

Book reviews ● Buchbesprechungen ● Analyses

TOLMAN, Tom & LEWINGTON, Richard: Collins Field Guide Butterflies of Britain & Europe.

13 × 19.8 cm, 320 pp., 106 colour plates, hardback pocket book. Published by Harper Collins Publishers, London, 1997. ISBN 0-00-219992-0.

The book is a completely new field guide following the former field guides by HIGGINS & RILEY. The text contains on the first 21 pages a personal tribute to L.G. HIGGINS and N.D. RILEY, the preface, acknowledgements, abbreviations used, an introduction to external anatomy, life-cycle and identification of butterflies as well as an explanation of the topics for each species in the main text: range, name, author and date, type locality and synonymy, distribution, description, variation, flight time, habitat, life-history, behaviour and conservation. The main text (pp. 23–280) is followed by a checklist (pp. 281–292), a glossary (pp. 293–298), a short bibliography (pp. 299–303), an index of English names and an index of scientific names in alphabetic order (pp. 305–320).

The 106 colour plates, bound in the centre of the book, are marvellous paintings by R. LEWINGTON and printed in best quality: they highly deserve to be praised.

T. TOLMAN, the author of the text, has brought in his immense experience in the field, especially from Greece, mainly to the topics of life-history, larval host plants, habitat and behaviour. The additional notes given with many species show very useful advices. Altogether, a lot of information has been compiled for each species, for which the author deserves our thanks.

The distribution maps comprise Northwestern Africa and Europe without the former Soviet Union and Asiatic Turkey. With migrating butterfly species, the area of only temporary colonization advantageously is differentiated from the part with permanent distribution by shaded black. The maps are good for a quick general view but too small for exact details.

TOLMAN largely refers to Higgins in his taxonomy and nomenclature, without regarding more recent views. For instance: the use of a separate genus *Artogeia* for *Pieris rapae*, *napi* and relatives, *Quercusia* for *Neozephyrus*, the maintenance of many genera within the Polyommataini and *Hypodryas* aside of *Euphydryas*, *Neohipparchia* and *Pseudotergumia* aside of *Hipparchia*, so maintaining unnecessary splitting, the use of *Kanetisa* instead of *Brintesia*. The position of *Polyommatus escheri*, *amanda* and *thersites* between *Agrodiaetus ainsae* and *Agrodiaetus admetus* is not comprehensible for the reviewer.

An incorrect range is given in several cases: *Zerynthia cerisy* and *Archon apollinus* do not occur in Iraq and Iran. These species are restricted to the mediterranean climate zone. In the parts of the Near East with a more continental climate, they are replaced by respectively *Zerynthia deyrollei* and

Archon apollinaris. The occurrence of *Leptidea morsei* in SE Turkey is very doubtful in spite of *Linneana belgica* 15(7): 293–300, 1996. With *Everes decoloratus*, the “(?)” has to be deleted before “Turkey”. The distribution of *Meleageria daphnis* in Germany is much wider than only “Tauberland and Baulandes” (recte: Bauland), it occurs also in Mainfranken and Oberpfalz (Weidemann, 1995: Tagfalter). *Lysandra hispana*, Distribution: add to France: Vaucluse. *Boloria graeca*, Range, add: NE Turkey. *Melitaea cinxia*, Range, add: Iraq, Iran. *Melitaea phoebe* and *Melitaea punica* are two different species which occur together in many localities in Italy, Greece, the Balkans, Turkey and Transcaucasia; *punica* is widely distributed in Israel, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria. The occurrence of *Hipparchia fagi* in European Turkey is not certified. *Pseudochazara graeca* (Note p. 201) is closely related to *Pseudochazara beroe* (Herrich-Schäffer, [1844]), of which *aurantiaca* (Staudinger, 1871) is only the Iranian subspecies from Elburs.

