

# Butterflies of the Island Mioswar, Papua, Indonesia

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*Abstract:* An annotated inventory is presented of the Papilionoidea of Mioswar, based on a survey in August 2009.

*Rangkuman:* Daftar spesies disajikan dari Papilionoidea Pulau Mioswar, berdasarkan suatu survei pada bulan Agustus 2009, dilengkapi dengan sejumlah catatan.

*Keywords:* Cenderawasih Bay, Inventory.

## Abbreviations

- KSP - Koleksi Serangga Papua (Collection of Papuan Insects), Jayapura, Indonesia  
MTD - Museum für Tierkunde Dresden, in Senckenberg Naturhistorische Sammlungen, Dresden (SNSD), Dresden, Deutschland

## Background

In August 2009 Euniche Ramandey, John Kaize and Henk van Mastrigt visited the island Mioswar in the Teluk Cenderwasih (former Geelvink Bay), between Manokwari and the Wondama Peninsula (former Wandammen), in order to make an actual inventory of its butterfly fauna and also to pay special attention to Odonata. Besides these two groups Coleoptera and Plasmida also were collected.

## Purpose

With this survey the team would like to present material for a comparison between the actual situation and those of more than a hundred years ago. In our efforts to get data about earlier visits it became clear that the Mysore Island –often used in literature and websites as old name for Mioswar– stands for the islands Supiori and Biak together (former Schouten eilands), and has nothing to do with Mioswar.

This leads to the conclusion that no systematic data on butterflies from Mioswar are available, as A. B. Meyer on his trip in 1873, did not reach Mioswar and the results of the Pratt's in 1909 were not published as a whole.

Therefore the authors were forced to revise the purpose and only present the results of the recent survey in August 2009, with some notes.

## Results

The results of the survey had two different sides. On one hand the team collected not less than 70 species of Papilionoidea, some interesting Odonata, including an undescribed species, which will be paid attention to, some Coleoptera and quite a few Phasmida of which up till now no data on identification are available, but surely will get attention in a later issue of SUGAPA. On the other hand some important species which the team hoped to get, were not recorded, not only *Ideopsis hewitsonii* which status is endemic on Supiori and Biak, but also some others as *Hypochrysops mioswara*, known as recorded or endemic on Mioswar.



**Fig. 1.** View from sea

### Mioswar Island August 2009

no.	no.	names	no.	no.	names
		<b>Papilionidae</b>			<b>Nymphalidae</b>
1	1	<i>Ornithoptera priamus</i>	40	1	<i>Tellervo assarica mioswara</i>
2	2	<i>Graphium agamemnon</i>	41	2	<i>Ideopsis juvenata</i>
3	3	<i>Graphium codrus</i>	42	3	<i>Danaus affinis</i>
4	4	<i>Graphium sarpedon</i>	43	4	<i>Euploea phaenareta</i>
5	5	<i>Graphium eurypylus</i>	44	5	<i>Euploea netscheri</i>
6	6	<i>Papilio aegeus</i>	45	6	<i>Euploea alcatheae</i>
7	7	<i>Papilio ambrax</i>	46	7	<i>Euploea wallacei</i>
8	8	<i>Papilio ulysses</i>	47	8	<i>Taenaris catops</i>
9	9	<i>Papilio euchenor</i>	48	9	<i>Taenaris bioculatus</i>
		<b>Pieridae</b>	49	10	<i>Taenaris sp.</i>
10	1	<i>Eurema hecabe</i>	50	11	<i>Mycalesis duponchellii</i>
11	2	<i>Eurema puella</i>	51	12	<i>Mycalesis phidon</i>
12	3	<i>Appias ada</i>	52	13	<i>Mycalesis terminus</i>
13	4	<i>Appias celestina</i>	53	14	<i>Mycalesis mehadeva</i>
		<b>Lycaenidae</b>	54	15	<i>Mycalesis aethiops</i>
14	1	<i>Dicallaneura decorata</i>	55	16	<i>Mycalesis shiva</i>
15	2	<i>Pseudipsos eone</i>	56	17	<i>Hypocysta isis</i>
16	3	<i>Philiris harterti</i>	57	18	<i>Melanitis leda</i>
17	4	<i>Philiris moira</i>	58	19	<i>Elymnias agondas</i>
18	5	<i>Arhopala herculina</i>	59	20	<i>Charaxes latona</i>
19	6	<i>Arhopala madytus</i>	60	21	<i>Prothoe australis</i>
20	7	<i>Arhopala philander</i>	61	22	<i>Cyrestis acilia</i>
21	8	<i>Arhopala admete</i>	62	23	<i>Lexias aeropa</i>
22	9	<i>Arhopala thamyras</i>	63	24	<i>Parthenos tigrina</i>
23	10	<i>Hypolycaena phorbas</i>	64	25	<i>Pantoporia venilia</i>
24	11	<i>Deudorix littoralis</i>	65	26	<i>Neptis praslini</i>
25	12	<i>Anthene paraffinis</i>	66	27	<i>Phaedyma shepherdii</i>
26	13	<i>Nacaduba nerina</i>	67	28	<i>Hypolymnas bolina</i>
27	14	<i>Nacaduba cyanea</i>	68	29	<i>Hypolymnas deois</i>
28	15	<i>Erysichton lineata</i>	69	30	<i>Yoma algina</i>
29	16	<i>Danis danis</i>	70	31	<i>Cethosia cydippe</i>
30	17	<i>Prosotas gracilis</i>	71	32	<i>Cupha prosopoe</i>
31	18	<i>Catopyrops ancyra</i>			
32	19	<i>Jamides bochus</i>			
33	20	<i>Jamides celeno</i>			
34	21	<i>Jamides aetheralis</i>			
35	22	<i>Jamides coritus</i>			
36	23	<i>Catochrysops strabo</i>			
37	24	<i>Pithecopus dionisius</i>			
38	25	<i>Everes lacturnus</i>			
39	26	<i>Euchrysops cnejus</i>			

