

Notes on three Asiatic Papilionidae (Lepidoptera)

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Abstract: The new aberration *rhadamantoides* n. ab. is described for *Troides magellanus* from the eastern Philippine island of Marinduque. The new name *taiwanicus* is proposed for *Princeps dialis andronicus* (Fruhstorfer, nec Ward). A record of *Ornithoptera priamus urvillianus* from San Cristobal, Solomon Islands, is reported.

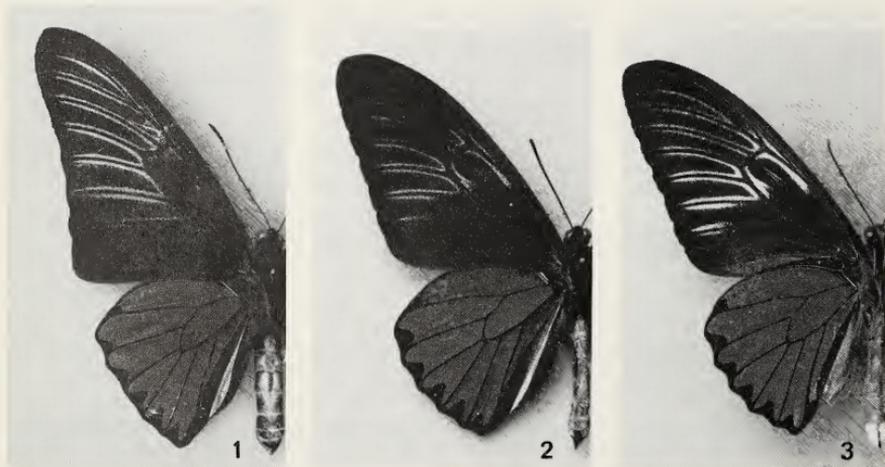
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Troides magellanus (C. & R. Felder) ab. *rhadamantoides* ab. nov. (figs. 2-3)

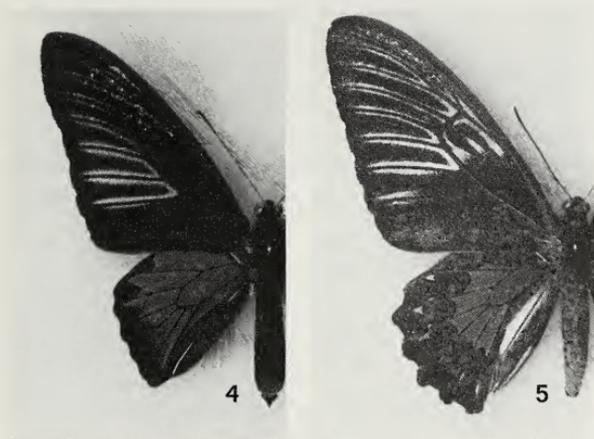
In appearance *Troides magellanus* does not vary much throughout the Philippines. Haugum & Low (1985: 349-352) do not mention any male form in their review – there is just the normal individual variation within the populations – and only four female forms. These authors pointed out that the subspecies *apoensis* and *leyteanus* recognized by Okana & Okhura in 1978 and Okana & Okano in 1983,

respectively, are no more than female forms.

One male specimen that came to my attention from the island of Marinduque, however, is strikingly different from typical males. It has shorter forewings (68 mm) with a rounded apex like most *Troides* females and a less concave outer forewing margin. White markings in the apical area of the upperside of the forewing fade towards the apex and extend more



Figs. 1-3. *Troides magellanus* (C. & R. Felder). 1, typical ♂ upperside (Philippines, S. Leyte, Kauswagan St. Bernhard, 4.iii.1979); 2-3, ab. *rhadamantoides* n. ab.; 2, ♂, upperside (Philippines, Marinduque, Buenavista, vi. 1978); 3, same specimen, underside.



Figs. 4-5. *Troides rh. rhadamantus* (Lucas). 4, ♂, upperside (Philippines, S. Leyte, Hinuangan Ilaya, 23.ix.1979); 5, ♀, upperside (Philippines, S. Leyte, Bantawon St. Bernhard, 2.ix.1979).

proximal to the base of the wing. The black basal part of the forewing thereby assumes a rounded shape, bordered by the white markings. The similarity between the pattern of the forewing underside of this male and of the forewing upperside of a female *Troides rh. rhadamantus* (Lucas) is striking (fig. 5).

