

Electronic Supplementary Materials (ESMs) for the paper:  
Body size affects the evolution of hidden colour signals in moths

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## **Supplementary methods and results**

### *Coloration categorisation by human observers*

For this, we used the same photos of each species that we used for contrast measurements (see methods in main text), without any indication of body size from the photos. This process was done solely by Kang, C. who did not take part in the classification. Next, we presented the photos of each species to five volunteers under the same conditions using a LCD monitor (HP 2010i; HP, Palo Alto, CA, USA). The volunteers categorized both forewings and hindwings of each species as cryptic, conspicuous or uncertain. Based on this categorization, we classified the overall coloration of each species as either cryptic (figure 1d; forewings/hindwings: cryptic/cryptic), conspicuous (conspicuous/conspicuous and conspicuous/cryptic), contrasting (cryptic/conspicuous), or uncertain. We can call moths with cryptic forewings and conspicuous hindwings “contrasting” without ambiguity, because (not surprisingly) there were no moths classified with conspicuous forewings and cryptic hindwings. During the categorization, all volunteers were told to assume that the resting places of the moths (i.e. background coloration against which each species usually rests on) would be the common substrates in a forest such as tree trunks, leaves, or leaf-litter [1]. We note here that, by assuming these general backgrounds, all volunteers were biased toward classifying brown, mottled grey, or green moths as cryptic.

Although we acknowledge that the conspicuousness of an animal is dependent on the observer’s visual system and the colour of animal’s natural resting substrate [2], human judgment of coloration has been employed in many other systems to understand the evolution of animal colour signals [3,4], and is a practical strategy when direct measurements of coloration for a diverse array of species are challenging [3]. To reduce the subjectivity of categorization, we analysed only those data that were consistent among multiple observers who independently categorized the conspicuousness of each species.

Of the 249 species investigated, colour data was obtained for 229 species. Among the five volunteers’ judgments of coloration, at least three volunteers agreed upon the judgments in 94% of the species, four volunteers agreed in 74% of the species, and all volunteers agreed in 55% of the species.

We used the wingspan of each moth as an index of body size. Wingspan data were obtained from either field guides or online databases and available for 201 species (81% of total; Table S3). We used a mid-range value when wingspan information was provided as a range. We fitted the same statistical analysis (PGLS) as illustrated in main text.

#### *Phylogenetic analysis results using human judgment of coloration*

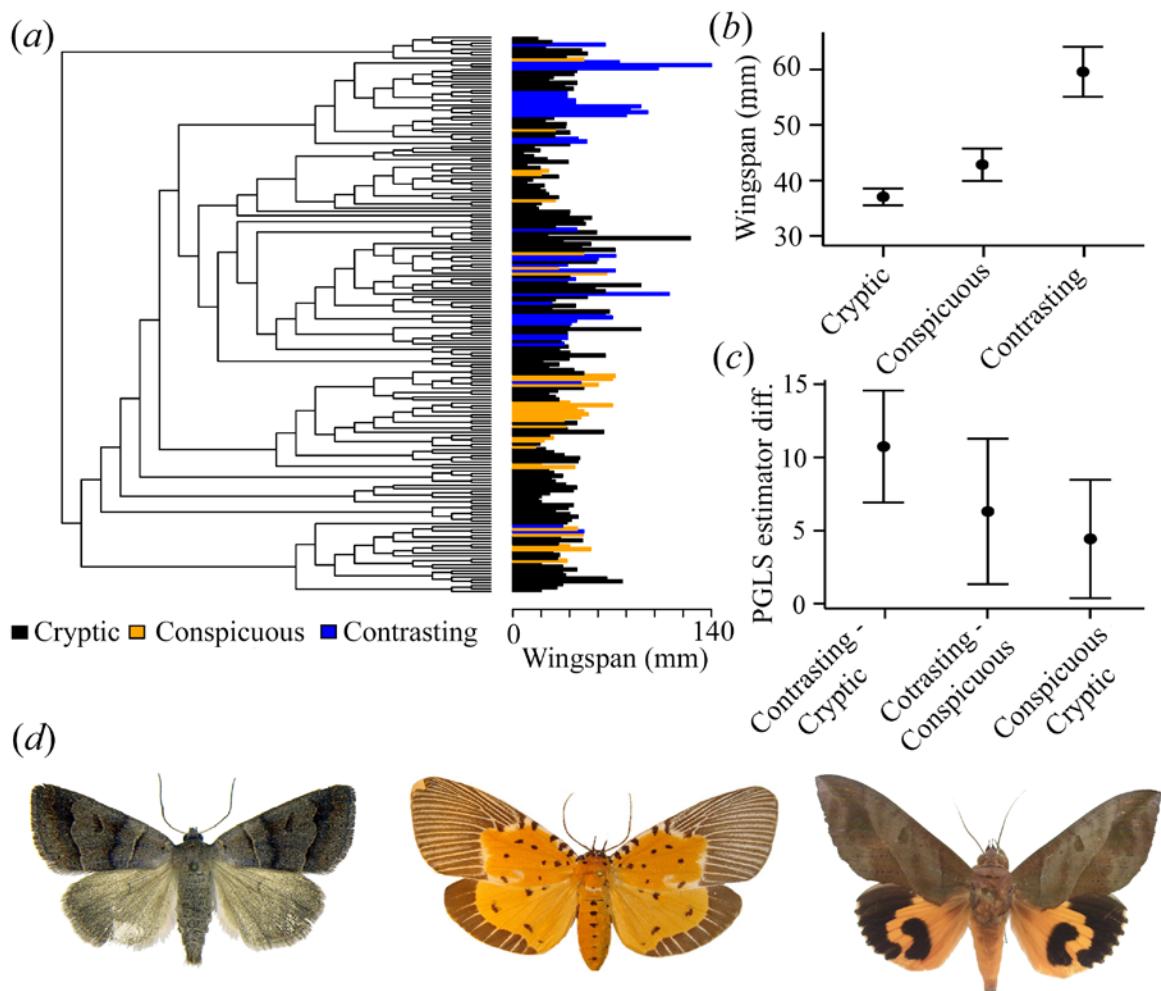
Of the 94% of species presented, 68% were classified as cryptic, 15% as conspicuous, 17% as contrasting, 0% as uncertain. When we re-classified these categories into whether each species has contrasting hindwings or not (cryptic/conspicuous vs. contrasting; the same classification as the image analysis in the main text), the classification by human judgment matched 91% with the classification by image analysis. We have included sample images of moth species in each category in figure S2. Phylogenetic generalized least squares (PGLS) assuming the Ornstein-Uhlenbeck (OU) evolutionary model provided a better fit than Brownian Motion (BM) models ( $\Delta\text{AIC} = 4.5$ ). Applying the OU model, we found a substantial phylogenetic signal (estimated Pagel's  $\lambda = 0.90$ ) and an association between moth coloration and wingspan (figure S1). Specifically, the species with contrasting wings were larger than cryptic species ( $z = 2.80$ ,  $P_{adj} = 0.02$ ). We found no significant wingspan differences between cryptic and conspicuous species ( $z = 1.10$ ,  $P_{adj} = 0.27$ ) nor between conspicuous and contrasting species ( $z = -1.26$ ,  $P_{adj} = 0.27$ ). Although not presented, the results from four and full agreement consensus were qualitatively identical.

