

PASSERIN D'ENTRÈVES P., 1982 : Note su alcuni Scitrididi della fauna italiana (Lepidoptera, Scythrididae). *Boll. Mus. Zool. Univ. Torino*, 1982, N. 6 : 79-86.

PASSERIN D'ENTRÈVES P., sous presse : Check-list of the Lepidoptera of Europe. Scythrididae.

VIETTE P. E. L., 1950 : Les Types de Tinéites de CONSTANT. *Rev. franç. Lépid.*, 12 : 337-341.

Book reviews — Buchbesprechungen — Analyses

Yuri P. NEKRUTENKO : Булавостые шешуеккрылье Крыма (The Butterflies of the Crimea). Edited by "Naukova Dumka", Kiev, 1985, 152 pp., 123 figs., 25 colour plates, edition 1.400. Price : 2 rouble 30 kopeck.

This book, which was issued under the auspices of the Schmalhausen Institute of Zoology in Kiev, contains a compendium of the Crimean Peninsula butterfly fauna and, in fact, is a considerable event in the history of entomological publishing in the Soviet Union. Whereas in the rest of the world the dynamic development of entomological publications has resulted in an abundance of well illustrated books of high scientific value, in the Soviet Union similar publications have never appeared, to say nothing of determination keys and popular brochures. Thus, such modern publications on zoogeographically important areas such as the Crimea, Caucasus, Urals, Altai and the rest of Siberia are still lacking. From this viewpoint, the present work can be considered an important step in this almost completely abandoned field.

In the general section, the author discusses nomenclature, morphology of genitalia and other features of butterflies, as well as essential data on physical geography of the Crimea ; this section also includes biogeographic characteristics of the Crimea with a map and a key to families based on external characters.

In the systematic section, the author provides essential taxonomic information, morphological, faunistic and biological characteristics of 113 species of the superfamilies Hesperioidea and Papilionoidea with good line drawings and tables. Based on some decades of field observation, the author also includes notes on some threatened species, together with recommendations for their possible protection. These notes considerably raise the value of the whole work.

The bibliography contains 233 items, which gives an idea on the wide literature available on the subject — from those of historic importance through to new taxonomic and faunistic publications.

It is a pity, however, that photographs of habitats of the area are lacking. Considering the high variety of Crimean biotopes it may be considered one of the most serious deficiencies of the book.

Line drawings of the genital armatures are not reproduced very clearly which is probably a result of the poor quality paper. With better figures, morphological variability of the male and female genitalia could have been presented, thereby providing important data on the geographical variability within the region.

The use of too coarse a screen has resulted in a loss of quality of the plates compared to the original superb quality slides.

A limited number of copies (1400) has been produced, which is a pity because such a book should not only be available in institutional libraries, but also in the personal libraries of the wide circle of people who will require it as a source of reference. The book is only available by ordering directly from the Institute in Kiev.

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ZOBODAT - www.zobodat.at

Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

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