

R. L. H. DENNIS: *The British butterflies. Their origin and establishment.* 318 pp., 20 figs., 15 tabs., hardback in cloth, ca 15 x 22 cm. E. W. Classey Ltd., Faringdon, Oxon. (England), 1977. Price £ 10.-.

A new book on the above subject is certainly well welcomed – however controversial it may seem to be. The conclusions reached by Dennis differ from those published in earlier works (e.g. Ford's *Butterflies* published by Collins), but his findings appear to be based on thorough research. The discussion of the theory outlined by Dennis will surely come soon, in original scientific papers – and cannot be exhausted - or even started – in a short book review. The author dealt at some length also with the present zoogeography of the butterflies in Britain and it seems very strange that the otherwise extensive bibliography leaves out such a standard reference book as de Lattin's *Grundriß der Zoogeographie* – and also other important works by the same author.

'The subspecies and races' of British butterflies are discussed in a chapter of the same title in considerable detail. Unfortunately this chapter suffers from inaccuracies: the citations of scientific names are often incomplete and inconsistent, but most of all the poor knowledge of comparative material from other parts of Europe. In other words, the examination of the 'British subspecies and races' has been done again in isolation. While the author can in most cases prove his own investigations that the phenotype of populations of 'A' differs from that of 'B', he can hardly afford to draw inferences to the taxonomic status of those populations. Only a little more work on the author's side would have been required to give adequate citations of scientific names – the omitted data were probably known to the author. Their inclusion would have satisfied the principles of zoological nomenclature and the omitted data would be most useful to all students of British and European Rhopalocera: names of authors of taxa, dates of publication, full citations etc. This may be possibly blamed on indistinguished editing of this book.

The publication is well printed and bound and should be of much interest to every student of European butterflies, its theoretical aspects and principles should be interesting also to the students of moths and other orders. The low price is very pleasant surprise these days.

O. Kudrna

A. TEOBALDELLI: I Macrolepidotteri del Maceratese e dei Monti Sibillini (Appennino Umbro-Machigiano). *Note ed Appunti sperimentali di Entomologia agraria*, **16**: 81–346, 40 figs., 1 map, 10 col. pls., paperback 17 x 24 cm. Perugia 1976. Price: Lire 10000.-.

The above work is a faunistic monograph of the Macrolepidoptera of the Prov. Macerata and Monti Sibillini (C. Italy) based primarily on 15 years of authors own faunistic investigations. The geographical area is described in the 'general part' and a useful map with index of localities is provided. The general part also deals with zoogeography, history of faunistic investigations, methods, acknowledgements etc.; some of the more interesting localities are figured on figs. 29–40. The 'special part' lists 974 species, each with comments at least on their distribution, some also with maps. Many taxa are illustrated on ten colour plates (references to these are given throughout the text); the plates leave a little to be desired when judged by a 'high standard yardstick', but they are in any case over and above the requirements for a faunistic monograph. Extensive bibliography and index complete the work.

The nomenclature – usually a trinomen – is somewhat confused and suffers from the ab-

breviated names of authors and other contradictions of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature; it would have been probably better to use only a binomen with names of subspecies only if described or previously explicitly recorded from the investigated area. The choice of Verity's '*Le farfalle diurne d'Italia*' as one of the 'authorities' for the subspecies status of many Rhopalocera was most unfortunate and could have led also to the inclusion of some very doubtful taxa (e. g. *Lysandra italaglaucha* Verity). One must hope that the identification of 'difficult taxa' is correct.

Teobaldelli's work represents a useful contribution to the knowledge of distribution of Italian Lepidoptera and is well produced, also from the technical point of view. It is likely to prove to be a useful companion to every student of Italian (and European) Lepidoptera.

O. Kudrna

NGUYEN THI HONG: *Les Apatura: polymorphisme et speciation*. 86 pp., 11 pls. (1 col.), 2 maps, A 4. Sciences Nat, Paris 1976 (1977). Price FF. 89,-.

