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NEW LARVAL FOOD PLANTS OF *EUPLOEA CORE CORE* (CRAMER) (NYMPHALIDAE: LEPIDOPTERA: INSECTA)

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The Common Crow, *Euploea core core* (Cramer) is a widespread butterfly occurring in many habitats. It is a polyphagous insect, known to feed on a variety of plant species including *Ficus bengalensis*, *F. racemosa*, *F. religiosa*, *F. elastica*, *Streblus asper* (Moraceae); *Cryptolepis elegans*, *C. buchmanani*, *Hemidesmus indicus*, *Tylophora indica* (Asclepiadaceae); *Holarrhena pubescens*, *Ichnocarpus frutescens*, *Nerium odoratum* and *N. oleander* (Apocynaceae) as reported by Wynter-Blyth (1957), Gay *et al* (1992) and Kunte (2000).

Since 1993, we have been observing Common Crows laying eggs on the young reddish buds of *Ficus arnottiana* (Moraceae), a common fig tree found along the rocky parts of the Madayipara hills, Payangadi, Kannur District, Kerala. We have also observed its breeding on *Carissa carindas* (Apocynaceae), a small spiny climbing shrub cultivated in the area. All records were during monsoon from June to August and many golden pupae were noted during this period.

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