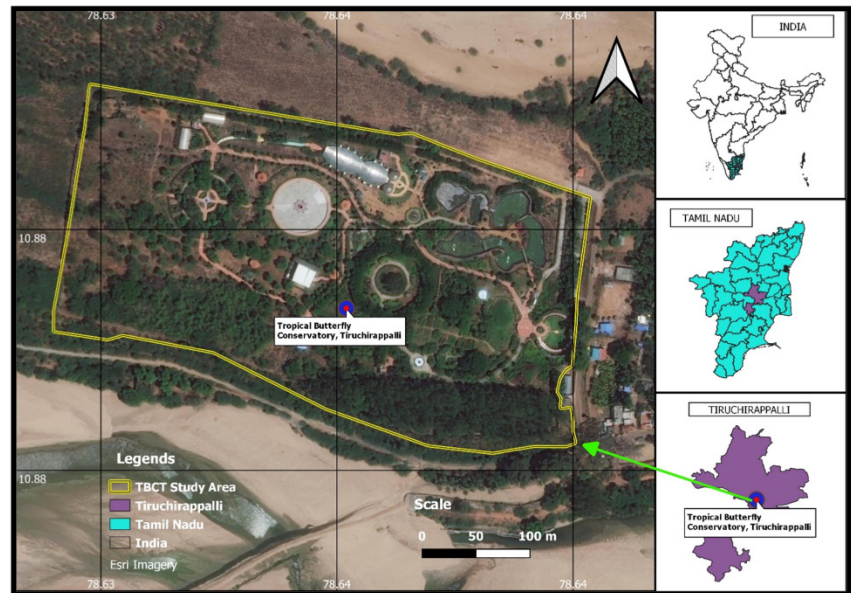


A preliminary checklist of butterflies in Tropical Butterfly Conservatory, Tiruchirappalli, India

The Tropical Butterfly Conservatory, Tiruchirappalli was conceived by the Tamil Nadu Forest Department to conserve and propagate the awareness amongst the public and help them to understand the ecology and importance of butterflies. It is located at Srirangam in the upper Anicut Forest Reserve spanning over 27 acres.

It houses an indoor conservatory, an outdoor conservatory, nakshatravanam, raasivanam, breeding lab for non-scheduled species, amphitheatre, plant nursery, host patch, nectar patch, aroma garden, shade houses, artificial island and humidifiers for maintaining the temperature. The location of the Tropical Butterfly Conservatory is 10.877 N & 78.636 E and the elevation is 72 m.

The butterfly survey was conducted for a period of one year from July 2020 to August



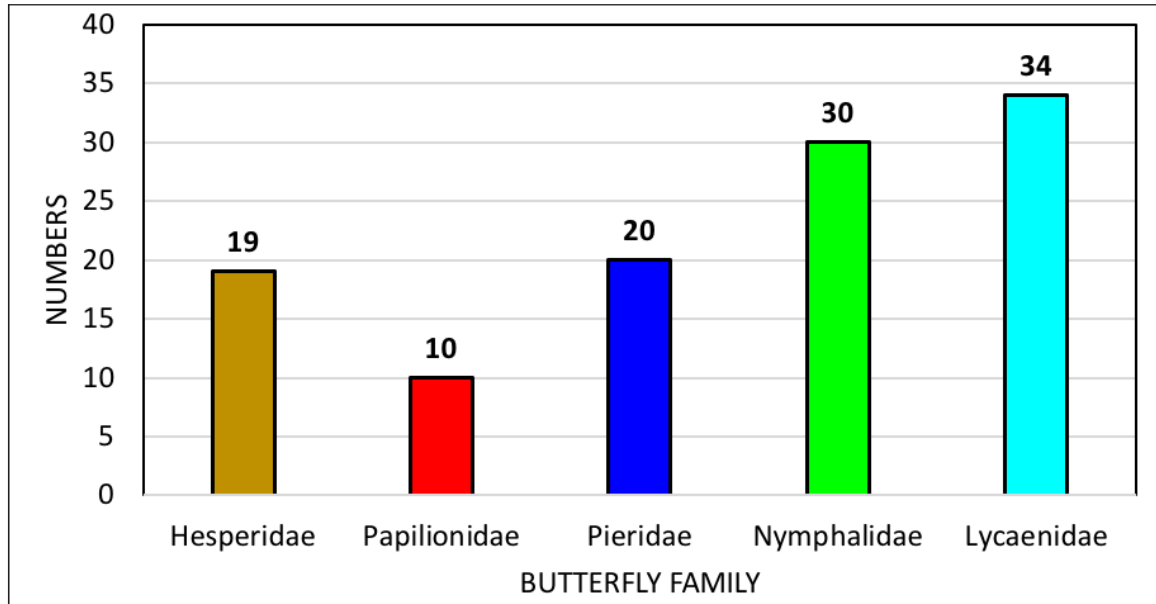
Location of the Tropical Butterfly Conservatory in Tiruchirappalli District, Tamil Nadu.

