

## **Life cycle and ethological notes on *Memphis verticodia echemus* (Nymphalidae: Charaxinae: Anaeini).**

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**Estado actual: Inicio.**

**Dificultades:** Es una especie rara y se requiere trabajo de campo para concluirlo.

**Abstract:** On this study, we describe for the first time the immature stages of *Memphis verticodia echemus*: eggs, larval instars, prepupa, and pupa. Morphometrics means of each stage are given. We also report notes on feeding patterns and oviposition.

**Keywords:** *Memphis*, *Croton*, Charaxinae, Anaeini, larval shelters, immature stages.

### **Introducción.**

*Memphis verticodia echemus* (Nymphalidae: Charaxinae: Anaeini) está distribuida en Cuba, Las Bahamas (Islas New Providence y Andros) e Islas Caimán (Smith *et al.*, 1994). Utiliza como planta hospedera a *Croton lucidus* (Gundlach, 1881) de la misma forma que *Burca b. braco*. Sin embargo, aún se desconocen los estadios inmaduros de esta especie (Smith *et al.*, 1994).

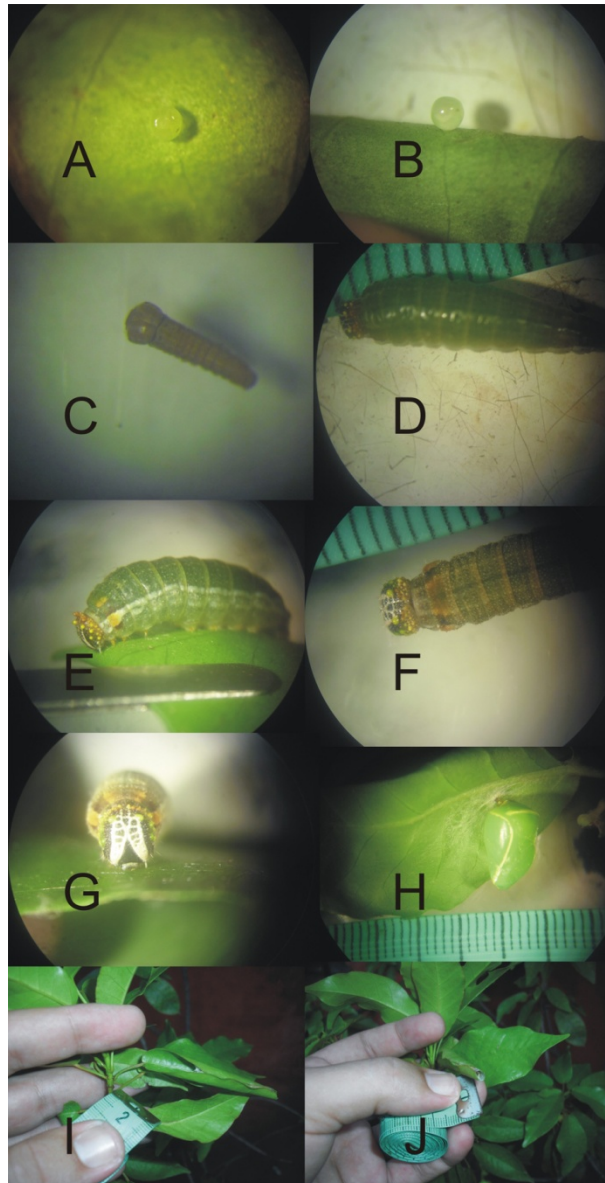
Con este estudio se pretende describir por primera vez los estadios inmaduros para la especie y proveer notas conductuales referentes a los refugios larvales y oviposición.

### **Materiales y Métodos**

Se seguirá una metodología similar a la empleada en el estudio de *Aguna asander haitiensis*, salvo que las localidades de estudio serán Piedra Alta (23°10' N, -81°59' O) y Boca de Canasí (23°09' N, -81°46' O), previamente descritas en el estudio de *Burca b. braco*.

### **Resultados preliminares.**

Preliminarmente se cuentan con datos morfométricos de seis larvas: ancho de la cápsula cefálica (**HW**), longitud del cuerpo (**L**) y fotografías de refugios. Todos los estadios inmaduros y los refugios larvales (Figura 1.) están pendientes de descripción formal.



