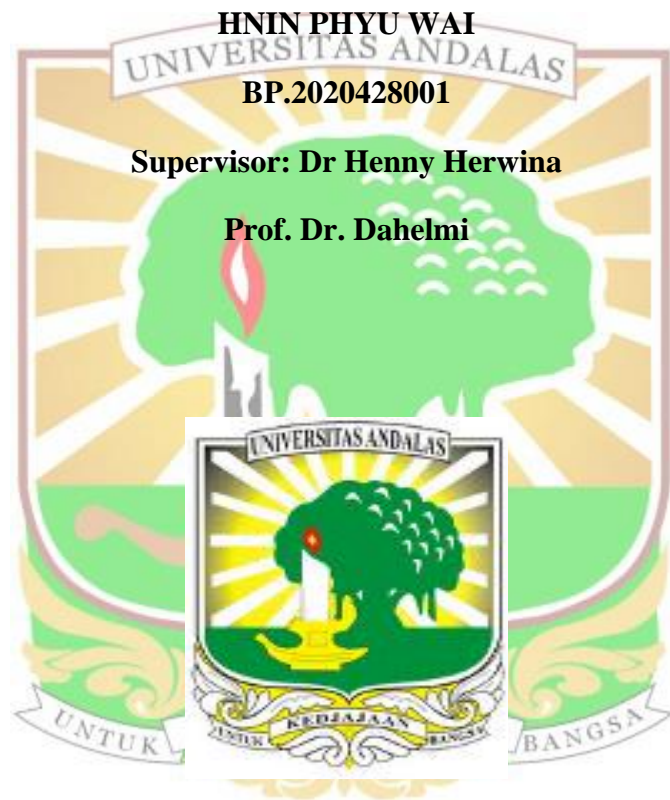


**DIVERSITY OF BUTTERFLIES (LEPIDOPTERA: RHOPALOCERA) IN  
SEVERAL ECOTOURISM AREAS, WEST SUMATERA**

**THESIS**



**HNIN PHYU WAI**

**UNIVERSITAS ANDALAS**

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**Supervisor: Dr Henny Herwina**

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**BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

**BIOLOGY MASTER STUDY PROGRAM**

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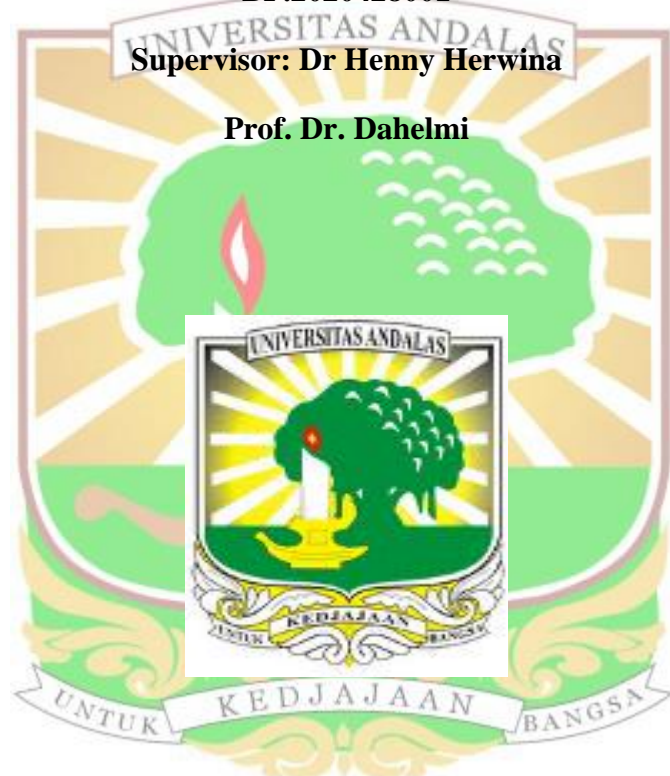
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**As one of the requirements for obtaining Master of Science Degree in the  
Postgraduate Study Program in Biology, FMIPA, Universitas Andalas**

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## Abstract

One of the most diverse countries in the world, Indonesia possesses a great biodiversity including butterflies. Butterflies play a crucial role in the ecosystem both in the pollination process and in the process of detecting environmental changes in the ecosystem. One alternative strategy to preserve biodiversity is ecotourism. This study aims to identify the butterfly species, diversity indices and similar indices of butterfly and to investigate the perceptions and attitudes of local communities towards butterflies and ecotourism in study sites. The study was conducted from 2022 to 2023 March in three study sites: Atsiri Organic farm, Bukit Nobita and Sungkai Green Park, West Sumatera. The study was carried out by using Insect-Net and Cylindrical Gauze Baiting method to collect butterfly species and by using questionnaire to collect social information regarding with ecotourism and butterflies. A total of 63 species from 34 genera, five families and 263 individuals were identified across three study sites. Nymphalidae was the most commonly collected family across all study sites. A total of 30 respondents (15 Male, 15 female) who is currently living in West Sumatera from various background were questioned. According to the survey's findings, the majority of the population (93%) was passionate about protecting biodiversity and had extensive understanding of ecotourism and butterflies. These research findings revealed that the study site is sustainable and conducive to butterfly habitats. Therefore, a more sophisticated ecotourism program centered on beautiful wildlife and flora should be established to draw visitors and to protect biodiversity in West Sumatera.

Key Words: Biodiversity, Butterflies, West Sumatera, Ecotourism