2021. The visual encounter survey was done five times in a week 0900–1200 h and 1500–1700 h. Photographic documentation of butterflies was done using an SLR camera B600 Nikon. Observed butterflies were identified with the help of standard field guides (Kehimkar 2016; Bhakare & Ogale 2018).

A total of 113 species of butterflies belonging to five families were recorded in the study area (Table 1). Among the families, Lycaenidae

recorded the maximum number of butterfly species.

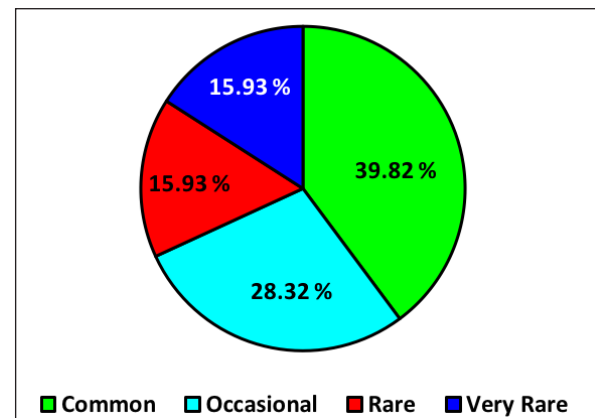
The diversity and abundance of species are highly correlated with the availability of food/host plants in the surroundings as reported by Kunte (2000). Among the family, Lycaenidae, Nymphalidae and Pieridae showed the maximum richness during the study period, which coincided well with the availability of their host plants in Tropical Butterfly Conservatory. The



Family-wise number of butterflies recorded in the Tropical Butterfly Conservatory.

main larval food plants include *Aristolochia indica*, *Asclepias curassavica*, *Calotropis gigantea*, *Senna alata*, *Cassia biflora*, *Cassia fistula*, *Caesalpinia pulcherrima*, *Cleodendrum inerme*, *Citrus limon*, *Citrus maxima*, *Citrus medica*, *Ficus benghalensis*, *Ficus racemosa*, *Ixora coccinea*, *Loranthus* spp., *Mangifera indica*, *Magnolia champaca*, *Murraya koenigii*, *Nerium oleander*, *Passiflora incarnata*, *Pentas lanceolata*, *Plumbago auriculata*, *Polyalthia longifolia*, *Millettia pinnata*, *Ricinus communis*, *Senna occidentalis*, *Sesbania bispinosa*, *Sesbania grandiflora*, *Turnera subulata*, *Turnera ulmifolia*, and *Zizypus jujupa*.

Ten species of swallowtails are reported from our study area. Among them, the Lime Butterfly *Papilio demoleus*, Crimson Rose *Pachliopta hector*, Common Rose *Pachliopta aristolochiae* are the most abundant.



Occurrence of butterflies based on the abundance (%).

Only one study on the diversity of butterflies in Tiruchirappalli District is available. Siva & Neelananarayanan (2019) reported 72 species of butterflies in Nehru Memorial College campus. This is the maiden study assessing the occurrence and abundance of butterflies in Tropical Butterfly Conservatory, thus the information collected considered as baseline data for future reference. Detailed study on the diversity of butterflies along with conservation issues are highly warranted.

Table 1. Checklist of Butterflies recorded in Tropical Butterfly Conservatory in Tiruchirappalli District.

