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Cover: Watercolour illustrations—Striped Tiger *Danaus genutia*, Common Silverline *Cigaritis vulcanus*, Tamil Lacewing *Cethosia mahratta*. © Mayur Nandikar.



An updated checklist of the skippers (Lepidoptera: Hesperiidae) of Bhutan

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Abstract: The authors conducted a comprehensive review of Hesperidae species in Bhutan, scrutinizing three existing checklists and 25 new records presented by Van der Poel et al. (2023). A thorough examination of all available documents and evidence confirmed 145 Hesperidae species in Bhutan, with four additional species listed as tentative and one as “cf.” (requiring further research). The updated checklist excludes 14 species that were listed in one or more of the three existing checklists and provides justifications for not including these species. Additionally, 11 unverifiable or wrongly identified species presented by non-peer-reviewed sources were not included in the checklist. Sixteen species with no verifiable records in the last 70 years were also identified. This review provides a comprehensive and authoritative checklist of Hesperidae species in Bhutan.

Keywords: Butterflies, Himalaya, insect fauna, Papilionoidea, review, Rhopalocera, species.

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Author contributions: Karma initiated the checklist project and provided all information on records from Bhutan for the species concerned. Piet carried out the literature research for these species, did a first check of the identifications, wrote the text and prepared the table. Sajan checked the identifications, commented on the text, edited some parts and wrote the abstract and conclusions.

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INTRODUCTION

Butterflies of Bhutan did not receive much attention until the beginning of this century. Evans (1932) noted that lists of butterfly species for Nepal, Garhwal, and Bhutan would be interesting. Evans (1949) documented 43 species collected in Bhutan, with specimens held in the British Museum. Yazaki & Kanmuri (1985) reported on butterflies of western Bhutan and presented a list of 265 butterfly species for the whole country; the list included 25 Hesperidae. Harada (1987a,b) listed 124 species with pictures, including six Hesperidae, for western Bhutan, based on specimens collected in April–May of 1983. Van der Poel & Wangchuk (2007) published the first guidebook featuring pictures of 136 butterfly species of Bhutan, including eight Hesperidae. Several other survey reports, guidebooks, and local checklists were published between 2012 and 2014, mostly relying on photographic evidence, although the pictures were often not included in the documents. Wangdi et al. (2012) reported 70 butterfly species, including 16 Hesperidae, from Trashiyangtse, based on voucher specimens collected in 2011 during a joint Bhutanese-Japanese survey in northeastern Bhutan. Wangdi & Sherub (2014) published a guidebook on the Hesperidae of Bhutan, listing and illustrating 92 species.

In 2012, Yazaki published a 268-page book on the butterflies of Bhutan in Japanese, which included 26 Hesperidae but the authors were unable to consult the document as it was only distributed in Japan. Around 2013, Van Gasse posted an online PDF document on the butterflies of the Indian subcontinent. His Bhutan listings were primarily based on original descriptions, Evans (1932, 1949), and subsequent publications. An updated version of his annotated checklist of butterflies of the Indian subcontinent was published online five years later (Van Gasse 2018). It is presumed that Van Gasse (2018) considered species reported in recent documents as valid records if they were likely to occur in Bhutan. The first checklist of butterflies of Bhutan was compiled by Singh & Chib (2015), who listed 670 species based on all available documents on Bhutanese butterflies, generally assuming the correctness of species identifications in these documents but omitting some unlikely or misidentified species. In contrast, Sbordoni et al. (2015) reported 533 species, primarily relying on photographs with verified identifications. The main disparity between these lists was the number of Hesperidae species: 73 in Sbordoni et al. (2015) versus 139 in Singh & Chib (2015).

Since 2015, local butterfly photographers and surveyors have added species to the known hesperiid

fauna of Bhutan. We considered some of their identifications as doubtful if the pictures did not show the necessary distinguishing characteristics. Van der Poel et al. (2023) reviewed the evidence for these reported species; they checked published documents, grey literature, their own pictures, and pictures sent to them or found posted on the internet. For first records of a species and confirmation of a tentative species, they accepted records whose identifications they were 98–100% certain of. For recent records of species already reliably reported from Bhutan, they accepted records whose identifications they were 90% or more certain of. They officially reported 25 first records of Hesperidae for Bhutan. This included species reported before in grey literature and on the internet, which are generally considered as not “officially” published. This also included species that were reported before, based on wrong or doubtful identifications, for which they found clear evidence. Furthermore, Van der Poel et al. (2023) provided pictorial evidence of another 25 species that were not reported with verifiable evidence in the last 70 years.

Some records from “Bhutan” in old documents from the time of the British Empire were reported from areas that are not within the present-day boundaries of Bhutan. For example:

1. *Celaenorrhinus flavocincta* was described by De Nicéville (1887) based on three specimens from the collections of Messrs. Knyvett and Möller, all obtained near “Buxa, Bhutan”. However, Buxa is now located in Alipurduar District of West Bengal, India. Evans (1949) reported *Celaenorrhinus flavocincta* from “Bhutan”, without specifying “Buxa”. Subsequently, Singh & Chib (2015) and Van Gasse (2018) included the species in their checklists for Bhutan.

2. *Celaenorrhinus plagifera* was listed by De Nicéville (1889) with habitat: Sikkim, Bhutan. However, from the rest of the text of De Nicéville (1889), it appears that the Bhutan specimens came from the collection of Mr. Knyvett, known to have mainly collected near “Buxa Bhutan”.

The Treaty of Sinchula in 1865 determined more or less the location of the present boundary between Bhutan and India. Many authors in the late 19th and early 20th century continued to refer to the area around Buxa in Alipurduar District of West Bengal as “Buxa, Bhutan”. Some publications indicated as collection area “British Bhutan”, which referred to the Kalimpong area of West Bengal, India.

METHODS

The authors first prepared a preliminary list of the Hesperidae of Bhutan based on the checklists of Sbordoni et al. (2015), Singh & Chib (2015), and Van Gasse (2018). Singh & Chib (2015) listed the source documents for each species on which its listing was based. Other potential species were added to the preliminary list based on photographic evidence reported for Bhutan in recent documents, pictures posted on the internet, such as the Bhutan Biodiversity Portal (BBP) website, and pictures taken by or sent to the authors.

Species that were reported for Bhutan by Evans (1949) or Kehimkar (2008) were generally accepted as correct records. Evans' records for Bhutan were based on specimens in the British Museum (Natural History Museum, London). Isaac Kehimkar (pers. comm. 2023) reported that his 2008 listings for Bhutan were generally based on Evans (1932, 1949) or old documents in the library of the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS). Thus, these species, which were based on old reports, were included in our checklist, unless the area from which the specimens were collected is certainly or most likely outside the present-day boundaries of Bhutan, e.g., in Buxa. Recent records for these species were accepted if the authors were at least 90% certain of their identification. This percentage is an estimate by the authors and is based on how well the characteristics of the photographed individual fit the characteristics of the species. It is especially useful for similar species with overlapping characteristics, such as *Potanthus* species. Websites such as observation.org give for automatically identified butterfly photographs the percentage chance that it is a particular species.

