region, Italy. Moreover, *Clepsis semiana* (Chrétien) female, collected in Pantelleria Island, Sicily, Italy, is described.

In accordance with Razowski (1979), the new species belongs to the group of *rogana* and in some characters *C. lesinana* is similar to *Clepsis balcanica* (Rebel), *Clepsis aerosana* (Lederer) (Guenée), *Clepsis clemensiana* (Fernald), and *Clepsis pallidana* (F.).

Following Zlatkov and Huemer (2019), *C. semiana* is similar to *C. consimilana* (Hübner) and is included in the *neglectana* group by the absence of large, modified setae on the median surface of the valvae. *C. semiana* is a little-known species known only through the male holotype collected in Tunisia, named *Cacoecia unifasciana* var. *semiana* Chrétien, deposited at the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France.

Clepsis lesinana Trematerra sp. nov.

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MATERIALS EXAMINED. Holotype, 1 male, Italia, Puglia, Lesina (FG), 2 m/a.s.l., 18.VI.2020, Leg. Goglia e Palmieri; 2 females, Italia, Puglia, Lesina (FG), 2 m, 17.VI.2020, Leg. Goglia e Palmieri.

Deposited in the Trematerra Collection, Campobasso, Italy.

DESCRIPTION. Adults (Fig. 1) - wingspan 16-17 mm, forewing broad with termen oblique. Labial palpus, front and scape of antenna yellowish speckled with light-brown scales, remaining parts of head yellowish-cream; thorax and abdomen olive-brown, mixed rust-cream. Ground color of forewings almost unicolorous cream with golden hue, speckled of light brownish scales; light brownish median fascia; cilia paler yellowish. Basal part of costa brownish. Hindwings whitish, slightly darker in basal part; cilia pale cream whitish. Female is slightly smaller than male. Ground color of forewings almost unicolorous light hazelnut with golden hue; cilia paler. Hindwings light brown; cilia pale brown with whitish basal line.

*Department of Agricultural, Environmental and Food Sciences, University of Molise, Campobasso, Italy.
E-mail: trema@unimol.it

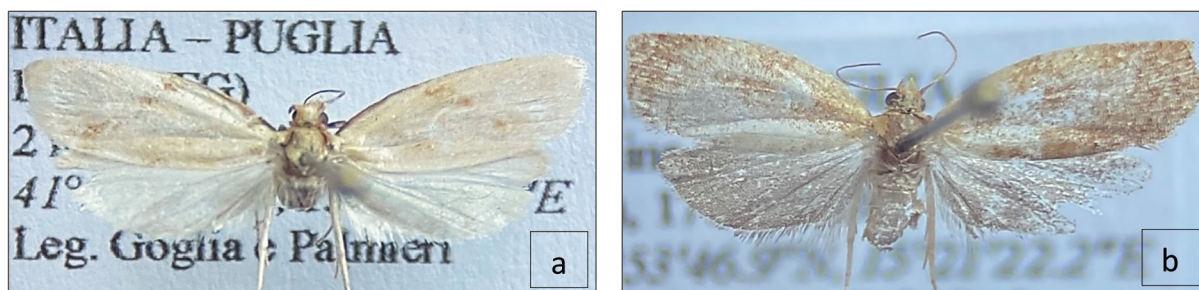


Fig. 1. *Clepsia lesinana* adults: male (a) and female (n).

Male genitalia (Fig. 2a and b). Uncus strong, rather uniformly, slightly broadening near base, distinctly rounded apically. Socius short, less developed. Terminal part of gnathos arms pointed. Tegumen developed, broad. Valva rather broad, subtriangular, with hairs; labis broad and densely dentate marginally; sac-

culus broad light convex before middle ventrally; aedeagus developed bent, with long strong ventral termination and several minute thorns.

