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A time-calibrated phylogeny of the butterfly tribe Melitaeini

Elizabeth C. Long^{a,*}, Robert C. Thomson^b, Arthur M. Shapiro^a

^a Center for Population Biology and Department of Evolution and Ecology, University of California, Davis, CA 95616, USA
^b Department of Biology, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu, HI 96822, USA

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ABSTRACT

The butterfly tribe Melitaeini [Nymphalidae] contains numerous species that have been the subjects of a wide range of biological studies. Despite numerous taxonomic revisions, many of the evolutionary relationships within the tribe remain unresolved. Utilizing mitochondrial and nuclear gene regions, we produced a time-calibrated phylogenetic hypothesis for 222 exemplars comprising at least 178 different species and 21 of the 22 described genera, making this the most complete phylogeny of the tribe to date. Our results suggest that four well-supported clades corresponding to the subtribes Euphydryina, Chlosynina, Melitaeina, and Phyciodina exist within the tribe. This analysis is also represents the most complete phylogenetic analysis of the Chlosynina to date, and includes several genera and species that have been previously excluded from published phylogenies of this group.

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1. Introduction

Lepidoptera have long been an important subject for ecological and evolutionary biology studies, but the systematics of many groups, particularly some butterflies, is often disputed. The Nymphalidae comprise the largest family of butterflies and consequently have been the subject of intense study (e.g. Wahlberg et al., 2009; Brower et al., 2010; Penz et al., 2011). Various taxonomic revisions have split (and lumped) these species, sometimes into as many as nine different families, although currently most authors treat them as a single family. At present, many phylogenetic relationships in the clade remain unresolved and the timing of diversification for the clade, in particular, is in need of additional study.

We are particularly interested in the phylogeny of a tribe of Nymphalidae, the Melitaeini. This group contains several species that serve as important models to biologists in a wide range of disciplines, from metapopulation biology to mimicry to genetics (e.g. Bates, 1862; Benson, 1972; Gilbert and Singer, 1975; Ehrlich et al., 1975, 1984; Brown and Ehrlich, 1980; Sheppard et al., 1985; Wahlberg et al., 2002). Despite this importance, evolutionary relationships of many genera (as well as species within those genera) remain unclear. Higgins (1941, 1950, 1955, 1960, 1981) and Harvey (1991) have authored several taxonomic revisions of the group based on morphology. More recent studies have utilized molecular methods to try to clarify the evolutionary history of these species (Wahlberg and Zimmermann, 2000; Zimmermann et al., 2000; Wahlberg et al., 2005; Wahlberg and Freitas, 2007; Leneveu et al., 2009).

At present, approximately 250 species of Melitaeine are recognized (Higgins, 1981; Harvey, 1991; Wahlberg and Zimmermann, 2000). The group is distributed throughout the Palearctic, Nearctic, and Neotropical regions. During the middle and latter half of the 20th century, most of the taxonomic work on this group was done by Higgins (1941, 1950, 1955, 1960, 1981). His last taxonomic revision treated the group as a subfamily (Melitaeini) and split the group into 31 genera (Higgins, 1981) (Table 1). Many of these genera have been rejected by subsequent authors, and phylogenetic work by Zimmermann et al. (2000) and Wahlberg and Zimmermann (2000) suggested different conclusions than those of Higgins. Notably, Wahlberg and Zimmermann treated the group as a tribe, per Harvey (1991), proposed 4 species groups (subtribes), and rejected many of Higgins' generic revisions (mainly due to paraphyly or other unnatural groupings) (Higgins, 1981; Wahlberg and Zimmermann, 2000).

The phylogenetic hypothesis produced by Wahlberg and Zimmermann (2000), which utilized POY for alignment and phylogenetic inference, remains the most complete analysis of this tribe prior to this study. However, their study was only able to utilize mitochondrial gene regions, as nuclear genes were not yet widely available for these taxa. A 2005 study by Wahlberg et al. utilized





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^{*} Corresponding author. Current addresses: UCLA La Kretz Center for California Conservation Science, Institute of the Environment and Sustainability, University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1496, USA; Entomology Section, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, 900 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90007, USA.

E-mail address: elizabeth.c.long@gmail.com (E.C. Long).

Table 1

Summary	i of some	maior	revisions	of the	tribe	Melitaeini	and c	omparisons	to the	current study.	

Author	Status of Melitaeini and subclades	Genera within Clades
Higgins (1981)	Subfamily containing 3 tribes: Euphydrini, Melitaeini, Phyciodini	 Euphydrini: Euphydryas, Eurodryas, Hypodryas, Occidryas (all now considered Euphydryas) Melitaeini: Antillea; Cinclidia, Didymaeformia, Mellicta, Melitaea (all now considered Melitaea); Chlosyne, Thessalia (now considered Chlosyne); Dymasia; Gnathotriche, Gnathotrusia (now considered Gnathotriche); Higginsius; Microtia; Poladryas; Texola Phyciodini: Anthanassa; Castilia; Dagon; Eresia; Janatella; Mazia; Ortilia; Phyciodes; Phystis; Tegosa; Telenassa; Tisona Unplaced: Atlantea
Harvey (1991)	Tribe containing 3 subtribes <i>sensu</i> Higgins, 1981: Euphydriti, Melitaeiti, Phycioditi	Euphydriti: Euphydryas, Hypodryas, Occidryas, Eurodryas Melitaeiti: Mellicta, Melitaea, Didymaeformia, Cinclidia; Chlosyne, Thessalia; Poladryas; Texola; Dymasia; Microtia; Gnathotriche, Gnathotrusia; Higginsius; Antillea Phycioditi: Phyciodes; Phystis; Anthanassa; Dagon; Telenassa; Ortilia; Tisona; Tegosa; Eresia; Castilia; Janatella; Mazia
Wahlberg and Zimmermann (2000)	Tribe containing 4 subtribes: Euphydriti, Melitaeiti, Phycioditi, proposed Chlosyne-group (Chlosyniti)	Unplaced: Atlantea Euphydriti: Euphydryas
(2000)		Melitaeiti: Melitaea; Poladryas Phycioditi: Anthanassa; Eresia (including Telenassa and Castilia); Phyciodes; Tegosa (Chlosyniti): Chlosyne; Dymasia; Texola Unplaced: Antillea; Atlantea; Dagon; Gnathotriche; Higginsius; Janatella; Mazia; Microtia Ortilia; Phystis; Tisona
This study	Tribe containing 4 subtribes: Euphydryina, Melitaeina, Phyciodina, Chlosynina	Euphydryina: Euphydryas Melitaeina: Gnathotriche; Higginsius; Melitaea Phyciodina: Anthanassa; Antillea; Atlantea; Castilia; Dagon; Eresia; Janatella; Mazia; Ortilia; Phyciodes; Phystis; Tegosa; Telenassa Chlosynina: Chlosyne; Dymasia; Microtia; Poladryas; Texola Unplaced: Tisona

parsimony to reconstruct the phylogeny of the Nympahlinae but included fewer species of Melitaeini than did Wahlberg and Zimmerman. Previous studies were unable to resolve many of the relationships in the genus *Chlosyne*, particularly those of *C. palla*, *C. acastus*, *C. neumoegeni*, *C. gabbii*, and *C. hoffmanni*; and the relationships of several species of *Euphydryas*, notably those of *E. chalcedona* and the proposed species *E. anicia* and *E. colon*; and now previous molecular studies have place *Atlantea*. Data are now available for considerably more species than were used in previous studies. In addition, new relaxed clock models for estimating divergence times that can simultaneously account for uncertainty in both the tree topology and divergence times have become available. Utilizing these methods, we undertook a revised analysis of the Melitaeini providing a new comprehensive estimate of phylogenetic relationships and timing of diversification for the clade.

2. Methods

2.1. Species used in study

We included sequence data from 222 exemplars belonging to the Tribe Melitaeini (Family Nymphalidae) as well as 3 outgroup species (Table 2). According to the taxonomy that we follow, we used sequence data from at least 178 different species for 21 of the 22 genera in the Melitaeini (all genera except the monotypic genus *Tisona*). The remaining exemplars represent putative subspecies or in a few cases separate populations of a given species.