For all hesperiid species reported after 1949, the authors sought verifiable evidence in the form of pictures showing distinguishing characteristics of the species. Some of the species listed in the three checklists were based on only one or two source documents. Many source documents presented species without verifiable evidence. We considered some of the presented pictorial evidence insufficient for correct identification, e.g., when only the upperside or underside were shown and both sides were needed for identification. Several source documents listed misidentified species as the accompanying pictures were of different species. Thus, there was no guarantee that even species listed in all three checklists were reliably reported from Bhutan. Therefore, we checked for each species the reported sources to find the first record with correctly identified pictures or specimens for Bhutan. We also checked

for the first correctly identified recent (since 2000) record. The pictorial evidence was verified by checking the identification with butterfly guidebooks, websites for SE Asia, original descriptions, and available recent literature. The consulted guidebooks included Evans (1949), Smith (1994, 2006, 2011, 2015), Kehimkar (2008, 2016), and Smetacek (2017). The websites included yutaka.it-n.jp, iNaturalist.org, and ifoundbutterflies.org. The authors discussed the identification of a number of individuals with several lepidopterists and naturalists. The consulted recent literature is mentioned in this document under the concerned species.

Species for which no verifiable evidence could be found and species for which the listing in the three checklists was entirely based on misidentifications in the source documents were not included in our Hesperidae checklist for Bhutan. The reasons for not including these species are given later in this article for each of the species. Possible first records of species for which we considered the identification most probably (90–98% chance) correct were listed as tentative. This included species for which no study of the genitalia or DNA analysis was carried out, while this is required for confirmation of the identification. The authors assigned “cf.” to records of individuals that differ from a known species and could potentially be a new species for Bhutan or a new form, subspecies, or species new to science. Tentative and “cf.” species were listed, but not counted as species present in Bhutan. The updated checklist is arranged according to Zhang et al. (2023) for Hesperinae and follows the same principles for other subfamilies. For the placement of *Apostictopterus fuliginosus* Leech, [1893] we followed Zhu et al. (2023).

RESULTS

1. Checklist of Hesperidae of Bhutan (Table 1.): The updated checklist of the Hesperidae of Bhutan lists 145 species and four tentative species. Tentative species are likely to occur in Bhutan, but the evidence presented until now was considered insufficient (i.e., the identification was considered to be 90–98% certain). One possible species, which requires additional research, is listed as “*Pedesta cf. gupta*”, and is also not counted as a species of Bhutan. The updated checklist comprises more hesperiid species than the earlier lists (73 in Sbordoni et al. (2015), 139 in Singh & Chib (2015), and 142 in Van Gasse (2018)). Verification of the species' identification was given much more importance by the authors than in the three checklists cited above.

In addition, the checklist gives the first record from Bhutan, that the authors could find, for each species and the first recent record in this century. It also reports if species were first recorded or confirmed by Yazaki & Kanmuri (1985) or Harada (1987a). This allows any researcher, who may doubt the validity of a particular record, to check the reliability of the evidence presented for the species in the checklist.

To make it clear to other researchers which species were considered but not included in our checklist, we present these species in two lists. We also give reasons why these species were not included:

- Eleven species that were not listed in the three checklists but were reported in grey literature or online based on wrong or doubtful (less than 90% certain) identifications;

- Fourteen species that were listed in at least one of the three checklists but of which the identifications in the source documents were wrong or doubtful.

2. Species that were reported from Bhutan: In general publications, non-published reports, or on the internet, but were not included in any of the three mentioned checklists. We consider their identifications to be wrong or doubtful, or could not find any pictorial evidence. These include (with re-identification, using guidebooks and websites indicated in the methodology):

- o **Abaratha alida** (de Nicéville, 1891) Alida Angle (no pictorial evidence);
- o **Celaenorrhinus patula** de Nicéville, 1889 Large Spotted Flat (picture was *C. putra*);
- o **Celaenorrhinus pero** de Nicéville, 1889 Mussoorie Spotted Flat (picture was *C. putra*);
- o **Celaenorrhinus sumitra** (Moore, [1866]) Moore's Spotted Flat (de Nicéville (1889) reported it from "Rikisum, British Bhutan", which is now in Kalimpong, West Bengal);
- o **Pedesta (Thoressa) baileyi** (South, 1914) reported on the Bhutan Biodiversity Portal (BBP) website. The picture was of *P. pandita*. The undersides of these two species can be quite similar. Fig. S1-32 of "*P. baileyi*" upperside in Li et al. (2019) was also of *P. pandita*;
- o **Satarupa gopala** Moore, [1866] Large White Flat (picture was of *S. zulla*);
- o **Potanthus tibetana** Huang, 2002 (picture ID uncertain, possibly *P. nestia* or *P. mara*). It has several characteristics different from the description of *P. tibetana* in Huang (2002);
- o **Idmon distanti** (Shepard, 1937) Spotless Bob (picture was of *Baoris* spp.);

- o **Baoris pagana** (de Nicéville, 1887) Figure of Eight Swift (picture was *Caltoris* sp.);

- o **Caltoris cormasa** (Hewitson, 1876) Full-stop Swift (no pictorial evidence);

- o **Caltoris plebeia** (de Nicéville, 1887) Tufted Swift (no pictorial evidence).

3. Species listed in the previous checklists, but not in the new Hesperidae checklist of Bhutan:

These species were listed in one or more of the three reviewed checklists. For these species, we judged the identifications to be certainly wrong or doubtful. We called an identification doubtful if we considered the chance that the original identification was correct between 0 and 89%.

Subfamily Tagiadinae, Tribe Celaenorrhini

Celaenorrhinus aurivittata (Moore, [1879]) Dark Yellow-banded Flat was reported for Bhutan by Wangdi & Sherub (2014, p.39) as *C. aurivittatus* [sic] from Punakha Dzongkhag. Based on Wangdi & Sherub (2014), *C. aurivittata* was listed in the checklists of Singh & Chib (2015) and Van Gasse (2018), but Shing & Chib (2014) also listed *C. aurivittatus*. Van der Poel et al. (2023) re-identified the picture of Wangdi & Sherub (2014, p.39) as *C. dhanada affinis* and indicated that *affinis* and *dhanada* are probably separate species, as their distribution areas overlap in Chiang Mai, Thailand (yutaka.it-n.jp website). These two "species" are probably also sympatric in Bhutan, where both have been reported from adjoining valleys in Mongar Dzongkhag.

Celaenorrhinus flavocincta (de Nicéville, 1887) Bhutan Flat was listed for Bhutan by Singh & Chib (2015) and Van Gasse (2018), because "Bhutan" was the type locality of the species or because it was mentioned by Evans (1949). De Nicéville (1887) described it from specimens obtained near Buxa, Bhutan, which is now in Alipurduar District of West Bengal. Thus, these specimens were most likely not collected from within Bhutan's present-day boundaries. Consequently, it was not included in our Hesperidae checklist of Bhutan. It probably should be renamed "Buxa Flat", especially since even at the time of its description by De Nicéville (1887), Buxa was already part of British India.

