

Surama Village, North Rupununi, GUYANA

Selected BUTTERFLIES of Surama

Kenneth Butler¹, Gyanpriya Marahaj²

¹Green Diamond Nature Tours, ²Centre for the Study of Biological Diversity, University of Georgetown, Guyana

Photos: Kenneth Butler [greendiamondnaturetours]. Produced by: Juliana Philipp & Lesley de Souza, Field Museum.
Acknowledgments: Surama Village Council & Surama Village.



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Surama is an Amerindian Village in the North Rupununi area within the Upper Takutu-Upper Essequibo Region of Guyana. Bordered by the Pakaraima mountains, Iwokrama forest, Rupununi savannas and the Burro Burro River, Surama is teeming with biodiversity. In 2005, Villagers established the Surama Village Ecolodge, and have since become leaders of community-owned ecotourism in Guyana.

The butterflies of Guyana are one of the poorest known taxonomic groups in the country. Recent studies are giving insights into the tremendous butterfly diversity in various biogeographic regions of Guyana: highland tepuis, lowland savanna, forests and wetlands, with several new species being described. Surama's butterfly diversity reflects its location at the intersection of these ecoregions.



1 *Chioides catillus*
HESPERIIDAE



2 *Paches loxus*
HESPERIIDAE
Glorious blue skipper



3 *Pyrrhopyge zenodorus*
HESPERIIDAE
Red-headed firetip



4 *Saturnus reticulata*
HESPERIIDAE



5 *Urbanus proteus*
HESPERIIDAE
Long-tailed skipper



6 *Arawacus aetolus*
LYCAENIDAE



7 *Arcas imperialis*
LYCAENIDAE
Imperial arcas



8 *Celmia celmus*
LYCAENIDAE
Celmus hairstreak

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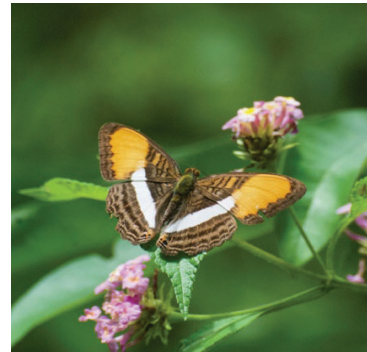
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9 *Janthecla rocena*
LYCAENIDAE
Rocena hairstreak



10 *Panthiades aeolus*
LYCAENIDAE



11 *Adelpha cytherea*
LYCAENIDAE



12 *Agraulis vanillae*
NYMPHALIDAE
Gulf fritillary



13 *Bia actorion actorion*
NYMPHALIDAE
Bia owl



14 *Caligo eurilochus eurilochus*
NYMPHALIDAE
Common giant owl



15 *Caligo idomeneus idomeneus*
NYMPHALIDAE
Owl butterfly



16 *Catoblepia berecynthia*
NYMPHALIDAE
Ocellated owllet



17 *Chloreuptychia herseis*
NYMPHALIDAE



18 *Cissia penelope*
NYMPHALIDAE
Penelope's ringlet



19 *Colobura dirce*
NYMPHALIDAE
Zebra mosaic



20 *Haetera piera*
NYMPHALIDAE
Piera clearwing

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21 *Hamadryas feronia feronia*
NYMPHALIDAE



22 *Hamadryas fornax*
NYMPHALIDAE
Yellow cracker



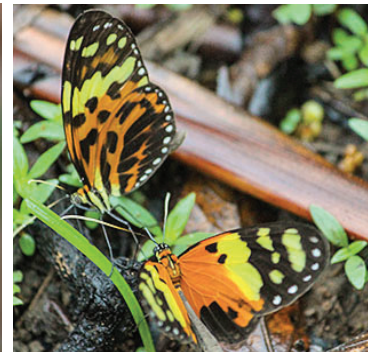
23 *Heliconius sara*
NYMPHALIDAE



24 *Hypothyris gemela*
NYMPHALIDAE



25 *Magneptychia lea*
NYMPHALIDAE



26 *Melinaea ludovica*
NYMPHALIDAE



27 *Nessaea obrinus*
NYMPHALIDAE
Velvet olive



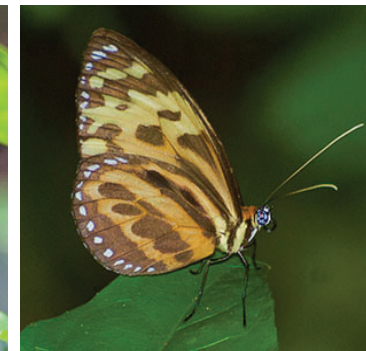
28 *Opsiphanes cassina*
NYMPHALIDAE
Split-banded owlet



29 *Posttaygetis penelea*
NYMPHALIDAE
Yellow-spiked satyr



30 *Siproeta stelenes*
NYMPHALIDAE
Malachite



31 *Tithorea harmonia*
NYMPHALIDAE
Black-fronted prestonian



32 *Caeruleptychia caerulea*
NYMPHALIDAE

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33 *Glutophrissa drusilla*
PIERIDAE
Tropical white



34 *Itaballia demophile niphates*
PIERIDAE



35 *Pyrisitia venusta*
PIERIDAE



Surama Mountain



Burro Burro River



Surama Eco Lodge



View from the tukuí' women group's building in Surama