

The Butterflies of the Lithuanian SSR

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Introduction

The present day butterfly fauna of the Lithuanian SSR comprises 7 families, 76 genera and 113 species.

It is the result of a repopulation of the country coming from the South and the East after the ice period.

The study of the butterflies of Lithuania began in the last century. Since then, various papers have been published, including those of B. Slevogt (1903), A. M. Dampf (1908), A. Palionis (1932), B. Houwalt (1935), I. Pruffer (1947), R. J. Wojtusiak and H. Wojtusiak (1947), J. Viidalepp (1966), A. Sulcs and J. Viidalepp (1974).

At present, the butterfly fauna is being intensively studied in the scientific section of the Vilnius University (R. Kazlauskas), at the Vilnius Institute of Zoology and Parasitology of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences (P. Ivinskis), and also by amateur collectors.

Check list of the species

According to Higgins 1975 : 303-312.

Hesperiidae

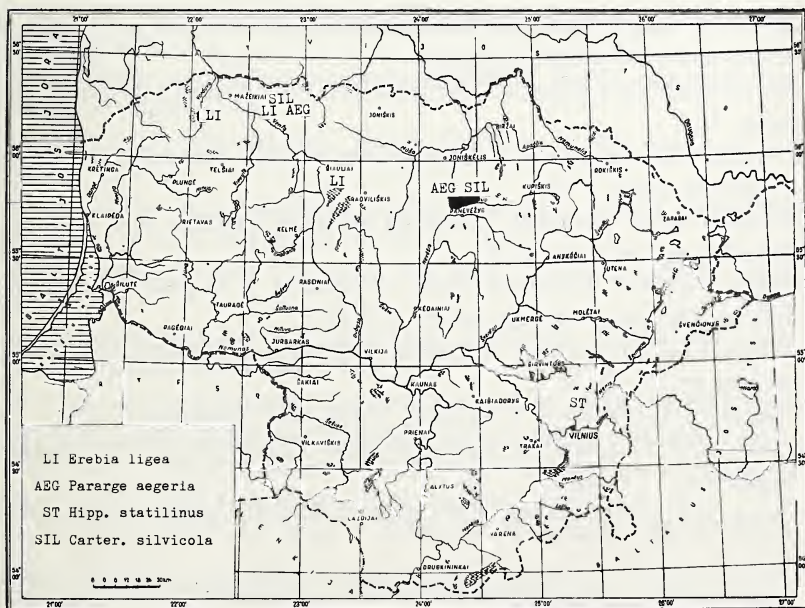
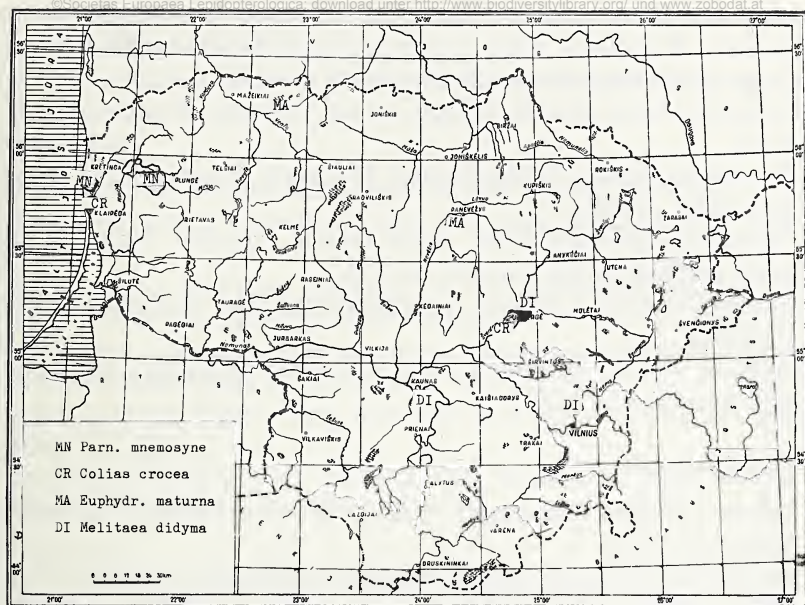
Pyrgus malvae Linnaeus. Common. Grassland, woodland edges. V-VI.

