

## Butterflies (Lepidoptera: Papilioidea) of an urban park in northeastern Brazil

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**Abstract:** Despite being one of the groups most well studied in Brazil, the butterfly fauna of northeastern Brazil, especially north of the mouth of São Francisco River, is poorly known. The aim of this study was to inventory the butterfly fauna in a remnant of Atlantic Forest in the state of Pernambuco as a contribution to understanding the distribution of these insects. The study was carried out in a 384.7 hectares fragment of Parque Estadual Dois Irmãos, in the metropolitan region of Recife. The butterflies were sampled monthly with insect nets from August 2011 to July 2012 and from January to August 2016. Additional records were obtained from two entomological collections and from two previous visits to the area in July 2003 and August 2006. A total of 273 species was sampled in 464 hours, with an additional 15 species recorded from the Entomological Collections, totaling 288 butterfly species recorded. The richest family was Hesperiidae (108 species), followed by Nymphalidae (80), Lycaenidae (43) Riodinidae (37), Pieridae (16) and Papilionidae (4). The fauna was dominated by generalist species with a broad geographical distribution, many of them commonly found on open areas, forest edges and secondary vegetation. *Roeberella lencates* (Hewitson, 1875) and *Pheles atricolor atricolor* (Butler, 1871) (Riodinidae) represent new records for northeastern Brazil.

**Keywords:** Atlantic Forest, Conservation, Inventory, northeastern Brazil.

## As borboletas (Lepidoptera: Papilioidea) de um parque urbano do nordeste do Brasil

**Resumo:** Apesar de ser um dos grupos mais bem estudados no Brasil, as borboletas da região Nordeste, especialmente ao norte da foz do Rio São Francisco, são ainda pouco conhecidas. O objetivo deste estudo foi realizar um inventário da fauna de borboletas em um fragmento de Floresta Atlântica no estado de Pernambuco, como uma contribuição para compreensão sobre a distribuição desses insetos. O estudo foi realizado em um fragmento de Floresta Atlântica de 384.7 hectares do Parque Estadual Dois Irmãos, localizado na região metropolitana de Recife. As borboletas foram amostradas mensalmente, de agosto de 2011 a julho de 2012 e de janeiro a agosto de 2016, com auxílio de redes entomológicas. Registros adicionais foram obtidos de duas Coleções Entomológicas e de duas coletas prévias em julho de 2003 e agosto de 2006. Um total de 273 espécies foi registrado em 464 horas e 15 espécies adicionais registradas a partir de Coleções Entomológicas, totalizando 288 espécies de borboletas registradas. A família mais rica foi Hesperiidae (108 espécies), seguida por Nymphalidae (80), Lycaenidae (43), Riodinidae (37), Pieridae (16) e Papilionidae (4). A fauna de borboletas foi dominada por espécies generalistas com uma ampla distribuição geográfica, muitas delas encontradas comumente em áreas abertas, bordas de mata e em vegetação secundária. *Roeberella lencates* (Hewitson, 1875) e *Pheles atricolor atricolor* (Butler, 1871) (Riodinidae) representam um novo registro para o Nordeste do Brasil.

**Palavras-chave:** Conservação, Floresta Atlântica, Inventário, Nordeste Brasileiro.

## Introduction

Although the butterfly fauna of Brazil is relatively well sampled, there is still a “knowledge gap” in northeastern Brazil (Santos et al. 2008). The entire region is relatively under-sampled and poorly known, especially in the highly fragmented forests north of the mouth of São Francisco River (Freitas & Marini-Filho 2011, Iserhard et al. 2017). This region, which is known as the “Pernambuco Center of Endemism” (Brown Jr. 1977, Santos et al. 2007), is the most endangered sector of the Atlantic Forest, with less than 12% of the original vegetation remaining (Ribeiro et al. 2009), almost half as fragments smaller than 10 ha (Ranta et al. 1998).

Research on the butterfly fauna in northeastern Brazil started in the 19th century with Bates (1867) and continued in the next century (e.g. D’Almeida 1935, Cardoso 1949, Silva 1967, Kesselring & Ebert 1982). Research activity on butterflies in the region has recently blossomed, with papers on threatened species (Kerpel et al. 2014, Melo et al. 2014) and the natural history of poorly-known species (Cardoso 2005, Freitas & Brown Jr. 2005, Nobre & Schlindwein 2011, 2012, Callaghan & Nobre 2014, Dolibaina et al. 2014, Nobre & Robbins 2014). Although several partial lists are now available (e.g. Duarte Jr. et al. 2001, Vasconcelos et al. 2009, Zanca et al. 2011, Zanca & Bravo 2012, Kerpel et al. 2014), very few comprehensive inventories have been published for northeastern Brazil. Examples of recently published well-sampled lists for the region includes those of Nobre et al. (2008, 2012) and Lima & Zanca (2014) for areas of semi-arid “Caatinga” and the inventories for an altitudinal and coastal Atlantic Forest (Paluch et al. 2011 and 2016, respectively).

The purpose of the present study was to inventory the butterfly species found in “Parque Estadual Dois Irmãos”, a forest fragment in the metropolitan region of Recife, Pernambuco, northeastern Brazil, and to compare the results with those of previous inventories in the same region. These baseline results will also serve as a point of comparison for future inventories as ecological succession proceeds in this park.

