

A further note on *Hypolimnas bolina* in Seychelles

James M. Lawrence

4 Highgate, Sunny Road, Lakefield, 1501, SOUTH AFRICA

The great eggfly butterfly, *Hypolimnas bolina* (L.) is widely distributed throughout the Oriental region (Corbet & Pendlebury, 1992), with odd Afrotropical records from Kenya, Ethiopia (Larsen, 1996), Mauritius (Williams, 2007) and Madagascar (Paulian, 1956). In Seychelles, a single male was seen on Alphonse Island on the 1 April 2007 (Betts, 2009). A additional unverified Seychelles recorded was made by Hill, *et al.* (2002) on Marianne Island.

During a recent visit to the University Museum of Zoology Cambridge, UK, a further female *H. bolina* specimen from Mahé was discovered (Fig. 1-2). The specimen was collected on Mahé on 16 May 1914 by H.P. Thomasset and is clearly the subspecies *jacintha* (Drury). The specimen has a wingspan of 82mm.

Hypolimnas bolina is a well known migrant species and it appears that vagrant specimens or ephemeral populations are occasionally found in Seychelles.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Mr. R. Stebbings from the University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge for allowing me access to the collection.



Fig. 1. Female *Hypolimnas bolina jacintha* upperside from Mahé, Seychelles, collected 16 May 1914.



Fig. 2. Female *Hypolimnas bolina jacintha* underside from Mahé, Seychelles, collected 16 May 1914.

References

- Betts M. 2009. *Hypolimnas bolina* on Alphonse Island. *Phelsuma* **17**:57-58.
- Corbet A.S. & Pendlebury, H.M. 1992. *The Butterflies of the Malay Peninsula* 4th ed. (ed. J.N. Eliot). United Selangor Press SDN. BHD, Kuala Lumpur.
- Hill M.J., Matyot P., Vel T.M., Parr, S.J. & Shah N.J. 2002. Marianne. *Atoll Research Bulletin* **495**.
- Larsen T. 1996. *The Butterflies of Kenya and their Natural History*. Oxford University Press, UK.
- Paulian R. 1956. Faune de Madagascar: Insectes, Lépidoptères, Danaidae, Nymphalidae, Acraeidae. L'Institut de Recherche Scientifique Tanarive-Tsimbazaza.
- Williams J.R. 2007. *Butterflies of Mauritius* 2nd ed. (eds. O.L. Griffiths & E.A. Weaver).