Unless otherwise specified, in subsequent treatment we use the naming conventions described by the ICZN code and refer to all subtribes using the suffix '-ina' (ICZN, 1999). We followed Harvey (1991) and Wahlberg and Zimmermann (2000) in treating the Melitaeini as a tribe, rather than as a subfamily as in Higgins (1981). Wahlberg and Zimmermann proposed four groups within the Melitaeini: of these, we included 34 individuals from the

Nearctic and Neotropic Chlosyniti (elsewhere referred to as the Chlosyne-group, e.g. Wahlberg et al., 2005, now Chlosynina), 27 individuals from the Holarctic Euphydriti (now Euphydryina), 78 individuals from the Palearctic Melitaeiti (Melitaeina (Wahlberg et al., 2005)), and 62 individuals from the Nearctic and Neotropic Phycioditi (Phyciodina (Wahlberg et al., 2005; Wahlberg and Freitas, 2007)). Twenty-one of the taxa used in our study were not categorized by Wahlberg and Zimmermann (2000). Higgins categorized six of those taxa as belonging to the clade Melitaeini (the genera Antillea, Gnathotriche, Higginsius, and Microtia), 14 individuals as Phyciodina (the genera Dagon, Janatella, Mazia, Ortilia, and Phystis), while he was unable to categorize the genus Atlantea (Higgins, 1981). Wahlberg et al. (2005) did not include Antillea, Ortilia, Phystis or Dagon in their analysis, but placed Microtia in the Chlosyne-group, Gnathotriche and Higginsius as a sister clade to Phyciodina, and included Mazia and Janatella in Phyciodina.

2.2. Molecular sequence data

We utilized molecular data from three separate gene regions. We used 1450 bp from the cytochrome oxidase subunit I (*COI*) mitochondrial gene region, 397 bp from the nuclear gene region wingless (*wg*), and 1240 bp from the nuclear gene region elongation factor alpha (*EF1* α) (Folmer et al., 1994; Cho et al., 1995; Brower and Desalle, 1998).

For all taxa that were newly sequenced as part of this study, total genomic DNA was extracted from abdomens or legs using Qiagen DNAeasy kits per the manufacturers instructions (Qiagen Inc., Valencia, California). Each gene region for each specimen was then PCR amplified and sequenced using standard protocols (Brower, 1994; Wahlberg et al., 2005; Brower et al., 2006). The remaining sequence data were obtained from Genbank (Table 2).

Sequence data were imported into Geneious Pro 4.8.5 (Biomatters, Ltd.), and data were examined and edited manually. Contigs were assembled in Geneious for each gene region for each taxon.

Table 2

Melitaeini and outgroup taxa used in phylogeny, with GenBank identifiers, for 3 gene regions. The study included 222 exemplars representing at least 178 species comprising 21 of the 22 Melitaeini genera, as well as outgroups *Hypolimnas, Vanessula*, and *Doleschallia*. Identifiers beginning with the prefix 'ECL' were sequenced as part of this study; all remaining identifiers represent GenBank accession numbers, with references given in superscripts. Any taxa and gene region for which sequence data could not be obtained were left blank.

Genus	Species	COI	Ef1-a	Wgl
Chlosyne	C. californica (Wright 1905)	AF187750 ^a		
	C. acastus (Edwards 1874)	AF187735 ^a	AY788725 ^b	AY788486 ^b
	C. cyneas (Godman and Salvin 1878)	AF187757 ^a	AY788726 ^b	AY788487 ^b
	C. erodyle (Bates 1864)	GU157053 ^c		
	C. fulvia (Edwards 1879)	AF187769 ^a		
	C. gabbii (Behr 1863)	KM042286 ^d	KM042271 ^d	KM042230
	C. gaudialis (Bates 1864)	AF187770 ^a	AY788727 ^b	AY788488 ^b
	C. gorgone (Hübner [1810])	AF187772 ^a	AY788728 ^b	AY788489 ^b
	C. harrisii (Scudder 1864)	AF187773 ^a	AY788729 ^b	AY788490 ^b
	C. hippodrome (Gever 1837)	JQ535606 ^e		
	C. hoffmanni (Behr 1863)	KM042298 ^d	KM042267 ^d	KM042225
	C. janais (Drury 1783)	AY788620 ^b	AY788730 ^b	AY788491 ^b
	C. lacinia (Geyer 1837)	AY090227 ^f	AY090195 ^f	AY090161 ^f
	C. leanira (Felder and Felder 1860)	AF187781 ^a	KM042257 ^d	KM042217
	C. melanarge (Bates 1864)	JQ548300 ^e		10110 12217
	C. narva (Fabricius 1793)	AF187786ª	AY788731 ^b	AY788492 ^b
	C. neumoegeni (C. acastus neumoegeni Skinner 1895)	AF187787 ^a	KM042270 ^d	/11/00452
	C. nycteis (Doubleday [1847])	AF187788 ^a	AY788732 ^b	AY788493 ^b
		AF187791ª	AY788733 ^b	AY788494
	C. palla (Boisduval 1852)			KM042227
	C. palla ButtsCyn	KM042295 ^d	KM042260 ^d	
	C. palla GoatMtn	KM042296 ^d	KM042264 ^d	KM042228
	C. palla IowaHill	KM042292 ^d	KM042263 ^d	KM042221
	C. palla Jackson	KM042285 ^d	KM042261 ^d	KM042219
	C. palla Leap	KM042287 ^d	KM042269 ^d	
	C. palla Lumgrey	KM042293 ^d	KM042258d	KM042223
	C. palla Ramshorn	KM042289 ^d	KM042268 ^d	KM042224
	C. palla Sierraville	KM042297 ^d	KM042265 ^d	KM042226
	C. palla Warner	KM042290 ^d	KM042259 ^d	KM042229
	C. palla Weed	KM042294 ^d	KM042262 ^d	KM042220
	C. palla Yuba49	KM042291 ^d	KM042244 ^d	KM042222
	C. theona (Ménétriés 1855)	AF187808 ^a	AY788734 ^b	AY788495 ^b
	C. whitneyi (Behr 1863)	KM042288 ^d	KM042266 ^d	KM042218
Dymasia	D. dymas (Edwards 1877)	AF187764ª	AY788785 ^b	AY788545
Texola	T. elada (Hewitson 1868)	AY788659 ^b	AY788786 ^b	AY788546 ^b
Euphydryas	E. anicia (Doubleday [1847])	AF187738 ^a	111/00/00	
supriyuryus	<i>E. asiatica</i> (Staudinger 1881)	F]663556 ^g		
	<i>E. aurinia</i> (Rottemburg 1775)	AF187746 ^a	AY788743 ^b	AY788504 ^b
	E. chalcedona (Doubleday [1847])	AF187752 ^a	AY788744 ^b	AY788505 ^b
	E. chalcedona (Doubleday [1847]) E. chalcedona BullCrk			
		KM042272 ^d	KM042256 ^d	KM042232
	E. chalcedona Caribou	KM042277 ^d	KM042246 ^d	KM042235
	E. chalcedona CaveLk	KM042273 ^d	KM042254 ^d	KM042238
	E. chalcedona DryCrk	KM042276 ^d	KM042247 ^d	KM042237
	E. chalcedona Elphnt	KM042281 ^d	KM042253 ^d	KM042243
	E. chalcedona HuntLk	KM042284 ^d	KM042248 ^d	KM042233
	E. chalcedonaKenMdw	KM042280 ^d	KM042250 ^d	KM042241
	E. chalcedona Leap	KM042274 ^d	KM042249 ^d	KM042242
	E. chalcedona Mendo	KM042279 ^d	KM042252 ^d	KM042239
	E. chalcedona Mont	KM042282 ^d	KM042251 ^d	KM042236
	E. chalcedona SLO	KM042278 ^d		KM042240
	E. chalcedona Sn.Pass	KM042275 ^d	KM042255 ^d	KM042234
	E. chalcedona Trinity	KM042283 ^d	KM042245 ^d	KM042231
	E. colon (Edwards 1881)	AF187756 ^a		
	E. Cynthia (Schiffermüller [1775])	AF153925 ^h		
	E. desfontainii (Godart 1819)	AY090226 ^f	AY090193 ^f	AY090159 ^f
	<i>E. editha</i> (Boisduval 1852)	AF187765ª	AY788745 ^b	AY788506 ^b
	E. gilletti (Barnes 1897)	AF187771 ^a	AY788746 ^b	AY788507 ^b
	E. iduna (Dalman 1816)		A1788740	A1700J07
	E. intermedia (as E. ichnea intermedia Ménétriés 1859)	AF187776 ^a		
		AF187777 ^a		
	E. maturna (Linnaeus 1758)	HQ004484 ¹		
	<i>E. merope altivolans</i> (Tuzov, 2000)	FJ663562 ^g		
e 11.	E. phaeton (Drury [1773])	AF187797 ^a	AY788747 ^b	AY788508
Ielitaea	M. acraeina (Staudinger 1886)	FJ462229	FJ462289	FJ462164
	M. aetherie (Hübner [1826])	FJ462230	FJ462290	FJ462165
	M. ala (Staudinger 1881)	FJ462231 ^j	FJ462291 ^j	FJ462166 ^j
	M. alatuica (Staudinger 1881)	FJ663811 ^g		
	M. ambigua (Ménétriés in Schrenck 1859)	ÅF187736ª	FJ462292 ^j	FJ462167 ^j
	M. ambrisia (Higgins 1935)	FJ462232 ^j	FJ462293 ^j	FJ462168 ^j
	<i>M. amoenula</i> (Felder and Felder 1867)	AF187737 ^a	FJ462294 ^j	FJ462169 ^j
	M. anochana (relaci ana relaci 1007) M. arcesia leechi (Alphéraky 1895)	F[462262 ^j	FJ462330 ^j	FJ462202 ^j
	<i>M. arcesia chuana</i> (Grum-Grshimailo 1893)	F]462243 ^j	FJ462309 ⁱ	FJ462182 ^j
	wi. arcesia chaana (Grann-GrShillidilo 1055)	1 1702245	13402303	1 1402 102
	M. arduinna (Esper 1783)	AF187742 ^a	AY788774 ^b	AY788534 ^b