Although the title of this book might perhaps lead one to believe that it is a treatment of all taxa of the genus *Apatura* Fabricius 1807, it gives account of only two species: *A. ilia* (Denis & Schiffermüller) and *A. metis* Freyer. This simple fact rises a more fundamental question: can a reviser afford to select only two species of the genus for the revision and leave aside all other closely related congeneric species without the sacrifice of the taxonomic correctness of conclusions? Numerous infrasubspecific names are used to denote two basic types of polymorphic variation where a short verbal description (e. g. 'white form' or 'yellow form') of the two basic types of polymorphic forms would have been not only adequate, but much easier to follow; infrasubspecific names should have been clearly separated from available names and it appears that there is some confusion in the synonymy of some of these unavailable names: the same individual form is referred to as *margheritae* on p. 18 and *ganzoi* on p. 49! The general layout of the work (incl. citations) could have been a little clearer and the number of subspecies recognized appear to me (reviewer's opinion!) larger than can be justified. The abbreviation of the species' name in trinomen to one letter is the current 'bad fashion' spreading probably after the employment of this 'novelty' in the *Field Guide to the butterflies of Britain and Europe* by Higgins & Riley; the abbreviation serves no useful purpose and can be very confusing at times.

From the technical point of view the book is produced from typewritten text (often used to good advantage by many publishers) and reproduced directly (without the important reduction in size) probably by xerox. The plates – despite the presence of one in colour – could have been better printed: both the half-tone photographs and the simple line drawings and maps. However, despite some of its shortcomings, this work is likely to become a standard reference book on the subject, useful to everybody interested in the taxa of the genus *Apatura*. It is therefore a pity that it has not been given better attention during the editing and production.

O. Kudrna

H. SCHREIBER: Lepidoptera: Papilionidae, Pieridae und Nymphalidae. In: *Erfassung der westpaläarktischen Tiergruppen. Fundortkataster der Bundesrepublik Deutschland*. 76 pp., format A 4, unbound. Paul Müller, Saarbrücken 1976. Price: not stated, apparently DM 10,-.

This volume represents the first part of German (Bundesrepublik Deutschland) distribution maps of Lepidoptera, published within the European Invertebrate Survey and dealing with the distribution of W. German species of the families Papilionidae, Pieridae and Nymphalidae. Every species is given one map, on which records before and after 1960 are marked. Although this work is in principle similar to the well known distribution maps of British

butterflies, it differs in some respects (apart from the maps being produced in a somewhat different way): the maps are supplemented by a list of contributors and a list of published references. The inclusion of both is a very positive step forward. A further improvement is the 'Orientierungskarte' on p. 9. Schreiber's move towards the use of published records accompanied by the appropriate references must be seen as the 'first sign' of realistic approach in the work of EIS. However, much more than this singular indication of some new realistic thinking is needed (e.g. full use of published records, checking-up of identification of reported taxa, thorough examination of material deposited – at least – in the major museums, exhaustive bibliographies etc.) to bring EIS maps from a simple exercise in some computer techniques to a scientific study of the distribution of European Invertebrata (*Lepidoptera*). We must be very grateful to H. Schreiber not only for the improvements he made, but also for the publication of another long time overdue part of EIS programme. (See also H.-E. Back's review of W. Schmidt-Koehl's book.)

O. Kudrna

W. SCHMIDT-KOEHL: Macrolepidopteren des Saarlandes. Familien: Nolidae, Lymantriidae, Arctiidae, Notodontidae, Zygaenidae, Limacodidae und Sphingidae. In: *Erfassung der westpaläarktischen Tiergruppen. Fundortkataster der Bundesrepublik Deutschland*. Format A 4, Seitenzahl nicht festgestellt [64], ungebunden, Herausgeber Paul Müller, Saarbrücken (1976) 1977. Preis nicht angegeben, DM 10,- nach Anfrage.