Misprints happen even with the greatest care. But in this book there are so many of them that it is no more excusable. Here only a few examples:

- p. 29, *Archon apollinus*, Distribution: Keşan instead of Keban; 1913 and 1914 instead of 1914 and 1915; the introduction of *apollinus* from Kurudağ by Iltschev was successful, the population does exist still today (Köstler, 1993).
- p. 43, *Euchloe ausonia*, last line: Resembles *E. simplonia* very closely instead of: Resembles *E. ausonia* very closely.
- p. 70, *Satyrium pruni*, Behaviour: *Ligustrum vulgaris* instead of *Lingustrum vulgaris*; the same on several places throughout the text.
- p. 78, *Lycaena thersamon*, Range: Ukraine instead of Unkraine.
- p. 91, *Celastrina argiolus*, Life-history: *Genista* instead of *Genisa*; *Ligustrum* instead of *Lingustrum*.
- p. 93, *Turanana endymion*, Range: (invalid synonym) instead of (invalid homonym). There is missing: *Turanana endymion* Freyer, 1850.
- p. 97, *Pseudophilotes vicrama*, Range, Type locality: Deutsch Altenburg instead of Dom Altenberg.
- p. 99, *Pseudophilotes bavius*, Variation: *macedonicus* Schulte instead of Schultze.
- p. 110, *Aricia agestis*, Range, syn.: *astrarche* instead of astrache.
- Plate 2, *Zerynthia cerisy cerisy* (Sámos) female, not male.
- Plate 51, *Melitaea trivia ignasiti* instead of *ignasti*.
- Plate 53: The placement of *Hypodryas maturna* and *intermedia* between the *Mellicta* species is not just favourable.
- Plate 68: *Pseudochazara anthelea amalthaea* instead of *almathea*.
- Plates 69 and 70: *Oeneis* instead of *Oensis*, everywhere.
- Plate 82: *Erebia melas schawerdae* instead of *schanerdae*.
- p. 163, *Proclossiana eunomia*, Range, syn.: *aphirape* instead of *aphrape*.
- p. 175, *Mellicta athalia*, Life-history: *Veronica chamaedrys* instead of *chmaedrys*; *athalia celadussa* Fruhstorfer instead of Frühstorfer.
- p. 180, *Hypodryas maturna*, Behaviour: *Ligustrum vulgare* instead of *Lingustrum*.

- p. 186, *Melanargia galathea*, Variation: dark forms **preponderate** instead of predonderate.
- p. 192, *Hipparchia volgensis*, Distribution: **Vardar** Valley instead of Vadar.
- p. 197, *Neohipparchia fatua*, Range: **Jordan** instead of Jordon.
- p. 242, *Coenonympha tullia*, Life-history: ***Rhynchospora alba*** instead of *Rhynchospora*.
- p. 263, *Pyrgus carthami*, Range: **Kopetdag**h instead of Koptedagh.
- p. 266, *Spialia doris*, Life-history: **Convolvulaceae** instead of Convolulaceae.
- p. 300, HESSELBARTH, G., VAN OORSCHOT, H. and WAGENER, S.: **Selbstverlag Sigbert Wagener, Bocholt** instead of Berger-Juling Electronic Publishing, Bonn.
- p. 301, LUKHTANOV, V. and LUKHTANOV, A.: **Nordwestasiens** instead of Nordestasiens.

The reviewer can recommend this Field guide only with some restrictions. A new revised and updated edition would be welcome and could be wished wide distribution.

Sigbert WAGENER

LEPIDOPTEROLOGEN-ARBEITSGRUPPE: Schmetterlinge und ihre Lebensräume. Arten. Gefährdung. Schutz. Schweiz und angrenzende Gebiete. Band 2.

20.6 × 29.5 cm, XII + 679 pp., 547 text figures (including 165 distribution maps), 2 tables, 19 colour plates, 1311 colour photographs, hardback. Published by Pro Natura-Schweizerischer Bund für Naturschutz, Basel, 1997. ISBN 3-85587-030-6. To be ordered from: Pro Natura-Schweizerischer Bund für Naturschutz, Postfach, CH-4020 Basel.

Exactly ten years after the issue of "Tagfalter und ihre Lebensräume. Arten. Gefährdung. Schutz", one of the most both beautiful and informative books on butterflies to appear in the 1980's, we are rejoiced with the issue of the second of what is planned to become a three-volume-work, treating all species of several Lepidoptera families occurring within the political boundaries of Switzerland, with some attention for adjacent areas as well.

The introductory chapter ("General Part") was written by a team of experts on topics like systematics and distribution (systematics, species definition and genetics, zoogeography, dispersal and migration), morphology, biology and ecology, observation and rearing, threats and conservation.

The collective authorship of the present work rests with the "LEPIDOPTEROLOGEN-ARBEITSGRUPPE", consisting of a team of 37 authors and 66 further collaborators.