(continued on next page)

Tab	le 2	(continued	l)
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Genus	Species	COI	Ef1-a	Wgl
	M. asteria (Freyer 1828)	FJ462233 ^j	FJ462296 ⁱ	
	M. athalia (Rottemburg 1775)	FJ462234 ^j	FJ462297 ^j	FJ462171 ^j
	M. athene (Staudinger 1881)	FI663783 ^g	FJ462298 ^j	FJ462172 ^j
	M. aurelia (Nickerl 1850)	AF187745 ⁱ	FJ462299 ^j	FJ462173 ^j
	M. avinovi (Aheljuzhko 1914)	FJ462235 ^j	FJ462300 ^j	-,
	M. bellona (Leech 1892)	FJ462236 ^j	FJ462301 ^j	FJ462174 ^j
	M. britomartis15-13 (Assmann 1 1847)	AF187748 ⁱ	FJ462302 ^j	F]462175 ^j
	M. britomartisNW69-8	AY788655 ^b	AY788775 ^b	AY788535
		F[462237 ^j		
	M. cassandra (Kolesnichenko and Churkin, 2001)	5	FJ462303	FJ462176 ^J
	M. casta (Kollar 1848)	FJ462238 ^j	FJ462304	FJ462177 ^J
	M. caucasogenita (Verity 1930)	FJ462239	FJ462305	FJ462178
	M. celadussa (as M. athalia celadussa Fruhstorfer 1910)	FJ462240	FJ462306	FJ462179
	M. centralasiae (Wnukowsky 1929)	FJ462241	FJ462307	FJ462180
	M. chitralensis (Moore 1901)	FJ462242 ^J	FJ462308 ^J	FJ462181 ^J
	M. cinxia (Linnaeus 1758)	AY788656 ^b	AY788776 ^b	AY788536
	M. collina (Lederer 1861)	FJ462244 ^j	FJ462311 ^j	FJ462183 ^j
	M. consulis (Wiltshire 1941)	FJ462245 ^j	FJ462312 ^j	FJ462184
	M. deioneJL126 (Geyer 1832)	FJ462246 ^j	FJ462313 ⁱ	FJ462185
	M. deioneNW95-5	AY788657 ^b	AY788777 ^b	AY788537
	M. deserticola34–12 (Oberthür 1909)	AF187759 ^a	FJ462315 ^j	FJ462187 ^j
	M. deserticola/L3–10	FJ462248 ^j	FJ462316 ^j	FJ462188 ^j
	M. dearneolatis 10 M. diamina (Lang 1789)	AF187761 ^a	FJ462317 ^j	
				FJ462189 ^J FJ462183
	M. didyma AC7-8 (Esper 1778)	FJ462252	FJ462321 ^j	FJ462193
	M. didyma NW107-5	FJ462253	FJ462322	FJ462194
	M. didymaAC3-3	FJ462250	FJ462319	FJ462191
	M. didymaAC6-7	FJ462251	FJ462320	FJ462192
	M. didymaNW99-12	FJ462249 ¹	FJ462318 ¹	FJ462190 ^J
	M. didymoidesNW26-1 (Eversmann 1847)	AF187762 ^a	AY090194 ^f	AY090160
	M. didymoides2814	FJ462254 ^j	FJ462323 ^j	FJ462195 ^j
	M. elisabethae (Avinoff 1910)	FJ462255 ^j	FJ462324 ^j	FJ462196
	M. enarea (Fruhstorfer 1917)	FJ462256 ^j	FJ462325 ⁱ	FJ462197 ^j
	M. enarea permuta (Higgins, 1941)	FJ462272 ^j	FJ462340 ^j	FJ462212 ^j
	M. fergana (Staudinger 1882)	FJ462257 ^j	FJ462326 ^j	FJ462198 ^j
	<i>M. fermaracandica</i> (Staudinger 1882)	FJ462266 ^j	FJ462334 ^j	FJ462206 ^j
	<i>M. gina</i> (Higgins 1941)	F]462258 ^j	1]402554	1 9402200
	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		5462227	FL4C2100
	<i>M. infernalis</i> (Grum-Grshimailo 1891)	FJ462259	FJ462327	FJ462199 ^J
	M. interrupta (Kolenati 1846)	FJ462260 ^j	FJ462328	FJ462200 ^j
	M. jezabel (Oberthür 1888)	EF683670 ^k	EF683664 ^k	
	M. latonigena (Eversmann 1847)	FJ462261	FJ462329	FJ462201
	M. ludmilla (Churkin, Kolesnichenko & Tuzov, 2000)	FJ462263	FJ462331	FJ462203
	M. lunulata (Staudinger 1901)	FJ462265 ^j	FJ462333 ^j	FJ462205 ^j
	M. lutko (Evans 1932)	FJ462264 ^j	FJ462332 ^j	FJ462204 ^j
	M. menetriesi (Caradja 1895)	FJ462267 ^j	FJ462335 ⁱ	FJ462207
	M. minerva (Staudinger 1881)	FJ462268 ^j	FJ462336 ^j	FJ462208 ^j
	M. ninae (Sheljuzhko 1935)	FJ462269 ^j	FJ462337 ^j	FJ462209 ^j
	M. pallas (Staudinger 1886)	FJ462270 ^j	FJ462338 ^j	FJ462210 ^j
	<i>M. parthenoides</i> (Keferstein 1851)	F]462271 ^j	FJ462339 ⁱ	FJ462211
	M. perseaNW120-11 (Kollar 1850)	FJ462273 ^J	FJ462341 ^j	FJ462213 ^j
	M. perseaNW34-1	AF187796 ^a	AY788779 ^b	AY788539
	M. phoebeAC6-6 (Goeze 1779)	FJ462275	FJ462343	FJ462215
	M. phoebeNW15-14	FJ462274	FJ462342	FJ462214
	M. plotina (Bremer 1861)	FJ462277	FJ462345	FJ462217
	M. protomedia (Ménétriés 1859)	FJ462278	FJ462346	FJ462218
	M. punica telonia (Fruhstorfer 1908)	FJ462279 ^j	FJ462347 ^j	FJ462219 ^j
	M. punicaJL3-7 (Oberthür 1876)	FJ462276 ^j	FJ462344 ^j	FJ462216 ^j
	M. punicaNW34-11	AF187803 ^a	AY788781 ^b	AY788541
	M. romanovi (Grum-Grshimailo 1891)	FJ462280 ^j	FJ462348 ^j	FJ462220
	M. saxatilis (Christoff 1876)	FJ462281 ^j	FJ462349 ^j	FJ462221
	M. scotosia (Butler 1878)	AF187804ª	AY788780 ^b	AY788540
	M. shandura (Evans ,1924)	FJ462282	FJ462350	FJ462222
	M. sibina (Alphéraky 1881)	FJ462283	FJ462351	FJ462223
	M. solona (Alphéraky 1881)	FJ462284	FJ462352	FJ462224 ^j
	M. sultanensis (Staudinger 1886)	FJ462285 ^J	FJ462353	FJ462225
	M. sutschana (Staudinger 1892)	AF187805 ^a	FJ462354 ^j	FJ462226
	M. trivia (Denis and Schiffermüller 1775)	FJ462286 ^j	AY788782 ^b	FJ462227 ^j
	M. varia (Meyer-Dür 1851)	FJ462287 ^j	FJ462356 ⁱ	AY788543
	M. wiltshirei (Higgins 1941)	FJ462288 ^j	FJ462357 ^j	FJ462228 ^j
oladryas	P. arachne (Edwards 1869)	AF186928 ^a	AY788799 ^b	AY788559
nthanassa	A frisia tulcis (as A. tulcis Bates 1864)	AY788612 ^b	AY788717 ^b	AY788478
unussu	• • •			
	A. ardys (Hewitson 1864)	AF187743 ^a	AY788713 ^b	AY788474
	A. argentea (Godman and Salvin 1882)	HM890823 ^e	AVEO CELLA	
	A. drusilla (Felder and Felder 1861)	AY788611 ^b	AY788714 ^b	AY788475
	A. frisia hermas (as A. hermas Hewitson 1864)	EF493929 ¹	EF493977	EF493870
	A. otanes (Hewitson 1864)	AF187790 ^a	AY788715 ^b	AY788476

