

A new subspecies of *Appias phoebe* C. & R. FELDER, 1861 (Lepidoptera: Pieridae) from Mount Talinis, Negros Island, Philippines

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Abstract: A new subspecies of high elevation butterfly, *Appias phoebe nuydai* ssp. n., is described from Mount Talinis, Negros Island, Philippines.

Eine neue Unterart von *Appias phoebe* C. & R. FELDER, 1861 (Lepidoptera: Pieridae) vom Mount Talinis, Insel Negros, Philippinen

Zusammenfassung: Eine neue Unterart des hochmontanen Weißlings *Appias phoebe*, *nuydai* ssp. n., wird vom Mount Talinis, Insel Negros, Philippinen, beschrieben.

Introduction

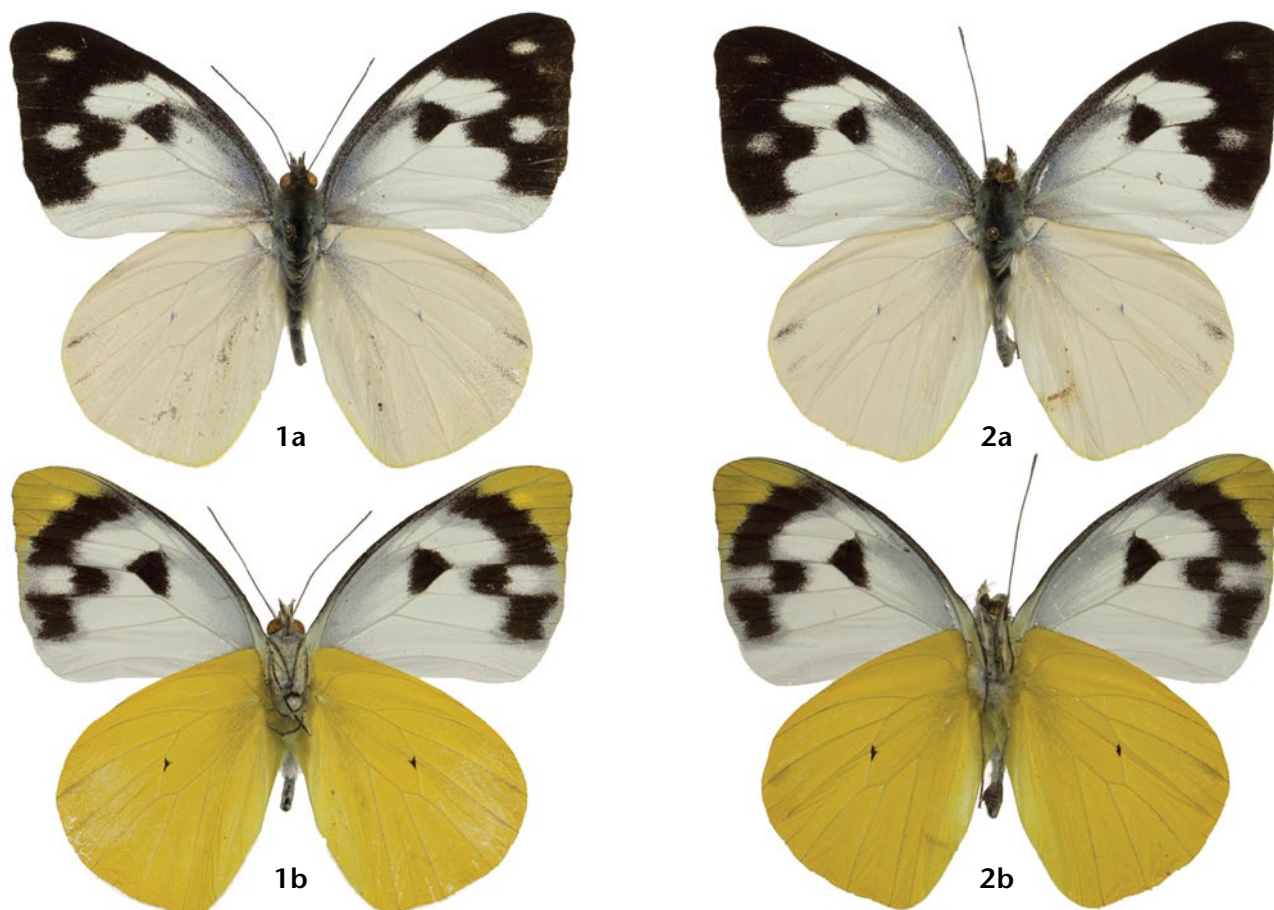
The species *Appias phoebe* was described by C. & R. FELDER in 1861 from specimens collected in the mountains of LUZON. D'ABRERA (1982) placed this species as a subspecies of *Appias pandione* (GEYER, [1832]), but later the taxon was recognized as a species by TSUKADA et al. (1985). This species is endemic to the Philippines with five subspecies, *phoebe* FELDER & FELDER, 1861 in South

