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Short Communication

The Revivification of Butterflies : When Aesthetic Meets Environmentalism

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Abstract

This paper explores the symbolic and ecological significance of butterflies as a bridge between aesthetic appreciation and environmental consciousness. It examines how artistic representations and cultural perceptions of butterflies inspire awareness about biodiversity loss and habitat degradation. By linking visual beauty with ecological responsibility, the study highlights butterflies as powerful ambassadors of environmental ethics. The revivification of butterflies thus reflects a harmonious convergence of art, nature, and conservation.

Keywords: Butterflies; Aesthetics; Environmentalism; Biodiversity conservation; Ecological symbolism

Introduction

The prior hundred years ago is the suitable example of vigorous decrease in biological diversity in distinct part of the world at quickly rate that prominent role in disappearing of species. The excessive usage of natural resources in the name of development of humankind can affect their habitat and disturb the ecosystem of taxa. The metropolitanization and expansion of humanity are worrying it leads to environmental degradation all over the world which also impacts on climate change that destroys the living habitat, vulnerable species and making them endangered as well. One of the key elements of biodiversity is the order Lepidoptera, which includes the most visually pleasing insects that first appeared 35 million years ago. According to Gullan and Craston [1], it is the second most significant order of insects, with 3 lakh species identified till date. This comprises butterflies (*Rhopalocera*) of which approximately 17,500 species are known. Since the 18th century, butterflies have been symmetrically documented[2]. In the name of improvement, we are drastically lost vegetation. Through the decline in vegetation and rise in pollution, all our taxa with lepidopterans and avians are fast vanishing. The overall study shows a total unstable of the diversity and threats of many wild habitat. Butterflies have been recognized as bio response indicators, which signify the in total balance of the ecology [3]. They are intensively very sensitive to any alteration of surroundings such as light intensity, humidity, thermic level and typically emotional moved by habitat disruption and also find variation in species accordance of pocket climate [4] So that is why they have known as bio response of our surroundings [5] lepidopteron are delicate and directly influenced by any imbalance in their residence. 'Bio aesthetic planning' clarified by Prof. Lancelot Hogben, as mindful plans of 'flora' and 'fauna' together with the intention of adorning the country. It

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includes planting of ornamental flowering tree along the city roads, in parks, public places and compound of houses both town and villages. It also includes the development of a nature park for the sustaining of beautiful non carnivore animals and the creation of bird centuries. Butterfly gardening can be a part of bio aesthetic planning that focuses on the conservation of different species of butterflies as well as landscaping too. Butterflies are the most eye-catching insects, and they stimulate interest in gardens when they visit flowers to feed on nectar. Designing a butterfly garden not only attracts butterflies but also fills the yards with colorful blooms all year. It focuses on the layout of landscape with various beautiful plants that will provide a suitable habitat for butterflies to grow and breed.

Butterflies and Ecosystem Process

Butterflies as crucial insect: Butterflies are beneficial insects for our ecology; they have some features which other genus don't have that is why we need to look after. They found all over the world which plays a crucial role in ecosystem process such as pollinating flowers, suck nectar, food of vertebrate's and suck animal pits for their salt and minerals other than provide minerals to the earth when they decomposed. Thus, they execute a fundamental role in our terrain ecosystem and the ecological imbalance can be seen without them.

Butterflies as trophic chain: As we know, all organisms transfer their nutrients when they are eaten by other species, and each species has its own trophic level. Here butterflies are also a part of a food web they are eaten by many reptiles and avian species, but the loss of this insect may decline birds and mitigate in search of food. There is a direct impact visible on agriculture when the loss of nectareous insects continues.

Butterflies as pollen carrier: The evolution of flowers is shocking; they are so diverse and complicated while leaves remain unchanged. The continuity of flower diversity has been mutualism between entomologist and florist. In the present scenario the decline of plants may be seen because their pollinators went missing, and some vibrant colored flowers too because they evolved specifically pollinated by butterflies which leads to disappearance of plants. The decline of butterflies may also strain another pollinator's which can disrupt the ecosystem. Thus, many florae are in danger because of their pollinators decreased.

Creating of Butterfly Garden

Summon butterflies to garden: To attract anything, you must provide what they want and in the case of butterflies those things are:

- Food for adults *i.e.,* nectar and decaying matter
- Food for larva *i.e.,* host plant and
- Safety

Plant for butterflies: There are two types of butterflies attracting plants which we can use in landscaping.

- **Host Plant:** The plants where butterflies can lay eggs and their larva, caterpillars and pupa are formed. These are the plants where caterpillars are feed on.
- **Nectar plant:** These are flowering plants which lure the butterflies to the vibrant color of flowers for nectar. Plants should be planted with a mixture of annual and perennial that appeal to a variety of flying creatures.