The "Special Part" of this book offers an exhaustive treatment of the 159 species belonging to the following families (with a mention of the author on each chapter): Hesperidae (Peter SONDEREGGER), Psychidae (Peter HÄTTEN-SCHWILER), Heterogynidae, Zygaenidae and Limacodidae (Raymond GUENIN), Syntomidae and Sphingidae (Eugen PLEISCH), Drepanidae and Thyatiridae (Rudolf BRYNER). For each species, a wealth of data and information of the

highest scientific value is presented, encompassing a description of the morphology of both the adult and the early stages, bionomics, habitat, distribution, threats and conservation status, including a detailed distribution map and a real profusion of excellent colour photographs of living adults, eggs, caterpillars, pupae as well as habitats, completed with drawings of wing venation, genitalia, abdominal segments, markings of larvae, pupae etc. for critical groups. To complete the whole, at the end, 18 nice colour plates drawn by Hans-Peter WYMANN, depict adults of all species, often with the underside as well.

This book has its place on the bookshelf of every lepidopterist, being one of the very finest works of the last decade. It will further appeal to all nature lovers and people with a sense of esthetics in general.

Alain OLIVIER

PORTER, Jim: The Colour Identification Guide to Caterpillars of the British Isles (Macrolepidoptera).

19.2 × 23.8 cm, xii + 275 pp., 49 colour plates, hardback. Viking. Published by the Penguin Group, London, New York, Victoria, Toronto, Auckland, 1997. ISBN 0-670-87509-0. To be ordered from: Penguin Books Ltd., 27 Wrights Lane, London W8 5TZ, England. Price: £ 40.00, excl. postage.

For the first time in over one hundred years, a comprehensive illustrated guide to the caterpillars of British butterflies and “macromoths” is produced, illustrating over 850 different species, all photographed in natural situations upon the relevant host plants, including many varieties indigenous to continental Europe, many of which have never been illustrated before, either by artwork or by photography. For each species, the English vernacular name is followed by the scientific name, a short description of the larva, a list of host plants (in English, without scientific name!) and a description of its habits (phenology, larval behaviour, distribution). The book ends with a short list of references, an index of scientific names of host plants and an index of resp. scientific and English names of the Lepidoptera reviewed.

This work fills an important gap in our knowledge of the early stages of still many European Lepidoptera species and the author deserves our warmest congratulations for this achievement. The promotion of vernacular names in this work, which becomes more and more widespread in contemporary literature on Lepidoptera, does appear rather counterproductive to the reviewer. This book is highly recommended to every lepidopterist whose interest goes beyond the mere collecting of adults.

Alain OLIVIER

SMITH, Frank H.N.: The Moths and Butterflies of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

15.6 × 23.5 cm, xiv + 434 pp. + 32 pp. Colour photographs, hardback colour cover. Published by Gem Publishing Company, Wallingford, October 1997. ISBN 0-906802-07-5. To be ordered from: Gem Publishing Company, Brightwell cum Sotwell, GB-Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 0QD, United Kingdom. Tel.: 01491 833882; fax: 01491 825161. Price: £ 44.00 + UK p & p £ 3.00 or overseas p & p £ 4.50.

This book deals, in a most comprehensive way, with the Lepidoptera of Cornwall including the Isles of Scilly. After a brief introduction with some general information on sources, presentation of records and acknowledgements, the physical background (climate and weather, geology, landscape), as well as several factors influencing the faunal composition (global warming, acid rain, migration, conservation) are reviewed briefly. The main body of the book consists of the systematic list, in which details of localities, dates and provenances are given for over 1,500 species, with notes on the status currently assigned by English Nature to the nationally uncommon or endangered species which occur in Cornwall. The records are separated under the four headings, Victoria County History (VCH), Isles of Scilly (IoS), and the two mainland vice-counties (VC1 and VC2). The first two of seven Appendices list the species gained since the Victoria County History, 1906, and those not since recorded. The further Appendices are: a key to the initials of recorders; plant names, Latin to English; Ordnance Survey Map references to about 800 localities mentioned in the text; a list of about 500 references to published material; and biographical notes concerning 36 contributors, now deceased. Three maps refer respectively to Geology, Protected Countryside and Topography. The book is illustrated with 132 colour photographs of living insects or their early stages, and 20 of various sites and habitats. A well-documented work of interest to British lepidopterists and conservationists.

Alain OLIVIER

ZOBODAT - www.zobodat.at

Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

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