



OBITUARY – DR. ANDRÉ J. M. CLAASSENS

26th October 1926 – 16th September 2017

Alan Heath

31st December 2017

André Claassens [90] passed away on 16th September 2017. Most readers will know of him and many may have been fortunate enough to meet and get to know him. I have known him for over 32 years both as a colleague on lepidopteran matters and as a friend.

He was formerly a friend and colleague of the late C.G.C. (Charlie) Dickson until Charlie's death in 1991, and got to meet some of Charlie's many visitors. Names like David Swanepoel, Victor Pringle, Elliot Pinhey and Kit Cottrell, among many. He also went on field trips with Charles Wykeham and later with Gordon Fraser-Grant (who I understand is now in a care-home) and also with myself and Len McLeod.

I have a vivid memory of our first meeting that ended in going for a walk on the slopes of Signal Hill where he lifted a rock to give me my first glimpse of the larva and the attending ants of *Aloeides thyra*. I carefully placed the rock back and said I'd collect the larva and some ants on our return. "Oh no" he said "they won't be there; not after we have disturbed the nest". Sure enough, on returning from the walk we found no trace of larva or ants under that rock; a problem I've encountered many times since.

He and I shared hearing problems; mine in both ears but André was totally deaf in just one ear. So, in the veld he'd invariably look the wrong way if I called him although I wouldn't hear him at all if he called me!!

André did some ground-breaking work in rearing *Lepidochrysops* and helped me with work on the *Thestor* life histories, since when we worked together and published jointly. We shared a passion for butterflies and especially myrmecophily (ant-association) generally. In later years he contributed many great nature articles to the magazine Veld & Flora that helped raise public awareness of nature on our doorstep.

More recently, André had been suffering from poor circulation and had surgery on his left foot; he was dosed-up with morphine when I last saw him in a local care home, just a week before he died.

A few paragraphs appear below that were provided by some of his lepidopteran acquaintances. A list (provided by Mark Williams) of André's lepidopteran publications appears at the very end.

Firstly however - A few years ago I asked André if he would jot down some details so I could write his profile for African Butterfly News. This he eventually did, but due to circumstances the idea was put on hold. So what follows next, is an edited summary of André's life - by André himself.

Alan Heath

ANDRÉ'S STORY

I was born on 26 October, 1926, as my parents' seventh child in Holland, in the village of Mill in the province Noord Brabant. We were nine happy children, six boys and three girls. I grew up with the younger generation of three brothers and one sister. The older ones were all at boarding school when I grew up because after the primary school in our village there was no opportunity to further our education. All of us eventually ended up at boarding schools. My father was the principal of the village boys' school and our house was attached to the school, so we did not have to walk to school. Five of us became teachers so we were quite a teacher family.

In our spare time, I and my brother Herman, closest to me by age, not only played a lot of soccer, but also were very keen birders and could not resist keeping every feathered creature we could catch in a cage. Fortunately our father was very keen on birds and bred canaries and other birds in a large aviary in our extensive garden. I for one could not leave anything that moved alone and caught and caged any bird, frog, toad etc. and used to catch and keep small fishes, salamanders and tadpoles. It was not uncommon to find me returning home from a walk in the field carrying a frog in one of my pockets or wrapped up in a handkerchief. I even caught bees and bumble-bees when I was still very young. I soon became interested in butterflies and moths and my father supported me in these activities by showing interest and giving advice and teaching us what to do with our captures. At a young age we performed breeding experiments and became "experts" in making wooden bird breeding boxes to hang up in trees in the garden and used to swap eggs between species of seed-eating birds or between insectivorous species. So that a Blue Tit (Titmouse) would rear a Blackhead Titmouse and a Sparrow reared a Greenfinch. I learned from my father and an uncle who was a butterfly expert and only set perfect specimens that he had reared himself, how to set butterflies and moths and how to care for collections. (Many years later I donated what was then left of my collection of Dutch butterflies and moths to the Zoology Department, University College Cork.) My father taught me to make plaster of Paris ants' nests in which I kept the very docile Yellow Meadow Ant (*Lasius flavus?*) and began to learn something about the needs of ants, such as nest humidity, sweet solutions and pure water and bits of meat or crushed insects all fed to the ants via glass tubes stuck into the sides of the plaster of Paris nest. My father used to say if animals, even insects kept in captivity are not well fed they would not be healthy and would not survive for long or may behave unnaturally. We often went fishing in rivers and dams where I was particularly keen on catching eels that tasted nice the way my mother fried them.

