

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* (pyralids)
 - *Noctuidae* (noctuids)
 - *Thyrididae* (thyrids)
 - *Tortricidae* (tortricids)
 - *Choreutidae* (coreutids)
 -

Aglaopus leprosa (Thyrid)



Branches and leaves

fruits and seeds

