



A new species of *Splendeuptychia* from the Magdalena Valley in Colombia (Lepidoptera: Nymphalidae: Satyrinae)

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Abstract

A new butterfly species *Splendeuptychia ackeryi* n. sp., is described from dry habitats in the Magdalena valley of Colombia. It most closely resembles the Ecuadorian east slope endemic *S. toynei* Willmott & Hall, 1995. Aspects of the morphology, ecology, distribution and conservation of the new species are discussed.

Key words: *Splendeuptychia*, *ackeryi*, *toynei*, *furina*, new species, butterfly, Serranía de los Yariguíes, Santander, Antioquia

Resumen

Se describe una nueva especie de mariposa *Splendeuptychia ackeryi* n. sp., hallada en los hábitats secos del valle del río Magdalena en Colombia. Esta especie parece más cercana a *S. toynei* Willmott & Hall, 1995, una especie endémica de la vertiente oriental de los Andes en Ecuador. Son discutidos aspectos de la morfología, ecología, distribución y conservación de esta especie.

Palabras clave: *Splendeuptychia*, *ackeryi*, *toynei*, *furina*, nueva especie, mariposa, Serranía de los Yariguíes, Santander, Antioquia

Introduction

The genus *Splendeuptychia* Forster, 1964 is placed in the tribe Satyrini and subtribe Euptychiina of the subfamily Satyrinae (Lamas & Viloría 2004; Peña *et al.* 2006). It includes 23 described species, with a similar number considered undescribed (Lamas & Viloría 2004; Huertas MS). The taxonomy of Euptychiina is among the most poorly known of all Neotropical butterflies due to high diversity and morphological homogeneity of its members (Peña & Lamas 2005). Euptychiina has been considered for decades by butterfly researchers to be in need of an urgent and comprehensive taxonomic review and indeed is one of the most poorly known groups of satyrines (Miller 1972; Lamas *pers. comm.*). This situation is exemplified by *Splendeuptychia*, which has only about half of its known species described (Lamas & Viloría 2004).

Among the few attempts to treat the Euptychiina are the works of Butler (1867a, 1867b, 1868), Weymer (1911), Forster (1964), Miller (1972, 1974, 1976, 1978) and D'Abbrera (1988). The last of these authors illustrated two male specimens of *Splendeuptychia* from Colombia in the BMNH labelled “*Euptychia* ?sp.” with incomplete locality data. Willmott & Hall (1995) described a new species from the Amazonian slope of the Andes in Ecuador as *S. toynei* Willmott & Hall, 1995 and noted the similarity of *S. toynei* with *S. furina*