Pyrgus alveus Hübner. Rarer than *P. malvae*. Grassland, woodland, edges. VII-VIII.

Pyrgus serratulae Rambur. Very rare, local. A few specimens found in the south of the country. Woodland. VI.

Pyrgus fritillarius Poda. Only one specimen collected in the south of Lithuania.

Erynnis tages Linnaeus. Rare and local. Only in the south. Woodland. V-VII.



Heteropterus morpheus Pallas. Rare. Centre and south of the country. Woodland, edges and waterlogged meadows. VI-VII.
Carterocephalus palaemon Pallas. Very rare. VI.
Carterocephalus silvicola Meigen. Local. Not rare. Woodland paths. V-VI.
Thymelicus lineolus Ochsenheimer. Common. Grassland and woodland edges. VI-IX.
Thymelicus sylvestris Poda. Rarer than *T. lineolus*. Found in the south and east of the country. VI-VII.
Hesperia comma Linnaeus. Comparatively rare. Woodland edges. VI-VIII.
Ochlodes venatus Bremer & Gray. Common. Grassland and woodland meadows. VI-IX.

Papilionidae

Papilio machaon Linnaeus. Not rare, but usually as single specimens. V-IX.
Parnassius mnemosyne Linnaeus. Very rare and local. Found in the north of the country. Protected species. VI.

Pieridae

Aporia crataegi Linnaeus. Rare and local in recent years. Edges of broad-leaved woodland. VI-VII.
Pieris brassicae Linnaeus. Common, but not abundant. Gardens and fields. V-X.
Artogeia napi Linnaeus. Common everywhere. Gardens, fields and woodland paths V-X.
Artogeia rapae Linnaeus. Found in the same biotopes as *A. napi*, but not always common. V-X.
Pontia daplidice Linnaeus. Rare. Grassland. It is possible that this species migrates from the south. VII-IX.
Anthocharis cardamines Linnaeus. Not rare. Grassland and woodland edges. V-VI.
Colias hyale Linnaeus. Common. Fields and meadows. V-IX.
Colias palaeno Linnaeus. Rare and local. Peat-bogs and waterlogged meadows. V-VIII.
Colias myrmidone Esper. Very rare. A few specimens found in the south of Lithuania. VI.
Colias crocea Geoffroy. Very rare. Gardens and broad-leaved-woodland edges. VII-IX.

Gonepteryx rhamni Linnaeus. Common, Gardens, fields, meadows, woodland edges. V. IX.

Leptidea sinapis Linnaeus. Woodland edges and paths. V-X.

Satyridae

Hipparchia fagi Scopoli. Dry edges of pine woods. VI-VIII.

Hipparchia semele Linnaeus. Local. The same biotopes as *H. fagi*. VII-IX.

Neohipparchia statilinus Hufnagel. A few specimens collected in July 1971 for the first time, near Pabrade.

Erebia ligea Linnaeus. Rare and local. Paths of mixed woodland in the north-eastern part of the country. VII-VIII.

Erebia aethiops Esper. Very rare and local. Woodland edges and paths. VI-VIII.

Oeneis jutta Hübner. Very rare and local. Protected species. VI-VII.

Melanargia galathea Linnaeus. Very rare. A migrant from the south-west.

Maniola jurtina Linnaeus. Not rare. Meadows and edges of dry woodland. VII-X.

Hyponephele lycaon Kühn. Comparatively rare. The same biotopes as *M. jurtina*. VII-VIII.

Aphantopus hyperantus Linnaeus. Common. Grassland and woodland edges. VI-X.

Coenonympha pamphilus Linnaeus. Common. Fields, meadows and woodland edges. V-IX.

Coenonympha tullia Müller. Local. Not rare in the south of the country. VI-VII.

Coenonympha hero Linnaeus. Local. Common locally. Meadows and edges of pine woodland. V-VI.

Coenonympha arcania Linnaeus. Not rare. Mixed woodland edges. VI-VIII.

Coenonympha glycerion Borkhausen. Common. Edges and meadows of mixed woodland. VI-IX.