Bevor über den Inhalt dieser Publikation referiert wird, ist einiges über dieses Publikationsorgan allgemein zu sagen: Das für die bibliographischen Angaben wichtige Deckblatt stellt selbst für ausgebildete Bibliothekare ein unlösbares Rätsel dar. Selten ist so viel Konfusus auf so engem Raum zusammengedruckt worden: Haben wir eine Publikation im Rahmen der „Erfassung der Europäischen Wirbellosen“ vorliegen – oder ist die „Erfassung der westpaläarktischen Tiergruppen“ der übergeordnete Begriff? Handelt es sich um den Namen einer neuen Publikationsreihe, deren Herausgeber Paul Müller ist, so fragt man sich, warum an der Stelle, wo normalerweise der Herausgeber angeführt ist, die Universität des Saarlandes zitiert ist. Was ist „Schwerpunkt Biogeographie“? Auch an der Universität des Saarlandes herrscht bislang noch die normale Gliederung in Fakultäten, Institute und deren Abteilungen – letzteres ist der Status der Biogeographie am Geographischen Institut. Bei offiziellen Publikationen sollten solche „Schwerpunkt“-Selbstdarstellungsversuche unterbleiben. Ist der „Bearbeiter“ nicht der Autor?

Aus dieser Reihe liegen bislang Teil 2 und Teil 3 vor. Teil 2 beinhaltet auch tatsächlich das, was der Titel sagt: Hier gibt H. Schreiber einen Beitrag zur EEW – Fundortkataster der Bundesrepublik Deutschland. Teil 3 – obwohl auch Fundortkataster der Bundesrepublik Deutschland betitelt – beinhaltet die „Macrolepidopteren des Saarlandes“, die doch sicherlich auch einmal bundesweit dargestellt werden sollen. Teil 1 dieser Reihe existiert noch nicht! Dies ist um so verwirrender, als Schmidt-Koehl in der Einführung des Teiles 2: 1 mehrmals auf Teil 1 Bezug nimmt, womit aber eine ganz andere Publikation in einer ganz anderen Zeitschriftenreihe gemeint ist. Schließlich muß darauf hingewiesen werden, daß das angegebene Publikationsdatum „1976“ falsch ist, die Arbeit ist erst 1977 erschienen.

Zum Inhalt: Dieser 3. Teil ist die Fortsetzung der Karten 1–100 „Rhopalocera et Grypocera de la Sarre (Saarland)“ in: *Atlas Provisoires Hors-Séries*, Gembloux 1971, von demselben Autor. In dem hier vorliegenden Teil ist für die Karten ein exakteres Gitternetzsystem gewählt worden, mit Hilfe eines beiliegenden Decodierungsrasters können die Fundpunkte leicht lokalisiert werden. Alle Fundorte sind in alphabetischer Reihenfolge und Grid-Reference nochmals aufgeführt.

Abgesehen von einer eigenwilligen Schreibweise der wissenschaftlichen Namen (bei der Nominatrasse ist der Speziesname immer abgekürzt), fällt die ungebräuchliche Abkürzung von den Titeln wissenschaftlicher Zeitschriften auf. Der Autor befolgt zwar exakt die internationalen Regeln für die zoologische Nomenklatur – doch ebenso sollte auch der „World

List“ für Abkürzungen von Zeitschrift-Titeln Aufmerksamkeit geschenkt werden. Zumindest sollte bekannt sein, daß „BRD“ als Abkürzung für Bundesrepublik Deutschland unzulässig ist, abgesehen davon, daß die Lage von Göttingen bekannt ist (: 2).

Selbst wenn die hier gegebenen Daten einmal auf die Karten für die gesamte Bundesrepublik übertragen werden (nachdem der Vollständigkeit wegen noch verschiedene private und öffentlich Sammlungen berücksichtigt werden sollten), so stellt dieser regional begrenzte Auszug doch ein wertvolles Orientierungswerk für den Lokalfaunistiker dar.

H.-E. Back

P. GILBERT: *A compendium of the biographical literature on deceased entomologists*. xiv + 455 pp., front. + 27 figs., format 16 x 24 cm, cloth bound. British Museum (Natural History), London 1977 (1978); (true date of publication 4.I. 1978). Price £ 25,-.

