

MORTEN TOP  
DIETER FRITSCH  
VLADIMIR KONONENKO

# NOCTUIDAE EUROPAEAE ESSENTIAL



BUGBOOK PUBLISHING

Noctuidae Europaeae Essential.  
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BugBook Publishing, Denmark. 840 pages.

**Noctuidae Europaeae Essential** is based on the 13 volumes of Noctuidae Europaeae, 1990-2011, by Michael Fibiger, Entomological Press.

**Noctuidae Europaeae Essential** deals with all 1623 known species of European Noctuids. The concise text describes habitats, flight periods, larval food plants and distribution of every European species and their distribution outside Europe. Other topics, including subspecies, generations, frequency and pests are also covered. The European distribution for every species is shown on a clear map, and the text and maps are fully updated.

The book contains photographs of more than 1500 living species of European moths, at rest in typical natural situations, and of more than 1000 of their larvae. All the species are also displayed as set specimens in natural size across 92 colour plates.

This is an essential all-in-one book that is a must-have for experienced naturalists, and because of the user-friendly layout, it will also be of great use to the interested amateur lepidopterist.

Hardback, 840pp., colour photographs and distribution maps throughout, 92 colour plates, weight 3.8kg, text in English

Morten Top-Jensen, Dieter Fritsch and Vladimir Kononenko, BugBook Publishing, May 2023

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1523 species shown as live photos  
1051 species shown as larva photos  
92 sharp colour plates with all species in natural sizes  
Clear and updated distribution maps for every species



**581** *Shargacucullia reisseri* (Boursin, 1933)

(Pl. 33)

NE: Vol. 6 p. 144 pl. 7:1-2, pl. 8:5-6 and pl. 10:16, gen. figs 141, 142 and 212

In North Africa *S. reisseri* inhabits xerothermic grasslands, mixed with Mediterranean scrub and scattered trees. It is found also in hot, dry, xeromontane steppes and semi-desert-like biotopes. Univoltine. The adults are on the wings in May and June. The larvae feed on *Verbascum* species. Outside Europe it is recorded from North Africa.



**582** *Shargacucullia thapsiphaga* (Treitschke, 1826)

(Pl. 33)

NE: Vol. 6 p. 142 pl. 7:3-6 and pl. 10:17-18, gen. figs 143, 144 and 213

*S. thapsiphaga* is living in isolated grassland habitats, sandy steppes in lowland and open hillsides. In southern Europe it is found mainly above the timber line, where the species prefers rocky slopes and gorges. Univoltine. The adults are flying from May to July. The larvae feed on *Verbascum* species. Outside Europe subsp. *anceps* is known from Turkey, Syria, Iraq, Iran, the southern parts of Armenia and the Kopet-Dagh Range, subsp. *belaherczigi* is flying in the central and the eastern Caucasus.



**583** *Shargacucullia scrophulariphaga* (Rambur, 1833)

(Pl. 33)

NE: Vol. 6 p. 126 pl. 6:5-8, gen. figs 123, 124 and 205

The species inhabits maritime sandy beaches but also montane slopes with maquis. It is probably univoltine. The adults are on the wings from March to June. The larvae were found on *Scrophularia ramosissima* and *S. trifoliata*. *S. scrophulariphaga* is endemic to Sardinia and Corsica.



**584** *Shargacucullia caninae* (Rambur, 1833)

(Pl. 33)

NE: Vol. 6 p. 127 pl. 6:1-4, gen. figs 121, 122 and 204

The species settles in rather low altitudes on dry, warm grasslands and rocky slopes with Mediterranean maquis. In the western Mediterranean it occurs in fairly high, open, southern slopes of the high mountains. The northern border of its range is the Upper Rhine Valley (Germany and France). Univoltine. The adults are on the wings from April to June. The larvae feed on *Scrophularia* species but mainly on *S. canina*.



