

Genus *Eresiomera* Clench, 1965 Pearlys

In Fox *et al.*, 1965. *Memoirs of the American Entomological Society* No. 19: 290 (438 pp.).
Type-species: *Liptena isca* Hewitson, by original designation.

The genus *Eresiomera* belongs to the Family Lycaenidae Leach, 1815; Subfamily Poritiinae Doherty, 1886; Tribe Liptenini Röber, 1892.

Eresiomera (**Pearlys**) is a purely Afrotropical genus containing 17 species. Most species have a weak flight, usually slowly circling tree trunks high up, in the vicinity of *Crematogaster* ant nests (Larsen, 2005a).

**Eresiomera bicolor* (Grose-Smith & Kirby, [1890]) Western Pearly

Pseuderesia bicolor Grose-Smith & Kirby, [1890]. *In* Grose-Smith & Kirby, [1887-92]. *Rhopalocera exotica, being illustrations of new, rare and unfigured species of butterflies* 1: 44 (183 pp.). .
Eresiomera bicolor Grose-Smith & Kirby, 1890. d'Abreu, 2009: 634.



Eresiomera bicolor. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Bobiri Forest, Ghana. 23 May 2014.
Images M.C.Williams ex Gardiner Collection.



Eresiomera bicolor. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Bobiri Forest, Ghana. 24 May 2014.
Images M.C.Williams ex Gardiner Collection.

Type locality: “Accu”. [= Accra? (Larsen, 2005a)].

Distribution: Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, Benin (south), Nigeria.

Specific localities:

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

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

Benin – see Coache *et al.*, 2017.

Habitat: Forest.

Habits: A relatively common species, usually found in ones or twos (Larsen, 2005a). Often seen

together at extrafloral nectaries, with *Liptena simplicia* and *Micropentila adelgitha* (Larsen, 2005a). When at rest the wings may be moved slowly and deliberately, meeting below the abdomen (Larsen, 2005a).

****Eresiomera campbelli* Collins & Larsen, 1998**
Cameroon Pearly

Eresiomera campbelli Collins & Larsen, 1998. *Metamorphosis* 9 (2): 76.

Type locality: Cameroon: “Cameroun, Mt. Kamelon, ii.1995 (African Butterfly Research Institute).”
Described from 12 males and two females.

Distribution: Cameroon, Gabon, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo.

Specific localities:

Cameroon – Mount Kamelon (TL).

Gabon – Lambarene (Vande weghe, 2010).

Flight period: Recorded in February.

****Eresiomera clenchi* (Stempffer, 1961)**
Black-spotted Pearly

Pseuderesia clenchi Stempffer, 1961. *Annales Musée Royal de l’Afrique Centrale* (8) 94: 22 (73 pp.).

Eresiomera clenchi Stempffer, 1961. d’Abrera, 2009: 634.

Type locality: Cameroon: “Bitje Ja River”.

Distribution: Cameroon, Gabon, Congo.

Specific localities:

Cameroon – Bitje, Ja River (TL).

Gabon – Kangwe (Vande weghe, 2010).

****Eresiomera cornesi* (Stempffer, 1969)**
Lost Pearly

Pseuderesia cornesi Stempffer, 1969. *Bulletin de l’Institut Fondamental de l’Afrique Noire* (A) 31: 93 (87-101).

Eresiomera cornesi Stempffer, 1969. d’Abrera, 2009: 635.



Eresiomera cornesi. Male, Left – upperside; right – underside.
Nigeria.

Photos ex Torben Larsen.

Type locality: Nigeria: “W Nigeria, Gambari Forest Reserve”.

Distribution: Nigeria (west).

Specific localities:

Nigeria – Gambari Forest Reserve (TL).

Habitat: Forest.

Habits: M.A. Cornes (*vide* Larsen, 2005a) discovered this species in Gambari Forest, frequenting a single *Crematogaster*-infested ‘ant-tree’. The tree was subsequently felled and the species has not been seen again. Callaghan (1992) records the species from Agbara, 40 km west of Lagos, but Larsen (2005a) is sceptical, believing that a misidentification may be involved.

