

might be expected, the coverage is not uniform: most of the species of Papilionidae, Pieridae and Nymphalidae (*s.l.*) are illustrated and discussed in some detail, whereas species of Riodinidae, Lycaenidae and Hesperidae are given much more cursory and incomplete treatment. The species accounts are somewhat reminiscent of the annotations given by Hoffmann in his catalogues 50 years ago, but the data are updated considerably and augmented by new ecological and distributional findings.

The color illustrations are usually of high quality, though disconcerting shadows are found on some plates (e.g., 2, 4, 18, 24, 39, 60, etc.) that could have been avoided by using a light box to illuminate the subjects evenly from several sides. The backgrounds are also uneven, but seldom disconcertingly so. The illustrated butterflies are more or less true to color and readily serve to identify the species.

The nomenclature is mostly up to date, and there are relatively few typographical errors. To cite a few examples: *Neophasia* is misspelled "*Neopasia*" on Plate 2, but correctly on page 83; *huascama* is misspelled as "*huascuma*" on page 103; *Ganyra howarthi* (Dixey) is misidentified as *G. josephina kuschei* (Schaus); the generic name for *Pareuptychia occirrhoe* (Fabricius) is misspelled as "*Paraeuptychia*" and the species is identified as "*hestone*" (Sulzer), a name rejected as a homonym. The generic treatment of the Theclinae (Lycaenidae) does not always follow the most recent revisionary studies.

The general topics covered at the beginning of the book (pages 13–70) are well presented, especially those sections on the uses of butterflies in ancient art and the discussions of life zones inhabited by Mexican butterflies. Excellent photographs of each life zone are presented, which supplement the text by giving the reader a "feel" for where the various species fly.

The few criticisms that I have in no way diminish the accomplishment by Sr. de la Maza in producing a book that will remain the standard Mexican text for many years. It is vastly better than most books on the Mexican fauna. The entire de la Maza family stands in the forefront of Mexican lepidopterology, and this book only strengthens this assessment. Anyone with an interest in the butterflies of Mexico must have *Mariposas Mexicanas*; those who simply are interested in beautiful butterflies should have it to enjoy the plates.

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LAS MARIPOSAS ENTRE LOS ANTIGUOS MEXICANOS, by Carlos R. Beutelspacher (prolog by Rafael Martín del Campo). 1988. Fondo de Cultura Económica, Avenida de la Universidad, 975; 03100 México, D.F., México. 103 pp., 308 color and b&w figures. Hard cover, 22 × 28 cm, ISBN 968-16-3042-4, \$27.69. In Spanish.

Cultural entomology, the influence of insects in the humanities, has been recognized in recent years as a singular and provocative field of insect study (Hogue, C. 1987, Cultural Entomology, *Ann. Rev. Entomol.* 32:181–199). This copiously illustrated book is a significant contribution to the field. It brings together, in an aesthetic way, a collection of images and information, demonstrating and documenting the multifarious and significant ways that butterflies and moths were woven into ancient Mexican cultures. These range from transient and simple uses of the lepidopteran form for adornment of pottery and in featherwork to deeply religious symbolisms hewn in stone.

The deification of at least two species is known with certainty, evidence for which receives major treatment in the book. Xochiquetzal, who was represented by the common papilionid *Papilio multicaudatus*, was the wide-serving god of beauty, love, and flowers, patron of domestic labor and the courtesans, and symbol of the soul and the dead (Chapter

VI). The "flint moth," *Rothschildia*, signified Itzpapalotl, a mother diety and god of human sacrifice, war, and travelers, as well as the personification of the earth and moon (Chapter VII).

In these and accompanying chapters the author discusses and figures lepidopterans in the history (including place names-Chapter IV), art, mythology, folklore, and poetry (Chapter V), of the Teotihuacanan, Aztecan, Mixtecan, and other ancient Mexican cultures. A particularly beautiful poem contrived on the occasion of the death of the prince Tlachuepan, 1493-1498, is quoted:

Life after Death

Golden butterfly now sipping:
The flower that has opened is my heart,
O my friends, it is a fragrant flower,
I now spread abroad upon the rain.

(p. 37, translated from Nahuatl to Spanish by Garikay; thence to English by the reviewer.)

The book also contains diverse representations of butterflies in human culture in general (Chapter IX, Appendix) as well as summaries of the pertinent literature (Chapter I) and the relation of other organisms to butterflies among ancient Mexicans (Chapter II). The author pays special attention (in Chapter X) to the interpretation of references to lepidopterans in 16th Century chronicler Sahagún's book 11 of *Historia General de las Cosas de Nueva España* and accompanying *Codex Florentino*.

The Appendix contains an essay on butterflies in the folklore of other peoples and a taxonomic index of species treated in the book.

The book is nicely laid out and beautifully illustrated, mostly by the author's own hand. Although not in English, the figures and captions will be understandable to the educated lepidopterist armed with a Spanish dictionary. A rudimentary knowledge of Mexican archaeology and history will aid greatly both Spanish-speaking and non-Spanish-speaking readers in assimilating the text.

Errors are rare; I note only the following: Robelo 1940 on p. 21 should be 1904; Cortés 1976 cited on p. 18 is not listed in the bibliography.

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THE BUTTERFLIES OF HISPANIOLA, by Albert Schwartz. 1989. University of Florida Press, Gainesville. xiv + 580 pp., 2 general maps and distribution maps throughout text, 1 color and 15 black & white plates. Hard cover, 23.5 × 16 cm, ISBN 0-8130-0902-2, \$35.00.

The history and quality of books on the butterflies of the "West Indies" has been patchy. The recent work on the fauna of Cuba (Alayo, D. & L. R. Hernandez 1987, *Atlas de las mariposas diurnas de Cuba* [Lepidoptera: Rhopalocera], Editorial Científico-Técnica, La Habana, 148 pp.) is difficult to obtain; R. Pinchon and P. Enrico's treatment of the Lesser Antilles (1969, *Faune des Antilles Françaises, Les Papillons*, Forte-de-France, 258 pp.) came and went with scarcely a notice outside the francophone world and only F. M. Brown and B. Heineman's excellent work on Jamaica (1972, *Jamaica and its butterflies*, E. W. Classey, London, 478 pp.) is still readily available. Even N. D. Riley's field guide (1975, *A field guide to the butterflies of the West Indies*, Collins, London, 224 pp.), valuable though it is, is out of print. A general and up-to-date work on the butterflies of Hispaniola (Haiti and the Dominican Republic) has been conspicuously absent, and it is this void that Dr. Schwartz's book is designed to fill.