At the age of 13 I went to boarding school. During my first year the war broke out and although that did not change much as far as education was concerned, holidays spent at home were not the same. The Germans took away our bikes and anything that was made of brass to make bullets. They even took the large church bells out of the high tower of our church. Food, especially meat, was rationed and many things were just not available. On two occasions while on holidays at home, armed soldiers came to our house in the middle of the night, and demanded to see the sons' bedrooms to search for boys of 15 years or older because they had to work for the German army, and could even be sent to Germany.

Fortunately my father could speak German very well and told the soldiers that we were students and were only there on holidays. The Germans seemed to respect students and let us alone. Soldiers sometimes came during the day, but as soon as we sighted them we would hide in the thick hazelnut bushes far back in the garden. Once, they even took my father away for two weeks, even though he was a school principal, to work at the local airport to help restore the damage done during nightly bombings by the English and Americans. Our school was often occupied by German soldiers, who used all the classrooms as dormitories, also the playground to park all their rolling gear. We often had to shelter in our home-made underground shelter in the garden during the day and even at night to avoid being bombed during more air attacks.

After the war, at the age of about eighteen I continued my studies for a number of years and became a teacher at the age of 21 followed by higher diplomas in education as well as diplomas in English, Handcraft (including woodwork) and even Agriculture. Believe it or not my first class (of Standard One) had 61 pupils, all boys of 7 years old. The school was situated in a fast growing, relatively new area of the town. I taught for about 14 years, always in boys primary schools and became very involved in sports etc. and extra lessons in French or English for boys who wished to further their studies after the primary school as well as very elementary English to adults preparing to emigrate to English speaking countries. All of these activities left me little time to worry about anything else let alone insects and birds. In the mean time my parents had died and my eldest sister and her husband had left to teach in the Dutch West Indies. My eldest brother had left for the Dutch East Indies (Indonesia), where he was a missionary for many years. One brother emigrated to New Zealand and one brother to Australia where they each got married to Holland girls that followed them there once they were established. These two brothers were not teachers and like many of their contemporaries had found it difficult to find satisfactory jobs in Holland. Emigration was the thing to do for many young Hollanders in those days. I had my eyes set on South Africa, but being a teacher and wishing to teach, I decided to first obtain an English degree at an English-speaking university. I chose the University of Ireland, County Cork (UCC). Fortunately they accepted me in 1960 at 33 years of age. In 1963 I was awarded a B.Sc. (hons.) in Zoology and Biochemistry. I got on well with the Irish professors and lecturers and the students and decided to stay for my M.Sc. I was told to study the fleas of mammals, including bats, and birds of the Irish Republic. Not much was known about them at that time. My work involved a lot of field work such as trapping small mammals and gathering deserted birds' nests, de-flea them and identify the fleas and whatever other insects were found. I also shot a few foxes and squirrels to identify their fleas. I must have gathered many thousands of fleas and even my Prof. Fergus O'Rourke brought me fleas he caught in his home (*Pulex irritans*). The fleas had to be prepared, mounted on slides and studied microscopically. Few fleas can be identified by just looking at them. I discovered a good number of fleas new to Ireland and started to write articles about them.

After my M.Sc. degree in 1964 my Prof. told me that I had done so much work already that some of the unpublished and even the published material could be used towards a Ph.D. So I stayed on again for a few months during which time I continued making new discoveries of fleas, ticks and little beetles found in nests of birds and on mammals.