Table 2 (continued)

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Genus	Species	COI	Ef1-a	Wgl
	A. texana (Edwards 1863)	AF187806 ^a	AY788716 ^b	AY788477
"Castilia"	E. castilia (as C. castilia Felder and Felder 1862)	EF493930 ¹	EF493979 ¹	EF493872
	C. myia (Hewitson 1864)	AF187784 ^a	EF493980 ¹	EF493873
	C. perilla (Hewitson 1852)	EF493931 ¹	EF493981 ¹	EF493874
	C. ofella (Hewitson 1864)	AY788618 ^b	AY788723 ^b	AY788484
Eresia	E. burchellii (as Telenassa telatusa burchellii Moulton 1909)	AF187749 ^a		
	E. carme (Doubleday [1847])	EF493935	EF493985 ¹	EF493878
	E. casiphia (Hewitson 1869)	EF493936 ¹	EF493986 ¹	EF493879
	E. clara (as E. clio clara Bates 1864)	AF187754 ^a		
	E. clio (Linnaeus 1758)	AY788622 ^b	AY788736 ^b	AY788497
	E. coela (as E. emerantia coela Druce 1874)	AY788623 ^b	AY788737 ^b	AY788498
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
	E. datis (Hewitson [1864])	EF493942	EF493992	EF493885
	E. eranites (as Castilia eranites Hewitson 1857)	AY788617 ^b	AY788722 ^b	AY788483
	E. eunice (Hübner 1807)	AY788624 ^b	AY788738 ^b	AY788499
	E. ithomioides alsina (Hewitson 1869)	EF493933 ¹	EF493983 ¹	EF493876
	E. ithomioides eutropiaNW104–7 (Hewitson 1874)	EF493940 ¹	EF493990 ¹	EF493883
	E. ithomioides eutropiaNW120–17	EF493937 ¹	EF493987 ¹	EF493880
	E. lansdorfi (Godart 1819)	EF493938 ¹	EF493988	EF493881
	E. letitia (Hewitson 1869)	AY788625 ^b	AY788739 ^b	AY788500
	E. levina (Hewitson 1872)	EF493939 ¹	EF493989 ¹	EF493882
	E. nauplius (Linnaeus 1758)	EF493944 ¹	EF493994 ¹	EF493887
	E. pelonia (Hewitson 1852)	AY788626 ^b	AY788740 ^b	AY788501
		EF493934 ¹	EF493984 ¹	EF493877
	<i>E. perna aveyrona</i> (Bates 1864)			
	E. perna perna (Hewitson 1852)	EF493941	EF493991	EF493884
	E. philyra (Hewitson 1852)	EF493943	EF493993	EF493886
	E. plaginota (as E. nauplius plagiata Röber 1913)	AF187801 ^a		
	E. polina (Hewitson 1852)	EF493945 ¹	EF493995 ¹	EF493888
	<i>E. quintilla</i> (as <i>E. ithomioides quintilla</i> Higgins 1981)	AY788627 ^b	AY788741 ^b	AY788502
	E. sestia (as E. emerantia sestia Hewitson 1869)	AY788628 ^b	AY788742 ^b	AY788503
	E. sticta (Schaus 1913)	EF493946 ¹	EF493996	EF493889
hyciodes	P. batesii (Reakirt 1866)	AF187747 ^a	EF494005 ¹	EF493898
	P. cocyta (Cramer 1777)	AF187755 ^a	AY090192 ^f	AY090158
	P. graphica (Felder 1869)		AY788790 ^b	AY788550
	P. mylitta (Edwards 1861)	AF187785 ^a	AY788791 ^b	AY788551
	P. orseis (Edwards 1871)	AY156631 ^m	AY788792 ^b	AY788552
	P. pallescens (Felder 1869)	AY156640 ^m	AY788793 ^b	AY788553
	P. pallida (Edwards 1864)	AF187792 ^a	AY788794 ^b	AY788554
	P. phaon (Edwards 1864)	AF187798 ^a	AY788795 ^b	AY788555
	P. picta (Edwards 1865)	AF187800 ^a	AY788796 ^b	AY788556
	P. pulchella (Boisduval 1852)	AY156662 ^m	AY788797 ^b	
				AY788557
	P. tharos (Drury 1773)	AF187807 ^a	AY788798 ^b	AY788558
egosa	T. anieta (Hewitson 1864)	AY788681 ^b	AY788819 ^b	AY788579
	T. claudina (Eschscholtz 1821)	EF493957 ¹	EF494015 ¹	EF493908
	T. etia (Hewitson 1868)	EF493961 ¹	EF494019 ¹	EF493912
	T. guatemalena (Bates 1864)	HM431605 ^e		21 100012
	e v v		FF 40 4020	FF402012
	T. infrequens (Higgins 1981)	EF493962	EF494020	EF493913
	T. orobia (Hewitson 1864)	EF493967	EF494025	EF493918
	T. selene (Röber 1913)	EF493965 ¹	EF494023	EF493916
	T. similis (Higgins 1981)	EF493966 ¹	EF494024 ¹	EF493917
	T. tissoides (Hall 1928)	AY788682 ^b	AY788820 ^b	AY788580
alanassa	<i>T. berenice</i> (Felder and Felder 1862)			
elenassa		EF493968	EF494026 ¹	EF493919
	T. delphia (Felder and Felder1861)	EF493970	EF494029	EF493922
	T. fontus (Hall 1928)	EF493974	EF494033	EF493926
	T. teletusa (Godart 1824)	EF493971 ¹	EF494030 ¹	EF493923
	T. trimaculata (T. delphia trimaculata Hewitson 1869)	AY788683 ^b	AY788821 ^b	AY788581
ntillea	A. pelops (Drury 1773)	GQ864733 ⁿ	GQ864827 ⁿ	GQ864421
	A. proclea (Doubleday 1874)	EF493928	EF493976 ¹	EF493869
tlantea	A. pantone (Kaye 1906)	GQ864741 ⁿ	GQ864835"	GQ864429
Dagon	D. pusilla (Salvin 1869)	EF493932 ¹	EF493982 ¹	EF493875
athotriche	G. exclamationis (Kollar 1850)	AY788629 ^b	AY788748 ^b	AY788509
	<i>G. mundina</i> (Druce 1876)	EF493927 ¹	EF493975 ¹	EF493868
liaginaiug	, ,			
ligginsius	H. fasciata (Hopffer 1874)	AY788630 ^b	AY788749 ^b	AY788510
anatella	J. fellula (Schaus 1902)	EF493947	EF493997	EF493890
	J. hera (Cramer 1779)	EF493973	EF494032	EF493925
	J. leucodesma (Felder and Felder 1861)	AY788641 ^b	AY788761 ^b	AY788521
Iazia	M. amazonica (Bates 1864)	AY788654 ^b	AY788773 ^b	AY788533
	· ,		AY788787 ^b	
<i>Aicrotia</i>	M. elva (Bates 1864)	AY788660 ^b		AY788547
Drtilia	O. orthia (Hewitson 1864)	EF493951	EF494001	EF493894
	O. dicoma (Hewitson 1864)	EF493948 ¹	EF493998	EF493891
	O. gentina (Higgins 1981)	EF493950 ¹	EF494000 ¹	EF493893
	O. ithra (Kirby 1900)	EF493949 ¹	EF493999 ¹	EF493892
	O. liriope (Cramer 1775)	EF493972	EF494031	EF493924
	O. orticas (Schaus 1902)	EF493952	EF494002	EF493895
	O (1) (1) O (1) $(1$	EF493954 ¹	EF494004 ¹	EF493897
	0. velicaNW106-5 (Hewitson 1864)	EI433334	LI 434004	LI 455057

