

Recent butterfly work in Belgium



Dirk Maes



Research Institute
for Nature and Forest

Flanders (north Belgium)



❖ Distribution atlas

❖ Butterflies in Flanders

- New knowledge for better action

❖ New Red List

❖ Species action plans

❖ Ilex Hairstreak (*Satyrium ilicis*)

❖ Grayling Butterfly (*Hipparchia semele*)

❖ Wall Brown (*Lasiommata megera*)

❖ Genetic research

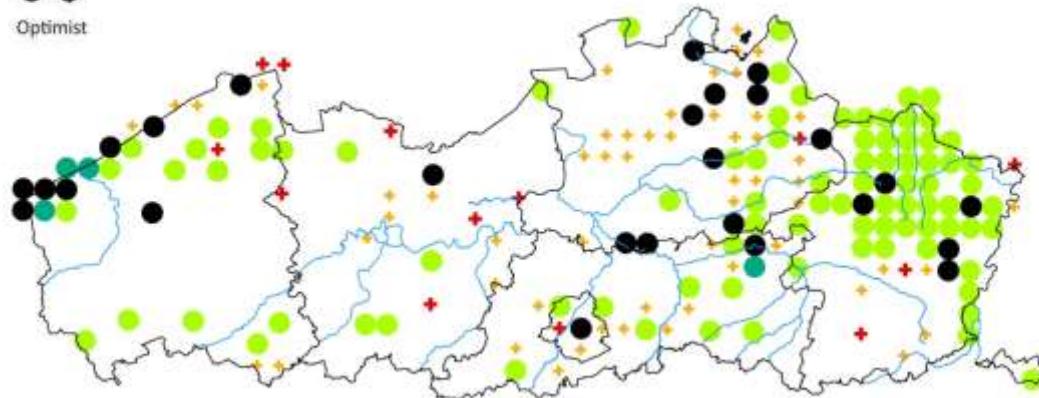
❖ Alcon Blue (*Maculinea alcon*)





Some species are doing well!

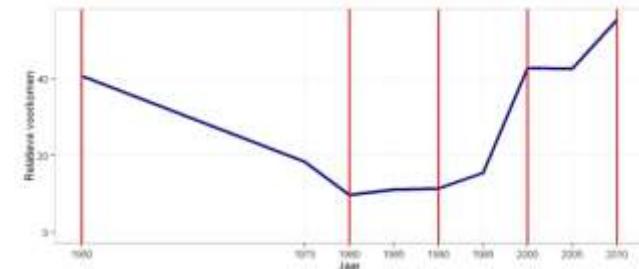
Optimist



Queen of Spain fritillary (*Issoria lathonia*)



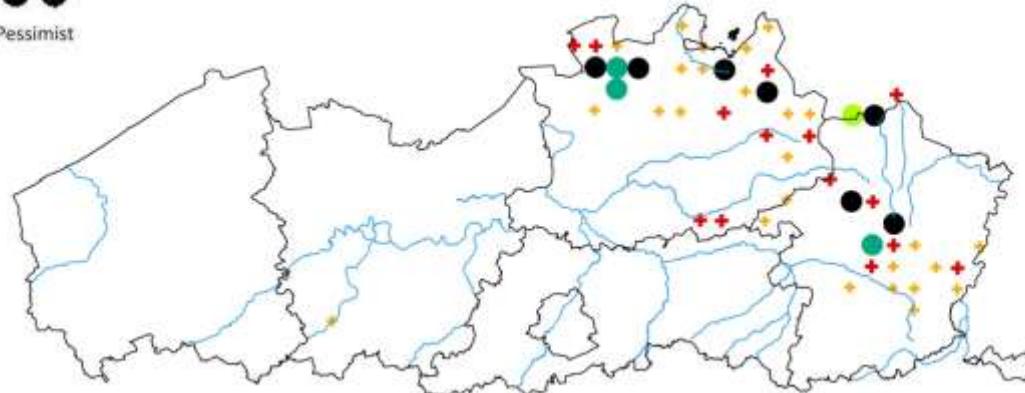
Brown Argus (*Aricia agestis*)



