# NATURAL HISTORY AND REPORT OF LEPIDOPTERA HOST PLANTS IN SOUTHEASTERN PERU

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## Background & Aims

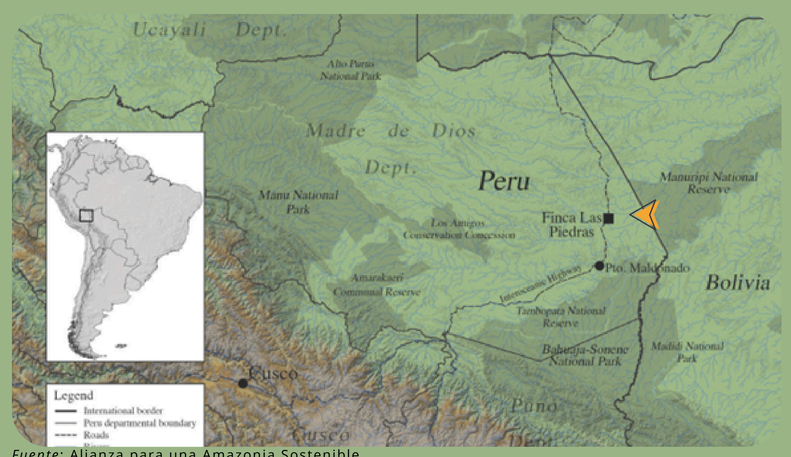
The accelerated loss of plant biodiversity in recent years seriously affects the most biodiverse region of the world, directly affecting the interaction with insects. We focus on the study of lepidoptera as bioindicator species to know the change and adaptation of dry land forests in lowland rainforest.

The main objective is to show the progress of a project that aims to know all the host plants of lepidoptera in the southeastern Peruvian Amazon.

## Methods

### Study area

This study is carried out in Madre de Dios, Peru, at the Finca Las Piedras Research Station (FLP).