Pararge aegeria Linnaeus. Rare and local. Can be found in shaded woodland paths in the north-eastern part of the country. VI-VII.

Lasiommata megera Linnaeus. Comparatively rare. Found on sandy slopes in the west and south of the country. V-IX.

Lasiommata maera Linnaeus. Common. Scrub and mixed woodland. VI-VIII.

Lopinga achine Scopoli. Not rare. Local. Scrub and woodland edges. VI-VII.

Nymphalidae

Araschnia levana Linnaeus. Common Paths and woodland edges. V-VIII.

Nymphalis polychloros Linnaeus. Comparatively rare. Gardens, parks and broad-leaved woodland. VII-VIII.

Nymphalis xanthomelas Denis & Schiffermüller. Very rare. VII.

Nymphalis vau-album Denis & Schiffermüller. Very rare. VII.

Nymphalis antiopa Linnaeus. Not rare. Local. Birch groves and mixed woodland edges. V-VIII.

Inachis io Linnaeus. Common. Gardens, meadows, mixed woodland edges. V-X.

Vanessa atalanta Linnaeus. Comparatively rare. Gardens, fields, meadows. VI-VIII.

Vanessa cardui Linnaeus. Cosmopolitan. Not rare. The same biotopes as *V. atalanta*. VII-VIII.

Aglais urticae Linnaeus. Common. Gardens, parks, meadows and woodland edges. IV-X.

Polygonia c-album Linnaeus. Not rare. Meadows, scrub and woodland edges. V-VIII.

Argynnis paphia Linnaeus. Common. Meadows, woodland edges and paths. Found together with f. ♀ *valesina* Esper. VII-IX.

Argyronome laodice Pallas. Not rare. Local. Damp woodland meadows. Commoner in the north of the country. VII-IX.

Mesoacidalia aglaja Linnaeus. Common. Meadows and dry woodland edges. VII-VIII.

Fabriciana adippe Denis & Schiffermüller. Common. The same biotopes as *F. niobe*. Found together with f. *cleodoxa* Ochsh. VII-VIII.

Fabriciana niobe Linnaeus. Not rare. Meadows, scrub and woodland edges. VI-IX.

Issoria lathonia Linnaeus. Fields and meadows. V-IX.

Brenthis ino Rottemburg. Not rare. Damp meadows. VI-VIII.

Boloria aquilonaris Stichel. Comparatively rare. Local Woodland meadows. VI-VII.

Proclissiana eunomia Esper. Very rare and local. VI-VIII.

Clossiana selene Denis & Schiffermüller. Common. Grassland and woodland edges. VI-IX.

Clossiana dia Linnaeus. Rare. Local. Meadows and woodland edges. V-VIII.

Clossiana frigga Thunberg. Very rare. Local. Protected species. VI.

Clossiana euphrosyne Linnaeus. Not rare. Local. The same biotopes as *C. selenes*. V-VIII.

Melitaea didyma Esper. Local. Very rare. In the north of the country. Commoner in the south. Meadows. VI-VIII.

Melitaea cinxia Linnaeus. Local. Not rare. Woodland edges. VI.

Mellicta athalia Rottemburg. Common. Grassland and woodland edges. VI-IX.

Mellicta aurelia Nickerl. Rare. Local. The same biotopes as *M. athalia*. VI.

Euphydryas maturna Linnaeus. Rare and local. Meadows. VI-VII.

Euphydryas aurinia Rottemburg. Not rare. Damp woodland edges. V-VII.

Apatura ilia Denis & Schiffermüller. Rare. Local. Open broadleaved woodland. VI-VII.

Apatura iris Linnaeus. Local. Comparatively rare. The same biotopes as *A. ilia*. VI-VII.

Limenitis populi Linnaeus. Comparatively rare and local. Edges of mixed woodland. VI-VII.

Limenitis camilla Linnaeus. Local. Not rare. Broad-leaved woodland and scrub. VI-VIII.

Riodinidae

Hamearis lucina Linnaeus. Very rare V-VI.

Lycaenidae

Lycaena phlaeas Linnaeus. Common. Meadows and woodland edges V-IX.

