

**New findings of the case-bearing moth genus
Coleophora from the Balkan Peninsula with the description
of *Coleophora vardarella* sp. nov.
(Lepidoptera: Coleophoridae)**

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Abstract. Present article brings information about new findings of case-bearing moths (Lepidoptera: Coleophoridae) from the Balkan Peninsula. Several species of the genus *Coleophora* were recorded for the first time for some of the Balkan countries. *Coleophora herniariae*, *C. daglarica* and *C. albipennella* are recorded as new for the fauna of Europe. The description *Coleophora vardarella* Richter, sp. nov., from Macedonia is given.

Keywords. Lepidoptera, Coleophoridae, *Coleophora vardarella* sp. nov., *Coleophora herniariae*, *Coleophora daglarica*, *Coleophora albipennella*, Macedonia, the Balkan Peninsula.

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Introduction

Intensive faunistic research of small moths (“Microlepidoptera”) of the Balkan Peninsula continues for several decades already and lasts until the recent times. The family Coleophoridae Bruand, 1850 belongs to the less known moths of the Balkans, therefore our focus has been oriented towards this large Lepidoptera family. Faunistic and systematic studies of this moth group in the Balkans resulted in interesting findings. One of the most important recent works about the genera *Coleophora* Hübner, 1822 and *Goniodoma* Zeller, 1849 of the Balkan Peninsula is the contribution of Richter & Pastorális (2015). Results of surveys conducted by senior or author, executed in the years 2010–2014 at different sites of Croatia, Montenegro, Macedonia, and Bulgaria were presented. The authors reported 13 new species for Croatia, 30 for Macedonia, 25 for Montenegro and 15 new species for Bulgaria. Eleven species were new for the Balkan Peninsula and *Coleophora amasiella* was reported for the first time for Europe.

Present contribution summarizes the author's findings from the years 2015 and 2016, taking in Croatia, Montenegro, Macedonia, and Bulgaria. Findings of O. Karsholt, K. Larsen and Z. Tokár are also included. Altogether three new Lepidoptera species for Croatia, eight for Montenegro, 18 for Bulgaria and twelve new species for Macedonia are presented. Altogether five species are new for the Balkan countries and three species (*Coleophora albipennella*, *Coleophora daglarica*, and *Coleophora herniariae*), are new for the European fauna. One case-bearing moth

species is described here for as new for science: *Coleophora vardarella* sp. nov.

Appropriate literature sources were used species determination and for comparison of species specific morphological features (Baldizzone 1976, 1984, 1992, 1994, 2001, Baldizzone & Hartig 1978, Baldizzone & Tabell 1999, Baldizzone & van der Wolf 2007, Nel 2001, Razowski 1990). Species distribution data come from the Fauna Europaea webpage (<http://www.faunaeu.org>) and from the World catalogue of Insects (Vol. 8, Lepidoptera, Coleophoridae) (Baldizzone et al. 2006).

Abbreviations. coll. = collection; det. = determinator; E= east; GP= Genital Preparation; IgR= Ignác Richter; km= kilometre; leg.= collector; m a.s.l.= metres above sea level (altitude); mm= millimetre; N= north; NP= National Park; NW= northwest; S= south; sp. nov. (*species nova*)= new species; SW = southwest; W= west, ZMUC= Zoological Museum, University of Copenhagen.

Description of new species

Coleophora vardarella sp. nov. (Figures 1–4.)

Holotype. male, Macedonia, Pepelište (near Negotino), altitude: 307 m a.s.l., latitude & longitude: 41.58243 N, 22.15288 E, 22. VI. 2016, leg. et coll. Ignác Richter, GP 24619 IgR.

New species belongs to the *Coleophora lutipennella* group which consist of for taxa (Zeller 1838, Baldizzone & Tabell 2009, Baldizzone 2010, 2014). The differences among the species within the *C. lutipennella* group are visible on the male genitalia. The shape of sacculus, transtilla and phallotheca termination of *C. vardarella* sp. nov. is clearly different from the same genital structures of known *Coleophora* species.