**Figure 1.** Immature stages of *Memphis verticodia echemus*. Egg A-B), first instar at born C), undetermined late instars D-G), pupa H), larval shelter of late instar I-J).

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Resultado no comprometido (extra):

## **d-Checklist of butterflies on the expedition Cuba Explore 21 to Parque Nacional Alejandro de Humboldt, Eastern Cuba, October-November 2015.**

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**Abstract:** The Expedition Cuba Explore 21 was organized by the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH), the Museo Nacional de Historia Natural de Cuba (MNHNC), Delegación del CITMA de Guantánamo and the authorities of “Parque Nacional Alejandro de Humboldt”, Eastern Cuba: one of the main areas of biodiversity of Cuba and the Caribbean. The Goal is to make a contribution to knowledge of biodiversity richness of the area. Also, it is a step for new and better Cuban-US relationships. On Current work, 67 species of butterflies were collected and/or observed, 12 of them are new reports for the area, increased the total butterflies’ species richness to 126. Each observation is related with localities and vegetation type. As a result, 187 specimens were collected and deposited on MNHNC Lepidoptera’s Collection, including the fifth specimen of *Oarisma bruneri* (Hesperiidae: Hesperinae) was found, collected and deposited on collection.

**Keywords:** Parque Nacional Alejandro de Humboldt, Eastern Cuba, butterflies, collections, American Museum of Natural History, Museo Nacional de Historia Natural de Cuba, *Oarisma bruneri*, Cuban-US scientific collaboration.

### **Introduction.**

The “Parque Nacional Alejandro de Humboldt” is the main center of biodiversity of “Cuchillas del Toa” Biosphere Reserve. It is located on Eastern región of Cuba on the provinces Holguín and Guantánamo with 70 680 ha, of them 68 430 ha terrestrial. Altitudes vary from 0 to 1,175 m. It is one of locations with highest biodiversity and vegetal endemism index of Cuban Archipelago and whole Caribbean islands. Here, are represented 16 of the 28 vegetal formations of Cuba (Zabala *et al.*, 2013).

Despite the importance of the area in terms of biodiversity, only it has made a list of butterflies (Alayón & Solana, 1989). Since then, there is no available information, even on the Rapid Biological Inventory (Fong *et al.*, 2005).

On this paper, I list the butterfly’s species observed and/or collected during Expedition Cuba Explore 21. This expedition was organized by American Museum of Natural History (AMNH), Museo Nacional de Historia Natural de Cuba (MNHNC), Delegation of CITMA from Guantánamo province, and the authorities of the area. This effort is a good example of scientific collaboration between Cuba and United States of America, two countries with

a complex historical political relationship but with a common biogeographic and human history.

### Materials and Methods.

The expedition was done between October 18<sup>th</sup> and November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Were visited 18 localities and 8 vegetal formations (Table 1). Were collected enough individuals in order to have the best representativity in each locality. The sampling effort was irregular between localities and highly dependent of climatic and logistic conditions. The individuals collected were conserved on entomological envelopes, transported to MNHNC and deposited on its collection. Some species were just observed, but I only report those which identification to species level is secure. For classification of vegetal formations I follow the criteria of Capote & Berazaín (1984) y Zabala *et al.* (2013).

**Table 1.** Schedule and sampling conditions of expedition Cuba Explore 21 to Parque Nacional Alejandro de Humboldt. Acronyms of localities: **Sector Cupeyal del Norte**, LMs-CNBS (Road from Las Munciones to Cupeyal del Norte Biological Station), HM (Hoyo de Mola), AE (Alto de Eugenio), M (Mucaral), BS-RC (Road from Cupeyal del Norte Biological Station to Río Castro), BS-OA (Road from Cupeyal del Norte Biological Station to Ojito de Agua), LMs (Las Munciones community); **Sector La Melba**, LN (La Naza community), AB (Arroyo Bueno), LMb (La Melba community), LMb-SLC (Road from La Melba community to Salto Las Comadres), BS (Boca Seca), AR (Alto del Rayo), LC (Las Comadres); **Sector Baracoa**, BT (Bahía de Taco Biological Station), NM (Nuevo Mundo), Y (Yamanigüey), RP (Desembocadura del Río Potosí).

