

A CHECKLIST OF BUTTERFLIES OF THENGUMARAHADA IN THE NILGIRIS, SOUTHERN INDIA

K. Cyril Rufus^{1,3} and S.P. Sabarinathan²

^{1,2} Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History, Anaikatty P.O., Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu 641108, India

³ (Presently) 26/12 Kongurar Layout, Near Elayamuthur Pirivu, Udumalpet, Tamil Nadu 642126, India

Email: ¹ cyril4112@yahoo.co.in, ² sabarisacon@gmail.com

Thengumarahada is the largest among the seven tribal villages found in the Moyar valley belonging to the Nilgiris district, Tamil Nadu with an area of 500 acres. Moyar valley is an ecologically strategic junction where the Western Ghats and Eastern Ghats meet. The village lies on the banks of the river Moyar. The study was carried out for one year during May 2005–April 2006.

The vegetation of the area includes deciduous and thorn forests comprising various plant species including *Albizzia amara*, *Bauhinia racemosa*, *Capparis deciduas*, *Cassia auriculata*, *Chlorozylon swietenia*, *Dalbergia lanceolaria*, *Ficus benghalensis*, *Lantana camara*, *Mangifera indica*, *Syzygium cumini*, *Tamarindus indica*, *Terminalia arjuna* and cultivated areas include *Oryza sativa*, *Musa paradisiaca*, *Calendula officinalis*, *Areca catechu* and *Cocos nucifera*.

Pollard walk method was adapted for observing the butterflies following Moore (1975); Pollard *et al.* (1975); Walpole & Sheldon (1999). The butterflies were observed during sunny day hours (0700–1200hr). We identified the butterflies using field guides by Wynter-Blyth (1957); Kunte (1997) and followed the classification in Gaonkar (1997).

In the study, 85 butterflies belonging to five families were recorded (Table 1). Among the families, the Nymphalidae were dominant with 35 species followed by Pieridae (16 species), Lycaenidae (14), Papilionidae (12) and Hesperidae (8).

Eight endemic species were seen in the study area. Six species are listed in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 (Anon., 1990) with two species in Schedule I, four species in Schedule II and one species in Schedule IV. Danaid eggfly, *Hypolimnas misippus* is listed in Schedules I and II.

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Table 1. Butterflies of Thengumarahada in the Nilgiris, southern India