**Table 1.** Results on Papilionoidae on Mioswar, August 2009



In the last five years students of the Cenderawasih University surveyed islands in the Cenderawasih Bay, with the following results on butterflies:

Name island(s)	km <sup>2</sup>	reported by:	Pa	Pi	Ly	Ny	TT
Numfor	391	Mambrasar	9	12	41	28	90
Supiori	659	Warikar	11	7	39	53	110
Biak	2,455	Daawia & Warikar	11	17	45	52	125
Japen	2,424	Wanma	12	7	47	63	129
Kep. Moor/Mambor		Kaluwur	13	10	44	41	108
Explantation:	Pa = Papilionidae						
	Pi = Pieridae						
	Ly = Lycaenidae						
	Ny = Nymphalidae						
	TT = Total number of species						

The result of 9 Papilionidae, 4 Pieridae, 26 Lycaenidae and 32 Nymphalidae, in total 71 species, is less than in the above mentioned surveys. However, taking in consideration the vastness of Mioswar Island (< 100 km<sup>2</sup>), relatively the result is quite good, although the Pieridae are far below the average.

## Detailed notes

Generally spoken it can be said that no special species were recorded on Mioswar Island, however some notes will be useful to pay attention to the following notes. Within the Papilionidae the absence of *Troides oblongomaculata* and *Papilio demoleus* were remarkable. The last one –introduced in Papua about 1995– was observed at Rumberpon, an island west of Mioswar, closer to the mainland. The result on Pieridae was really poor. Only three species were collected, a fourth one was only observed *Appias ada*.

Within the Lycaenidae the large numbers of *Arhopala* sp. was very attractive, especially in slightly damaged primary forest. *A. herculina* was well presented with males and females. A male with a silverish border was never seen before. *Danis danis* (or *Danis* sp.) was also present in large numbers, but the varieties found need more study, as it is not impossible it will involve two different species. Finally, the record of *Deudorix littoralis* was the second one after a record from Sentani in 1975.

About the 32 Nymphalidae are no exciting remarks. *Tellervo assarica mioswara* was well presented, especially in secondary forest and at borders between forest and gardens. *Taenaris* sp. is not a new species to science, but (related to) *T. gorgo*, which is a quite rare record. Within the *Mycalesis* it will be some puzzling to separate the females of *M. shiva* and *M. aethiops* which are quite similar.

## Final remarks

The visit to Mioswar Island is the first visit after a long period (about one hundred years), so the data obtained could be useful information. On the other hand it is obvious that the results of this survey are far from complete as the period was only seven days, the surveyed areas were very restricted because of the difficult infrastructure and the impervious dense forest and the weather circumstances were far from ideal. A survey of 2-4 weeks with visits to more areas will be a good purpose to get a better idea of the biodiversity on this island.

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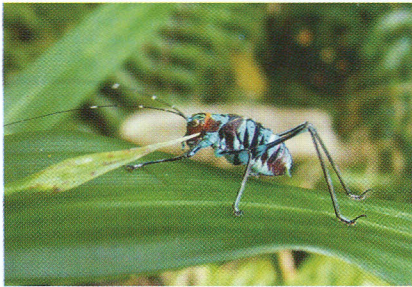
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**Fig. 2.** A nice grasshopper



**Fig. 3.** *Arhopala thamyras* on leaf



**Fig. 4.** A beach area





**Fig. 5.** A hilly site



**Fig. 6.** Entrance to forest from beach



**Fig. 7.** The two authors in the field