Example of nectar plant for butterfly garden: Marigold, Lantana, Zinnia, Milkweed, Butterfly bush, Pentas Daisies, Lilies, Heliotrope, Periwinkle, Phlox,

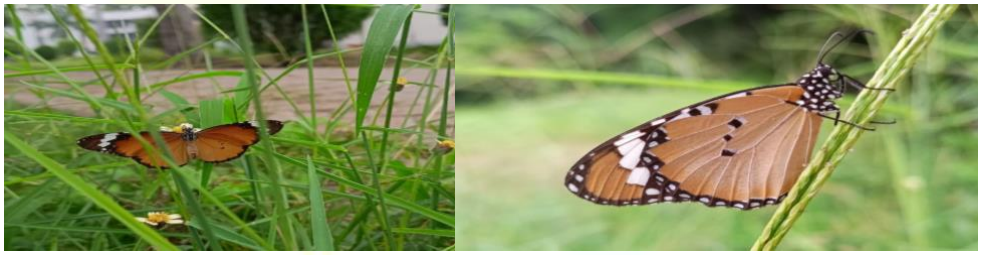
Jasmine, Gomphrena, Joy weed, Wedelia, Indian paintbrush, Flame of the forest, Lemon verbena, Petunia, Hibiscus etc.

Examples of host trees for butterfly garden: Palm, Bamboo, Madras thorn, Citrus varieties, Mango, Ashoka, Curry leaf, Calotropis, Custard apple etc.

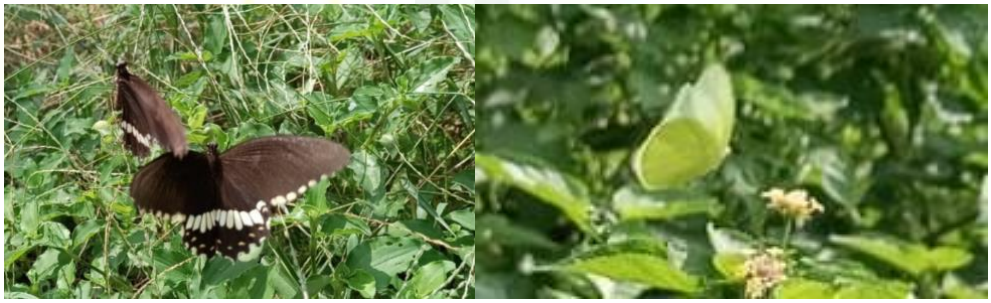
Creating a natural habitat and safety: Creating a natural habitat for butterflies is quite challenging, they are very sensitive to any disturbance that's why we must provide a gap of 4 feet between plant and path. Butterflies enjoy sunbathing with a mud puddling and wet sand which provide them with a warm resting period in mornings and make sure there will be no use of insecticides. A garden must be filled up with the annuals, perennials, shrubs, grasses, flowering trees, host tree and the fruit trees are also planted because the butterflies feed on the ripe fruits, trees also provide wind shelters for this living creature. Besides the flowering area, the benches should be avoided to restricting the movement of people near the flowers so that the butterflies can feed without disturbance. If we succeed in creating a natural habitat for butterflies without so much human intervention, then butterflies from all over visit regularly.

Conclusion

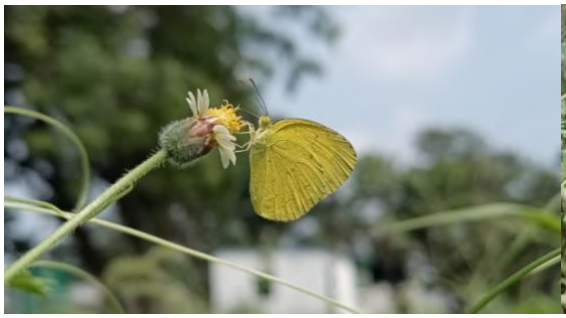
Due to growing human population, the greeneries of our surroundings are cleared to urbanization, climate change, use of pesticides and over grazing will threat to all wild habitats including butterflies. In the past few years, the butterflies park has emerged a new trend to aware of people to conservation of butterflies. States like Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, Bangalore, Punjab have such parks. The breeding program of lab raised butterflies are released in their habitat also run to improve their diversity. Butterflies are not only appealing creatures, but they are also an indicator of our ecosystem. If the landscaping and management of garden are carefully done, then the reappearance of butterflies may be seen in some years.



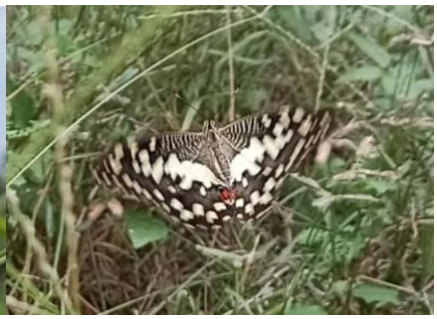
Plain Tiger *(Danaus chrysippus)*



(Battus polydamas) *(Catopsilia pomona)*



Grass Yellow *(Eurema hecabe)*



Lime Butterfly *(Papilio demoleus)*

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