

## A new subspecies of *Mycalesis aramis* HEWITSON, 1866, from the Philippine island of Mindoro (Lepidoptera: Nymphalidae, Satyrinae)

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**Abstract:** *Mycalesis aramis* HEWITSON, 1866, is reported for the first time from the Philippine island of Mindoro and described as *M. a. porthos* ssp. n. (male holotype in BMNH, London). The new taxon is illustrated, together with nominotypical *aramis* and the holotype ♂ specimen of *aramis* from Luzon.

**Keywords:** Lepidoptera, Satyrinae, *Mycalesis aramis*, new taxon, Philippines, Mindoro

**Eine neue Unterart von *Mycalesis aramis* HEWITSON, 1866, von der philippinischen Insel Mindoro (Lepidoptera: Nymphalidae, Satyrinae)**

**Zusammenfassung:** Zum ersten Mal wird *Mycalesis aramis* HEWITSON, 1866 von der philippinischen Insel Mindoro zur Kenntnis gebracht und als *M. a. porthos* ssp. n. beschrieben (Holotypus Männchen im BMNH, London). Das neue Taxon

ist zusammen mit der nominotypischen Form *aramis* und dem männlichen Holotypusexemplar von *aramis* von Luzon abgebildet.

### Introduction

*Mycalesis* HÜBNER, 1818, is a large satyrine genus, widespread in the old-world tropics. TREADAWAY & SCHROEDER (2012: 27) recorded 18 species, occurring in 45 subspecies, from the Philippines; these included *M. aramis* HEWITSON, 1866, reported only from northern Luzon, in its nominotypical form.

Whilst researching unrelated *Mycalesis* species in the collections of the BMNH, the first author encountered a pair of unidentified but rather distinctive *Mycalesis*



**Plate:** Subspecies of *Mycalesis aramis* on the Philippines. — **Figs. 1–7:** *Mycalesis aramis aramis*. **Figs. 1–3:** ♂ holotype (BMNH), Philippines [Luzon]; 1: labels, 2: ups., 3: uns. **Figs. 4–7:** specimens from Luzon; **Figs. 4–5:** ♂, ups., uns.; **Figs. 6–7:** ♀, ups., uns. — **Figs. 8–11:** *Mycalesis aramis porthos*. **Figs. 8–9:** holotype ♂, Mindoro (BMNH); 8: ups., 9: uns. **Figs. 10–11:** paratype ♀, Mindoro; 10: ups., 11: uns.

specimens collected more than a century ago on the Philippines island of Mindoro. The specimens were in a ROTHSCHILD collection drawer containing New Guinea *Mycalesis* species, and were accompanied by a handwritten drawer label suggesting they were undescribed. This short paper rectifies that situation.

#### Abbreviations used

uns. underside.

ups. upperside.

#### *Mycalesis aramis porthos* ssp. n.

(Figs. 8–11. – For comparison, see nominotypical subspecies in Figs. 1–7.)

**Holotype** ♂: Philippines, Mindoro, M[oun]t Dulangan, 4500–5500 f[ee]t [= 1370–1680 m], xi. [18]95–i. [18]96, J. WHITEHEAD. In BMNH, London (Figs. 8–9).

**Paratype**: 1 ♀ (Figs. 10–11), same data as holotype.

**Etymology**: Since *Mycalesis aramis* itself bears the name of one of Alexandre DUMAS' three musketeers, the name *porthos* seems appropriate.

#### Diagnosis

Male forewing length (holotype) 23 mm; similar to nominotypical *aramis*; male upperside dark chocolate brown, fringes brown; forewing with solitary obscure, black, pupilled ocellus in space 3–4; hindwing with typically mycalesine costal patch of pale hairs (sex-brand), largely hidden by forewing; indistinct dark wavy subterminal line forming brown marginal line slightly paler than remainder of hindwing; underside basal and median areas dark chocolate brown, contrasting with paler marginal border (basal/median areas paler brown, less contrasting in nominotypical *aramis*); forewing post-median edge of dark area with prominent diffuse white line deeply curved towards costa (variable, but invariably indistinct, and always significantly less curved in nominotypical *aramis*); series of four small, black ocelli forming straight line in spaces 2–5, each clearly enclosed by pale yellow-brown border and with prominent white pupil (ocelli variable, but usually only present in spaces 2 and 5, indistinctly bordered yellow-brown in nominotypical *aramis*); dull wavy submarginal line; hindwing with prominent diffuse white line (indistinct in nominotypical *aramis*); postmedian series of prominent ocelli, ringed yellow-brown, with central clear white pupil in spaces 1b–7, with those in spaces 2–4 larger than remainder (ocelli less prominent, with those in spaces 4 and 5 vestigial or absent in nominotypical *aramis*).

Female like nominate *aramis*; upperside medium brown; forewing with obscure white pupilled spot in space 2; series of creamy white post median markings from space 2 to costa, loosely forming pale band, deeply curved towards costa (white markings absent, replaced by indistinct pale line [variable], always less curved in nominotypical *aramis*); hindwing with indistinct post-median pale line (largely absent in nominotypical *aramis*); underside like male; basal and median areas darker

brown than postmedian and marginal areas; prominent postmedian broad white line, curved at forewing costa (dark basal/median area and paler postmedian-marginal area separated by only a suggestion of white line in nominotypical *aramis*); forewing with well-developed ocelli in spaces 2–5 (variable, but usually vestigial or absent in nominotypical *aramis*); hindwing with full series of larger and well developed, prominent ocelli in postmedian pale band (fewer, poorly developed ocelli in nominotypical *aramis*).

#### Distribution

Philippines, Mindoro Island

#### Discussion

AOKI et al. (1982: pl. 53–54) illustrate specimens of *M. aramis* similar in all significant respects to the series in the BMNH and in the collection of the second author. Whilst the presence and – if present – size of the underside postmedian ocelli are variable, neither author has seen *aramis* specimens from Luzon that approach *M. a. porthos* in either the size of ocelli, or in the prominence of the underside white line present on the latter. Other *Mycalesis* taxa (see AOKI et al. 1982: pl. 53–54) do have a well-developed white line (e.g. *M. sudra* FELDER, 1867; *M. moorei* FELDER, 1867; both restricted to Java) but differ in other features. The distinctive curvature of the pale median line below the forewing costa present on the male underside and both surfaces of the female is not present on any nominotypical *aramis* specimen seen; nor on any other *Mycalesis* species.

VANE-WRIGHT (1990: 26–27), in describing Philippines-Sulawesi-Moluccan biogeographic patterns based on a variety of sources, divided the Philippines into regions of endemism (VANE-WRIGHT 1990: 26; see also TREADAWAY & SCHROEDER 2012: 6, map 1). Despite its very close proximity to Luzon in the north, Palawan to the southwest and the West Visayan region to the southeast, the high and mountainous island of Mindoro is regarded as a discrete area of endemism. This paper introduces the first record of *Mycalesis aramis* from Mindoro: it is perhaps predictable that it occurs there in a distinct race.

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