Diagnosis. Male genitalia. Gnathos shape is transversely oval, broader than tegumen. Tegumen is markedly constricted medially, pedunculi short. Cucullus is short, parallel-sided. Transtilla is significantly wider as it is in the case of other species of the “*C. lutipennella* group”, wedge shaped. Valvula is small and narrow. Sacculus shape is narrow, elongate, with straight ventral edge and in distal part with strongly sclerotized tubercles, without spines nor teeth. Sacculus ends with a depression and rounded tip not reaching the distal margin of valvula. Phallotheca is narrow and long, its apex is undivided with shorter sclerotized tip. Cornutus is singled, short and spiniform.

Description. Head, thoracal tegulae, and labial palpi are pale ochreous. Third segment of labial palpus is about half size of the second segment. Basal antennal segment (scapus) is of bright, whitish colour with a cluster of darker scales. Annulated flagellum is ochreous–whitish coloured at the base, brownish-white in its second half. Wingspan (measured between fore wing apices): 10 mm, Forewings are lightly ochreous with scattered ochreous-brown scales, occurring more frequently on the apical parts of the wings. Cilia are pale ochreous in colour.

Female. Not known.

Bionomics. Host plant and early developmental stages are not known.

Distribution. Macedonia.

Etymology. The species-group name refers to the type locality, the valley of Vardar river.

Fig. 1.

Coleophora vardarella sp. n.,
Holotypus, male, 10 mm,
22. VI. 2016,
Pepelište (near Negotino),
leg. et coll. Ignác Richter



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Fig. 2. *Coleophora vardarella* sp. n., male gen.,
GP 24619 IgR.

Fig. 3. *Coleophora vardarella* sp. n., male gen.,
lateral view



3



Fig. 4. *Coleophora vardarella* sp. n.,
abdomen

4

List of species

Coleophora albipennella Staudinger, 1879 – Bulgaria, 5 km N of Sandanski, 130–200 m a.s.l., 31. VII. – 9. VIII. 2012, leg. O. Karsholt, coll. ZMUC; Bulgaria Besaparian hills, Isperichovo, 3. VI. 2016, leg. det. & coll. Ig. Richter. The distribution of this species extends from Turkey, through Armenia, to Kazakhstan and Iran. **New species for the Europe, the Balkans, and Bulgaria.** (Figures 8–10)

Coleophora betulella Heinemann, 1877 – Montenegro, NP Durmitor, 8 km S of Žabljak, 1600 m a.s.l., 19 – 24. VII. 2014, leg. O. Karsholt, det. Ig. Richter, coll. ZMUC. Widespread, distributed from the British Isles, through Scandinavia and Baltic countries, towards southern Russia. From the Balkans, it has been known only from Slovenia. **New species for Montenegro.**

Coleophora brevipalpella Wocke, 1874 – Bulgaria, Nova Lovcha, 800 m a.s.l., 7. VIII. 2013, leg. O. Karsholt, det. Ig. Richter, coll. ZMUC. Occurs mostly in the northern parts of Europe (Scandinavian and Baltic countries), from central Europe and from Romania. The species has been recorded in Macedonia. *C. brevipalpella* is absent in Spain and Italy and does not occur in Russia. **New species for Bulgaria.**

Coleophora breviuscula Staudinger, 1880 – Macedonia, Latovo, 29. VIII. 2016, leg., det. et coll. Ig. Richter. In Europe, it is known only from Italy, Switzerland, and Greece. **New species for Macedonia.**

Coleophora chrysanthemi Hofmann, 1869 – Bulgaria, 5 km N of Sandanski, 130–200 m a.s.l., 31. VII. – 9. VIII. 2012, leg. O. Karsholt, det. Ig. Richter, coll. ZMUC. Rare species with scattered distribution within Europe. In the north, it was found in Finland, further in central Europe (Germany, Austria, Czechia, Slovakia, and Hungary). In southern regions of Europe, it is only known from Italy. **New species for the Balkans and Bulgaria.**

Coleophora conyzae Zeller, 1868 – Croatia, Goriš, 4. IX. 2015; Macedonia, Kozjak lake, 16. VI. 2016; Macedonia, Gopceli, 29. VII. 2015; Bulgaria, Malak Kozhukh, 7. VI. 2016, leg., det. et coll. Ig. Richter. Widespread in Europe, confirmed also from the Balkans (Albania and Greece). **New species for Bulgaria and Macedonia.**

Coleophora daglarica Baldizzone & Tabell, 1999 – Bulgaria, Besaparian hills, Isperichovo, 3. VI. 2016, leg., det. et coll. Ig. Richter. The species has been known only from Turkey, and now found in Bulgaria. **New species for the Europe, the Balkans, and Bulgaria** (Figures 11–13).

