

Recent Records of the Genus *Dynastor* (Lepidoptera, Nymphalidae, Satyrinae, Brassolini), in Trinidad, W.I.

The genus *Dynastor* is represented by three species. Two species – *Dynastor macrosiris* (Westwood) and *D. darius* (Fabricius) – are found in Trinidad but neither is regularly recorded (Barcant 1970). The adults, which possess vestigial proboscides, are not known to feed and cannot be attracted by fruit baits, which are effective for most Brassolini. Additionally, they typically frequent wooded areas and are inclined to only become active at dusk. Females, however, appear to be attracted to light (Urich 1982) and the majority of records of these species appear to be associated with this tendency. Larvae of both *D. macrosiris* and *D. darius* are known to feed on members of the Bromeliaceae. In particular, Urich (1982) reported that in captivity *D. macrosiris* larvae fed on *Aechmea nudicaulis* which grows throughout the island (Smith and Pittendrigh 1967). This note highlights recent observations of both species in Central and South Trinidad.

On 21 December 2017 Bunty O'Connor and Rory O'Connor found a dead adult female *D. macrosiris* in a room at their home in Chickland, Freeport (Fig. 1a). The room was open to the outdoors and illuminated by a light at night. The surrounding area is lightly wooded with some farmland and residential properties. Several bromeliads grow on the property, including *A. nudicaulis*.

On 21 July 2019, another adult female *D. macrosiris* found by Sandra Downie, Robert Las Heras and Elizabeth Las Heras after it flew into a home located along Talparo Main Road, Talparo (Fig. 1b). The room was also illuminated

by a light. On the following day the butterfly exited the room unharmed. The house is located on an agricultural estate with various trees crops and various bromeliads can be found growing on these trees.

On 7 November 2019 at 6:13pm, an adult female *D. darius* was observed by Kris Sookdeo in the parking lot of Anand's Low Price Supermarket in Debe (Fig. 1c). The parking lot was illuminated by bright lights. This site is located along a major road with commercial and residential properties. Adjacent to the supermarket is a watercourse with a few scattered trees but the area cannot be described as wooded.

Given the widespread availability of Bromeliaceae, the distribution of both species is potentially extensive.

REFERENCES

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Fig 1. *Dynastor macrosiris*, all female, **a.** Chickland, Freeport, 21 December 2017, Bunty O' Connor. **b.** Talparo, 19 July 2019, Robert Las Heras, and **c.** Debe, 7 November 2019, Kris Sookdeo.