

**Butterflies and Moths
of Curaçao, Aruba and Bonaire**

**Barbulètènan
di Kòrsou, Aruba i Boneiru**

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Foreword

Butterflies are a colorful and fascinating group of insects that have attracted a great deal of interest from naturalists in the past. In Curaçao, Aruba and Bonaire they can be easily observed by both young and old, whether in the city or in the countryside. Yet, most people remain totally unaware of the many colorful species that can be seen and very little is known about the local occurrence and habits of these insects.

This booklet is a popular picture guide to the butterflies of the Leeward Dutch Antilles, brimming with colorful pictures and written with a succinct, easy-to-follow text. In light of the ever growing interest in the wildlife of our islands, this book fulfills a clear need for palatable information on a much neglected part of our fauna. Reading through the booklet, from page to page, one cannot but remain impressed by the large variety of colors and patterns displayed by our butterflies.

The information presented, demonstrates the overriding dependence of the butterflies on native plants as opposed to introduced plants. A large number of native species are largely restricted to natural woodlands and many are rare. The situation for many butterflies on Bonaire and Aruba is much more critical than on Curaçao. To preserve our butterflies for the generations to come, natural woodlands must be effectively protected and, wherever possible, native plants should be given preference over introduced plants.

There can be little doubt that this issue will contribute to a greater appreciation of the animal life of our islands. Hopefully it will also contribute to a more responsible attitude towards nature. The Carmabi Foundation has been on the forefront of natural sciences and nature conservation in the Dutch Leeward Islands for five decades now. Over the years the institute has brought forth hundreds of scientific contributions and scholarly books on the natural resources of these islands. I hereby congratulate the authors and the foundation with yet another beautiful contribution to the natural history of our islands.



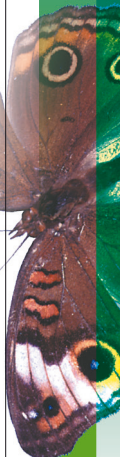
*Her Excellency, Mrs. M.D. Silberie,
Minister of Education and Culture of the Netherlands Antilles*

Prólogo

Barbulètè ta un grupo di insekto kolorido i fasinante ku a atraé hopi interes sientífiko den pasado. Na Kòrsou, Aruba i Boneiru ta fásil pa un i tur opservá nan, sea ku ta den siudat, bario, kunuku, na playa òf den mondi. No opstante esaki, ta poko hende ta duna nan mes kuenta di e tantísimo barbulètè bunita ku tin na nos islanan, i ta mashá poko ta konosí di e kustumbenan lokal di e bestianan akí.

E nivel di interes den nos naturalesa ta oumentando dia pa dia kada bes mas. E buki aki ta un buki tokante barbulètènan di Kòrsou, Aruba i Boneiru ku hopi pòrtrèt kolorido i ku ta duna splikashon den palabranan simpel. Den esaki, e buki aki opviamente lo sirbi e nesidad pa mas informashon simpel i interesante tokante un aspekto di nos founa ku a keda hopi neglishá. Lesando e buki aki, página pa página, e lesadó lo keda impreshoná di e variedat grandi di patronchi i koló ku nos barbulètènan ta demonstrá.

E informashon presentá ta muestra ariba e gran dependensha di barbulètè di matanan indígenan na lugá di mata introdusí. Un gran kantidat di barbulètè ta prinsipalmente limi-



tá na mondi natural i hopi sorto ta skars. E situashon pa hopi barbulètè na Boneiru i Aruba ta asta mas krítiko ku na Kòrsou. Pa preservá e founa interesante i kolorido aki pa e generashonnan binidero, lo mester protehá mondinan, i kaminda por, duna preferensha na mata indígena riba esnan introdusi.

No tin ningun duda ku e publikashon aki lo kontribuí na un mihó apresio di e founa di nos islanan. Ta di spera ku e lo kontribuí tambe na aktitut i kondukta mas responsabel pa ku nos patrimonio natural. Ya pa sinku dékada Fundashon Carmabi ta den vanguardia pa siensia natural i protekshon di medio ambiente ariba nos islanan. Den transkurso di añanan, e instituto a bini ku sentenáres di publikashon i buki riba nos rikesanan natural. Ku esaki mi kier felisita e outornan i alabes e fundashon ku ya un mas kontribushon bunita na konosementu di e historia natural di nos islanan.