Coleophora dianthi Herrich-Schäffer, 1855 – Macedonia, Prilep, 26. – 27. VII. 2015, Pepelište; 25–26. VIII. 2016, leg., det. et coll. Ig. Richter. Widespread species in Europe. In the Balkans, it has been found in Croatia, Bulgaria, and Greece. **New species for Macedonia.**

Coleophora drymidis Mann, 1857 – Montenegro, NP Durmitor, Sedlo Dobri Do, 1900 m a.s.l., 13 km SW of Žabljak, 19–24. VII. 2014, leg. O. Karsholt, det. Ig. Richter, coll. ZMUC. This species has been found only in the Balkans, in Croatia and Greece. **New species for Montenegro.**

Coleophora filaginella Fuchs, 1881 – Macedonia, NP Mavrovo, 10 km W of Galičnik, 20. VI. 2016, leg., det. et coll. Ig. Richter. Rare species. *C. filaginella* has scattered distribution with isolated populations in Europe. It is known only from few European countries – Finland, Latvia, Germany and Greece. **New species for Macedonia.**

Coleophora flavipennella (Duponchel, 1843) – Bulgaria, Pirin Mts., 2 km S of Pirin village, 1010 m a.s.l., 5. VIII. 2012, leg. O. Karsholt, det. Ig. Richter, coll. ZMUC. Considerably widespread species in Europe. Its distribution ranges from British Isles, till southern Russia. Known also from Croatia and Macedonia. **New species for Bulgaria.**

Coleophora galbulipennella Zeller, 1838 – Bulgaria, Nova Lovcha, 800 m a.s.l., 7. VIII. 2013, leg. O. Karsholt, det. Ig. Richter, coll. ZMUC. Widespread in Europe. In the Balkans, it is known from Croatia and Macedonia. **New species for Bulgaria.**

Coleophora hemerobiella (Scopoli, 1763) – Bulgaria, Pirin Mts., 2 km S of Pirin village, 1010 m a.s.l., 5. VIII. 2013, leg. O. Karsholt, det. Ig. Richter, coll. ZMUC. Widespread in central part of Europe, absent from the Iberian Peninsula. There are no data about its occurrence in Russia. From the Balkan countries, it has been recorded from Slovenia, Croatia, and Greece. **New species for Bulgaria.**

Coleophora herniariae Baldizzone, 2001 – Croatia, Seline, 27. IV. 2008, leg. et coll. Z. Tokár; Croatia, Goriš, 3. V. 2015, leg. et coll. Ig. Richter. *C. herniariae* has been known only from Turkey, and now found in Croatia. **New species for Europe, the Balkans, and Croatia** (Figures 14–16).

Coleophora hungaricae Gozmány, 1955 – Macedonia, Pepelište, 25. – 26. VIII. 2016, 3. IX. 2016, leg., det. et coll. Ig. Richter. Species with scattered distribution. Recorded from central Europe (Hungary, Austria, Slovakia, Romania) and southern part of Russia. In the Balkans, it was found in Bulgaria. **New species for Macedonia.**

Coleophora lassella Staudinger, 1859 – Croatia Tribunj, 4. V. 2015, leg., det. et coll. Ig. Richter. This species occurs in whole of Europe (including some of the larger Mediterranean isles), except in central parts. Infrequent in the Balkan Peninsula, it has been known only from Greece. **New species for Croatia.**

Coleophora lessinica Baldizzone, 1980 – Bulgaria, Pernik, Bosnek, 950 m a.s.l., 9. VIII. 2013, leg. O. Karsholt, det. Ig. Richter, coll. ZMUC. Rare species with scattered distribution in Europe with records from France, Italy, Hungary, Croatia and Macedonia. **New species for Bulgaria.**

Coleophora lithargyrinella Zeller, 1849 – Bulgaria, Rila Mts., Kirilova Poljana, 14 km E of Rila Monastir, 1950–2150 m a.s.l., 1. VIII. 2013, leg. K. Larsen, det. Ig. Richter, coll. ZMUC. Widespread species in Europe, however, data from Spain and Russia are missing. From the Balkan countries, it is known only from Croatia. **New species for Bulgaria.**

