

ABSTRACT

Butterflies, a bioindicator of global warming, are increasingly being recognized as valuable environmental indicators, both for their rapid and sensitive responses to subtle habitats or climatic changes and as representatives for the diversity and responses of other wildlife. The objective of this research was to select captive breeding species of native butterflies to establish a butterfly farm at Mae Fah Luang University to provide education opportunities and to students, young children, and visitors for income generation of Mae Fah Luang University and conservation of biodiversity. Eggs collected from host plants were kept in petri dishes lined with moist tissue paper to keep from drying out and incubated at 26-28°C. Larvae collected from several species of host plants around Mae Fah Luang University, Doi Tung and Nan were reared in plastic boxes in the laboratory at 26-28°C and 68-80% relative humidity. The larvae were kept separately in separate plastic boxes to avoid overcrowding. The larvae were fed daily with fresh leaves. After 3 days of pupation, the pupae were stuck on cardboard with glue and kept at room temperature 26-28°C and 68-80% RH. The adult butterflies were fed with 10% honey syrup and released in the field. During the eggs and larvae collection, the species of host plants were also recorded. The results show that 6 species of butterflies viz; *Danaus chrysippus*, *Papilio demoleus malayanus*, *Moduza proctis*, *Graphium Agamemnon*, *Tirumala limniace*, and *Gandaca narina* were successfully reared in the laboratory. In conclusion, four out of six selected species can be captive breeding in the laboratory for commercial purposes.