	Common Name	Scientific name	C	O	R	VR	WPA Schedule
Hesperiidae (Skippers)							
1	Common Banded Awl	<i>Hasora chromus</i>		-	-	-	-
2	Brown Awl	<i>Badamia exclamationis</i>	-	-	-	✓	-
3	Tricolour Pied Flat	<i>Coladenia indrani</i>	-	-	-	✓	-
4	Common Snow Flat	<i>Tagiadas japetus</i>	-	-	-	✓	-
5	Indian Skipper	<i>Spialia galba</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
6	African Marbled Skipper	<i>Gomalia elma</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
7	Common Grass Dart	<i>Taractroceva maevius</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
8	Dark Palm Dart	<i>Telicota bambusae</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
9	Pale Palm Dart	<i>Telicota colon</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
10	Plain Palm Dart	<i>Cephrenes acalle</i>	-	-	✓	-	-
11	Dart species	<i>Potanthus sp.</i>	-	-	✓	-	-
12	Rice Swift	<i>Borbo cinnata</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
13	Straight Swift	<i>Parnara guttaus</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
14	Kanara Swift	<i>Caltoris canaraica</i>	-	-	✓	-	-
15	Small Branded Swift	<i>Pelopidas mathias</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
16	Bush Hopper	<i>Ampittia dioscorides</i>	-	-	-	✓	-
17	Chestnut Bob	<i>Lambrix salsala</i>	-	-	✓	-	-
18	Indian Palm Bob	<i>Suastus gremius</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
19	Grass Demon	<i>Udaspes folus</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
Papilionidae (Swallowtails)							
20	Common Jay	<i>Graphium doson</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
21	Tailed Jay	<i>Graphium agamemnon</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
22	Spot Swordtail	<i>Graphium nomius</i>	-	-	-	✓	-
23	Common Mormon	<i>Papilio polytes</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
24	Blue Mormon	<i>Papilio polymnestor</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
25	Lime Butterfly	<i>Papilio demoleus</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
26	Southern Birdwing	<i>Troides minos</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
27	Common Banded Peacock	<i>Papilio crino</i>	-	-	-	✓	-
28	Common Rose	<i>Pachliopta aristolochiae</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
29	Crimson Rose	<i>Pachliopta hector</i>	✓	-	-	-	I
Pieridae (Whites and Yellows)							
30	Common Grass Yellow	<i>Eurema hecabe</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
31	Three-Spot Grass Yellow	<i>Eurema blanda</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
32	Small Grass Yellow	<i>Eurema brigitta</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
33	Mottled Emigrant	<i>Catopsilia pyranthe</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
34	Common Emigrant	<i>Catopsilia pomona</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
35	Small Salmon Arab	<i>Colotis amata</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
36	Crimson Tip	<i>Colotis danae</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
37	Little Orange Tip	<i>Colotis etrida</i>	-	✓	-	-	-

	Common Name	Scientific name	C	O	R	VR	WPA Schedule
Pieridae (Whites and Yellows)							
38	Plain Orange Tip	<i>Colotis aurora</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
39	White Orange tip	<i>Colotis Marianne</i>	-	-	✓	-	-
40	Yellow Orange Tip	<i>Ixais pyrene</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
41	Great Orange Tip	<i>Hebomoia glausippe</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
42	Psyche	<i>Leptosia nina</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
43	Common Wanderer	<i>Parerania hippia</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
44	Dark Wanderer	<i>Parerania ceylania</i>	-	-	-	✓	-
45	Common Albatross	<i>Appias albina</i>	-	-	✓	-	II
46	Striped Albatross	<i>Appias libythea</i>	-	-	✓	-	IV
47	Common Gull	<i>Cepora nerissa</i>	✓	-	-	-	II
48	Pioneer	<i>Belenois aurota</i>	-	-	✓	-	-
49	Common Jezebel	<i>Delias eucharis</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
Nymphalidae (Brush-footed Butterflies)							
50	Striped Tiger	<i>Danaus genutia</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
51	Plain Tiger	<i>Danaus chrysippus</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
52	Blue Tiger	<i>Tirumala limniace</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
53	Dark Blue Tiger	<i>Tirumala septentrionis</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
54	Common Crow	<i>Euploea core</i>	✓	-	-	-	IV
55	Double Branded Crow	<i>Euploea Sylvester</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
56	Common Nawab	<i>Polyura athamas</i>	-	-	-	✓	-
57	Anomalous Nawab	<i>Polyura agrarius</i>	-	-	-	✓	-
58	Black Rajah	<i>Charaxes solon</i>	-	-	✓	-	II
59	Common Evening Brown	<i>Melantis leda</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
60	Bamboo Tree Brown	<i>Letha europa</i>	-	-	-	✓	I
61	Common Bushbrown	<i>Mycalesis perseus</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
62	Tamil Bush Brown	<i>Mycalesis subdita</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
63	Tawny Coster	<i>Acraea terpsicore</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
64	Common Leopard	<i>Phalanta phalanta</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
65	Commander	<i>Modusa Procris</i>	-	-	-	✓	-
66	Common Sailor	<i>Neptis hylas</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
67	Chestnut-steaked Sailer	<i>Neptis jumbah</i>	-	✓	-	-	I
68	Common Lascar	<i>Pantoporia hordonia</i>	-	-	-	✓	-
69	Common Castor	<i>Ariadne merione</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
70	Angled Castor	<i>Ariadne ariadne</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
71	Joker	<i>Byblia ilithyia</i>	-	-	-	✓	-
72	Blue Pansy	<i>Junonia orithyra</i>	-	-	✓	-	-
73	Yellow Pansy	<i>Junonia hierta</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
74	Chocolate Pansy	<i>Junonia iphita</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
75	Grey Pansy	<i>Junonia atlies</i>	-	-	✓	-	-