Coleophora mayrella (Hübner, 1813) – Montenegro, NP Durmitor, Borje, 1280 m a.s.l., 9 km E of Žabljak, 22. VII. 2014, leg. O. Karsholt, det. Ig. Richter, coll. ZMUC. Widespread in Europe. From the Balkans, it is confirmed from Slo-

venia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Albania, Greece and now also from Montenegro. **New species for Montenegro.**

Coleophora preisseckeri Toll, 1942 – Bulgaria, 5 km N of Sandanski, 130–200 m, 31.VII. – 9. VIII. 2012, leg. O. Karsholt, det. Ig. Richter, coll. ZMUC; Bulgaria, Besaparian hills, Isperichovo, 3. VI. 2016, leg., det. et coll. Ig. Richter. Species with mainly southern distribution, hitherto it has not been found in the northern parts of Europe. *C. preisseckeri* occurs in western, central and southern Europe. In the Balkan region, the species has been found in Slovenia, Croatia, Macedonia and European part of Turkey. **New species for Bulgaria.**

Coleophora pseudociconiella Toll, 1952 – Macedonia, Pepelište, 3. IX. 2016, leg., det. et coll. Ig. Richter. *C. pseudociconiella* has been found in central Europe (Czechia, Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania), further in the southern (Italy, Sardinia) and eastern parts of Europe (Ukraine, Russia). In the Balkans, it is known only from Croatia and Bulgaria. **New species for Macedonia.**

Coleophora pseudorepentis Toll, 1960 – Bulgaria, Besaparian hills, Isperichovo, 3. VI. 2016, leg., det. et coll. Ig. Richter; Macedonia, Modrište, 17. VI. 2016, leg., det. et coll. Ig. Richter. This species is present in France (including Corsica), Italy (including Sardinia), Germany, Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, and Ukraine. From the Balkans, it has been confirmed from Croatia only. **New species for Bulgaria and Macedonia.**

Coleophora ptarmicia Walsingham, 1910 – Bulgaria, Dobrich reg., Kap. Kalikra, 5–10. VI. 2011, leg., K. Larsen, det. Ig. Richter, coll. ZMUC. According to the available data, the distribution area of this species is disjunct. In the north part of Europe, the species could be found in the Baltic countries. In central Europe, it is present in Czechia, Austria, Slovakia, and Hungary. In south, the species has been found in mainland Italy, Sicily, and southern Russia in Europe. **New species for Bulgaria.**

Coleophora ramosella Zeller, 1849 – Macedonia, Prilep, 1 ex., 10. VII. 2016, 2. IX. 2016, leg., det. et coll. Ig. Richter. Considered to be widespread in Europe. Occurs from the British Isles, Scandinavia and Baltic countries in the north; and from Spain via central European countries to southern Russia. In the Balkans, it is known only in Slovenia. **New species for Macedonia.**

Coleophora samarensis (Anikin, 2001) – Montenegro, NP Durmitor, Virak, 1550 m a.s.l., 4 km S of Žabljak, 19. – 24. VII. 2014, leg. O. Karsholt, det. Ig. Richter, coll. ZMUC; Macedonia, NP Mavrovo, Radika river valley, 1500 m a.s.l., 22. VII. 2015, leg., det. et coll. Ig. Richter. *C. samarensis* is distributed in Russia and Ukraine. **New species for Montenegro and Macedonia (Figures 5–7).**

Coleophora saponariella Heeger, 1848 – Bulgaria, 5 km N of Sandanski, 130–200 m a.s.l., 31. VII–9. VIII. 2012, leg. O. Karsholt, det. Ig. Richter, coll. ZMUC. Species with scattered distribution in Europe. In northern Europe, it has been confirmed only from Sweden, not found elsewhere. *C. saponariella* has not been found in Great Britain, neither in Spain nor in Russia. Only few records are available from the Balkans, and from Croatia. **New species for Bulgaria.**

Coleophora saxicolella (Duponchel, 1843) – Montenegro, NP Durmitor, Virak, 1550 m a.s.l., 4 km S of Žabljak, 19. – 24. VII. 2014, leg. O. Karsholt, det.