Tribe Tagiadini

Capila lidderdali (Elwes, 1888) Lidderdale's Dawnfly. Elwes (1888) described it as "*Chaeticneme? lidderdali*". He inspected a single specimen in the British Museum of which he stated: "and though it may possibly have

come from Buxa, is more probably a Sikkim insect". Elwes & Edwards (1897) indicated that it came from the collection of Dr. Lidderdale, who collected near Buxa and Darjeeling". Thus, with Buxa now being in West Bengal, it was not described from present-day Bhutan. Although Evans (1932) indicated only Bhutan as the collection area, in Evans (1949) this was changed to Sikkim or Bhutan, more in line with Elwes & Edwards (1897), although Darjeeling is not in Sikkim. Thus, the species was not included.

Coladenia hoenei Evans, 1939 was reported for Bhutan by Harada (1987a). It is now considered to be *Coladenia pinsbukana* (Shimonoya & Murayama, 1976). The two species are very similar. Huang (2021) stated that *C. hoenei* is restricted to the Chinese provinces of Shaanxi, Gansu, and Henan, and he reports *C. pinsbukana occidentalis* from Yunnan, Laos, Thailand, and Sikkim (India). Hence, *C. hoenei* was not included in our HesperIIDae checklist of Bhutan. For more detail on this rather confusing name change, see Van der Poel et al. (2023).

Seseria dohertyi (Watson, 1893) Himalayan White Flat was reported for Bhutan by Singh & Chib (2015) referring to Singh (2012) and Wangdi & Sherub (2014). *Seseria dohertyi* was also reported by Van Gasse (2018), very probably based on the same two reports. However, the picture in Singh (2012, image 52) is of *Gerosis phisara* and the picture in Wangdi & Sherub (2014, p.43) is of *Seseria sambara*, as it has a narrow spot in space 1b of the upper forewing which is notched outwardly; also, the white part of the upper hindwing and abdomen is sullied and not clear in the wet season form (Evans, 1949). Thus, *S. dohertyi* was not included in our checklist of HesperIIDae species of Bhutan.

Subfamily Heteropterinae

Carterocephalus silvicola (Meigen, 1829) Chequered Skipper was reported for Bhutan by Wangdi & Sherub (2014) from Thimphu, Paro, and Haa Dzongkhags and listed for western Bhutan by Van Gasse (2018), most probably based on Wangdi & Sherub (2014). The picture in Wangdi & Sherub (2014, p.79) was re-identified as *C. avanti* (de Nicéville, 1886). As there are no other reports of *C. silvicola*, it was not included in our checklist of HesperIIDae of Bhutan.

Subfamily HesperIIDae, Tribe Taractrocerini

Potanthus Scudder, 1872 spp. Many *Potanthus* species are very hard to identify and often analysis of the

genitalia is the main way to identify them with certainty. The authors have accepted the five *Potanthus* species listed by Evans (1949) as correct. The other five species, listed by Singh & Chib (2015) and mostly also by Van Gasse (2018), have been scrutinized. *Potanthus dara* and *P. juno* were not included in our checklist and is explained later. Van der Poel et al. (2023) reported *P. pseudomaesa* as a species for Bhutan, *P. ganga* as a tentative species, and confirmed *P. trachala* as a species present in Bhutan. Thus, we have included seven *Potanthus* species in our checklist and one tentative *Potanthus* species.

Potanthus juno (Evans, 1932) Burmese Dart. *Potanthus juno* was listed by Van Gasse (2018) from Tsirang. Yazaki & Kanmuri (1986), A. Singh (2012), J. I. Singh (2014), and Singh & Chib (2014, 2016) reported on butterflies of Tsirang, but *P. juno* was not listed by any of them. Thus, the source of the listing by Van Gasse (2018) is not clear. The authors asked him about the source but did not receive a reply. Since there is no proof of the occurrence of *P. juno* in Bhutan, it was not included in our checklist, although it was reported as occurring in Assam by Varshney & Smetacek (2015).

Potanthus dara (Kollar, [1844]) Himalayan Dart was listed without a picture in Sbordon et al. (2015) and in Singh & Chib (2015), the latter based it on the following three publications;

- Singh (2014), only listed the name, but did not present a picture;
- Nidup (2015), also only listed the name, *P. dara*;
- Wangdi & Sherub (2014, p.58) presented pictures 1 and 2. These do not show the conspicuous spot in space 6 of the hindwing of *P. dara*, while also the forewing spots in spaces 4 and 5 are not separate from the spots in 3 and 6; thus, these are congeners. Most likely, image 1 is *P. mara*, but it could also be *P. nestia*, and image 2 may be *P. pseudomaesa*.

Another picture reported to be of *P. dara*, possibly the picture on which the listing in Sbordon et al. (2015) was based, also was not *P. dara*, since it had a conspicuous upper hindwing spot in space 7 rather than in 6. It was a typical example of *P. trachala* (see Van der Poel et al. 2023). Moreover, the authors are not aware of any reliable report confirming the presence of *P. dara* east of Central Nepal. *Potanthus dara* may well have been listed for Bhutan in other publications and on the internet, but the authors think that it is highly unlikely to occur in Bhutan. Hence, *P. dara* is not included in our HesperIIDae checklist.

Tribe Erionotini

Erionota thrax (Linnaeus, 1767), Palm Redeye, was listed for Bhutan by Singh & Chib (2015), apparently only based on Wangdi & Sherub (2014). However, we determined that the picture in Wangdi & Sherub (2014, p.69) was of *E. torus*, since the upper forewing termen and apex were rounded. It was not listed for Bhutan by Van Gasse (2018), who probably also realised that the picture was of *E. torus*. Consequently, *E. thrax* was not included in our checklist of HesperIIDae of Bhutan.

Matapa purpurascens Elwes & Edwards, 1897, Purple Redeye, was reported for Bhutan by Wangdi & Sherub (2014) from Zhemgang Dzongkhags and listed for Bhutan by Van Gasse (2018), most probably based on Wangdi & Sherub (2014). The picture in Wangdi & Sherub (2014, p.70) was re-identified as *Matapa druna*, and was listed as a first record for Bhutan in Van der Poel et al. (2023). As there appeared to be no other records of the species, *M. purpurascens* was not included in our checklist of HesperIIDae of Bhutan.

Pudicitia pholus (de Nicéville, 1889), Spotted Redeye, was described by De Nicéville (1889) as *Parnara pholus*. At least one and probably both of the two specimens were collected “near Buxa, Bhutan” in August. De Nicéville (1995) placed it in a new genus *Pudicitia*. Evans (1932) gave the distribution area for *P. pholus* as Bhutan to Naga Hills. This was probably the source of Van Gasse’s (2018) listing. “Buxa, Bhutan” is presently in Alipurduar District of West Bengal, India. Evans (1949) did not list *P. pholus* for Bhutan, possibly because Buxa was no longer in Bhutan. Thus, there appears to be no proof of this species having been reported from within the present-day boundaries of Bhutan. Consequently, the species was not included in our HesperIIDae checklist of Bhutan.

