

Project Update: February 2011

The Turquino National Park (TNP) was visited in February 2011. A total of 33 species of butterflies belonging to four families were recorded, including 12 new records to the park, half of them endemic subspecies (see list below). Twenty species were photographed to be included in a guide of TNP butterflies. Vegetation types between La Platica and Pico Cuba stations were surveyed with transects along the park main trail, ascending through the northern slope. Disturbed vegetation around villages was also sampled. Fourteen species were observed in transects. Species number increased towards lower altitude and disturbed vegetation. On the other hand, percentage of endemics was higher at best preserved vegetation at higher altitude. Teachers of two schools were contacted for programming educative talks oriented to children on next trips. Park authorities were also contacted for preparing a workshop to capacitate park workers.

Butterfly species recorded at different vegetation types of Turquino National Park in February 2011. E- endemism, *- new record to TNP, F- species photographed, vegetation types: DV- disturbed vegetation, EF- evergreen forest, RF- rainforest, CF- cloud forest, CS- cloud scrub.

Butterflies species\vegetation types

Family Hesperiiidae	<i>Astrartes cassander</i> E\DV, RF	<i>Astrartes h. habana</i> * E F\DV, EF, RF, CF
<i>Hylephila phyleaus</i> F\DV, CS	<i>Parachoranthus magdalia</i> \DV	<i>Perichares p. philetus</i> *\EF, RF
<i>Synapte m. malitiosa</i> * F\DV	<i>Urbanus dorantes santiago</i> * F\DV	<i>Urbanus proteus domingo</i> F\DV
Family Nymphalidae	<i>Agraulis vanillae insularis</i> F\RF	<i>Anetia briarea numidia</i> E\EF, RF, CF, CS
<i>Anetia cubana</i> E\EF, RF, CF, CS	<i>Archaeoprepona demophoon crassina</i> * E\DV	<i>Calisto h. herophile</i> E F\DV
<i>Calisto s. smintheus</i> E F\EF, RF, CF	<i>Colobura dirce wolcotti</i> * F\EF	<i>Dryas iulia nudeola</i> E F\DV, EF, CF
<i>Greta cubana</i> E F\RF	<i>Heliconius charithonius ramsdeni</i> F\DV	<i>Hypanartia paullus</i> *\EF
<i>Lucinia cadma sida</i> * E F\DV	<i>Lycorea cleobaea demeter</i> E\RF, CF	<i>Marpesia chiron</i> F\DV
<i>Marpesia e. eleucha</i> * E F\DV, EF	Family Papilionidae	<i>Battus polydamas cubensis</i> * F\DV
<i>Heraclides pelaus atkinsi</i> E\RF	<i>Heraclides thoas oviedo</i> * E\DV, EF	<i>Parides g. gundlachianus</i> E F\EF, RF
Family Pieridae	<i>Dismorphia cubana</i> E\RF	<i>Glutophrissa drusilla poeyi</i> \RF
<i>Melete salacia cubana</i> * E F\RF	<i>Phoebis s. sennae</i> F\DV	<i>Pyrisitia lisa euterpe</i> \DV
<i>Pyrisitia messalina</i> F\DV	Butterflies species\nectar sources	<i>Astrartes habana</i> \ <i>Pithecellobium maestrense</i>
<i>Urbanus dorantes santiago</i> \ <i>Lantana camara</i>	<i>Urbanus proteus domingo</i> \ <i>Lantana camara</i> , <i>Stachytarpheta jamaicensis</i>	<i>Calisto smintheus</i> \ <i>Stachytarpheta jamaicensis</i>
<i>Dryas iulia nudeola</i> \ <i>Lantana camara</i>	<i>Battus polydamas cubensis</i> \ <i>Lantana camara</i>	<i>Heraclides pelaus atkinsi</i> \ <i>Lantana camara</i>
<i>Heraclides thoas oviedo</i> \ <i>Lantana camara</i>	<i>Parides g. gundlachianus</i> \ <i>Pithecellobium maestrense</i> , <i>Lantana camara</i>	