Ig. Richter, coll. ZMUC. Widespread species within Europe. Found also in the Balkans (in Slovenia, Croatia, Macedonia, and Greece). **New species for Montenegro**

Coleophora settariae Wocke, 1877 – Bulgaria, 15 km N of Sandanski, Ilindetsi, 500 m a.s.l., 3. VIII. 2012, leg. O. Karsholt, det. Ig. Richter, coll. ZMUC; Bulgaria, Sandanski, 5. – 6. VI. 2016, leg., det. et coll. Ig. Richter. This species has been known only from Austria, France, Italy, and Switzerland. **New species for the Balkans and Bulgaria.**

Coleophora squamella Constant, 1885 – Bulgaria, 15 km N of Sandanski, Ilindetsi, 500 m a.s.l., 31. VII. 2012, leg. O. Karsholt, det. Ig. Richter, coll. ZMUC. Species with continuous distribution only in central Europe. The occurrence of *C. squamella* has been confirmed in Austria, Czechia, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania. Further, it has been recorded in France, Italy, Sardinia, but could be found also in Slovenia and Croatia. **New species for Bulgaria.**

Coleophora striatipennella Nylander in Tengström, 1848 – Macedonia, NP Mavrovo, Korab, Kobilino pole, 20–21. VII. 2015, leg., det. et coll. Ig. Richter. Widespread and common species. However, only few records are available from the Balkans. The occurrence of *C. striatipennella* has been confirmed only from Slovenia, and recently also from Macedonia. **New species for Macedonia.**

Coleophora supinella Ortner, 1949 – Montenegro, NP Durmitor, 6,8 km NW of Žabljak, 1740 m a.s.l., 23. VII. 2014, leg. O. Karsholt, det. Ig. Richter, coll. ZMUC. Species found in several countries of Europe. It occurs in Belgium, France, Spain, Germany, Austria, Czechia, and Slovakia. In southern Europe, *C. supinella* has been found in Bulgaria and Macedonia. **New species for Montenegro.**

Coleophora texanella Chambers, 1878 – Bulgaria, 5 km N of Sandanski, 130 –200 m a.s.l., 31. VII. – 9. VIII. 2012, leg. O. Karsholt, det. Ig. Richter, coll. ZMUC; Bulgaria, Sandanski, 5. IX. 2016, leg., det. et coll. Ig. Richter. This species is native to North America (USA), it has been also confirmed from Greece, Sardinia, Sicily, Macedonia and Croatia (Richter & Pastorális 2015). **New species for Bulgaria.**

Coleophora thurneri Glaser, 1969 – Bulgaria, Pernik, Bosnek, 950 m a.s.l., 9. VIII. 2013, leg. O. Karsholt, det. Ig. Richter, coll. ZMUC. Scarce, and less known *Coleophora*. This species has been recorded in Italy, Croatia, and Macedonia. **New species for Bulgaria.**

Coleophora tyrrhaenica Amsel, 1951 – Macedonia, Prespansko jezero, Sir Han, 23. VII. 2015, Macedonia, Pepelište, 25–26. VIII. 2016, leg., det. et coll. Ig. Richter. Species recorded from Hungary, Slovakia, Romania, Bulgaria, Greece, Croatia, France, Italy, Sardinia and south Russia. **New species for Macedonia.**

Coleophora vibicella (Hübner, 1813) – Montenegro, NP Durmitor, Virak, 1550 m a.s.l., 4 km S of Žabljak, 19. – 24. VII. 2014, leg. O. Karsholt, det. Ig. Richter, coll. ZMUC. This species is distributed mostly in the countries of southern Europe but does not occur in Scandinavian countries, neither in the Baltic region. Found in the Balkans (Croatia, Macedonia, Albania, Bulgaria). **New species for Montenegro.**

Coleophora virgatella Zeller, 1849 – Croatia, Pečani, ex larvae, 10. VI. 2015, leg., det. et coll. Ig. Richter. Species with mostly southern occurrence, hitherto not recorded from Scandinavian and Baltic countries. Frequent and common in the Balkans, and it has been confirmed from Slovenia, Bosnia, and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Bulgaria and Greece. **New species for Croatia.**

Coleophora virgaureae Stainton, 1857 – Montenegro, NP Durmitor, V. Sturac, 1940 m a.s.l., 10,4 km NW of Žabljak, 20–23. VII. 2014, leg. O. Karsholt, det. Ig. Richter, coll. ZMUC. Species known from whole of Europe, in the Balkans recorded only from Slovenia. **New species for Montenegro.**