	Common Name	Scientific name	C	O	R	VR	WPA Schedule
Nymphalidae (Brush-footed Butterflies)							
76	Peacock Pansy	<i>Junonia ahnana</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
77	Lemon Pansy	<i>Junonia lemonias</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
78	Great Eggfly	<i>Hypolimnas bolina</i>	✓	-	-	-	I
79	Danaid Eggfly	<i>Hypolimnas misipus</i>	✓	-	-	-	II
Lycaenidae (Blues)							
80	Indian Sunbeam	<i>Curetius thetis</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
81	Apefly	<i>Spalgis epeus</i>	-	-	-	✓	-
82	Large Oak Blue	<i>Arhopala amantes</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
83	Red Spot	<i>Zesius chryomallus</i>	-	-	✓	-	-
84	Monkey Puzzle	<i>Rathinda amer</i>	-	-	✓	-	-
85	Peacock Royal	<i>Tajuria cippus</i>	-	✓	-	-	II
86	Common Guava Blue	<i>Virachola isocrates</i>	-	-	✓	-	-
87	Slate Flash	<i>Rapla manea</i>	-	-	-	✓	-
88	Common Silverline	<i>Spindasis vulcanus</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
89	Common Shot Silverline	<i>Spindasis ictis</i>	-	-	-	✓	-
90	Plumbeous Silverline	<i>Spindasis schistacea</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
91	Zebra Blue	<i>Leptotes plinius</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
92	Pointed Ciliate Blue	<i>Anthene lycaenina</i>	-	✓	-	-	II
93	Banded Blue Pierrot	<i>Discolampa rthion</i>	-	-	✓	-	-
94	Common Pierrot	<i>Castalius rosimon</i>	✓	-	-	-	I
95	Striped Pierrot	<i>Tarucus nara</i>	-	-	-	✓	-
96	Black-spotted Pierrot	<i>Tarucus balkanicus</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
97	Common Line Blue	<i>Prosotas nora</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
98	Tailless Line Blue	<i>Prosotas dubiosa</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
99	Dark Cerulean	<i>Jamides bochus</i>	-	-	✓	-	-
100	Common Cerulean	<i>Jamides celena</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
101	Forget-Me-Not	<i>Catochrysops straba</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
102	Pea Blue	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>	-	-	✓	-	II
103	Pale Grass Blue	<i>Pseudozizeeria maba</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
104	Dark Grass Blue	<i>Zizeeria karasandra</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
105	Lesser Grass Blue	<i>Zizina otis</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
106	Tiny Grass Blue	<i>Zizula hylax</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
107	Grass Jewel	<i>Freyeria trochylus</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
108	Oriental Grass Jewel	<i>Freyeria putli</i>	✓	-	-	-	-
109	Indian Cupid	<i>Everes lacturnus</i>	-	-	✓	-	-
110	Plains Cupid	<i>Chilades pandava</i>	-	✓	-	-	-
111	Small Cupid	<i>Chilades parabasis</i>	-	-	-	✓	-
112	Gram Blue	<i>Euchrysops cnejus</i>	✓	-	-	-	II
113	Lime Blue	<i>Chilades lajus</i>	✓	-	-	-	-

C—Common | O—Occasional | R—Rare | VR—Very Rare | WPA—Wildlife Protection Act.

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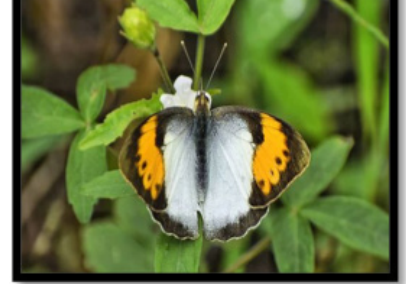
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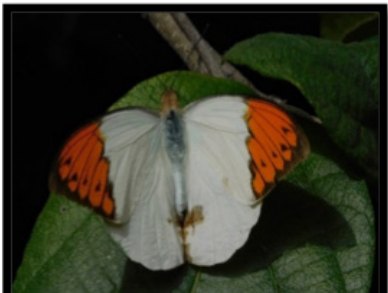
Southern Birdwing.