## Material and Methods

### 1. Study area

Parque Estadual Dois Irmãos (PED) ( $08^{\circ} 00' 48''$  S,  $34^{\circ} 56' 42.9''$  W) is a state park in Recife, Pernambuco, northeastern Brazil (Figure 1). PED was created by State Law nº 11.622 of December 29, 1998 with ca. 384.7 ha, and has recently expanded (state decree nº 40.547 of March 28, 2014) with the inclusion of adjacent forest (the “Fazenda Brejo dos Macacos”), now totaling 1,157.72 ha. This coastal Atlantic Forest consists of a mix of successional regenerating stages. The present study was carried out in the 384.7 ha area now called “Mata de Dois Irmãos”. This area is the original part of the Park, including a 14 ha zoo. The climate is tropical monsoon (Am of Köppen), hot and humid, with a monthly average temperature of  $25.8^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Rainfall, with an annual precipitation up to 2,400 mm, is seasonal, with a wet season from March to August and a dry season from September to February (Coutinho et al. 1998, Alvares et al. 2014). The predominant soils are dystrophic red-yellow latosols (Coutinho et al. 1998), and the vegetation is classified as ombrophilic dense lowland forest (Veloso et al. 1991).

### 2. Sampling and identification

Sampling was carried out monthly from August 2011 to July 2012, following the protocol described in Brown Jr. (1972), Brown Jr. & Freitas (2000) and Iserhard et al. (2013), with four sampling days each month, totaling 48 field trips. In addition, occasional visits were conducted between January and August 2016, totaling 17 additional field trips. The daily sampling period was from 9:00 to 16:00 hours, with a total sampling effort of 455 hours. Sampling was conducted along pre-existing trails (up to 2 linear km) covering a variety of habitats by one collector using an insect net (with a handle 1 m in length). Special attention was devoted to forest edges, water bodies or their banks, rich soil and flower patches, small clearings, and other heterogeneous environments. Areas with notable concentrations of butterflies were observed until no additional species had been recorded for a period of five to ten minutes. Additional data were obtained from two previous visits by AVLF (July 29, 2003 and August 10, 2006, totaling 9 samplings hours) and from material deposited in the Entomological Collection, Biology Department, Universidade Federal Rural de Pernambuco (UFRPE), and the Entomological Collection, Universidade Federal de Pernambuco (UFPE). Specimens were mounted and deposited in the following Brazilian institutions: 1) Universidade Federal de Pernambuco, Recife, PE; 2) Museu de Zoologia, Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Campinas, SP; and 3) Coleção Entomológica Padre Jesus Santiago Moure, UFPR, Curitiba, PR.

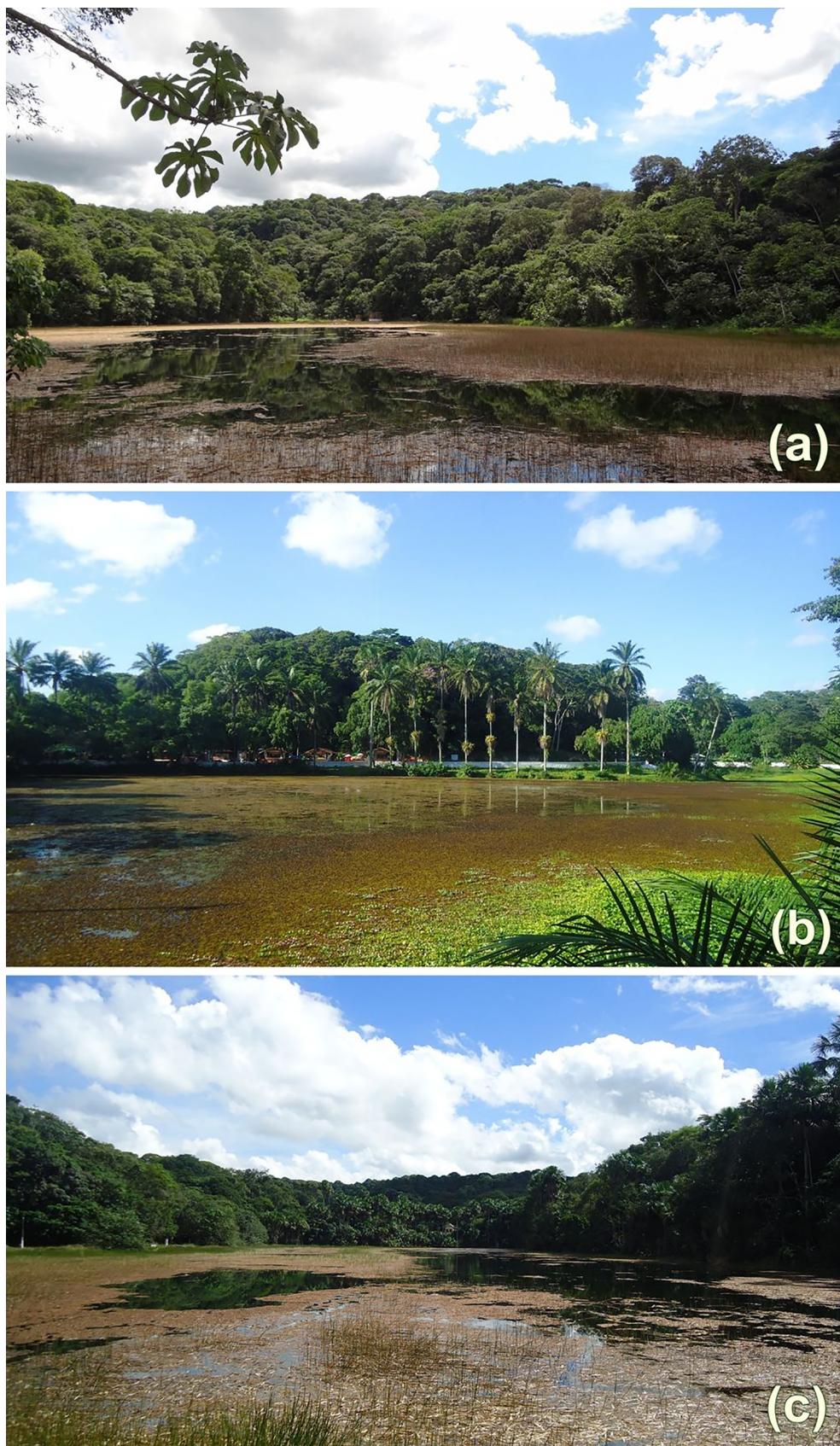
The authors identified species using the literature, the museum collections for which they are responsible, and their taxonomic expertise, which is partly based on years of fieldwork in Brazil and other Neotropical countries. The Discussion is based on these same information sources. The nomenclature in Table 1 follows Lamas (2004), but higher taxonomic categories for Nymphalidae were updated from Wahlberg et al. (2009), for Riodinidae from Seraphim et al. (2018) and Hall (2018), for Hesperiidae from Warren et al. (2009). The higher classification of butterflies was updated from Heikkilä et al. (2012). All families were sampled, except for the Hedyliidae.

