

oligotrophic and eutrophic respectively.

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### NOTE

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## A PRELIMINARY LIST OF BUTTERFLIES OF RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT, TAMIL NADU

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A survey was carried out as a part of an inventory of insect faunal composition in Ramanathapuram District in 2001, details of which will be published separately. Ramanathapuram District is situated on the southeastern coast of the Indian peninsula

between 11<sup>o</sup> and 12<sup>o</sup>N and 77<sup>o</sup>28' and 78<sup>o</sup>50'E. The district is by and large hot and dry with low rainfall. The average maximum temperature and minimum temperature is 34.6<sup>o</sup>C and 22.11<sup>o</sup>C respectively. The average rainfall is 816mm with a relative humidity between 60-70% in summer and 75-95% in winter. The butterflies were identified based on Gunathilagaraj *et al.* (1998). The butterflies recorded during the study period is listed in table 1.

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**Table 1. Butterflies of Ramanathapuram District**

Scientific name	Common name
Acraeidae	
<i>Acraea violae</i> (Fabricius)	Tawny Coster
Danaidae	
<i>Danaus chrysippus chrysippus</i> (Linnaeus)	Plain Tiger
Lycaenidae	
<i>Azanus ubaldus</i> Cramer	Bright Babul Blue
Nymphalidae	
<i>Precis almana almana</i> (Linnaeus)	Peacock Pansy
<i>Precis peirta peirta</i> (Linnaeus)	Yellow Pansy
<i>Precis lemonias lemonias</i> (Linnaeus)	Lemon Pansy
Papilionidae	
<i>Graphium agamemnon menides</i> Felder & Felder	Tailed Jay
<i>Papilio demoleus</i> Linnaeus	Lime Butterfly
<i>Papilio polytes stichius</i> (Hubner)	Common Mormon
Pieridae	
<i>Catopsilia crocale</i> (Cramer)	Common Emigrant
<i>Catopsilia pyranthe</i> (Linnaeus)	Mottled Migrant
<i>Delias eucharis</i> (Drury)	Common Jezebel
<i>Eurema hecabe simulata</i> Moore	Common Grass Yellow
Satyridae	
<i>Melanitis leda leda</i> (Drury)	Common Evening Brown