

## FIRST RECORD OF GENUS *CERNYIA* BUCSEK (LEPIDOPTERA : EREBIDAE : ARCTIINAE) FROM INDIA

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*Cernyia pseudocretacea* Holloway has been reported for the first time from India. It also represents the first report of genus from India.

**Key words :** Lepidoptera, Lithosiini, *Cernyia*, new record, India.

### INTRODUCTION

*Eilema pseudocretacea* Holloway (Arctiinae: Lithosiini) was described by Holloway (2001) from Borneo. The genitalia of *E. pseudocretacea* Holloway was atypical of *Eilema* Hubner and hence, Bucsek (2012) erected a new genus *Cernyia* Bucsek for proper placement of species, *E. pseudocretacea* Holloway from Malaysia, designating the later as the type species of the former. Further, he also shifted species, *Eilema longpala* Holloway under *Cernyia* by proposing a new combination, *Cernyia longpala* (Holloway). Dubatolov & Bucsek (2013) described a new species *Cernyia kosterini* Dubatolov & Bucsek from Cambodia and also proposed two new combinations, *C. arizana* (Wileman) and *C. furcatus* (Fang) under this genus. Thus, the genus is known by only two species and was restricted to Borneo, Malaysia, China, Thailand and Vietnam. However, reporting of the species, *C. pseudocretacea* (Holloway) from Nagaland state represents the first record of the genus *Cernyia* Bucsek from India. With this, distributional range of the genus has been extended upto India. Genitalic features of the genus has also been described.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

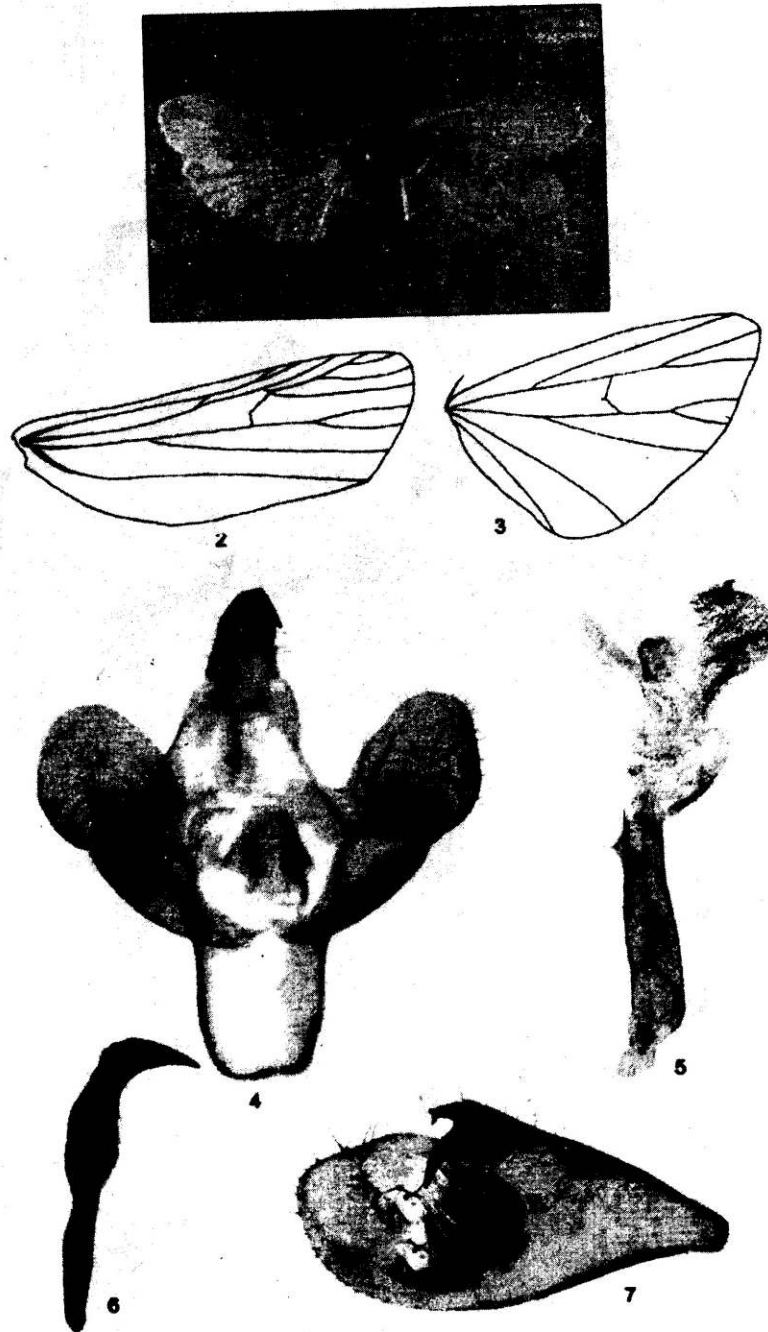
The studied material was collected using a vertical sheet light trap from Nagaland in 2010. The collected specimens were processed using standard techniques in lepidopterology. Adult moths were photographed by using digital camera. Photography of male genitalia was undertaken with the help of an Image Processing Unit. The specimens have been deposited in the Department of Zoology & Environmental Sciences Museum, Punjabi University, Patiala, Punjab.

### RESULTS

#### Genus *Cernyia* Bucsek

**Type species :** *Eilema pseudocretacea* Holloway, 2001 (Borneo).

**Diagnosis :** Male genitalia with uncus broader, moderate in length, ending into long, sclerotized, pointed tip, Tegumen long than uncus; broad, inverted W-shaped; vinculum



Figs. 1-7 : *Cernyia pseudocreatcea* (Holloway); 1. Adult moth; 2. Forewing; 3. Hindwing; 4. Male genitalia; 5. Aedeagus; 6. Uncus (lateral view); 7. Valva (left).

long, deep, U-shaped; saccus broader; valvae with costal process ovoid, broad, sparsely setosed; saccular process short and bifid into a curved spine and blunt flap. Harpe prominent, sclerotized, setosed with long setae. Juxta weakly sclerotized, mountain-like. Transtilla membranous. Aedeagus moderately long and broad; apical hook present; vesica membranous, as long as aedeagus, covered with spinacular field distally; a small, sclerotized, hook-like cornutus at apex; ductus ejaculatorius entering apically.

***Cernyia pseudocretacea* (Holloway, 2001) (Figs. 1-7)**

*Eilema pseudocretacea* Holloway, 2001, Moths of Borneo, 7: 323.

*Cernyia pseudocretacea* (Holloway), Bucsek, 2012, Erebidae of Malaysia, 2012: 125

**Material examined :** India: Nagaland: Wokha 30.5.2010 (4male); Mokokchung 01-5-2010 (3 male), 05/05/2010 (1male); Tuensang 03.05.2010 (2male) (Coll. R. Joshi)

**Remarks :** Reporting of the species, *Cernyia pseudocretacea* (Holloway) is its first record from India.

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