Common Name	Scientific Name	ES	IW (P) Act
Papilionidae			
Tailed Jay	<i>Graphium agamemnon</i> Linnaeus		
Five-Bar Swordtail	<i>Graphium antiphates</i> Cramer		
Common Jay	<i>Graphium doson</i> C & R Felder		
Common Bluebottle	<i>Graphium sarpedon</i> Linnaeus		
Common Rose	<i>Pachliopta aristolochiae</i> Fabricius		
Crimson Rose	<i>Pachliopta hector</i> Linnaeus	SI, SL	Schedule I
Common Mime	<i>Papilio clytia</i> Linnaeus		
Common Banded Peacock	<i>Papilio crino</i> Fabricius	PI, SL	
Lime Butterfly	<i>Papilio demoleus</i> Linnaeus		
Blue Mormon	<i>Papilio polymnestor</i> Cramer	PI, SL	
Common Mormon	<i>Papilio polytes</i> Linnaeus		
Southern Birdwing	<i>Troides minos</i> Cramer	SI	
Pieridae			
Pioneer	<i>Anaphaeis aurota</i> Fabricius		
Common Emigrant	<i>Catopsilia pomona</i> Fabricius		
Mottled Emigrant	<i>Catopsilia pyranthe</i> Linnaeus		
Common Gull	<i>Cepora nerissa</i> Fabricius		Schedule II
Nilgiri Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias nilgiriensis</i> C & R Felder	WG	
Crimson Tip	<i>Colotis danae</i> Fabricius		
Small Orange Tip	<i>Colotis etrida</i> Boisduval		
Common Jezebel	<i>Delias eucharis</i> Drury		
Common Grass Yellow	<i>Eurema hecabe</i> Linnaeus		
Spotless Grass Yellow	<i>Eurema laeta</i> Boisduval		
Three-Spot Grass Yellow	<i>Eurema blanda</i> Boisduval		
Great Orange Tip	<i>Hebomoia glaucippe</i> Linnaeus		
White Orange Tip	<i>Ixias marianne</i> Cramer		
Yellow Orange Tip	<i>Ixias pyrene</i> Linnaeus		
Psyche	<i>Leptosia nina</i> Fabricius		
Common Wanderer	<i>Pareronia valeria</i> Cramer		
Nymphalidae			
Tawny Coaster	<i>Acraea violae</i> Fabricius		
Angled Castor	<i>Ariadne ariadne</i> Linnaeus		
Common Castor	<i>Ariadne merione</i> Cramer		
Joker	<i>Byblia ilithyia</i> Drury		
Common Map	<i>Cyrestis thyodamas</i> Evans		
Plain Tiger	<i>Danaus chrysippus</i> Linnaeus		
Striped Tiger	<i>Danaus genutia</i> Cramer		
Common Indian Crow	<i>Euploea core</i> Cramer		Schedule IV
Double-Branded Crow	<i>Euploea sylvestre</i> Fabricius		
Common Baron	<i>Euthalia aconthea</i> Cramer		
Great Eggfly	<i>Hypolimnas bolina</i> Linnaeus		
Danaid Eggfly	<i>Hypolimnas misippus</i> Linnaeus		Schedule I & II
Peacock Pansy	<i>Junonia almana</i> Linnaeus		
Yellow Pansy	<i>Junonia hierta</i> Fabricius		
Chocolate Pansy	<i>Junonia iphita</i> Cramer		
Lemon Pansy	<i>Junonia lemonias</i> Linnaeus		
Blue Pansy	<i>Junonia orithya</i> Linnaeus		
Common Treebrown	<i>Lethe rohria</i> Fabricius		
Common Evening Brown	<i>Melanitis leda</i> Linnaeus		
Whitebar Bushbrown	<i>Mycalesis anaxias</i> Hewiston		
Gladeye Bushbrown	<i>Mycalesis patnia</i> Moore		
Common Bushbrown	<i>Mycalesis perseus</i> Fabricius		
Common Sailor	<i>Neptis hylas</i> Moore		
Nigger	<i>Orsotrianea medus</i> Fabricius		
Glassy Tiger	<i>Parantica aglea</i> Stoll		
Common Leopard	<i>Phalanta phalantha</i> Drury		
Common Nawab	<i>Polyura athamas</i> Drury		
Blue Tiger	<i>Tirumala limniace</i> Cramer		
Nilgiri Tiger	<i>Parantica nilgiriensis</i> Moore	SI	
Common Threering	<i>Ypthima asterope</i> Klug		
Common Fivering	<i>Ypthima baldus</i> Fabricius		
White Or Ceylon Fourring	<i>Ypthima ceylonica</i> Hewiston		
Common Fourring	<i>Ypthima huebneri</i> Kirby		
Baby Fivering	<i>Ypthima philomela</i> Linnaeus		
Common Beak	<i>Libythea lepita</i> Moore		Schedule II
Lycaenidae			
Common Pierrot	<i>Castalius rosimon</i> Fabricius		

Common Name	Scientific Name	ES	I W (P) Act
Gram Blue	<i>Euchrysops cnejus</i> Fabricious		Schedule II
Indian Cupid	<i>Everes lactumus</i> Godart		
Grass Jewel	<i>Freyeria trochylus</i> Freyer		
Common Cerulean	<i>Jamides celeno</i> Cramer		
Dark Cerulean	<i>Jamides bochus</i> Cramer		
Zebra Blue	<i>Leptotes plinius</i> Fabricious		
Lime Blue	<i>Chilades laius</i> Stoll		
Quaker	<i>Neopithecops zalmora</i> Butler		
Common Line Blue	<i>Prosotas nora</i> C & R Felder		
Pale Grass Blue	<i>Psuedozizeeria maha</i> Kollar		
Common Silverline	<i>Spindasis vulcanus</i> Fabricious	IS	
Red Pierrot	<i>Talicauda nyseus</i> Guerin-Meneville		
Tiny Grass Blue	<i>Zizula hylax</i> Fabricious		
Hesperiidae			
Brown Awl	<i>Badamia exclamatoris</i> Fabricious		
Malabar Spotted Flat	<i>Celaenorrhinus ambarens</i> Moore	WG	
Common Spotted Flat	<i>Celaenorrhinus leucocera</i> Kollar		
Common Banded Awl	<i>Hasora chromus</i> Cramer		
Fulvous Pied Flat	<i>Pseudocoladenia dan</i> Fabricious		
Common Small Flat	<i>Sarangesa dasahara</i> Moore		
Indian Skipper	<i>Spialia galba</i> Fabricious		
Rice Swift	<i>Borbo cinnara</i> Wallace		

IS - Indian Subcontinent; ¹ SI - Southern India; ² PI - Peninsular India; WG - Western Ghats; SL - Sri Lanka

¹ Southern India includes Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Goa and Maharashtra; ² Peninsular India includes all parts south of Central Indian Hills including Arvali, Vindhyas and Satpura

E S - Endemic Status; I W (P) Act - Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972



Advertisement for the Post of Research Assistant

As part of the UNDP Post Tsunami Environment Initiative Project, the Nature Conservation Foundation (NCF) in Mysore is on the lookout for three research assistants.