#### *References for Supplementary methods*

1. Endler JA. 1984 Progressive background in moths, and a quantitative measure of crypsis. *Biol. J. Linn. Soc.* **22**, 187–231. (doi: 10.1111/j.1095-8312.1984.tb01677.x)
2. Endler JA. 1978 A predator's view of animal color patterns. In *Evolutionary biology*, (eds MK Hecht, WC Steere, B Wallace) pp. 319–364. New York, NY: Springer.
3. Arbuckle K, Speed MP. 2015 Antipredator defenses predict diversification rates. *Proc. Natl.*

*Acad. Sci.* **112**, 13597–13602. (doi: 10.1073/pnas.1509811112)

4. Summers K, Clough ME. 2001 The evolution of coloration and toxicity in the poison frog family (Dendrobatidae). *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* **98**, 6227–6232. (doi: 10.1073/pnas.101134898)



**Supplementary Figure S1.** Examples of cryptic, conspicuous, and contrasting species with their phylogenetic relationship and wingspan. (a) Coloration classification and body sizes of moths within a molecular phylogeny for the family Erebidae. The barplot on the right side depicts the wingspan of each species. The colours of bars refer to the classified coloration of each species. (b) The mean ( $\pm 1$  s.e.m.) of the wingspan of moths in each group without controlling for phylogenetic correlation. (c) The differences ( $\pm 1$  s.e.m.) in phylogenetic estimators in PGLS model. (d) Photos of representative species that were categorized as either cryptic (left; *Phoberia atomaris*), conspicuous (middle; *Peridome orbicularis*), or contrasting (right; *Eudocima phalonia*). Photo credits (*P. atomaris*, Huemer P.; *P. arbicularis*, BIO Photography group; *E. phalonia*, Kang C.)

	Sample species with full agreement	Sample species with 4 agreement	Sample species with 3 agreement	Sample species with <3 agreement
Cryptic forewing/ Cryptic hindwing	1  2  3 4  5  6	19  20  21 22  23  24	37  38  39 40  41  42	55  56 57  58 59  60
Conspicuous forewing/ Conspicuous hindwing	7  8  9 10  11  12	25  26  27 28  29  30	43  44  45 46  47  48	
Cryptic forewing/ Conspicuous hindwing	13  14  15 16  17  18	31  32  33 34  35  36	49  50  51 52  53  54	

**Supplementary Figure S2.** Sample images of the moths that were classified as “cryptic” (upper), “conspicuous” (middle), and “contrasting” (lower). Each column shows the species that all 5 volunteers agreed for their classification (left), 3 volunteers agreed for their classification (centre), and species that less than 3 volunteers agreed on their classification (right). All images were obtained from BOLDSYSTEM (<http://boldsystems.org/>) with Creative Commons licence for free distribution. Species name and copyright licence holder can be found in Supplementary Table S1.

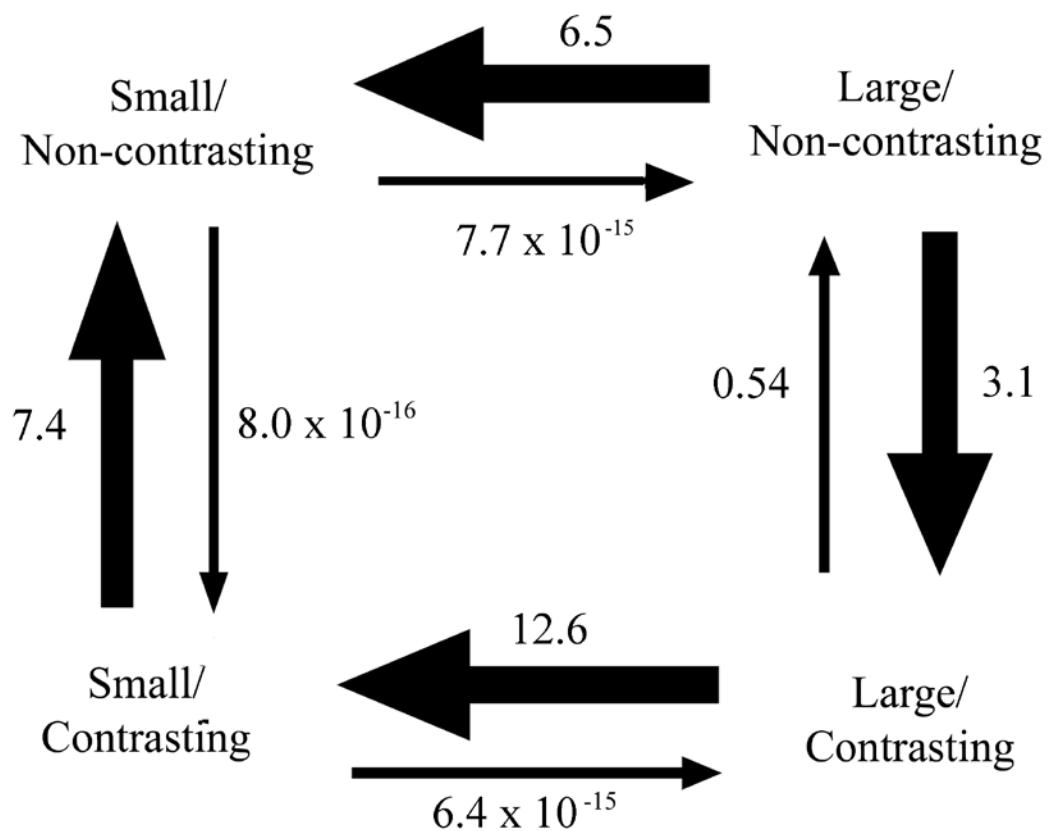
**Supplementary Table S1.** The list of species name and licence holder for the images in figure S2.

