DESCRIPTI ONS OF A NEW SPECIES AND A NEW
GENUS OF PLUSIINAE FROM JAPAN
(LEPIDOPTERA : NOCTUIDAE)

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Through the kindness of Mr. Hiroichi Furihata of the Morioka Branch, Horticultural
Research Station, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, I have had the opportunity to find
a new species of the Plusiinae. Moreover, after my own careful examination I have
concluded that a new genus should be erected for the reception of the species.

Before going further I wish to express my sincere gratitude to Professor C. Watanabe
for his kind guidance. My hearty thanks are also due to Mr. H. Furihata for his kindness
in offering the invaluable material.

Neoplusia furihatai, sp. nov.

Head and thorax greyish brown; patagia with a black medial line; thoracic crest yel­
lowish brown above; pectus yellowish white. Abdomen yellowish white, suffused with
brown, the crests being yellowish brown at tips, and the lateral anal tufts of male blackish.
Fore wing greyish brown, shaded in part with dark brown, the medial area below sub­
median fold and before postmedial line, and the terminal area being mostly suffused with
gold; a subbasal silvery striga from costa; antemedial line silvery interrupted in cell by an
oblique greyish bar from costa, inwardly oblique below the cell; two silvery spots situated
below middle of cell, the inner being U-shaped, and the outer elliptical; reniform represented
by a silvery dot at the lower angle of cell; postmedial line double, dark brown, excurred
below costa and at vein 4, becoming oblique therefrom to submedian fold, and then ex­
curved; subterminal line indistinct, dark brown, excurred at vein 7, angled outwards below
veins 4, 3, and ending at tornus; cilia pale, with a blackish mark at vein 4. Hind wing
yellowish brown, the veins and terminal area being suffused with dark brown; cilia white,
with a dark brown line near base. Underside pale brownish yellow, suffused and irrorated
with dark brown; postmedial and subterminal lines dark brown.

Male genitalia: Uncus proportionately long and thin. Valva narrow and elongate,
gradually expanding caudad. Cucullus clothed with spines. Clavus very long, thin. Harpe
not developed. Vinculum narrow, strongly elongate. Aedoeagus large, provided with
numerous spines.

Female genitalia: Labia large, scarcely clothed with hairs. Posterior and anterior
apophyses elongate. Ostium bursae funnel-shaped, broadened, lightly sclerotized. Ductus

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bursae strongly elongate abnormally, more than twice the length of bursa copulatrix, and heavily sclerotized. Bursa copulatrix elongate, rather heavily sclerotized, with an elongate projection at the caudal portion.

Length of fore wing: 16–18 mm. (♂ ♀).


Host plant: Solanum melongena Linné.

Distribution: Japan.

This species is very similar in facies to Chrysodeixis eriosoma (Doubleday), but may be distinguishable from the latter by the slightly narrower fore wing, with the termen more obliquely curved.

Neoplusia, gen. nov.

In general appearance this genus resembles very closely the genus Chrysodeixis Hübner, but in the structures of the male and female genitalia the former is readily distinguished from the latter as follows:

(1) Male genitalia: Valva gradually expanding caudad; harpe not developed.
(2) Female genitalia: Ductus bursae more than twice as long as bursa copulatrix, which has a caudal projection.

Type-species: Neoplusia furihatai, sp. nov.