## Results

In total, 288 butterfly species in six families were recorded at PED (Table 1). The fieldwork yielded 273 species in 464 sampling hours. An additional 15 species had been previously sampled (vouchers in UFPE and UFRPE, as noted in Table 1). The most species rich family was Hesperiidae with 108 species (37,5%), followed by Nymphalidae with 80 (28%), Lycaenidae with 43 (15%), Riodinidae with 37 (13%), Pieridae with 16 (5,5%) and Papilionidae with 4 (1%).

A number of unusual riodinid species were found. The species *Roeberella lencates* (Hewitson, 1875) and *Pheles atricolor atricolor* (Butler, 1871) were recorded for northeastern Brazil for the first time (Table 1). A single individual of *R. lencates* was captured when resting in a “pitangueira” tree (*Eugenia uniflora*, Myrtaceae) in an open sunny area known as “Chapéu do Sol”. A single individual of *P. atricolor atricolor* was found on a trail along a forest edge. It made short flights followed by landing on a leaf. A third riodinid *Eurybia gonzaga* Dolibaina, Dias, Mielke & Casagrande, 2014 is a recently described endemic for Pernambuco. It was observed frequently in PED. This species flies near the ground at dusk. It lands on the underside of leaves.

Butterflies of an urban park in Brazil



**Figure 1.** View of the “Parque Estadual Dois Irmãos”, Recife, Pernambuco, Brazil, showing the vegetal formation next to the three following weirs: (a) Açude do Prata; (b) Açude do Parque; (c) Açude do Meio.

**Table 1.** Butterflies (Lepidoptera) from the “Parque Estadual Dois Irmãos”, Recife, Pernambuco, Brazil. Number of species are noted within parenthesis for each major taxon. <sup>1</sup>Data from the UFPE Entomological Collection; <sup>2</sup>Data from the UFRPE Entomological Collection; <sup>3</sup>new record for northeastern Brazil.

## PAPILIONOIDEA (288)

### Papilionidae (4)

- Papilioninae (4)
  - Troidini (2)
    - Battus polydamas polydamas* (Linnaeus, 1758)
    - Parides zacynthus polymetus* (Godart, 1819)
  - Papilionini (2)
    - Heraclides anchisiades capys* (Hübner, [1809])
    - Heraclides thoas brasiliensis* (Rothschild & Jordan, 1906)

### Pieridae (16)

- Coliadinae (12)
  - Anteos clorinde* (Godart, [1824])
  - Anteos menippe* (Hübner, [1818])
  - Aphrissa statira statira* (Cramer, 1777)
  - Eurema agave pallida* (Chavannes, 1850)
  - Eurema albula albula* (Cramer, 1775)
  - Eurema deva deva* (Doubleday, 1847)<sup>2</sup>
  - Eurema elathea flavescentia* (Chavannes, 1850)
  - Leucidia elvina* (Godart, 1819)
  - Phoebis argante argante* (Fabricius, 1775)
  - Phoebis philea philea* (Linnaeus, 1763)
  - Phoebis sennae marcellina* (Cramer, 1777)
  - Pyrisitia nise tenella* (Boisduval, 1836)
- Pierinae (4)
  - Ascia monuste orseis* (Godart, 1819)
  - Glutophrissa drusilla drusilla* (Cramer, 1777)
  - Hesperocharis anguitia anguitia* (Godart, 1819)<sup>1</sup>
  - Itaballia demophile nimetes* (Fruhstorfer, 1907)<sup>1</sup>

### Lycaenidae (43)

- Polyommata (3)
  - Hemiargus hanno hanno* (Stoll, 1790)
  - Leptotes cassius cassius* (Cramer, 1775)
  - Zizula cyna* (Edwards, 1881)
- Theclinae (40)
  - Allosmaitia strophius* (Godart, [1824])
  - Aubergina hesychia* (Godman & Salvin, 1887)
  - Brangas torfrida* (Hewitson, 1867)
  - Calycopis caulonia* (Hewitson, 1877)
  - Calycopis demonassa* (Hewitson, 1868)
  - Calycopis* sp. 1
  - Calycopis* sp. 2
  - Celmia celmus* (Cramer, 1775)
  - Chalybs janias* (Cramer, 1779)
  - Cyanophrys amyntor* (Cramer, 1775)