ID	Species name	License holder
1	<i>Ericeia subcinerea</i>	M. Sajjad Mirza
2	<i>Praxis porphyretica</i>	CBG Photography Group
3	<i>Pantydia diemeni</i>	Andrew Mitchell
4	<i>Phoberia atomaris</i>	CBG Photography Group
5	<i>Heteropalpia acrosticta</i>	Unspecified
6	<i>Daddala lucilla</i>	Unspecified
7	<i>Eulepidotis rectimargo</i>	Daniel H. Janzen
8	<i>Arctia caja</i>	CBG Photography Group
9	<i>Callimorpha dominula</i>	Axel Hausmann
10	<i>Peridrome orbicularis</i>	Peter Huemer
11	<i>Periscepta polysticta</i>	CSIRO/BIO Photography Group
12	<i>Pseudophaloe troetschi</i>	Daniel H. Janzen
13	<i>Ischyja manlia</i>	CSIRO/BIO Photography Group
14	<i>Ulotrichopus macula</i>	Axel Hausmann
15	<i>Catocala sponsa</i>	CBG Photography Group
16	<i>Audea bipunctata</i>	Axel Hausmann
17	<i>Hypocala deflorata</i>	CBG Photography Group
18	<i>Phyllodes imperialis</i>	CSIRO/BIO Photography Group
19	<i>Serrodes campana</i>	CSIRO/BIO Photography Group
20	<i>Platyja umminia</i>	CSIRO/BIO Photography Group
21	<i>Pandesma robusta</i>	Axel Hausmann
22	<i>Laspeyria flexula</i>	Axel Hausmann
23	<i>Panopoda rufimargo</i>	CBG Photography Group
24	<i>Anticarsia gemmatalis</i>	Daniel H. Janzen
25	<i>Eublemma anachoresis</i>	Axel Hausmann
26	<i>Tinolius eburneigutta</i>	Peter Huemer
27	<i>Nyctemera baulus</i>	CSIRO/BIO Photography Group
28	<i>Antichloris viridis</i>	Daniel H. Janzen
29	<i>Ramadasa pavo</i>	Pankaj Kumar
30	<i>Diaphone sp</i>	Axel Hausmann
31	<i>Ophiusa coronata</i>	Axel Hausmann
32	<i>Melipotis jucunda</i>	CBG Photography Group
33	<i>Bulia deducta</i>	CBG Photography Group
34	<i>Gonodonta lincus</i>	Daniel H. Janzen
35	<i>Melipotis punctifinis</i>	Daniel H. Janzen
36	<i>Hemicephalis alesa</i>	Daniel H. Janzen
37	<i>Oxyodes scrobiculata</i>	Peter Huemer
38	<i>Callistege mi</i>	Axel Hausmann
39	<i>Calyptis idonea</i>	Daniel H. Janzen

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40	<i>Forsebia perlaeta</i>	CBG Photography Group
41	<i>Erebus ephesperis</i>	Axel Hausmann
42	<i>Phytometra viridaria</i>	Unspecified
43	<i>Cocytia durvillii</i>	Unspecified
44	<i>Homodes crocea</i>	CSIRO/BIO Photography Group
45	<i>Dysschema leucophaea</i>	Daniel H. Janzen
46	<i>Oenosandra boisduvalii</i>	CBG Photography Group
47	<i>Leucoma salicis</i>	Christian Wieser
48	<i>Panthea coenobita</i>	Marko Mutanen
49	<i>Artena dotata</i>	Peter Huemer
50	<i>Achaea serva</i>	Axel Hausmann
51	<i>Eligma narcissus</i>	Axel Hausmann
52	<i>Gonodonta fulvangula</i>	Daniel H. Janzen
53	<i>Gonodonta milla</i>	Axel Hausmann
54	<i>Gonodonta nutrix</i>	Daniel H. Janzen
55	<i>Spirama retorta</i>	Peter Huemer
56	<i>Sympis rufibasis</i>	CSIRO/BIO Photography Group
57	<i>Oraesia emarginata</i>	CSIRO/BIO Photography Group
58	<i>Coscinia cribraria</i>	Peter Huemer
59	<i>Orgyia antiqua</i>	CBG Photography Group
60	<i>Aegilia describens</i>	CBG Photography Group

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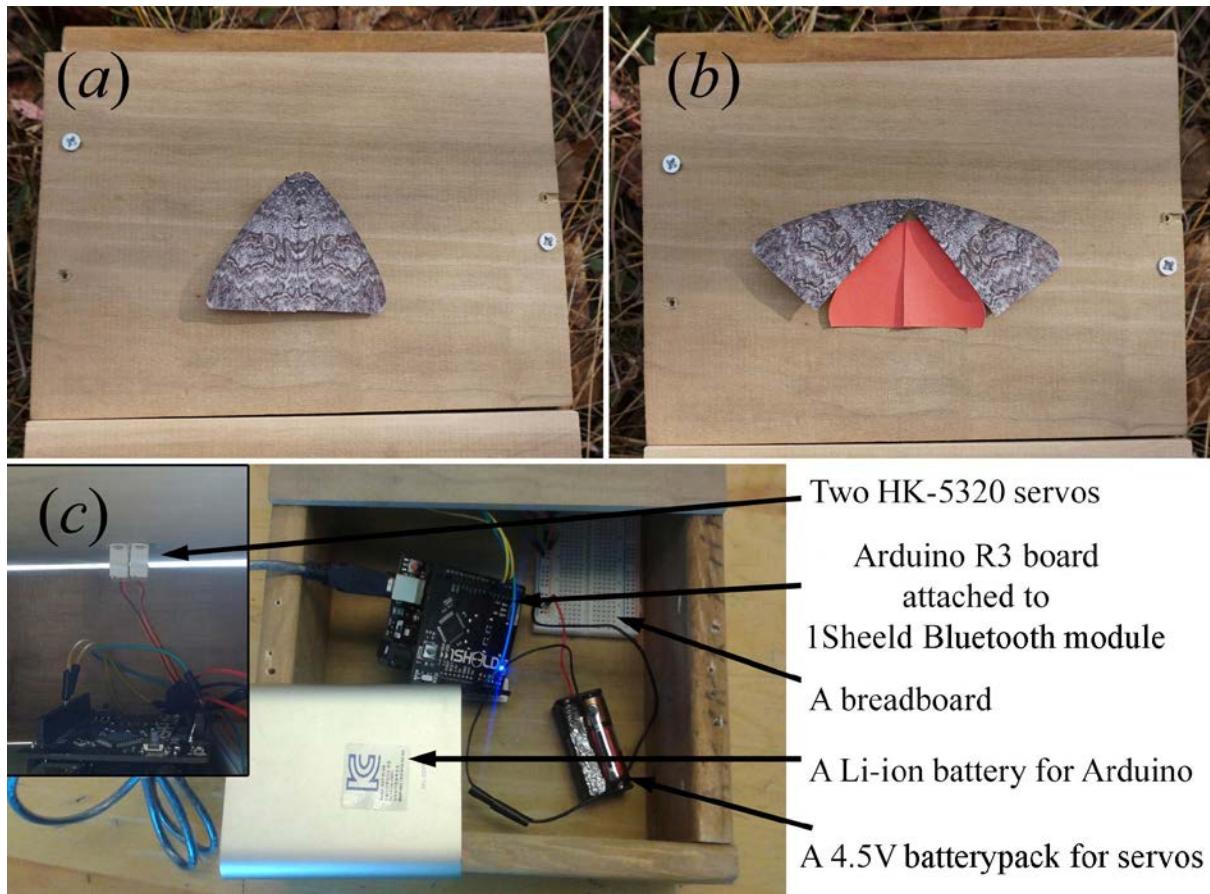
**Supplementary Figure S3.** The estimated transition rates between states. The width of arrows represents the transition rates in that thicker arrows indicate higher transition rates.