*Su Ekselensia, Sra. M.D. Silberie,
Minister di Edukashon i Kultura di Antia Hulandes*

About this book and usage of technical terms

This book is intended as a popular picture guide to butterflies and moths of Curaçao, Aruba and Bonaire. It is not designed as a field guide for biologists but is primarily intended to stimulate the interest of young conservationists, amateur naturalists, and the general public. To this end, the text is presented both in English and the native Papiamentu. Papiamentu spelling and usage differs between the three islands. The Papiamentu in this book is based on: Dikshonario Papiamentu – Hulandes, 2nd revised edition, by S. M. Joubert, 1999, and Spèlchèk version 1.0, by Fundashon pa Planifikashon di Idioma, 2001.

The information and photos presented in this picture book are based on studies conducted by the authors during the period 1996-2000, two papers of which have already been published in the *Caribbean Journal of Science*. While this book presents some general information on butterfly biology, technical information and details have been kept to a minimum and should be sought elsewhere. Useful sources of supplemental information have been listed under "Further Reading". While the focus of this book is on the butterflies, a few striking or colorful moths are also featured. We present here general knowledge, including the current distribution of the species thus far recorded and welcome additional information.

At present there are no words to distinguish butterflies from moths in the Papiamentu language. Both animals are simply called "barbulètè". We here follow Simons (1868) and use the terms "barbulètè djanochi" and the term "mòt" to refer specifically to moths. Both are expressions derived from the Dutch language. In the text we use the word "barbulètè" to refer only to butterflies and not moths. For the striking group of moths known as "hawkmoths" in English, we here use the term "barbulètè gabilan". In Dutch this group is known as the "arrow-tailed butterflies" based on the "horn" or "spine" found on the hind part of the abdomen of the caterpillars of these species.

Local names for butterflies and moths also do not exist in Papiamentu. However, previous studies have shown that assigning relevant common names is essential for butterflies to be recognized and appreciated by the general public. As an aid to the development of an awareness of butterflies in the ABC islands, relevant Papiamentu names have

been coined for all species pictured, and are preceded in the text by one or more English common name(s). The Papiamentu names were based on either color or appearance of the butterfly, its (local) host plant or existing English common names. Many English common names were adopted from one of the following sources: Carter (1992), Covell (1984), Gerberg and Arnett (1989), Haxaire (1995), Miller (1992) and Stiling (1986). Species for which no published English common names exist or could be found were given a common name based on the widespread practice of using the species name as a basis for the common name. These species have been indicated by an astrisk. Letters placed between parentheses behing each species' Papiamentu common name indicate for which of the three islands each species can presently be confirmed by the authors.

Common names may vary from region to region and country to country. Scientific names are, however, standardized according to the system of Linnaeus and the International Rules of Zoological Nomenclature in which each name for a particular butterfly is composed of two parts. The first part is called the "genus" and indicates a group of related species to which a particular butterfly belongs, while the second part of the name is called the "species" and that name differentiates it from the others within its group. If the species has been further differentiated into a number of subspecies (or loosely defined, "races"), then a third name (subspecies) may be added to indicate this. The use of subspecies names is a matter for the specialist and has not been adopted in this picture guide, even though it is a practice often encountered in the scientific literature. Occasionally, there are species that may differ slightly in appearance (color, markings, etc.). These differences may due to environmental differences (for example, available foodplants or rainfall differences) or these butterflies may be sufficiently different to warrant a new description. There are a few such species in the list that warrant further study and documentation.

In the English language text, plant common names in English are followed by scientific names. If no common English name is given, then the scientific name comes first, followed by the local Papiamentu name, if such exists. To avoid unnecessary duplication, in the Papiamentu text only local common names are used, unless the plant has no local common name and the scientific name had to be used. The same protocol is applied in reporting butterfly names in the Papiamentu text. The current practice in Papiamentu is not to capitalize common names of plants and animals, while in English the practice is to capitalize, but differently for plants and butterflies. Maps of the islands show the approximate locations of the principal sites reported in the text.