**585** *Shargacucullia blattariae* (Esper, 1790)

(Pl. 33)

NE: Vol. 6 p. 130 pl. 5:37, pl. 6:9-16, pl. 7:7 and pl. 10:10, gen. figs 125-130 and 206, 207

*S. blattariae* inhabits isolated grassland biotopes but also rocky slopes and gorges, clearings, edges of shrubs and steppes up to about 2000 m. Univoltine. The adults are on the wings from April to July. The larvae feed on *Scrophularia* species but mainly on *S. canina*. Outside Europe it is only recorded from Turkey. The literature records from the south Russian steppes and the Caucasus require confirmation (G. RONKAY et al., 2011).





**1601** *Eugraphe sigma* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)  
(Pl. 92)  
NE: Vol. 2 p. 106 pl. 6:1-2, Vol. 12 p. 180 pl. 13:45-46, gen. fig Vol. 3 no. 193  
*E. sigma* inhabits mainly woodland or open areas with trees and bushes. It is known to be migratory. The adults are on the wings from June to September. The larvae were found on *Prunus spinosa*, *Cornus sanguinea*, *Ligustrum vulgare*, *Clematis vitalba*, *Vaccinium myrtillus* and *Atriplex* spp., but they are probably very polyphagous. Outside Europe it is recorded from Siberia to the Pacific Coast, the Korean Peninsula and Japan, from the Caucasus and central Asia.

**1602** *Graphiphora augur* (Fabricius, 1775)  
(Pl. 92)  
NE: Vol. 2 p. 105 pl. 5:42-45, gen. fig Vol. 3 no. 192  
*G. augur* is found in both woodland habitats and more open places, such as dry and wet meadows and cultivated areas. The adults are on the wings in June and August. The larvae are polyphagous, they were found on *Salix caprea*, *Rubus caesius*, *Prunus spinosa*, *Cornus sanguinea*, *Rumex* and *Crataegus* spp. Outside Europe it is recorded from the Caucasus (subsp. *augur*) and throughout Siberia to the Pacific Coast, Mongolia, China and Japan (subsp. *tobolskensis*).

**1603** *Spaelotis suecica* (Aurivillius, 1890)  
(Pl. 92)  
NE: Vol. 2 p. 96 (as *Spaelotis clandestina suecica*) pl. 5:34-37, gen. fig Vol. 3 no. 190a  
In northern Europe and in the Alps *S. suecica* inhabits open, dry, sandy or rocky areas. In some case it also inhabits pine forests. In Russia it is considered as a taiga species. The adults are on the wings from late April to October with a summer diapause. The larvae were found on *Chamaenerion* spp., but they were feeding on many herbaceous plants in rearing. Subsp. *gyilkosi* is flying in the Carpathians. Outside Europe it is known from several places throughout Siberia and Mongolia.

**1604** *Spaelotis ravida* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)  
(Pl. 92)  
NE: Vol. 2 p. 95 pl. 5:22-25, gen. fig Vol. 3 no. 185  
This migratory species has great cyclical changes in range, type of habitat and abundance. Most likely it appears on edges of marshes and meadows. The adults are on the wings from May to October with a summer diapause. The larvae are polyphagous herbaceous plants. Outside Europe it is recorded from North Africa, western Turkey, Syria and Iraq (subsp. *ravida*), central Asia, Iran and south-eastern Turkey (subsp. *stabulorum*) and from Siberia to China, the Korean Peninsula and Japan (subsp. *similis*).

**1605** *Spaelotis defuncta* (Staudinger, 1896)  
(Pl. 92)  
NE: Vol. 2 p. 100 pl. 11:24-25 (as *Spaelotis deplorata defuncta*), Vol. 12 p. 176 pl. 12:48 (as *S. deplorata* (STAUDINGER, 1897))  
One result of new research on the genus *Spaelotis* was the revised status of the taxon *defuncta* to species rank. The European specimens belong to *S. defuncta*, not to *S. deplorata* (VARGA et al., 2015). It inhabits open mountain steppe. The adults are on the wings from June to August. The early stages are unknown. Subsp. *dominans* is flying in Europe. Outside Europe it is recorded with several subspecies from Siberia, central Asia, Mongolia, China, Iran and Afghanistan.

