

## Genus *Aterica* Boisduval, 1833 Glade Nymphs

*Nouvelles Annales du Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris 2*: 195 (149-270).

Type-species: *Aterica rabena* Boisduval, by monotypy.

The genus *Aterica* belongs to the Family Nymphalidae Rafinesque, 1815; Subfamily Limenitidinae Behr, 1864; Tribe Adoliadini Doubleday, 1845; Subtribe Bebeariina Hemming, 1960. The other genera in the Subtribe Bebeariina in the Afrotropical Region are *Pseudargynnis*, *Cynandra*, *Euryphura*, *Euryphaedra*, *Euryphurana*, *Euphaedra*, *Euriphene*, *Harmilla*, *Bebearia* and *Euptera*.

*Aterica* (**Glade Nymphs**) is an Afrotropical genus containing two species. Generic review by Bernardi (1974).

### *Aterica galene* (Brown, 1776) Forest Glade Nymph



Left: Male Forest-glade Nymph (*Aterica galene extensa*). Kibale Forest, Uganda. October 2014. Image courtesy Raimund Schutte.  
Right: Female Forest-glade Nymph (*Aterica galene galene*). Ankasa, Ghana. Image courtesy Pamela Sai.

*Papilio galene* Brown, 1776. *New Illustrations of Zoology containing fifty coloured plates of new curious, and Non-Descript Birds, with a few Quadrupeds, Reptiles and Insects. Together with a short scientific description of the same*, London: 94 (136 pp.). London.

*Aterica galene* (Brown, 1776). Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 106.



*Aterica galene galene*. Male (Wingspan 46 mm). Left: upperside; right: underside.  
Biakpa Mountain Paradise, Ghana. 24 November 2011. J. Dobson.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.



*Aterica galene galene*. Female (Wingspan 68 mm). Left: upperside; right: underside.  
Biakpa Mountain Paradise, Ghana. 23 November 2011. J. Dobson.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.

**Type locality:** No locality given.

**Diagnosis:** The colour of the patch on the hindwing upperside in females is variable – it may be white, or more commonly, yellow to brown (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

**Distribution:** Senegal, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau (Bacelar, 1949), Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, Benin (Fermon *et al.*, 2001), Nigeria, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Congo, Angola, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe.

**Habitat:** Forest and heavy woodland (Kielland, 1990d; Heath *et al.*, 2002). In Tanzania the nominate subspecies occurs at altitudes from 800 to 2 200 m and subspecies *theophane* from near sea-level to 1 800 m (Kielland, 1990d). It can withstand considerable habitat degradation (Larsen, 2005a).

**Habits:** A common butterfly (Larsen, 2005a). Flies through the forest undergrowth or in glades, often settling on the ground or low vegetation. Males often bask in shafts of sunlight (Larsen, 2005a). The flight is not particularly fast, and is close to the ground, but it is a wary insect. Males mud-puddle and both sexes are attracted to fermenting fruit (Kielland, 1990d; Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Females may be mimics of *Amauris* species (Eltringham, 1910; Bernardi, 1974) but Larsen (2005a) is doubtful about this.

**Flight period:** Flies all year (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

**Early stages:**

Van Someren, 1939.

Mullin, in Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 106 [as *Aterica galene theophane*; locality not noted].

Amiet, 1999 [larva and pupa].

**Larval food:**

*Combretum microphyllum* Klotzsch (Combretaceae) [Mullin, *in* Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 106; as *Combretum paniculatum*].

*Combretum indicum* (L.) DeFilipps (Combretaceae) [Sevastopulo, *vide* Van Someren, 1974: 322; as *Quisqualis indica* (= *littorea* (Engler) Excell)].

*Salacighia* species (Hippocrateaceae) [Amiet, 1999].

*Scotellia* species (Flacourtiaceae) [Vuattoux & Blandin, 1979; Ivory Coast].

*Terminalia schimperiana* Hochst. (Combretaceae) [Vuattoux & Blandin, 1979; Ivory Coast; as *Terminalia glaucescens*].

*Aterica galene galene* (Brown, 1776)

Forest Glade Nymph

*Papilio galene* Brown, 1776. *New Illustrations of Zoology containing fifty coloured plates of new curious, and Non-Descript Birds, with a few Quadrupeds, Reptiles and Insects. Together with a short scientific description of the same*, London: 94 (136 pp.). London.



