

Genus *Pseudargynnis* Karsch, 1892 Leopard Nymph

Entomologische Nachrichten. Berlin **18**: 173 (161-183).

Type-species: *Jaera duodecimpunctata* Snellen, by monotypy.

The genus *Pseudargynnis* 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 *Aterica*, *Cynandra*, *Euryphura*, *Euryphaedra*, *Euryphurana*, *Euphaedra*, *Euriphene*, *Harmilla*, *Bebearia* and *Euptera*.

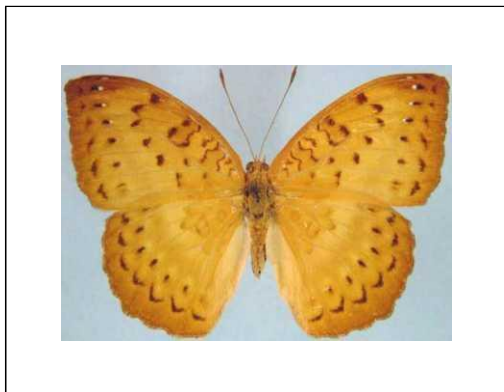
Pseudargynnis (**Leopard Nymph**) is an Afrotropical genus containing a single species.

Pseudargynnis hegemone (Godart, [1819]) Leopard Nymph

Argynnis hegemone Godart, [1819] *in* Latreille & Godart, [1819], [1824]. *Encyclopédie Méthodique. Histoire Naturelle [Zoologie]*
9 Entomologie: 258 (1-328 [1819], 329-828 [1824]. Paris.

Pseudargynnis hegemone (Godart, 1819). Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Pseudargynnis hegemone (Godart, 1819). Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 106.



Pseudargynnis hegemone. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Wingspan: 47mm. Kanona, N Rhodesia. 20.VI.1950. (Transvaal Museum – TM3605).

Type locality: No locality given.

Distribution: Nigeria (east), Cameroon, Gabon, Congo, Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan (south), Uganda, Burundi, Kenya (west), Tanzania (west), Malawi, Zambia (north), Mozambique, Zimbabwe (a single unsubstantiated record from the north).

Specific localities:

Nigeria – Obudu Plateau (Larsen, 2005a); Mambilla Plateau (Larsen, 2005a).

Cameroon – Yaounde (Grünberg, 1910).

Gabon – Franceville (Vande weghe, 2010); Bateke Plateau (Vande weghe, 2010).
Democratic Republic of Congo – Ituri Forest (Ducarme, 2018); Semuliki Valley (Ducarme, 2018); Mt Mitumba (Ducarme, 2018); Mt Blue (Ducarme, 2018).
Sudan – Bangange, Southern Bahr-el-Ghazal, near Tambura (Riley, 1932).
Uganda – Semuliki N.P. (Davenport & Howard, 1996).
Kenya – Kakamega Forest (Larsen, 1991c); Kitale (Larsen, 1991c); Kericho (Larsen, 1991c). A record by van Someren from Kibwezi in eastern Kenya is regarded as doubtful by Larsen (1991).
Tanzania – Poroto-Rangwe-Mission (Bartel, 1905); Kigoma (Kielland, 1990d); Mpanda (Kielland, 1990d); Tukuyu (Kielland, 1990d); Uzungwa Range (Kielland, 1990d); Mufindi (Kielland, 1990d); Mwanihana Forest (Kielland, 1990d).
Malawi – Mt Mulanje (Congdon *et al.*, 2010); Nyika N.P. (J. Timberlake, pers. comm., 2019).
Zambia – Kasangezhi (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Ikelenge (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Mwinilunga (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Mufulira (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Kapiri Mposhi (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Shiwa Ngandu (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Lumangwe Falls (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Kasama (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Kanona (male illustrated above).
Mozambique – Mt Namuli (Congdon *et al.*, 2010); Mt Mabu (Congdon *et al.*, 2010).
Zimbabwe – Hibernian Mine, Lomagundi (Stevenson).
Habitat: Open grassy and marshy habitats (Heath *et al.*, 2002) in tropical savanna and open forest (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Often in areas that are seasonally flooded. In Tanzania it is found at altitudes from 800 to 2 000 m (Kielland, 1990d). In West Africa it is sub-montane (Larsen, 2005a).
Habits: A fairly common butterfly (Larsen, 2005a). Flies and settles low down, sometimes on damp ground, and repeatedly opens and closes its wings much like members of the genus *Phalanta* (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).
Early stages:

Collins *et al.*, 2006: 421.

Larval food:

Antherotoma naudinii Hook. f. (Melastomataceae) [Congdon & Bampton, unpublished 2003; Hillwood, Zambia].

Dissotis denticulata A.Fern. & R.Fern. (Melastomataceae) [Congdon & Bampton, unpublished 2003; Mutinondo, Zambia].

Dissotis species (Melastomataceae) (probably) [Fontaine, 1988; Democratic Republic of Congo].

Dissotis species (Melastomataceae) [Heath *et al.*, 2002: 70].

duodecimpunctata Snellen, 1872 (as sp. of *Jaera*). *Tidschrift voor Entomologie* **15**: 15 (1-112). “Neder-Guinea aan den mond de rivier Congo of Zaire, op ongeveer 6 graden zuiderbreedt”.

clorana Druce, 1874 (as sp. of *Aterica*). *Transactions of the Entomological Society of London* **1874**: 157 (155-160). Angola.

nyassae Bartel, 1905 (as ssp. of *Pseudargynnis hegemone*). *Novitates Zoologicae* **12**: 138 (129-152). Tanzania: “N.-Nyassa-See (Poroto-Rangwe-Miss.)”.

obscurata Grünberg, 1910 (as ab. of *Pseudargynnis hegemone*). *Sitzungsberichte der Gesellschaft Naturforschender Freunde zu Berlin* **1910**: 471 (469-480). Cameroon: “Kamerun, Jaundegebiet”.

duplicata Riley, 1932 (as f. of *Pseudargynnis hegemone*). *Annals and Magazine of Natural History* (10) **10**: 141 (137-152). Sudan: “South Sudan, Bangange, Southern Bahr-el-Ghazal, near Tambura”.