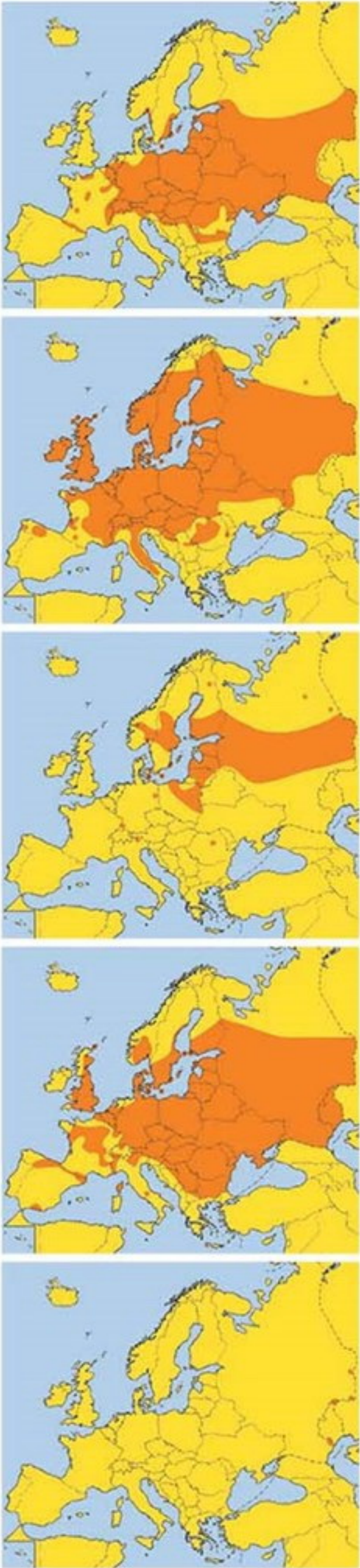






PLATE 8. 118 *A. menetriesii*, 119 *A. matronula*, 120 *A. tigrina*, 121 *A. aulica*, 122 *A. testudinaria*, 123 *A. dejeanii*, 124 *Dodia albertae*, 125 *Callimorpha dominula*, 126 *Enplagia quadripunctaria*, 127 *Tyria jacobaeae*, 128 *Lacydes spectabilis*, 129 *Cymbalophora pudica*.



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### Morten Top-Jensen

Morten Top-Jensen was born 1956 in Hellerup, Copenhagen. As a child he was very interested in all kinds of insects and fish. The family summerhouse in Rungsted north of Copenhagen was like a sanctuary for young Morten. He graduated as a teacher in 1982 with Danish and Biology as major subjects. He moved to the Baltic Sea island Bornholm in 1996. In 2004 he published first yearly volume of Bornholm nature magazine – “Natur på Bornholm” as an editor and writer and it is still emerging in March 2021. His job at local television station TV2 Bornholm as mediator of natural subjects mainly insects and spiders started around 2005. He have had his monthly feature in the program “Ekko” up to now. In 2014 he made his own nature series “Kryb og Kravl” 24 thirty minutes programs – they have been shown as rebroadcast since. In 2009 he founded BugBook Publishing and he published “Danmarks sommerfugle” with Michael Fibiger as a co-writer. In 2011 he published “Sveriges Fjärilar” where he was co-writer together with Hakon Elmqvist, Jörgen Liljeberg and Michael Fibiger (second edition was published in 2019). “Moths of Great Britain and Ireland” by Sean Clancy, Morten Top-Jensen and Michael Fibiger was published in 2012. In 2014 two books were published “Die Nachtfalter Deutschlands – Ein Feldführer” by Axel Steiner, Ulrich Ratzel, Morten Top-Jensen and Michael Fibiger and later that year a Finnish book “Suomen päivä- ja yöperhoset – maastokäsikirja – A Field Guide to the Butterflies and Moths of Finland” by Kimmo Silvonen, Morten Top-Jensen and Michael Fibiger. In between the book makings Morten Top also do lectures on moths and butterflies, co-writer on semi-scientific papers in numerous magazines and scientific papers (Esperiana Band 19, 2014 together with Dieter Fritsch, Günter Stangelmaier and Knud Bech) and books (Trap Danmark about fauna interesting areas at Bornholm, 2018). As a keen photographer Morten Top has delivered nature photos to a number of books, newspapers and magazines and he had an exhibition of large photographs of local insects and spiders at the nature museum “Natur Bornholm” 2020-2021.