Trapping was always done overnight using live-traps, small ones for mice etc. and larger ones for rats. When there was no cheap accommodation available near the trapping site, I used to sleep over in my little Volkswagen, waking up early to check the traps. Bird fleas were extracted from birds' nests, especially those of swallows and martins. I must add that Ireland is particularly poor in different species of small mammals, but not in numbers of those that do exist. St Patrick drove out all the snakes, so no problem with them!! Bats were caught in caves and old deserted buildings. Bat manure was another good source of bat fleas and other bat parasites, but of course is dangerous stuff to handle because of diseases, so one can become infected.

Many microscope slides with fleas were later donated to the UCC and the remainder to the Rothschild Collection of Fleas at Tring, Herts (Part of the British Nat. Hist. Museum). I also corresponded with Lady Miriam Rothschild, the great flea expert (known to some as the Queen of the Fleas), who was interested and encouraged me in my work. The man in charge of the Rothschild Collection of Fleas was a Dutchman, Mr. F.G.A.M Smit, who generously helped in identifying or confirming my identifications of fleas. My work awakened a lot of interest in the fleas of Ireland and much work was subsequently done and is still being done by others after I left.

My most exciting discovery was the Bank Vole, *Clethrionomys glareolus* (See Wikipedia), a mammal new to Ireland. On 20 August, 1964 I was trapping for small mammals near Listowel, County Kerry, when the first specimen appeared in one of my traps. It was originally thought that I may have imported a specimen from Holland. I invited my disbelieving lecturer to spend a weekend trapping at Listowel where we caught another 16 specimens, proving that my discovery was genuine. Apologies followed of course. After I had left Ireland this lecturer claimed on TV that he had discovered the Bank Vole. That upset my professor greatly and things were later put right. Many studies, etc. were made by others after I left Ireland to establish the possible relationship of the Irish vole with those found in England, Scotland, South and Western Europe. After more than forty years of guessing and arguing it was finally agreed that, based on DNA comparisons (mitochondrial cytochrome *b* gene from Irish and Southern German Bank voles, the Irish specimens must originally have been introduced during the period 1925-1930 with importation from the region of Heidenheim of vast amounts of equipment etc. needed for the construction of a hydroelectric scheme, involving the building of a massive dam, on the River Shannon. (see "The origin of Irish Bank Voles assessed by mitochondrial DNA analysis, *Irish Naturalist Journal*. 2007.")

Although I played no part at all in these later studies I was always kept informed by Dr. Paddy Sleeman, a lecturer at UCC, who became a good friend of mine even though I had never met him when in Ireland. He was the man who took over my studies of the Bank Vole and of fleas in general after I had left. In the mean-time the vole has extended its range of distribution far into Ireland and is no doubt still doing just that. After returning to Holland in 1965 I studied and published papers on Dutch fleas (that I had studied for 6 months) and on other general matters on fleas and submitted them and other unpublished work for my Ph.D. that was awarded in late 1967; that was after I had been in South Africa for two years and had married Jill on 2 September 1966. She was widowed three years previously and had two little boys of 6 and 9 when I met her. Jill was and still is the best catch I ever made and we have been happily married for over 50 years.

She has always supported me in my studies, especially of course on Lepidoptera. I undertook many collecting trips while being on caravan holidays with Jill into various parts of the country.

I started teaching immediately after arriving in South Africa in 1965. My first school being Elsie's River High, (coloured school) near Parow. I just managed to teach through the Afrikaans medium, but the kids were very easy and did not mind English now and then. I taught at two more schools in the Peninsula, but in 1968 was offered a post as senior biology Master at Sea Point Boys High. I taught there for 18 years until my retirement from teaching in 1986. I was also the senior author of a very popular biology textbook series.

Once whilst searching for ants on the Camps Bay side of Lions Head I discovered a strange stone tablet with indecipherable Arabic writing and a large magnet. Even after consulting various specialists on such ancient artifacts I was unable to determine the origin of this unusual find (see *Cape Times* 3 July 1973).