Suastus minutus (Moore, 1877), Small Palm Bob, was listed by Singh & Chib (2015) and, probably based on that, by Van Gasse (2018). Yazaki & Kanmuri (1985) was listed as a source by Singh & Chib (2015), however, Yazaki & Kanmuri (1985) did not list *S. minutus* (and also not *S. gremius*). Thus, it is not clear on which document the listing of *S. minutus* was based. Consequently, this species was not included in our HesperIIDae checklist of Bhutan.

Tribe Baorini

Caltoris brunnea (Snellen, 1876), Dark-branded Swift, was reported for Bhutan by Wangdi & Sherub (2014) from Mongar Dzongkhags and listed for Bhutan

by Van Gasse (2018), most probably based on the aforementioned publication. The picture in Wangdi & Sherub (2014, p.73) is almost certainly of *Pelopidas sinensis*. Thus, *C. brunnea* will be removed from the species checklist of butterflies of Bhutan. Image 3, taken by Karma Wangdi, was identified as possibly *C. brunnea* and not *C. tulsii*, *C. kumara* or *C. cahira*. The chance of it being *C. brunnea* was considered too low (<90%) to justify listing it as a tentative species.

Parnara ganga Evans, 1937, Continental Swift, was only reported for Bhutan by Wangdi & Sherub (2014) from Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhags and listed for W. Bhutan by Van Gasse (2018), most probably based on Wangdi & Sherub (2014). *Parnara bada* (Moore, 1878) was reported from Bhutan in several publications, including Wangdi et al. (2012). The individual in Image 4, copied from Wangdi & Sherub (2014, p.72), does not show the characteristics of *P. ganga* as indicated by Evans (1949): upperside forewing may have a lower cell spot. It also does not have the characteristics indicated by Evans (1949) for *P. bada*: the upper side forewing may have an upper cell spot and the underside hindwing may have a spot in 6. However, the hindwing spots of *P. bada* are generally smaller than those of *P. ganga*. Thus, the individual in image 4 is more likely to be *P. bada*, and its identification as *P. ganga* is doubtful, not warranting reporting it as a first record or tentative record for Bhutan. As there appeared to be no other records, *Parnara ganga* was not included in our checklist of HesperIIDae of Bhutan.

Pelopidas thrax (Hübner, [1821]), Desert Branded Swift, was reported for Bhutan by Sbordon et al. (2015) and Van Gasse (2018). The picture on which Sbordon et al. (2015) based their listing has not been found. The source of Van Gasse’s (2018) listing of spp. *masta* may have been Sbordon et al. (2015). Although it is likely to occur in Bhutan, no evidence for *P. thrax* has been found, and consequently, it was not included in our HesperIIDae checklist of Bhutan.

4. Species not recorded in the last 70 years (one species not since 1985):

Choaspes furcata Evans, 1932, Hooked Awlwing, listed by Evans (1949, possibly based on Evans (1932)), no recent reports; often (FUNET, Varshney & Smetacek 2015, Van Gasse 2018) listed as *Choaspes furcatus*. The original description was *C. plateni furcata* and GBIF lists it as *Choaspes furcata*;

Hasora taminatus (Hübner, 1818), White-banded

Awl, was reported in old BNHM documents (Kehimkar 2008) and reported by Yazaki & Kanmuri (1985), no recent reports;

Celaenorrhinus badia (Hewitson, 1877), Scarce Banded Flat, listed by Evans (1949, source of listing unknown), no recent reports;

Celaenorrhinus pyrrha de Nicéville, 1889, Double-spotted Flat, was described from Bhutan by De Nicéville (1889) and listed by Evans (1949), no recent reports;

Capila zennara (Moore, 1866), Pale Striped Dawnfly, listed by Evans (1949, source of listing unknown), no recent reports;

Gerosis bhagava (Moore, [1866]), Common Yellow-breast Flat, listed by Kehimkar (2008), based on old BNHM documents, recent listings had no evidence;

Pyrgus cashmirensis Moore, 1874, Kashmir Skipper, listed by Evans (1949, source of listing unknown), no recent reports.

Baracus vittatus (Felder, 1862), Hedge Hopper, listed by Evans (1949, source of listing unknown), no recent reports;

Creteus cyrina (Hewitson, 1876), Nonsuch Palmer, listed by Evans (1949) possibly based on De Nicéville (1895), no recent reports;

Potanthus confucius (C. & R. Felder, 1862), Chinese Dart, listed by Evans (1949, source of listing unknown). Recent listings and postings on BBP were wrongly identified or had no or insufficient evidence. One BBP posting was likely to be *P. confucius*, but some characteristics for a reliable confirmation were not visible;

Potanthus nestia (Evans, 1934), Brandless Dart, listed by Evans (1949, source of listing unknown), recent listings had no or insufficient evidence;

Potanthus palnia (Evans, 1914), Palni Dart, listed by Evans (1949, source of listing unknown), recent listings had no or insufficient evidence;

Potanthus rectifasciata (Elwes & Edwards, 1897), Branded Dart, listed by Evans (1949, source of listing unknown). It was described by Elwes & Edwards (1897) from Sikkim. No recent reports;

Koruthaialos butleri (de Nicéville, [1884]), Dark Velvet Bob, described from Bhutan, recent listings had no evidence or were not identifiable (too dark);

Caltoris tulsi (de Nicéville, [1884]), Purple Swift, listed by Evans (1949, source of listing unknown), recent listings had no evidence or were wrongly identified;

Pelopidas subochracea (Moore, 1878), Moore's Swift, listed by Kehimkar (2008), based on old BNHM documents, recent listings were wrongly identified or were listed without verifiable evidence.

DISCUSSION

The main difference between the present and the three previous checklists is that the previous ones seldom checked the reliability of the identifications in their source documents. It appeared that Singh & Chib (2015) often accepted the reported identifications in their source documents as correct if the species was reported by several sources regardless of the accuracy. They appeared more critical if a species was only reported by one source. Van Gasse (2018) generally accepted reported records of species that were likely to occur in Bhutan, apparently without critically checking the presented evidence. Sbordoni et al. (2015) looked more critically at the presented pictorial evidence but still accepted certain identifications that Van der Poel et al. (2023) considered to be misidentifications.

Sixteen of the species in the updated checklist have not been reported with verifiable evidence in the last 70 years. Many other species reported from nearby areas such as Sikkim and western Arunachal Pradesh are likely to be present in Bhutan. To increase the chance of finding these species regular, systematic butterfly surveys in a wide range of habitats across Bhutan are recommended.