Background: The component of the above project being handled by NCF is aimed at the characterization of fisheries along the Coromandel coast with the main emphasis being on the trawl fishing sector.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Fluent in English and Tamil
- Msc in Fisheries, Marine Science, Wildlife Science, Environmental Science or any other life science.
- License for two and/or four wheelers.
- Computer operational skills (MS Office)
- Good taxonomic skills for the identification of various marine species
- Good Public Relations skills will be an added asset.

Study area: Coromandel coast of Tamil Nadu (Pulicat to Point Calimere)

Fieldwork will include:

- Regular monitoring of the catch and bycatch of trawlers at selected trawler/fish landing sites along the study area.
- Interviewing fishermen
- You will occasionally be required to accompany trawlers for the onboard quantification.

Selected candidates will be paid a monthly amount of Rs. 7000. Actuals and other project related expenses will be covered by the project.

Interested candidates please email your CV to

Mr. Aaron Lobo <aaronlobo@ncf-india.org>

Mobile: +919840854261 or

Dr. Rohan Arthur <rohan@ncf-india.org>

Bombay Natural History Society (BHNS)

requires personnel for the following posts:

1. Information Officer for its Environmental Information System (ENVIS) Centre (one post)

Essential Qualification: M.Sc (Wildlife/Zoology/Environmental Sciences). Candidates with wildlife/ornithology back ground will be preferred.

Job description: Handling database – Avian ecology and Inland wetlands, Maintenance of database; Technical support for Newsletter publication and website maintenance; Co-ordination with library; Assisting the Scientist In-charge ENVIS in processing of queries.

Location: the post is based in Mumbai Head Office.

Age Limit: Upto 30 years.

Salary: Rs. 1, 34,400/- per annum on CTS basis.

The appointment will be initially for a period of 1 year on contract basis.

2. Systematic Botanist & Taxonomist (one post)

Educational Qualification: Candidate should be B.Sc. (with minimum 3 years experience in field work) or M.Sc or preferably Ph.D in Botany. The candidate should have knowledge in general practices followed in plant collection, collection of data, collation and retrieval systems and should be well-versed with different systems of plant classification and herbarium technologies. The candidate is expected to spend many days in the field and he/she should be physically fit and healthy.

Salary: Rs. 2, 16,000/- per annum in CTS basis.

Age Limit: Upto 30 years.

Candidates fulfilling the above requirement may send their application with detailed biodata and passport size photograph superscribing the envelope the post applied for within 15 days to the Director, Bombay Natural History Society, Hornbill House, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Road, Mumbai 400 023. Website: for more details contact our website www.bnhs.org.

3. Associate Officer (IBA) – one post

The Important Bird Area (IBA) Programme aims to identify, document and advocate the protection and management of a network of sites that are important for the long-term viability of naturally occurring bird populations across the geographic range of those bird species for which a site-based approach is appropriate.

Qualification: Postgraduate/Graduate in Wildlife/Ecology/Biological Sciences/Environmental Science/Geography

Experience: 1-2 years experience in the field of avian ecology/nature conservation, experience in gathering and analyzing field data and knowledge of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) will be an advantage. (Fresher with good knowledge of ecology especially birds may also apply).

4. Educational Assistant for Conservation Education Centre (CEC – Delhi) – one post

As part of Conservation Education Programmes, BHNS has established a Conservation Education Centre with the financial assistance of Government of Delhi at Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary in New Delhi. The Centre has been creating awareness about biodiversity conservation among children and adults through variety of field education programmes.

Qualification: Postgraduate/Graduate in Environmental Science/Wildlife/Ecology/Biological Sciences/Social Sciences

Experience: 1-2 years experience in the field of environment education or experience of teaching environmental studies in school/college. The post holder needs to be a good communicator and fluent in English and Hindi.

The appointment will be on contractual basis and salary will be commensurate with experience, skills and background. Interested candidates may apply by August 14, 2007 with bio-data and details regarding expected salary and three references to Director, Bombay Natural History Society, Hornbill House, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Road, Mumbai 400 023.

Please mention the name of the post applied for on the envelope.