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BOOK REVIEWS

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF BUTTERFLIES: An Annotated Bibliography of the Neotropical Butterflies and Skippers (Lepidoptera: Papilionoidea and Hesperioidea). Atlas of Neotropical Lepidoptera. Volume 124.

by Gerardo Lamas, Richard G. Robbins, and William D. Field

1995. Assoc. for Tropical Lepidoptera and Scientific Publishers, Gainesville, Florida, USA. 21 x 28 cm., 463pp. Paper. \$62.95 (\$32.50 to ATL members). ISBN 0-945417-31-4.

Published in December 1995, this bibliography contains literature references to virtually all publications on butterflies and skippers for the Neotropical region covering the period from 1758 to 1994. It includes over 10,000 citations and is truly an extraordinarily valuable work of scholarship for anyone interested in Neotropical butterflies. Using this bibliography, one can locate any desired reference knowing just the author's name. In addition to the alphabetical listing of author citations (covering 387 pages, in large and readily readable type), there is an extremely useful Toponymic Index (23 pages of very small type!) which allows one to find all publications on the butterflies and skippers of a particular country. That is, if one is interested in Jamaica, one simply looks up Jamaica in this index and sees a listing of all papers by author and date published on Jamaican butterflies between 1758 and 1994.

If one wants to use this bibliography to locate all papers on any general subjects, like the species with gynandromorphic specimens reported from the Neotropical fauna, then one goes to the highly useful Subject Index (17 pages of very small type!), which includes a wide variety of topics such as ecology, host plant, life history, predators, etc. Finally, the Taxonomic Index (36 pages of fine type) includes listings for all genera in the Neotropics, with authors and date of papers which include any mention of that genus. There are, inevitably, a small number of omitted publications, as we discovered while looking for some of our favorite genera such as the satyrid genus *Calisto* in the West Indies where several key papers are overlooked. Nonetheless, like the bibliographic labors of love published on the butterfly families by Charles A.

Bridges over the past two decades, this present unique work of scholarship provides an invaluable entry into the literature on Neotropical butterflies, and is a reference that no one working in this region can do without. The senior author's collaborative work with his two associates started in 1974, with a methodical plan to work on this bibliography centered at the Smithsonian Institution. In recent years, however, Lamas has had to carry on the project alone. Once the Association for Tropical Lepidoptera took over the *Atlas of Neotropical Lepidoptera* series, with the butterfly bibliography as part of the publication plan, the authors had the invaluable support of Dr. John B. Heppner, Series Editor, in developing the present excellent design and format, and having the publication critically reviewed.

This final product is an absolutely essential resource that every lepidopterist working in the Neotropics should have access to or own personally. Its remarkably low price (to members of ATL, at least) may prompt you to purchase several copies, as we have here at the University of Florida, in order to have multiple copies for ready reference and constant use. The authors and publisher are to be congratulated on providing in this publication the most widely useful and inclusive bibliographic reference to date for studying Neotropical butterflies.

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CHECKLIST OF THE LEPIDOPTERA OF AUSTRALIA

edited by E. S. Nielsen, E. D. Edwards and T. V. Rangsi

1996. CSIRO, Collingwood, Vict., Australia. 17 x 25 cm, 529 pp, plus CD-Rom. Cloth. \$120.00. ISBN: 0-643-05028-0. (Vol. 4. *Monographs on Australian Lepidoptera*).

This work represents several years of preparation for the first comprehensive catalog of Australian moths and butterflies. The species cataloged total 10,583, with 17,280 species names indexed. The parameters of the catalog do not include areas often considered part of the Australian faunal region: thus, New Guinea and New Zealand are excluded. This is the first catalog for Lepidoptera to also include a CD-Rom version (on the inside back cover). The catalog begins with some introductory matter pertaining to the format and abbreviations used, plus a short history of work on the Australian fauna and Lepidoptera classification in general. A listing of the family and subfamily classification used is up-to-date but conforming to the extreme splitting advocated by some specialists: thus, a number of monobasic superfamilies are evident which others do not agree with, etc. Fortunately, the authors at least did not split Pyralidae and Crambidae, as advocated by some! However, there are many other families split off: e.g., the Oecophoridae are again split into several families! The family classification demonstrates a lack of review from leading specialists on Lepidoptera in the world.

Each family begins with a brief summary of the family and its characteristics, plus a figure of a typical species. The species cataloged

for each family are not numbered; thus, the index is referenced entirely by page number for each name. The catalog modernizes the Australian nomenclature for Lepidoptera, noting many new combinations and new synonymies. An unfortunate format of the catalog, however, is the frequent usage of "no available genus" for some groups of species which are misplaced in current genera. The unplaced names should have been given new generic names, left within the most related current genera as "misplaced," or listed at the end of each family under their original generic combinations: as is done in the catalog, though, a placement without generic name is actually non-binomial and goes against the *Code of Zoological Nomenclature*. The catalog is accompanied by 800 notes at the end of the catalog. There is a very extensive bibliography of references to Australian Lepidoptera. The index incorporates all taxonomic names listed together.

The 14 authors and editors are to be commended for their extensive work. The only serious detriment in its usage will be the cost.

J. B. HEPPNER
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