



First record of *Araeomolis propinqua* Toulgoët, 1998 (Lepidoptera: Erebiidae: Arctiinae) from Brazil

José Augusto Teston^{1*}, Ana Carla Walfredo da Conceição², Danúbia Marcela Pereira Valente² and Margarida Pereira de Freitas³

- 1 Universidade Federal do Oeste do Pará (UFOPA), Programa de Pós-Graduação em Recursos Naturais da Amazônia (PPGRNA) and Instituto de Ciências da Educação (ICED) – Laboratório de Estudos de Lepidópteros Neotropicais (LELN). Rua Vera Paz s/n, CEP 68040-255, Santarém, PA, Brazil
- 2 Universidade Federal do Oeste do Pará (UFOPA), Programa de Pós-Graduação em Recursos Naturais da Amazônia (PPGRNA). Rua Vera Paz s/n, CEP 68040-255, Santarém, PA, Brazil
- 3 Universidade Federal do Oeste do Pará (UFOPA), Laboratório de Estudos de Lepidópteros Neotropicais (LELN). Rua Vera Paz s/n, CEP 68040-255, Santarém, PA, Brazil

* Corresponding author: E-mail: jateston@gmail.com

Abstract: This note reports the first record of *Araeomolis propinqua* Toulgoët, 1998 (Lepidoptera: Erebiidae: Arctiinae) in Brazil. The specimens were found in Amazônia National Park, Pará state, Eastern Amazon. The distribution of *A. propinqua* is extended 1,100 km south from its nearest previous locality.

Key words: Noctuoidea; Arctiini; Phaegopterina; tiger-moths; Neotropics

The genus *Araeomolis* was described by Hampson in 1901 and its distribution is exclusively Neotropical; currently there are ten described species (Vincent and Laguerre

2014), and among these, six have known distribution in Brazil: *Araeomolis albipicta* (Dognin, 1909) (Amazonas), *A. irregularis* (Rothschild, 1909) (Amazonas), *A. irrupta* (Schaus, 1905) (Pará), *A. persimilis* Rothschild, 1909 (Amazonas), *A. rhodographa* Hampson, 1901 (Amazonas and Pará) and *A. rubens* (Schaus, 1905) (Amazonas, Maranhão, Mato Grosso, Pará and Rondônia) (Rothschild 1910; Hawes et al. 2009; Ferro and Diniz 2010; Vincent and Laguerre 2014; Teston and Correa 2015).

Araeomolis propinqua Toulgoët, 1998 was described from a male specimen whose type locality is Piste de Nancibo PK 0.5, Route de Régina in Cayenne, French Guiana; the type is deposited in the collection of the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France



Figure 1. *Araeomolis propinqua* Toulgoët, 1998, dorsal view, male. Scale bar = 1 cm.

Table 1. Geographical coordinates of known distribution of *Araeomolis propinqua* Toulgoët, 1998.

Country*	State/province*	Latitude †	Longitude†
French Guiana	Cayenne	04°25'44.40" N	052°33'39.96" W
Venezuela	Amazonas	05°39'28.80" N	067°26'45.60" W
Venezuela	Bolivar	06°07'08.4" N	063°37'40.80" W

* (Toulgoët 1998).

† Geographical coordinates approximated using Google Earth.

(MNHN). This species is also reported as occurring in Venezuela (Amazonas and Bolivar states) (Toulgoët 1998) (Table 1).

We collected two individuals of *A. propinqua* (Figure 1), between 12–13 July 2013 and 03–04 March 2014, using L-shaped light traps made with two white sheets (2 × 2 m) and two mixed-lamps (250 watts), in Amazônia National Park, Municipality of Itaituba, state of Pará, Brazil (04°39'16.8" S, 056°36'08.9" W) (Figure 2).

The voucher specimens were deposited in the lepidopterological collection of Laboratório de Estudos de Lepidópteros Neotropicais (LELN) of Programa de Ciências Naturais (PCNAT, UFOPA). Collections were made with permission of ICMBio, under "Autorização para atividades com finalidade científica 30499-2" and "Licença Permanente para Coleta de Material Zoológico 18132-3" from SISBIO, both issued to JAT.

