

Editorial

The 2019 issue of Living World includes four Research Papers, an unprecedented 12 Nature Notes, our annual report from the Trinidad and Tobago Bird Status and Distribution Committee and one book review.

Arneaud and Duncan start off with a list of mycorrhizal species associated with the Moriche Palms. Mycorrhizal associations are an important and sometimes overlooked component of forest ecology; particularly so for a species which is itself may be argued is a foundation species within the ecosystems it inhabits. An update of the populations of Oilbirds in Trinidad is presented by Mike Rutherford. This is a very timely update and it is encouraging that the Oilbird populations appear to be thriving. Not only were we experiencing a dispersal from the popular cave at the Asa Wright Nature Centre during 2019, but re-establishing the precise locations of the caves and determining the most parsimonious fit between our current caves with those that Snow worked on in the 1950s, provides a platform for future censuses. Matthew Cock provides an account of the three species of Donkey's eyes, *Junonia* spp. In Trinidad and Tobago. While all field naturalists, even the most unexposed, are familiar with the Donkey's-eye butterfly, many of us failed to realise that there were more than one species! Matthew, together with Perry Polar, Mike Rutherford, Giovanni Cafá and, Alan Buddie give us an account of the *Hypercompe trinitatis* and its caterpillar in Trinidad.

The Nature Notes continue to represent a cross section of fauna. In this issue we have four notes from Tobago. Lanya Fanovich, Aljoscha Wothke and Ryan Mohammed describe the distribution of the invasive brittlestar *Ophiothela mirabilis* in coral reefs in Tobago- an account which is particularly useful in understanding the eventual integration of the exotic species into the reef community. Ryan

Mohammed, Zolani Frank and Lanya Fanovich provide two new location records for freshwater turtles in Tobago and consider their status. Rakesh Bhukal and Kerresha Khan document the first records of the scorpion of *Chactas raymondhansi*, in Tobago. Finally an update the species list of Bats in Tobago, with the addition of Geoffroy's Hairy-Legged Bat, *Anoura geoffroyi*, is provided by Luke Rostant, Ralph Eshelman, Gary Morgan and Geoffrey Gomes.

In Trinidad Luke Rostant captured a Pawi chick in a camera trap, giving an insight into the early life of this Trinidad endemic. We have three notes relating to lepidoptera, Mike Rutherford describes the Life History of the saturnid moth *Citheronia hamifera*, Matthew Cock helps with the field-identification of the Caligo butterflies; and Matthew, together with Scott Alston-Smith describe the hesperiid butterfly *Oxyntes corusca* and its caterpillar. Jo-Ann Sewlal adds a new family of spiders to the Trinidad and Tobago list on the basis of recent taxonomic work. Bob Thomas and Elsa Thomas describe frog *Pristimantis urichi* being eaten by a killifish, or Jumping Guabine, *Rivulus hartii*. Renoir Auguste, Rainer Deo and Zakariyya Ali present additional site records in Trinidad of the rare Gibba Turtle *Mesoclemmys gibba*.

The report of the Trinidad and Tobago Bird Status and Distribution Committee by Martyn Kenefick records two new species for Tobago, Plumbeous Kite and Band-Rumped Swift, and provides photographic evidence for two species, which if accepted by the South America Classification Committee of the American Ornithologists' Union would become the first accepted records for South America.

Ryan Mohammed brings the LW 2019 issue to a close with a review of the book *Life Along the Seashore of Trinidad and Tobago* by Lorie Lee Lum and Julian Duncan.

Cover Photograph

The Oilbird Cave on Huevos island is currently home to 200 Oilbirds. This photograph was taken by Mike Rutherford while treading water and conducting an Oilbird Census in September 2019. See research article on page 7.