Taxonomists – and lepidopterists in particular – very often need bibliographical information on the work of their predecessors' work: to trace a description, name, find a type-locality, depository of type-material etc. The way to obtain such information is rarely direct and simple. I have still in my memory the long months spent (on and off) searching for a locality somewhere in 'Asia Minor' given on the labels of some old specimens; it was the type-locality to be and I found it in the end with the help of a historian and the library of – out of all – the Imperial War Museum in London. It is often the 'non-scientific' information given in obituaries, memoirs and similar articles by friends and contemporaries of the deceased that leads to the successful finding of the data desired. P. Gilbert wrote her book with both the 'scientific' (bibliographical) and the 'non-scientific' (biographical) aspects in mind. And the reviewer himself witnessed during several years the progress of her manuscript and her painstaking effort to reach as near perfection as humanly possible.

The book under review consists of five parts: 'Preface', 'A note on sources and format', 'Acknowledgements', 'Compendium' and 'List of abbreviations of periodical titles used in this volume with their full titles'. The main part, 'Compendium' lists information on some 7500 deceased entomologists, giving almost in every case full information: name, dates of birth and death, references to papers of biographical and/or bibliographical character. The last part ('List of abbreviations') is also useful, though the information given may be usually found also elsewhere: e. g. in the 'World list'.

The clear layout of the book is the result of author's immense knowledge and experience of entomological literature and bibliography. There are – naturally – some errors and I managed to find a few of them; but this must be anticipated of the work of this character and scope and the author stated clearly in the 'Preface' that advice correcting such errors will be always appreciated. To continue splitting hairs I must point out two – in my opinion – unfortunate features: the pages referred to xi–xiv in the table of contents are not numbered in the book and the title on the spine (given as 'Bibliography of deceased entomologists') contradicts the bibliographically valid title on the title page (given the heading of this review).

The book is well printed and bound, though the otherwise good quality paper may seem somewhat thin. The price may seem a little high, though probably realistic for a book not aimed at mass market; it is not likely to prevent from the purchase of the book. Its cost will be repaid to the purchaser in great time savings made over years of frequent use. The author should be congratulated on her brave and successful efforts and the British Museum (Natural History) thanked for the publication of this compendium. We must all hope that it will be kept up-to-date and perhaps also provided with 'addenda and corrigenda' at some future date.

O. Kudrna

W. FORSTER & T. A. WOHLFAHRT: *Die Schmetterlinge Mitteleuropas. Band 2: Tagfalter* (Rhopalocera & Hesperiidae), edition 2. 180 pp., 28 col. pls., 41 figs., hardback in cloth, 25 x 18 cm. Franckh'sche Verlagshandlung, Stuttgart 1976. Price DM 125,-.

The appearance of the second edition of this standard handbook on the butterflies of Central Europe is a clear indication of the popularity and commercial success of the first edition. The book is so well known that it needs no introduction or detailed description; the only question to be answered is whether it has been improved and how.

The excellent Wohlfahrt's plates are well reproduced, the whole book is reset in a smaller size type face which, surprisingly, seems to be a plus point: the text is still extremely easy to read and the layout of every page gives neater appearance. The references to the figures on plates, found in the text, have been corrected and the omissions corrected. The authors have rightly used German vernacular names only for those common and well known species, where such names are justified, thus rejecting the unfortunate attempt of Higgins & Riley (*Field Guide to the butterflies of Britain and Europe*, Collins 1970 and later editions) to introduce vernacular name in English, German and other language for every European butterfly species. Already in the first edition the authors noted the species under protection in Germany; it would seem that this aspect could have been extended and brought up-to-date in the second edition. The nomenclature has been brought up-to-date and the authors need not apologize for the few changes they made: although the stability of zoological nomenclature is most desirable, the names cannot remain virtually static as they are only a tool expressing the current stage of our knowledge of the taxa concerned. However, with a few changes of genus-group names made in the second edition one would expect better definition of the genera than those given. The only main point of criticism must concentrate on species-group names: the authors have - surprisingly - ignored the principles laid down by the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature and abbreviated names of authors of taxa treated in the book and left out of the combination year of the first appearance of all names (I leave aside the fact that also brackets have not been employed as required by the Code)! It is most unfortunate that an important standard handbook - from all other points of view a good and well produced publication - does not set a better example also in the field of nomenclature.

