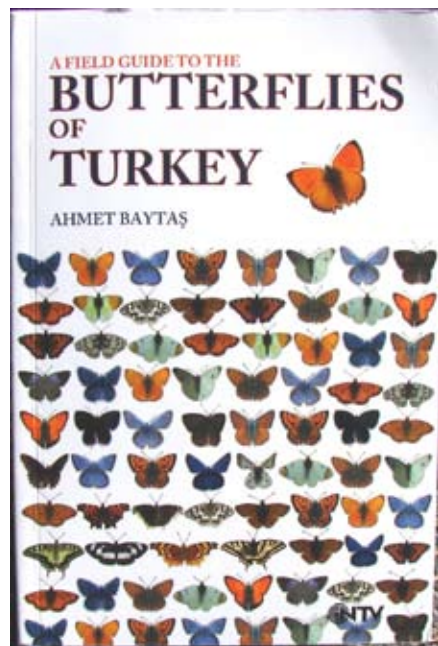


## Book Reviews

*A Field Guide to the Butterflies of Turkey*  
By Ahmet Baytas. 2007.  
NTV Yayinlari: Istanbul.  
ISBN: 978-975-6690-79-6.  
218 pages. \$28.50 at NABA Sales  
Review by *Tristan Lafranchis*

At last there is now a field guide to the butterflies of Turkey. Previous to this publication, the only comprehensive book on the topic was a huge, heavy and very expensive three-volume German book, not



something you would like to carry with you far away. We really needed something else ! NABA member Ahmet Baytas has managed to treat 344 species, most of the Turkish butterfly fauna, in a small and light book which certainly will prove very easy to use. The 756 color photos of living butterflies are of very good quality and are of major interest to anybody interested in butterflies as a good number of them have not often been shown alive. Several photographers have helped the author in his difficult quest to catch the many Turkish butterflies with a camera.

Each species is briefly treated with a description, which emphasizes its distinctive features, flight-time, distribution in Turkey, habitats and caterpillar hostplants. The layout and the style are very clear and efficient and are based upon the *Butterflies through Binoculars* field guides used by the author since he left Turkey to reside in the United States. This new book, published in English (but which will also be published in Turkish), is definitely modern and will encourage the work of young Turkish naturalists. It will hopefully contribute to the recognition of the exceptional richness and fragility of wildlife in Turkey. For anybody travelling to Turkey, it will fill a gap and be a friendly and very useful travel companion.

As expressed by the author, identification of some groups of butterflies is very difficult and sometimes impossible, especially among blues of the genus *Agrodiaetus* and skippers in the genus *Pyrgus*. But most of the Turkish butterflies can be identified alive in the field with the guide prepared by Ahmet Baytas. We just have to admit that, from time to time, we cannot put a name on a butterfly. But I prefer an « unknown » butterfly alive than a correctly identified pinned one. Nature lovers have to show their respect for life in general and for wildlife in particular. That is not always the case in the Old World where seriousness still often rhymes with collection. Thanks again to Ahmet Baytas and to his publisher for this very nice book which deserves the widest success. 🦋

## Naming Opportunities at NABA Butterfly Park

We hope to break ground on the Park's welcome center this fall. Now is the time to both help us create the world's foremost center for education, research and conservation of wild butterflies and to have your name, or the name of a loved one, associated with this beautiful and important facility. Naming opportunities — on buildings, gardens and exhibits — currently range from \$2,500 to more than \$1,000,000. If you would like to explore a naming possibility at NABA International Butterfly Park, please contact us via telephone at 973-285-0907, via email to [naba@naba.org](mailto:naba@naba.org), or via letter to NABA, 4 Delaware Road, Morristown, NJ 07960. We will be pleased to discuss the possibilities with you and to send you brochures about the Park, including one discussing naming opportunities. Below, is a photo of the new comfort station.