### ***Supplementary methods: description of the robotic moth***

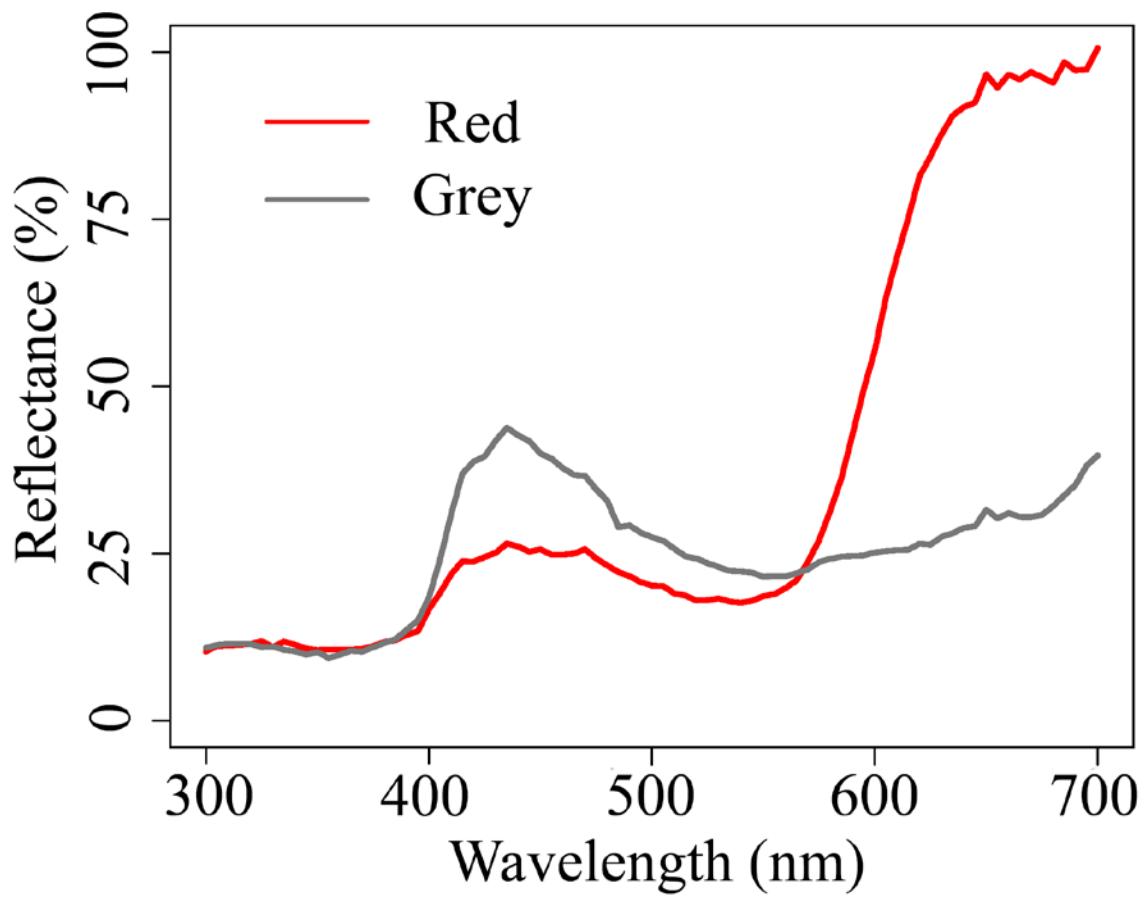
The robotic moth was presented on a wooden box (21×31×9 cm) inside which all electronic mechanisms were hidden (figure S4). For the wing parts, we used two servos (HK-5320 Ultra-micro digital servo 1.7g, HobbyKing, <http://www.hobbyking.com>; note here that this servo was the smallest servo available and generated the least amount of torque which enabled us to mimic the quick opening of insect wings with the minimal mechanical noise), fixed on the top surface of the wooden box. The main body of servos was hidden, but only the rotating wing parts (where printed paper wings were attached) were visible from the outside through two small holes.

Inside the box, we used Arduino UNO R3 board (open-source electronics platform, <https://www.arduino.cc>) attached to a 1Sheed Bluetooth® module (Integrate Inc., Scottsdale, AZ, USA, <http://1sheeld.com>) to control the wing display moment through a mobile application. The wing display moment was controlled by one experimenter (Kang C) throughout the experiment. The angle between the initial position and the displaying position was approximately 40° (figure S4), the latency till the full display was < 0.1 s. The display was maintained for 3 seconds, then the wings rotated back to the initial position with the same speed. The Arduino and Bluetooth boards were powered by a Li-ion battery, and the two servos were separately powered by a 4.5V battery pack.

The wings of the moth was printed on Xerox business 5300 paper (Xerox, Norwalk, CT, USA) using HP Photosmart C 4680 printer (HP, Palo Alto, CA, USA). Once carefully cut, forewings were attached on the rotating wing part of the servos, hindwings were attached on the wooden board underneath the forewings (figure S4).



**Supplementary Figure S4.** The appearance of the robotic moth (large/red treatment) in normal status (a) and during deimatic display (b). The electronic mechanisms inside the wooden box (c).



**Supplementary Figure S5.** The reflectance spectra of the hindwing colours that we used for the behavioural experiment. The reflectance was measured using a USB2000+ spectrometer with a reflection probe and D-2000 light source (Ocean Optics, Dunedin, FL, USA).

**Supplementary Table S2.** The location of the study sites where we tested birds in behavioural experiment. The map of the study sites can be downloaded from National Capital Canada homepage (<http://www.ncc-ccn.gc.ca/sites/default/files/pubs/nccgreenbelptrails-ceintureverduresentiersccn.pdf>).