*Fuente*: Alianza para una Amazonia Sostenible

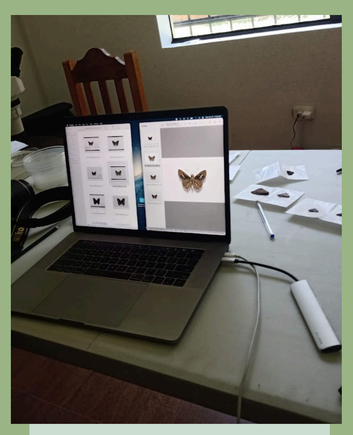
### Methodology

Searching for and collecting immature lepidoptera

1

2

Rearing of immature



3

Lepidoptera identification



## Results

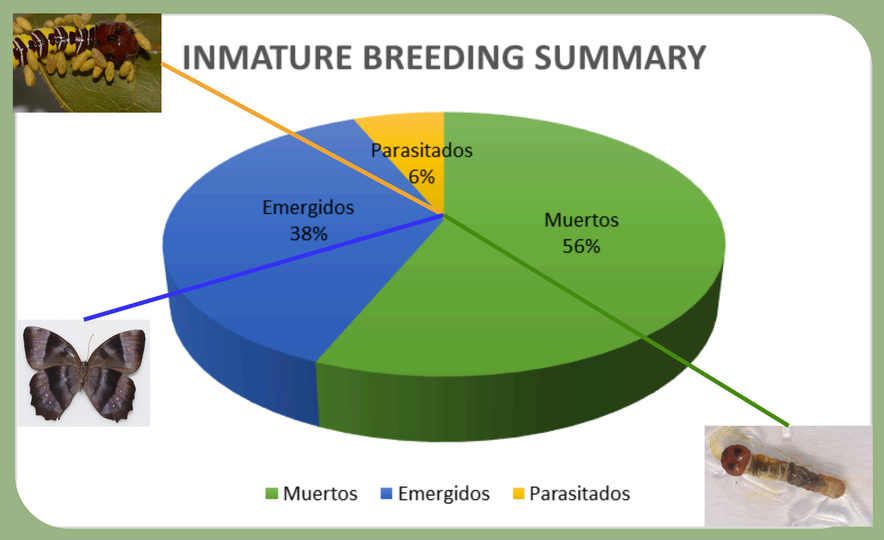



***Figure 1.*** *Summary of immature breeding from 2018 to present.*

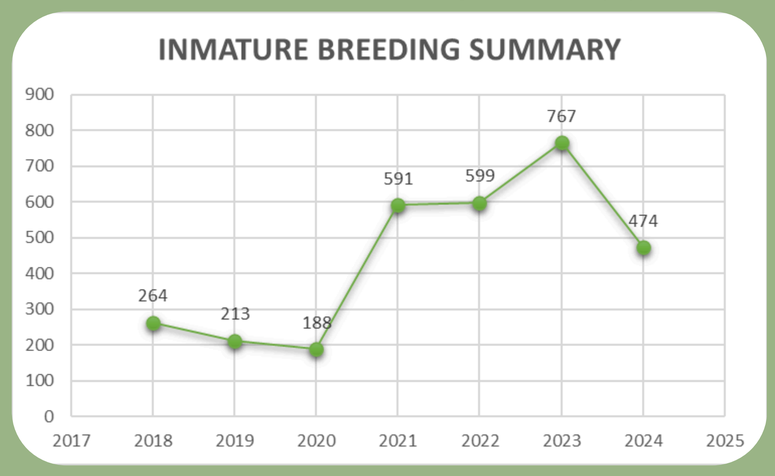



***Figure 2***. *Collection of Lepidoptera immatures.*

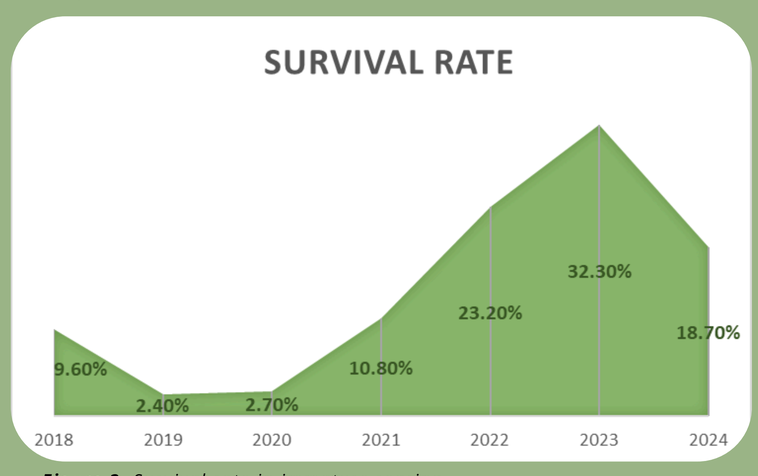



***Figure 3.*** *Survival rate in immature rearing.*

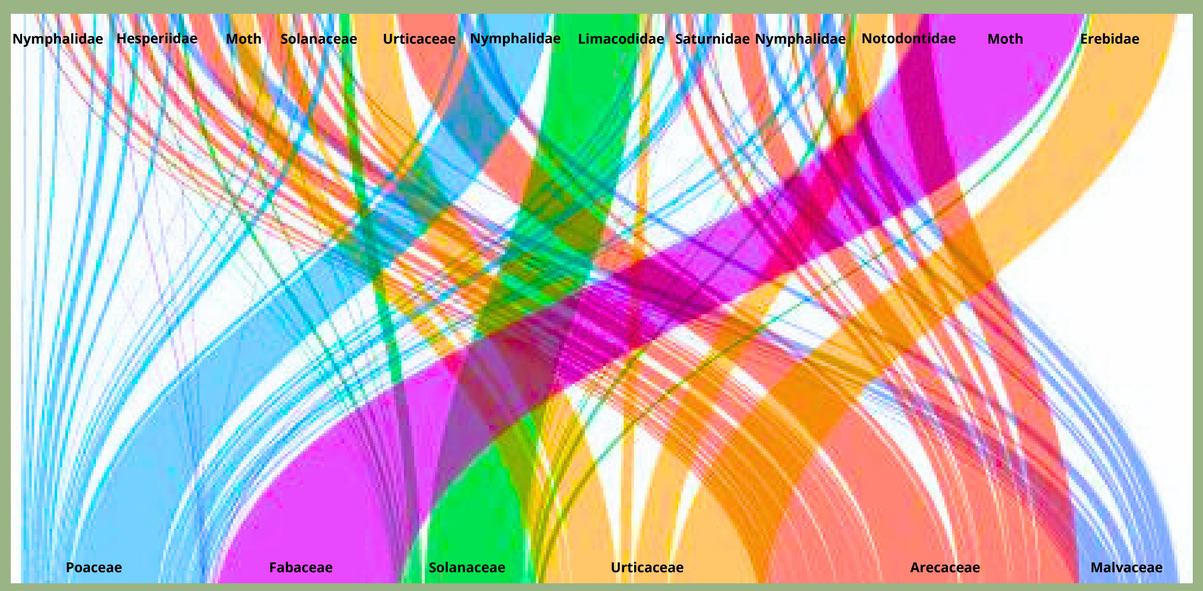



***Figure 4***. *Relationship between host plants and Lepidoptera*

## Discussion & Future Directions

This study underlines the importance of continued research and protection of the complex relationships between lepidopterans and their host plants. In addition, they can be used to develop more effective management and conservation strategies.

The data collected provides a solid basis for future research on the ecology and evolution of plant-insect relationships in the region. To which DNA barcode analysis can be added to provide a more reliable and complementary set of results.

### Acknowledgements

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