

## BUTTERFLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT COLLEGE CAMPUS, MADAPPALLY, KOZHIKODE DISTRICT, KERALA

Vinayan P. Nair

3/IV College Quarters, P.O. Madappally College, Vatakara,  
Kozhikode District, Kerala 673102, India.  
Email: vinayanpnair@yahoo.co.in

Kerala has a rich and diverse butterfly fauna because of the availability of a wide range of habitats. About 1501 species of butterflies have been recorded from India so far, of which 313 species of butterflies are from Kerala (Gaonkar, 1996). In Kerala detailed studies have been made on butterflies only in some specific habitats. Ferguson (1891) recorded 220 butterfly species from Travancore area. From Silent Valley National Park, Mathew and Rahmathulla (1993) recorded 100 species. Subsequently, Palot (1995) reported 67 species from the Sacred Groves of North Malabar. Later, Palot *et al.* (1997) recorded 119 species of butterflies from Periyar Tiger Reserve. Further, Palot (1998) had recorded 65 species of butterflies from Calicut University Campus. Recently Sudheendrakumar *et al.* (2000) recorded 124 species of butterflies from Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary. The present paper reports the butterfly diversity of Government College Campus, Madappally, Kozhikode.

The Government College, Madappally, Vatakara is situated on a small hill (50m) towards the northwestern end of Kozhikode District near the Malabar Coast (11°38'N & 75°39'E) in Kerala and is 55km away from Kozhikode City. The college campus includes a botanical garden (approximately 5 acres), which covers a quarter of the total area. The botanic garden comprises of about 230 species of different plants. No attempt was made to study the flora or fauna of this area and hence an attempt to study the Lepidopteran fauna was undertaken since 1998.

Entomological collections, occasional rearing of larva and field observations were made during 1999-2000. In this area during the study period, a total of 73 species of butterflies were recorded. Maximum number of species were observed in the family Nymphalidae (32) followed by Papilionidae (13). Butterflies were identified and verified following Gay *et al.* (1992), Wynter-Blyth (1992) and Kunte (2000). Butterflies observed from the campus are listed in Table 1. Nomenclature and classification of butterflies is after Larsen (1987a,b,c, 1988).

## Acknowledgements

I am grateful to Dr. C. Radhakrishnan (Joint Director, ZSI, WGRS, Kozhikode) for encouragement, facilities and for identifying some of the Skippers; to Dr. P.M. Sureshan (ZSI, Kozhikode) for constant encouragement; and to Md. Jafer Palot (ZSI, Kozhikode) for encouragement, help in identifying the Blues and in preparing the script. I also thank the anonymous reviewer for suggestions for improvement of the paper.

## References

- Ferguson, H.S. (1891).** A list of butterflies of Travancore. *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 6(4): 432-448.
- Gaonkar, H. (1996).** Butterflies of the Western Ghats, India (including Sri Lanka): A biodiversity assessment of a threatened mountain system. Report to the Centre for Ecological Sciences, Bangalore (unpublished).
- Gay, T., I.D. Kehimkar and J.C. Punetha (1992).** Common Butterflies of India. Oxford University Press, Bombay.
- Kunte, K. (2000).** India - A lifescape: Butterflies of Peninsular India. Universities Areas, Hyderabad.
- Larsen, T.B. (1987a).** The Butterflies of the Nilgiri Mountains of southern India. *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 84(1): 26-54.
- Larsen, T.B. (1987b).** The Butterflies of the Nilgiri Mountains of southern India. *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 84(2): 291-316.
- Larsen, T.B. (1987c).** The Butterflies of the Nilgiri Mountains of southern India. *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 84(3): 560-5840.
- Larsen, T.B. (1988).** The butterflies of the Nilgiri Mountains of southern India. *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 85(1): 26-43.
- Mathew, G. and V.K. Rahmathulla (1993).** Studies on the butterflies of the Silent-Valley National Park. Kerala, India. *Entomon* 18(3&4): 185-192.
- Palot, M.J. (1995).** Butterflies of sacred groves of North Malabar, Kerala. Eco-folklore Seminar on Sacred Groves, 12<sup>th</sup> March 1995, Payyanur, Kerala.
- Palot, M.J. (1998).** A report on the butterflies of Calicut University Campus. *Zoos' Print* 13(11): 32-33.
- Palot, M.J., G. Mathew and V.J. Zacharias (1997).** Butterflies of Periyar Tiger Reserve, Kerala, India, pp. 188-204. In: Ram Prakash (Editor). *Advances in Forestry Research in India*. Vol. 12, International Book Distributors, Dehradun.
- Sudheendrakumar, V.V., C.F. Binoy, P.V. Suresh and G. Mathew (2000).** Habitat Associations of butterflies in the Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary, Kerala, India. *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 97(2): 193-201.
- Wynter-Blyth, M.A. (1957).** *Butterflies of the Indian Region*. Bombay Natural History Society, Bombay, 523pp.+72pls.

Table 1. Systematic list of butterflies of Government College Campus, Madappally, Kozhikode, Kerala.