Plain Orange Tip.



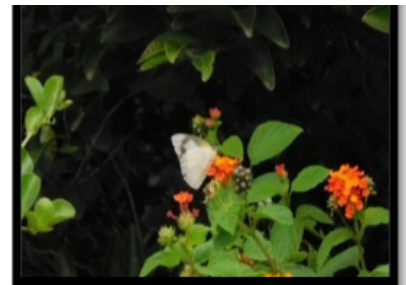
White Orange Tip.



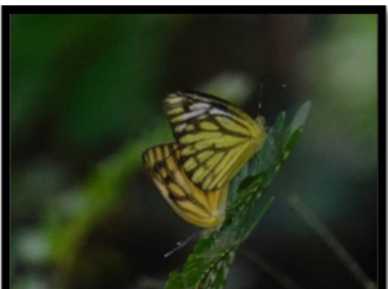
Great Orange Tip.



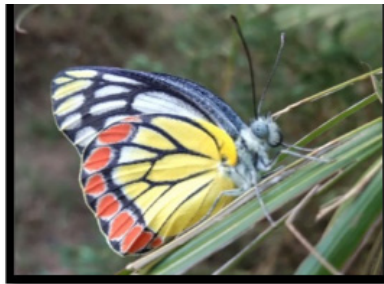
Yellow Orange Tip.



Common Albatross.



Common Gull.



Common Jezebel.



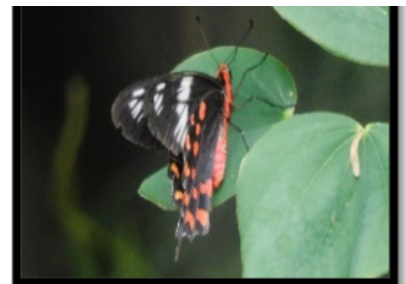
Striped Tiger.



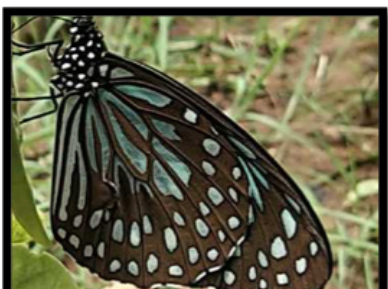
Plain Tiger.



Blue Tiger.



Crimson Rose.



Dark Blue Tiger.



Common Crow.



Common Nawab.

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Black Rajah.



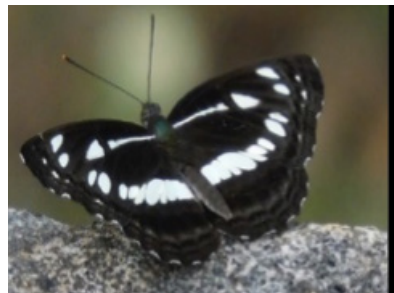
Tawny Coster.



Common Leopard.



Common Sailer.



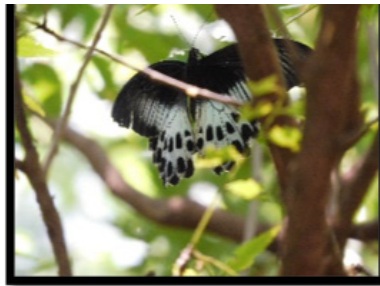
Chestnut-streaked Sailer.



Common Lascar.



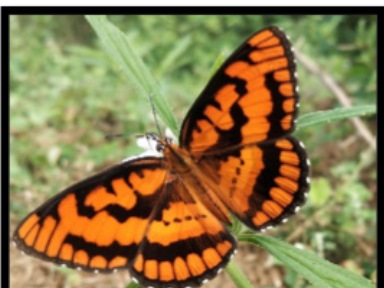
Common Castor.



Blue Mormon.



Angled Castor.



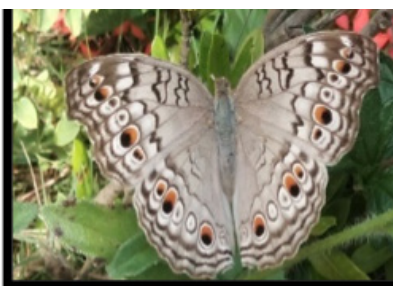
Joker.



