

First record of Double-branded Crow from Purulia, India

The butterfly *Euploea sylvester* is very similar to the Common Crow, commonly called Double-branded Crow belonging to family Nymphalidae of superfamily Papilionoidea (Kehimkar 2016). It was reported for the first time by Fabricius in 1793. During a field survey in Garh Panchkot Hill, Purulia on 7 August 2020 a single specimen of *E. sylvester* was recorded. The photograph of the butterfly was taken using Nikon Coolpix P600; the specimen was not captured.

The study site coordinates (86.752E, 23.615N) are plotted in raster plot by using R Studio 3.6.3 (R Studio Team 2020) from where the butterfly was observed puddling.

Identification of the adult butterfly specimen were done following the keys of Evans (1932), Wynter-Blyth (1957) and Kehimkar (2016).

In India, the Double-branded Crow has a distribution with



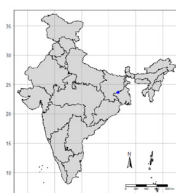
Double-branded Crow butterfly photographed from Garh Panchkot Hills, Purulia, West Bengal.

records from southern parts of Maharashtra, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, and northeastern parts of India (Kehimkar 2016). Aside from India this butterfly species is also found in other countries—Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, and Sri Lanka (Kehimkar 2016). This butterfly prefers well-wooded areas and patches of forests, depends on flowers for collection of food, and migrates with other

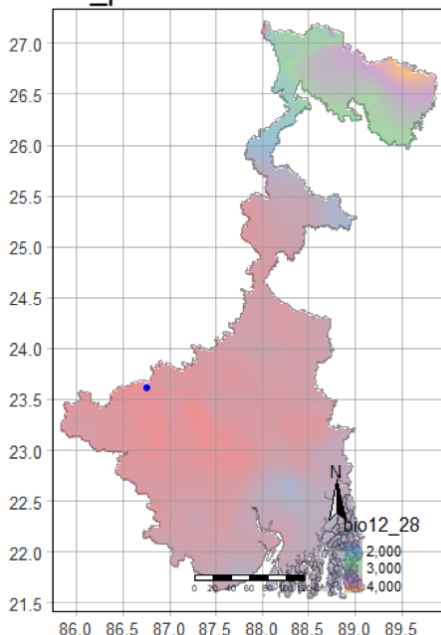
Milkweed butterflies (Kehimkar 2016). In West Bengal the butterfly was found only in two districts Alipurduar and Bankura (Sengupta 2021). This is the first record of *Euploea sylvester* from Purulia district situated in Chota Nagpur Plateau (Samanta et al. 2017; Das 2018), that can help in selection of conservation strategy for this particular species in this ecological region.

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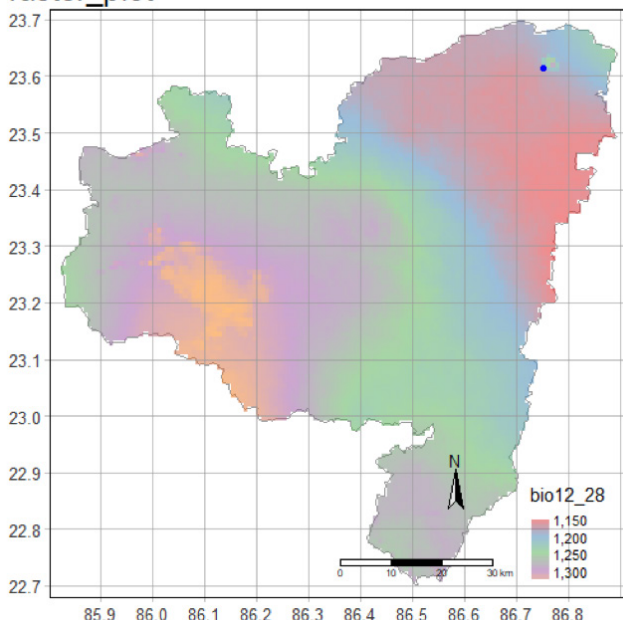
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raster_plot



raster_plot



Coordinates of the site from where butterfly Double branded crow was photographed: 1a-plotted in India map | 1b-West Bengal map | 1c-Purulia.

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