Female genitalia (Fig. 2c-e). Papilla analis developed. Sterigma short with rounded proximal corners. Colliculum moderately long, tapering proximally. Duc-

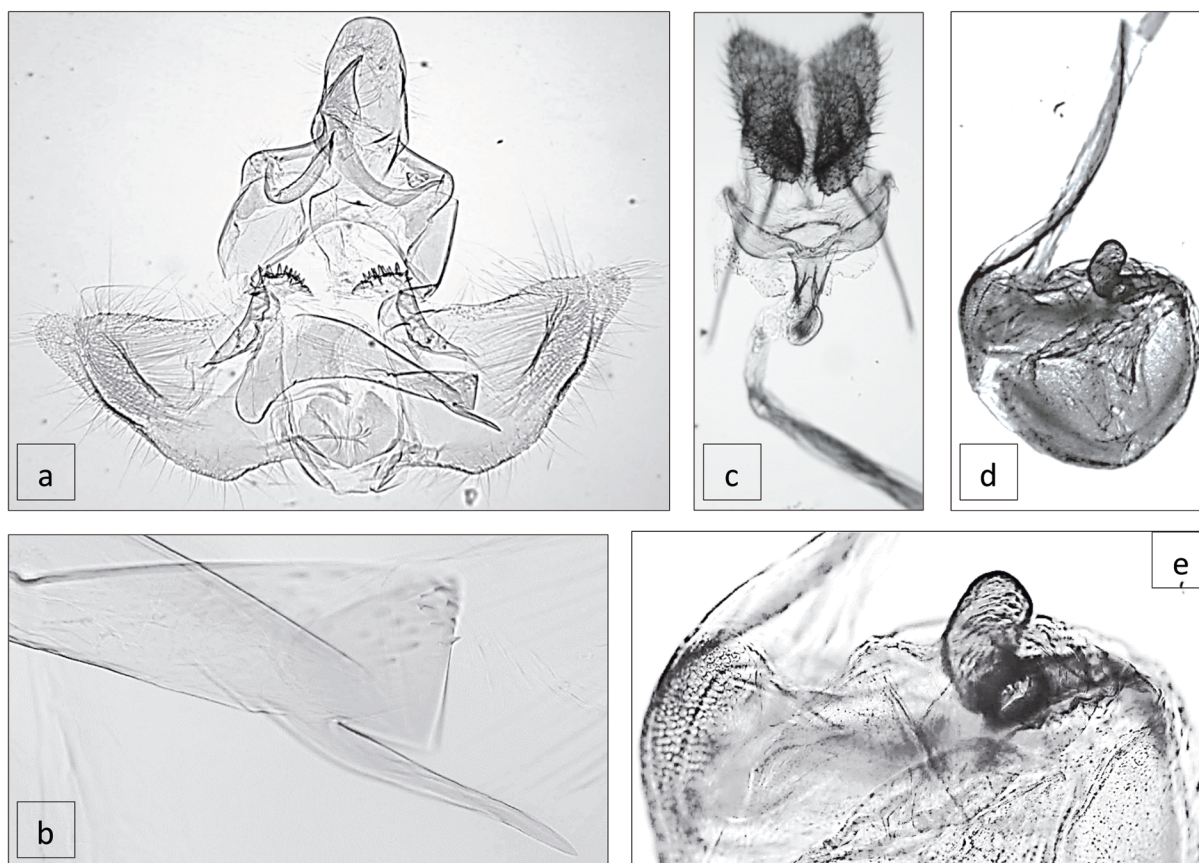


Fig. 2. *Clepsia lesinana*: male genitalia (a), terminal part of aedeagus (b); female genitalia, antrum (c), bursa copulatrix (d), capitulum and signum (e).

tus bursae elongate, cestum long and sclerotized; proximal part of cestum elongated situated in corpus bursae; capitulum of signum developed; signum strong long blade dentate-shaped.

DIAGNOSIS (Fig. 3c-f). *Clepsis lesinana* sp. nov. externally is close to *Clepsis unicolorana* (Duponchel) and *Clepsis pallidana*. In the male genitalia *C. lesinana* differs from the other two species in the conformation

