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SPECIES OF EUCALYPTUS AS FOOD PLANTS FOR LEPIDOPTERA IN EAST AFRICA

Dr. I. F. B. Common's paper, "Some factors responsible for imbalances in the Australian fauna of Lepidoptera" (1981, J. Lepid. Soc. 34:286–294), and his remarks on the role of *Eucalyptus* as a lepidopterous food plant suggest that a list of the Lepidoptera feeding on the introduced *Eucalyptus* spp. in East Africa might be of interest.

Various species of *Eucalyptus* are grown in many parts of East Africa, primarily as sources of firewood but also as useful agents in the reclamation of swampy land. *E. citriodora* is grown as a plantation crop in Zaire and elsewhere for its oil, used in the

perfumery trade.

The following is a list of species recorded as feeding on species of Eucalyptus: Lymantriidae—Euproctis molunduana Auriv., Dasychira georgiana Fawcett, D. basalis Wlk., Argyrostagma niobe Weymer; Lasiocampidae—Lechriolepis nigrivenis Strand, Bombycopsis bipars Wlk., Nadiasa cuneata Distant, Pachypasa subfascia Wlk., P. papuri Tams, Eucraera salambo Vuillot; Saturniidae—Bunaea alcinoe Stoll, Nudaurelia conradsi Rebel, N. cytherea F., N. dione F., N. krucki Hering, N. gueinzii Karsch, Lobobunaea phaedusa Drury, Urota sinope Westwood, Athletes ethra Westwood; Notodontidae—Desmeocraera varia Janse; Limacodidae—Latoia chapmanni Kirby; Psychidae—Eumeta rougeoti Bourgogne, Kotochalia junodi Hylaerts; Noctuidae— Euxoa longidentifera Hampson, Spodoptera littoralis Bdv., Heliothis armigera (Hbn.), Anua mejanesi Gn., A. tirhaca Cramer, Achaea lienardi Bdv., A. catella Gn., A. faber Holland, Plusia limbirena Gn.; Geometridae—Orthonama obstipata F., Colocleora divisaria Wlk., Ascotis selenaria Schiff., A. reciprocaria Wlk., Cleora nigrisparsalis Janse, C. herbuloti Fletcher, C. dargei Herbulot, C. scobina Fletcher, C. rothkirchi Strand, Luxiaria curvivena Warren; Pyralidae—Herculia tenuis Butler, Sylepta balteata F. As shown for Australia no African butterfly larva have been known to feed on Eucalyptus.

The two indigenous genera of the Myrtaceae, *Eugenia* and *Syzigium*, serve as host plants for relatively few lepidopterous larvae: five *Charaxes* spp., one lycaenid, two lymantriids, one each lasiocampid, thaumetopoeid and metarbelid, three limacodids and two noctuids; however, another introduced genus, *Psidium*, originally from tropical America, is eaten by two lycaenids, one lymantriid, one lasiocampid, six saturniids, three notodontids, one limacodid, one metarbelid, one noctuid and two geometrids.

It is most unusual for introduced species to be eaten by more species than the indigenous plants. In the Mimosaceae, for example, there are no records of lepidopterous larvae feeding on the introduced *Leucaena glauca* and *Acacia decurrens*, nor are the flowers visited by imagines; yet, the indigenous species of *Acacia* are eaten by numerous species of lepidopterous larvae, and their flowers are highly attractive to butterflies and moths.

D. G. SEVASTOPULO, F.R.E.S., P.O. Box 95617, Mombasa (Nyali), KENYA.

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SUMMER BUTTERFLIES IN DINOSAUR NATIONAL MONUMENT

The canyons of the Green River in Dinosaur National Monument are in large part accessible only by raft. They are in a most interesting area biogeographically, however,