

## Book reviews — Buchbesprechungen — Analyses

BENDER, R., Notodontidae von Sumatra. Heterocera Sumatrana, Vol. 5, German and English texts, 121 pages, 176 species, 14 colour and 2 black-and-white plates, 1 map ; with further notes by J. D. HOLLOWAY & R. BENDER. E. W. Classey Ltd., Faringdon, Oxon. SN7 7DR, England, 1985.

The present work published as volume V of the "Heterocera sumatrana" will be welcome by many entomologists dealing with the distribution, taxonomy and systematics of Southeast Asian Macrolepidoptera, because it supplies very valuable information and, indeed, fills a long-felt gap of knowledge on this field. For the first time in the history of lepidopterology, all 176 Notodontidae species hitherto found to occur in Sumatra are described and depicted in a way which cannot but be called very precise and extremely clearly arranged. The book has been written on the basis of a comprehensive special collection of Sumatran moths which the author compiled in the course of his life, without ever evading the trouble of working on the systematics, often intricate and in need of revision, as it has been. In compiling the present work, the author focussed his attention primarily on giving a determination aid with strikingly sharp colour photographs and supplying a faunistic-zoogeographical contribution to the specific fauna of the island of Sumatra.

The fact that both the work of J. D. HOLLOWAY on the Notodontidae of the neighbouring island of Borneo (Malayan Nat. J., 37 (1983) : 1-107) and the volume of H. S. BARLOW on the moths of Southeast Asia (Malayan Nat. Soc., 1982) have just recently been published adds to the value of R. BENDER's book here discussed. A comparison of the Notodontidae of Borneo with those from Sumatra clearly shows the zoogeographical and the island-specific ecological differences between these two neighbouring areas. As an example, over 50 species not occurring in Borneo could, in fact, be shown to live in Sumatra. Sumatra is especially characterized by its striking abundance of endemic taxa. 35 species, i.e. approximately 20 percent of the recorded Notodontidae, are endemic in Sumatra.

In the text part of the book, all 176 Species are dealt with individually both with regard to the latest systematics and literature and their distribution as known so far, including data on the type material and the material on hand. Short, concise descriptions add to the ease of using the colour pictures for determination.

Both the texts and the pictures are intended to serve the primary function of illustrating that numerous genera (e.g. *Quadricalcarifera*, *Ceira*, *Norraca*, *Suzukia*, *Clostera*) call for extensive revisions, as, indeed, is the whole volume designed to arouse the interest of the rising generation of entomologists in this fascinating, yet rather complex family of Lepidoptera. A short glance at the amazing splendour of

colours and great variety of forms of the depicted moths shows at once that the Notodontidae family is by no means a “boring” subject of study.

All descriptive texts are bilingual (English and German). Furthermore, eight new taxa (7 species and 1 subspecies) are described. The work on the “Notodontidae von Sumatra” is rounded off by supplementary contributions by HOLLOWAY and BENDER on the systematics of the Sumatran Notodontidae as well as two black-and-white plates with figures of the male genitalia of several species especially difficult to determine.

Hartmut STEINIGER

R. KAZLAUSKAS, *Lietuvos drugiai (Macrolepidoptera of Lithuania)*. 190 p., paperback, 22 × 29 cm. 70 coloured plates, 36 maps. Mokslas. Vilnius 1984. (In Lithuanian). Summary in English and in Russian. The names of the species on the coloured plates and in the text are in Latin.

This book is the first complete atlas of Lithuanian Macrolepidoptera.

It comprises 996 species of which 934 have been reported from Lithuania and 62 might possibly be found in the country.

The book begins with a review of the history of studies of the Macrolepidoptera in Lithuania, their biology, meaning and protection. The catching of the specimens and the collecting of the butterflies and moths are also described.

The new zoogeographical regions of the Lithuanian SSR and the other Baltic Republics are presented.

In the systematic part, every species is briefly described, including diagnostic characters, larvae food plants, flight period, density, general distribution and distribution in Lithuania.

The distribution of 271 species is presented in maps. Each species is also illustrated in colour.

A bibliography and an index to the generic and specific names complete the text of the book.

Boris IZENBEK

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