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Biakpa Mountain Paradise, Ghana. 23 November 2011. J. Dobson.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.

**Type locality:** No locality given.

**Distribution:** Senegal, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau (Bacelar, 1949), Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, Benin (south, central), Nigeria, Cameroon (west).

**Specific localities:**

Guinea – Ziama (Safian *et al.*, 2020).

Liberia – Wologizi (Safian *et al.*, 2020); Wonegizi (Safian *et al.*, 2020).

Ghana – Bobiri Butterfly Sanctuary (Larsen *et al.*, 2007); Boabeng-Fiema Monkey Sanctuary (Larsen *et al.*, 2009).

Benin – Noyau Central, Lama Forest (Fermon *et al.*, 2001); Lokoli (Tchibozo *et al.*, 2008); Houeyogbe Forest (Coache & Rainon, 2016); see Coache *et al.*, 2017.

Nigeria – Okwangwo (Larsen, 2005a).

Cameroon – Barombi Station (Bartel, 1905); Korup (Larsen, 2005a).

*cupavia* Cramer, 1779 *in* Cramer, [1779-80] (as sp. of *Papilio*). *Die Uitlandsche Kapellen voorkomende in de drie waerreldeelen Asia, Africa en America* **3**: 2 (176 pp.). Amsterdam & Utrecht. “Cote de Guinée”; Sierra Leone: “Sierra Leona”.

*buchholzi* Plötz, 1880 (as sp. of *Aterica*?). *Stettiner Entomologische Zeitung* **41**: 193 (189-206). “Mungo”.

*dimorpha* Bartel, 1905 (as female f. of *Aterica galene*). *Novitates Zoologicae* **12**: 138 (129-152). Cameroon: “Kamerun (Barombi-Station)”.

*albimacula* Joicey & Talbot, 1921 (as f. of *Aterica galene*). *Bulletin of the Hill Museum, Witley* **1**: 56 (40-166). No locality given.

*Aterica galene extensa* Heron, 1909

Congo Forest Glade Nymph

*Aterica galene extensa* Heron, 1909. *Transactions of the Zoological Society of London* **19**: 153 (141-178).

Synonym of *Aterica galene galene*. Ackery *et al.*, 1995.

*Aterica galene extensa* Heron, 1909. Larsen, 2005a.



*Aterica galene extensa*. Male (Wingspan 53 mm). Left: upperside; right: underside. Mabira Forest, Uganda. 28 December 2008. P. Ward. Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.





*Aterica galene extensa*. Female. Left – upperside; right- underside.  
Libreville, Gabon. 12 June 2016. J. Dobson.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.

**Type locality:** [Democratic Republic of Congo]: “Mokia, S.E. Ruwenzori”.

**Distribution:** Cameroon (except west), Equatorial Guinea (Bioko), Gabon, Congo, Angola, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Kenya (west), Tanzania (west), Zambia.

**Specific localities:**

Cameroon – N’ginda (Schultze, 1920).

Gabon – Throughout the forested parts of the country (Vande weghe, 2010).

Central African Republic – Dzanga (Noss, 1998).

Democratic Republic of Congo – Duma (Schultze, 1920); Luebo, Kasai (Dufrane, 1933); Ituri Forest (Ducarme, 2018); Semuliki Valley (Ducarme, 2018); Central Forest Block (Ducarme, 2018); Mt Mitumba (Ducarme, 2018); Mt Blue (Ducarme, 2018).

Uganda – Semuliki N.P. (Davenport & Howard, 1996); Mpanga Forest, Mpigi; Kibale Forest (R. Schutte, unpublished).

Tanzania – Western areas, from Ufipa to the Ugandan border (Kielland, 1990d); Katavi National Park (Fitzherbert *et al.*, 2006).

Zambia – Ikelenge; Kasangezhi; Mfulira; Mbala (Heath, *et al.*, 2002).

*luteofasciata* Schultze, 1920 (as ab. of *Aterica galene*). *Ergebnisse der Zweiten Deutschen Zentral-Afrika-Expedition* **1** (14): 774 (639-829). [Democratic Republic of Congo]: “Belg. Kongo: Duma (Ubangi-Distr.)”; Cameroon: “Süd-Kamerun: N’ginda”.

*juncta* Dufrane, 1933 (as ab. of *Aterica galene galene*). *Lambillionea* **33**: 165 (164-166). “Congo”.

