

Uncertain and problematic data in the lepidoptera fauna of Romania (Insecta: Lepidoptera).

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Abstract: The purpose of this article is less scientific! Erroneous data about the lepidopteran fauna of Romania is presented based on specimens existing in different collections (with possible mislabeling, misdeterminations, lost collections) and also data about species that were once published in different journals. The possible causes of these erroneous data are that many old collections were lost in destroyed cases. In the 20th century there were two world wars, changes of political regimes, etc., which brought irreparable losses to entomology in the country. Several old collections from the 19th century and the first part of the 20th century were lost. In the past, especially in the 19th century, entomology was somewhat different from today's, but entomologists were also more multilateral as many dealt with two or three orders of insects at once and for this reason they probably sometimes published erroneous data or incorrectly determined species! Data on a series of old collections (some lost), with biographical data on those who compiled them are presented. The status of species removed from the faunal list of Romania is discussed, such as: *Polyommatus eros*, *Aricia hyacinthus* (? *nicias*), *Hipparchia alcyone* etc., existing in different collections, but also species that have never been included in the list of Romanian lepidoptera, being considered totally erroneous data, such as: *Papilio alexanor*, *Zerynthia rumina*, *Euphydryas cynthia*, *Colias phicomone*, *Zygaena fausta*, *Eriogaster neogena*, *Chelis daturica* etc. Nevertheless, they were published in the literature and should be known as curiosities! As well as some exaggerations, such as the false publication of a species as new to science as *Latoia romaniae*! We also include data on species present in Romania, but with very unlikely locations published in the literature. Data on little-known collections in the country is also included, such as the Temessy Milán collection from Zagon, Covasna. There is also unknown data in the literature of extinct species from the Romanian fauna, *Parnassius apollo*.

Key words: Lepidoptera, Romania, old unknown collections, causes of uncertain data, biography, uncertain data, uncertain publications, *Parnassius apollo* new data, etc.

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