The sizes of the butterflies presented varies from the large hawkmoths with wing spans of up to 15 cm, to the smallest lycaenids with wingspans of less than 2 cm. Butterfly size may also differ within the same species depending on the time of year and other factors influencing how well the specimen grew as a caterpillar. A scale bar equal to 1 centimeter in length is provided along with the principal image of each species to give a measure of its size. Most specimens shown here were photographed with a blue background. As a consequence, the natural colors of some of the more translucent specimens as shown are slightly distorted. In several cases in which male and female butterflies differ greatly in appearance, both sexes are shown. The ventral (bottom) side of the wings are also shown for selected species.

This picture guide would not have been possible in its present form without the willing cooperation of many individuals. Special thanks go to Leon Pors for his untiring efforts and devotion in the preparation of the images. Peter van der Wolf shot most slides while

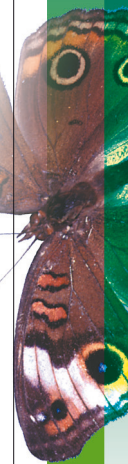


Foto Studio Tramm also did several. Michiel Koomen and Patrick Scannell contributed several species and or locality records for Curaçao, while Ans Mezas-Hummelinck drew a butterfly for which the specimen was too damaged to yield a useful photograph. We thank Brian Leysner and the remaining staff and students of the CARMABI Foundation for bringing several beautiful specimens to the authors' attention, and Myrna Dovale as well as Cathleen Giterson for correcting our Papiamentu usage. We further thank the publisher Trio-Actief for their professional advice, cooperation and a rapid turnaround of edited drafts of the manuscript. The authors are grateful for all the help received but accept sole responsibility for all remaining defects and shortcomings. Major financial support for this publication was received from the Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds Nederlandse Antillen en Aruba. Additional contributions were made by Banco di Caribe and the Percy Henriquez Fonds.

This book is dedicated to the children of Curaçao, Aruba and Bonaire.

Adolphe O. Debrot & Jacqueline Y. Miller
September 2004

Meta di e Buki Aki i Uso di Tèrminologia Tékniko

E buki aki ta intenshoná komo un guia general pa identifikashon di barbulètènan di Kòrsou, Aruba i Boneiru. E buki aki ta primeramente pa stimulá interes di públiko, bishitantenan i tur ku stima nos islanan pa paga mas tinu riba nos barbulètènan, un grupo di insekto fasinante. Pa e buki aki por satisfasé e metanan aki, e tin teksto tantu na ingles komo na papiamentu. Ortografia i uso di papiamentu ta distinto ariba kada di e tres islanan. A basa e papiamentu den e buki aki ariba: Dikshonario Papiamentu – Hulandes, di dos edishon, revisá i oumentá, pa S. M. Joubert, 1999, i Spèlchèk vershon 1.0, pa Fundashon pa Planifikashon di Idioma, 2001.

