

General Observations of the Lepidoptera Fauna
in the Jackson Hole Research Station Area
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The purpose of this work was to throw light upon the appearance of Lepidoptera in the Jackson Hole Research Station area during the summer of 1969. Personally to me, the comparison between the Lepidoptera fauna of this area (high altitude) and the one of Finland (high latitude) has been very fascinating. Unfortunately the lack of literature and earlier works made it impossible to identify all the different species captured. It seems to be obvious that a part of the collected material can be keyed out by using literature and comparing the species with those we have in the Lepidoptera collection of the University of Helsinki. But at least some of them have to be sent to the specialists in the U.S.A. for identification. If the identification turns out to be successful, the results will be sent to the Research Station.

Methods used: For capturing, a sweeping net and a light trap were used. Lepidoptera flying at daytime (mostly butterflies) are captured with a sweeping net; those flying at nighttime (moths) are captured with a light trap.

The light trap used was type Jalas (made in Finland), the bulb was 150W (normal) and the poison was carbontetrachloride. The trap was set in a small pine wood forest at the Research Station area approximately 20 yards from the Snake River. The light trap was in action through 45 nights.

About 60-90 hours were spent to capture Lepidoptera during the daytime with a sweeping net. The poison used was KCN. Altogether about 1100 individuals were taken for identification. A few observations about the weather while capturing were also made.

(Mr. Terhivuo also assisted Dr. Michael Parker on his limnological studies of lakes in the region. See Dr. Parker's report for results of this study.)

Supported by National Park Service.