### Continuation Table 1.

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- Gargina emessa* (Hewitson, 1867)
  - Gargina* sp.
  - Kisutam syllis* (Godman & Salvin, 1887)
  - Magnastigma hirsuta* (Prittitz, 1865)
  - Michaelus jebus* (Godart, [1824])
  - Michaelus phoenissa* (Hewitson, 1867)
  - Ministrymon cleon* (Fabricius, 1775)
  - Ministrymon una* (Hewitson, 1873)
  - Ministrymon zilda* (Hewitson, 1873)
  - Nesiostrymon hyccara* (Hewitson, 1868)
  - Nicolaea ophia* (Hewitson, 1868)
  - Oenomaus* sp.
  - Ostrinotes tarena* (Hewitson, 1874)
  - Panthiades hebraeus* (Hewitson, 1867)
  - Pseudolycaena marsyas* (Linnaeus, 1758)
  - Rekoia palegon* (Cramer, 1780)
  - Strephonota ambrax* (Westwood, 1852)
  - Strymon astiocha* (Prittitz, 1865)
  - Strymon bubastus* (Stoll, 1780)
  - Strymon mulucha* (Hewitson, 1867)
  - Strymon ziba* (Hewitson, 1868)
  - Symbiopsis* sp.
  - Theclopsis gargara* (Hewitson, 1868)
  - Thereus cithonius* (Godart, [1824])
  - Thereus enenia* (Hewitson, 1867)
  - Theritas hemon* (Cramer, 1775)
  - Theritas triquetra* (Hewitson, 1865)
  - Thesitius lycabas* (Cramer, 1777)
  - Tmolus echion* (Linnaeus, 1767)
  - Ziegleria hesperitis* (Butler & H. Druce, 1872)
- 
- Riodinidae (37)**
    - Nemeobiinae* (1)
    - Euselasiini* (1)
      - Euselasia cafusa* (H. W. Bates, 1868)
    - Riodininae* (36)
      - Eurybini* (6)
        - Ionotus alector* (Geyer, 1837)
        - Mesosemia nyctea lato* Stichel, 1910
        - Perophthalma tullius* (Fabricius, 1787)
        - Voltinia phryxe* (C. Felder & R. Felder, 1865)
        - Eurybia gonzaga* Dolibaina, Dias, Mielke & Casagrande, 2014
        - Eurybia halimede halimede* (Hübner, [1807])
      - Riodinini* (7)
        - Calephelis braziliensis* McAlpine, 1971
        - Isapis agyrtus* (Cramer, 1777)
        - Melanis smithiae* (Westwood, 1851)

**Continuation Table 1.**

<i>Panara soana</i> Hewitson, 1875
<i>Pheles atricolor atricolor</i> (Butler, 1871) <sup>3</sup>
<i>Rhetus arcius</i> (Linnaeus, 1763)
<i>Rhetus periander</i> (Cramer, 1777)
Helicopini (3)
<i>Anteros formosus formosus</i> (Cramer, 1777)
<i>Anteros renaldus</i> (Stoll, 1790)
<i>Sarota acanthoides</i> (Herrich-Schäffer, [1853])
Nymphidiini (11)
<i>Ariconias glaphyra</i> (Westwood, 1851)
<i>Parvospila lucianus</i> (Fabricius, 1793)
<i>Periplacis pretus</i> (Cramer, 1777)
<i>Nymphidium mantus</i> (Cramer, 1775)
<i>Nymphidium olinda</i> H. W. Bates, 1865
<i>Synargis calyce pernambuco</i> Callaghan, 1999
<i>Synargis gela</i> (Hewitson, [1853])
<i>Synargis paulistina</i> (Stichel, 1910)
<i>Roeberella lencates</i> (Hewitson, 1875) <sup>3</sup>
<i>Theope pieridoides</i> C. Felder & R. Felder, 1865
<i>Theope</i> sp.
Symmachini (6)
<i>Mesene florus</i> (Fabricius, 1793)
<i>Mesene monostigma monostigma</i> (Erichson, [1849])
<i>Mesene phareus</i> (Cramer, 1777)
<i>Mesene</i> sp.
<i>Panaropsis inaria</i> (Westwood, 1851)
<i>Pirascca sagaris satnius</i> (Dalman, 1823)
Calydnini (3)
<i>Calydna cea</i> Hewitson, 1859
<i>Calydna sturnula</i> (Geyer, 1837)
<i>Calydna</i> sp.
<b>Nymphalidae (80)</b>
Nymphalinae (9)
Coeini (2)
<i>Colobura dirce dirce</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)
<i>Historis odious dious</i> Lamas, 1995
Nymphalini (1)
<i>Vanessa myrinna</i> (Doubleday, 1849) <sup>2</sup>
Kallimini (4)
<i>Anartia amathea</i> ssp.
<i>Anartia jatrophae jatrophae</i> (Linnaeus, 1763)
<i>Junonia evarete evarete</i> (Cramer, 1779)
<i>Siproeta stelenes meridionalis</i> (Fruhstorfer, 1909)
Melitaeini (2)
<i>Anthanassa hermas hermas</i> (Hewitson, 1864)
<i>Tegosa</i> sp.