Scientific name	Common name	Scientific name	Common name
<u>Papilionidae</u>		<i>Vanessa cardui</i> Linnaeus	Painted Lady
<i>Troides minos</i> Cramer	Southern Birdwing	<i>Hypolimnas bolina</i> Linnaeus	Great Eggfly
<i>Pachliopta aristolochiae</i> Fabricius	Common Rose	<i>Charaxes solon</i> Fabricius	Black Rajah
<i>Pachliopta hector</i> Linnaeus	Crimson Rose	<i>Acraea terpsicore</i> Linnaeus	Tawny Coster
<i>Graphium sarpedon</i> Linnaeus	Common Bluebottle	<u>Lycaenidae</u>	
<i>Graphium doson</i> C & R Felder	Common Joy	<i>Spalgis epeus</i> Westwood	Apefly
<i>Graphium agamemnon</i> Linnaeus	Tailed Joy	<i>Castalius rosium</i> Fabricius	Common Pierrot
<i>Pathysa nomius</i> Esper	Spot Swordtail	<i>Discolampa ethion</i> Doubleday & Hewitson	Banded Blue Pierrot
<i>Chilasa clytia</i> Linnaeus	Common Mime	<i>Zizeeria karsandra</i> Moore	Dark Grass Blue
<i>Papilio demoleus</i> Linnaeus	Lime Butterfly	<i>Zizina otis</i> Fabricius	Lesser Grass Blue
<i>Papilio polytes</i> Linnaeus	Common Mormon	<i>Zizula hylax</i> Fabricius	Tiny Grass Blue
<i>Papilio helenus</i> Linnaeus	Red Helen	<i>Chilades pandava</i> Horsfield	Plains Cupid
<i>Papilio polymnestor</i> Cramer	Blue Mormon	<i>Euchrysops cnejus</i> Fabricius	Gram Blue
<i>Papilio buddha</i> Westwood	Malabar Banded Peacock	<i>Lampides boeticus</i> Linnaeus	Pea blue
<u>Pieridae</u>		<i>Talca niseus</i> Guerin - Meneville	Red Pierrot
<i>Catopsilia pomona</i> Fabricius	Common Emigrant	<i>Rathinda amor</i> Fabricius	Monkey Puzzle
<i>Catopsilia pyranthe</i> Linnaeus	Mottled Emigrant	<i>Tajuria cippus</i> Fabricius	Peacock Royal
<i>Eurema hecabe</i> Linnaeus	Common Grass Yellow	<u>Hesperiidae</u>	
<i>Eurema blanda</i> Boisduval	Three-spot Grass Yellow	<i>Tagiades gana</i> Moore	Immaculate Snow Flat
<i>Delias eucharis</i> Drury	Common Jezebel	<i>Tagiades litigiosa</i> Moschler	Water Snow Flat
<i>Leptosia nina</i> Fabricius	Psyche	<i>Iambrix salsala</i> Moore	Chestnut Bob
<i>Cepora nerissa</i> Fabricius	Common Gull	<i>Notocrypta curvifascia</i> C & R Felder	Restricted Demon
<i>Pareronia valeria</i> Cramer	Common Wanderer	<i>Udaspes folus</i> Cramer	Grass Demon
<u>Nymphalidae</u>		<i>Suastus gremius</i> Fabricius	Grass Demon
<i>Tirumala limniace</i> Cramer	Blue Tiger	<i>Gangara thysis</i> Fabricius	Giant Redeye
<i>Tirumala septentrionis</i> Butler	Dark Blue Tiger	<i>Pelopidas mathias</i>	Small Braded Swift
<i>Danaus chrysippus</i> Linnaeus	Plain Tiger		
<i>Danaus genutia</i> Cramer	Striped Tiger		
<i>Euploea core</i> Cramer	Common Crow		
<i>Melanitis leda</i> Cramer	Common Evening Brown		
<i>Elymnias hypermnestra</i> Linnaeus	Common Palmfly		
<i>Mycalesis perseus</i> Fabricius	Common Bushbrown		
<i>Orsotrioena medus</i> Fabricius	Nigger		
<i>Ypthima huebneri</i> Kirby	Common Four-ring		
<i>Cupha erymanthis</i> Drury	Rustic		
<i>Cirrochroa thais</i> Fabricius	Tamil Yeoman		
<i>Neptis jumbah</i> Moore	Chestnut-streaked Sailer		
<i>Neptis hylas</i> Moore	Chestnut-streaked Sailer		
<i>Pantoporia hordonia</i> Stoll	Common Sailer		
<i>Moduza procris</i> Cramer	Common Lascar		
<i>Parthenos sylvia</i> Cramer	Commandar		
<i>Tanaecia lepidae</i> Butler	Grey Count		
<i>Euthalia aconthea</i> Cramer	Common Baron		
<i>Euthalia lubentina</i> Cramer	Gaudy Baron		
<i>Ariadne ariadne</i> Linnaeus	Angled Castor		
<i>Ariadne merione</i> Cramer	Common Castor		
<i>Junonia hierta</i> Fabricius	Yellow Pansy		
<i>Junonia orithya</i> Linnaeus	Blue Pansy		
<i>Junonia lemonias</i> Linnaeus	Lemon Pansy		
<i>Junonia almana</i> Linnaeus	Peacock Pansy		
<i>Junonia atlites</i> Linnaeus	Grey Pansy		
<i>Précis iphita</i> Cramer	Chocolate Pansy		