Soon after marrying Jill I started collecting ants on Signal Hill and the Twelve Apostles and had them identified by Dr. André Prins of the South African Museum, Cape Town, where I also often met Dr. A.J. Hesse, a very inspirational entomologist. I soon concentrated on those ants that are hosts to lycaenid larvae. On the eighteenth of September, 1971, I found three larvae of *Lepidochrysops trimeni* in a nest of the Spotted Sugar Ant, *Camponotus maculatus*. This find also brought me into contact with the equally inspirational and famous Dr. S.H. Skaife, (who told me that if I wanted to make money out of publications I should write either on sex or school text books; I did the latter). This was later followed by many more larvae and pupae of *L. trimeni* as well of *L. methymna methymna* and even of *L. oreas* and *L. robertsoni* in the same locality as well as on the slopes of the Table Mountain, either by myself or in the company of Mr. C.G.C. Dickson. I wrote two papers on the subject.

Soon after the discovery I constructed formicaria and conducted a more detailed study of *Lepidochrysops* larvae and pupae; later, other lycaenid species followed. Charlie Dickson did not keep ants in a formicarium but was very impressed with my successful methods of studying the early stages of lycaenid butterflies. The most exciting observation was no doubt that the larvae devoured the ants' brood. In October, 1972 I found the first larvae of *Aloeides thyra* under stones in nests of the Small Black Sugar Ant *Lepisiota capensis*, also on the slopes of the Twelve Apostles above Camps Bay. This was later followed by many more larvae and pupae in that area as well as on the slopes of Table Mountain but especially on the slopes of Signal Hill. Again formicaria were a great help in the study of the early stages of *A. thyra*. I remember taking Alan Heath to an area on Signal Hill to search for larvae and pupae of *A. thyra*. Dickson and I had written two papers on the subject.

In January 1976 Dickson and I found the first known pupa of the Peninsula Skolly, *Thestor yildizae* in a nest of the Pugnacious Ant *Anoplolepis custodiens* on the Saddle and there, in December 1979, I found the first known larva of the same butterfly. Studies of the early stages of this species followed. Alan Heath soon followed me up the Saddle where the butterfly was very common and where the early stages could be found in nests under stones. We made many memorable collecting trips together, did experiments with eggs and young larvae and wrote papers on the subject of *T. yildizae* with ants as well as other Skollies and the lycaenid larvae and pupae mentioned above.

All wonderful experiences. Of the longer butterfly collecting trips with other lepidopterists the most memorable were no doubt the one I undertook with Charles Wykeham into Namaqualand and several trips undertaken with Gordon Fraser-Grant also into Namaqualand, Sutherland and the Good Hope Nature Reserve, where we were once joined by Ficq. Also the trip with Alan to Riversdale to look for *Thestor pictus* larvae on the mountain slopes below the *Sleeping beauty*. I am most grateful for the time I have had studying ant-associated butterflies first with Charlie Dickson and later with my friend Alan. I was so lucky to find the early stages of the species mentioned above, within a relatively short time and later share the intriguing studies of them with lepidopterists and friends I have published about 30 articles on butterflies, some co-authored by Dickson and others by Alan Heath. Jill and I enjoyed visits by Alan and Jenny, also of several Harvard post graduate students interested in butterflies and their associations with ants, and we will always remember the visits of the two Drs., Phil deVries & Carla deVries Penz.

I am lucky, perhaps somehow driven by my many years of teaching, to have shared some of my knowledge of butterflies and moths and other experiences with a wider range of nature lovers in Veld and Flora, where I published nine popular articles on butterflies and moths and other Lepidoptera-related subjects.

TRIBUTES TO ANDRÉ FROM COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS

Phil DeVries (New Orleans, USA)

It was in publications about caterpillar-ant associations that I first encountered the name André Claassens, and noted that he was a lucid writer and gifted naturalist. In 1999 I had the pleasure of meeting André in Cape Town, but was somewhat taken aback; based on his writings I expected a smaller person without the sparkling merriment in his eyes. I immediately liked him, and within minutes we felt at ease with each other, and were laughing. Two memories of André stand out in my mind.