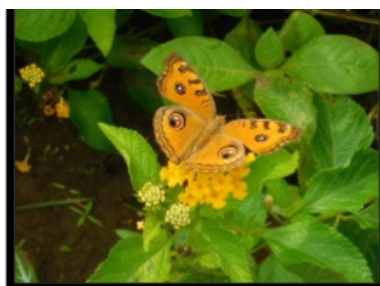
Yellow Pansy.



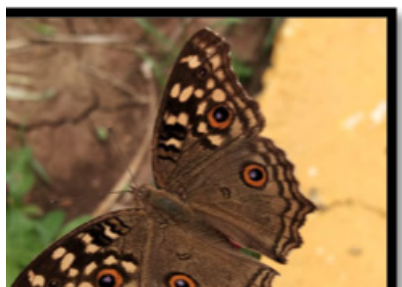
Chocolate Pansy.



Grey Pansy.



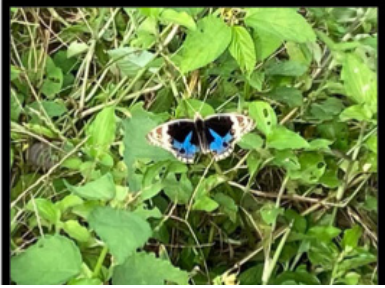
Peacock Pansy.



Lemon Pansy.

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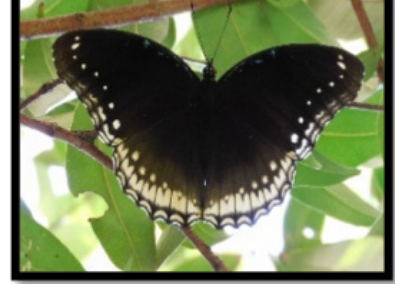
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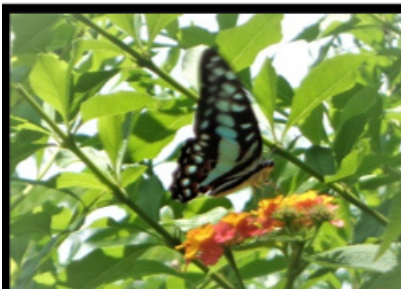
Blue Pansy.



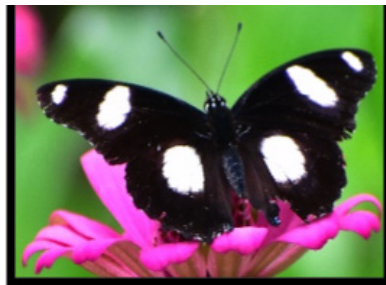
Commander.



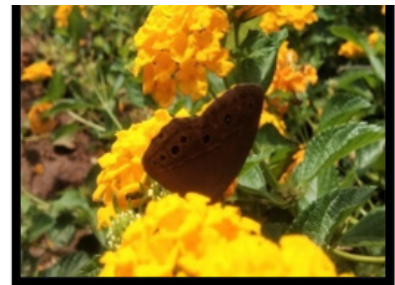
Great Eggfly.



Tailed Jay.



Danaid Eggfly.



Common Bushbrown.



Common Evening Brown.



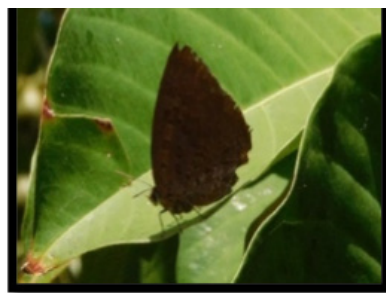
Bamboo Treebrown.



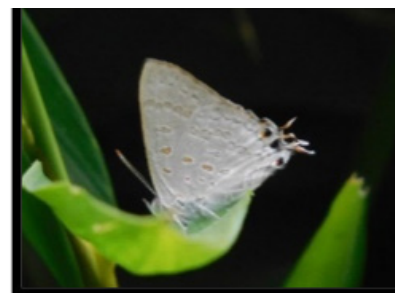
Tamil Bush Brown.



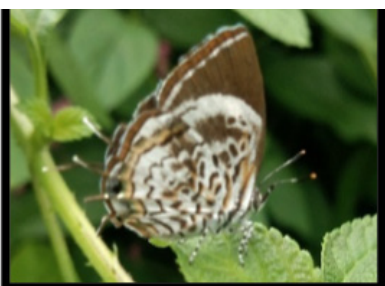
Indian Sunbeam.



Large Oak Blue.



Red Spot.



Monkey Puzzle.



Slate Flash.



Mottled Emigrant.