****Eresiomera isca* (Hewitson, [1873])**
Common Pearly

Liptena isca Hewitson, [1873]. *In* Hewitson, [1872-7]. *Illustrations of new species of exotic butterflies* 5: 86 (127 pp.). .
Eresiomera isca Hewitson, 1873. d’Abrera, 2009: 634.



Eresiomera isca isca. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Ebogo, Cameroon, 4 December 2022. J. Dobson.
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.



Eresiomera isca isca. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Camp Kombo, Cameroon. 7 May 2019. J. Dobson.
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson collection.

Type locality: Nigeria: “Old Calabar”.

Distribution: Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Benin, Nigeria, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Congo, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo.

Habitat: Forest in good condition. Has also been found in swamp forest (Larsen, 2005a).

Habits: Scarce west of the Dahomey Gap but commoner in Nigeria (Larsen, 2005a). Both sexes are usually found circling high up around an ‘ant-tree’, not settling on the trunk as species of *Eresina* are inclined to do (Larsen, 2005a).

***Eresiomera isca isca* (Hewitson, [1873])**
Common Pearly

Liptena isca Hewitson, [1873]. *In* Hewitson, [1872-7]. *Illustrations of new species of exotic butterflies* 5: 86 (127 pp.). .
Eresiomera isca Hewitson, 1873. d’Abrera, 2009: 634.



Eresiomera isca isca. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Ebogo, Cameroon, 4 December 2022. J. Dobson.
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.



Eresiomera isca isca. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Camp Kombo, Cameroon. 7 May 2019. J. Dobson.
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson collection.

Type locality: Nigeria: “Old Calabar”.

Distribution: Nigeria (east of the Niger river), Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea (Bioko), Gabon, Congo, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo (Kinshasa, Equateur, Tshuapa, Mongala, Uele).

Specific localities:

Nigeria – Old Calabar (TL).

Cameroon – Bitje, Ja River (Hulstaert, 1924).

Gabon – Nyonie (Vande weghe, 2010); Mondah (Vande weghe, 2010); Safala (Vande weghe, 2010); Iguela (Vande weghe, 2010); Akaka (Vande weghe, 2010); Kinguele (Vande weghe, 2010); Bifoun (Vande weghe, 2010); Mboumie (Vande weghe, 2010); Lake Evaro (Vande weghe, 2010); Lope N.P. (zone SEGC and Mikongo) (Vande weghe, 2010); Massouna 2000 (Vande weghe, 2010); Ipassa (Vande weghe, 2010); camp Nouna (Vande weghe, 2010).

demaculata Hulstaert, 1924 (as male ab. of *Pseuderesia isca*). *Revue de Zoologie et de Botanique Africaine* **12**: 117 (112-122, 173-194). Cameroon: “Bitje, Riv. Dja, Kamerun”.

Eresiomera isca occidentalis Collins & Larsen, 1998 Western Common Pearly

Eresiomera isca occidentalis Collins & Larsen, 1998. *Metamorphosis* **9** (2): 75.

Eresiomera isca occidentalis Collins & Larsen, 1998. d’Abrera, 2009: 634.



Eresiomera isca occidentalis. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Banco Forest, Abidjan, Ivory Coast. 21 September 1997. A. Gardiner.
Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner collection.

Type locality: Ghana: “Ghana, Kibi, Atewa Range, xii.1997 (African Butterfly Research Institute).” Described from the holotype (male) and a male from Gambari Forest near Ibadan, Nigeria (ex Natural History Museum, London).

Distribution: Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Benin (south), Nigeria (west of the Niger river).

Specific localities:

Ghana – Atewa Range, Kibi (Maessen, *vide* Larsen, 2005a); Kakum (Larsen, 2005a); Bia (Larsen, 2005a); Bobiri Butterfly Sanctuary (Larsen *et al.*, 2007).

Benin – see Coache *et al.*, 2017.

Nigeria – Gambari Forest near Ibadan (Collins & Larsen, 1998); Lagos (Larsen, 2005a); Lekki Nature Sanctuary near Lagos (Larsen, 2005a).