Within days of arriving in Cape Town from a bewildering number of time zones away, André and Alan Heath took my wife Carla Penz and I (we were jet-lagged and groggy beyond reason) into the field. We spent the day walking about Lions Head seeing magnificent butterflies, vistas, and hearing the history of this wonderful place. During our return to the car park the wind from the ocean had picked up considerably, and André advised us that at times it blows so forcefully that it is difficult or impossible to walk. Indeed it became so strong that we all had a difficult time remaining steady on our feet, particularly Carla who weighed about 85 lbs (38.5 kilos). The gusting wind began buffeting her about in an alarming way, and she simply could not walk erect. André's solution was simple. As per his instructions, Carla extended her arms away from her body, he took her left hand and I took her right as we trundled into the wind. A few times the wind gusted so strongly that Carla lost her footing, and she became airborne, suspended horizontally above the ground between the anchor points that were André and me. I still recall André's laughter and encouragement along the way, and the smiles when we finally arrived at the car.

We all felt like children. It was great fun. I suspect André knew just how to cure the jet-lag of visitors from afar.

My second memory is visiting André and Jill Claassens at their home (with Alan Heath) for lunch and drinks. It was a brilliantly sunny day, we spoke of many things, talked about butterflies and beyond, and drank various drinks. Smiles and good humor abounded as we relaxed ‘al fresco’ in the back garden. Life was good. At some point Jill indicated, “Today is André’s birthday.” Not knowing what to say, I congratulated André and then asked him what was the secret to his longevity and health. Eyes twinkling he arose from the chair, stood behind Jill, put his arms around her and said, “A man is as young as the woman he feels”. She slapped him, her eyes sparkling. Those two behaved like newlyweds, and treated us with wonderful kindness.

Carla M. Penz (New Orleans, USA)

When meeting someone, we usually trust our first impression – something that only works if the person is approachable and candid. I first met André Claassens in 1999 at the Lepidopterists’ Society of Africa conference in Cape Town, which my husband Phil DeVries and I were excited to attend. We were fortunate to stay in South Africa for a whole month as guests at Alan and Jenny Heath’s home. Even though I interacted with him for only a brief period of time, every encounter with André confirmed my initial thought “André is a fantastic person!” It did not take long for all of us to slide into a lively conversation about science, butterflies and ants, teaching, or just having a good time doing what we like to do. André took a long view approach, patiently assembling bits of biology that composed pictures of his organisms of interest, carefully interpreting what he observed, sharing it with likeminded others. An ocean separated us geographically, but every single one of the occasional communications we exchanged since the first time we met brought back the jovial and spirited André that came across so openly at first encounter. As I type these few words, I am thinking about André and Jill. I can practically taste the Rooibos tea we sipped together under their backyard trees during a breezy Cape Town afternoon. “There is an *Acraea* that feeds on that plant,” he said pointing at it. Both of us smiled. This is how I will always remember André Claassens.

Leonard McLeod (Somerset West)

Another lepidopterist of high repute is no longer with us. André Claasens was well-known internationally, as well as in southern Africa. His outstanding studies of myrmecophily in the Lycaenidae are acknowledged globally, and he was one of very few people who maintained ant nests in a greenhouse in his garden. Of an open and friendly nature, André was happy to share with others his vast knowledge of butterflies. A prolific writer, even in his later years, his frequent articles on South African butterflies, published in *Veld and Flora* (the magazine of SANBI), were enjoyed by all. In 1980 he co-authored with Charlie Dickson *Butterflies of the Table Mountain Range*, a gem of a book which is worthy of a place in the bookshelf of all lepidopterists. My condolences go out to his wife Jill and to his family.

Andrew Morton (Muizenberg, W. Cape)

I knew André as a most encouraging and generous man who was always available to answer all of my butterfly related questions and he inspired me to study other insect groups. He gave me some of his butterfly cabinets when he knew that I needed them and he never asked for anything in return. André must have reared or at least tried to rear, every butterfly on the

Peninsula! His articles in *Veld & Flora* were a great pleasure to read and he often sent me copies by PDF. He loved to exchange letters, but alas, I only sent him e-mails... The Western Cape has lost another great lepidopterist.