**Continuation Table 1.**

Danainae (11)
Danaini (4)
<i>Danaus eresimus plexaure</i> (Godart, 1819) <sup>2</sup>
<i>Danaus erippus</i> (Cramer, 1775)
<i>Danaus gilippus gilippus</i> (Cramer, 1775)
<i>Lycorea halia discreta</i> Haensch, 1909
Ithomiini (7)
<i>Dircenna dero celtina</i> Burmeister, 1878
<i>Episcada striposis</i> Haensch, 1909
<i>Hypothyris euclea laphria</i> (Doubleday, 1847)
<i>Hypothyris ninonia daetina</i> (Weymer, 1899)
<i>Mechanitis lysimnia nesaea</i> Hübner, [1820]
<i>Napeogenes inachia</i> ssp.
<i>Scada reckia reckia</i> (Hübner, [1808])
Biblidinae (11)
<i>Biblis hyperia nectanabis</i> (Fruhstorfer, 1909)
<i>Callicore astarte codomannus</i> (Fabricius, 1781)
<i>Callicore sorana sorana</i> (Godart, [1824]) <sup>2</sup>
<i>Dynamine athemon athemaena</i> (Hübner, [1824])
<i>Dynamine postverta postverta</i> (Cramer, 1779)
<i>Ectima thecla thecla</i> (Fabricius, 1796)
<i>Hamadryas amphinome amphinome</i> (Linnaeus, 1767)
<i>Hamadryas chloe rhea</i> (Fruhstorfer, 1907) <sup>2</sup>
<i>Hamadryas februa februa</i> (Hübner, [1823])
<i>Hamadryas feronia feronia</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)
<i>Pyrrhogrya neaerea susarion</i> Fruhstorfer, 1912 <sup>2</sup>
Cyrestinae (2)
<i>Marpesia chiron marius</i> (Cramer, 1779)
<i>Marpesia petreus petreus</i> (Cramer, 1776)
Satyrinae (29)
Morphini (1)
<i>Morpho helenor anakreon</i> Fruhstorfer, 1910
Brassolini (9)
<i>Brassolis sophorae dinizi</i> D'Almeida, 1956
<i>Caligo brasiliensis brasiliensis</i> (C. Felder, 1862)
<i>Caligo illioneus illioneus</i> (Cramer, 1775)
<i>Caligo teucer</i> ssp.
<i>Dynastor darius darius</i> (Fabricius, 1775)
<i>Eryphanis automedon amphimedon</i> (C. Felder & R. Felder, 1867)
<i>Opsiphanes cassiae crameri</i> C. Felder & R. Felder, 1862
<i>Opsiphanes invirae remoliatus</i> Fruhstorfer, 1907
<i>Opsiphanes quiteria meridionalis</i> (Staudinger, 1887)
Haeterini (2)
<i>Pierella hyalinus</i> ssp.
<i>Pierella kesselringi</i> Zacca, Siewert & Paluch, 2016

**Continuation Table 1.**

Satyrini (17)
<i>Chloreuptychia chlorimene</i> (Hübner, [1819]) <sup>2</sup>
<i>Cissia myncea</i> (Cramer, 1780)
<i>Cissia terrestris</i> (Butler, 1867) <sup>1</sup>
<i>Hermeuptychia atalanta</i> (Butler, 1867)
<i>Hermeuptychia gisella</i> (Hayward, 1957)
<i>Hermeuptychia hermes</i> (Fabricius, 1775)
<i>Magneuptychia libye</i> (Linnaeus, 1767)
<i>Pareuptychia</i> sp.
<i>Paryphthimoides sylvina</i> (C. Felder & R. Felder, 1867)
<i>Taygetis echo echo</i> (Cramer, 1775)
<i>Taygetis laches laches</i> (Fabricius, 1793)
<i>Taygetis rufomarginata</i> Staudinger, 1888
<i>Taygetis sosis</i> Hopffer, 1874
<i>Taygetis virgilia</i> (Cramer, 1776)
<i>Yphthimoides affinis</i> (Butler, 1867)
<i>Yphthimoides renata</i> (Stoll, 1780)
<i>Zischkaia saundersii</i> (Butler, 1867)
Limenitidinae (2)
<i>Adelpha cytherea aea</i> (C. Felder & R. Felder, 1867)
<i>Adelpha iphicleola leucates</i> Fruhstorfer, 1915 <sup>2</sup>
Charaxinae (6)
Anaeini (3)
<i>Fountainea ryphaea phidile</i> (Geyer, 1837)
<i>Hypna clytemnestra forbesi</i> Godman & Salvin, [1884]
<i>Zaretis strigosus</i> (Gmelin, 1790)
Preponini (3)
<i>Archaeoprepona demophon thalpius</i> (Hübner, [1814])
<i>Archaeoprepona demophoon antimache</i> (Hübner, [1819])
<i>Prepona laertes laertes</i> (Hübner, [1811])
Heliconiinae (10)
Argynnini (1)
<i>Euptoieta hegesia meridiana</i> Stichel, 1938
Heliconiini (9)
<i>Agraulis vanillae maculosa</i> (Stichel, 1908)
<i>Dione juno juno</i> (Cramer, 1779)
<i>Dryadula phaetusa</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)
<i>Dryas iulia alcionea</i> (Cramer, 1779)
<i>Eueides isabella dianasa</i> (Hübner, 1806)
<i>Heliconius erato phyllis</i> (Fabricius, 1775)
<i>Heliconius ethilla flavomaculatus</i> Weymer, 1894
<i>Heliconius melpomene nanna</i> Stichel, 1899
<i>Heliconius sara apseudes</i> (Hübner, 1806)
<b>Hesperiidae (108)</b>
Eudaminae (29)
<i>Aguna megaeles megaeles</i> (Mabille, 1988)
<i>Astraptes alardus alardus</i> (Stoll, 1790)