Misidentification is not just a problem for beginning butterfly photographers. Earlier, the authors indicated that most probably all identifications of *P. dara* in Bhutan were wrong. This is what Evans (1949) wrote on misidentifications of *P. dara*:

"[*dara* is given in] Fig Lep Ind, pl. 816/3 ♂ as *nala*. Of the figures marked *dara*: Leech, pl. 40/14 is *pava*; Elwes & Edwards, pl. 25/69 genitalia are *flava*; Kershaw 1905, pl. 14/22 is *pseudomaesa clio*; Lep Ind, pl. 814/2 ♂ is *palnia* and ♀ *trachala tytleri*; Rhop Java, pl. 9/65 is *trachala*."

The authors urge all butterfly researchers and surveyors to double-check their identifications and have them verified by experts before publishing them, and to publish their findings only in peer-reviewed journals.

A persistent problem, especially on the Indian subcontinent, is the use of different scientific and common names of species by different organisations. In theory, there is only one correct scientific name for a species. However, scientists do not always agree on newly proposed names or on raising subspecies to species level. Moreover, with increased DNA sequencing, the placement and names of many species will change. Zhang et al. (2022) presented significant recent taxonomic changes based on genomic analysis. Hou et al. (2023) added additional taxonomic changes. Beginning butterfly surveyors often use the names as

Table 1. Checklist of Hesperidae of Bhutan.

*—Source documents (see References for details): a+b=publication (a) that reported this species and publication (b) that presented the related evidence.

CTS18: Cheku et al. (2018); CBF23: Chiba et al. (2023); dNc**: De Nicéville (18**) ** = 83[84], 85, 86, 89, 90, 95; Drj14: Dorji (2014); Ev49: Evans (1949); Hr87: Harada (1887a); JSW14: JSWNP (2014); K08-old lit: Kehimkar (2008) based on old documents in BNHS library; Nd15: Nidup (2015); P&W07: Van der Poel & Wangchuk (2007); PWK23: Van der Poel et al. (2023); S&C16: Singh & Chib (2016); Sb15: Sbordoni et al. (2015); Si12: Singh (2012); Si14: Singh (2014); vG15: Van Gasse (2015); W&S14: Wangdi & Sherub (2014); Wea12: Wangdi et al. (2012); Wm&dN87: Wood-Mason & de Nicéville (1887); Y&K85: Yazaki & Kanmuri (1985).

	Species name	Authority, year	Subspecies (Authority, year)	Common name	Bht 1st record*	Bht recent record
Subfamily COELIADINAE						(no recent observt.)
1	<i>Badamia exclamatoris</i>	(Fabricius, 1775)		Brown Awl	K08-old lit	W&S14
2	<i>Bibasis sena</i>	(Moore, [1866])	<i>sena</i> (Moore, [1866])	Orange-tailed Awlet	K08-old lit	W&S14
3	<i>Burara amara</i>	(Moore, [1866])		Small Green Awlet	Si12	← see 1 st record
4	<i>Burara anadi</i>	(de Nicéville, [1884])	<i>anadi</i> (de Nicéville, [1884])	Plain Orange Awlet	PWK23	←
5	<i>Burara gomata</i>	(Moore, [1866])	<i>gomata</i> (Moore, [1866])	Pale Green Awlet	Sb15+ PWK23	←
6	<i>Burara harisa</i>	(Moore, [1866])	<i>harisa</i> (Moore, [1866])	Orange-striped Awlet	W&S14	←
7	<i>Burara jaina</i>	(Moore, [1866])	<i>jaina</i> (Moore, [1866])	Orange Awlet	K08-old lit	Si12
8	<i>Burara oedipodea</i>	(Swainson, 1820)	<i>belesis</i> (Mabille, 1876)	Branded Orange Awlet	Ev49	W&S14
9	<i>Burara vasutana</i>	(Moore, [1866])		Green Awlet	W&S14	←
10	<i>Choaspes benjaminii</i>	(Guérin-Ménéville, 1843)	<i>japonica</i> (Murray, 1875)	Indian Awlking	Wea12	←
11	<i>Choaspes furcata</i>	Evans, 1932		Hooked Awlking	Ev49	
12	<i>Choaspes xanthopogon</i>	(Kollar, [1844])		Similar Awlking	PWK23	←
13	<i>Hasora anura</i>	de Nicéville, 1889	<i>anura</i> de Nicéville, 1889	Slate Awl	K08-old lit	PWK23
14	<i>Hasora badra</i>	(Moore, [1858])	<i>badra</i> (Moore, [1858])	Common Awl	W&S14	←
15	<i>Hasora chromus</i>	(Cramer, [1780])	<i>chromus</i> (Cramer, [1780])	Common Banded Awl	K08-old lit	W&S14
16	<i>Hasora taminatus</i>	(Hübner, 1818)	<i>bhavara</i> Fruhstorfer, 1911	White-banded Awl	K08-old lit	Y&K85/
17	<i>Hasora vitta</i>	(Butler, 1870)	<i>indica</i> Evans, 1932	Plain Banded Awl	W&S14	←
Subfamily EUDAMINAE						
18	<i>Lobocla liliana</i>	(Atkinson, 1871)	<i>liliana</i> (Atkinson, 1871)	Marbled Flat	K08-old lit	PWK23
Subfamily TAGIADINAE						
Tribe Celaenorrhini						
19	<i>Celaenorrhinus badia</i>	(Hewitson, 1877)		Scarce Banded Flat	Ev49	
20	<i>Celaenorrhinus dhanada</i>	(Moore, [1866])	<i>dhanada</i> (Moore, 1865)	Himalayan Yellow-banded Flat	Ev49	W&S14 + PWK23
			<i>affinis</i> (Elwes & Edwards, 1897)		PWK23	←
21	<i>Celaenorrhinus leucocera</i>	(Kollar, [1844])		Common Spotted Flat	dNc89	Wea12
22	<i>Celaenorrhinus munda</i>	(Moore, 1884)	<i>munda</i> (Moore, 1884)	Himalayan Spotted Flat	Y&K85	W&S14
			<i>maculicornis</i> (Elwes & Edwards, 1897)		W&S14	←
23	<i>Celaenorrhinus nigricans</i>	(de Nicéville, 1885)	<i>nigricans</i> (de Nicéville, 1885)	Small-banded Flat	Ev49 (mb outside Bht)	Sb15+ PWK23
Tentv	<i>Celaenorrhinus plagifera</i>	de Nicéville, 1889		De Nicéville's Spotted Flat	dNc89 (Knyvett collection)	
24	<i>Celaenorrhinus pulomaya</i>	(Moore, [1866])	<i>pulomaya</i> (Moore, [1866])	Multi-spotted Flat	dNc89	PWK23
25	<i>Celaenorrhinus putra</i>	(Moore, [1866])	<i>putra</i> (Moore, [1866])	Bengal Spotted Flat	Ev49	W&S14
26	<i>Celaenorrhinus pyrrha</i>	de Nicéville, 1889		Double-spotted Flat	dNc89	
27	<i>Celaenorrhinus ratna</i>	Fruhstorfer, 1909	<i>tytleri</i> Evans, 1926	Tytler's Multi-spotted Flat	Wea12	←
28	<i>Pseudocoladenia fabia</i>	(Evans, 1949)		Dented Pied Flat	Ev49	PWK23