Study sites	Study dates	Locations in the map where birds were tested nearby
Stony Swamp (N45.2946°, W75.8372°)	2015/11/20 – 2015/11/24	22A-E, 23A-D, 25A, 25D, 25E, 25F, 26A-H, 26J-M, P5, P7, P8, P9, P10
Mer Bleue (N45.4042°, W75.5599°)	2015/11/26 – 2015/12/05	50G-H, 50J-L, 51A-F, 51M-O, 51R, 51V

### ***Supplementary equations: secondary defence evolution in iteroparous prey***

Consider a palatable prey species with multiple reproductive bouts during its lifetime (i.e. it is iteroparous). Let us assume the same probability of survival functions  $p_p$ ,  $p_s$ ,  $s$  in the main text (see the equations in Box 1). Let predators encounter prey at random in a reproductive bout so that putative encounters with individual prey before the prey's reproduction are again Poisson distributed with mean and variance  $\lambda$ . Under these conditions, the expected probability of an individual prey surviving a series of random encounters with predators before each reproductive bout is:

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^i}{i!}\right) s^i = e^{-\{\lambda(p_p-1)(p_s-1)\}} \quad (4)$$

Let us also assume the external mortality,  $m$ , in that a proportion of survived prey die due to non-predatory reasons such as disease or parasitism in a reproductive bout. Under these conditions, the expected probability of an individual prey surviving a reproductive bout is:

$$s_r = e^{-\{\lambda(p_p-1)(p_s-1)\}}(1 - m), \quad (5)$$

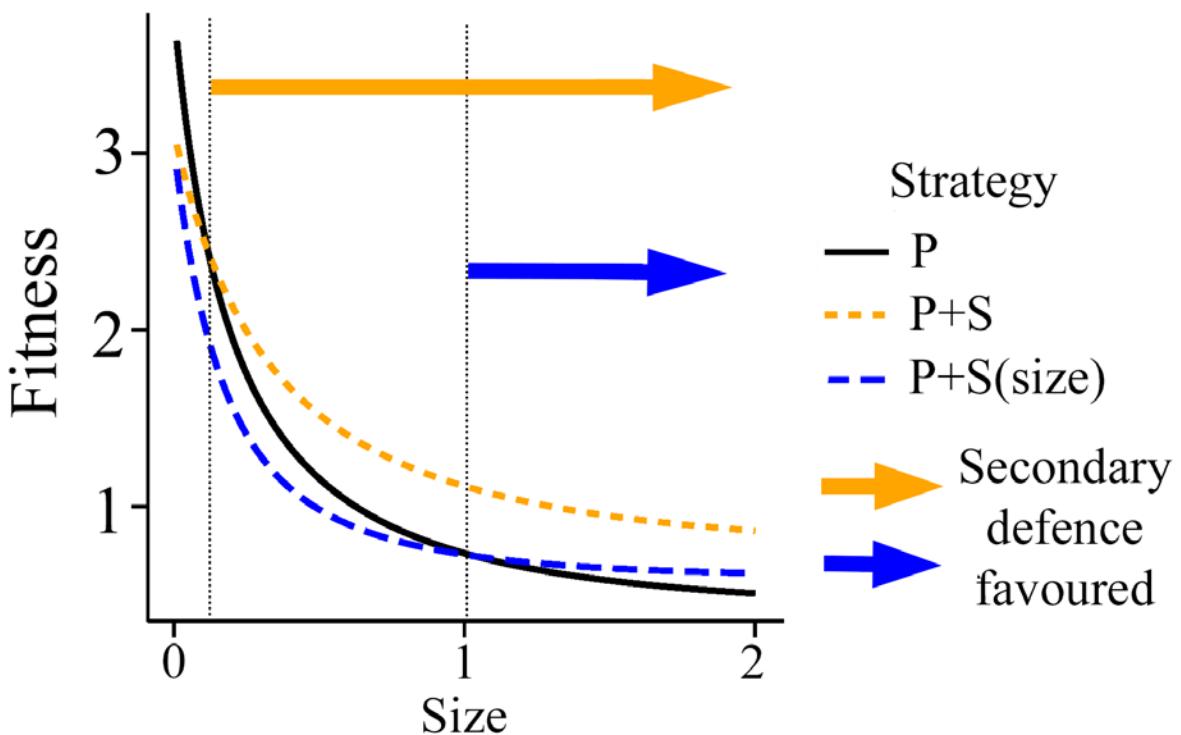
the expected lifetime of a prey then be:

$$\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} s_r^j (1 - s_r) j = \frac{s_r}{1 - s_r}. \quad (6)$$

The fitness of a prey in terms of its reproductive success is given by

$$w = \frac{s_r}{1 - s_r} (b - \tau) \quad (7)$$

where  $b$  is the mean fecundity of the prey for each reproduction and  $\tau$  is the fecundity cost of carrying the secondary defence. The results of this model are qualitatively identical to those of semelparous prey model (figure S6): when the crypsis of a prey item decreases with increasing body size (in the form of  $p_p = ce^{-\alpha z}$ , where  $c$  is maximum crypsis,  $z$  is body size), then costly secondary defences will be selected for only in prey above a threshold size, and this threshold size will also depend on how the effectiveness of the secondary defence (such as deimatic display) varies with body size.



**Supplementary Figure S6.** Fitness of an iteroparous prey as a function of body size when larger prey suffer higher detection costs ( $\alpha = 1$ ). The black solid line (size-dependent primary defence only, P) indicates the fitness of prey when they rely on crypsis without having any secondary defence ( $d = 0, \beta = 0, \tau = 0$ ); the orange dotted line (primary plus size-independent secondary defence, P + S) indicates the fitness of prey when they have a secondary defence whose effectiveness is independent of body size ( $d = 0.5, \beta = 0, \tau = 0.2$ ); the blue dashed line (primary plus size-dependent secondary defence, P + S(size)) indicates the fitness of prey when the effectiveness of the secondary defence increases as the prey size increases ( $d = 0.5, \beta = 1, \tau = 0.2$ ). Other parameters values:  $c = 0.99, \lambda = 1, b = 1, m = 0.2$ . When the fitness of one particular defensive strategy exceeds another then it will be favoured (marked by arrows, dependent on how the effectiveness of the secondary defence varies with body size).

**Supplementary Table S3.** The full list of species used for the analysis with the reference where we found coloration and wingspan information. NA indicates that information was not available. NC: Non-contrasting, C: contrasting.

