THE MACARANGA PLANTS AND THE MOTHS FEEDING ON THEM

Different species of genus *Macaranga* are very common plants of secondary rain forest in lowlands of Papua New Guinea. Some of the species are important host plants for different groups of insects.

- **MACARANGA (Euphorbiaceae)**
  - There are 326 genera, 7750 species in family Euphorbiaceae altogether in the World with 52 genera and 426 species in PNG. One of the most diversified genus is *Macaranga*.
  - In lowland rain forest of Madang (PNG) we can find these six common species:
    - *M. aleuritoides*
    - *M. brachytricha*
    - *M. densiflora*
    - *M. quadriglandulosa*
    - *M. bifoveata*
    - *M. novo-guineensis*
  - Species *M. novo-guineensis* can be seen in the primary forests while the other species are secondary plants growing in the old gardens and secondary forest.

- **THE MOTHS FEEDING ON MACARANGA**
  - One of the insect groups reared on Macaranga by parataxonomist at the Parataxonomist Training Center in PNG are moths of the different families:
    - Pyralidae (puralids)
    - Noctuidae (noctuids)
    - Thyrididae (thyrids)
    - Tortricidae (tortricids)
    - Choreutidae (coreutids)

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