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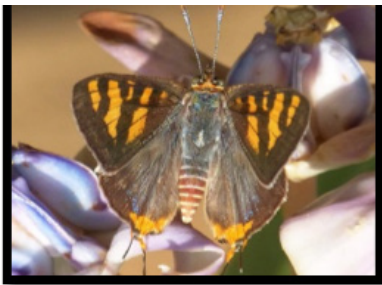
Peacock Royal.



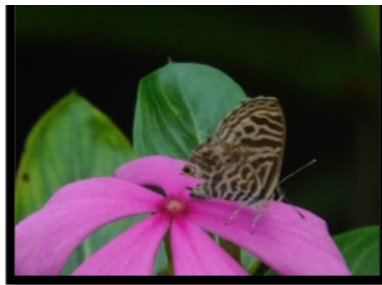
Guava Blue.



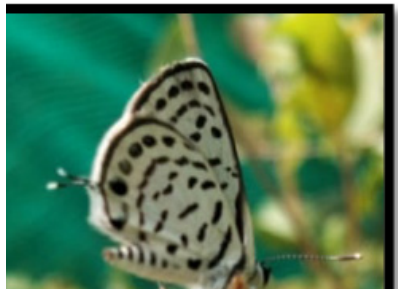
Common Silverline.



Plumbeous Silverline.



Zebra Blue.



Black Spotted Pierrot.



Banded Blue Pierrot.



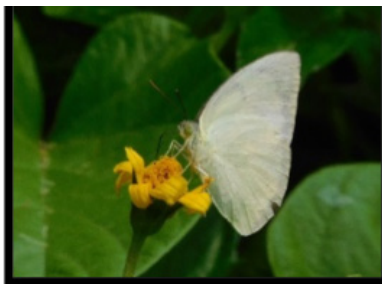
Common Lineblue.



Tailless Lineblue.



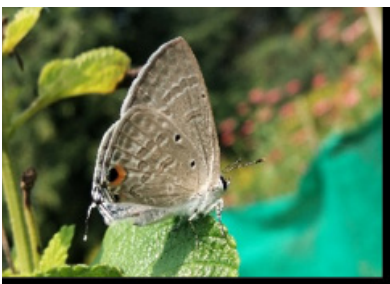
Dark Cerulean.



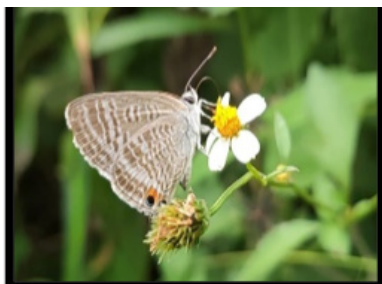
Common Emigrant.



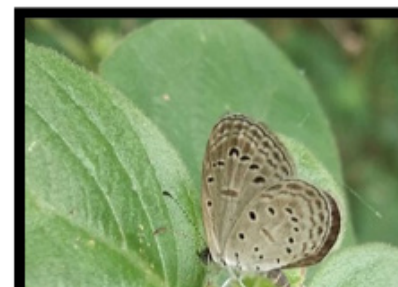
Common Cerulean.



Forget-Me-Not.



Pea Blue.



Tiny Grass Blue.

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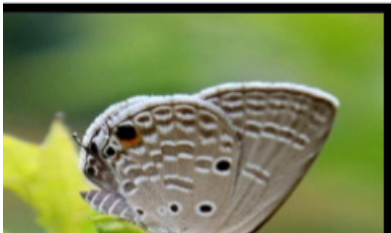
Lesser Grass Blue.



Small Grass Jewel.



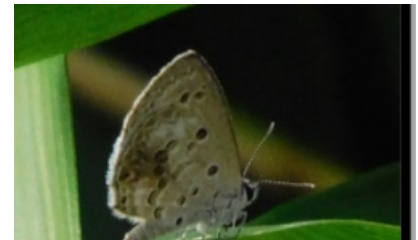
Indian Cupid.



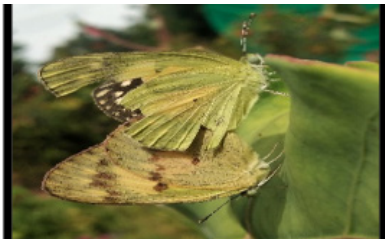
Small Cupid.



Plains Cupid.



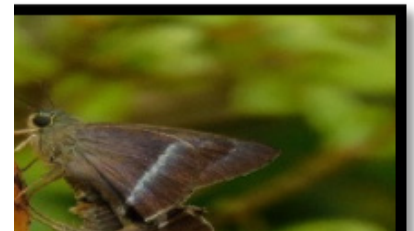
Lime Blue.