Species	Wingspan	Classified coloration (contrast)	Classified coloration (3 agreement)	Reference	Phylogeny source
<i>Acantholipes circumdata</i>	20-45	NC	Cryptic	1	41
<i>Acantholipes regularis</i>	24-26	NC	Cryptic	2	41
<i>Achaea serva</i>	62-82	NC	Contrasting	3	41
<i>Aedia leucomelas</i>	35	C	Contrasting	4	41
<i>Aegilia describens</i>	39	NC	NA	5	41
<i>Alesua etialis</i>	NA	NA	NA	NA	41
<i>Allotria elonympha</i>	33-44	C	Contrasting	6	41
<i>Amerila astreus</i>	60-68	NC	Cryptic	1	41
<i>Amphipyra perflua</i>	44-54	C	Cryptic	4	41
<i>Amyna octo</i>	20	NC	Cryptic	3	41
<i>Anacrostis sp</i>	NA	NA	NA	NA	41
<i>Anisoneura salebrosa</i>	60-70	NC	Cryptic	7	41
<i>Anoba anguliplaga</i>	NA	NA	NA	NA	41
<i>Anomis involuta</i>	40	NC	Cryptic	3	41
<i>Anomis metaxantha</i>	46	NC	Cryptic	8	41
<i>Antiblemma fuscireticulata</i>	NA`	NC	Cryptic	NA	41
<i>Anticarsia gemmatalis</i>	34-40	NC	Cryptic	9	41
<i>Anticarsia irrorata</i>	35-40	NC	Cryptic	10	41
<i>Antichloris viridis</i>	36	NC	Conspicuous	4	41
<i>Antitrisuloides catocalina</i>	NA	C	Contrasting	NA	41
<i>Apisa canescens</i>	38	NC	Cryptic	11	41
<i>Araeopteron sp</i>	10	NC	Cryptic	3	41
<i>Araeopteron sp</i>	NA	NC	Cryptic	NA	41
<i>Arcte modesta</i>	77	NC	Cryptic	12	41
<i>Arctia caja</i>	70	C	Conspicuous	13	41
<i>Arctornis sp</i>	20	NC	Conspicuous	14	41
<i>Artena dotata</i>	70-75	NC	Contrasting	15	41
<i>Asota caricae</i>	48	C	Contrasting	16	41
<i>Asota heliconia</i>	60	C	Conspicuous	3	41

<i>Audea bipunctata</i>	41	C	Contrasting	11	41
<i>Audea humeralis</i>	45	C	Contrasting	11	41
<i>Autographa gamma</i>	38	NC	Cryptic	17	41
<i>Autophila chamaephanes</i>	33	NC	NA	2	41
<i>Avatha uloptera</i>	48.5	NC	Cryptic	12	41
<i>Azeta ceramina</i>	NA	NC	Cryptic	NA	41
<i>Baniana strigata</i>	NA	NC	Cryptic	NA	41
<i>Barsine sp</i>	25-32	NC	Conspicuous	12	41
<i>Bastilla praetermissa</i>	66	NC	Conspicuous	18	41
<i>Belciana biformis</i>	45	NC	Cryptic	12	41
<i>Belciana kala</i>	49.5	C	NA	12	41
<i>Biuncus sp</i>	NA	NA	NA	NA	41
<i>Biuncus sp</i>	NA	NA	NA	NA	41
<i>Bocula bifaria</i>	42.5	NC	Cryptic	12	41
<i>Brunia antica</i>	26	NC	Cryptic	19	41
<i>Bulia deducta</i>	34-38	NC	Contrasting	9	41
<i>Callimorpha dominula</i>	45-55	C	Conspicuous	20	41
<i>Callistegi mi</i>	25-30	NC	Cryptic	20	41
<i>Calyptis idonea</i>	NA	NC	Cryptic	NA	41
<i>Calyptra hokkaido</i>	NA	NC	Cryptic	NA	41
<i>Calyptra thalictri</i>	40-45	NC	Cryptic	21	41
<i>Catephia alchymista</i>	42-48	C	Contrasting	20	41
<i>Catoblemma semialba</i>	14	NC	Cryptic	1	41
<i>Catocala sponsa</i>	60-70	C	Contrasting	20	41
<i>Chalciope mygdon</i>	32	C	Conspicuous	22	41
<i>Chrysograpta igneola</i>	NA	NC	Cryptic	NA	41
<i>Clytie devia</i>	39	NC	NA	23	41
<i>Cocytia durvillii</i>	NA	NC	Conspicuous	NA	41
<i>Colobochyla salicalis</i>	27	NC	Cryptic	16	41
<i>Condate sp</i>	18	NC	Cryptic	1	41
<i>Condica vecors</i>	29-38	NC	Cryptic	9	41
<i>Corgatha nitens</i>	13-19	NC	Cryptic	24	41
<i>Coscinia cribalaria</i>	30-35	NC	NA	20	41
<i>Cosmophila flava</i>	30	NC	Cryptic	25	41
<i>Cretonotos transiens</i>	45	NC	Conspicuous	26	41
<i>Crithote prominens</i>	NA	NA	Cryptic	NA	41

<i>Ctenucha virginica</i>	40-50	NA	Cryptic	9	41
<i>Cultripalpa sp</i>	28-32	NC	Cryptic	2	41
<i>Cyana sp</i>	14-30	NC	Conspicuous	27	41
<i>Daddala lucilla</i>	48-54	NC	Cryptic	21	41
<i>Deinopa signiplena</i>	37	NC	Cryptic	28	41
<i>Diaphone sp</i>	38-53	NC	Conspicuous	11	41
<i>Diloba caeruleocephala</i>	33	C	Cryptic	16	41
<i>Diopha corone</i>	NA	C	Contrasting	NA	41
<i>Drobeta carneopicta</i>	NA	NA	NA	NA	41
<i>Dyops chromatophila</i>	37	NC	Cryptic	1	41
<i>Dyrzela plagiata</i>	32	NC	NA	12	41
<i>Dysauxes famula</i>	NA	NC	Conspicuous	NA	41
<i>Dysschema leucophaea</i>	52-54	C	Conspicuous	1	41
<i>Earias clorana</i>	16-20	C	NA	20	41
<i>Ecpatia longinquua</i>	NA	NC	Cryptic	NA	41
<i>Eligma narcissus</i>	65	C	Contrasting	15	41
<i>Encruphion leena</i>	35	NC	Cryptic	1	41
<i>Enispodes purpurea</i>	NA	NA	NA	NA	41
<i>Episparis costistriga</i>	47	NC	Cryptic	1	41
<i>Epitausa dilina</i>	40	NC	Cryptic	1	41
<i>Ercheia cyllaria</i>	44	NC	Contrasting	1	41
<i>Erebus ephesperis</i>	90	NC	Cryptic	29	41
<i>Ericeia subcinerea</i>	38.5	NC	Cryptic	12	41
<i>Erygia apicalis</i>	40	NC	Cryptic	3	41
<i>Euaontia semirufa</i>	21	NC	Cryptic	30	41
<i>Eublemma albifascia</i>	19	NC	Cryptic	1	41
<i>Eublemma anachoresis</i>	20	NC	Conspicuous	3	41
<i>Eublemma purpurina</i>	25	NC	Conspicuous	20	41
<i>Euclidia glyphica</i>	25-30	C	Contrasting	20	41
<i>Eucocytia meeki</i>	55	NC	Conspicuous	16	41
<i>Eudocima fullonia</i>	75-90	C	Contrasting	30	41
<i>Eudocima salaminia</i>	80	C	Contrasting	3	41
<i>Eugoa bipunctata</i>	19	NC	Cryptic	12	41
<i>Eulepidotis rectimargo</i>	30	NC	Conspicuous	31	41
<i>Euplocia membliaria</i>	70	NC	Conspicuous	21	41
<i>Eutelia adulatrix</i>	28	NC	Cryptic	32	41