Lycaena helle Denis & Schiffermüller. Very rare and local. Only two specimens found. V.

Lycaena dispar Haworth. Rare and local. VI-VIII.

Heodes virgaureae Linnaeus. Not rare. Meadows and dry woodland edges. VI-VIII.

Heodes tityrus Poda. Rare and local. The same biotopes as *H. virgaureae*. VI-VIII.

Heodes alciphron Rottemburg. Comparatively rare. Meadows, woodland edges. VI-VIII.

Palaeochrysophanus hippothoe Linnaeus. Not rare. Along the drainage canals and woodland edges. VI-VIII.

Thecla betulae Linnaeus. Local. Not rare. Gardens, parks and broad-leaved woodland. VII-IX.

Quercusia quercus Linnaeus. Very rare. A few specimens found in the south of the country. VII-VIII.

Nordmannia ilicis Esper. Local and rare. On bushes in the south of the country. VII-VIII.

Strymonidia spini Denis & Schiffermüller. Rare and local. A few specimens found in the west of the country. VII.

Strymonidia w-album Knoch. Very rare. Local. VII-VIII.

Strymonidia pruni Linnaeus. Rare. VI-VII.

Callophrys rubi Linnaeus. Common. Woodland clearings. V-VI.

Cupido minimus Fuessly. Local. Not rare. Scrub and meadows along the drainage canals. VI-VII.

Everes argiades Pallas. Local. Comparatively rare. Fields and meadows. VI-VIII.

Celastrina argiolus Linnaeus. Common. Meadows and paths of damp woodland VI-VII.

Pseudophilotes vicrama Moore. Rare and local. Only a few specimens found in the south of Lithuania. VI-IX.

Glaucopsyche alexis Poda. Very rare. Local. Only five specimens found. VI.

Maculineaalcon Denis et Schiffermüller. Rare and local. A few specimens found in recent years. VII.

Maculinea arion Linnaeus. Local. Comparatively rare. Dry edges of pine woodland. VI-VII.

Plebejus argus Linnaeus. Common. Grassland, marches, woodland edges. VI-IX.

Lycaeididas Linnaeus. Rarer than *P. argus*. Local. Meadows and woodland edges. VI-VII.

Lycaeidas argyrognomon Bergsträsser. Not rare. Found together with *P. argus* and *L. idas* in the same biotopes. VI-VIII.

Aricia agestis Denis & Schiffermüller. Rare. Edges of mixed woodland. VI-VII.

Aricia artaxerxes Fabricius. Rare. A few specimens only in the same biotopes as *A. agestis*. VI-VII.

Eumedonia eumedon Esper. Rare and local. Found more in the south of the country. VI-VII.

Vacciniina optilete Knoch. Local. Comparatively rare. Meadows and marshy localities. VI-VII.

Cyaniris semiargus Rottemburg. Common. Damp meadows and woodland edges. VI-IX.

Agrodiaetus amanda Schneider. Comparatively common. Meadows and woodland edges. VI-IX.



Paths of mixed woodland : *E. ligea* L.



Meadows : *Euph. maturna* L.



The drainage canal : *Pal. hippothoe* L.

Plebicula dorylas Denis & Schiffermüller. Very rare and local. VII.

Lysandra coridon Poda. Rare and local. Meadows. VI-VII.

Lysandra bellargus Rottemburg. Rare. The same biotopes as *L. coridon*. VI-VII.

Polyommatus icarus Rottemburg. Common. Grassland, fields and woodland edges. VI-IX.

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Zusammenfassung

Heute besteht die Tagfalter-Fauna der Litauischer SSR aus 113 Arten, 76 Gattungen und 7 Familien. In dieser Arbeit sind die Biotope, die relative Häufigkeit, die Flugzeit und die Verbreitung jeder Art angegeben.

Résumé

La population actuelle des papillons de jour (Rhopalocera) de la RSS de Lithuanie se compose de 113 espèces, 76 genres et 7 familles. Ce travail renseigne sur les biotopes, la fréquence, la période d'apparition et la répartition de chaque espèce.

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Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

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