Ernest Pringle (Bedford, E. Cape)

When I think of André Claassens, I remember an elderly gentleman who was always courteous, affable and extremely thoughtful. He was also a walking encyclopaedia of nature, as a day with him searching for the early stages of *Thestor strutti* was to make me realise. He could tell you virtually everything about every organism that we uncovered, turning over all those stones; there are few naturalists alive today with his fund of general knowledge. When I think of the times we spent together, one day stands out: the expedition to the Paardeberg way back in 1977, when I was still a student at U.C.T. We went to find specimens of a potentially new *Thestor* that had been found there previously by Arthur Duke. We left Cape Town in Charles Dickson's vintage 1926 Austin, with him driving, André in the front passenger seat, and me in the back seat with a very large wickerwork lunch hamper and all the nets. Unfortunately, a wrong turning resulted in us inadvertently entering the Cape Town harbour, which we had to exit via customs. I have seldom seen a more puzzled government official than the one who peered into that motor vehicle! Both Charles and André rode to the Paardeberg happily oblivious of all the incredulous stares we were attracting along the way. The motor car was a gas guzzler, and by the time we reached the Paardeberg, we were forced to buy petrol from the somewhat amazed farmer. This was all in a day's work for these two wonderful men, whose memory I shall always cherish.

Z.A. (Ada) Kaliszewska (Seattle, USA)

The name Dr. André Claassens and his writings on butterfly/ant interactions are some of the first that I came across as I became interested in South African butterflies. I was privileged to first meet André in 2010. André's good friends Alan and Jenny Heath and I were traveling in South Africa and André and his wife Jill invited us to their house. Right away the talk turned to butterflies. It was a pleasure listening to the two naturalists talk. André's detailed knowledge of local butterflies and their life histories was impressive. When I showed him some data we were using to determine certain caterpillar diets he was able to advise on several of the species ... most often adding an anecdote about how he had tried to rear them. It was fascinating hearing André describe his now classic life-history work with *Lepidochrysops* and *Thestor*. After talking with André I always felt a greater love of nature and for those who spend their time discovering more about it; he will be greatly missed by the South African Lepidopterists, especially in Cape Town.

John White (Cape Town)

Although I never went out collecting with André, the times we did meet, it was always a pleasure to call on his vast knowledge of Lepidoptera. He was responsible for many superb publications -especially on *Chrysoritis* and *Aloeides* butterflies. He had lived a good life and he was always a true gentleman. He will be sorely missed in the butterfly fraternity.

Steve Woodhall (KwaZulu-Natal)

André Claassens was never someone I went collecting with. My connection with him and Jill

was, whenever I had the chance, was to pop in and see them for a chat and a beer - and discuss what was happening in the world of Lepidoptera.

André was one of the pioneers of rearing and recording the early stages of butterflies. He had reared many species (particularly Satyrinae) and taught me a lot of things about them. He had the time and patience to succeed at this difficult task.

I remember one of the first South African butterfly books I bought was 'Butterflies of the Table Mountain Range', which André co-authored with Charles Dickson. It got me started on rearing local species and photographing them. Together with the late John Joannou and Ivor Migdoll (frightening to think how many stalwarts we have lost) he inspired me to try writing myself. I never got to meet Charles Dickson, so I was really pleased to meet André. He had a real naturalist's eye and I found his work fascinating. He kept this up for a long time, publishing interesting articles on Lepidoptera in Veld and Flora until recently.

It's sad to record the passing of one of our giants of Lepidopterology. I know we all learned a lot from André Claassens and I will miss him. We should celebrate his long, active and successful life, and Jayne and I send our love and condolences to Jill and their family.

Dave Edge (Knysna)

André's publications on ant-associated butterflies were truly ground breaking – not only in the novel natural phenomena that he uncovered, but also how he developed the most amazing equipment and techniques to make such studies possible. Duplicating his methods was not easy – he was a meticulous all-round entomologist who knew how to get the best out of such experiments. He came to visit us in Knysna, and we visited him in Cape Town a few times and he provided some valuable advice which assisted with the research on *Orachrysops niobe* and *Thestor brachycerus*. His willingness to share his knowledge and his complete lack of any self-importance made him a pleasure to work with and know.