### Dieter Fritsch

Dieter Fritsch was born in 1951 in Berlin, Germany. In 1983 he became an occupational therapist, working with children in a kindergarten in Berlin, and from 1989 in Basel, Switzerland, in the University Hospital for children. He retired in 2012. Entomology was completely absent to his life until 1990. There he found the new publication of Günter EBERT and Erwin RENNWALD (eds): Die Schmetterlinge Baden-Württembergs, which just had been published and which aroused his interest. In 1993 he found a small population of *Brenthis daphne*, which was known from one specimen only in Baden-Württemberg. In 1998 he moved to Lörrach. At the annual meeting of Baden-Württemberg lepidopterologists he learned a lot about “How to find larvae of *Eupithecia* sp.” In 1998 he also started collecting moths, getting mainly interested in Geometridae and Noctuidae and working together with the EBERT-team for the Baden-Württemberg books. In 2002 he found the first specimen of *Caradrina kadenii* for Germany. His main focus was rearing Geometrid moths, especially those of the genus *Eupithecia*, the results are also included in the “The Geometrid moths of Europe” series (AXEL HAUSMANN, ed.). In 2002 he visited the island of Samos (Greece) as a tourist, but completely stunned by the huge number of moths seen at the hotel lights, almost every species new to him. In 2009 he met Michael FIBIGER for the first time. He had been to Samos collecting moths the same year with colleagues from Denmark, and planned to go again in autumn. This collecting tour was the first time where he met Morten TOP. This was the start for a very close friendship, together and with colleagues many collecting trips to Samos, the Pyrenees and southern Spain followed. During a visit at Bornholm he also met Vladimir KONONENKO, and learned about his idea of making a book like you find here. First looking for photos in the internet for the project, he later became a permanent member of the team.



### Vladimir Kononenko

Dr. Vladimir Stepanovich Kononenko was born in 1950. He is professional entomologist, a senior researcher fellow of the laboratory of Entomology at Federal Scientific Center of the East Asia Terrestrial Biodiversity, Far Eastern Branch Russian Academy of Sciences (Vladivostok, Russia). During 40 years he studies the systematics, taxonomy and biogeography of the noctuid moths (Lepidoptera, Noctuoidea) of the Russian Far East, Eastern Palaearctic and the Oriental Zoogeographic region. He is an author of over 270 scientific articles and monograph, among them are Illustrated catalogue of the Noctuidae in Korea (1998) and Atlas genitalia Korean Noctuidae (2007), Key for identification of insects of the Russian Far East Vol. IV (2003); Moths of Thailand, Noctuoidea, Volume 3, parts 1 and 2 (2005 and 2013) and three volumes of Noctuidae Sibiricae (2005, 2010 and 2016), Lepidoptera of Norway (2009). He is good scientific illustrator with an experience to illustrate his monographs himself and the issue of the Noctuidae Europaea with genitalia photos, the series of monographs by Michael Fibiger on Micronocuidae with imago and genitalia of and the series of books on Lepidoptera of Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Great Britain and Germany of issued by Morten Top.