

## On some butterflies from the Indo-Pacific region

by

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Among the Rhopalocera the Natuurhistorisch Museum at Rotterdam received in 1967 the following species are worth mentioning.

### *Delias ellipsis* de Joannis

(Pl. 1, fig. 1 upperside, fig. 2 underside)

*Delias ellipsis* de Joannis, J. 1901, *Bull. Soc. ent. Fr.* (1901): 207 (♀)

*Delias ellipsis* de Joannis; DE JOANNIS, J., 1907, *Annls. Soc. ent. Fr.* 76: 366 (♀)

*Delias ellipsis* de Joannis; TALBOT, G., 1927, *Entomologist* 60: 133 (♂)

*Delias ellipsis* de Joannis; TALBOT, G., 1937, 'A monograph of the Pierine genus *Delias*' Pt. 6: 421 (♂, ♀)

*Delias ellipsis* de Joannis; CATALA, R. & P. VIETTE, 1948, *Bull. Soc. ent. Fr.* (1948): 149

The habitat of this rare member of the Pieridae remained uncertain for many years. The holotype, a female, is in the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris and is labelled 'Australie'. The neallotype male described by TALBOT is in the British Museum (Natural History), London and is labelled as coming from Antipolo, a name which is only known as being a village near Manilla, Philippines. TALBOT was of the opinion, based on the appearance and affinities of the insect that it may well have come from either the Philippines or Moluccas. It was not until the Paris Museum received a male and female from New Caledonia that the mystery of this insect's true locality was solved.

A collector for the Rotterdam Museum caught three males, also in New Caledonia, of which he sent one labelled 'Mt. Koghi, 500 m, 4.XII.1963'. Females were also seen but not caught and according to him "The species occurs everywhere above 700 metres especially in clearings on wooded slopes." The collector, who has a profound knowledge of the Australian Rhopalocera, has never seen this species in Australia. Mr. J. BOURGOGNE (Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris) to whom the above specimen was sent for comment, is also of the opinion that this species occurs only in New Caledonia.

It is somewhat variable, at least in the male. The black apical band of the upperside of the fore wing may be more or less broad. Both the bands on the underside of the hind wing are yellow and black respectively and differ in width in the specimen now known. The yellow band of the male in Paris is more curved near the costa than in the male now recorded, also the black post-cellular spot on the underside of the fore wing is larger.

*Delias nysa caledonica* ssp. n.

(Plate 1, fig. 3 ♀ upperside, fig. 4 ♀ underside)

The nominate subspecies of *Delias nysa* (Fabricius, 1775) occurs in E. Australia from Cairns to Wollongong while ssp. *nivira* Waterhouse & Lyell (1914) occurs in the Coen district (N. Queensland), and TALBOT (1937) described ssp. *santo* from two males caught in the New Hebrides. Therefore it was not very surprising to receive a female of this species taken on Mt. Koghi in New Caledonia. This specimen has a much broader border along the termen of the hind wing than the nominate subspecies, for at vein 5 it is about 9 mm wide. It also lacks the grey marginal spots in this black border that are present in the nominate subspecies, also the basal area on the underside of the fore wing is not completely orange-yellow but is white and tinged with light yellow in the cell. This specimen of this newly described subspecies is larger than the nominate as the fore wing measures 30 mm from base to apex compared with the average length of 25 mm.

Holotype ♀. New Caledonia, Mt. Koghi, 500 m, 6.XII.1963. (Natuurhistorisch Museum, Rotterdam).

There seems little likelihood that *caledonica* is a separate species, but without more material it is impossible to settle this question.

*Delias leucias roepkei* ssp. n.

(Plate 2, fig. 5 ♂ upperside, fig. 6 ♂ underside)

*Delias leucias* Jordan (1911) was extensively dealt with by ROEPKE in his monograph on the genus *Delias* in New Guinea (1955). Up till now the species has only been found on the southern chains of the Snow Mountains in the former Dutch New Guinea.

Two male specimens have been received which were captured in August, 1962 near Telefomin, on the border between Mandated New Guinea and Papua, near the border with the former Dutch Territory at an altitude of 1700 m. The upperside of these specimens differs distinctly from that of nominate *leucias* having broader black borders to the white wings, the difference being more noticeable in the hind wings. The black border of the fore wing is not pointed at the tornus as it is in nominate *leucias* Jordan, for it is approximately 3 mm wide at that point. On the underside of the hind wing the light central area is more extensive and is pure white instead of light yellow. We name this subspecies after the late Prof. Dr. W. ROEPKE for his valuable work on this genus.

Holotype ♂. Mandated New Guinea, Telefomin, 1700 m, 5.VIII.1962. (Natuurhistorisch Museum, Rotterdam).

Paratype ♂. Same data as holotype. (British Museum (Natural History), London).

*Paratisiphone lyrnessa* (Hewitson)(Plate 2, fig. 7 ♀ upperside, fig. 8 ♀ underside, fig. 9 f. *lutea* ♀ upperside, fig. 10 ♀ f. *lutea* underside)

*Lasiommata lyrnessa* Hewitson, 1872, *Ent. mon. Mag.* 9: 85.

