

**NIGER** (continued)**2013 March 1**

2500fr	Mountain Sandman, <i>Spialia spio</i> L.	HES, Pyrginae
Margin	LL: White Lady Swallowtail, <i>Graphium angolanus</i> Goeze	PAP, Papilioninae
	LM: Christmas Butterfly, <i>Papilio demodocus</i> Esper	PAP, Papilioninae
	UR: Large Orange Tip, <i>Colotis antevippe</i> Boisduval ♂	PIE, Pierinae
	MR: African Migrant, <i>Catopsilia florella</i> Fabr.	PIE, Coliadinae
	LR: Wandering Donkey Acraea, <i>Acraea neobule</i> Doubleday	NYM, Heliconiinae

**THE FRIGHTFUL HAIRY FLY****Donald P. Wright, Jr., BU243, ATA5009**

Kenya issued a set of 100 insect stamps in November 2011, in four sheets of 25 each with 25sh, 65sh, 75sh, and 95sh denominations. The stamps honor the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE). The third stamp in the 65sh pane shows the Frightful Hairy Fly, *Mormotomyia hirsuta* Austen. This insect is the sole member of the Family Mormotomyiidae. There is disagreement as to whether this Family belongs in the Superfamily Hippoboscoidea or Ephydroidea. The Scott Catalogue has not yet assigned numbers to this set.

The fly is  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch long with non-functional wings and terribly hairy legs such that it looks more like a spider than a fly. It was discovered in 1933, when two males were found and again in 1948, when many females, larvae, and puparia were also found. Since then, despite many expeditions, no one had seen another until in 2011, when several hundred flies were discovered, revealing that the males were about 50 percent larger than the females. This fly has been collected only from a crack in a 60-foot high rock in eastern Kenya. The crack is inhabited by bats and the fly larvae breed in the bat feces. Since it cannot fly and has no way of clinging onto any animal and thus cannot spread readily, it is thought that this may be the only colony of these flies found anywhere in the world.