Our condolences go to Jill and the family for the loss of a wonderful husband, father and grandfather.

Jonathan Ball (Cape Town)

I first got to know André through Charlie Dickson in 1980. He was always kind, considerate, informative and generous in sharing his considerable knowledge and passion of biology/entomology.

This initiated many wonderful visits to Jill and André's home in High Level Road in Sea Point, Cape Town. There was always much banter about our shared passion of insects and plants that involved seeing many larvae and food plants in their garden, and viewing specimens in his collection. This was followed by a splendid tea in the lounge that Jill generously provided.

When *Pieris brassicae brassicae* became established in the City Bowl in Cape Town in 1993/1994, we had much interaction related to the parasites and parasitoids that partially curbed their initial explosive population increase, as well as the plants that supported their larvae. The two most prominent then being the *Nasturtium* and *Rapistrum rugosum* - both exotic plants that are 'feral' and widespread in many parts of the Western Cape.

PUBLICATIONS ON LEPIDOPTERA BY DR. ANDRÉ J. M. CLAASSENS

- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 1972.** *Lepidochrysops trimeni* (Bethune-Baker) (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae) reared from larvae found in a nest of *Camponotus maculatus* Fab. (Hymenoptera: Formicidae). *Journal of the Entomological Society of Southern Africa* **35**: 359–360.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 1974.** Methods employed in the successful rearing, under artificial conditions, of two Cape species of *Lepidochrysops* (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae). *Journal of the Entomological Society of Southern Africa* **37** (2): 387–392.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 1976.** Observations on the myrmecophilous relationships and the parasites of *Lepidochrysops methymna methymna* (Trimen) and *L. trimeni* (Bethune-Baker) (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae). *Journal of the Entomological Society of Southern Africa* **39** (2): 279–289.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 1984a.** Butterfly migrations in the south-western Cape. *Metamorphosis* **1** (8): 3–6.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 1984b.** *Zophopetes dysmephila dysmephila* (Trimen). A skipper recently discovered in the extreme south-western Cape. *Metamorphosis* **1** (9): 3–4.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 1987.** *Junonia hierta cebrene* Trimen breeding in the Cape Peninsula in 1986, with notes on territorial expansion of some Lepidoptera. Part I. *Metamorphosis* **1** (18): 2–4.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 1988a.** *Junonia hierta cebrene* Trimen breeding in the Cape Peninsula in 1986, with notes on territorial expansion of some Lepidoptera. Part II. *Metamorphosis* **1** (21): 8–10.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 1988b.** Notes on the early stages of *Durbania saga* Trimen, 1883. *Metamorphosis* **1** (22): 14–15.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 1989a.** On the disappearance of *Zophopetes dysmephila dysmephila* (Trimen), a skipper recently introduced into the extreme Western Cape. *Metamorphosis* **1** (23): 3.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 1989b.** On the paucity of *Acraea horta* (Linnaeus) in the extreme Western Cape during the summer of 1988–1989. *Metamorphosis* **1** (23): 3.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 1991a.** The mystery of the squeaking pupae of myrmecophilous Lycaenidae. *Metamorphosis* **2** (3): 19–20.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 1991b.** Parasitoids of the garden Acraea, *Acraea horta* (Linnaeus, 1794) (Lepidoptera: Acraeinae). *Metamorphosis* **2** (4): 24–28.
- CLAASSENS, A.[J.M.] 1993.** Collecting Lepidoptera in Namaqualand, September, 1992. *Metamorphosis* **4** (2): 79–82.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 1994.** Recent observations on Lepidoptera. *Metamorphosis* **5** (2): 53–54.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 1995a.** Butterflies of Namaqualand. *Metamorphosis* **6** (2): 72–73.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 1995b.** Observations on the large white, *Pieris brassicae* (L.) (Lepidoptera, Pieridae), a butterfly which recently established itself in the Western Cape. *Metamorphosis* **6** (2): 86–93.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 1996a.** Further observations on *Pieris brassicae* (L.) (Lepidoptera: Pieridae) in the Western Cape Province. *Metamorphosis* **7** (2): 88–90.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 1996b.** Notes on the feeding habits and protective measures of the larvae of *Durbaniopsis saga* Van Son (Lepidoptera Lycaenidae). *Metamorphosis* **7** (3): 127–128.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 1996c.** Description of a later instar larva of *Thestor yildizae* [Letter to the editor]. *Metamorphosis* **7** (3): 139–140.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 1998.** A new parasitoid and host-plant of the larvae of *Pieris brassicae* (L.) (Lepidoptera: Pieridae) in the Western Cape, South Africa. *Metamorphosis* **9** (4): 184–186.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 2000.** *Butterflies of the Cape Peninsula: a comprehensive guide*. Tafelberg, Cape Town. 72pp.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 2002.** Melanistic aberrations in *Acraea horta* (Linnaeus, 1764) (Lepidoptera: Acraeinae). Two new records from Cape Town, South Africa. *Metamorphosis* **13** (3): 87–89.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 2003.** Observations on the occurrence, general appearance, behaviour and feeding habits of two myrmecophilous bristletails (Insecta: Thysanura) in nests of ants associated with lycaenid larvae (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae). *Metamorphosis* **14** (2): 55–61.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 2005.** *Butterflies of the Western Cape: a guide to common garden, park and wayside butterflies*. Sunbird Publishers; 72 pp.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 2006.** Fire and butterflies on Table Mountain: insects and plants. *Veld & Flora* **92** (2): 92–96.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 2007a.** Multiple sightings of *Charaxes brutus natalensis* in the extreme south western Cape Province. *Metamorphosis* **18** (4): 156–157.
- CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 2007b.** Life in a wild peach tree; The garden Acraea and the wild peach: learning about biodiversity. *Veld & Flora* **93** (1): 45–49.