	Species name	Authority, year	Subspecies (Authority, year)	Common name	Bht 1st record*	Bht recent record
29	<i>Pseudocoladenia fatua</i>	(Evans, 1949)		Sikkim Pied Flat	Ev49	PWK23
30	<i>Pseudocoladenia festa</i>	(Evans, 1949)		Naga Pied Flat	Ev49	Wea12
31	<i>Sarangesa dasahara</i>	(Moore, [1866])	<i>dasahara</i> (Moore, [1866])	Common Small Flat	Ev49	Y&K85/ W&S14
Tribe Tagiadini						
32	<i>Abaratha agama</i>	(Moore, [1858])	<i>agama</i> (Moore, [1858])	Spotted Angle	Ev49	W&S14
33	<i>Abaratha angulata</i>	(C. Felder, 1862)	<i>angulata</i> (C. Felder, 1862)	Chestnut Angle	Ev49	W&S14
34	<i>Capila jayadeva</i>	Moore, [1866]		Striped Dawnfly	K08-old lit	JSW14+ PWK23
35	<i>Capila pennicillatum</i>	(de Nicéville, [1893])	<i>pennicillatum</i> (de Nicéville, [1893])	Fringed Dawnfly	PWK23	←
36	<i>Capila zennara</i>	(Moore, [1866])		Pale Striped Dawnfly	Ev49	
37	<i>Coladenia agni</i>	(de Nicéville, [1884])	<i>agni</i> (de Nicéville, [1884])	Brown Pied Flat	PWK23	←
38	<i>Coladenia indrani</i>	(Moore, [1866])	<i>indrani</i> (Moore, [1866])	Tricolour Pied Flat	Ev49	Drj14
39	<i>Coladenia pinsbukana</i>	(Shimonoya & Murayama, 1976)	<i>occidentalis</i> Huang, 2021	Large-spot Pied Flat	Hr87	PWK23
40	<i>Darpa hanria</i>	Moore, [1866]		Hairy Angle	W&S14	←
41	<i>Gerosis bhagava</i>	(Moore, [1866])	<i>lebadea</i> (Hewitson, 1886)	Common Yellow-breast Flat	K08-old lit	
42	<i>Gerosis phisara</i>	(Moore, 1884)	<i>phisara</i> (Moore, 1884)	Dusky Yellow-breast Flat	K08-old lit	P&W07
43	<i>Gerosis sinica</i>	(C. & R. Felder, 1862)	<i>narada</i> (Moore, 1884)	White Yellow-breast Flat	Wea12	←
44	<i>Pintara tabrica</i>	(Hewitson, 1873)	<i>tabrica</i> (Hewitson, 1873)	Crenulate Orange Flat	CTS18	←
45	<i>Satarupa zulla</i>	Tytler, 1915	<i>zulla</i> Tytler, 1915	Tytler's White Flat	W&S14	←
46	<i>Seseria sambara</i>	(Moore, [1866])	<i>sambara</i> (Moore, [1866])	Sikkim White Flat	Ev49	PWK23
47	<i>Tagiades gana</i>	(Moore, [1866])	<i>athos</i> Plötz, 1884	Suffused Snow Flat	K08-old lit	W&S14
48	<i>Tagiades ravi</i>	(Moore, [1866])	<i>ravi</i> (Moore, [1866])	Common Snow Flat	K08-old lit	W&S14
49	<i>Tagiades litigiosa</i>	Möschler, 1878	<i>litigiosa</i> Möschler, 1878	Water Snow Flat	K08-old lit	W&S14
50	<i>Tagiades menaka</i>	(Moore, [1866])	<i>menaka</i> (Moore, [1866])	Spotted Snow Flat	Ev49	W&S14
51	<i>Tagiades parra</i>	Fruhstorfer, 1910	<i>gala</i> Evans, 1949	Large Snow Flat	Si12	←
52	<i>Mooreana trichoneura</i>	(C. & R. Felder, 1860)	<i>pralaya</i> (Moore, [1866])	Yellow Flat	W&S14	←
53	<i>Tapena vasava</i>	(Moore, [1866])	<i>vasava</i> (Moore, [1866])	Tawny Angle	W&S14	←
Subfamily PYRGINAE						
Tribe Carcharodini						
54	<i>Spialia galba</i>	(Fabricius, 1793)	<i>galba</i> (Fabricius, 1793)	Indian Skipper	W&S14	←
Tribe Pyrgini						
55	<i>Pyrgus cashmirensis</i>	Moore, 1874	<i>cashmirensis</i> Moore, 1874	Kashmir Skipper	Ev49	
Subfamily CHAMUNDINAE						
56	<i>Chamunda chamunda</i>	(Moore, [1866])		Olive Flat	S&C16	←
Subfamily HETEROPTERINAE						
57	<i>Carterocephalus avanti</i>	(de Nicéville, 1886)		Orange and Silver Hopper	Ev49	PWK23
58	<i>Carterocephalus houangty</i>	Oberthür, 1886	<i>bootia</i> Evans, 1949	Bhutan Mountain Hopper	Ev49	Hr87/ PWK23
Subfamily TRAPEZITINAE						
Tribe Barcini						
59	<i>Apostictopterus fuliginosus</i>	Leech, [1893]	<i>curiosa</i> (Swinhoe, 1917)	Giant Hopper	Wea12	←