****Eresiomera jacksoni* (Stempffer, 1969)**
Ant-tree Pearly

Pseuderesia jacksoni Stempffer, 1969. *Bulletin de l'Institut Fondamental de l'Afrique Noire (A)* **31**: 932 (927-950).
Eresiomera jacksoni Stempffer, 1969. d'Abrera, 2009: 634.

Type locality: Ivory Coast: “Côte d’Ivoire, Issia”. Described from a pair taken by Jackson’s collectors.

Distribution: Ivory Coast, Ghana.

Specific localities:

Ivory Coast – Issia (TL).

Ghana – Aburi scarp (Belcastro, four specimens) (The forest at this locality has now been destroyed (Larsen, 2005a)).

Habitat: Forest.

Habits: The species is tied to individual ‘ant-trees’ and appears to be exceedingly rare; only six specimens are known (Larsen, 2005a).

****Eresiomera kiellandi* Larsen, 1998**
Tanzania Pearly

Eresiomera kiellandi Larsen, 1998. *In* Congdon & Collins, 1998. *Supplement to Kielland’s butterflies of Tanzania*: 62 (143 pp.).

Eresiomera kiellandi Larsen, 1998. d'Abrera, 2009: 634.

Type locality: Tanzania: “Bukoba, Minziro Forest, Kere Hill, 12.xii.1994 (C. Congdon leg., in ABRI, Nairobi).”

Diagnosis: Similar to *Eresiomera isca* but considerably larger (Congdon & Collins, 1998).

Distribution: Tanzania (north-west).

Specific localities:

Tanzania – Minziro Forest, especially Kere Hill (TL) (Congdon & Collins, 1998). Known only from the type locality.

Habitat: Forest.

****Eresiomera magnimacula* (Rebel, 1914)**
Beni Pearly

Pseuderesia magnimacula Rebel, 1914. *Annalen des (K.K.) Naturhistorischen Museums. Wien* **28**: 264 (219-294).

Eresiomera isca magnimacula (Rebel, 1914). Ackery *et al.*, 1995.

Eresiomera magnimacula (Rebel, 1914). Collins & Larsen, 2000: 62, **stat. rev.**



Eresiomera magnimacula. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Radio Hill, Mabira Forest, Uganda. 14 June, 2009. J. & C. Dobson.
Images M.C.Williams ex Dobson Collection.



Eresiomera magnimacula. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Radio Hill, Mabira Forest, Uganda. 14 June, 2009. J. & C. Dobson.

Type locality: [Democratic Republic of Congo]: “Urwalde, bei Beni”.

Distribution: Cameroon, Gabon, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo (Lualaba, Ituri, North Kivu, Uele), Uganda.

Specific localities:

Gabon – Iguela (Vande weghe, 2010).

Democratic Republic of Congo – Beni, North Kivu (TL); Ituri Forest (Ducarme, 2018); Semuliki Valley (Ducarme, 2018); Mt Mitumba (Ducarme, 2018).

Uganda – Budongo Forest; Mabira Forest (male and female illustrated above).

Early stages: Nothing published.

Larval food: Nothing published.

Note: d’Abrera (2009: 634) informally treats *Eresiomera magnimacula* (Rebel, 1914) as *Eresiomera isca magnimacula* (Rebel, 1914), making no mention of Collins & Larsen (2000: 62), who formally raised it to *Eresiomera magnimacula* (Rebel, 1914).

beni Stempffer, 1961 (as sp. of *Pseuderesia*). *Annales Musée Royal de l’Afrique Centrale* (8) **94**: 19 (73 pp.). [Democratic Republic of Congo]: “Congo, Nord Kivu, Beni 4000”. Given as a good species in Ackery *et al.*, 1995 but treated as a synonym of *Eresiomera magnimacula* (Rebel, 1914) by Collins & Larsen, 2000 (*Metamorphosis* **11** (2): 62). d’Abrera (2009: 634) treats *beni* (Stempffer, 1961) as a valid species, making no mention of Collins & Larsen (2000: 62), who treated it as a synonym of *magnimacula* (Rebel, 1914).

