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Matthew J.W. Cock

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The Lepidoptera collection of the Natural History Museum, London (BMNH) includes material labelled from Trinidad collected by R. du B. Evans. In preparing my account of the Hesperidae of Trinidad (this issue and previous papers), I have seen occasional specimens in the BMNH of a small number of such specimens, mainly of the larger species of Hesperidae. The ones I have seen do not have original locality labels, but were labelled undated from Trinidad, with the collector (R. du B. Evans) and the BMNH Accession Number (1934-29) on a single printed label. W.H. Evans curated the Hesperidae in the BMNH collection as coming from Trinidad and included them in his listings of the BMNH holdings (Evans 1955 and earlier volumes). Until recently I had no reason to question their provenance (e.g. Cock 2003).

I recently read Bristow's (1991) revision of the genus *Opsiphanes* (Nymphalidae, Brassolini). In this, Bristow noted R. du B. Evans specimens labelled Trinidad in the BMNH, which seemed unlikely to have come from the island. Specifically he noted one specimen of *O. tamarindi mesomerista* Bristow labelled Trinidad, and one of *O. quiteria badius* Stichel labelled Campo Castillo, Trinidad. Neither species is otherwise known from Trinidad, while the two subspecies are restricted to further west in Venezuela, Colombia and Panama. As the late Julius Boos pointed out in Bristow (1991), Campo Castillo is not a recognised Trinidad locality, and Bristow concluded that both these specimens were mislabelled as coming from Trinidad.

Some internet searching revealed that R. du B. Evans was Ralph du Boulay Evans, who played cricket in the UK, 1912–1914, trained as a geologist at Cambridge University, served in the army in World War I, and worked as a geologist after the war until his death in a car crash in California in 1929 (Sandberg 2013, Wikipedia 2013).

His collection of South American butterflies and moths was donated to the BMNH in 1934, together with two notebooks, now in the BMNH Entomological Library. I examined these notebooks recently. One covered the period December 1921 to April 1922, and is a list of captures of butterflies and moths in Trinidad. In December 1921 Evans collected in Port of Spain (mostly Chancellor Road), but from late December collecting was all in Central and Southern Trinidad (Brasso, Tabaquite, Point Fortin, Piparo Road, West Brasso Junction, Williamsville, west of Moruga, Devils Woodyard, Mayo Village, Cunapo Southern Road, Sangre Grande, Tortuga? Almandez blocks, Dunmore Hill, Morne Diablo Road, Rio Claro Forest). The list covers 514 butterflies and 508

moths, making a total of 1,022, although some were of more than one individual of the same species.

The second notebook covers 1923–1925 and sequentially lists captures (many of them moths at light) near Lake Maracaibo, western Venezuela (including Colon District to the south-west of Maracaibo City and Campo Castillo), followed by a spell at Willemstad, Curaçao, in 1924, and then another in Venezuela at Mene Grande on the east side of Lake Maracaibo. It seems a reasonable assumption that these were all field locations connected with Evans' work as an oil geologist. This notebook has 1,041 entries, but they are not broken down into butterflies and moths as they were in the Trinidad note books.

Very few butterflies and no moths were identified in either notebook and most are given as local names from Trinidad, e.g. 'the Trinidad Morpho', comparisons with British butterflies and moths, or by family, often qualified by an adjective, e.g. grey hawkmoth.

I also examined the BMNH accession records for this donation (BMNH Accession Number 1934-29), and learned that the material was recorded as all from Trinidad, comprising 1,359 moths, and 831 butterflies in two lots of 735 and 96, making a total of 2,190. From these numbers, which are a close match to the total number of records in both notebooks, and the labelling of *O. quiteria badius* from 'Campo Castillo, Trinidad', when in fact Campo Castillo is near Maracaibo, it seems rather likely that Evans' entire collection was labelled as coming from Trinidad, when in fact only half did. Hence, all R. du B. Evans material in the BMNH labelled Trinidad with no locality must be considered doubtful and could equally be from western Venezuela (as for the two *Opsiphanes* spp. mentioned above) or Curaçao.

Accordingly, I reviewed my notes on Hesperidae material in the BMNH. These are not comprehensive, and for many sections of Hesperidae, in the case of specimens labelled simply Trinidad, I would not normally have noted the name of the collector unless it was an unusual specimen. Nevertheless, I have noted that R. du B. Evans material in the BMNH includes specimens of *Astraptus apastus* (Cramer), *Narcosius parisi* (Williams), *Nascus paullinae* (Sepp), *Cymaenes tripunctus theogenis* (Capronnier) and *Aides dysoni* Godman. All of these species are known from Trinidad from the work of other collectors, apart from the last. The inclusion of *A. dysoni* in the Trinidad list is based on a single specimen in the BMNH collected by R. du B. Evans, listed by W.H. Evans (1955) and treated by Cock (1982, 2003). In 2003, I wrote 'There is no reason to doubt the validity of

this record, but confirmation would be desirable' (Cock 2003). Now, the record should be considered suspect and *A. dysoni* not considered to occur in Trinidad until other specimens may be located.

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Matthew J.W. Cock

m.cock@cabi.org; mjwcock@btinternet.com