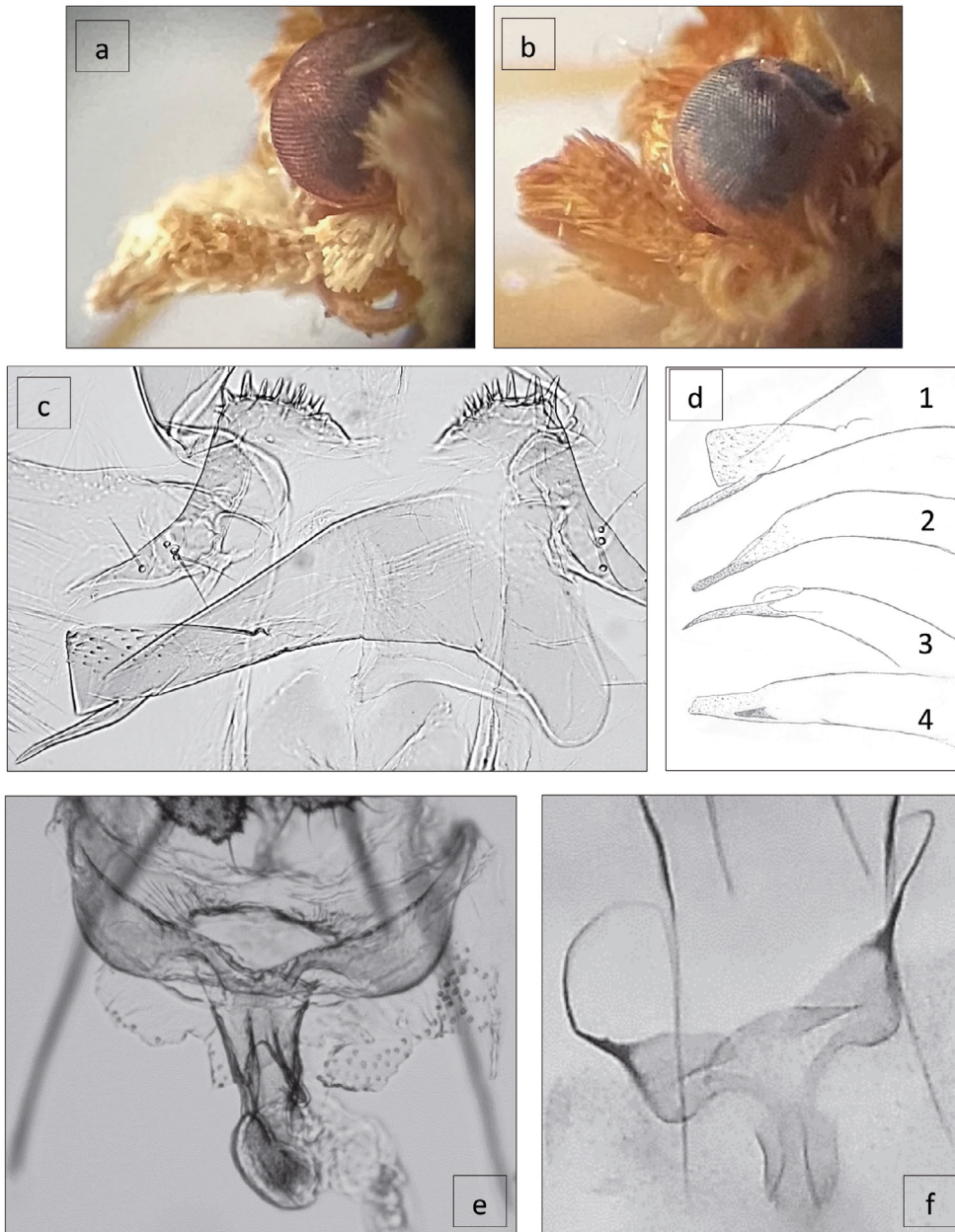


Fig. 3. *Clepsis lesinana* palps (a), *Clepsis consimilana* palps (b). *Clepsis lesinana* aedeagus and labis (c); terminal parts of aedeagus of *Clepsis lesinana* (d1), *Clepsis clemensiana* (d2), *Clepsis aerosana* (d3), and *Clepsis pallidana* (d4); *Clepsis lesinana* female genitalia, antrum and colliculum (e); *Clepsis consimilana* female genitalia, antrum and colliculum (f).

of valvae and the long terminal part of aedeagus that is resembling to *Clepsis aerosana* and *Clepsis clemensiana*. In the female genitalia, the differences are evident above all in the conformation of colliculum and signum, which are more developed.

