

# ASSOCIATION FOR TROPICAL LEPIDOPTERA

# NOTES

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## NOTES ON THE COMMON MORMON BUTTERFLY, *MENELAIDES POLYTES* (LEPIDOPTERA: PAPILIONIDAE), FROM NEGROS ORIENTAL, PHILIPPINES

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The Papilionidae genus *Menelaides* Hübner was established in 1819. The species *Menelaides polytes* or Common Mormon was described by Linnaeus in 1758 as a species of *Papilio*. Treadaway and Schroeder (2012) recorded one species, *M. polytes*, and three subspecies, *M. p. pasikrates*, *M. p. ledebouria*, and *M. p. steffi*, as occurring in the Philippine Islands. The morphological characters *Menelaides polytes* have been described by Tsukada and Nishimaya (1982).

Phenotypic variation: A variety of forms of *M. polytes ledebouria* Eschsholtz 1821 occurs in Negros Oriental, West Visayas, Philippines. Both sexes can have dwarf forms, and females can display the phenotype of the *horsfieldi* form which almost looks like the typical male form. There are four female forms of *M. polytes ledebouria* in the Philippines: *praxilla*, *theseus*, *rizal* and *horsfieldi*.

General ecology: In Negros Oriental this species is common, and most of the time males are spotted along riverbanks, flying between houses, and even along roadsides. The females tend to stay near one of the hostplants, the Kalamansi plant belonging to the citrus plant family Rutaceae, which is mostly planted by people who use the fruit as a sauce enhancer. Other foodplants include other species of *Citrus*, *Toddalia*, *Clausena*, *Euodia*, *Fortunella*, *Glycosmis*, *Zanthoxylum*, *Murraya*, *Triphasia*, *Aegle*, *Atalantia*, *Poncirus*.

Philippine Distribution: Across the Philippines, excluding Batanes, Bongao, Sanga Sanga, Sibutu, and TawiTawi.

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Figure a. Female *M. polytes ledebouria* form *praxilla*; dwarf specimen. Siaton, Negros Oriental (August). Figure b. Female *M. polytes ledebouria* form *praxilla*, Tanjay, Negros Oriental (July).



Figure c. Male; *M. polytes ledebouria*; Dwarf specimen. Sibulan, Negros Oriental (June). Figure d. Male; *M. polytes ledebouria*. Santa Catalina, Negros Oriental (August). Figure e. Female; *M. polytes ledebouria* form *horsfieldi*. Bacong, Negros Oriental (June).

### REFERENCES

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ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS’  
SOCIETY AND THE ASSOCIATION FOR TROPICAL LEPIDOPTERA  
SEPTEMBER 26-28, 2014

The McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity, Florida Museum of Natural History  
Gainesville, Florida, USA



The annual meeting attracted people from around the country and was a great platform for students, amateur and professional lepidopterists to share their research and collecting experiences during the two days of talks. Held, as usual, at the McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity on the University of Florida campus, the meeting offered opportunities for interactions not only during the 21 formal talks, but also during the poster session, the reception, the banquet and several day and night collecting trips. For the complete program of the 2014 meeting, to keep up-to-date with the information on the future meetings, and to download publications produced by the Association for Tropical Lepidoptera, please visit <http://www.troplep.org>.

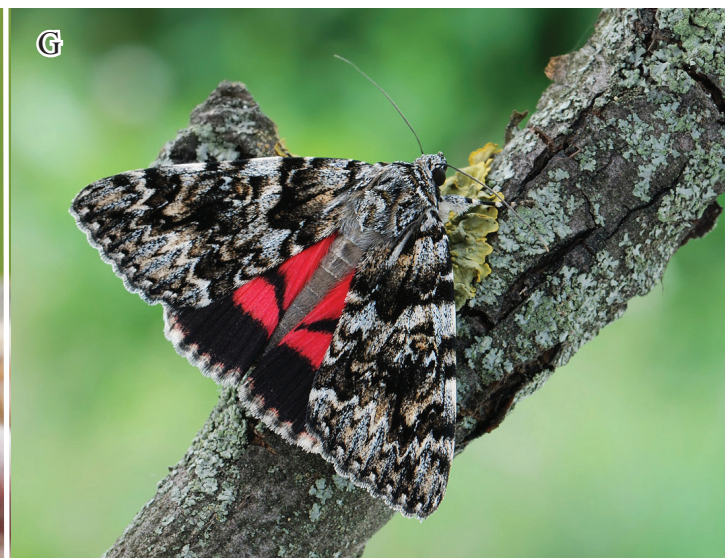
Save the date:  
The 2015 meeting will take place at the McGuire Center on October 16-18.



Butterflies: (A) 1st place, Roberto Rezende Greve, Foz do Iguaçu, Parana, Brazil - *Badecla badaca*, Lycaenidae; (B) 2nd place, Alexandr Chuvilin, Tula, Russia - *Issoria lathone*, Nymphalidae; (C) 3rd place, Dale Halbritter, Gainesville, FL - *Apodemia nais* (Riodinidae) on *Ceanothus* blossoms, White Mountains, Arizona.

WINNERS OF THE 2014  
ATL/MCGUIRE CENTER  
PHOTO CONTEST





**WINNERS OF THE 2013 ATL/MCGUIRE CENTER PHOTO CONTEST (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)**

Immatures: (D) 1<sup>st</sup> place, Pablo Sebastián Padrón, Gainesville, FL - *Feniseca tarquinius* (Lycaenidae) feeding on aphids in Gainesville FL; (E) 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Alexandr Chuvilin, Tula, Russia - *Catocala promissa* (Noctuidae); (F) 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Roberto Rezende Greve, Foz do Iguaçu, Parana, Brazil - Megalopygidae larva (Iguazu).

Moths: (G) 1<sup>st</sup> place, Alexandr Chuvilin, Tula, Russia - *Catocala promissa* (Noctuidae); (H) 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Pablo Sebastián Padrón, Gainesville, FL – Geometrid (*Nematocampa* sp.?) – Cachaco, Ecuador; (I) 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Roberto Rezende Greve, Foz do Iguaçu, Parana, Brazil - *Agyrta* sp. (Arctiidae)