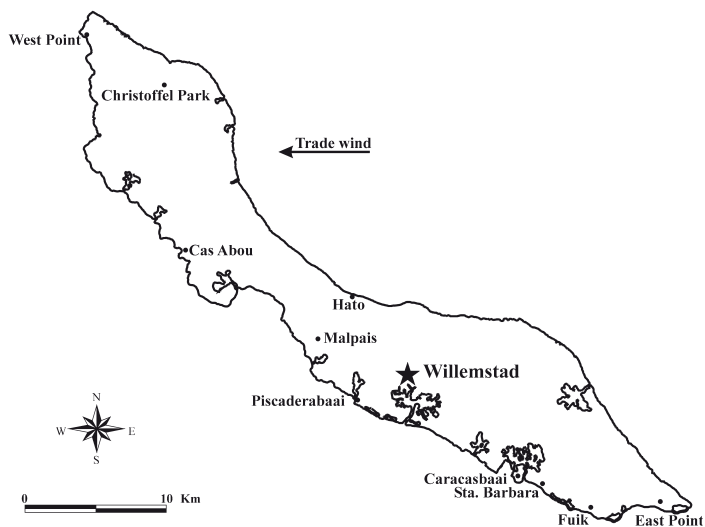
E informashon i pòrtrènan presentá ta basá ariba estudionan hasí pa e outornan prinsipalmente entre añanan 1996 i 2000, dos artíkulo di kua a paresé kaba den *Caribbean Journal of Science*. Miéntas ku e buki aki ta duna algun informashon tokante e siklo di bida di barbulètè, presentashon di detaye i informashon tékniko a keda na un mínimo. Pa esnan interesá den mas informashon, diferente fuente adishonal ta mensioná den e lista di "Literatura Adishonal". Ounke ku e énfasis di e buki ta ariba barbulètè "di dia" (i.e. "dagvlinders"), algun dje barbulètènan djanochi (i.e. "nachtvlinders") mas kolorido, tambe ta keda presentá.

Aktualmente no tin palabra distinto na papiamentu pa e barbulètènan ku nan ta yama "mot" i esnan ku nan ta yama "vlinder". Pa tur dos simplemente ta usa e palabra "barbulètè". Aki nos ta sigui Simons (1868) i usa e palabranan "barbulètè djanochi" i "mòt" pa referi na e asina yamá "nacht vlinders" òf "mot". Den e teksto nos ta usa e palabra "barbulètè" únikamente pa e barbulètènan "di dia" òf pues "vlinders". Pa e grupo di mòt ku yama "hawkmoth" na ingles nos ta bini ku e palabra "barbulètè gabilan". Na hulandes e grupo aki ta konosí komo "pijlstaartvlinders" debí na e spiña òf kachu ku tin parti patras riba lomba di e bichinan di e sortonan konserní.

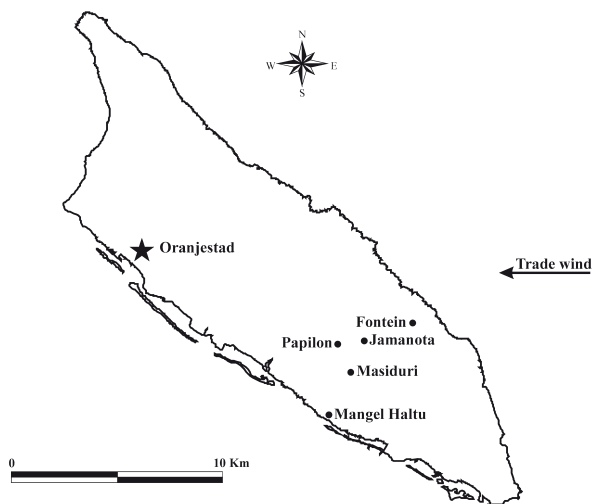
Nòmbernan komun pa barbulètè tampoko no ta eksistí na papiamentu. Estudionan ta mostra ku ta esensial pa tin nòmber relevante den e lenga lokal pa laiko i públiko general por rekonosé i apresíá e diferente sortonan. Pues, pa yuda desaroyá e konosementu i konsenshi ambiental na nos islanan, aki ta proponé nòmbernan na papiamentu

pa tur barbulètè den e buki aki. E nòmber(nan) komun ingles ta bini dilanti e nòmber papiamentu. Nòmbernan na papiamentu ta basá ariba aspektonan manera koló i apariensia di e barbulètè en kuestion, su mata larval òf e nòmber komun ingles. Nòmbernan komun na ingles a bini entre otro for di un di e siguiente fuentenan: Carter (1992), Covell (1984), Gerberg and Arnett (1989), Haxaire (1995), Miller (1992), i Stiling (1986). Pa sortonan ku no ta tin nòmber komun na ingles, e teksto ta duna un nòmber komun basá ariba e práktika general di usa e nòmber komun a base di e nòmber latin. Esakinan ta indiká pa medio di un signo di strea. Letranan entre parentesis tras di e nòmber na papiamentu ta indiká pa kua di e tres islanan e outonan por konfirmá kada sorto aktualmente.