BIOLOGY. *Clepsis lesinana* flies in mid-June. In the same locality of Lesina Lake, adults of *Clepsis consimilana* were also captured (Fig. 3a and b). The flora of Lesina, a brackish coastal lagoon in Apulia, Italy, is characterized by a mix of aquatic, halophytic, and Mediterranean species adapted to its variable salinity and nutrient-rich waters.

ETYMOLOGY. The new species *Clepsis lesinana* refers to the Lesina Lake.

***Clepsis semiana* (Chrétien, 1915)**

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MATERIALS EXAMINED. 1 male and 1 female, Pantelleria Island, Trapani, Sicily, Italy, 60 m/a.s.l., 25.IX.2024, lux, leg. P. Trematerra.

Deposited in the Trematerra Collection, Campobasso, Italy.

DESCRIPTION. Adults (Fig. 4a and b) - wing span in male 13 mm, in female 12 mm. Male is slightly damaged, but some poorly defined markings can be detected, female is better preserved.

Male. Ground color yellow-brownish with mixture of ochre, rust or cream. Markings browner than ground color. Basal blotch near dorsum, medial fascia slender, indistinct posteriorly, more brownish at dorsum, subapical spot brownish. Cilia cream than ground color browner proximally. Hind wing is greyish, the cilia are pale, darker at the base. Female is unicolor, head with vertex fulvous olive green, frons, palps with ferruginous scales. Thorax dorsally dark fulvous, abdomen pale grey brownish, tegulae fulvous. Forewing fulvous spotted with lighter scales, costa basally convex, apically straight. Markings poorly defined, evident dorsobasal blotch dark brown. Cilia concolorous with background with lighter distal part. Hindwings pale grayish-brown, browner on the periphery, cilia concolorous.

Male genitalia (Fig. 4c and d). Uncus wide, less round apically, with convergent lateral margins, gnathos with relatively large median part and angled arms, socius membranous. Tegumen developed. Valvae pointed

laterally. Costal sclerite wide, with elongated labis covered with large spines. Apical part of sacculus longer than basal part, saccular process pointed, relatively small. Membranous part of valva with developed medial protuberance and long fine tuft of setae, terminal part with small dorsal and large ventral curvature, brachiola prominent, pointed dorsally. Aedeagus thin and long provided by one slender long apical cornutus. Anterior and posterior part of phallus curved.

Female genitalia (Fig. 4e and f). The papillae anales and the apophyses are not specialized. The sterigma is more or less funnel-shaped, flattened dorsal-ventrally, sclerotized, with a large excavation on the dorsal wall. It terminates into a narrow, funnel-shaped colliculum comprising areas of sclerotized tanned plicate and developed thickened transparent cuticle protrusion. The ductus seminalis is inserted at the transition between the colliculus and the ductus bursae. The ductus bursae is long, with a smooth elongate cestum extending on most of its length and expanding onto the corpus bursae as well. The corpus bursae have a signa as a plate located near end of cestum, and a long falcate signum, slightly curved, with some denticles at the base with prominent large capitulum.

DIAGNOSIS. The male genitalia of *C. semiana* are similar to those of *C. striolana*. However, there is a clear difference in the wing pattern, though the male of *C. semiana* some poorly defined markings can be detected. In male genitalia, there are differences in sacculus process, gnathos, and labis; in female genitalia, differences are in colliculum, cuticle protrusion and in long falcate signum, slightly curved, with some denticles at the base, with prominent large capitulum. The differences with *C. consimilana* are above all in the conformation of antrum and colliculum, and the signum, which is longer.

BIOLOGY. Moths are on the wing in late September in shrubby habitats. From a phytosociological point of view, the main community of the Pantelleria Island is represented by the Mediterranean scrub and by holm oak woods of *Quercus ilex*. Along the most arid and south-facing stretches of coast prevails *Pinus halepensis*. Most of the territory is occupied by the low bushy scrubland, dominated by *Erica*, *Pistacia*, *Calycotome*, *Cistus*, *Arbutus unedo*, etc.

