Updated 24 August 2026. THOMAS DESLOGES (atb.editor@lepsocafrica.org).
ANDREW NOSS (Copy Editor)

Genus *Triskelionia* Larsen & Congdon, 2011
Tricerate Elfins

Zootaxa **2931**: 54 (53-58).
Type-species: *Hyda tricerata* Mabille, 1891, by original designation.
[The genus *Hyda* (type species *H. micacea* Mabille, 1899, a junior synonym of *Sarangesa tertullianus* Fabricius, 1793) is a junior homonym of *Hyda* Walker, 1854 (a moth genus in the Arctiinae)].

The genus *Triskelionina* belongs to the Family Hesperiidae Latreille, 1809; Subfamily Tagiadinae Mabille, 1878; Tribe Tagiadini Mabille, 1878. The other genera of the Tribe Tagiadini in the Afrotropical Region are *Abantis, Calleagris, Eagris, Procampta* and *Tagiades*.

Note that Huang et al., 2024 place the tribe Tagiadini Mabille, 1878 within subfamily Pyrginae Burmeister, 1878. However, this change was not formalized.

Triskelionia (Tricerate Elfins) is an Afrotropical genus of two species.

Species in the genus *Triskelionia* Larsen & Congdon, 2011

T. tricerata *T. compacta*

**Triskelionia tricerata* (Mabille, 1891)
Western Tricerate Elfin

Hyda tricerata Mabille, 1891. *Bulletin de la Société Entomologique de Belgique* **35**: 106 (59-88, 106-121, 168-187).
Sarangesa tricerata (Mabille, 1891). Ackery *et al*., 1995.
Sarangesa tricerata (Mabille, 1891). Larsen, 2005.
Triskelionia tricerata (Mabille, 1891). Larsen & Congdon, 2011: 54 **comb. nov.**



Triskelionia tricerata. Male. Left – upperside. Right – underside
From the Central African Republic.
Images courtesy Torben Larsen



Triskelionia tricerata. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Lolobi, Ghana. February 2004. ABRI Coll. ABRI-2019-2216.
Images M.C. Williams ex ABRI Collection.

Type data: Sierra Leone.
Distribution: Gambia, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, Benin (south), Nigeria, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo.
Specific localities:
Guinea – Labe in the Fouta Djalon; Nimbas (Larsen, 2005a). Ziama (Safian *et al*., 2020).
Sierra Leone – Freetown; Loma Mountains (Belcastro, 1986).
Ivory Coast – Gagnoa; Yeale (Larsen, 2005a).
Ghana – Kukurantumi; Bia; Aburi; Boabeng-Fiema Monkey Sanctuary (Larsen, 2005a).
Togo – Kpalime (Larsen, 2005a).
Benin – see Coache *et al*., 2017.
Nigeria – Olokemeji (Hopkins, 1979).
Angola – Kwanza Norte Province (Mendes *et al*., 2013).
Democratic Republic of Congo – Ituri Forest; Mt Mitumba (Ducarme, 2018).
Habitat: Apparently in drier forests (Larsen, 2005a).
Habits: This is a rare skipper (Larsen, 2005a). A male was observed feeding on a bird dropping (Larsen, 2005a).

**Triskelionia compacta* (Evans, 1951)
Eastern Tricerate Elfin

Sarangesa tricerata compacta Evans, 1951. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History* (12) **4**: 1269 (1268-1272).
Triskelionia compacta (Evans, 1951). Larsen & Congdon, 2011: 55 **stat. rev., comb. nov.**



Triskelionia compacta. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Rondo Plateau, Tanzania. April 2007. TCEC et al. ABRI-2019-2217.
Images M.C. Williams ex ABRI Collection.



Triskelionia compacta. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Rondo Plateau, Tanzania. April 2007. TCEC et al. ABRI-2019-2218.
Images M.C. Williams ex ABRI Collection.

Type data: [Tanzania]: "Mikindani, Tanganyika". Holotype (male) in the Natural History Museum, London.
General remarks: First collected by a Herr Reimer, apparently a German colonial servant, in 1897 at Mikindani. The holotype was deposited in the NHM, London and was described as a subspecies of *tricerata* by Evans in 1951. Ivan Bampton and Colin Congdon of ABRI visited the area near the type locality and rediscovered the species. The larval hostplant was discovered and the species was bred (Cock & Congdon, in press).
Distribution: Tanzania (south-east).
Specific localities:
Tanzania – Mikindani (on the coast, south-east of Lindi) (TL). Rondo Plateau (Larsen & Congdon, 2011).
Habitat: Forest (Larsen & Congdon, 2011).
Early stages:
Cock & Congdon, 2011b: 62 [ovum, larva & pupa]
Larval food:
Dalbergia armata E.Mey. (Fabaceae) [Larsen & Congdon, 2011: 57]