(continued on next page)

Table 2 (continued)

Genus	Species	COI	Ef1-a	Wgl
Phystis	P. simois (Hewitson 1864)	EF493956 ¹	EF494014 ¹	EF493907 ¹
Vanessula	V. milca (Hewitson 1873)	AY788691 ^b	AY788829 ^b	AY788589°
Hypolimnas	H. bolina (Linnaeus 1758)	EF683668 ^k	AY090190 ^f	AF412775 ^b
Doleschallia	D. bisaltidae (Cramer 1777)	AY788621 ^b	AY788735 ^b	AY788496 ^b

^a Wahlberg and Zimmermann (2000).

- ^b Wahlberg et al. (unpublished).
- ^c Janzen and Hajibabaei (unpublished).
- This study
- ^e International Barcode of Life (iBOL)
- ^f Wahlberg et al. (2003a,b).
- ^g Lukhtanov et al. (2009).
- ^h Zimmermann et al. (2000).
- Dinca et al (2011)
- ^j Leneveu et al. (2009)
- ^k Min et al. (unpublished).
- ¹ Wahlberg and Freitas (2007).
- ^m Wahlberg et al. (2003a,b).
- ⁿ Wahlberg et al. (2009).
- ^o Nylin et al. (2001).

We generated alignments of all taxa for each gene region using MUSCLE as implemented in Geneious Pro 4.8.5. Alignments were then edited manually, including translating each gene region to check for premature stop codons and to otherwise check the accuracy of the alignment. We generated additional alignments using ClustalW as implemented in Geneious Pro 4.8.5 and compared these to the MUSCLE alignments but detected no significant variation. We used jModelTest to select the most appropriate model of nucleotide substitution for each gene region (Posada, 2008).

2.3. Time calibration

We constrained the ages of the divergences between the outgroups (Doleschallia bisaltide (Kallimini), Hypolimnas bolina (Junoiini) and Vanessula milca (Nymphalidae)) and the Melitaeini, and between outgroup species H. bolina and V. milca based on Wahlberg et al. (2009), who utilized fossil calibration data for seven species to estimate minimum divergence times (Emmel et al., 1992; Nel et al., 1993; Scott and Wright, 1990; Peñalver and Grimaldi, 2006; Kawahara, 2009). Because we used a secondary estimate of node calibration, we specified a normal distribution prior to estimate root divergence times (Ho and Phillilps, 2009). We constrained the timing of the divergence between the outgroup species (Doleschallia bisaltide (Kallimini), Hypolimnas bolina (Junoiini) and Vanessula milca (Nymphalidae)), and the Melitaeini as a mean of 42.53 MYA with a standard deviation of 2.4 MY. We constrained the divergence of the H. bolina and V. milca branches as 39.2 MYA with a stdev of 3 MY (Wahlberg et al., 2009).

2.4. Phylogenetic analysis

We estimated phylogeny for the combined dataset and each gene independently using MrBayes v. 3.2.2 under models of substitution chosen using jModelTest (Huelsenbeck et al., 2001; Huelsenbeck and Ronquist, 2001; Posada, 2008). We ran 4 replicated analyses each with one cold and three incrementally heated chains (temperature = 0.1) for 50 million iterations, logging the current state every 5000 iterations. We assessed convergence and mixing of the chains using Tracer and AWTY (Wilgenbusch et al., 2004; Rambaut et al., 2013), ensuring that all 4 analyses were sampling from the same distribution and that no clear trends were visible in the MCMC samples. We removed the first 25% of each analysis as burnin and summarized the results using MrBayes internal functions.

We also estimated tree topology and timing of divergence simultaneously under a relaxed clock. Using the CIPRES portal (Miller et al., 2010), we performed BEAST (v 1.7.1) analyses on the aligned gene regions (Drummond et al., 2012). Each of the three genes was partitioned separately, as was each codon position. For each gene, the substitution model was set to GTR with estimated base frequencies. Among-site rate heterogeneity was modeled using a discrete gamma distribution, Γ . We assumed an uncorrelated lognormal distribution to describe the prior probability density on branch-specific substitution rates (Drummond et al., 2006). We specified a birth-death stochastic branching process model to generate a prior on node ages. The MCMC chain was set to run for 50 million iterations and logged every 5000 generations. We repeated the BEAST analysis six times.

Log files from the six replicate analyses were combined using LogCombiner (v 1.7.1) from the BEAST package. We also used TreeAnnotator (v 1.7.1) from the BEAST package to summarize the posterior sample of trees to produce a maximum clade credibility tree and to summarize the posterior estimates of the input parameters. We assessed convergence of the MCMC using Tracer (v 1.5), and upon visual inspection we set the burn-in for the combined runs to 2.5 million iterations.

2.5. Data availability

We deposited all newly generated sequence data to Genbank (Accession numbers KM042217-KM042298). Our alignment and the resulting phylogenies are available in TreeBase (http://purl.org/phylo/treebase/phylows/study/TB2:S16045).

3. Results

3.1. Comparison of MrBayes gene trees vs. consensus tree

At the subtribe level the trees recovered by the nuclear markers $EF1\alpha$ and wg via MrBayes analyses were largely uninformative, while the COI tree and consensus tree were largely in agreement with each other. We therefore restrict our remaining discussion to the MrBayes and BEAST consensus trees.