Nòmber lokal por varia di region pa region, i di pais pa pais. Pero nòmbernan científiko ta standardisá segun e sistema di e científiko Carolus Linnaeus i reglanan internashonal di nomenklatura zoológiko den kua kada sorto di barbulètè tin un nòmber ku ta konsistí di dos parti. E promé parti ta e nòmber genérico i ta indiká na ki grupo di sortonan relatá e barbulètè en kuestion ta pertenesé. E di dos parti ta diferenshá e sorto ei for di e otronan den e grupo. Si un sorto den kurso di su eksistensha na mundu a diferenshá den diferente supsorto òf, na moda di papia, diferente "rasa", ta pone aserka un di tres i último nòmber pa indiká esaki. Nòmbernan di "rasa" (pues supsorto) ta un asunto pa speshalista i no ta usá den e guia aki, ounke ku den literatura ta kontra ku nan regularmente. De bes en kuando tin sorto ku ta un tiki diferente den nan aparensa (koló, pintura, etc.). E diferenshanan aki por ta debí na faktornan ambiental (por ehempel, diferensha den kuminda of kantidat di áwaseru) òf por ta ku e barbulètènan ta sufisientement otro pa nos por konsideránan di ta dos sorto distinto. Tin algun sorto riba e lista ku ta meresé mas estudio i dokumentashon pa ku e posibilidat aki.



Map of Curaçao showing the principal sites mentioned in the text
Mapa di Kòrsou mustRANDO e sitionan prinsipal ku ta menshoná den e teksto



*Map of Aruba showing the principal sites mentioned in the text
Mapa di Aruba mustrando e sitonan prinsipal ku ta mensioná den e teksto*

Den e teksto ingles, nòmber komun di mata na ingles ta sigui pa nòmber científiko. Si no tin nòmber komun na ingles, ta usa nòmber científiko, sigui pa e nòmber lokal na papiamentu, si esei ta eksistí. Pa evitá duplikashon inesasio, den e teksto na papiamentu ta usa nòmbernan lokal so, ku eksepshon di e kasonan den kua no tin nòmber lokal p'e mata. Den kasonan asina ta usa e nòmber científiko den teksto di papiamentu. Ta usa e mes un protokòl pa indiká nòmber di barbulètè. Na papiamentu e práktika aktual ta pa no kapitalisá nòmbernan komun di mata ni bestia, miéntras ku na ingles sí ta kapitalisá nòmbernan komun, pero di un forma distinto pa mata i barbulètè. Mapanan di kada isla ta mustra e sitonan prinsipal ku ta mensioná den e teksto.

Tamañonan di e barbulètènan presentá ta varia entre esnan èkstra grandi manera diferente barbulètè gabilan ku un span total di ala di 15 cm òf mas, i miembronan chikí di e famia Lycaenidae, ku tin diferente sorto ku no ta surpasá 3 cm di hanchura total. Tamaño final di barbulètè tambe ta dependé di temporada di aña i otro faktor ku ta influenshá kresementu durante e período larval. Ta indiká tamaño di kada barbulètè pa medio di un bara di eskala di un sentimeter ariba e imagen prinispal di kada sorto. A saka pòtrèt di mayoria di e barbulètènan ariba un papel blou. P'esei e koló di algun di e pòtrènan di barbulètè ku ala fini a sali dimas blou, i no ta kuadra kompletamente ku e koló natural. Den sierto kaso den kua barbulètè machu i embra ta parse hopi diferente, nos ta mustra tur dos sekso. Pa sortonan selektá ta mustra tambe e parti abou dje ala.