Localities	Vegetation	Weather conditions	Hours	Date
LMS-CNBS	<i>Pinus</i> forest (1)	Sunny	12:00-14:00	Oct 17 <sup>th</sup>
HM	Mesophyllous Evergreen Forest (2)	Sunny	09:00-14:00	Oct 18 <sup>th</sup>
AE	Serpentine xeromorphic shrub (3)	Sunny	09:00-09:30	Oct 19 <sup>th</sup>
M	Mogotes Complex and Mesophyllous Evergreen Forest patches(4)	Sunny then rainy	10:00-16:00	Oct 20 <sup>th</sup>
BS-RC	Transition from <i>Pinus</i> forest to Submontane Rainforest (5)	Sunny	09:00-14:00	Oct 20 <sup>th</sup>
BS-RC	Transition from <i>Pinus</i> forest to Submontane Rainforest (5)	Sunny	09:00-14:00	Oct 22 <sup>th</sup>
BS-OA	Transition from <i>Pinus</i> forest to Submontane Rainforest (5)	Sunny then rainy	09:00-14:00	Oct 23 <sup>th</sup>
BS-OA	Transition from <i>Pinus</i> forest to Submontane Rainforest (5)	Rainy then cloudy	11:00-15:00	Oct 24 <sup>th</sup>
LMS	Cultural vegetation (6)	Sunny	11:00-11:30	Oct 25 <sup>th</sup>
LN	Low Rainforest plus Cultural Vegetation patches (7)	Sunny	09:00-14:00	Oct 26 <sup>th</sup>
LN	Low Rainforest plus Cultural Vegetation patches (7)	Sunny	09:00-14:00	Oct 27 <sup>th</sup>
AB	Galley forest plus Low Rainforest (8)	Sunny	09:00-11:00	Oct 28 <sup>th</sup>

LMb	Low Rainforest plus Cultural Vegetation patches (7)	Sunny	13:00-16:00	Oct 28 <sup>th</sup>
LMb-SLC	Submontane Rainforests and Serpentine xeromorphic shrub patches (9)	Sunny	09:00-14:00	Oct 29 <sup>th</sup>
AB	Galley forest plus Low Rainforest (8)	Sunny then rainy	09:00-13:00	Oct 29 <sup>th</sup>
BS	Galley forest plus Low Rainforest (8)	Sunny	09:00-09:30	Oct 30 <sup>th</sup>
AR	Submontane Rainforest (10)	Sunny then rainy	09:30-14:00	Oct 30 <sup>th</sup>
LMb	Low Rainforest plus Cultural Vegetation patches (7)	Cloudy	14:00-16:00	Oct 30 <sup>th</sup>
LMb	Low Rainforest plus Cultural Vegetation patches (7)	Sunny	10:00-13:00	Oct 31 <sup>th</sup>
LC	Young Submontane Rainforest (11)	Sunny	14:00-15:00	Oct 31 <sup>th</sup>
BT	Cultural vegetation (6)	Cloudy	14:00-15:00	Nov 1 <sup>st</sup>
NM	Cultural Vegetation and Secondary Mesophyllous Evergreen forest (12)	Sunny then rainy	10:00-15:00	Nov 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Y	Serpentine xeromorphic shrub (3)	Cloudy then rainy	10:00-12:00	Nov 4 <sup>th</sup>
RP	Galley Forest Patch surrounded by Serpentine xeromorphic shrub (13)	Cloudy	13:00-14:00	Nov 4 <sup>th</sup>

