

LYSSA ZAMPA IN TAIWAN (LEPIDOPTERA: URANIIDAE)

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ABSTRACT.— The tropical swallowtail moth, *Lyssa zampa* (Butler) (Uraniidae), of the Philippines and other areas in Southeast Asia, and previously of doubtful occurrence in Taiwan, is recorded again from Taiwan. Notes are provided of other recent specimens from Taiwan.

KEY WORDS: *Alcides*, Australia, distribution, Euphorbiaceae, hostplants, Malaysia, Myrtaceae, Nepal, Oriental, Philippines, Southeast Asia.

The large brown moth, *Lyssa zampa* (Butler), of the family Uraniidae or swallowtail moths (see Barlow, 1982), has been of doubtful occurrence in Taiwan and usually thought to be only a stray from the Philippines. Due to earlier records, it was included in the recent catalog of Taiwan Lepidoptera (Inoue, 1992), as a possible resident. The species was originally described from Nepal, and occurs throughout tropical Southeast Asia; strays have been reported as far north as the Ryukyu Islands and Okinawa (Japan). The most recent revision of the genus (Regteren, 1953) [as *Nyctalemon*, now listed as a synonym of *Lyssa*] did not list Taiwan in the known distribution for the genus.

Since 1982, extensive survey collecting of Lepidoptera throughout Taiwan did not produce any specimens of *Lyssa*. However, in early June 1996 a specimen was found in the mountains around Liukuei, Kaohsiung Co., by Mr. W. L. Chen, a collector in Liukuei, and shown to us for identification. Following our 1996 summer survey trips in Taiwan, it was noted that a paper late last year already reported specimens of this species from central Taiwan (Yen *et al.*, 1995). Unknown to us, a specimen was also found in the Taipei Botanical Garden in August 1985 by another collector, Y. J. Peng (one wonders, however, whether this record is from a pupa brought in on some plants from tropical Southeast Asia?). The more recent specimens reported by Yen *et al.* (1995) are all from central and south-central Taiwan: Sun Moon Lake (and nearby), Nantou Co. (May 1994), and Shan-Hua, Tainan Co. (1991). The more recent records appear to confirm resident populations of this unusual tropical species in Taiwan.

Biological notes for the genus were summarized by Regteren (1953), but little is known for any of the species. The only hostplant known for *Lyssa* moths was recorded in Malaysia, where *L. zampa* was reared on "*Eugenia malaccense*" (Myrtaceae) (Corbett and Dover, 1927). Yen *et al.* (1995) consider this a misspelling of *Eudosperrum malaccense* Mull. Arg. (Euphorbiaceae). Rearings have been noted by Corbett and Dover (1927) and by Kühn (1887); however, the latter report does not have the

hostplant identified. Boisduval (1874) reported a *Lyssa* larva feeding on a palm, but this needs further confirmation. Yen *et al.* (1995) note the genus *Macaranga* (Euphorbiaceae) as a possible Taiwan host, but this remains to be established with rearings. However, the somewhat related Australian uraniid, *Alcides zodiaca* Butler, has Euphorbiaceae hostplants recorded (Forster and Sankowsky, 1995).

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