O. Kudrna

K. MIKKOLA & I. JALAS: *Suomen Perhoset. Yökköset 1.* 256 pp., 18 black & white pls., numerous line drawings and maps, hardback in cloth, 17 x 25 cm. Helsingissä Kustannusosakeyhtiö Otava, Helsinki 1977. Price: FMK 98,- (special price to SEL members, see in 'Miscellanea' on p. 52).

This book is the first from a planned series of handbooks on the Lepidoptera of Finland and deals with approximately one half of Noctuidae-species of Finland. This volume is written in Finnish language, but supplemented by a comprehensive guide in English, which makes reading easier for non-Finnish readers; they can understand at least all the principal information. Every species listed in the book is described, diagnostic characters are given and usually well illustrated by good line drawings of external features or genitalia; distribution maps and data regarding the distribution, information on flight period, size, abundance etc. is also included. For easy reference to illustrations every species has a number which reappears again on the plate. The plates are photographs and each specimen figured bears locality and date of capture or other relevant data.

This first volume of the long overdue treatment of the Lepidoptera of Finland makes certainly a very good impression not only from the lepidopterological point of view, but also aesthetically. The editors - certain members of the Lepidopterological Society of Finland - should be satisfied with their efforts. It is to be hoped that this first volume of the series - a book useful to every student of Noctuidae of Europe - will be soon followed by similar books on the other groups of Finnish butterflies and moths.

O. Kudrna

CHANG-WHAN KIM: *Distribution atlas of insects of Korea. Series 1: Lepidoptera: Rhopalocera.* 200 + x pp., 19 black & white pls., maps, A 4 format, hardback in cloth. Korea University Press, Seoul 1976. Price: Won 9000,- (apparently sold outside S. Korea for ca DM 55,- or equivalent).

This well produced book seems to be the first Asiatic counterpart of our well known European Invertebrate Survey programme, on which methods it is also based. However, this Korean book can be seen as an advancement of the European scheme from which EIS could learn a lesson.

The book is provided with an introduction in English, where there are also described the methods of the project. The photographic plates are probably the weakest feature of the work: they are not particularly good photographs and some suffer also from the inclusion of far too many specimens in poor condition; however, their presence in this type of faunistic work is not important in any case. The main part of the book consists of the distribution maps of Korean butterflies; every map is supplemented by data and text regarding its localities, flight period, frequens, depositories of examined material and comments dealing with the range of the species, its identification, habitat and other aspects. Of 254 species reported from Korea to-date only 172 are dealt with: that is those of which material was available for examination. This approach is probably better than the listing of unverified records. The book is concluded with a comprehensive bibliography of 157 citations – a very useful feature indeed. The names of localities are anglicized, though also given in original form. Good index of scientific names is provided and the book is concluded with a Korean text, apparently a translation of the English introduction and index of Korean names.

On the whole this book is well produced and its standard is a pleasant surprise; one could only wish to have such a work available also for European species. (Unfortunately we are probably still very far away from the realization of such a dream!) Unfortunately a few mistakes or typographical errors entered into this book, too. The use of generic and subgeneric names is confused in some instances and the same applies to some of the species-group names; also names of authors are occasionally misinterpreted (some taxa are assigned to Schiffermüller and some to Denis & Schiffermüller etc.). Also the identification of certain subspecies is questionable or wrong (e.g. *Satyrus [Minois] autonoë sibirica* Staudinger is used for *Hipparchia autonoë zezutonis* Seok) and the use of trinomen is inconsistent throughout the book. Despite these shortcomings Kim's book is certainly a fine contribution to the knowledge of the palaearctic butterflies and should find many satisfied readers also in Europe.

O. Kudrna

The scientific results of the Oman fauna and flora survey 1975. The journal of Oman studies: Special report. 267 pp., numerous colour and black & white photographs, line drawings, map, 22 x 29 cm, hardback in cloth. Ministry of information and culture, Sultanate of Oman (produced by Michael Rice & Co. Ltd.), London 1977. Price not stated.