	Species name	Authority, year	Subspecies (Authority, year)	Common name	Bht 1st record*	Bht recent record
Subfamily HESPERIINAE						
Tribe Aeromachini						
60	<i>Aeromachus kali</i>	(de Nicéville, 1885)		Blue-spotted Scrub Hopper	Y&K85	W&S14
61	<i>Aeromachus pygmaeus</i>	(Fabricius, 1775)		Pigmy Scrub Hopper	PWK23	←
62	<i>Aeromachus stigmata</i>	(Moore, 1878)	<i>stigmata</i> (Moore, 1878)	Veined Scrub Hopper	dNc90	Wea12
63	<i>Ampittia dioscorides</i>	(Fabricius, 1793)	<i>dioscorides</i> (Fabricius, 1793)	Bush Hopper	S&C16+PWK23	←
64	<i>Ampittia subvittatus</i>	(Moore, 1878)	<i>subradiatus</i> (Moore, 1878)	Tiger Hopper	Wdm& dNc87	PWK23
65	<i>Arnetta atkinsoni</i>	(Moore, 1878)		Atkinson's Bob	Si12	←
66	<i>Baracus vittatus</i>	(C. Felder, 1862)	<i>septentrionum</i> Wood-Mason & de Nicéville, [1887]	Hedge Hopper	Ev49	
67	<i>Creteus cyrina</i>	(Hewitson, 1876)	<i>cyrina</i> (Hewitson, 1876)	Nonsuch Palmer	dNc95	
68	<i>Halpe arcuata</i>	Evans, 1937		Overlapped Ace	W&S14	←
69	<i>Halpe aucma</i>	Swinhoe, 1893		Gold-spotted Ace	PWK23	←
70	<i>Halpe filda</i>	Evans, 1949		Elwes' Ace	Si14	←
71	<i>Halpe kumara</i>	de Nicéville, 1885		Plain Ace	deNcv85	Wea12
72	<i>Halpe molta</i>	Evans, 1949		Molta Ace	vG18 (listed as ssp.) + PWK23	←
73	<i>Halpe porus</i>	(Mabille, [1877])		Moore's Ace	K08-old lit	PWK23
74	<i>Halpe sikkima</i>	Moore, 1882		Sikkim Ace	W&S14	←
75	<i>Halpe zema</i>	(Hewitson, 1877)	<i>zema</i> (Hewitson, 1877)	Banded Ace	W&S14	←
76	<i>Pedesta aina</i>	(de Nicéville, 1889)		Garhwal Ace	W&S14	←
Tentv	<i>Pedesta fusca</i>	(Elwes, [1893])	<i>fusca</i> (Elwes, [1893])	Fuscous Ace	PWK23	←
77	<i>Pedesta gupta</i>	(de Nicéville, 1886)	<i>gupta</i> (de Nicéville, 1886)	Olive Ace	PWK23	←
cf.	<i>Pedesta cf. gupta</i>			(Yellow-spotted Olive Ace)	(PWK23)	←
78	<i>Pedesta hyrie</i>	(de Nicéville, 1891)	<i>hyrie</i> (de Nicéville, 1891)	Large-spot Plain Ace	Ev49	W&S14
79	<i>Pedesta masuriensis</i>	(Moore, 1878)	<i>masuriensis</i> (Moore, 1878)	Mussoorie Bush Bob	Y&K85	W&S14
80	<i>Pedesta pandita</i>	(de Nicéville, 1885)		Brown Bush Bob	Y&K85	Wea12
81	<i>Pedesta serena</i>	(Evans, 1937)		Serena Ace	P&KC23	←
82	<i>Pithauria murdava</i>	(Moore, [1866])		Dark Straw Ace	Wm&dNc87	PWK23
83	<i>Pithauria stramineipennis</i>	Wood-Mason & de Nicéville, [1887]	<i>stramineipennis</i> Wood-Mason & de Nicéville, [1887]	Light Straw Ace	Wm&dNc87	Si12
84	<i>Sebastonyma dolopia</i>	(Hewitson, 1868)		Tufted Ace	K08-old lit	PWK23
85	<i>Sovia grahami</i>	(Evans, 1926)	<i>grahami</i> (Evans, 1926)	Graham's Ace	PWK23	←
86	<i>Sovia lucasii</i>	(Mabille, 1876)	<i>magna</i> (Evans, 1932)	Lucas' Ace	W&S14	←
87	<i>Sovia separata</i>	(Moore, 1882)	<i>separata</i> (Moore, 1882)	Chequered Ace	Ev49	Wea12
88	<i>Thoressa cerata</i>	(Hewitson, 1876)		Northern Spotted Ace	W&S14	←
Tribe Astictopterini						
89	<i>Astictopterus jama</i>	C. & R. Felder, 1860	<i>olivascens</i> Moore, 1878	Forest Hopper	PWK23	←
90	<i>Cupitha purreea</i>	(Moore, 1877)		Wax Dart	Ev49 (dNc84 is probably Buxa)	PWK23
Tentv	<i>Zographetus ogygia</i>	(Hewitson, [1866])	<i>ogygia</i> (Hewitson, [1866])	Purple-spotted Flitter	PWK23	Tentative
91	<i>Zographetus satwa</i>	(de Nicéville, [1884])		Purple and Gold Flitter	W&S14	←
Tribe Taractrocerini						
92	<i>Cephrenes acalle</i>	(Hopffer, 1874)	<i>oceanica</i> (Mabille, 1904)	Plain Palm Dart	PWK23	←
93	<i>Oriens gola</i>	(Moore, 1877)	<i>pseudolus</i> (Mabille, 1883)	Common Dartlet	PWK23	←

	Species name	Authority, year	Subspecies (Authority, year)	Common name	Bht 1st record*	Bht recent record
94	<i>Oriens goloides</i>	(Moore, [1881])		Ceylon Dartlet	Ev49	H87/W&S14
95	<i>Potanthus confucius</i>	(C. & R. Felder, 1862)	<i>dushta</i> (Fruhstorfer, 1911)	Chinese Dart	Ev49	
Tentv	<i>Potanthus ganda</i>	(Fruhstorfer, 1911)	<i>ganda</i> (Fruhstorfer, 1911)	Sumatran Dart	Wea12	←
96	<i>Potanthus nesta</i>	(Evans, 1934)	<i>nesta</i> (Evans, 1934)	Brandless Dart	Ev49	
97	<i>Potanthus pallida</i>	(Evans, 1932)		Pale Dart	Ev49	W&S14
98	<i>Potanthus palnia</i>	(Evans, 1914)	<i>palnia</i> (Evans, 1914)	Palni Dart	Ev49	
99	<i>Potanthus pseudomaesa</i>	(Moore, [1881])	<i>clio</i> (Evans, 1932)	Indian Dart	PWK23	←
100	<i>Potanthus rectifasciata</i>	(Elwes & Edwards, 1897)		Branded Dart	Ev49	
101	<i>Potanthus trachala</i>	(Mabille, 1878)	<i>tytleri</i> (Evans, 1914)	Broad Bi-dent Dart	W&S14: Tentv	PWK23
102	<i>Taractrocera danna</i>	(Moore, 1865)		Himalayan Grass Dart	Ev49	Y&K85/ P&W07
103	<i>Taractrocera maevius</i>	(Fabricius, 1793)	<i>sagara</i> (Moore, [1866])	Common Grass Dart	K08-old lit	W&S14
104	<i>Telicota bambusae</i>	(Moore, 1878)	<i>bambusae</i> (Moore, 1878)	Dark Palm Dart	W&S14	←
105	<i>Telicota colon</i>	(Fabricius, 1775)	<i>colon</i> (Fabricius, 1775)	Common Palm Dart	K08-old lit	PWK23
Tribe Erionotini						
106	<i>Erionota torus</i>	Evans, 1941		Banana Skipper	vG18 (? re-ID of spp. in W&S'14) + PWK23	←
107	<i>Gangara lebadea</i>	(Hewitson, 1868)	<i>lebadea</i> (Hewitson, 1886)	Banded Redeye	PWK23	←
108	<i>Gangara thyrsis</i>	(Fabricius, 1775)	<i>thyrsis</i> (Fabricius, 1775)	Giant Redeye	PWK23	←
109	<i>Hyarotis adrastus</i>	(Stoll, [1780])	<i>praba</i> (Moore, [1866])	Tree Flitter	K08-old lit	W&S14
110	<i>Matapa aria</i>	(Moore, [1866])		Common Redeye	K08-old lit	PWK23
111	<i>Matapa cresta</i>	Evans, 1949		Fringed Redeye	PWK23	←
112	<i>Matapa druna</i>	(Moore, [1866])		Grey-brand Redeye	PWK23	←
113	<i>Matapa sasivarna</i>	(Moore, [1866])		Black-veined Redeye	Si12	←
114	<i>Pirdana hyela</i>	(Hewitson, 1867)	<i>major</i> Evans, 1932	Green-striped Palmer	PWK23	←
115	<i>Salanoemia noemi</i>	(de Nicéville, 1885)		Spotted Yellow Lancer	PWK23	←
116	<i>Scobura isota</i>	(Swinhoe, 1893)		Swinhoe's Forest Bob	PWK23	←
117	<i>Suastus gremius</i>	(Fabricius, 1798)	<i>gremius</i> (Fabricius, 1798)	Indian Palm Bob	K08-old lit	PWK23
118	<i>Unkana ambasa</i>	(Moore, [1858])	<i>attina</i> (Hewitson, [1866])	Hoary Palmer	PWK23	←
Tribe Notocryptini						
119	<i>Ancistroides nigrata</i>	(Latreille, [1824])	<i>diocles</i> (Moore, [1866])	Chocolate Demon	Ev49	W&S14
120	<i>Ancistroides curvifascia</i>	(C. & R. Felder, 1862)	<i>curvifascia</i> (C. & R. Felder, 1862)	Restricted Demon	dNc89	Y&K85/ P&W07
121	<i>Ancistroides feisthamelii</i>	(Boisduval, 1832)	<i>alysos</i> (Moore, [1866])	Spotted Demon	K08-old lit	(Y&K85)/ Wea12
122	<i>Ancistroides paralysos</i>	(Wood-Mason & de Nicéville, 1881)	<i>asawa</i> Fruhstorfer, 1911	Common Banded Demon	K08-old lit	W&S14
123	<i>Ancistroides folus</i>	(Cramer, [1775])		Grass Demon	Ev49	Y&K85/ W&S14
Tribe Ismini						
124	<i>Iambrix salsala</i>	(Moore, [1866])	<i>salsala</i> (Moore, [1866])	Chestnut Bob	W&S14	←
Tribe Psolosini						
125	<i>Koruthaialos butleri</i>	(de Nicéville, [1884])		Dark Velvet Bob	dNc86	
126	<i>Psolos fuligo</i>	(Mabille, 1876)	<i>subfasciatus</i> (Moore, 1878)	Coon	Nd15	←
Tribe Baorini						
127	<i>Baoris farri</i>	(Moore, 1878)	<i>farri</i> (Moore, 1878)	Paintbrush Swift	K08-old lit	W&S14 (1st pic)
128	<i>Borbo cinnara</i>	(Wallace, 1866)		Rice Swift	K08-old lit	W&S14
129	<i>Caltoris aurociliata</i>	(Elwes & Edwards, 1897)		Yellow-fringed Swift	PWK23	←