3.2. Comparison of MrBayes consensus tree and BEAST tree

Both the BEAST tree (Figs. 1–3, Supplementary File 1) and MrBayes consensus tree (Supplementary File 2) recovered four well-supported clades within the Melitaeini; both trees were also

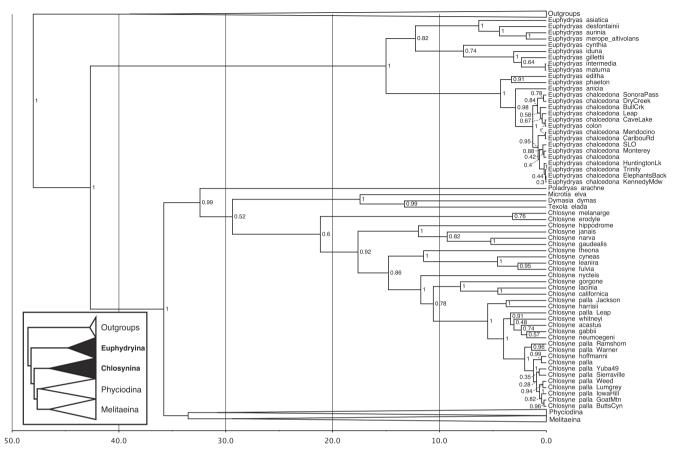


Fig. 1. Phylogeny of Melitaeini depicting relationships for subtribes Euphydryina and Chlosynina (remaining clades have been collapsed for clarity of presentation) as recovered by BEAST analysis, utilizing mitochondrial gene region *COI* and nuclear gene regions *EF1α* and wg. Node labels refer to clade posterior probabilities, while the *x*-axis represents time in millions of years. *Inset*: Backbone phylogeny of the Melitaeini.

in agreement on the branching order of these clades as well as on the genus composition of each. The species composition of these four clades roughly correspond to the subtribes described by Wahlberg and Zimmermann (2000), while the branching order more closely resembled that of Wahlberg et al. (2005).

3.3. Four clades

3.3.1. Euphydryina

The clade containing all members of the genus *Euphydryas* diverged from the rest of the Melitaeini ~42.68 MYA (divergence time clade posterior probability, DTCPP = 1) (Fig. 1). The most recent ancestor (MRCA) to this monogeneric clade corresponding to Wahlberg and Zimmermann's Euphydriti (Euphydryina in later usage) underwent a speciation event ~15 MYA (DTCPP = 1).

The trees recovered by the BEAST analysis and the MrBayes analysis differ in their placement of *E. anicia, E. chalcedona,* and *E. colon.* Scott (1987) combines these three taxa into one species, *E. chalcedona,* while Pelham (2008) splits them. Here we retain the GenBank labels for *E. anicia* and *E. colon,* while labeling all new specimens that we collected for this project as *E. chalcedona.* Treating *E. anicia* as a separate species renders *E. chalcedona* paraphyletic in both analyses.

3.3.2. Chlosynina

The divergence event that gave rise to the MRCA of Chlosynina and the MRCA of Melitaeina and Phyciodina occurred approximately 35.8 MYA (DTCPP = 1) (Fig. 1). Our divergence time estimate analysis recovers strong posterior support (DTCPP = 0.99) for the split of *Poladryas* from the rest of the Chlosynina \sim 32.4 MYA; however, the Bayesian consensus tree recovers this node with only weak support (MBCPP = 0.56).

3.3.3. Melitaeina

The divergence event that gave rise to the two remaining subtribes occurred approximately 33.52 MYA (MBCPP = 1) (Fig. 2). One of these groups, corresponding to Melitaeina, consists of the genera *Melitaea*, *Higginsius*, and *Gnathotriche*. The MRCA of this group diverged \sim 29.43MYA (MBCPP = 1).

Within the subtribe Melitaeina, we noted several differences between the topology of the MrBayes tree and the BEAST tree. The two analyses recovered different topologies regarding the following species: *M. solana; M. ambigua* vs. *M. athalia;* and *M. consulis* + *M. collina* vs. *M. avinonvi* + *M. arduinna*. The MrBayes analysis returned polytomies at several places where the BEAST analysis was resolved: the *M. alatuica* branch; the *M. lutko* branch; the *M. gina* branch; the *M. didyma*NW99_12 branch; and the *M. phoebe*AC_6 vs. *M. phoebe*NW15_14 branches.

3.3.4. Phyciodina

The other group, corresponding to Phyciodina, consists of the genera Mazia, Ortilia, Phyciodes, Tegosa, Eresia, Castilia, Telenassa, Dagon, Janatella, Anthanassa, Phystis, Atlantea, and Antillea, who share a MRCA \sim 30.8 MYA (MBCPP = 1) (Fig. 3).

The topology of the trees recovered by the MrBayes and BEAST analyses differed in regard to several taxa within the Phyciodina.

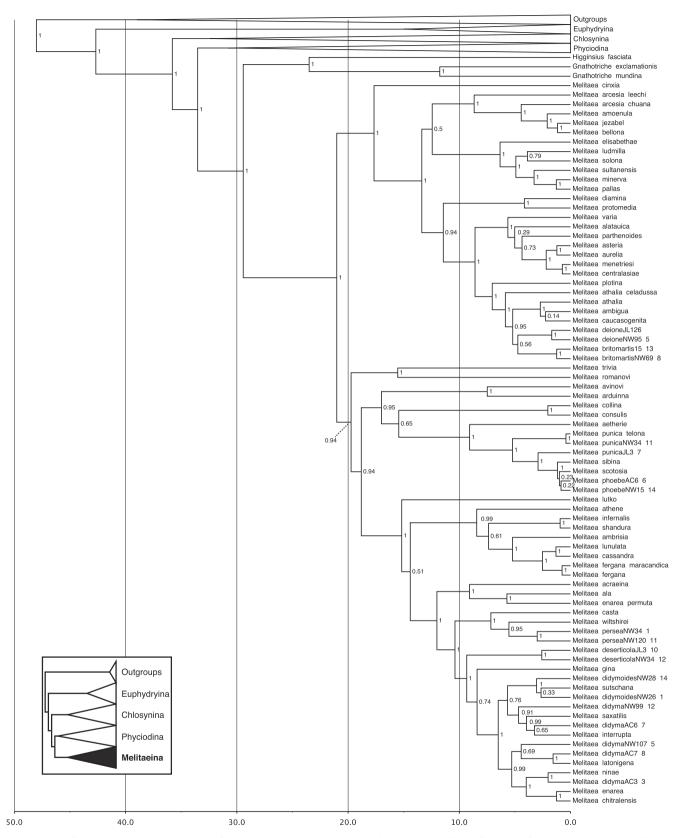


Fig. 2. Phylogeny of Melitaeini depicting relationships for subtribe Melitaeina (remaining clades have been collapsed for clarity of presentation) as recovered by BEAST analysis, utilizing mitochondrial gene region *COI* and nuclear gene regions *EF1α* and *wg*. Node labels refer to clade posterior probabilities, while the *x*-axis represents time in millions of years. *Inset*: Backbone phylogeny of the Melitaeini.

The *Anthanassa* polytomy recovered by MrBayes analysis is resolved in the BEAST analysis by placing the *A. frisia* + *A. ptolyca* as subtending the rest of the genus. The two methods also differ

in the placement of *A. otanes* and *A. drusilla*, as well as in the placement of several *Eresia* species; the placement of *Tegosa selena* and *T. etia*; and the placement of *Phyciodes batesii* and *P. pulchella*.

