

BOOK REVIEW

AN INDEX TO THE DESCRIBED LIFE HISTORIES, EARLY STAGES AND HOSTS OF THE MACROLEPIDOPTERA OF THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES AND CANADA. Harrison Morton Tietz. 1972. Published by A. C. Allyn for the Allyn Museum of Entomology, Sarasota, Fla. 1041 p. in 2 volumes. \$25.00 (Distributed by Entomological Reprint Specialists, P. O. Box 77971, Dockweiler Station, Los Angeles, California 90007.)

This monumental compilation by the late H. M. Tietz is the first available bibliography to cover hosts and life histories of all the macrolepidoptera north of Mexico since the publication of Henry Edwards' "Bibliographical catalogue of the described transformation of North American Lepidoptera" in Bulletin (35) of the U. S. National Museum in 1889.

There are really 2 important parts to this index. The first is the listing of species of macrolepidoptera in alphabetical order without regard to families. The species name is followed by the describer's name, the genus, and the family after which synonyms and described forms or abbreviations are listed. This is followed by a life history section in which references concerning that species are listed with information on what each reference contains (i.e. larva, pupa, life history, etc.), and then food plants are listed.

The other major part is the list of plants alphabetically by genus followed by the common name. Macrolepidoptera recorded from that host are then arranged alphabetically by species within families.

Other sections cover the works consulted, common names of plants, common names of insects, zoological hosts, and indefinite designations (i.e. dead leaves, ferns, grasses, vegetables, etc.) and synonyms of plant names.

Although the arrangement of information leaves much to be desired, and there are some errors and omissions, overall, this index will be a real boon to anyone working with immatures, food plants, and biologies of macrolepidoptera. It is unfortunate that nearly a quarter of a century has gone by between the completion of the work in 1950 and its publication. Mr. Allyn is to be commended for assuring publication of this index which every Lepidopterist, amateur and professional alike, should have on his bookshelf.

DALE H. HABECK
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