DISTRIBUTION. *C. semiana* seems to be limited to west south Mediterranean: Tunisia and Pantelleria Island (this is a new report for Italian and European fauna).

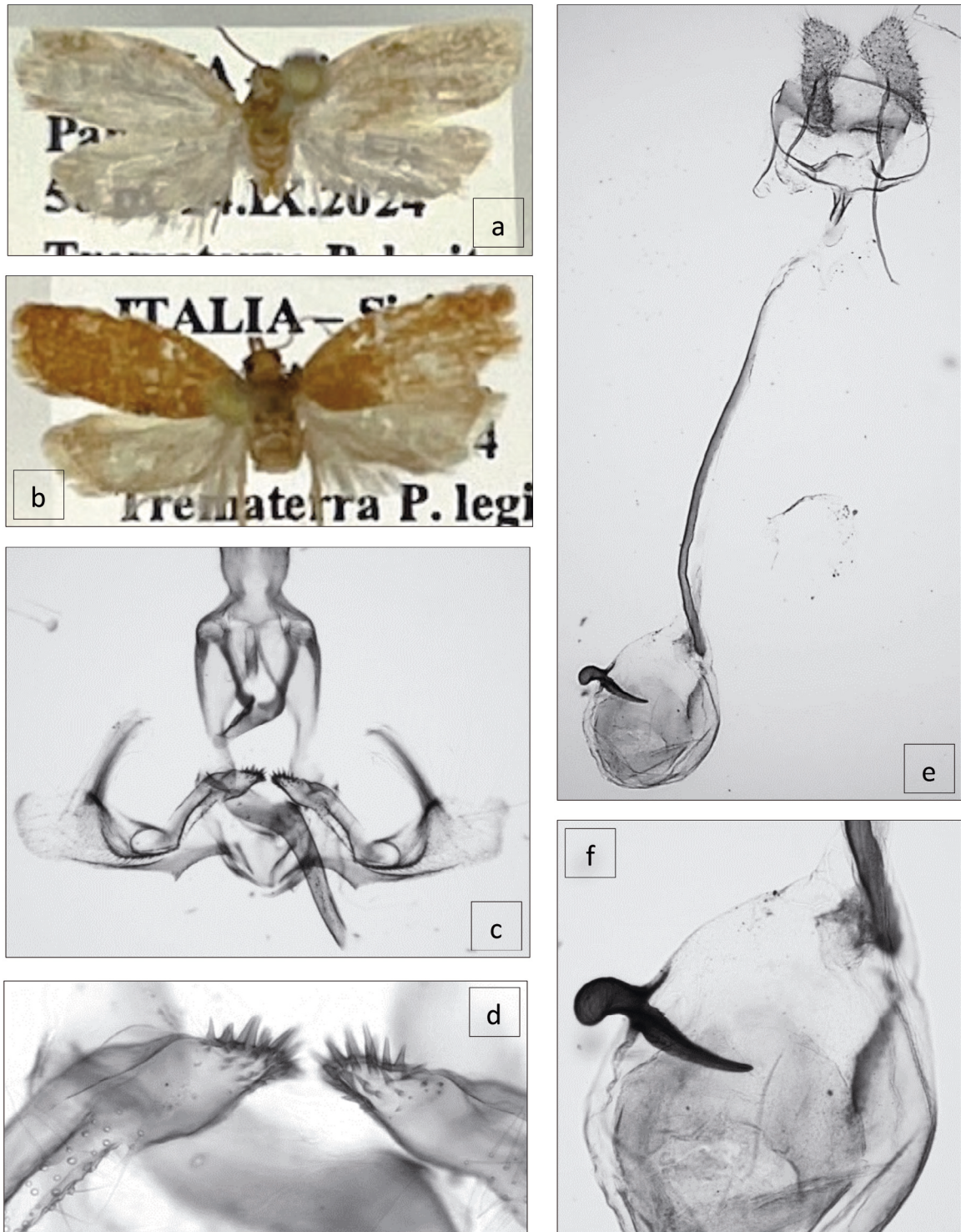


Fig. 4. *Clepsis semiana* adults male (a) and female (b); male genitalia (c), labis (d); female genitalia (e), bursa copulatrix with caputum and signum (f).

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