However, compared with *T. rhadamantus* the colour of the abdomen and the opalescent blue reflection of the hindwings indicate without doubt that this male is an aberration of *T. magellanus*.

The type specimen (Marinduque, Buenavista, vi.1978, coll. J. Moonen) is preserved in the collection of the Institute of Taxonomic Zoology (Zoological Museum), Amsterdam.

Princeps dialis taiwanicus nom. nov.

The above name is proposed to replace the subspecific name *Papilio dialis andronicus* Fruhstorfer, 1909, described for a taxon from

Taiwan, a homonym of *Papilio andronicus* Ward, 1871, from Cameroun. Although the Taiwanese taxon never has been confused with the African species of the same name, this primary homonymy should be corrected.

Hancock (1983) placed both taxa in the genus *Princeps* Hübner, with which I concur.

Ornithoptera priamus urvillianus (Guérin-Méneville) (fig. 6)

Together with several pairs of this species from different islands of the Solomons, one pair of *O. p. urvillianus* was received from San Cristobal in 1974. All specimens of the batch had handwritten labels, and were sent as nothing exceptional. A study in the literature revealed that *urvillianus* is not known to occur on San Cristobal (Jordan, 1908: 15; d'Abrera, 1975: 84; Haugum & Low, 1979: 169; Samson, 1980: 216). The known range of this subspecies is New Ireland and the Solomon Islands.

As the collector who provided me with these specimens has sent me always well dated material, it seems unlikely that the data of the pair concerned should not be trustworthy. The data for the male are "San Cristobal 21.vii.1973" and for the female "San Cristobal 10.vii.1973".

Table 1. Wingspan of *Ornithoptera priamus urvillianus* from Guadalcanal and Malaita (based on data from Haugum & Low, 1979) compared with the pair from Cristobal. Sizes in mm.

	Guadalcanal	Malaita	San Cristobal
males	13.0-14.2	13.2-14.5	12.5
females	17.8-18.5	16.8-18.0	16.0

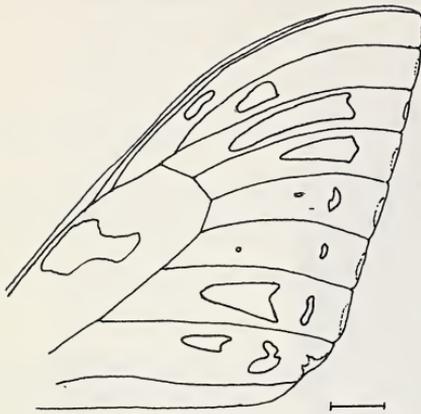


Fig. 6. *Ornithoptera priamus urvillianus* (Guérin-Ménéville) ♀, wing pattern of right forewing upperside (Solomon Islands, San Cristobal, 10.vii.1973) (Scale line 1 cm).

Although *O. p. urvillianus* in the Solomon Islands shows a strong intra-population variation, one can nevertheless detect a geographic variation too (Haugum & Low, 1979). I therefore shall compare the pair from San Cristobal with the description by Haugum & Low of material of *urvillianus* from Malaita and Guadalcanal, the two islands nearest to San Cristobal.

The size of the two specimens from San Cristobal is comparatively small (table 1).

The male from San Cristobal is not "rather dark or very distinct" as Malaita males but links up with the lighter form from Guadalcanal. In the hindwing upperside the whole cell is scattered with blue scales; the subdiscal spots are rounded; the outer margin is very narrow but not well defined and there is no second black border. Specimens of the male form *flavomaculata* have the golden-yellow subcos-

tal spot long and narrow as in most Guadalcanal males, contrary to the males from Malaita where it tends to be very small.

The female from San Cristobal has a moderately pale ground colour; there are only traces of upper discal spots, and the submarginal spots are narrow (fig. 6). It thus seems that this female also links up better with Guadalcanal females than with the usually dark Malaita females.

This conclusion can obviously only be tentative, since there is only one pair from San Cristobal to compare with the large material on which Haugum & Low based their descriptions of the subspecies in Malaita and Guadalcanal. The pair is kept in the collection of the Institute of Taxonomic Zoology, Amsterdam.

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