

Hesperiidae of Vietnam 7¹
A Contribution to the Hesperiidae fauna of the southern Vietnam
(Lepidoptera)

by
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Summary: Data on the Hesperiidae fauna of southern Vietnam are summarized, a total of 22 species being added to those previously known from the area. The taxonomic status of several taxa listed by other authors is corrected.

Apart from the initial general lists of VITALIS DE SALVAZA (1919) and METAYE (1957), the hesperiid fauna of South Vietnam was studied more or less profoundly only by INOUE & KAWAZOE (1964–1970), who listed in a series of papers a total of 64 species. However, since these papers were written in taxonomic order and remained unfinished, they did not cover a great deal of genera in the subfamily Hesperinae. The area treated by these authors as “South Vietnam” was much wider than the traditional “Cocin-China”, stretching as far north as to Banmethuot (Buon Ma Thuot) (Dac Lac Province) and thus covering in fact the southern part of Annam, which has been traditionally regarded as Central Vietnam.

In view of these studies, we did not take into consideration the southernmost part of Annam (south of Gia Lai Province) in our paper on North and Central Vietnam (DEVYATKIN & MONASTYRSKIĬ, 1999), this area being dealt with in the present paper together with Cochinchina itself. In order to make clear the background, it seems reasonable to reproduce here the bare summarized list of taxa recorded from S. Vietnam by INOUE & KAWAZOE (1964–1970), as given by the authors. This is as follows:

1. *Bibasis sena uniformis* ELWES & EDWARDS, 1897
2. *Hasora proxima chalybeia* INOUE & KAWAZOE, 1964
3. *Hasora vitta vitta* (BUTLER, 1870)
4. *Hasora chromus chromus* (CRAMER, 1782)
5. *Hasora taminatus malayana* (FELDER, 1860)
6. *Badamia exclamationis* (FABRICIUS, 1775)
7. *Capila phanaeus decoloris* INOUE & KAWAZOE, 1964
8. *Celaenorrhinus asmara consertus* DE NICÉVILLE, 1890
9. *Celaenorrhinus aurivittata aurivittata* (MOORE, 1865)
10. *Gerosis bhagava bhagava* (MOORE, 1865)
11. *Pseudocoladenia dan fabia* (EVANS, 1949)
12. *Sarangesa dasahara dasahara* (MOORE, 1865)
13. *Satarupa gopala gopala* MOORE, 1865

1 For (6) see DEVYATKIN, A. L.: Two new species of the genera *Suada* DE NICÉVILLE, 1895 and *Quedara* SWINHOE, 1907 (Lepidoptera, Hesperidae). – *Atalanta* 31 (1/2): 193–197.