**Continuation Table 1.**

<i>Astraptes anaphus anaphus</i> (Cramer, 1777)
<i>Astraptes fulgerator fulgerator</i> (Walch, 1775)
<i>Astraptes talus</i> (Cramer, 1777)
<i>Augiades crinibus</i> (Cramer, 1780)
<i>Autochton itylus</i> Hübner, [1823]
<i>Autochton neis</i> (Geyer, 1832)
<i>Autochton zarex</i> (Hübner, 1818)
<i>Bungalotis astylos</i> (Cramer, 1780)
<i>Bungalotis erythus</i> (Cramer, 1775)
<i>Bungalotis quadratum barba</i> Evans, 1952
<i>Chioides catillus catillus</i> (Cramer, 1779)
<i>Entheus priassus pralina</i> Evans, 1952
<i>Epargyreus exadeus exadeus</i> (Cramer, 1779)
<i>Narcosius colossus granadensis</i> (Möschler, 1879)
<i>Nascus phocus</i> (Cramer, 1777)
<i>Phanus australis</i> L. D. Miller, 1965
<i>Phanus marshalli</i> (W. F. Kirby, 1880) <sup>2</sup>
<i>Phocides polybius phanias</i> (Burmeister, 1880) <sup>2</sup>
<i>Pseudonascus paulliniae</i> (Sepp, [1849])
<i>Salatis salatis</i> (Stoll, 1782)
<i>Typhedanus undulatus</i> (Hewitson, 1867) <sup>2</sup>
<i>Urbanus dorantes</i> (Stoll, 1790)
<i>Urbanus procne</i> (Plötz, 1880)
<i>Urbanus proteus proteus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)
<i>Urbanus teleus</i> (Hübner, 1821)
<i>Urbanus simplicius</i> (Stoll, 1790)
<i>Urbanus velinus</i> (Plötz, 1880)
<b>Pyrginae (22)</b>
<i>Anastrus neaeris narva</i> Evans, 1953
<i>Anastrus sempiternus simplicior</i> (Möschler, 1877)
<i>Camptopleura auxo</i> (Möschler, 1879)
<i>Gesta gesta</i> (Herrich-Schäffer, 1863)
<i>Gorgythion begga begga</i> (Prittitz, 1868)
<i>Gorgythion</i> sp.
<i>Helias phalaenoides palpalis</i> (Latreille, [1824])
<i>Heliopetes alana</i> (Reakirt, 1868)
<i>Heliopetes arsalte</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)
<i>Morvina morvus morvus</i> (Plötz, 1884)
<i>Mylon cristata</i> Austin, 2000
<i>Nisoniades macarius</i> (Herrich-Schäffer, 1870)
<i>Pachyneuria</i> sp.
<i>Pyrgus orcus</i> (Stoll, 1780)
<i>Pyrgus veturius</i> Plötz, 1884
<i>Pyrrhopyge amythaon amythaon</i> Bell, 1931
<i>Quadrus cerialis</i> (Stoll, 1782)
<i>Staphylus perna</i> Evans, 1953
<i>Telemiades antiope tosca</i> Evans, 1953

**Continuation Table 1.**

<i>Telemiades</i> sp.
<i>Timochares trifasciata trifasciata</i> (Hewitson, 1868)
<i>Xenophanes tryxus</i> (Stoll, 1780)
Hesperiinae (57)
<i>Anthoptus epictetus</i> (Fabricius, 1793)
<i>Argon lota</i> (Hewitson, 1877)
<i>Arita arita</i> (Schaus, 1902)
<i>Callimormus alsimo</i> (Möschler, 1883)
<i>Callimormus corades</i> (C. Felder, 1862)
<i>Callimormus corus</i> Bell, 1941
<i>Callimormus radiola radiola</i> (Mabille, 1878)
<i>Calpodes ethlius</i> (Stoll, 1782)
<i>Cobalopsis miaba</i> (Schaus, 1902)
<i>Cobalopsis nero</i> (Herrich-Schäffer, 1869)
<i>Cobalus virbius hanta</i> Evans, 1955
<i>Corticea corticea</i> (Plötz, 1882)
<i>Corticea graziellae</i> Bell, 1959
<i>Cymaenes alumna</i> (Butler, 1877)
<i>Cymaenes tripunctus theogenis</i> (Capronnier, 1874)
<i>Cynea diluta</i> (Herrich-Schäffer, 1869)
<i>Cynea irma</i> (Möschler, 1879)
<i>Decinea lucifer</i> (Hübner, [1831])
<i>Flaccilla aecas</i> (Stoll, 1781)
Hesperiinae sp. 1
Hesperiinae sp. 2
<i>Hylephila phyleus phyleus</i> (Drury, 1773)
<i>Justinia justinianus justinianus</i> (Latreille, [1824])
<i>Methionopsis ina</i> (Plötz, 1882)
<i>Morys compta compta</i> (Butler, 1877)
<i>Morys sinta</i> Evans, 1955
<i>Mucia zygia</i> (Plötz, 1886)
<i>Naevolus orius orius</i> (Mabille, 1883)
<i>Niconiades nikko</i> Hayward, 1948
<i>Nyctelius nyctelius nyctelius</i> (Latreille, [1824])
<i>Onophas columbaria distigma</i> Bell, 1930
<i>Panoquina hecebolus</i> (Scudder, 1872)
<i>Panoquina lucas lucas</i> (Fabricius, 1793)
<i>Paracarystus hypargyra</i> (Herrich-Schäffer, 1869)
<i>Perichares philetates adela</i> (Hewitson, 1867)
<i>Phanes almoda</i> (Hewitson, 1866)
<i>Polites vibex catilina</i> (Plötz, 1886)
<i>Pompeius amblyspila</i> (Mabille, 1898)
<i>Pompeius pompeius</i> (Latreille, [1824])
<i>Quinta cannae</i> (Herrich-Schäffer, 1869)
<i>Remella remus</i> (Fabricius, 1798)
<i>Saliana esperi</i> Evans, 1955
<i>Saliana</i> sp. 1