E guia ilustrá aki lo no tabata posibel sin e kooperashon di hopi diferente hende i instansha. Un danki spesial ta bai pa Sr. Leon Pors pa su esfuerso i dedikashon den preparashon final di e imágennan di barbulètè. Peter van der Wolf a saka mayoria di e slides, miéntras ku Foto Studio Tramm tambe a saka diferente di nan. Michiel Koomen i Patrick Scannell a yuda dor di registrá nan opservashonnan, miéntras ku Ans Mezas-Hummelink



Map of Bonaire showing the principal sites mentioned in the text
Mapa di Boneiru mustrandu e sitonan prinsipal ku ta mensioná den e teksto

a pinta un barbulètè di kua e ehemplar tabata muchu dañá pa duna un portrèt nechí. Nos ta yama Brian Leysner, i demas staf i studiantenan di Fundashon CARMABI mashá danki pa a mustra nos diferente barbulètè skars, i tambe Myrna Dovale i Cathleen Giterson pa a repasá e teksto di papiamentu. Kompania di imprenta Trio Actief a yuda ku nan konseho profesional i nan trabou redakshonal efikas. Komo outor nos ta sumamente gradisido pa tur e ayudo ku nos a risibí di e diferente persona i instanshanan, pero ta nos ta karga responsabilidadat final pa tur defekto i imperfekshon ku a resta.

Finansiamentu prinsipal pa publikashon di e buki aki a bini di Prins Bernhard Fonds. Nos ta sumamente agradésido p'esei. Tambe nos kier gradisí Percy Henriquez Fonds, i Banco di Caribe pa nan kontribushonnan supstansial pa realisá e publikashon aki.

E buki aki ta dediká na hubentut di Kòrsou, Aruba i Boneiru.

Adolphe O. Debrot & Jacqueline Y. Miller
septèmber 2004

Butterflies of Curaçao, Aruba and Bonaire, and their Origins

Here we present images and information on a total of 58 species of butterflies and 20 moths recorded thus far from the ABC islands. The information on the butterflies presented provides a fairly complete representation and knowledge of the total fauna. However, our knowledge of moths is very limited, and the fauna no doubt numbers in the hundreds of species. Of the moths currently recorded, only a few striking ones have been featured.



On the islands, many species have very localized distributions. Each different location or habitat that was visited often yielded a species not (or just sporadically) seen elsewhere. This, combined with the fact many areas of the islands have not yet been visited, suggests that with further study more butterflies remain to be found on all three islands.

A bit more than a century ago, Snellen recorded some 68 species of butterflies for the island of Curaçao, the majority of which have not been found during our studies. Whether the same species will ever be found again on Curaçao, Aruba or Bonaire, only the future can tell. It may be that most of the species that disappeared were already rare a century ago and may have since been extirpated. They could also represent localized populations or sporadic strays from the continent and eventually resurface again. However, an analysis of species shows that the species that disappeared were largely characteristic of moister and less disturbed habitats than at present. At one time, low-lying areas of these islands such as around the Schottegat in Curaçao, and other large drainage systems, where groundwater levels are high, must have supported dense rich forests year-round, unlike anything we know today. In such areas, water was readily accessible and obviously these were the first areas to be deforested by colonists for orchards and plantations. Deforestation reached its peak at about the beginning of the 20th century, due to the combined effects of planting, livestock grazing and felling of trees for boat building and charcoal production. The disappearance of the last remaining patches of virgin lowland forest about that time may also have caused the disappearance of the species recorded by Snellen in the mid-1800s (Debrot et al. 1999).

Due to the proximity of Venezuela, the butterfly fauna of Curaçao, Aruba and Bonaire, in general, is more closely related to that of the mainland than to those of the Greater and Lesser Antilles island chains. As a consequence, several of the species found in Curaçao and pictured in this text are not typically included in texts that treat the butterflies of the West Indies. Aruba and Bonaire have a similar but also definitely poorer butterfly fauna than Curaçao, due to their more inferior and limited vegetations (Miller et al. 2003).

Barbulètènan di Kòrsou, Aruba i Boneiru i nan Orígen

Aki nos ta presentá imágen i informashon tokante 58 sortu di barbulètè i 20 barbulètè djanochi pa Kòrsou, Aruba i Boneiru. E barbulètènan (di dia) ku nos ta presentá ta duna un bon indikashon di e sortonan mas abundante ariba e islanan. Esaki si no ta e kaso ku e barbulètènan djanochi, ku indudablemente ta konta vários shen sortu. Di esakinan nos a inkluí únikamente algun di esnan mas remarkabel. Kompará ku e barbulètènan, hopi menos ta konosí di e barbulètènan djanochi.