	Species name	Authority, year	Subspecies (Authority, year)	Common name	Bht 1st record*	Bht recent record
130	<i>Caltoris cahira</i>	(Moore, 1877)	<i>austeni</i> (Moore, [1884])	Colon Swift	(vG18-source?) PWK23	←
131	<i>Caltoris kumara</i>	(Moore, 1878)	<i>moorei</i> (Evans, 1926)	Blank Swift	PWK23	←
132	<i>Caltoris tulsi</i>	(de Nicéville, [1884])	<i>tulsi</i> (de Nicéville, [1884])	Purple Swift	Ev49	
133	<i>Iton semamora</i>	(Moore, [1866])	<i>semamora</i> (Moore, [1866])	Common Wight	PWK23	←
134	<i>Parnara bada</i>	(Moore, 1878)	<i>bada</i> (Moore, 1878)	Ceylon Swift	Wea12	←
135	<i>Parnara guttata</i>	(Bremer & Grey, [1852])	<i>guttata</i> (Bremer & Grey, [1852])	Straight Swift	K08-old lit	Y&K85/ W&S14 (pic1)
136	<i>Pelopidas agna</i>	(Moore, [1866])	<i>agna</i> (Moore, [1866])	Obscure-branded Swift	W&S14	←
137	<i>Pelopidas assamensis</i>	(de Nicéville, 1882)		Great Swift	K08-old lit	W&S14
138	<i>Pelopidas conjuncta</i>	(Herrich-Schäffer, 1869)	<i>conjuncta</i> (Herrich-Schäffer, 1869)	Conjoined Swift	K08-old lit	W&S14
139	<i>Pelopidas mathias</i>	(Fabricius, 1798)	<i>mathias</i> (Fabricius, 1798)	Small-branded Swift	K08-old lit	W&S14
140	<i>Pelopidas sinensis</i>	(Mabille, 1877)		Large-branded Swift	Wea12	←
141	<i>Pelopidas subochracea</i>	(Moore, 1878)	<i>subochracea</i> (Moore, 1878)	Moore's Swift	K08-old lit	
142	<i>Polytremis lubricans</i>	(Herrich-Schäffer, 1869)	<i>lubricans</i> (Herrich-Schäffer, 1869)	Contiguous Swift	K08-old lit	W&S14
143	<i>Pseudoborbo bevanii</i>	(Moore, 1878)		Bevan's Swift	K08-old lit	P&W07
144	<i>Zenonoida eltola</i>	(Hewitson, 1869)	<i>eltola</i> (Hewitson, 1869)	Yellow-spot Swift	K08-old lit	Y&K85/ Wea12
Tribe Hesperini						
145	<i>Ochlodes brahma</i>	(Moore, 1878)		Himalayan Darter	Y&K85	P&W07

indicated in the books they use to identify the species, but usually, these books have several outdated scientific names, which is inevitable. The situation has become more confusing on the Indian subcontinent since the website of the Indian Foundation of Butterflies (IFB) not only changed common names when considering the standard names “colonial leftovers”, but also gave common names to subspecies. For the Hesperidae checklist of Bhutan, the authors based their scientific and common names on scientific and historical evidence. Researchers and butterfly photographers in Bhutan are encouraged to use these names. Standardization of the common butterfly names across the Indian subcontinent is recommended. Moreover, to reduce confusion, common names should only be used for species and not for subspecies. Due to progress in DNA sequencing of the butterflies, there will be many taxonomic changes in the future. These changes are more likely to affect subspecies than species and thus this is an extra reason to not give common names to subspecies.

CONCLUSIONS

The authors present a comprehensive checklist of Hesperidae in Bhutan, resulting from a thorough review of all available records. The updated checklist (Table 1) comprises 145 confirmed species, four tentative species, and one unidentified species, subspecies, or form (listed as “cf.”). This revised checklist supersedes previous versions, offering enhanced accuracy and reliability. To ensure transparency, the authors also provide supplementary lists of excluded species, detailing the rationale for their omission. This rigorous approach ensures a trustworthy reference for future research and conservation efforts.

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Image 1. *Potanthus mara* or maybe *P. nesta*.Image 2. *Potanthus* sp. (maybe *P. pseudomaesa*).Image 3. Possibly *Caltoris brunnea*.Image 4. Probably *Parnara bada*.

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