**Continuation Table 1.**

<i>Saliana</i> sp. 2
<i>Saturnus metonidia</i> (Schaus, 1902)
<i>Synapte malitiosa equa</i> Evans, 1955
<i>Talides sergestus</i> (Cramer, 1775) <sup>2</sup>
<i>Talides alternata</i> Bell, 1941
<i>Thracides phidon</i> (Cramer, 1779)
<i>Vacerra bonfilius bonfilius</i> (Latreille, [1824])
<i>Vacerra</i> sp.
<i>Virga paraiba</i> Nicolay, 1973
<i>Vehilius celeus vetus</i> Mielke, 1969
<i>Vehilius stictomenes stictomenes</i> (Butler, 1877)
<i>Vettius artona</i> (Hewitson, 1868)
<i>Vettius marcus marcus</i> (Fabricius, 1787)
<i>Wallengrenia premnas</i> (Wallengren, 1860)

## Discussion

### 1. Species richness

The 288 butterfly species recorded at PEDI is considerably lower than at sites in SE Brazil (800+ species, Francini et al. 2011) and the Amazon Basin (up to 1700 species in Robbins et al. 1996 and Brown 2005), but is similar in richness to other inventories for the Atlantic Forest of northeastern Brazil. Kesselring & Ebert (1982) found 291 butterfly species in the urban park “Mata do Buraquinho” in João Pessoa, Paraíba after five years of sampling. Paluch et al. (2011, 2016) recorded 197 species in a forest area in Caruaru, Pernambuco (216 sampling hours) and 260 species in Itanagra, Bahia (288 sampling hours), respectively. Cardoso (1949) recorded 218 butterfly species in the forest of Maceió, Alagoas after many years of sampling. Even though PEDI is located in an urban area of Recife that is close to a large highway, its butterfly fauna is comparable in richness to these other sites in northeastern Brazil.

The richness of Nymphalidae at PEDI was similar to that recorded in Kesselring & Ebert (1982) and in other studies in the region (Cardoso 1949, Paluch et al. 2011, 2016). With seven species recorded, the number of Ithomiini is similar to that recorded in João Pessoa, Paraíba, with eight species (Kesselring & Ebert 1982) and in Itanagra, Bahia, with seven species (Paluch et al. 2016). In contrast, 11 species of Ithomiini were recorded in Maceió, Alagoas (Cardoso 1949), 11 in Areia, Paraíba (see Kerpel et al. 2014), 14 in Caruaru, Pernambuco (Paluch et al. 2011), 17 in Usina Serra Grande, São José da Lage, Alagoas and 18 in the RPPN Frei Caneca, Jaqueira, Pernambuco (DHAM, Carlos E. B. Nobre and AVL unpubl. data), all sites in northeastern Brazil. PEDI lacks typical forest species such as *Aeria olena* ssp., *Hypoleria alema oreas* Weymer, 1899 and *Heterosais edessa* (Hewitson, [1855]), species recorded in some sites in the region (DHAM and AVL pers. obs.). Further expeditions to the large area of “Fazenda Brejo dos Macacos” could add more species of Ithomiini associated with shaded humid forests.

The richness of Hesperiidae and Lycaenidae in PEDI was similar to that recorded by Kesselring & Ebert (1982), but higher than other localities in the region (Cardoso 1949, Paluch et al. 2011, 2016). For

Pieridae, the number of recorded species is similar to most inventories conducted in the region (Cardoso 1949, Kesselring & Ebert 1982, Paluch et al. 2011, 2016). The richness of Papilionidae is low compared to that in southern Atlantic Forest sites (see Brown Jr. & Freitas 2000), though similar to other well-sampled sites on the Atlantic Forest of northeastern Brazil (Kesselring & Ebert 1982, Paluch et al. 2011, 2016). Finally, the number of Riodinidae species was similar to those in Kesselring & Ebert (1982) and Paluch et al. (2016), but was greater than the numbers reported in Cardoso (1949) and Paluch et al. (2011).

## 2. Taxonomic composition

The relative contribution of each butterfly family in PEDI mirrors the pattern reported in the list of Brazilian butterflies and in all well sampled sites in Brazil. Hesperiidae is the richest family, followed by Nymphalidae (Brown Jr. & Freitas 1999, 2000, Francini et al. 2011). Lycaenidae and Riodinidae are equivalent in richness in PEDI, a pattern similar to that observed in most southern Atlantic Forest sites and in montane forests. However, it diverges from that observed in the lowland forests of Rio de Janeiro and Espírito Santo (Brown Jr. & Freitas 2000, Francini et al. 2011), where Riodinidae surpasses Lycaenidae. Clearly, additional surveys in other sites in the Pernambuco Center of Endemism and in the forests of Bahia are needed to better document these patterns.