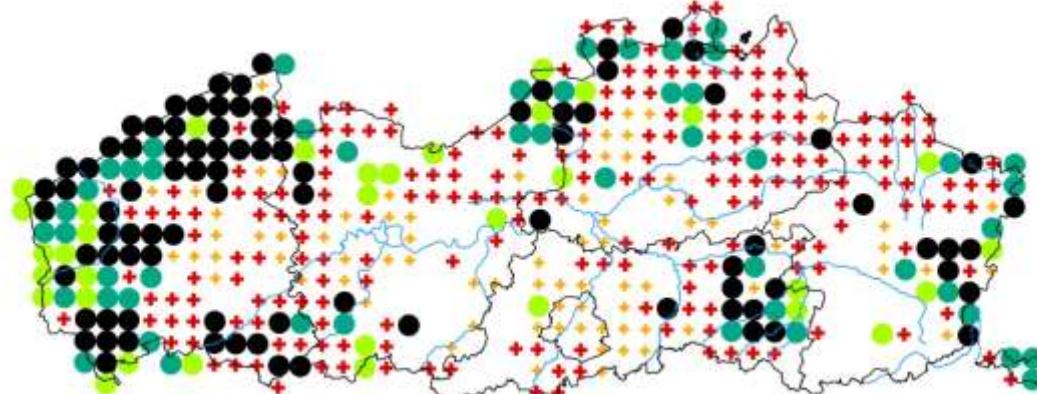


Pessimist

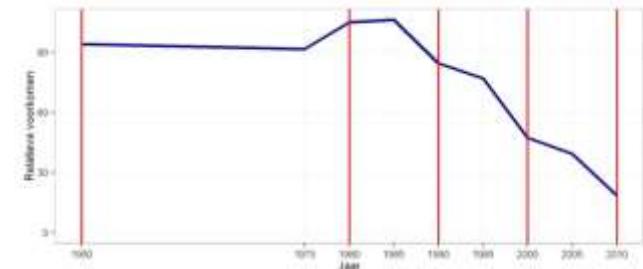
Others continue to decline ...



Alcon Blue (*Maculinea alcon*)



Wall Brown (*Lasiommata megera*)

