

REVIEW

THREATENED SWALLOWTAIL BUTTERFLIES OF THE WORLD BY
N. MARK COLLINS & MICHAEL G. MORRIS, 401 pp.

The well-planned, attractive and illustrated I.U.C.N. Red Data Book contains the relevant information on the threatened Swallowtails of the world. The authors have presented invaluable data on these interesting species of butterflies from all over the globe. The subject divided into several sections and parts, is concerned with up-to-date knowledge on systematics, habitat and ecology, zoogeography, threats, conservation measures, critical analysis and reviews of threatened species and also trade in Swallowtail butterflies under legislation. This is further supplemented by a couple of appendices, of which one deals with the list of Papilionidae in threatened categories and the other, with that of the members requiring future monitoring and research, apart from tables, plates etc. A brief discussion on the interrelationships of Swallowtails with man and science, on habitat alteration and des-

truction, pollution, exotic introductions, commercial exploitation, management and research, etc., is worth reading and enhances the practical utility of the book. With the publication of this book, the deficiency of our knowledge on the threatened species is much covered. It will serve as a sound reference to the world species of Papilionidae with special reference to their endangered status. This may be used extensively by the global lepidopterologists interested in the field of conservation. However, the authors have not dealt with the population structure and dynamics in the present context, but the host of information provided by them will certainly act as the baseline data for future investigation. Finally, the language, overall framing and expressions used in the book are quite lucid and comprehensive. The distinctive style and excellent printing of the book is a welcome addition to wild life literature.

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