

BUTTERFLIES OBSERVED IN ALBANIA, APRIL, 1994 (LEP.: HESPERIOIDEA & PAPILIONIDEA)

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FROM 11 TO 20 APRIL 1994 we had the opportunity to visit Albania to study the butterfly fauna of this interesting country. During the first day we visited the surroundings of Shkodr Lake. However, because of the cold and wet weather we managed no collecting here. The next day we travelled to the Ionian Sea coast and studied butterflies along the whole of its length but concentrating on the Llogara Pass, Butrinti and the Karst regions around Musina, Jorgucati. The following list comprises all the 30 species observed during the excursion.

Hesperiidae

Carcharodus alceae (Esper, [1780]). Rarely found in Butrinti (Province Saranda).

C. orientalis Reverdin, 1913. Single specimen observed in Butrinti.

Papilionidae

Iphiclides podalirius (Linnaeus, 1758). Not rare in gardens of Tirana, also observed near Bistrica River: Syri i Kaltër (Province Saranda).

Papilio machaon Linnaeus, 1758. Common in stony terrains of Butrinti, Musina (Province Musina), Jorgucati (Province Gjirokastra).

P. alexanor Esper, [1799]. Rare in Butrinti – three males.

Pieridae

Leptidea sinapis (Linnaeus, 1758). Not very common in Butrinti, Syri i Kaltër.

Colias croceus (Geoffroy, 1785). Hibernated specimens often seen in Volloderi, Butrinti, Jorgucati.

Gonepteryx rhamni (Linnaeus, 1758). Observed in Syri i Kaltër.

G. cleopatra (Linnaeus, 1767). Hibernated specimens observed in Saranda – one male, one female; Butrinti – two males.

Anthocharis cardamines (Linnaeus, 1758). Not rare in Butrinti, Syri i Kaltër.

Euchloe ausonia (Hübner, [1804]). Found in abundance in arid rocky sites of Volloderi, Butrinti, Jorgucati.

Pieris brassicae (Linnaeus, 1758). Specimens found in Tirana, Zogaj (Province Shkodra) (pupa), Dhërmi, Butrinti, Musina.

P. mannii (Mayer, 1851). Worn specimens found in Butrinti, Jorgucati.

P. rapae (Linnaeus, 1758). Abundant in Dhërmi, Volloderi (Province Saranda), Butrinti.

P. ergane Geyer, [1828]. Rare in rocky terrains west of Musina – two males.

P. napi (Linnaeus, 1758). Common in Syri i Kaltër.

Pontia edusa (Fabricius, 1777). Found only in seminemoral formations along Bistrica River: Syri i Kaltër.

Lycaenidae

Lycaena phlaeas (Linnaeus, 1761). Common in Llogara Pass, Volloderi, Jorgucati.

L. ottomana (Lefebvre, 1830). Rare in Syri i Kaltër, two males.

Callophrys rubi (Linnaeus, 1758). Worn specimens observed in Volloderi.

Celastrina argiolus (Linnaeus, 1758). Not rare in Llogara Pass.

Polyommatus icarus (Rottemburg, 1775). Common in Butrinti.

Nymphalidae

Pararge aegeria (Linnaeus, 1758). Only two specimens found along the Bistrica River: Syri i Kaltër.

Lasiommata megera (Linnaeus, 1767). Very common in rocky terrains in Llogara Pass (Province Vlora), Volloderi, Butrinti, Musina, Jorgucati.

L. maera (Linnaeus, 1758). In a similar biotopes together with the previous *L. megera* in Volloderi, Butrinti, Musina, Jorgucati.

Coenonympha pamphilus (Linnaeus, 1758). Not very common in Butrinti, Syri i Kaltër – one female.

Vanessa atalanta (Linnaeus, 1758). Hibernated specimens found in Dhërmi (Province Vlora), Butrinti, Syri i Kaltër, Jorgucati.

V. cardui (Linnaeus, 1758). Common in Llogara Pass, Butrinti, Jorgucati. For about an hour more than 20 specimens were observed flying in direction from the Ionian Sea to the mainland.

Nymphalis antiopa (Linnaeus, 1758). Single specimen, probably hibernated, observed flying in Syri i Kaltër.

Issoria lathonia (Linnaeus, 1758). Worn specimens seen in Jorgucati.

Early migrant Lepidoptera in west Devon

On 26 April 1996 I met with the incongruous sight of a Silver Y *Autographa gamma* L. flying among a drift of spring daffodils. The previous day I had been surprised to see a fresh-looking Red Admiral *Vanessa atalanta* L. sunning itself on the wall of my house. an early migration was confirmed later on the same day when, on the top of King tor, Dartmoor (1280 feet), I happened upon two examples of Painted Lady *V. cardui* L together with a further *V. atalanta*, flying rapidly and basking in the sun at around 6.05pm. The butterflies were still active when I left at 6.30pm.— R.W. Bogue, Kingston House, Tuckermarsh, Bere Alston, Devon PL20 7HB.



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