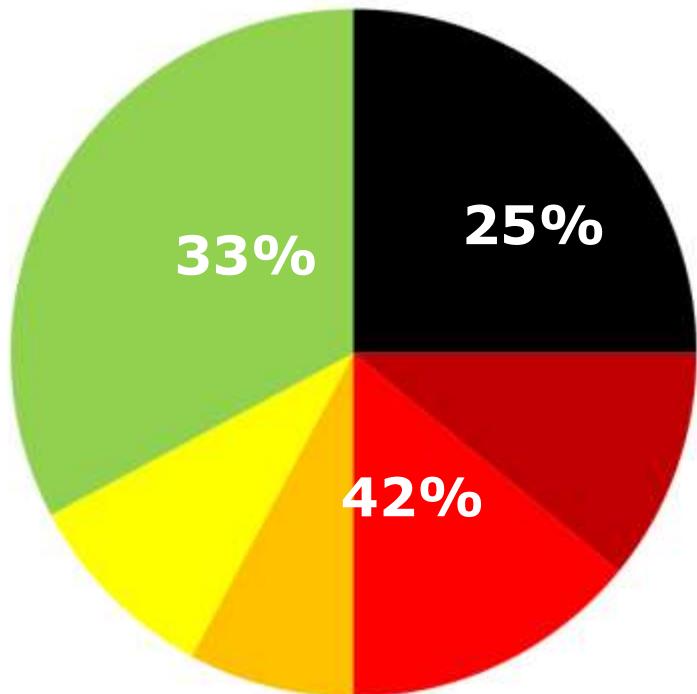




New Red List

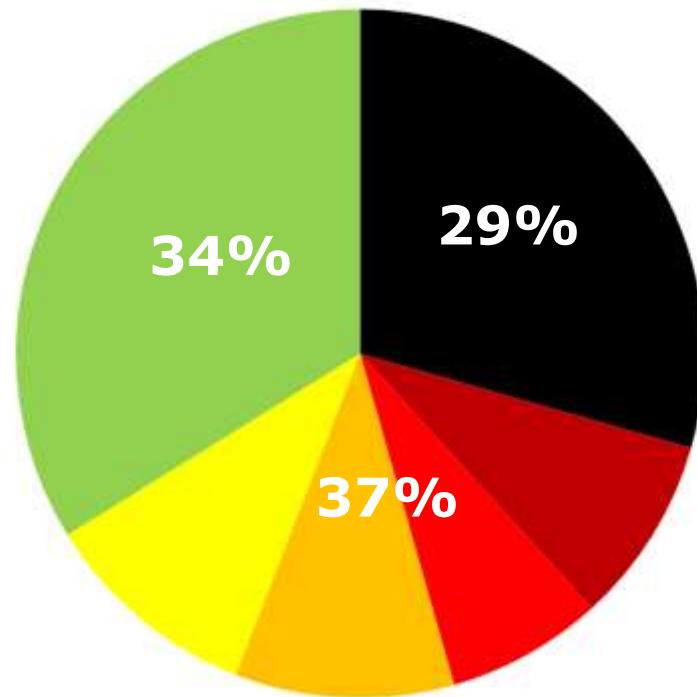
Realist

1999



Extinct or threatened: 67%

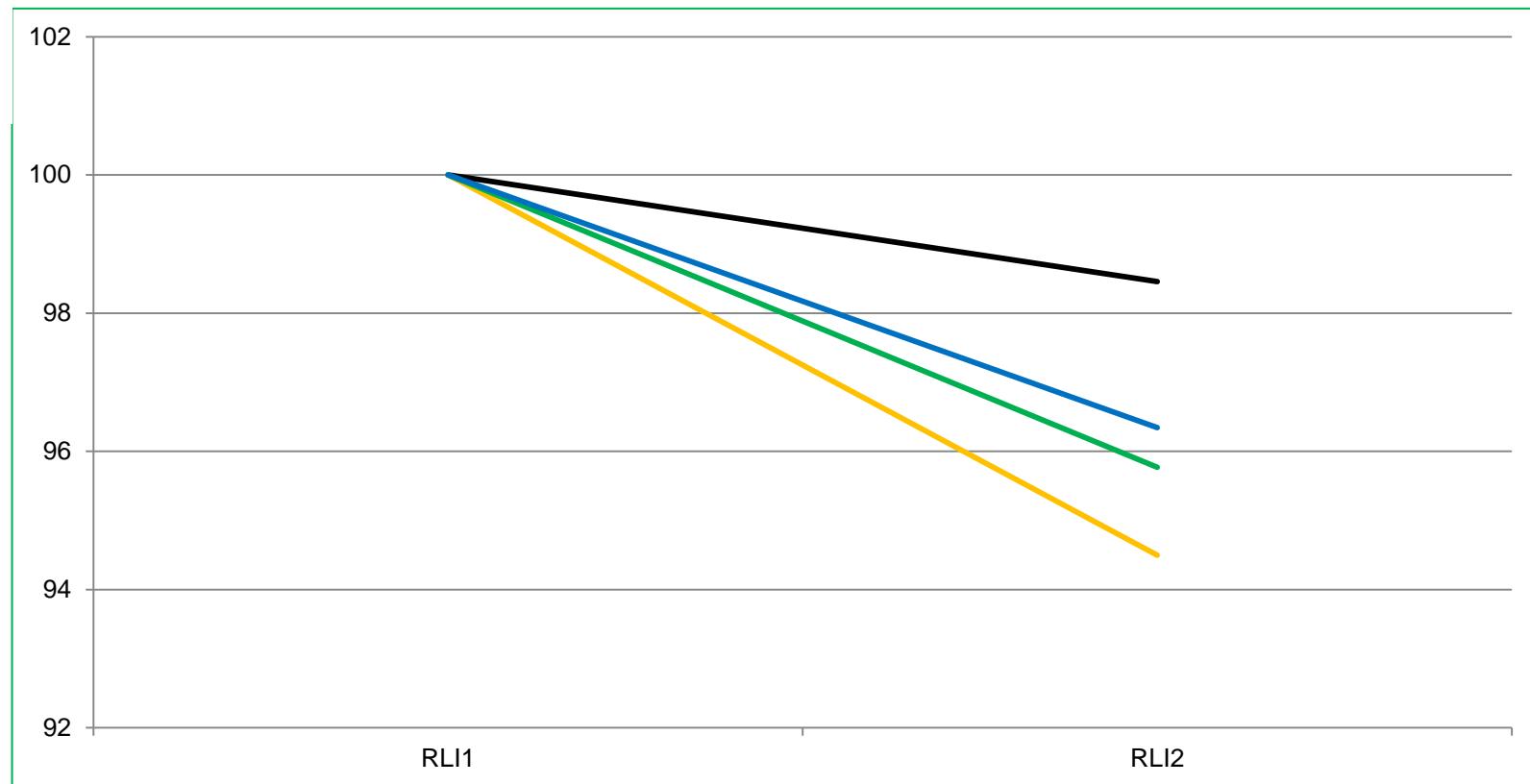
2012



Extinct or threatened: 66%



Red List Index



— Flanders

— The Netherlands

— Nordrhein-Westfalen

— Europe

Species action plans

▀ Ilex hairstreak (*Satyrium ilicis*)

- ▀ Maes, Jacobs, Segers, Vanreusel, Van Daele, Laurijssens & Van Dyck (2014). A resource-based conservation approach for an endangered ecotone species: the Ilex Hairstreak (*Satyrium ilicis*) in Flanders (north Belgium). *Journal of Insect Conservation* 18: 939-950.



▀ Wall brown (*Lasiommata megera*)

- ▀ Van Dyck, Bonte, Puls, Gotthard & Maes (2015). The lost generation hypothesis: could climate change drive ectotherms into a developmental trap? *Oikos* (in press).

