

BOOK REVIEW

SMITH D.S., MILLER L.D. & MILLER L.J.: **THE BUTTERFLIES OF THE WEST INDIES AND SOUTH FLORIDA**. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1994, 255 pp., 32 colour plates, 2 text figures, ISBN 0-19-8571199-2. Price GBP 85.00.

The very interesting book is divided in two main parts: first is the introduction to the history, biogeography, ecology and conservation of the butterfly fauna of the West Indies and the southern tip of Florida and the second part is concerned with the systematics of all families of Papilionoidea and Hesperioidea of the Caribbean region. The main systematical text is devoted to descriptions and taxonomical diagnoses from family level to

subspecies. Data for identifications, characteristics of habitats, behaviour of butterflies in field and outlines of bionomics are given for every species. A taxonomic checklist, list of larval host plants and adult nectar sources and an extensive bibliography are included. Almost all the 600 butterfly taxa of this region including subspecies are illustrated by the high quality paintings of R. Lewington in 32 colour plates. This attractive and unique book may be recommended as an extensive source of information for lepidopterists and students of West Indian island biogeography.

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