****Eresiomera nancy* Collins & Larsen, 1998**
Ebogo Pearly



Eresiomera nancy. Ebogo, Cameroon.
Images courtesy Jeremy Dobson.

Eresiomera nancy Collins & Larsen, 1998. *Metamorphosis* 9 (2): 76.

Type locality: Cameroon: “Cameroun, Ebogo, Nyong River, i.1996. (African Butterfly Research Institute).” Described from 21 males and nine females.

Distribution: Cameroon, Gabon, Congo, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo.

Specific localities:

Cameroon – Nyong River, Ebogo (TL).

Gabon – Kongou (Vande weghe, 2010); Iguela (Vande weghe, 2010).

**Eresiomera nigeriana* (Stempffer, 1962) Nigeria Pearly

Pseuderesia nigeriana Stempffer, 1962. *Bulletin de l’Institut Français d’Afrique Noire* (A) 24: 1139 (1135-1181).
Eresiomera nigeriana Stempffer, 1962. d’Abrera, 2009: 634.

Type locality: Nigeria: “Onitsha, Awka, Mamu Forest”. Described from a pair taken by Jackson’s collectors.

Distribution: Nigeria.

Specific localities:

Nigeria – Mamu Forest (TL); Abakaliki (Larsen, 2005a); Old Ekuri in the Oban Hills (Larsen, 2005a).

Habitat: Forest, including mature secondary forest (Larsen, 2005a).

Habits: This appears to be a very rare species. Larsen (2005a) captured a single female resting on a twig 10 cm above the ground, in mature secondary forest.

**Eresiomera osheba* (Holland, 1890) Equatorial Pearly

Durbania osheba Holland, 1890. *Psyche, a Journal of Entomology. Cambridge, Mass.* 5: 428 (423-431).
Eresiomera osheba Holland, 1890. d’Abrera, 2009: 634.



Eresiomera osheba. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Ivindo, Gabon. 19 November 2017. J. Dobson
Images M.C.Williams ex Dobson Collection.

Type locality: Gabon: “upper waters of the River Ogove in the French Territory of Gaboon”.

Distribution: Cameroon, Gabon, Congo, Angola (north).

The record from Liberia (Clench, 1965) is erroneous and is probably based on a mislabeled specimen (Larsen, 2005a).

Specific localities:

Cameroon – Bitje, Ja River (Druce, 1910); Sangmalima (Schultze, 1912).

Gabon – upper reaches of the Ogove River (TL); Ipassa (Vande weghe, 2010); Nyonie (Vande weghe, 2010).

minium Druce, 1910 (as sp. of *Pseuderesia*). *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* **1910**: 359 (356-378). Cameroon: “Bitje, Ja river, Cameroons, 2000 ft”.

milbraedi Schultze, 1912 (as sp. of *Pseuderesia*). *Entomologische Rundschau* **29**: 43 (43). Cameroon: “bei Sangmalima (Süd-Kamerun)”.

****Eresiomera ouesso* (Stempffer, 1962)** Congo Pearly

Pseuderesia ouesso Stempffer, 1962. *Bulletin de l'Institut Français d'Afrique Noire* (A) **24**: 1143 (1135-1181).
Eresiomera ouesso Stempffer, 1962. d'Abrera, 2009: 634.

Type locality: Congo: “république du Congo ex-français, Ouessou, forêt de Ketta”.

Distribution: Cameroon, Congo.

Specific localities:

Congo – Ketta Forest, Ouessou (TL).

Early stages: Nothing published.

Larval food: Nothing published.

****Eresiomera petersi* (Stempffer & Bennett, 1956)** Black-bordered Pearly

Baliochila petersi Stempffer & Bennett, 1956. *Bulletin de l'Institut Français d'Afrique Noire* (A) **18**: 503 (500-513).
Eresiomera petersi (Stempffer & Bennett, 1956). Henning & Henning, 2004 (*Metamorphosis* **15** (1): 8.), **comb. nov.**
Eresiomera petersi Stempffer & Bennett, 1956. d'Abrera, 2009: 634.