In the Atlantic Forest, Nymphalidae is considered a reliable surrogate of the total butterfly fauna, generally making up 25-29% of the total butterfly fauna (Brown Jr. & Freitas 2000). Based on this indicator, the fauna of PEDI would be expected to vary between 276 and 320 species, which is consistent with the 288 recorded species.

## 3. Habitat

The fauna of PEDI is dominated by species commonly found along forest edges, in open habitats and disturbed forests. As an example, all species of Pieridae recorded in the study site are typical of secondary forests and disturbed areas with the possible exception of *Leucidia elvina* (Godart, 1819). The same is true for Hesperiidae and Papilionidae, except for *Parides zacynthus polymetus* (Godart, 1819), and the major groups of Nymphalidae. The tribe Ithomiini (Nymphalidae: Danainae) is poorly represented, as noted, with most of those in PEDI associated with open disturbed habitats and forest edges (with the exception of *Napeogenes inachia* ssp.).

## 4. Biogeography

The biogeographic composition of the PEDI fauna shows a large contribution of widely distributed species, as illustrated with the Lycaenidae, Papilionidae and Pieridae. For Lycaenidae for example, many of the species have wide geographic distributions; with 24 of 43 species (56%) occurring from Central America to Brazil. Alternately, some species are primarily Amazonian and penetrate the Atlantic Forest only in the north. Examples are *Nesiostrymon hyccara* (Hewitson, 1868), *Ostrinotes tarena* (Hewitson, 1874), and *Thereus enenia* (Hewitson, 1867). Others are endemic to the Atlantic Forest, such as *Pantheades hebraeus* (Hewitson, 1867) and *Theritas triquetra* (Hewitson, 1865). Although none of the Lycaenidae, Pieridae and Papilionidae at PEDI are endemic to the Pernambuco Center of Endemism, this is not true for Riodinidae. For example, the recently described *Eurybia gonzaga* is known only from Pernambuco (Dolibaina et al. 2014). It was also recorded in "RPPN Frei Caneca", Jaqueira (as type material, see

Dolibaina et al. 2014), in "Parque Natural Municipal Professor João Vasconcelos Sobrinho", Caruaru (cited as *Eurybia pergaea* by Paluch et al. 2011), and in "Estação Ecológica do Tapacurá", São Lourenço da Mata (DHAM pers. obs.). All sites are in Pernambuco, indicating that this species is a common faunistic component of this region. The Nymphalidae also present several taxa endemic or predominantly occurring in the Pernambuco Center of Endemism, such as *Napeogenes inachia* ssp. and *Hypothisis ninonia daetina* (Danainae: Ithomiini), *Pierella hyalinus* ssp. and *Pierella kesselringi* Zacca, Siewert & Paluch, 2016 (Satyrinae: Haeterini), *Morpho helenor anakreon* Fruhstorfer, 1910 (Satyrinae: Morphini) and *Heliconius ethilla flavomaculatus* Weymer, 1894 (Heliconinae).

## 5. Conservation

No threatened butterflies are recorded in PEDI, but there is a historical record (about 50 years ago) of *Morpho menelaus eberti* Fischer, 1962 (Nymphalidae: Satyrinae: Morphini) in the "Chapéu do Sol", deposited in the National Museum of Natural History in Paris (Blandin 2007). Although habitat loss, years of logging and other urban related disturbances could explain the local extinction of *M. menelaus eberti*, this butterfly could still persist in the area in low densities. Another threatened morphine that could be present in the area is *Morpho epistrophus nikolajewna* Weber, 1951. This butterfly has been recorded to the south in Maceió (Cardoso 1949), to the north in Igarassu (Carlos E. B. Nobre pers. comm.) and in João Pessoa (Kesselring & Ebert 1982), which are Atlantic Forest fragments near urban areas. Further sampling is needed before stating that both species of *Morpho* Fabricius, 1807 are absent in forested areas around Recife.

The reported results showed that PEDI possesses a relatively rich butterfly community. Considering the degree of threat to the fauna of the Atlantic Forest of northeastern Brazil, PEDI is of enormous importance for conserving butterflies, as it is for vertebrates such as birds and mammals (Machado et al. 1998). Conservation strategies should be developed in conjunction with public entities, such as the Environment Secretariat of Recife, and non-governmental organizations such as the "Centro de Pesquisas Ambientais do Nordeste" (CEPAN), and with the local communities surrounding the whole area. Priority actions for PEDI should include the proposition of a sustainable management plan focused on reintroduction of locally extinct species of plants and animals, an effective plan for restoring heavily disturbed areas, and establishment of programs of ecological monitoring and management of the surrounding environments so that the area can persist as an important Atlantic Forest remnant.

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## Author Contribution

Douglas H. A. Melo: contributed in the concept and design of the study, data collection, data analysis and interpretation, and in the manuscript preparation.

Marcelo Duarte: contributed in the data analysis and interpretation, and in the critical revision, adding intellectual content.

Olaf H. H. Mielke: contributed in the data analysis and interpretation, and in the critical revision, adding intellectual content.

Robert K. Robbins: contributed in the data analysis and interpretation, and in the critical revision, adding intellectual content.

André V. L. Freitas: contributed in the concept and design of the study, data collection, data analysis and interpretation, manuscript preparation, and in the critical revision, adding intellectual content.

## Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest related to the publication of this manuscript.

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