CLAASSENS, A.J.M. & DICKSON, C.G.C. 1974. The early stages of *Aloeides thyra* (L.) (Lep: Lycaenidae) with notes on ant association, distribution and general ecology of the species. *Entomologist's Record and Journal of Variation* **86** (11-12): 253–258.

CLAASSENS, A.J.M. & DICKSON, C.G.C. 1977. A study of the myrmecophilous behaviour of the immature stages of *Aloeides thyra* (L.) (Lep.: Lycaenidae) with special reference to the function of the retractile tubercles and with additional notes on the general biology of the species. *Entomologist's Record and Journal of Variation* **89** (9): 225–231.

CLAASSENS, A.J.M. & DICKSON, C.G.C. 1980. *The butterflies of the Table Mountain Range*. Struik, Cape Town: 160 pp.

CLAASSENS, A.J.M. & DICKSON, C.G.C. 1986a. *Mylothris chloris agathina* (Cramer) (Lepidoptera: Pieridae), a species which has extended its range of distribution from the easterly part of South Africa to the extreme western Cape. *Entomologist's Record and Journal of Variation* **98** (1-2): 1–4.

CLAASSENS, A.J.M. & DICKSON, C.G.C. 1986b. *Zophopetes dysmephila dysmephila* (Trimen), a butterfly introduced into the extreme western Cape on palms. *Entomologist's Record and Journal of Variation* **98** (1-2): 4–6.

CLAASSENS, A.J.M. & HEATH, A. 1997. Notes on the myrmecophilous early stages of two species of *Thestor* Hübner (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae) from South Africa. *Metamorphosis* **8** (2): 56–61.

CLAASSENS, A.J.M. & HEATH, A. 2003. The life-history of *Thestor basutus basutus* (Wallengren) (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae: Miletinae) with new information on its association with pugnacious ants (*Anoplolepis* sp.: Formicidae). *Metamorphosis* **14** (2): 48–54.

HEATH, A. & CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 2000. New observations of ant associations and life history adaptations (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae) in South Africa. *Metamorphosis* **11** (1): 3–19.

HEATH, A. & CLAASSENS, A.J.M. 2003. Ant-association among southern African Lycaenidae. *Journal of the Lepidopterists' Society* **57** (1): 1–16.