Riba e islanan tin hopi sortu ku tin un distribushon hopi lokalísá. Durante e transkurso di nos estudionan hopi bia, sitio òf habitat nobo a resultá di tin un òf mas sortu ku no ta tin otro lugá òf ku tabata skars otro lugá. Esaki ta indiká ku e distribushon di hopi sortu ta mashá lokal. Esaki, kombiná ku e echo ku no a hasi kolekshon intensivo na hopi lugá, ta nifiká ku indudablemente lo tin vários mas barbulètè pa bin diskubrí na nos islanan den futuro.

Mas òf ménos un siglo pasá, un investigador, pader Snellen, a dokumentá presensha di algun 68 diferente barbulètè na Kòrsou, mayoria di kua no ta parse di ta presente mas. Por ta ku hopi sortu ku no a haña den e estudionan presente, ya tabata skars e tempunan ayá kaba, i ku awor nan simplemente a kaba di dispersé for dje isla. Por ta tambe ku nan



ta representá populashonnan lokal ku lo bin diskubrí algun dia òf ta trata di bestianan ku sporádkamente sa waya bini for di kontinente, i ku un dia lo mira nan atrobe.

Pero anáalisis di e sortonan ta muestra ku e sortonan ku nan a kontra kuné shen aña pasá, i ku no ta kontra kuné awor, tabata sortonan di mondi ku ménos disturbio i mas humedat ku awor. Den pasado, áreanan rònt di Schottegat i otro sistema di roi grandi, kaminda awa den suela ta hopi, lo mester tabata kubrí ku mondi será i bèrdè durante hinter aña, kontrali na e situashon aktual. E áreanan aki, ku tabata riku na awa, lógikamente lo tabata e promé áreanan pa pèrdè nan vegetashon original pa habri kaminda pa plantamentu di kunuku i hòfi. Destrukshon di mondinan tabata maksimal na kumisamentu di siglo 20, pa e kombinashon di plantamentu, krio di bestia, kapmentu di palu pa konstrukshon di boto i pa produkshon di karbon. Eliminashon di e último pidanan di e tipo di vegetashon vírgen ei, na fin di siglo 19, lo por ta e kousa ku hopi sorto ku Snellen a dokumentá a bai perdí (Debrot et al. 1999).

Debí na e echo ku Venezuela ta serka, e barbulètènan di Kòrsou Aruba i Boneiru en general, ta mas relatá na esnan di Venezuela ku na esnan di e otro islanan di Karibe. Un konsekuensha di esaki ta ku hopi sorto den e buki aki normalmente no ta inklui den tekstonan tokante barbulètènan di Karibe. Aruba i Boneiru tin un founa di barbulètè básikamente similar pero tambe definitivamente mas pober ku Kòrsou, debí na e echo ku nan vegetashon tambe ta hopi mas limitá i pober (Miller et al. 2003).

Observing Butterflies

Recognizing butterflies and moths and studying them is great fun for all, and can be done practically anywhere; from your back porch, during a walk, in the city or in the countryside and even at the beach. All that is needed is some way of identifying these insects seen in flight or at rest on flowers and plants and, if desired, a means of recording any observations for future reference. Many butterflies, especially the large ones, fly very rapidly and are wary, but often may return repeatedly to the same plant at intervals during a given day. Therefore, to observe them it is often most efficient to sit still near a nectar source and wait until they fly past or land nearby. As many of the butterfly species of the ABC islands are very rare and limited to small, isolated and vulnerable populations, collection of rare butterflies should not be pursued or promoted. As with other insects, butterflies and moths are also part of the food chain, and if too many butterflies are collected, a species could be locally extirpated.

