



New Locality Record of Cuban Kite-Swallowtail, *Neographium celadon* (Lepidoptera: Papilionidae) en Ciego de Avila, Cuba

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Opinion

Volume 7 Issue 5

Received Date: August 09, 2024

Published Date: September 03, 2024

DOI: 10.23880/izab-16000610

Keywords

Neographium celadon; Cuba; Blue Cobalt

Opinion

In Cuba occurs some 200 species of butterflies, of which 42 are endemic [1]. Cuban Kite-Swallowtail (*Neographium celadon* Lucas 1852) it is a day butterfly, endemic of Cuba and belonging to the Papilionidae family that presents a span between 60 and 90 mm. It possesses a black coloration, in

the first wings, with the presence of bands of blue cobalt and stains of the same color [2]. The later wings have three blue bands and in their anal angle exists a stain of intense red color. The same authors point out that the border of both wings is dark and blue stains are observed in submarginal position. It presents a wide distribution, although it is more frequent in the western region of the island (Figure 1). It has been observed in different plants formations as a coastal shrublands, uverales, evergreen forests, pine forests and gallery forests; where it prefers areas of open vegetation [3].



Figure 1: Location of *Neographium celadon* in Cuba, according to the field guide of Lepidopterons of Mancina, et al. [2].

At 0909 h on 12 May 2024, we documented an adult male of Cuban Kite-Swallowtail, (*Neographium celadon*) flying over a Romerillo’s plant (*Videns alba*) in the garden of a domestic house (Figure 2). The place in question is in

(22.117 N, -78.611 W), in the Moron municipality belonging to the Ciego de Avila province. The butterfly stayed feeding in the romerillo flowers during six minutes, after that which abandoned the garden and it was out of sight.





Figure 2: *Neographium celadon* in the house garden in Morón, Ciego de Ávila, Cuba.

With it, is shown here the first report of distribution of the species for the municipality and the second for the whole mainland province region. *Neographium celadon* was only reported for the north keys of Ciego de Ávila and the west limit of the Chambas municipality, belonging to the denominated “Moron’s Plain”, such as establish it by Mancina, et al. [2] in their geographical zonifications of Cuba. It is necessary to stand out that this sight was fortuitous, so with a sampling effort based on the search of this and other butterflies species, could be increase the number for the different geographical areas of the province.

References

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