*Paratisiphone lyrnessa* (Hewitson); WATKINS, H. T. G., 1928, *Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.* (10) 1: 615.





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2



3



4

Photo British Museum (Natural History)

Figs. 1, 2. *Delias ellipsis* de Joannis. 1. ♂, upperside; 2. idem, underside. Figs. 3, 4. *Delias nysa caledonica* ssp. n. 3. ♀, upperside; 4. idem, underside.

All figures natural size.

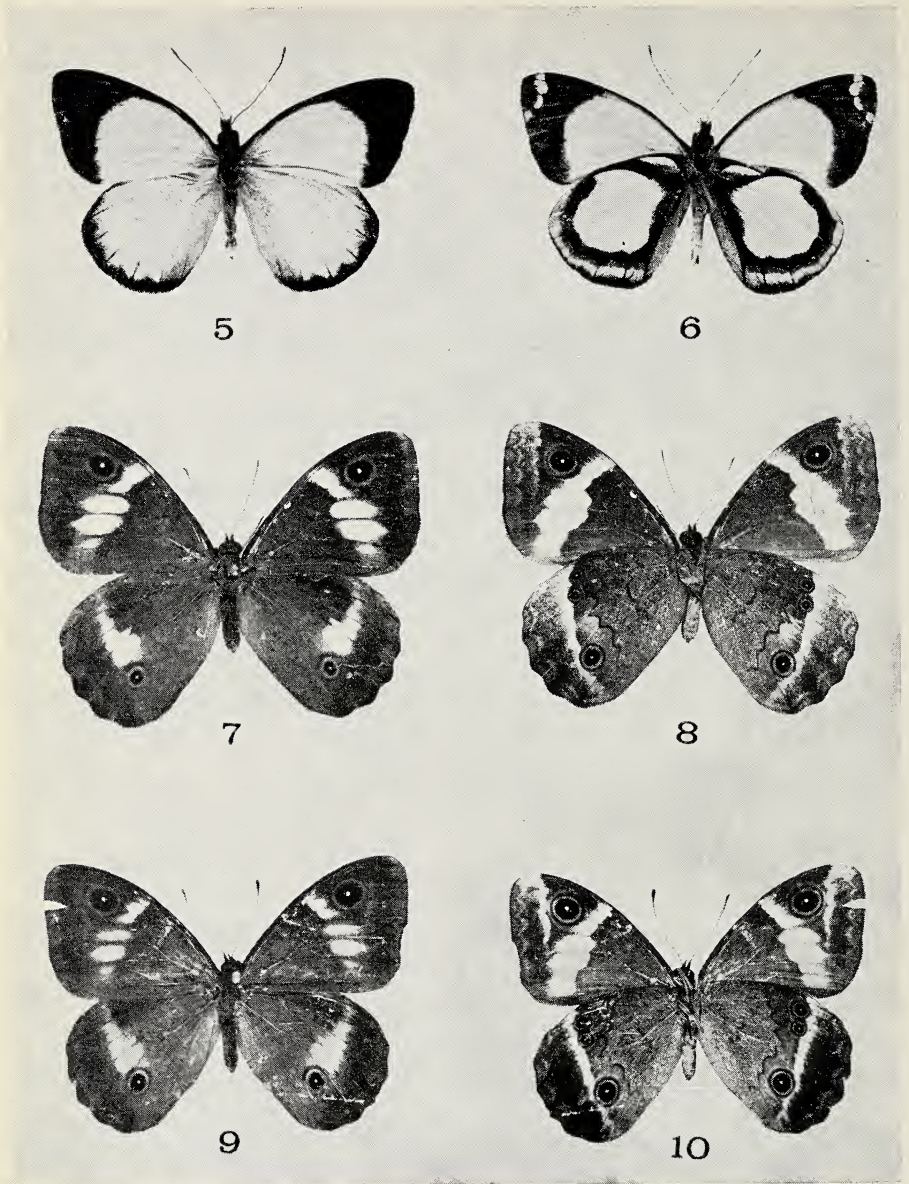


Photo British Museum (Natural History)

Figs. 5, 6. *Delias leucias roepkei* ssp. n. 5. ♂, upperside; 6. idem, underside. Figs. 7—10. *Paratiphone lynessa* Hewitson. 7. ♀, upperside; 8. idem, underside; 9. f. *lutea* forma n., ♀, upperside; 10. idem, underside.

All figures natural size.



The male holotype in the British Museum (Natural History) remained the only known specimen for nearly sixty years until 1928, when WATKINS received a second specimen, also a male. Now, nearly a century after the first specimen was described, a short series of a male and four females has been received from New Caledonia. The male was taken at Pueblo on 12.I.1964, three of the females at Mont des Sources on 30.XII.1963 and the remaining female at the junction of the Humboldt and Kalouchola rivers on 14.XII.1963.