Opsevashon di Barbulètè

Siña konosé nos barbulètènan ta un dibèrtishon salú pa grandi i chikí. Tambe ta algu ku por hasi tur kaminda, sea ku bo ta sintá ariba stupi patras, durante kaminata den mondi, den siudat, òf asta na playa. E úniko kos ku ta nesario ta un forma pa identifká e barbulètènan segun na bula pasa òf sinta ariba mata òf flor, i un forma pa dokumentá e opsevashonnan. Hopi barbulètè ta hopi rápido i skiu pero ta bishitá e mesun flornan periódikamente durante día. P'esei hopi bia ta mas efisiente pa sinta ketu banda di e flornan ku nan ta bishitá, i warda te ora ku nan bolbe. Mirando ku hopi di e barbulètènan di nos islanan ta mashá skars i limitá na kantidatnan chikí, no ta bon pa promové kolekshon di e sortonan ku ta skars. Mes kos ku serka otro insekto, barbulètè ta forma parti di e reda alimentario i si kolektá di mas barbulètè ta posibel pa kaba ku un sorto kompletamente.





1,0 cm

9,4 cm

1) Monarch; Monarka (C, A, B)

Danaus plexippus

Range: World-wide with the exception of the arctic

This large butterfly is common throughout the year. It is especially abundant in populated areas, including downtown Willemstad, Oranjestad and Kralendijk, and areas with otherwise impoverished vegetation. Its native larval host plant is *Calotropis procera* (katuna di seda), a common weedy species of roadsides and other disturbed areas. The ornamental *Asclepias curassavica* (kònchi ku skòter), which is not a native plant, is known elsewhere as a larval host plant. In North America, Australia, and elsewhere, this species is known to undertake long-distance migrations. The species has been seen in the most isolated areas such as at Hato plains, Sta. Barbara and Fuik in Curaçao, Slagbaai and Klein Bonaire in Bonaire, and on the top of the Jamanota in Aruba.

E barbulètè aki ta un di e grandinan mas abundante di nos islanan i ta kontra kuné práktikamente hinter aña. Komun den áreanan poblá manera sentro di Punda na Kòrsou, Playa na 'Ruba i Playa na Boneiru, i áreanan di vegetashon pober. Su mata larval lokal ta katuna di seda ku normalmente ta un mata di áreanan afektá pa hende. E mata di kurá kònchi ku skòter, ku no ta un mata indígena, tambe ta konosí komo mata larval. Na otro parti di mundu, manera ariba kontinente norte Amerikano i na Australia e sorto ta konosí pa buelonan di migrashon di distansha largu. A mira e sorto aki den áreanan hopi aislá, manera por ehempel kosta di Hato, Sta. Bárbara i Fùik na Kòrsou, Slabai i Klein Bonaire na Boneiru i riba tòp di Jamanota na 'Ruba.



1,0 cm

6,6 cm

2) Soldier; Sòldá (C)

Danaus eresimus

Range: Texas-Peru, West Indies

Observed in Curaçao in December and January, during the peak of the rainy season. Seen at various locations (West Point, Cas Abou, Malpais, Savonet) but this uncommon species was only locally numerous. This butterfly flies similar to the Monarch, but the darker wing color easily separates the two species.

A topa kuné na Kòrsou únìkamente den lunanan di desèmber i yanüari durante temporada di áwaseru. A mira algun ehemplar di e sorto inkomun aki na vários lugá manera Wèstpùnt, Cas Abou, Malpais i Sabaneta. E barbulètè aki tin e mes patronchi di buelo ku e monarka, pero su koló di ala mas skur ta separá e dos sortonan.





3) Sweet Oil; Disturbed Tigerwing; Barbulètè yeye tiger (C)

Mechanitis polymnia

Range: Mexico-Amazon

This species is very rare. It was seen only in October and November at one site with high Manchineel trees (*Hippomane mancinella*) at Piscaderabaai, Curaçao. It showed a preference for flying in the shade.

E sortu aki tabata sùfamamente skars. Ta únikamente na òktober i novèmber a mira e sortu aki na Kòrsou, na un sitio ku pal'i mansaliña haltu na Boka di Piskadera. E sortu ta preferá di bula den sombra.