and North Luzon, *mindana* YAMAMOTO & TAKEI, 1980 in northwest Mindanao, *montana* ROTHSCCHILD, 1896 (= syn. *Appias remedios canlaonensis* OKANO & OKANO, 1992) in North Negros, *rowelli* SCHROEDER & TREADAWAY, 1982 in South Palawan, and *zamorra* FELDER & FELDER, 1862 in Mindoro (TREADAWAY & SCHROEDER 2012). According to TSUKADA et al. (1985), this species is rare and found only in higher elevations. This paper describes a new subspecies of *Appias phoebe* FELDER & FELDER, 1861 from Mount Talinis, Negros Island, Philippines.

Appias phoebe nuydai ssp. n.

Holotype ♂: Philippines; Negros Oriental; Mount Talinis; Valencia; v. 2012; leg. J. A. T. BADON, deposited in the McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity, Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida.

Paratype: 1 ♂, same information and depository as the holotype.



Figs. 1–2: *Appias phoebe nuydai* ssp. n. — **Fig. 1:** holotype ♂, v. 2012, leg. BADON, Mount Talinis, Negros Island; **1a:** upperside; **1b:** underside. — **Fig. 2:** paratype ♂, same data as holotype; **2a:** upperside; **2b:** underside.

Etymology: The subspecies is named after Mr. Justin S. NUYDA for his valuable contribution to the study of Philippine butterflies.

Diagnosis and identification

Male. Same with ssp. *montana* and the difference is the forewing underside cell end spot, which the ssp. *nuydai* have a funnel-shaped cell end spot (same with ssp. *mindana*), while it is circular in ssp. *montana*.

Female. Unknown.

Habitat: High elevation forests in South Negros. The new subspecies was collected puddling around Lake Nailig with an elevation of 1578 m a.s.l (BADON 2013; 2014).

Hostplants: Currently unknown, but probably high elevation species of *Capparis*, *Crateva*, and *Drypetes* (BADON 2019).

Acknowledgments

I would like to thank my former advisor, the late Thomas C. EMMEL, Ph.D., Founding Director of the McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity, Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida, for his support during my graduate studies in the University of Florida, and also for providing the funds during my 2012 fieldwork on Negros Island. To Charles COVELL, Ph.D., for the guidance and advice during my graduate school in the University of Florida. To my friends who hiked with me to Mount Talinis in May 2012, Patrick David FORTUNATO, Jason BAGUIA, Jan Michael OSEO, Peter ROMANILLOS, Bonifacio Magnifico PALEN, Audrey CRISCILLE, and to our

guide Mr. Erickson BRIGONDOT. I would like to thank the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) offices in Dumaguete City and Cebu City for providing the Gratuitous Permit.

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Received: 21. VIII./12. XI. 2019

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Jahr/Year: 2019

Band/Volume: [40](#)

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