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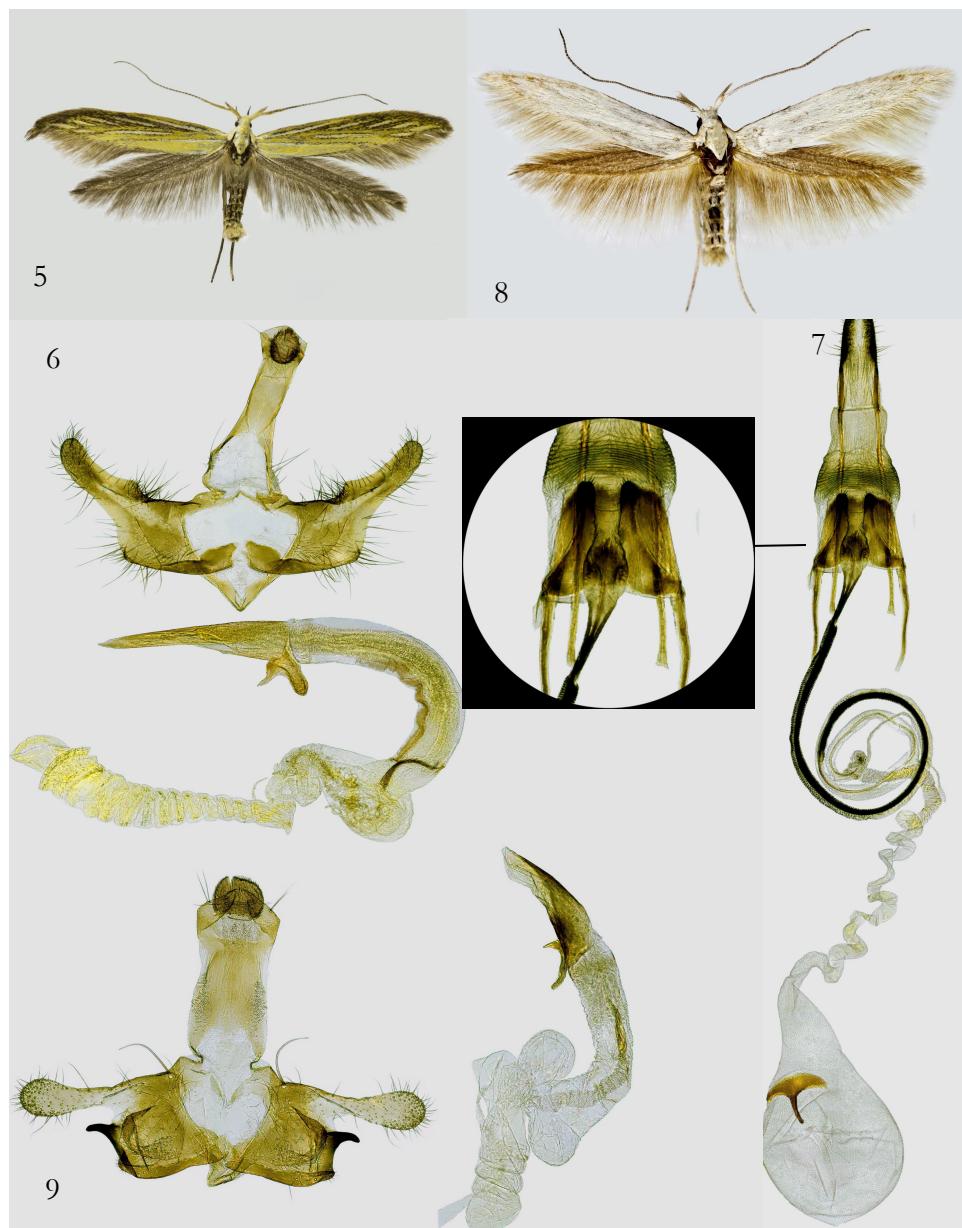


Fig. 5. *Coleophora samarensis*, male, 28 mm, 24.VII.2015, Macedonia, NP Mavrovo, Radika river valley, leg., det. et coll. Ig. Richter.

Fig. 6. *Coleophora samarensis* male gen., GP 24398 IgR.

Fig. 7. *Coleophora samarensis* female gen., GP 24396 IgR.