14. *Pintara pinwilli pinwilli* (BUTLER, 1877)
15. *Tagiades japetus ravi* (MOORE, 1865)
16. *Tagiades gana gana* (MOORE, 1865)
17. *Tagiades parra gala* EVANS, 1949
18. *Tagiades litigiosa litigiosa* MÖSCHLER, 1878
19. *Chamunda chamunda* (MOORE, 1865)
20. *Abraximorpha davidii elfina* EVANS, 1949
21. *Caprona agama agama* (MOORE, 1857)
22. *Caprona alida alida* (DE NICÉVILLE, 1891)
23. *Odontoptilum angulata angulata* (FELDER, 1862)
24. *Tapena thwaitesi bornea* EVANS, 1931
25. *Ctenoptilum vasava vasava* (MOORE, 1865)
26. *Astictopterus jama olivascens* MOORE, 1878
27. *Arnetta atkinsoni* (MOORE, 1878)
28. *Ampittia dioscorides camertes* (HEWITSON, 1868)
29. *Aeromachus dubius impha* EVANS, 1949
30. *Aeromachus cognatus* INOUE & KAWAZOE, 1966
31. *Aeromachus pygmaeus* (FABRICIUS, 1775)
32. *Sovia albipectus* (DE NICÉVILLE, 1891)
33. *Thoressa masoni* (MOORE, 1878)
34. *Halpe zema ormenes* (PLÖTZ, 1886)
35. *Halpe porus* (MABILLE, 1876)
36. *Iambrix salsala salsala* (MOORE, 1865)
37. *Koruthaialos butleri* (DE NICÉVILLE, 1865)
38. *Koruthaialos sindu sindu* (FELDER, 1860)
39. *Sankus fuligo fuligo* (MABILLE, 1876)
40. *Ancistroides nigrita maura* (SNELLEN, 1880)
41. *Notocrypta paralysos asawa* FRUHSTORFER, 1911
42. *Notocrypta clavata theba* EVANS, 1949
43. *Notocrypta curvifascia curvifascia* (FELDER, 1862)
44. *Udaspes folus* (CRAMER, 1775)
45. *Suada swerga suava* EVANS, 1949
46. *Suastus gremius gremius* (FABRICIUS, 1798)
47. *Suastus minuta aditia* EVANS, 1943
48. *Cupitha purreea* (MOORE, 1877)
49. *Zographetus satwa* (DE NICÉVILLE, 1884)
50. *Hyarotis microstictum microstictum* (WOOD-MASON & DE NICÉVILLE, 1887)
51. *Hyarotis adrastus praba* (MOORE, 1865)
52. *Isma dawna minuscula* INOUE & KAWAZOE, 1967
53. *Isma umbrosa contracta* INOUE & KAWAZOE, 1967
54. *Plastingia margherita miriam* EVANS, 1941
55. *Lotongus calathus balta* EVANS, 1949
56. *Gangara thyrsis thyrsis* (FABRICIUS, 1775)
57. *Erionota acroleuca apex* SEMPER, 1892
58. *Erionota thrax thrax* (LINNAEUS, 1767)
59. *Erionota torus* EVANS, 1941

60. *Matapa aria* (MOORE, 1866)
61. *Matapa sasivarna* (MOORE, 1865)
62. *Unkana ambasa batara* DISTANT, 1886
63. *Hidari bhawani* DE NICÉVILLE, 1888
64. *Pirdana hyela rudolphii* ELWES & DE NICÉVILLE, 1887

Although the material at my disposal contains records of new localities for some of the above mentioned species, I am giving here only the records of those species which add to the list of INOUE & KAWAZOE (1964–1970), with some necessary comments to the latter (species given in parentheses).

Most part of the material was collected either in the immediate vicinity of Ho Chi Minh city (loc. Thanh Da; urban vegetation) or in Dong Nai Province within the radius of about 60 km east (Cat Tien Nature Reserve; elements of primary lowland evergreen forest) and north-east (loc. Ma Da, secondary lowland evergreen forest) of Ho Chi Minh, mainly by N. V. BELYAEVA (NVB) and O. G. GORBUNOV (OGG). The material collected by the last person is partly in the collection of V. K. Tuzov (Moscow).

Small additional material was obtained from the Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle (Paris) (below cited as MNHN); this was mostly collected in 1929–1932 in the vicinities of Da Lat and Buon Ma Thuot by unidentified collectors.

Several specimens are still waiting for identification and may prove to be new species.

List of additional records, with comments on the previous data

Bibasis oedipodea belesis (MABILLE, 1876)

Ma Da, 6.IV.1993, ♂; 25.VIII.1994, ♂ (both NVB).

This subspecies is known also from N. Vietnam. The hindwing venation, on which the subspecific division of the species is mainly based, seems in fact to be rather variable, some of the southern specimens showing transition to the ssp. *oedipodea* (SWAINSSON, 1820).

Bibasis gomata gomata (MOORE, [1866])

Cat Tien, 12.VIII.1994, ♂ (NVB).

This single specimen is in some respects transitional to the ssp. *lalita* (FRUHSTORFER, 1911), distributed from Burma to Borneo.

Hasora badra badra (MOORE, [1858])

Ma Da, 12.III.1989, ♂ (OGG); Ho Chi Minh, IV.1990, ♂ (V. SAFRONOV); Cat Tien, 13.XII.1990, ♀ (NVB); no label, ♀ (MNHN).