The female is now described. It is larger than the male, being 27 mm compared with 22 mm measured from the base to apex of the fore wing. The upperside has a dark brown ground colour with a creamy white band on both fore and hind wings. This band starts about the middle of the costa of the fore wing and ends obscurely in space 1b. In spaces 2 and 3 of the fore wing the spots are large (6 mm) and more or less pointed distally. The spots in spaces 4, 5 and 6 are much smaller as is the obscure spot in space 1b. There is a white centred, dark yellow ringed ocellus in space 5 distad of the white band. The white band of the hind wing starts obscurely and narrowly a little distad of the middle of the costa, becoming gradually more distinct and broader and finally ending in space 3, where it is 5 mm broad. Before this, in space 2, there is a dark yellow ringed ocellus with a white pupil as on the fore wing but smaller. The underside of the fore wing is similar to the upperside but with the apex white and with two parallel whitish submarginal and marginal lines. The hind wing underside is powdered with grey and a broad band of the basal colour from mid-costa to mid-dorsum is defined by two dark lines, the outer being sinuate. The white band corresponding to that of the upperside is narrow extending from the costa to the dorsum with two small ocelli at the inner side in spaces 5 and 6, and a larger one in space 2 corresponding with that of the upperside. The apex is whitish and there is an indistinct series of pale interneural crescents in the submargin.

Neallotype ♀. New Caledonia, Mont des Sources, 500 m, 30.XII.1963. (Natuurhistorisch Museum, Rotterdam).

Paratypes. Two females with the same data (British Museum (Natural History), London).

*form lutea forma n.*

The female taken at the junction of the Humboldt and Kalouchola Rivers has the band on the upperside of the fore and hind wing orange-yellow instead of creamy-white. On the fore wing underside this creamy-white band is only orange-yellow in spaces 1a, 1b, 2 and 3.

Holotype ♀. New Caledonia, Junction of Humboldt-Kalouchola Rivers, 14.XII.1963 (Natuurhistorisch Museum, Rotterdam).

*Platyptima ornata septentrionalis ssp. n.*

A female of this small satyrid butterfly was received which was captured in 1963 near Telefomin in Mandated New Guinea. The nominate subspecies was described from Angabunga River (= St. Joseph River), N.W. of Port Moresby, Papua.

It appears that this represents a distinct subspecies flying north of the Central Highlands which differs from the southern one. The bluish grey of the upperside is reduced and the underside of the hindwing has five white-pupilled ocelli, those in spaces 3 and 4 are black and those in spaces 2, 5 and 6 are brownish. The area enclosing the ocelli is surrounded by a shining, metallic, violet line.

Holotype ♀. Mandated New Guinea, Telefomin, 4.VIII.1963. (Natuurhistorisch Museum, Rotterdam).

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## Two new generic names in the diplopod order Craspedosomatida

by

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In the course of bibliographical work on the nomenclature of millipedes it was discovered that two generic names in the order Craspedosomatida are preoccupied. As the two names are at present in use as valid generic names, substitutes are proposed herewith.

**Bactropodellus** nom. nov., for *Bactropus* Cook & Collins, 1895 (*Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci.* 9 : 53), type-species: *Bactropus conifer* Cook & Collins, 1895 (l.c. : 54).

*Bactropus* Cook & Collins is preoccupied by *Bactropus* Barrande, 1872 (*Système Silurien du Centre de la Bohême. 1<sup>ère</sup> Partie: Recherches Paléontologiques. Supplément au Vol. 1: 581*), an available name in fossil Crustacea.

The family name Bactropidae (recte: Bactropodidae) Chamberlin & Hoffman, 1950 (*Chicago Acad. Sci. nat. Hist. Misc.* 71 : 6), accordingly should be replaced by **Bactropodellidae** nom. nov.

**Marquetiella** nom. nov., for *Marquetia* Ribaut, 1905 (*Bull. Soc. Hist. nat. Toulouse* 39 : 38), type-species: *Marquetia pyrenaicum* (recte: -ca) Ribaut, 1905 (l.c.).

*Marquetia* Ribaut is preoccupied by *Marquetia* Reichenbach, 1862 (*Die Singvögel als Fortsetzung der vollständigsten Naturgeschichte*: 48), an available name in birds.

*Aporia crataegi* L. (Lep., Pieridae). Hoe staat het op het ogenblik met deze fraaie Pieride in ons land? Ik heb de indruk, dat hij veel zeldzamer is dan een 20 jaar geleden. Willen degenen, die in gebieden wonen waar de vlinder thuis hoort, er in 1969 eens speciaal op letten en mij hun bevindingen melden?

Het zou me niet verwonderen, als *crataegi* bij ons zeer sterk in aantal schommelt, periodiek heel zeldzaam kan worden en misschien dan zelfs geheel uit onze fauna kan verdwijnen. In een gunstiger periode zou de vlinder ons land dan weer opnieuw kunnen bevolken. In elk geval vind ik het een probleem, dat de moeite waard is nader bekeken te worden. — LPK.