### Results and Discussion.

I list 67 butterfly's species, 56 of them were collected (Table 2) and deposited on MNHNC's collection: 187 specimens (16.148-16.158, 16.160-16.186, 16.188-16.198, 16.200-16.285, 16.287-16.325, and 16.327-16.339). This represents 34 % of the total species richness of Cuban butterflies and includes 21 endemics, 9 of them to species level (30 % and 24 % respectively for total endemics of Cuba) (see Núñez, 2015; Núñez & Barro, 2012; Núñez, *et al.* 2013). Alayón & Solana (1989) reported 113 species on the area, more than the present paper. They had more sampling effort and spend more days in the area (Alayón pers. com.). However, here I list 12 species which were not listed by Alayón & Solana (1989), increasing the butterflies list of the area to 125: *Papilio demoleus* (Papilionidae), *Anteos clorinde*, *Eurema दौरا*, *Phoebis sennae*, *Pyrisitia nise* (Pieridae), *Leptotes cassius* (Lycaenidae), *Lucinia sida* (Nymphalidae), *Oarisma bruneri*, *Cyamaenes tripunctus*, *Parachoranthus magdalia*, *Synapte malitiosa* and *Perichares philetus* (Hesperiidae). The two individuals collected of *Oarisma bruneri* (16.203 collected at Río Potosí, and 16.301 collected at Hoyo de Mola) are the fifth and sixth historical reports of this taxon (Alayo & Hernández, 1987; Smith *et al.*, 1994). The invasive *P. demoleus* is a recent addition to the Cuban butterfly's fauna (Lauranzón *et al.*, 2011; Fernández & Minno, 2015). Fourteen species were reported for all localities, each one well distributed on Cuba such in natural or antropoc areas: *Ascia monuste*, *Phoebis sennae*, *Pyrisitia dina*, *P. larae* (Nymphalidae), *Leptotes cassius* (Lycaenidae), *Agraulis vanillae*, *Dryas iulia*, *Heliconius charinthonia*, *Junonia evarete*, *Anartia jatrophae* (Nymphalidae), *Synapte*

*malitiosa*, *Urbanus dorantes*, *U. proteus* and *Pyrgus oileus* (Hesperiidae). It is possibly that *Calisto herophile* (Nymphalidae) is distributed on all localities because I could not assure specific identification of observed ones on localities where it was not collected. The well adaptable *C. herophile* has a great resemblance with locals' *C. dissimulatum* and *Calisto bruneri* (see Núñez *et al.*, 2012, 2013). This results would be consider as underestimated for butterfly's richness of the area, considering the adaptative conditions of sampling, the low percent of area sampled, and the fact that was only recorded collected species, rarely observed ones. However, this work added 12 new species for the area and it is an important tool for its management.

**Table 2.** Species collected (C) and/or observed (O) during Expedition Cuba Explore 21 to Parque Nacional Alejandro de Humboldt. E=Endemic, I=Invasive. For localities and vegetation see Table 1

	Localities	Vegetation
<b>FAMILY PAPILIONIDAE</b>		
1 <i>Battus devilliers</i> (Godart, 1823)	O (M, LMb)	4, 6
2 <i>Battus polydamas cubensis</i> (Dufrane, 1946)	C (LMb, LN, LMb-SLC); O (M)	4, 7, 9
3 <i>Heraclides a. andraemon</i> Hübner, [1823]	C (LMb)	7
4 <i>Heraclides androgeus epidaurus</i> (Godman&Salvin, 1890)	C (BS-OA)	5
5 <i>Heraclides oviedo</i> (Gundlach, 1866) E	C (LMb, AR)	7, 10
6 <i>Heraclides pelaus atkinsi</i> (Bates, 1935) E	O (BS-OA)	5
7 <i>Papilio demoleus</i> Linnaeus, 1758 I	C (LMb); O (M)	4, 7
8 <i>Parides g. gundlachianus</i> (Felder & Felder, 1864) E	O (BS-RC, LMb-SLC)	5, 9
<b>FAMILY PIERIDAE</b>		
<b>Subfamily Dismorphiinae</b>		
9 <i>Dismorphia cubana</i> (Herrich-Schäffer, 1862) E	C (BS-RC, BS-OA, AR); O (LMs-CNBS)	1, 5, 10
<b>Subfamily Pierinae</b>		
10 <i>Glutophrissa drusilla poeyi</i> Butler, 1872	C (LN)	7
11 <i>Ascia monuste eubotea</i> (Godart, 1819)	C (BS-RC, BS); O (All localities)	All
<b>Subfamily Coliadinae</b>		
12 <i>Abaeis nicippe</i> (Cramer, 1779)	C (BS-OA, LN)	5, 7
13 <i>Anteos clorinde</i> (Godart, [1824])	C (BS-OA, LMb, LMb-SLC, AR); O (BS-RC, BT, NM)	5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12
14 <i>Anteos maerula</i> (Fabricius, 1775)	C (LMb-SLC); O (AR)	9, 10
15 <i>Eurema दौरa दौरa</i> (Godart, 1819)	C (BS-RC, LN, LMb-SLC)	5, 7, 9
16 <i>Eurema elathea</i> (Cramer, 1777)	C (LMb-SLC)	9
17 <i>Phoebis avellaneda</i> (Herrich-Schäffer, 1864)	C (LMb-SLC); O (BS-OA, LN, NM)	5, 7, 9, 12
18 <i>Phoebis p. philea</i> (Johansson, 1763)	C (LMb); O (BS-OA, NM)	5, 7, 12
19 <i>Phoebis s. sennae</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	C (M, BS-OA, LN, LMb, LMb-	All