Under the above long, complicated and inaccurate title – it is a book and not a periodical publication – hides a lavishly produced volume containing after the foreword by H. M. Sultan Qaboos bin Said chapters on the mammals, birds, reptiles, freshwater fishes, Lepidoptera, scorpions, Mollusca, mammals' ectoparasites and plants of the Sultanate of Oman (E. Oman). The chapters on Lepidoptera are discussed below in some detail, but also the chapter on the flora of Oman accompanied by numerous instructive photographs of biotopes deserves the attention of lepidopterists. The initiators and producers of this book have done a very good piece of work and it is to be hoped that their efforts will be continued also in the future years and perhaps joined also by other countries of the Arabian world. It is only a little

T. B. LARSEN: The butterflies of eastern Oman and their zoogeographic composition. In: *The scientific results of the Oman fauna and flora survey 1975. The journal of Oman studies: Special report*, 179–208, 15 colour photographs.

The contribution is the first comprehensive account of the butterflies of the Sultanate of Oman ever published. After the introductory chapters ('Introduction and acknowledgements', 'Geographic and ecological overview', 'Localities and dates of capture') there follows a systematic list of the butterflies of E. Oman; each species is discussed separately (perhaps some comments could have been more concise?) and material examined is clearly cited, many of the more interesting taxa are well illustrated in colour (unfortunately without scale of magnification). The work is concluded by chapters entitled 'The fauna of Dhofar', 'Species almost certain to occur in eastern Oman', 'Zoogeographical aspects' and a comprehensive list of 'References', in which I unfortunately failed to find a paper cited in a footnote on p. 182. Apart from this minor typographical error, caused probably by a correction entered at the proof stage, the author has delivered a plausible piece of work on the subject well worthy his attention.

O. Kudrna

E. P. WILTSHIRE: Lepidoptera: Part I. Families Cossidae, Pyralidae Geometridae, Sphingidae, Arctiidae, Lymantriidae and Noctuidae. Part II. A List of Further Lepidoptera-Heterocera from Oman with remarks on their economic importance and descriptions of one new genus, four new species, and two new subspecies.

E. C. PELHAM-CLINTON: Part III Pyralidae from Oman: specimens in the Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh.

Alle drei Teile in: *The Scientific Results of the Oman Flora and Fauna Survey 1975. The Journal of Oman Studies. Special Report*, 155–178, 2 Farabbildungen, 8 schwarz-weiß-Fotos, 10 Textabbildungen.

In diesem sehr aufwendig und anspruchsvoll hergestellten Werk finden erstmals die Lepidopteren des Sultanates Oman eine zusammenfassende Beachtung. Insgesamt sind 140 Arten erwähnt (31 Pyralidae, 2 Cossidae, 1 Limacodidae, 28 Geometridae, 2 Sphingidae, 3 Lymantriidae, 3 Arctiidae, 4 Lasiocampidae und 66 Noctuidae, hier die Rhopaloceren nicht mitberücksichtigt).

Ein neues Genus wird beschrieben: *Iranada* Wiltshire, ebenso 6 neue Arten und 2 neue Subspezies. Eine die Pyraliden nicht berücksichtigende kurze zoogeographische Analyse (Zoogeographie sensu Wiltshire) schließt sich an.

Zusammen mit den Rhopaloceren sind rund 180 Lepidopteren-Arten aus diesem Gebiet nachgewiesen – weitere Nachweise sind mit Sicherheit zu erwarten – hier wurde eine qualitativ gute und umfangreiche Grundlage zur weiteren Bearbeitung (z. B. Zoogeographie sensu de Lattin) gegeben.

H.-E. Back

E. TRAUGOTT-OLSEN & E. S. NIELSEN: The Elachistidae (Lepidoptera) of Fennoscandia and Denmark. *Fauna Entomologica Scandinavica* 6: 1–299, 16 Farbtfln., 45 + 536 figs., Format A 5, paperback, Klampenborg 1977. Preis: nicht festgestellt, ca. DKr 160,–.

Obwohl dieser 6. Band der Fauna Entomologica Scandinavica sich „nur“ mit den Elachistiden – wenn auch hübschen, so doch sehr kleinen Microlepidopteren – befaßt, so stellt er

doch einen weiteren sehr gelungenen Band in dieser Reihe dar. (Die *Fauna ent. scand.* erscheint mit jährlich 2–5 Bänden, die jeweils die monographische Bearbeitung einer systematischen Gruppe, meist einer Familie, beinhalten und die Region Fennو-Skandinaviens und Dänemark berücksichtigen – in englischer Sprache.)