The identification was made using the description

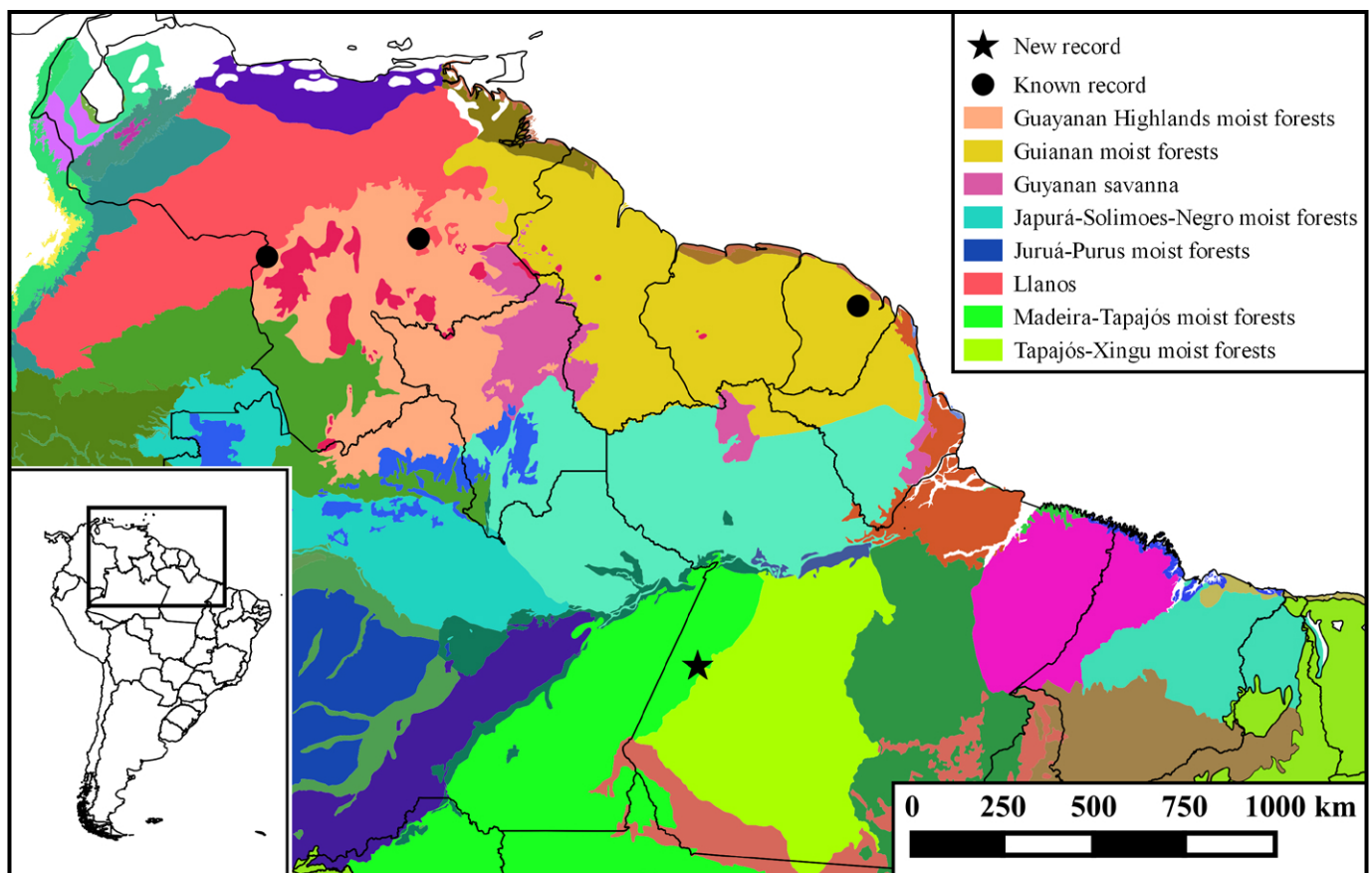
and figures of Toulgoët (1998). Genitalia were also compared to Toulgoët (1998). The general appearance of *A. propinqua* is very close to that of *A. rubens* but the color of the forewing is slightly dark brown with two vertical bands. The hind wing is triangular dark crimson with a small bright white costal area.

Examined material: *Araeomolis propinqua* Toulgoët, 1998: Brazil, Pará, Itaituba, Amazônia National Park 12–13-VII-2013, 1 male, Teston, J.A. leg., voucher number (LELN 01.598) and 03–04-III-2014, 1 male, Valente, D.M.P. leg., voucher number (LELN 01.597).

This is the first record for the species in Brazil and it extends the known distribution of *A. propinqua* 1,100 km south from Cayenne, French Guiana, the closest record for the species (Toulgoët 1998). This new record increases the number of species of *Araeomolis* occurring in Brazil (Vincent and Laguerre 2014) to seven and the number of species of Arctiinae occurring in Pará state (Teston and Freitas 2015) to 534 and highlights the need to sample in poorly known areas such as the Brazilian Amazon.

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**Figure 2.** Known geographic distribution and associated ecoregions of *Araeomolis propinqua* Toulgoët, 1998 (sensu Olson et al. 2001).

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