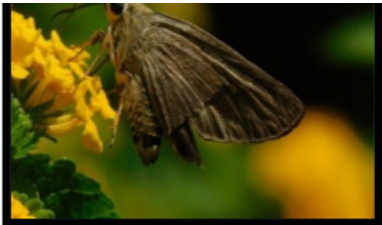
Small Salmon Arab.



Gram Blue.



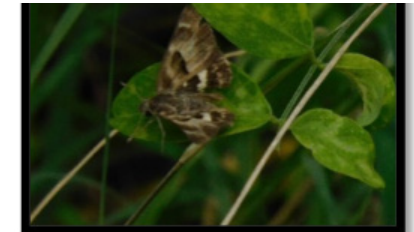
Common Banded Awl.



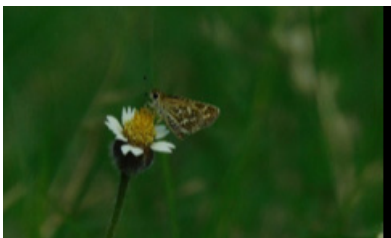
Brown Awl.



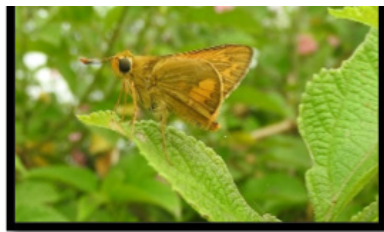
Common Snow Flat.



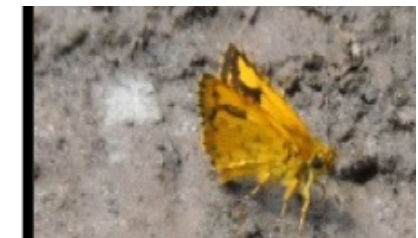
African-Marbled Skipper.



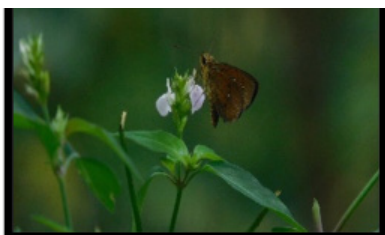
Common Grass Dart.



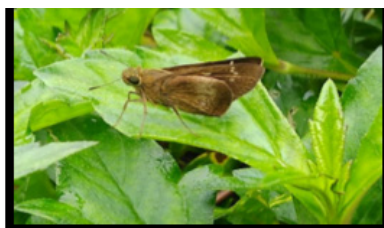
Dark Palm Dart.



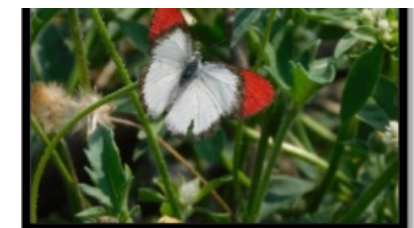
Bush Hopper.



Chestnut Bob.



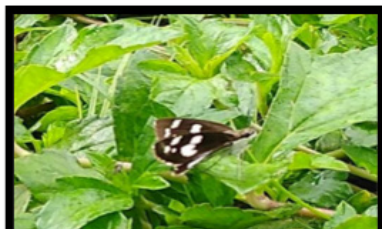
Kanara Swift.



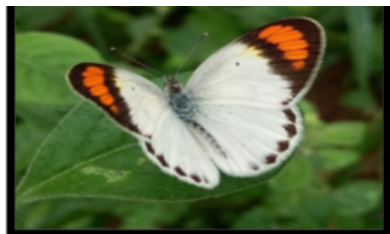
Crimson Tip.

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Grass Demon.



Little Orange Tip.

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R. Santhosini¹, T. Siva², S. Saravana Karunamoorthy³ & A. Muthusamy⁴

¹Junior Research Fellow, Tropical Butterfly Conservatory, Trichy (TBCT), Trichy Forest Division, Tamil Nadu Forest Department, Tamil Nadu 620 006, India.

^{2&4}Research Department of Zoology, Nehru Memorial College (Autonomous and Affiliated to Bharathidasan University), Puthanampatti, Tiruchirappalli District, Tamil Nadu 621 007, India.

³M.Sc. Ecology, Department of Ecology & Environmental Sciences, School of Life Sciences, Pondicherry University, Pondicherry 605 014, India.

Emails: ¹santhosini97@gmail.com, ²sivanaturewild@gmail.com (corresponding author), ³saravanannaturalist@gmail.com, ⁴muthusamy9514@gmail.com

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