*pierardi* Dufrane, 1933 (as f. of *Aterica galene galene*). *Lambillionea* **33**: 166 (164-166). [Democratic Republic of Congo]: “Luebo, Kasai”.

### *Aterica galene incisa* Rothschild & Jordan, 1903

#### Ethiopian Forest Glade Nymph

*Aterica galena* [sic] *incisa* Rothschild & Jordan, 1903. *Novitates Zoologicae* **10**: 537 (491-542).

**Type locality:** [Ethiopia]: “between Kankati and Djibbe, Djimma”.

**Distribution:** Ethiopia.

**Specific localities:**

Ethiopia – between Kankati and Djibbe (TL); Djimma (Rothschild & Jordan, 1903).

***Aterica galene theophane* Hopffer, 1855**  
**Eastern Forest Glade Nymph**

*Aterica theophane* Hopffer, 1855. *Berichte über die zur Bekanntmachung geeigneten Verhandlungen der Königl. Preuss. Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Berlin* **1855**: 641 (639-643).

*Aterica galene theophane* Hopffer, 1855. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

*Aterica galene theophane* Hopffer, 1855. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 106.



*Aterica galene theophane*. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Rusito Forest, Zimbabwe. 6 May 1996.  
Images M.C. Williams ex J. Greyling Collection.

**Type locality:** Mozambique: “Mossambique”.

**Diagnosis:** Compared to the nominate subspecies, the male has a darker hind wing patch and the female has a larger hind wing patch, which is white, yellowish or reddish yellow (Kielland, 1990d).

**Distribution:** Kenya (coast), Tanzania (coast), Malawi, Mozambique, Zimbabwe (east).

**Specific localities:**

Kenya – coastal forests (Larsen, 1991c); Shimba Hills (Larsen, 1991c).

Tanzania – Madiengo (Strand, 1911); Coast (Kielland, 1990d); Nguu Mountains (Kielland, 1990d); Nguru Mountains (Kielland, 1990d); Ukaguru Mountains (Kielland, 1990d); Uzungwa Rift (Kielland, 1990d); Tukuuyu (Kielland, 1990d).

Malawi – Chaipaika Estate, Bandawe (Rothschild, 1918); Parambira (Rothschild, 1918); Mt Mulanje (Congdon *et al.*, 2010).

Mozambique – Dondo Forest (Pringle *et al.*, 1994); Savane Forest (Pringle *et al.*, 1994); Amatongas (Pringle *et al.*, 1994); Maronga Forest (Pringle *et al.*, 1994); Buzi (Pringle *et al.*, 1994); Mt Mabu (Congdon *et al.*, 2010).

Zimbabwe – Mutare (Pringle *et al.*, 1994); Mount Selinda (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

*dechroma* Strand, 1911 (as ab. of *Aterica galene*). *Mitteilungen aus dem Zoologischen Museum in Berlin* **5**: 287 (275-304). Tanzania: “Madiengo”.

*omissa* Rothschild, 1918 (as ssp. of *Aterica galene*). *Novitates Zoologicae* **25**: 340 (338-345). Malawi: “Chaipaika Estate, Bandawe, Nyassaland”; “Parambira, Lake Nyassa”.

***Aterica rabena* Boisduval, 1833**  
**Malagasy Glade Nymph**

*Aterica rabena* Boisduval, 1833. *Nouvelles Annales du Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris* **2**: 195 (149-270).



*Aterica rabena*. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Isalo, Madagascar. 20 March 2016. J. Dobson.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.



*Aterica rabena*. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Zombitse, Madagascar. 16 April 2018. J. Lawrence.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Lawrence Collection.

**Type locality:** Madagascar: “Tintingue, Tamatave [Toamasina] et Sainte-Marie”.

**Distribution:** Madagascar.

**Specific localities:**

Madagascar – Tintingue (TL); Toamasina (Boisduval, 1833); Sainte-Marie (Boisduval, 1833); Isalo (J. & C. Dobson, unpub.).

**Habitat:** Forest (Lees *et al.*, 2003).

**Early stages:**

Congdon *et al.*, 2017 [final instar larva].

**Larval food:**

*Terminalia catappa* L. (Combretaceae) [Congdon *et al.*, 2017; Maraonsetra, Madagascar].