
BOOK REVIEW: MYLOTHRIS

Citation Warren-Gash, H. *Mylothris. A revision of the Afrotropical pierid genus with descriptions of new species*. 219 pp., 43 colour plates.

Publisher Hayden Warren-Gash **ISBN** 978-1-5272-7453-2

Printer Biddles Books

Distributor NHBS Ltd (UK), 1-6 The Stables, Ford Road, Totnes, TQ95LE.

Review The genus *Mylothris* Hübner, [1819] (Lepidoptera: Pieridae) was last revised more than 75 years ago by Talbot (*Trans. Roy. Ent. Soc. Lond.*, **94**: 155-186; 1944). This author recognized 23 valid species in the genus. At the time that the current revision was done there were 69 recognized species in the genus, which has now increased to 105.

Preceding this revision the author and three collaborating workers published a paper in 2020 dealing with the systematics and evolutionary history of the genus (*Nota Lepi.* **43**: 1-14). A robust phylogenetic hypothesis, based on the analysis of six gene regions, was presented for the first time. This provided the basis for the classification of the taxa in the revision.

In preparing the revision the author studied the original descriptions of all putative taxa and attempted to trace and examine all type specimens. Large series of specimens were examined, especially those in the extensive holdings in the collection of the African Butterfly Research Institute in Nairobi. The male genitalia of all putative taxa were examined, as well as those of numerous females.

For each taxon the following information is provided: the reference to the original description, the type locality, distribution, diagnosis, a discussion (where appropriate), and the host-plants, where known. All of the taxa are illustrated in 43 excellent colour plates.

The only criticism is a number of minor errors in the text, which could have been avoided by better proof-reading. This criticism in no way detracts from a meticulous, magnificent body of work, for which the author is heartily congratulated. This revision has provided a solid foundation for further studies on the difficult *Mylothris* clade and is an absolutely essential addition to the library of anyone interested in the Afrotropical butterfly fauna.

Reviewer Mark C. Williams
lepidochrysops@gmail.com
183 van der Merwe Street, Rietondale, Pretoria, South Africa.

November, 2021.