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ON THE LITTLE KNOWN GENUS *ORECTIS* LEDERER, 1857
(LEPIDOPTERA, NOCTUIDAE)*

NOTE REVISIONALI SUL GENERE *ORECTIS* LEDERER, 1857
(LEPIDOPTERA, NOCTUIDAE)

Abstract - Following a critical reappraisal of the literature and the examination of material referable to the relevant nominal taxa, two synonymies within the genus *Orectis* LEDERER, 1857, are established: *Orectis proboscidata* (HERRICH-SCHÄFFER, [1851]) (= *Orectis barteli* TURATI, 1907, **nov. syn.**) and *Orectis massiliensis* (MILLIÈRE, 1864) **sp. rev.** (= *Orectis euprepiata* DANNEHL, 1933, **nov. syn.**).

Key words: Synonyms, *Orectis*, Lepidoptera Noctuidae.

Riassunto breve - L'esame di materiale di tutti i taxa nominali descritti nel genere *Orectis* LEDERER, 1857, ed una revisione critica della relativa letteratura permettono di stabilire le seguenti sinonimie: *Orectis proboscidata* (HERRICH-SCHÄFFER, [1851]) (= *Orectis barteli* TURATI, 1907, **nov. syn.**) e *Orectis massiliensis* (MILLIÈRE, 1864) **sp. rev.** (= *Orectis euprepiata* DANNEHL, 1933, **nov. syn.**).

Parole chiave: Sinonimie, *Orectis*, Lepidoptera Noctuidae.

Introduction

In the Mediterranean genus *Orectis* LEDERER, 1857, only three species are currently recognized, namely *O. proboscidata* (HERRICH-SCHÄFFER, [1851]) (= *massiliensis* MILLIÈRE, 1864), *O. barteli* TURATI, 1907 and *O. euprepiata* DANNEHL, 1933 (cf. POOLE, 1989; BERIO, 1991; FIBIGER & HACKER, 1991). Nevertheless, it is fairly clear that on some nominal taxa there are misconceptions due to the particular paucity of the available material. In fact, FIBIGER & HACKER (1991) recently raised the question whether *barteli* from Sicily (Etna region), known only on a few males (BERIO, 1991), is nothing but a melanic form of *proboscidata*.

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