Widely distributed in N. and C. Vietnam.

Choaspes plateni stigmata EVANS, 1932

Lam Dong Prov., Bao Loc, 1500 m, 10.–20.XII.1992, ♂ (SINYAEV & SIMONOV leg.)

The record of this subspecies, which is regarded as a separate species by some authors (CHIBA, 1992; IGARASHI, 1992; TSUKUYAMA, 1992) and was previously recorded from Tonkin and N. Annam, significantly extends its distribution to the South.

Celaenorrhinus pyrrrha DE NICÉVILLE, 1889

Listed for S. Vietnam ("Cochin-China") by EVANS (1949); the species occurs sporadically from Sikkim to the Malay Peninsula, the most recent record being that from C. Laos (UEHARA, 1999).

(*Celaenorrhinus vietnamicus* DEVIATKIN, 1998)

Judging from the external features (first of all the shape of the forewing band and the peculiar pattern of the subapical spots), the photograph of a female *C. aurivittata aurivittata* (MOORE, [1879]) from Banmethuot in INOUE & KAWAZOE (1964) may be strongly suspected to represent *C. vietnamicus*, as may be also the photographs of *C. a. aurivittata* and *C. a. cameroni* (DISTANT, 1882) in CHOU (1994); the same refers also to the illustrations of *C. aurivittata* from Laos (OSADA et al., 1999). If so, the distribution of *C. vietnamicus* covers a vast area from South China to South Vietnam, as I suggested earlier (DEVIATKIN, 1998); moreover, I found a very similarly-looking male from Nanchuan (Szechwan Province) in the collection of the Natural History Museum (London).

(*Tagiades gana meetana* (MOORE, [1879]))

The photographs in INOUE & KAWAZOE (1965) are most likely to represent this subspecies, distributed in South Burma and Thailand, and not ssp. *gana* (MOORE, [1866]), as stated by the authors; difficulties in the subspecific division of *T. gana* were already mentioned in a previous paper (DEVIATKIN & MONASTYRSKII, 1999).

Spialia galba (FABRICIUS, 1793)

Khanh Hoa Province, Kam Ranh Peninsula, 30.I.1990, ♂ (leg. G. SNEGIREV).

Listed for "Indochine" by VITALIS DE SALVAZA (1919) and for Vietnam by METAYE (1957); otherwise widely distributed in the Oriental region from N. W. Himalayas to S. India and C. Thailand.

(*Halpe ormenes vilasina* FRUHSTORFER, 1911)?

From the photograph of a single female specimen, it is difficult to judge which species is illustrated by INOUE & KAWAZOE (1966); however, since *H. ormenes* (PLÖTZ, 1886) is now regarded as a separate species, the name *vilasina* is used for its continental subspecies (the nominate one being described from Nias).

Koruthaiolos rubecula (PLÖTZ, 1882)

Lam Dong Prov., Bao Loc, 1500 m, 10.-20.XII.1992, ♂ (SINYAEV & SIMONOV leg.).

This single unmarked specimen was mentioned in a previous paper (DEVIATKIN & MONASTYRSKII, 1999); a similar bandless specimen was the base for the description of *avidha* FRUHSTORFER, 1910, from S. Annam (listed for C. Vietnam by METAYE, 1957). The occurrence of bandless forms throughout the distribution area of the species makes its subspecific division rather difficult; populations from Burma, Thailand and Indo-China were referred to ssp. *hector* WATSON, 1893 by EVANS (1949).

Notocrypta feisthamelii alysos (MOORE, [1866])

Lam Dong Prov., Da Lat, 28.III.1996, ♀ (NVB).

A widely distributed subspecies, common in N. and C. Vietnam.

(Erionota grandis (LEECH, 1890))

Listed for S. Vietnam by METAYE (1957). In my opinion, the record of this West-Chinese species is highly doubtful and may be probably referred to *E. torus* EVANS, 1941.

Oriens gola pseudolus (MABILLE, 1883)

Ho Chi Minh, V.1990, ♂ (V. SAFRONOV leg.)

