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A new species of *Ypthimoides* (Lepidoptera: Nymphalidae: Satyrinae) from the southern Atlantic forest region

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Abstract

This paper describes a new, abundant and widespread species of *Ypthimoides* Forster from the Atlantic forests of southern Brazil, Paraguay, and northern Argentina (Misiones) in open and secondary vegetation and forest edges. Adult and immature stage morphology is described, molecular data are provided, and the placement of the new species within the genus *Ypthimoides* is discussed.

Key words: Atlantic Forest, butterfly, Euptychiina, life history, molecular barcode, Poaceae

Introduction

The species-rich subfamily Satyrinae has been subject of intensive systematic studies especially in higher taxonomic levels in recent years as an attempt to clarify their poorly understood phylogeny and taxonomy (reviewed in Marín *et al.* 2011). These studies included broad phylogenetic studies focusing on higher classification (Murray & Prowell 2005; Peña *et al.* 2006, 2010), and definition of lower taxa within this subfamily, including descriptions of several new genera and species (Marín *et al.* 2011).

In southeastern Brazil, several new species have been discovered and described in recent years (*e.g.* Freitas 2004, 2007; Peña & Lamas 2005; Freitas *et al.* 2010, 2011), and several additional new taxa are awaiting description, especially in some large genera such as *Ypthimoides* Forster (Freitas 2004).

The genus *Ypthimoides* is a member of the diverse subtribe Euptychiina and was erected by Forster (1964) to include 24 species of medium sized brown butterflies, but no clear diagnosis to delimit the genus was given. Based on the original classification of Forster (1964), the genus *Ypthimoides* appeared to be an unnatural group of species (Freitas 2004), and Lamas (2004) made a major organization of the genus obtaining a list of 24 species (including two undescribed species from Peru). Since then, only one new species of *Ypthimoides* has been described (Freitas 2004).

Based on the current classification of *Ypthimoides*, most species are endemic to southeastern South America (Murray & Prowell 2005), with their maximum diversity observed in the Atlantic Forest and in the open cerrado areas of central Brazil. Accordingly, the discovery of several new species of *Ypthimoides* from this region is not unexpected with additional field and museum work.

The present paper describes a common and widespread species of *Ypthimoides* present in several forest and suburban habitats in southern Brazil, Paraguay, and northern Argentina. In addition, the morphology and natural history of the immature stages are described and the systematic position based on molecular data is briefly discussed.