Im vorliegenden Band sind außer dem o. a. Gebiet auch noch die Elachistiden Großbritanniens mitberücksichtigt. Der Gesamtaufbau hält sich ungefähr an die Richtlinien, die für die „*Microlepidoptera Palaearctica*“ erarbeitet wurden, was einen hohen Qualitätsstandard beinhaltet, dem der vorliegende Band vollauf gerecht wird: Exakte wissenschaftliche Arbeit, sorgfältiges Literaturstudium, Beachtung der Internationalen Regeln für zoologische Nomenklatur usw.

Insgesamt werden 77 Arten aus 6 Gattungen dargestellt. Einem Bestimmungsschlüssel folgen die einzelnen Arten mit Synonymieliste, Diagnose, der Beschreibung der Genitalmorphologie, Angaben zur Verbreitung, zur Biologie und, wenn nötig, noch weitere Bemerkungen. ♂ und ♀ sind farbig abgebildet, 5,5 mal vergrößert und mit einer Kurz-Charakterisierung versehen. Obwohl diese Abbildungen nicht auf Kunstdruckpapier sind, verdienen sie wegen ihrer guten Ausführung dennoch Beachtung. Die Darstellung der Genitalstrukturen ist nicht gerade so gelungen. Sklerotisierungsgrade sind durch Schummerung angedeutet, was der Exaktheit nicht unbedingt dient. Bei der Darstellung der ♀-Genitalien hätte auf die Abbildung des gesamten Abdomens verzichtet werden können, wodurch den Genitalsegmenten mehr Platz (stärkere Vergrößerung) hätte zukommen können. Ihre Darstellung ist der einzige schwächere Punkt dieser Monographie (neben der Unsicherheit, ob der Name des einen Autors als Schmidt-Nielsen, E. oder als Nielsen, E. Schmidt oder richtig als Nielsen, E. S. zu zitieren ist). Die Abbildung des Flügelgeäders aller Arten ist sehr dienlich, bei den Minen hätte auf einige Bilder verzichtet werden können.

Der Beschreibung der einzelnen Arten geht eine sehr gute allgemeine Darstellung der Elachistidae voraus. Alle morphologischen Merkmale sind ausführlich in Wort und Bild dargestellt, soweit bekannt auch die der ersten Stände (kurze Chaetotaxie). Angaben zur Bionomie und Phylogenie fehlen ebensowenig wie eine Fundorttabelle am Ende der Arbeit.

Auch wer sich außerhalb von Fennо-Skandinavien mit den Mikrolepidopteren der Palearktis befaßt, kann auf diese beispielhafte Monographie nicht verzichten.

H.-E. Back

O. I. MERZHEYEVSKAYA, A. N. LITVINOVA & P. V. MOLCHANOVА: *Lepidoptera of Belorussiya*. [In Russian]. 128 pp., hardback, 17,5 x 27 cm. Nauki i Tekhnika, Minsk 1976. Price: Rbl. 1,20.

This book, despite its subtitle ‘Catalogue’ is only a simple briefly annotated distribution list of the butterflies and moths (incl. Microlepidoptera) of Belorussia, U.S.S.R. and lists in all 1540 species. The entry for every species is very telegraphic, but gives some useful information on the distribution in Belorussia, flight period, time of appearance, larval food plants and the range outside the area studied. The sources of information are not always stated and it is therefore difficult to estimate the amount of original or thoroughly checked-up data; much of the information given seems to be based on some well-known reference books dealing with a much larger territory. A two-page list of references or bibliography at end will be probably useful to many European students of Lepidoptera. This work – printed and bound in the style characteristic of all Russian publications – could be found of some interest by every lepidopterist interested in the butterflies or moths of the European part of U.S.S.R. – if he can read and understand Russian or overcome at least to some degree the difficulty presented to everyone by the Russian ‘Azbuka’; the very simple style of writing should facilitate such attempts.

O. Kudrna

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Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

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