<i>Forsebia perlaeta</i>	32-36	C	Cryptic	30	41
<i>Gabara stygialis</i>	24	NC	Cryptic	9	41
<i>Garudinia simulana</i>	16	NC	Conspicuous	1	41
<i>Gonodontia uxor</i>	38	NC	Contrasting	33	41
<i>Gracilodes caffra</i>	36	NC	Cryptic	11	41
<i>Hemeroplanis finitima</i>	20-25	NC	Cryptic	30	41
<i>Hemicephalis alesa</i>	NA	C	Contrasting	NA	41
<i>Hemiceratoides sittaca</i>	NA	NC	Cryptic	NA	41
<i>Herminia tarsicrinalis</i>	28-32	NC	Cryptic	20	41
<i>Heteranassa sp</i>	27-33	NC	Cryptic	9	41
<i>Heteropalpia acrosticta</i>	31-35	NC	Cryptic	1	41
<i>Homodes crocea</i>	30	NC	Conspicuous	3	41
<i>Hulodes caranea</i>	90	NC	Cryptic	3	41
<i>Hypena baltimoralis</i>	26-32	NC	Cryptic	9	41
<i>Hypena laceratalis</i>	25	NC	Cryptic	3	41
<i>Hypena proboscidalis</i>	35	NC	Cryptic	16	41
<i>Hypenagonia sp</i>	10	NC	Cryptic	3	41
<i>Hypenodes humidalis</i>	14-15	NC	Cryptic	20	41
<i>Hypocala andremona</i>	43-49	C	Contrasting	9	41
<i>Hypocala deflorata</i>	51-53	C	Contrasting	1	41
<i>Hypopyra capensis</i>	64-72	NC	Cryptic	11	41
<i>Hyposemansis singha</i>	29	NC	Cryptic	22	41
<i>Hypospila bolinoides</i>	36-43	NC	Cryptic	1	41
<i>Hypotacha brandbergensis</i>	NA	NA	NA	NA	41
<i>Hypsoropha hormos</i>	25-34	NC	Cryptic	9	41
<i>Idia aemula</i>	20-30	NC	Cryptic	9	41
<i>Ischyja manlia</i>	102-118	C	Contrasting	34	41
<i>Laspeyria flexula</i>	23-27	NC	Cryptic	20	41
<i>Leucoma salicis</i>	37-50	NC	Conspicuous	20	41
<i>Lophoptera hemithyris</i>	20	C	Cryptic	3	41
<i>Luceria oculalis</i>	15	NC	Cryptic	3	41
<i>Luceria striata</i>	NA	NC	Cryptic	NA	41
<i>Lygephila maxima</i>	55.5	NC	Cryptic	12	41
<i>Lygephila pastinum</i>	37-42	NC	Cryptic	20	41
<i>Lymantria monacha</i>	30-50	NC	NA	20	41
<i>Lysimelia neleusalis</i>	NA	NC	Cryptic	NA	41

<i>Marcipa</i> sp	22	NC	NA	30	41
<i>Marcipa</i> sp	NA	NC	NA	NA	41
<i>Masca abactalis</i>	44-48	C	Cryptic	12	41
<i>Mecodina praecipua</i>	50	NC	Cryptic	3	41
<i>Melipotis jucunda</i>	35-42	C	Contrasting	9	41
<i>Melipotis punctifinis</i>	35-42	C	Contrasting	9	41
<i>Metaemene albiguttata</i>	NA	NA	NA	NA	41
<i>Metalectra edilis</i>	19	NC	Cryptic	29	41
<i>Micronoctua</i> sp	6-9	NC	Cryptic	35	41
<i>Miniodes phaeosoma</i>	70-80	C	Contrasting	15	41
<i>Mocis latipes</i>	44	NC	Cryptic	9	41
<i>Negeta signata</i>	23	NC	Cryptic	22	41
<i>Neochera inops</i>	50	NC	Cryptic	36	41
<i>Noctua fimbriata</i>	45-55	NC	Contrasting	20	41
<i>Nodaria verticalis</i>	NA	NA	NA	NA	41
<i>Nola aerugula</i>	15-20	NC	Cryptic	20	41
<i>Notodontia dromedarius</i>	35-40	NC	Cryptic	20	41
<i>Nyctiopelta noctuidalis</i>	18	NA	Cryptic	30	41
<i>Nyctemera baulus</i>	40	NC	Conspicuous	3	41
<i>Nygma plana</i>	NA	NC	Cryptic	NA	41
<i>Oenosandra boisduvalii</i>	50	NC	Conspicuous	3	41
<i>Oglasa ansorgei</i>	NA	NA	NA	NA	41
<i>Ommatophora luminosa</i>	50-55	NC	Cryptic	15	41
<i>Ophiusa coronata</i>	60	C	Contrasting	3	41
<i>Ophiusa tirhaca</i>	50	NC	Conspicuous	3	41
<i>Oraesia emarginata</i>	40	C	NA	3	41
<i>Oraesia excavata</i>	45	NC	Cryptic	4	41
<i>Orgyia antiqua</i>	25-30	NC	NA	20	41
<i>Ossonoba torpida</i>	37-41	NC	Cryptic	12	41
<i>Oxidercia toxea</i>	29	NC	Cryptic	33	41
<i>Oxycilla ondo</i>	26	NC	Cryptic	1	41
<i>Oxyodes scrobiculata</i>	50-60	NC	Cryptic	15	41
<i>Pandesma robusta</i>	38-40	NC	Cryptic	2	41
<i>Pangrapta bicornuta</i>	NA	NC	Cryptic	NA	41
<i>Pangrapta decoralis</i>	23	NC	Cryptic	9	41
<i>Panopoda rufimargo</i>	40	NC	Cryptic	30	41