This widely distributed subspecies was previously reported from N. and C. Vietnam (DEVYATKIN & MONASTYRSKII, 1999).

Potanthus trachala tytleri (EVANS, 1914)

Cat Tien, 8.-13.IV.1989, 2 ♂♂ (OGG).

Apart from N. Vietnam, found recently in N. Laos (OSADA et al., 1999).

Potanthus confucius dushta (FRUHSTORFER, 1911)

Vic. of Da Lat, Oct. 1930, ♂ (MNHN).

In Vietnam known for sure only from Annam (which is the type-locality of ssp. *dushta*), also being found in the very south of Laos (Osada et al., 1999).

Potanthus pava pava (FRUHSTORFER, 1911)

Dong Nai Province, loc. La Nga (ca. 50 km south of Cat Tien), 18.X.1990, ♂ (NVB).

The only Vietnamese records of this otherwise widely distributed species has so far come only from the north of the country (DEVYATKIN & MONASTYRSKII, 1999).

Potanthus lydia lydia (EVANS, 1934)

Vic. of Da Lat, 17.III.1929, ♂ (MNHN).

This is the first documented record from Vietnam, although occurrence of this species was considered possible on the base of a vague indication by PINRATANA (1985) and general its distribution (DEVYATKIN & MONASTYRSKII, 1999). Found in C. Laos (OSADA et al., 1999).

Potanthus ganda ganda (FRUHSTORFER, 1911)

Ho Chi Minh, 1.-18.III.1989, ♂ (OGG).

One of the most common *Potanthus* species, widely distributed in N. and C. Vietnam.

Potanthus hetaerus serina (PLÖTZ, 1883)

Ma Da, 16.III.1989, ♀ (OGG); ditto, 20.X.1994, ♀ (NVB).

Mentioned for Vietnam by PINRATANA (1985), probably on the base of EVANS' (1949) "Indo-China"; the subspecies is distributed from the Andamans and S. Burma to the Philippines.

Telicota colon stinga EVANS, 1949

Ma Da, 20.IV.1990, ♂ (NVB).

Recorded from N. Vietnam (DEVYATKIN & MONASTYRSKII, 1999).

Telicota augias augias (LINNAEUS, 1767)

EVANS (1949) reported this species from Saigon on the base of the collection of the British Museum (Natural History).

The next four species should be undoubtedly found throughout S. Vietnam, since they have wide distribution within the Oriental Region and are common in anthropogenous habitats of N. and C. Vietnam.

Parnara ganga EVANS, 1937

Ho Chi Minh, 1.-18.III.1989, 1 ♂, 1 ♀ (OGG).

Parnara bada bada (MOORE, 1878)

Ho Chi Minh, 1.-18.III.1989, ♂ (OGG); ditto, 17.VI.1990, ♀ (NVB); Cat Tien, 8.-13.IV.1989, ♂ (OGG).

Borbo cinnara (WALLACE, 1866)

Ho Chi Minh, 1.-18.III.1989, ♂ (OGG).

Pelopidas agna agna (MOORE, [1866])

Cat Tien, 8.-13.IV.1989, ♀ (OGG); Ma Da, 22.III.1991, ♀; Thuan Hai Prov., Bien Lac Nui Ong, 21.X.1995, ♂ (both NVB).

Pelopidas conjuncta conjuncta (HERRICH-SCHÄFFER, 1869)

Ho Chi Minh, IV.1990, ♂ (V. SAFRONOV leg.)

Another widespread species, however recorded so far only from the north of the country; known from the adjacent territories of Laos and Thailand (PINRATANA, 1985; OSADA et al., 1999).

Conclusion

Thus, a total of at least 86 species of Hesperiiidae can be recognized at present in southern Vietnam; of these, only 19 species have not been recorded so far from North or Central Vietnam. The data above, including those of INOUE & KAWAZOE (1964-1970), may be indeed regarded only as an initial base for future studies; most numerous and interesting records within the territory concerned should undoubtedly be expected from the mountained areas of South Annam.

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