Fig. 8. *Coleophora albipennella*, male, 16 mm, 3.VI.2016, Bulgaria, Besaparian hills, Is perichovo, leg., det. et coll. Ig. Richter.

Fig. 9. *Coleophora albipennella*, male gen., GP 24545 IgR.

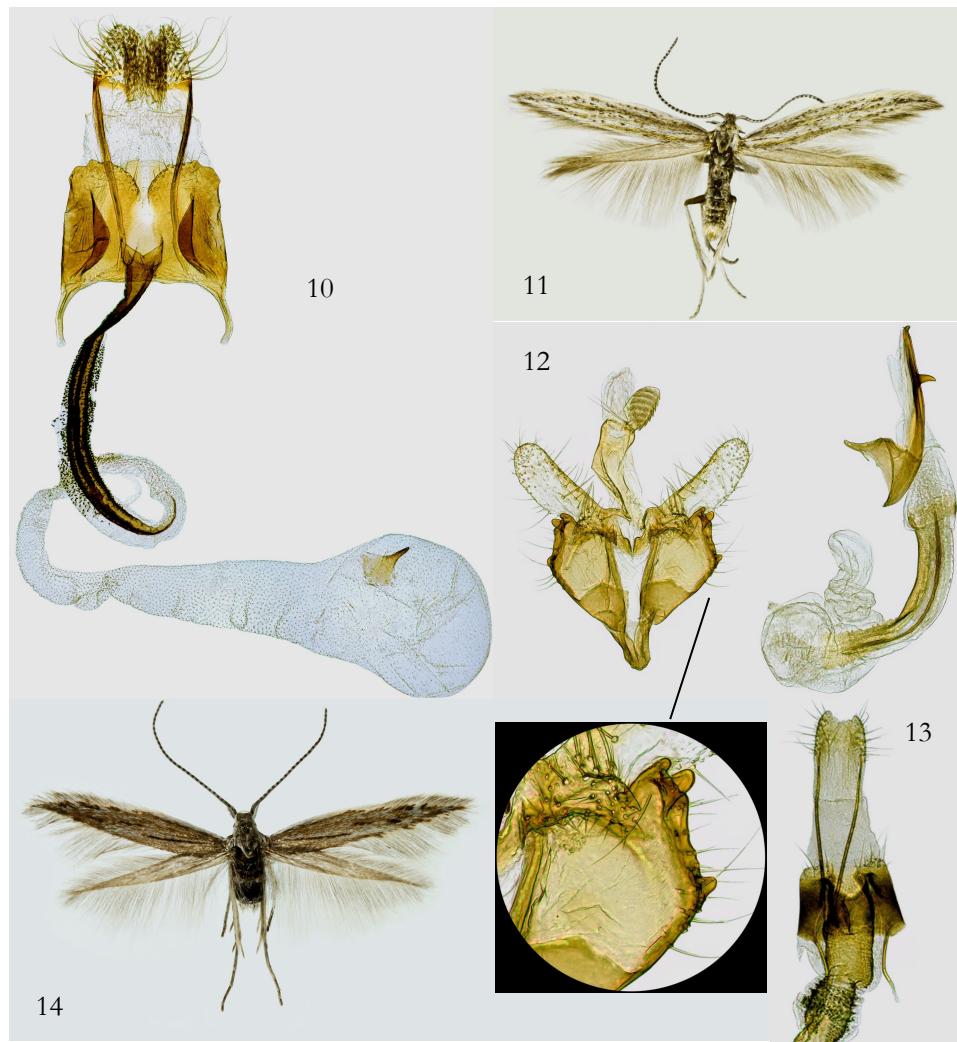


Fig. 10. *Coleophora albipennella*, female gen., GP 23294 IgR.

Fig. 11. *Coleophora daglarica*, male, 10 mm, 3.VI.2016, Bulgaria, Besaparian hills, Isperichovo, leg., det. et coll. Ig. Richter.

Fig. 12. *Coleophora daglarica*, male gen., GP 18275 IgR.

Fig. 13. *Coleophora daglarica*, female gen., GP 24548 IgR.

Fig. 14. *Coleophora hemiariae*, male, 8 mm, 3.V.2015, Croatia, Goriš, leg., det. et coll. Ig. Richter.



Fig. 15. *Coleophora berniariae*, male gen., GP 23370 IgR.



Fig. 16. *Coleophora berniariae*, female gen., GP 14310 Bldz.

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