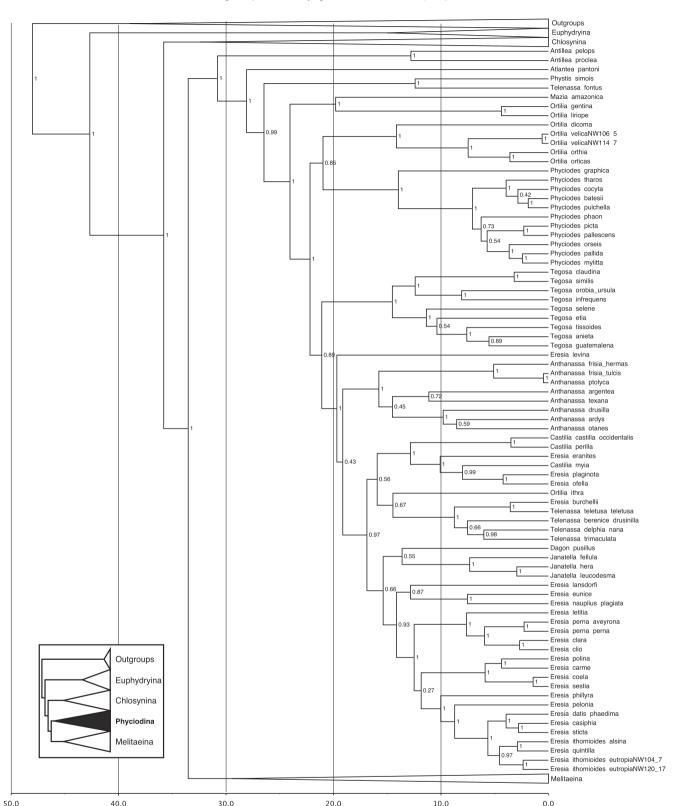


Fig. 3. Phylogeny of Melitaeini depicting relationships for subtribe Phyciodina (remaining clades have been collapsed for clarity of presentation) as recovered by BEAST analysis, utilizing mitochondrial gene region *COI* and nuclear gene regions *EF1α* and *wg*. Node labels refer to clade posterior probabilities, while the *x*-axis represents time in millions of years. *Inset*: Backbone phylogeny of the Melitaeini.

4. Discussion

Our finding of four distinct, well-supported clades within the Melitaeini is consistent with previous findings by Wahlberg and Zimmermann (2000) and Wahlberg et al. (2005), which is unsurprising given the fact that the studies use similar gene regions. However, we found that the subtribe branching order described by Wahlberg and Zimmermann (2000) differs from the hypothesis proposed here, and while subtribe branching order is consistent with Wahlberg et al. (2005) there were other differences between this study and our results, as well. We discuss these differences below.

4.1. Four clades: comparison to previous hypotheses

Our phylogenetic analysis recovered four distinct, well-supported clades within Melitaeini, roughly corresponding to those described by Wahlberg and Zimmermann (2000), although the branching order more closely resembled that of Wahlberg et al. (2005). Here we discuss these results in the context of previous phylogenetic hypotheses reported for each of the four clades.

4.1.1. Euphydryina

Like Zimmermann et al. (2000), we found no support for Higgins' proposed split of Euphydryas anicia. E. colon. E. chalcedona. and E. editha into a distinct genus ('Occidryas') (Higgins, 1981). However, together with E. phaeton, these species do form a monophyletic group that diverged \sim 15 MYA ago from the MRCA of E. aurinia, E. merope altivans, E. desfontainii, E. asiatica, E. cynthia, *E. iduna*, *E. intermedia*, *E. maturna*, and *E. gillettii* (DTCPP = 1). Higgins also proposed that the latter five species be designated a separate genus called 'Hypodryas' while the former four species be designated a distinct genus called 'Eurodryas'. We do recover these proposed taxa as monophyletic clades that diverged from one another ~12.26 MYA, although support for '*Hypodryas*' as well as the combined clade of 'Hypodryas' and 'Eurodryas' is modest (DTCPP = 0.74 and 0.82, respectively). However, Higgins' proposed split of Euphydryas has been rejected by subsequent authors (Higgins, 1981; Zimmermann et al., 2000).

4.2. Chlosynina

This study presents the most complete molecular phylogeny of the *Chlosyne*-group subtribe, including 21 of the approximately 27 species in the nominate genus. The genus *Poladyras* comprises two species, one of which (*P. arachne*) is included here; the remaining genera (*Texola, Microtia,* and *Dymasia*) are each monotypic, and are also included in this study. Two other molecular phylogenies have been presented pertaining to this group: the first included only 15 species of *Chlosyne* and does not include *Microtia* (Wahlberg and Zimmermann, 2000), while the second included *Microtia* but only included 11 species of *Chlosyne* (Wahlberg et al., 2005).

Higgins (1981) placed *Microtia* within the *Chlosyne*-group based on morphological characters and Wahlberg et al. (2005) recovered a similar placement using molecular data. We found strong support for placement of *Microtia* within Chlosynina, sister to *Texola/ Dymasia* (CPP = 1). These three genera appear to have diverged from *Chlosyne* ~29.4MYA, while *Microtia* diverged from *Texola* and *Dymasia* ~17.4 MYA. Wahlberg and Freitas (2007) estimated more ancient divergences, ~37.5 MYA and ~26MYA, respectively. Differences can most likely be attributed to difference in calibration constraints applied in the studies.

Of particular interest in our study is the placement of a group of Nearctic *Chlosyne* species occurring in the western United States. Specifically, we were interested in the taxonomic relationship of *C. palla, C. whitneyi, C. acastus* (and an included subspecies, *C. acastus neumoegeni*), *C. hoffmanni*, and *C. gabbii*. We found strong posterior support for the monophyly of this group, the members of which often have parapatric or sympatric distributions. Divergence time estimates suggest that this clade diverged from the rest of *Chlosyne* ~5.5MYA (CPP = 1), near the end of the Miocene and beginning of the Pliocene. Previous studies of this group have only included *C. palla, C. acastus*, and *C. acastus neumoegeni* (treated as a

full species by Wahlberg and Zimmermann, 2000). While the latter is not considered a full species (Pelham, 2008), we found it to be sister to C. gabbii rather than to C. acastus, having diverged \sim 2.3MYA (CPP = 0.75). These three taxa together are weakly supported as sister taxa to the alpine taxon C. whitneyi, diverging \sim 3MYA (CPP = 0.48). The name C. whitneyi was once used for high-elevation (sub-alpine) populations of a taxon now called C. palla altasierra (Emmel et al., 1998) (here provisionally labeled as C. palla "Leap"). We found this taxon to be more closely related to C. acastus/C. gabbii/C. whitneyi than to the nominate species C. palla, with which it is parapatric. This finding may explain why female forms of the California populations of C. palla are polymorphic and the C. acastus/C. gabbii/C. whitneyi/C. palla altasierra group are not. We hypothesize that this female-limited polymorphism either arose after C. palla diverged from the others, or the polymorphism is the ancestral state to these species and was lost in the *C. acastus/C. gabbii/C. whitnevi/C. palla altasierra* lineage. Ancestral state reconstruction of this trait was uninformative due to recent divergences and subsequent low phylogenetic signal (data not shown).

The location of *C. hoffmanni* nested within population-level specimens of *C. palla* was unexpected. These two species can be difficult to distinguish, although the specimen used here was examined by multiple experts and appears to be a good example of *C. hoffmanni*. However, we urge caution in interpreting this finding, and instead suggest that sequence data from additional specimens be analyzed to clarify this relationship.

4.3. Melitaeina

A previous study by Wahlberg et al. (2009) estimated that Melitaeini diverged from Nymphalinae ~50 MYA. Our study places this divergence within a similar time frame and our 95% HPD estimate contains the Wahlberg et al. estimate. The genus *Melitaea* has sometimes been split into two genera, *Melitaea* and *Mellicta* (Asher et al., 2001; Beccaloni et al., 2013). We found that, with the exception of *M. sutschana*, the species usually included in *Mellicta* (*M. alatuica, ambigua, asteria, athalia, aurelia, britomartis, caucasogenita, celadussa, centralasiae, deione, menetriesi, parthenoides, ploti-<i>na*, and *varia*) do form a monophyletic group, but designating them as a separate genus would render *Melitaea* paraphyletic. This '*Mellicta'* group diverged from the rest of the *Melitaea* ~11.4 MYA (CPP = 0.95).

While the *Melitaea/Mellicata* split does not seem to be valid, we did find two distinct clades within *Melitaea* that have also been described by Leneveu et al. (2009) utilizing the same gene regions, the Didymaeformia and *Melitaea* clades. Species composition of the two clades was consistent between the two studies, however we were able to include *M. alatuica* and *M. jezabel* in the *Melitaea* clade (not included in the study by Leneveu et al.). Unlike the tree presented by Leneveu et al., however, we found strong posterior support for this node, which is estimated to have split ~21 MYA (CPP = 1).