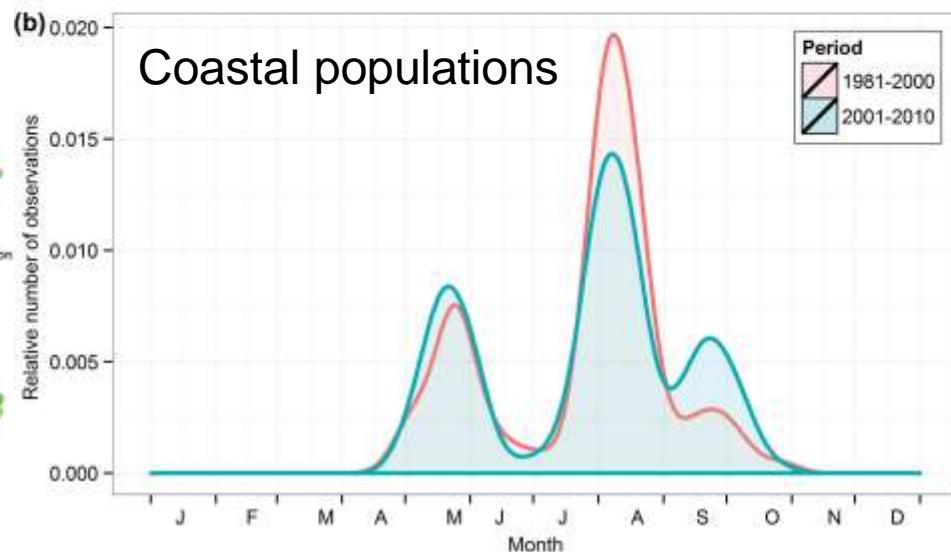
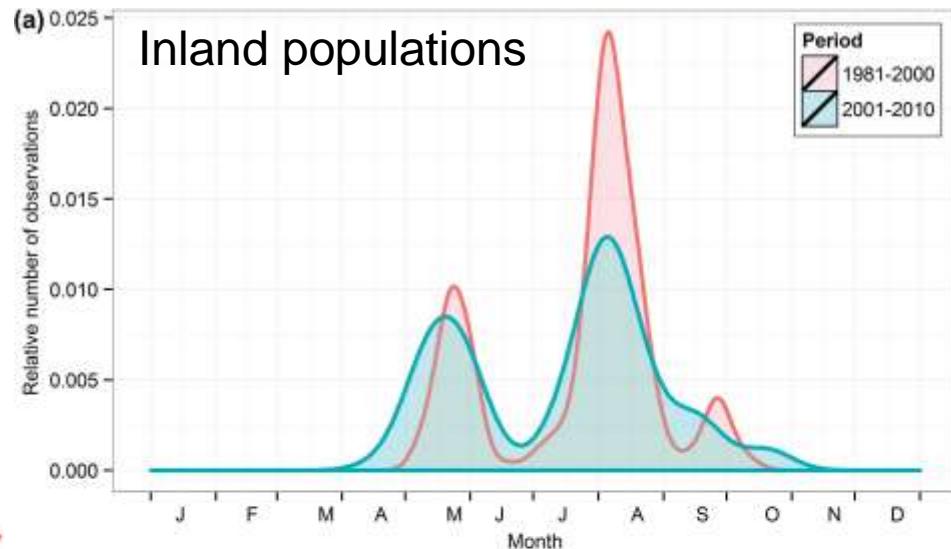
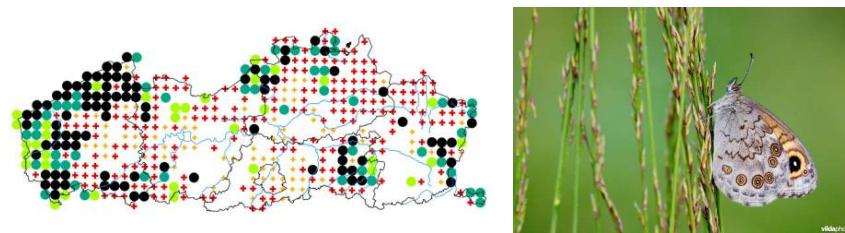
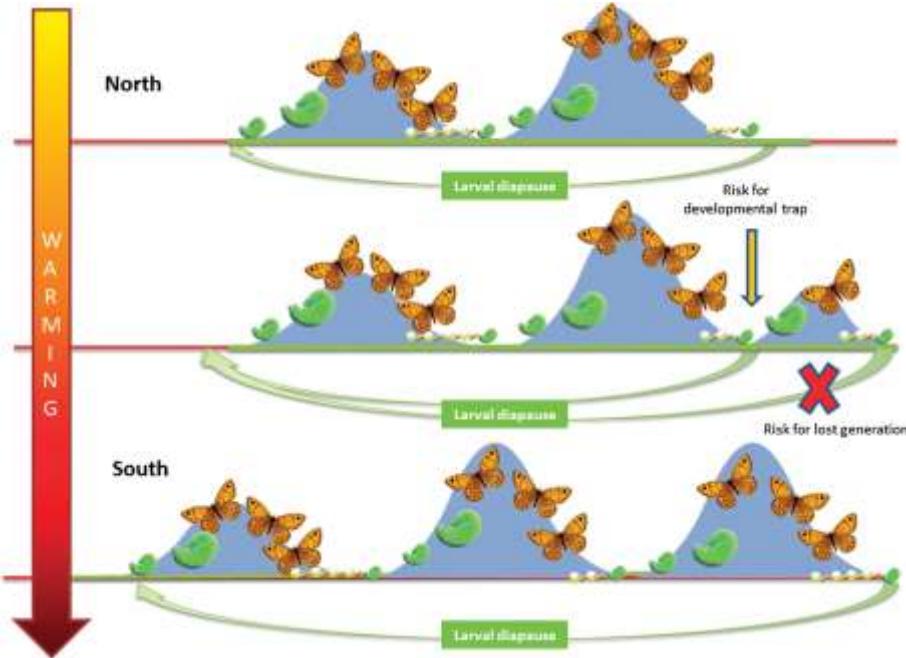


▀ Grayling butterfly (*Hipparchia semele*)



Wall brown

The lost generation hypothesis



Genetic research



Wallonia (south Belgium)

Life project

■ Bog butterflies and other typical species

- *Lycaena helle*
- *Boloria aquilonaris*
- *Coenonympha tullia*

■ http://old.biodiversite.wallonie.be/offh/LIFEPLTTAILLES/Telechargements/Layman_PLTTAILLES_EN.pdf