

West Virginia University, Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station, Catalog of Lepidoptera in the West Virginia Collection, 2014 A&M 5184

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Biographical / Historical

The West Virginia University Arthropod Collection had its origins with the earliest Experiment Station and faculty entomologists. These included Andrew Delmar Hopkins (1890 to 1902), W. E. Rumsey (1898 to 1935), Fred L. Brooks (early 1900s), and L. M. Peairs (1912 to 1952). From 1952 to 1970, the primary entomologist at WVU was Carl K. Dorsey. During that period, three entomologists served briefly on the staff, H. L. Hansen (1955 to 1958), H. M. Kulman (1958 to 1962) and W. W. Neel (1963 to 1966). Most of these individuals added material to the Collection, but primarily Coleoptera, not Lepidoptera. When Dr. Linda Butler arrived at West Virginia University, the Lepidoptera collection consisted of around 100 specimens.

Scope and Contents

Compact disc containing the Catalog of Lepidoptera in the West Virginia University Arthropod Collection, created by Linda Butler and John S. Strazanac, both faculty of the Entomology Department at West Virginia University. Lepidoptera is a large order of insects that includes moths and butterflies. The catalog is based on a database which includes 23,999 records for 1,109 species comprising 551 genera in 34 families. All 55 counties in West Virginia are represented by at least four Lepidoptera specimens. The compact disk contains the following digital files: 538-page PDF and Microsoft Word versions of the catalog, and both the tab-delimited ASCII text file and the dBase V file versions of the database on which the catalog is based. See Historical Note for more information on the background of the catalog.

The catalog is subdivided by family, with each species having an entry. Each entry includes the species name in binomial nomenclature, followed by the last name of the person who described the species, then a number corresponding to the Hodges *Check List* publication (see below for citation). If the last name of the person who described the species is in parentheses, the species has been moved out of the genus where it was originally placed by the author into another genus. Each species listed will have one or more specimens, for which the following information is recorded: county where collected, additional location information (if any), date of collection, and name of collector (if any).

Hodges, R.W. et al. (editors) 1983. *Check List of the Lepidoptera of America North of Mexico*. E. W. Classey, London, UK. 284 pp.

Keywords

Butterflies