Eresiomera petersi. Male, Ivory Coast.
Left – upperside; right – underside. Images courtesy Torben Larsen.

Type locality: Liberia: “Kpaine, 1.400 pieds (7' 10" N, 9' 7" W)”.

Distribution: Sierra Leone, Liberia (central and east), Ivory Coast, Ghana.

Specific localities:

Sierra Leone – Gola Forest (Belcastro & Larsen, 2006).

Liberia – Kpaine (TL); Sapo (Larsen, 2005a); Wologizi (Safian *et al.*, 2020).

Ivory Coast – Issia (Stempffer, 1969); Tiassale (Larsen, 2005a); Banco (Larsen, 2005a); Abengourou

(Larsen, 2005a); Yapo (Larsen, 2005a); Tai (Larsen, 2005a).
Ghana – Neung (Larsen, 2005a); Kakum (Larsen, 2005a); Prah-Suhien (Larsen, 2005a); Bia (Larsen, 2005a); Atewa Range (Larsen, 2005a); Ankasa (Larsen, 2005a).

Habitat: Forest.

Habits: A scarce butterfly, usually encountered in ones or twos. They usually fly low down and do not appear to be as closely associated with ‘ant-trees’ as *Eresiomera isca* (Larsen, 2005a).

issia Stempffer, 1969 (as sp. of *Pseuderesia*). *Bulletin de l’Institut Fondamental de l’Afrique Noire* (A) **31**: 935 (927-950). Ivory Coast: “Côte d’Ivoire, Issia”. Synonymized with *petersi* (Stempffer & Bennett, 1956) by Henning & Henning, 2004 (*Metamorphosis* **15** (1): 8).

****Eresiomera phaeochiton* (Grünberg, 1910)**

Alcu Pearly

Pseuderesia phaeochiton Grünberg, 1910. *Sitzungsberichte der Gesellschaft Naturforschender Freunde zu Berlin* **1910**: 476 (469-480).

Eresiomera phaeochiton Grünberg, 1910. d’Abrera, 2009: 634.

Type locality: Equatorial Guinea: “Alcu, Span. Guinea; Nkolemangan, Span. Guinea”.

Distribution: Equatorial Guinea, ?Congo, ?Democratic Republic of Congo (Maniema).

Specific localities:

Equatorial Guinea – Alcu (TL); Nkolemangan (Grünberg, 1910).

****Eresiomera phillipi* Collins & Larsen, 1998**

Bangui Pearly

Eresiomera phillipi Collins & Larsen, 1998. *Metamorphosis* **9** (2): 74.

Type locality: Central African Republic: “Bouliia, (near Bangui) xi.1995 (African Butterfly Research Institute).” Described from a single male.

Distribution: Gabon, ?Congo, Central African Republic.

Specific localities:

Gabon – Ipassa (Vande weghe, 2010).

Central African Republic – Bouliia, near Bangui (TL).

****Eresiomera rougeoti* (Stempffer, 1961)**

Tchibanga Pearly

Pseuderesia rougeoti Stempffer, 1961. *Annales Musée Royal de l’Afrique Centrale* (8) **94**: 21 (73 pp.).

Eresiomera rougeoti Stempffer, 1961. d’Abrera, 2009: 634.

Type locality: Gabon: “Tchibanga”.

Distribution: Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea (Bioko), Gabon, Congo, Uganda, Tanzania (north-west).

Specific localities:

Gabon – Tchibanga (TL).

****Eresiomera rutilo* (Druce, 1910)**

Ja River Pearly

Pseuderesia rutilo Druce, 1910. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* **1910**: 360 (356-378).

Eresiomera rutilo Druce, 1910. d’Abrera, 2009: 634.

Type locality: Cameroon: “Bije, Ja river, Cameroons, 2000 ft”.

Distribution: Cameroon, Gabon, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda (west).

Specific localities:

Cameroon – Bitje, Ja River (TL).

Gabon – Ipassa (Vande weghe, 2010).

Democratic Republic of Congo – Mt Mitumba (Ducarme, 2018).