

# Butterflies: An Innovative Guide to the Use of Butterfly Remedies in Homeopathy

by Patricia LeRoux

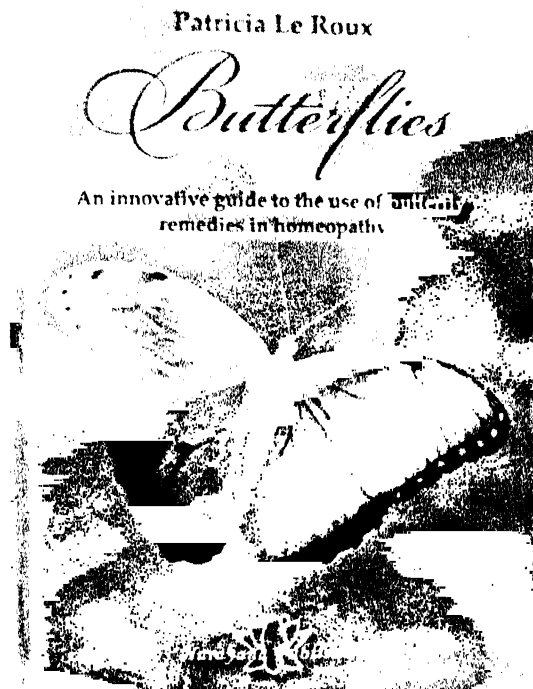
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Reviewed by Jay Yasgur, RPh

*Butterflies* is the most recent book by French pediatrician Patricia Le Roux, who first began studying butterfly-as-remedy in Marseilles in 2001. Her inspiration to pursue this field came from Indian homeopath Chetna Shukla and Dutch homeopath J.P. Janssen. This work, which discusses five moths and eight butterflies, is the culmination of her labors up until now.

The book is divided into four sections: characteristics of the butterfly world, the provings, summary of symptoms common to all butterflies, and main butterfly case studies and materia medica. It is this last section which is the bulk of the book.

In the provings section Le Roux outlines the methods which range from toxicological information to meditative provings. Nearly all the provings are very small and thus her caveat "...that the following information is only minimal and calls for verification. This is only the beginning of a collection of data that can open the door to prescribing such remedies." This is true and actually the only proving of note is the 1991 one she cites performed by Didier Grandgeorge on *Bombyx processionaria* (The Processional Caterpillar). Despite the paucity of information from which this book suffers, this section does make for interesting reading. The theme of 'autocastration' came up with this remedy and was particularly relevant to one of the provers. Other themes which emerged for this remedy include 'feeling under attack,' 'dreams of being cured,' 'feels as if going mad,' and 'feels pointed at.' Later, in the materia medica section, Le Roux sums up the remedy in three themes: feelings of abandonment, remedy for twisted testicle and self-castration, and urticaria. She includes material from Robin Murphy's materia medica also.



References she mentions include K.J. Muller, N. Herrick, S. Kohlrausch, and C. N. Shukla's *Sieben Schmetterlinge. Die Homoopathischen Prufungen* (1998; Seven butterflies. The homeopathic provings; not available in the English language), Shukla's 'The Tailed Jay, a Case and a Proving of Graphium agamemnon' (*Homeopathic Links*, #14, Spr. 2001), Grandgeorge's 'Proving Bombyx processionaria,' *Ecole Hahnemanienne de Frejus*, 1990, and J.P. Janssen's 'A Guide to the Muse, a case of Apeira syringeria' (*Homeopathic Links*, 2001).

This work is certainly incomplete and in need of much more, but until we get more, this reference will have to do. One enjoyable feature is that this book is a work of art, stunning and beautifully produced.

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