		SLC, AR); O (All localities)	
20	<i>Pyrisitia d. dina</i> (Poey, 1832) E	C (M, BS-RC, LMb); O (All localities)	All
21	<i>Pyrisitia laeae</i> (Herrich-Schäffer, 1864)	C (M, LN); O (All localities)	All
	<i>Pyrisitia cf. laeae</i>	C (AB)	8
22	<i>Pyrisitia lisa euterpe</i> (Ménétriés, 1832)	C (LN)	7
23	<i>Pyrisitia messalina</i> (Fabricius, 1787)	C (M, NM)	4, 12
24	<i>Pyrisitia n. nise</i> (Cramer, 1775)	C (M, BS-RC, LN, NM);	4, 5, 7, 12
<b>FAMILY LYCAENIDAE</b>			
<b>Subfamily Theclinae</b>			
25	<i>Eumaeus atala</i> (Poey, 1832)	C (BS-RC)	5
<b>Subfamily Polyommatainae</b>			
26	<i>Leptotes cassius theonus</i> (Lucas, 1857)	C (BS-RC, LN, LMb-SLC, NM); O (All localities)	All
<b>FAMILY NYMPHALIDAE</b>			
<b>Subfamily Biblidinae</b>			
27	<i>Lucinia s. sida</i> Hübner, [1823] E	C (M)	4
<b>Subfamily Cyrestinae</b>			
28	<i>Marpesia chiron</i> (Fabricius, 1775)	C (LN, LMb, LMb-SLC); O (LMb)	7, 9
29	<i>Marpesia e. eleuchea</i> (Hübner, 1818) E	O (HM)	2
<b>Subfamily Charaxinae</b>			
30	<i>Archaeoprepona demophoon crassina</i> (Fruhstorfer, 1904). E	C (BS-RC, BS-OA); O (LN, AR)	5, 7, 10
<b>Subfamily Danainae</b>			
31	<i>Danaus plexippus plexippus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	O (M)	4
32	<i>Lycorea cleobaea demeter</i> Felder & Felder, 1865 E	O (AR)	10
<b>Subfamily Heliconiinae</b>			
33	<i>Agraulis vanillae insularis</i> Maynard, 1869	C (BS-RC, Y); O (All localities)	All
34	<i>Dryas iulia nudeola</i> (Bates, 1934) E	C (M, BS-RC); O (All localities)	All
35	<i>Heliconius charithonia ramsdeni</i> Comstock & Brown, 1950	C (M, BS-OA, LMb-SLC); O (All localities)	All
36	<i>Euptoieta h. hegesia</i> (Cramer, 1779)	C (LC, Y)	3, 11
<b>Subfamily Nymphalinae</b>			
37	<i>Historia o. odius</i> (Fabricius, 1775)	O (AR, NM)	10, 12
38	<i>Junonia e. evarete</i> (Stoll, 1782)	C (M, BS-OA, LN); O (All localities)	All
39	<i>Anthanassa f. frisia</i> (Poey, 1832)	O (LMs)	6
40	<i>Atlantea perezi</i> (Herrich-Schäffer, 1862) E	C (AE, M, LMb-SLC); O (BS-RC, BS-OA, LN, LMb)	3, 4, 5, 7, 9
41	<i>Colobura dirce wolcott</i> (Comstock, 1942)	O (BS-OA)	5
42	<i>Anartia jatrophae guantanamo</i> Munroe, 1942	C (LMb); O (All localities)	All
43	<i>Siproeta stelenes bipagiata</i> (Fruhstorfer, 1907)	O (BS-OA, AR, NM)	5, 10, 12
<b>Subfamily Satyrinae</b>			