<i>Panthea coenobita</i>	40	NC	Conspicuous	16	41
<i>Pantydia diemeni</i>	30	NC	Cryptic	3	41
<i>Paracolax tristalis</i>	28-35	NC	Cryptic	20	41
<i>Parangitia mosaica</i>	NA	NA	NA	NA	41
<i>Parascotia fuliginaria</i>	18-28	NC	Cryptic	20	41
<i>Parolulis absimilis</i>	NA	NC	NA	NA	41
<i>Pericyma cruegeri</i>	40	NC	Cryptic	3	41
<i>Peridrome orbicularis</i>	72	NC	Conspicuous	16	41
<i>Periscepta polysticta</i>	43-56	NC	Conspicuous	2	41
<i>Phalera bucephala</i>	42-55	NC	Cryptic	20	41
<i>Phoberia atomaris</i>	38	C	Cryptic	30	41
<i>Phyllodes eyndhovii</i>	100-105	C	Contrasting	15	41
<i>Phytometra viridaria</i>	20	NC	Cryptic	16	41
<i>Platyja umminia</i>	58	NC	Cryptic	1	41
<i>Platyjonia mediorufa</i>	NA	NC	Conspicuous	NA	41
<i>Plecoptera major</i>	NA	NA	NA	NA	41
<i>Plusiodonta nitissima</i>	NA	NC	Cryptic	NA	41
<i>Poeta denotalis</i>	NA	NC	Cryptic	NA	41
<i>Polypogon strigilatus</i>	30-35	NC	Cryptic	37	41
<i>Praxis porphyretica</i>	40	NC	Cryptic	3	41
<i>Prolophota trigonifera</i>	22	NC	Cryptic	24	41
<i>Pseudbarydia cespula</i>	59	NC	Cryptic	1	41
<i>Pseudoarcte melanis</i>	66	NC	Cryptic	11	41
<i>Pseudophaloe troetschi</i>	48	NC	Conspicuous	1	41
<i>Psimada quadripennis</i>	43	NC	Cryptic	22	41
<i>Ramadasa pavo</i>	38	C	Conspicuous	21	41
<i>Raphia abrupta</i>	28	NC	Cryptic	30	41
<i>Rema costimacula</i>	45	NC	Cryptic	4	41
<i>Rhesala imparata</i>	20	NC	Cryptic	38	41
<i>Risoba obstructa</i>	25-30	NC	Cryptic	3	41
<i>Rivula ochrea</i>	NA	NC	Cryptic	NA	41
<i>Rivula sericealis</i>	18-22	NC	Cryptic	20	41
<i>Rusicada fulvida</i>	41	NC	Cryptic	11	41
<i>Sanys irrosea</i>	NA	NC	Cryptic	NA	41
<i>Saroba pustulifera</i>	NA	NC	Cryptic	NA	41
<i>Schistorhynx argentistriga</i>	NA	NC	Cryptic	NA	41

<i>Schrankia costaestrigalis</i>	16-22	NC	Cryptic	20	41
<i>Scolecocampa liburna</i>	35-43	NC	Cryptic	9	41
<i>Scoliopteryx libatrix</i>	40-45	NC	Cryptic	20	41
<i>Serrodes campana</i>	69-75	NC	Cryptic	5	41
<i>Simplicia pachycera</i>	NA	NA	NA	NA	41
<i>Sosxetra grata</i>	35	NC	Cryptic	1	41
<i>Sphingomorpha chlorea</i>	65	NC	Cryptic	32	41
<i>Spirama retorta</i>	50	NC	NA	15	41
<i>Stauropus fagi</i>	45-60	NC	Cryptic	20	41
<i>Sympis rufibasis</i>	37-41	NC	NA	2	41
<i>Syntomis phegea</i>	35-40	NC	Conspicuous	20	41
<i>Sypnoides fumosa</i>	48-51	NC	Cryptic	12	41
<i>Tamba mnionomera</i>	30-34	NC	Cryptic	1	41
<i>Tamsia hieroglyphica</i>	40	NC	Cryptic	1	41
<i>Targalla subocellata</i>	32-38	NC	Cryptic	2	41
<i>Tautobriga glaucopis</i>	NA	NA	Cryptic	NA	41
<i>Thiacidas sp</i>	32	C	Cryptic	11	41
<i>Thyas metaphaea</i>	59	NC	Cryptic	11	41
<i>Thysania zenobia</i>	100-150	NC	Cryptic	9	41
<i>Tinolius eburneigutta</i>	NA	NA	Conspicuous	NA	41
<i>Toxonprucha sp</i>	20-29	NC	Cryptic	9	41
<i>Trisateles emortualis</i>	29-35	NC	Cryptic	20	41
<i>Ugia inspecta</i>	NA	NC	Cryptic	NA	41
<i>Ugiodes cinerea</i>	NA	NA	NA	NA	41
<i>Ulotrichopus macula</i>	70	C	Contrasting	18	41
<i>Xanthodes albago</i>	30-33	NC	Cryptic	2	41
<i>Zale bethunei</i>	31-40	NC	Cryptic	9	41
<i>Zurobata rorata</i>	NA	NA	NA	NA	41
<i>Calyptra canadensis</i>	33-40	NC	Cryptic	39	42
<i>Calyptra lata</i>	40	NC	Cryptic	24	42
<i>Calyptra minuticornis</i>	45	NC	Cryptic	3	42
<i>Eudocima divitiosa</i>	90	C	Contrasting	15	42
<i>Eudocima tyrannus</i>	90-100	C	Contrasting	40	42
<i>Gonodonta fulvangula</i>	38	C	Contrasting	30	42
<i>Gonodonta lincus</i>	NA	C	Contrasting	NA	42
<i>Gonodonta milla</i>	NA	C	Contrasting	NA	42

<i>Gonodonta nutrix</i>	36-40	C	Contrasting	9	42
<i>Gonodonta sicheas</i>	44	C	Contrasting	9	42
<i>Gonodonta syrna</i>	44	C	Contrasting	1	42
<i>Oraesia nobilis</i>	43	C	Cryptic	31	42
<i>Phyllodes imperialis</i>	130-150	C	Contrasting	5	42
<i>Plusiodonta casta</i>	25-32	NC	Cryptic	12	42
<i>Plusiodonta coelonota</i>	25	NC	Cryptic	3	42

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**Supplementary Figure S7.** Phylogenetic hypothesis of the analysed species. Support values were shown next to the branches.