Within-clade differences at this level were minimal in the Didymaeformia clade. Branching order and species relationships were similar between our study and Leneveu et al. with the exception of the *M. arduina* + *M. avinovi* branch and *M. consulis* + *M. collina* branch. Support for the deeper node (representing the divergence of *M. arduina* + *M. avinovi* in our study) is higher in our study than the Leneveu et al. study (CPP = 0.95 vs. 0.87, respectively) (Leneveu et al., 2009). In both studies the interval between this node and the next is short (>1 my).

We found much greater differences between the two studies within the *Melitaea* clade. While Leneveu et al. found the *diamina* group (*M. diamina* and *M. protomedia*) as sister to a clade comprising the *arcesia*, *minerva*, and *athalia* groups with strong posterior node support (CPP = 1), we found the *diamina* group to be sister to the *athalia* group, again with slightly weaker support (CPP = 0.95). We also found the *arcesia* and *minerva* groups to be sister taxa, and when taken together are sister to the *athalia/diamina* clade. The previous study, however, found the *athalia* and *minerva* groups to be sister clades, subtended by the *arcesia* clade, which is itself subtended by the *diamina* clade.

4.4. Phyciodina

Of the four Meliteaini subtribes, the most problematic is the Phyciodina. This appears to be caused by difficulty in naming species, whether through misidentification of GenBank specimens or the need for a thorough taxonomic revision of this group (or both). Many species in this group are involved in mimicry systems, leading to phenotypic similarity and thus confusion concerning proper identification. Assuming that all species are in fact correctly identified, a major revision of this group seems called for, as many of the genera are not monophyletic. Wahlberg and Freitas (2007) encountered a similar result in a previous molecular study of this group. While that study performed both parsimony and Bayesian phylogenetic analyses, most of the discussion pertains to the parsimony result, so we will focus our comparisons primarily on that phylogeny as well.

Wahlberg and Freitas found nine stable lineages within Phyciodina (*Antillea, Phystis, Mazia, Ortilia s.s., Tegosa, Phyciodes,* Brazilian "*Ortilia*", *Anthanassa,* and *Eresia s.l.*). They recommended that the genera *Dagon, Janatella, Castilia,* and *Telenassa s.s.* be returned to the *Eresia,* undoing the split proposed by Higgins (Higgins, 1981; Wahlberg and Freitas, 2007). Several of these groups contain problematic taxa, though whether this is due to misidentification or misclassification is uncertain.

Like Wahlberg and Freitas (2007) we found that *Telenassa fontus* is sister to *Phystis* (CPP = 1), despite the fact that the remaining *Telenassa* are quite distant on the Phyciodina tree. Whether this species should be classified as *Phystis* or as a separate genus should be examined more closely. Barring this, *Phystis* forms a stable monotypic genus (CPP = 0.99).

The species "*Eresia*" burchellii is listed as such on Genbank but is treated elsewhere as *Telenassa*. Wahlberg and Freitas (2007) treat it as a subspecies of *T. teletusa* and estimate a split between it and the nominate subspecies to be > 5MYA. While our phlyogeny also supports this arrangement for *Telenassa*, we found the split between *T. teletusa* and *T. teletusa* burchellii ("*Eresia*" burchellii) to be more recent (~3.5MYA).

We also found the placement of several members of the genus Ortilia to be problematic. Our phylogeny agrees with that of Wahlberg and Freitas (2007) in placing O. liriope and O. gentina as sister to Mazia, with strong posterior branch support (CPP > 0.99). Wahlberg and Freitas identified a monophyletic clade of Ortilia that they called the Brazilian "Ortilia", consisting of O. dicoma, O. orthia, O. orticas, and O. velica. We arrived at the same conclusion, with strong posterior node support for this clade (CPP = 1), and agree that this clade requires a new name as the generic type species, O. liriope, is not included in this clade (Higgins, 1981; Wahlberg and Freitas, 2007). While both studies found O. ithra to be paraphyletic to the other Ortilia, the two studies differed in the placement of this branch. The hypotheses proposed by Wahlberg and Freitas place the species as sister to Eresia lansdorfi (parsimony tree, bootstrap < 50), subtending Telenassa with weak support (MrBayes, CPP = 0.64), and as sister to Dagon pusillus in their chronogram. They suggest placing it within Eresia (see below), while our phylogeny places it as sister to Telenassa (CPP = 0.67), with D. pusillus sister to Janatella (CPP = 0.55).

4.5. Other clades of interest

Aside from the four distinct subtribe clades discussed above, this study examines the placement of several additional lineages that have traditionally been the subject of major phylogenetic uncertainty or disagreement. We discuss each of these in turn below.

4.6. Placement of Gnathotriche and Higginsius

Studies have variously placed Gnathotriche and Higginsius with Melitaea + Chlosyne based on morphology (Higgins, 1981), within Phyciodina based on molecular sequence data (Wahlberg et al., 2005; Wahlberg and Freitas, 2007), and with Melitaeina based on molecular sequence data (Wahlberg and Freitas, 2007). We found strong support for placing these species sister to Melitaea, within the subtribe Melitaeina. Divergence times between Gnathotriche/ Higginsius and Melitaea are similar to those of deep nodes within Phyciodina. e.g. Antillea or Atlantea and the remaining Phyciodina. This evidence plus Higgins' morphological treatment suggests that these three species together constitute a subtribe. If this finding is correct, it would influence the biogeographical hypothesis proposed by Wahlberg and Freitas (2007). Revisions of this hypothesis would need to take into account the divergence of the neotropical Higginsius and Gnathotriche ~6.4 MY after the divergence of the (neotropical and nearctic) Chlosyne-group, and ~4.1 MY after the divergence of the (neotropical and nearctic) Phyciodina.

4.7. Placement of Atlantea, Antillea, Ortilia, Phystis, Dagon, Mazia, and Janatella

This is the first study to place *Atlantea* in a phylogeny, whether using morphological or molecular information. Higgins (1981) was unable to place this genus within any subtribe based on morphology, and suggested that it may constitute a distinct subtribe of the Melitaeina. The phylogenetic hypothesis presented here shows strong posterior support placing *Atlantea* within Phyciodina (CPP = 1), diverging from the other genera ~2.7 MY after *Antillea* (~28.1 MYA). This subtribe is comprised of Neotropical and Nearctic species, most of which are endemic to South America. *Atlantea* is endemic to the Greater Antilles, and its phylogenetic placement near *Antillea* suggests a fairly simple biogeographic scenario. Our placement of *Antillea* as the first Phyciodina taxon to diverge is consistent with the placement presented by Wahlberg and Freitas (2007), although our findings suggest a slightly more recent divergence (~30.8MYA vs. ~34MYA) (CPP = 1).

Wahlberg and Zimmermann (2000) and Wahlberg et al. (2005) did not include *Ortilia, Phystis,* or *Dagon* in their analyses, while the former also were unable to include *Mazia* and *Janatella*. The phylogeny produced by Wahlberg and Freitas (2007) places all of these genera within Phyciodina, which agrees with our result. While some of the specific placements within Phyciodina proposed by these two studies differ, it appears to be clear that all of these genera belong within this subtribe. Rather than belabor the remaining differences, we will simply agree with Wahlberg and Freitas that this subtribe is in need of careful, thorough taxonomic revision. This should include a morphological analysis of the GenBank specimens included in our molecular study to ensure that some of the taxonomic and phylogenetic disagreements are not due to simple identification errors.

5. Conclusion

We found four, well-supported clades within the tribe Melitaeini, largely corresponding to previously proposed subtribes. Of these four, we found Euphydryina to have diverged first, \sim 42.67 MYA; this was followed by the branching of the Chlosynina \sim 35.8 MYA, and then by the divergence of Phyciodina and Melitaeina \sim 33.52 MYA. Within these subtribes, our most significant findings are the placement of *Gnathotriche* and *Higginsius* within Meliteaina, the placement of *Atlantea* within Phyciodina, and the description of the Chlosynina phylogeny.

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Appendix A. Supplementary material

Supplementary data associated with this article can be found, in the online version, at http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ympev.2014.06. 010.

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