44	<i>Calisto h. herophile</i> Hübner, 1823 E	C (HM, M, BS-RC, LN, LMb-SLC, AR, NM)	2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12
	<i>Calisto cf. h. herophile</i>	C (M, AB)	4, 8
45	<i>Calisto cf. occulta</i> Núñez, 2012 E	C (RP)	13
46	<i>Calisto disimulatum</i> Núñez 2013 E	C (M, BS-OA)	4, 5
47	<i>Calisto brochei</i> Torre, 1973 E	C (M, BS-RC, AB)	4, 5, 8
48	<i>Calisto bruneri</i> Michener, 1949 E	C (BS-RC)	5

#### FAMILIA HESPERIIDAE

##### Subfamily Hesperinae

49	<i>Oarisma bruneri</i> Bell, 1959 E	C (RP)	2, 13
50	<i>Oarisma nanus</i> (Herrich-Schäffer, 1865) E	C (HM)	2
51	<i>Cymaenes tripunctus</i> (Herrich-Schäffer, 1865)	C (M, LN, AB)	4, 7, 8
52	<i>Asbolis capucinus</i> (Lucas, 1857)	C (BS-OA, AB, NM)	5, 8, 12
53	<i>Choranthus radians</i> (Lucas, 1857)	C (BS-RC, BS-OA)	5
54	<i>Euphyes c. cornelius</i> (Latreille, [1824])	C (RP)	13
55	<i>Parachoranthus magdalia</i> (Herrich-Schäffer, 1863)	C (BS-OA)	5
56	<i>Pyrrhocalles antiqua orientis</i> Skinner, 1920 E	C (AB, AR)	8, 10
57	<i>Synapte m. malitiosa</i> (Herrich-Schäffer, 1865)	C (M, BS-OA, AR); O (All localities)	All
58	<i>Perichares p. philetas</i> (Gmelin, 1790)	C (BS-RC)	5

##### Subfamily Eudaminae

59	<i>Astraptes h. habana</i> (Lucas, 1857) E	C (LN, AR); O (LMb)	7, 10
60	<i>Astraptes x. xagua</i> (Lucas, 1857) E	C (M, BS-RC)	4, 5
61	<i>Urbanus dorantes santiago</i> (Lucas, 1857)	C (LMb-SLC, NM); O (All localities)	All
62	<i>Urbanus proteus domingo</i> (Scudder, 1872)	C (M, LMb-SLC); O (All localities)	All

##### Subfamily Pyrginae

63	<i>Eantis papiniaunus</i> (Poey, 1832) E	C (M, LN, AB)	4, 7, 8
64	<i>Ephyriades arcas philemon</i> (Fabricius, 1775)	C (BS-RC, AR)	5, 10
65	<i>Ephyriades b. brunnea</i> (Herrich-Schäffer, 1865)	C (AR)	10
66	<i>Erynnis zarucco</i> (Lucas, 1857)	C (LN)	7
67	<i>Pyrgus oileus</i> (Linnaeus, 1767)	C (LN); O (All localities)	All

#### Acknowledgements:

I wish to thank to the staff of Delegation of CITMA from Guantánamo province and Park's authorities led by Gerardo Begué, for their excellent organization of expedition, and all their kindness and caring. To all the Cuban and US colleagues who participate at the expedition; the exchange of experience was very useful. To Natalia Rossi and Andre for their effort on logistic. To the administration of both museums for made it possible my dream of a long term expedition to Alejandro de Humboldt. I am especially grateful to the local communities inside the Park for all their love and attentions. Thanks to my friends



and colleagues Esteban Gutiérrez, for their comments to this manuscript, Rayner Núñez Águila, for their help on identification of material, and César Salve for their help on mounting the specimens.

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