

## First record of *Pelopidas jansonis* (Butler, 1878) (Lepidoptera, Hesperidae) in the southern part of the Russian Far East

### Первое обнаружение *Pelopidas jansonis* (Butler, 1878) (Lepidoptera, Hesperidae) на юге Дальнего Востока России

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**Key words:** skippers, *Pelopidas jansonis* (Butler), first record, the Russian Far East, Khasanskii District.

**Ключевые слова:** толстоголовки, *Pelopidas jansonis* (Butler), первая находка, Дальний Восток России, Хасанский район.

**Abstract.** Based on a photo taken in the Vityaz village, Khasanskii district, Primorskii Krai, *Pelopidas jansonis* (Butler, 1878) is newly reported for Russia.

**Резюме.** По фотографии, сделанной в посёлке Витязь Хасанского района Приморского края впервые для территории России приводится толстоголовка *Pelopidas jansonis* (Butler, 1878).

A review of dark-winged skippers with white spots on the wings from the southeast of Russia and adjacent territories [Dubatolov, Sergeev, 1984] was written 40 years ago. The main result of this publication was a confirmation of the occurrence of *Polytremis zina* (Evans, 1932) in Russia, namely in the southern part of Primorskii Krai. Unfortunately, in that work, the authors were unable correctly identify females of the genus *Polytremis* Mabille, 1904, and erroneously listed *Polytremis pellucida* (Murray, 1875) for the Primorskii Krai of Russia. However, that work noted that there is one male *Pelopidas jansonis* (Butler, 1878) labeled "Amur" in the British Museum (Natural History) collection [Evans, 1949]. Based on this indication, the species was also listed for Amur by Japanese lepidopterologists [Kawazoe, Wakabayashi, 1976]. That is, this specimen was apparently collected somewhere in the Russian part of the south of the Far East. However, there was no later confirmation of that finding, and the label was considered unreliable: «representatives of the genus *Pelopidas* Walker, 1870 have not yet been reliably found on the territory of the USSR» [Dubatolov, Sergeev, 1984]. But the authors suggested that «one can expect the discovery of *Pelopidas jansonis* (Btl.) in the south of the Far East».

S.K. Korb and L.V. Bolshakov [2011], based on W. Evans [1949], cited this species for the territory of the Amur region (although in the XIXth century the name Amur also referred to Primorskii Krai) with a question mark, but noted that «to date it has not been found there».

For 40 years after the publication of the article by V.V. Dubatolov and M.G. Sergeev [1984], there were no findings of *Pelopidas jansonis* (Butler) in the Russian part of the Far East, although there were findings of *Polytremis pellucida* (Murray, 1875) in the south Kuril Islands and Sakhalin, and *P. zina* (Evans, 1932) in the Primorskii Krai, in the south of the Khabarovskii Krai, in the Jewish Autonomous Region, as well as in the south of the Amurskaya Oblast [Korshunov, Kosterin, 1995; Gorbunov, Kosterin, 2003].

At the end of July 2023, in the Khasanskii district of the Primorskii Krai, on the Gamov Peninsula, a skipper was photographed, which turned out to be *Pelopidas jansonis* (Butler, 1878), so confirming the presence of this species on the territory of Russia.

The present work is registered in ZooBank (www.zoobank.org) under LSID urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:BAFB2BBD-956B-475E-916B-3636E6FC30AE.

*Pelopidas jansonis* (Butler, 1878)

Fig. 1.

*Pamphilia Jansonis* Butler, 1878: 284. Type locality: «Koshinkaido in Shimodzuke» (Japan).

**Photo.** Russia, Primorskii Krai: 1♂ — Khasanskii District, Gamov Peninsula, Vitjaz, Vostochnyi Cottage, 42°36'N, 131°11.2'E, a flower bed in a garden, 25.VII.2023, Yu.A. Tshistjakov.

**Distribution.** Korea, without north-eastern regions [Joo et al., 1997]; Northern China [*Pelopidas jansonis*; www.gbif.org/



Fig. 1. External appearance of *Pelopidas jansonis* (Butler, 1878) photographed on a nasturtium leaf in Primorskii Krai of Russia. Photo by Yu.A. Tshistjakov.

Рис. 1. Внешний вид бабочки *Pelopidas jansonis* (Butler, 1878), сфотографированной на листе настурции в Приморском крае. Фото Ю.А. Чистякова.

species/1945861]; Japan, Honshu, Shikoku, Kyushu [Kawazoe, Wakabayashi, 1976]; Russia, the southern part of Primorskii Krai, Khasanskii District, a case of invasion.

**Notes.** The butterfly was photographed in the garden on a leaf of nasturtium *Tropaeolum majus* L. (1753), but has not been caught.

With respect to the discovery of *Pelopidas jansonis* (Butler) in Russia, it should be noted that W. Evans [Evans, 1949] indicated another species of exotic skippers from the Amur River, *Ampittia virgata* (Leech, 1890), more precisely its subspecies *A. virgata miyakei* Matsumura, 1909, based on two males from the collection of the British Museum. However, this species is found somewhat further south in China [*Ampittia virgata* (Leech); [www.gbif.org/species/1942383](http://www.gbif.org/species/1942383)] and was not ever reliably recorded from Russia correctly.

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