

## Genus *Tildia* Williams & Henning, 2023

Acraeas

*Tildia* Williams & Henning, 2023. Type species: *Papilio zetes* Linnaeus, 1758 by original designation. *Metamorphosis* 34: 40 (34-48).

The genus *Tildia* belongs to the Family Nymphalidae Rafinesque, 1815; Subfamily Heliconiinae Swainson, 1822; Tribe Acraeini Boisduval, 1833.

*Tildia* (**Acraeas**) is a purely Afrotropical genus of 13 fairly large to large species. The lineage arose ~ 17 Mya. I have largely accepted the alpha taxonomy given in Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

### Relevant literature:

- Williams & Henning, 2023 [Taxonomy of Acraeini].
- Pierre & Bernaud, 2014 [Synonomic checklist].
- Williams & Henning, 2020 [Taxonomy of the cerasa group].
- Henning, G. & Williams, 2010 [Classification].
- Silva-Brandao *et al.*, 2008 [Phylogeny of Acraeini].
- Pierre, 2004c [Cladistics and systematics].
- Pierre *et al.*, 2003 [Checklist for Ghana].
- De Vries, 2002 [Differential wing toughness].
- Jiggins *et al.*, 2002 [Infection with *Wolbachia*].

### Species groups of *Tildia* (based on male genitalia).

*T. zetes* species-group: valves elongate and sharply truncate or rounded distally with juxta large, narrow and elongated.

*T. rabbaiae* species-group: valves with projection on inner margin with juxta elongate triangular.

*T. zetes* species-group

**\**Tildia acara* (Hewitson, [1865])#**

Acara Acraea



Acraea Acraea (*Tildia acara*) male, upper- and underside – White Elephant Lodge, KwaZulu-Natal.  
Images courtesy Steve Woodhall.



Acraea Acraea (*Tildia acara*) female, upperside.  
Image courtesy Raimund Schutte.

- Acraea zetes* Linnaeus. Trimen, 1862c. [Misidentification]  
*Acraea acara* Hewitson, [1865] *in* Hewitson, [1862-6]. *Illustrations of new species of exotic butterflies* 3: 16 (124 pp.). London.  
*Acraea acara* Hewitson, 1865. Trimen & Bowker, 1887a.  
*Acraea zetes* var. *acara* Hewitson. Aurivillius, 1898.  
*Acraea zetes* var. *acara* Hewitson. Aurivillius, 1906.  
*Acraea zetes* var. *acara* Hewitson. Neave, 1910.  
*Acraea zetes acara* Hewitson. Eltringham, 1912.  
*Acraea acara* Hewitson. Swanepoel, 1953a.  
*Acraea acara* Hewitson. Overlaet, 1955.  
*Acraea zetes acara* Hewitson. Carcasson, 1961.  
*Acraea zetes acara* Hewitson. Van Son, 1963.  
*Acraea zetes acara* Hewitson. Gifford, 1965.  
*Acraea zetes acara* Hewitson, 1865. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.  
*Acraea zetes acara* Hewitson. Carcasson & Ackery, 1981.  
*Acraea zetes acara* Hewitson. Larsen, 1991.  
*Acraea acara* Hewitson, 1865. Henning, G. 1993: 9. [Not seen by Ackery *et al.*, 1995]  
*Acraea zetes acara* Hewitson, 1865. Ackery *et al.*, 1995: 247.  
*Acraea (Acraea) acara* Hewitson, 1865. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 82.  
*Acraea (Acraea) acara* Hewitson, 1865. Henning & Williams, 2010.  
*Acraea (Acraea) acara* Hewitson, 1865. Bernaud & Murphy, 2014.  
*Tildia acara* (Hewitson, [1865]). Williams & Henning, 2023: 41 **comb. nov.**



*Tildia acara*. Male (Wingspan 61 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Kosi Bay, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. 26 February 2010. M. Williams.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.



*Tildia acara*. Female (Wingspan 66 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Nibela Peninsula, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. 20 November 2010. M. Williams.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.

**Type locality:** [South Africa]: “Natal”; Sudan?: “White Nile”.

**Diagnosis:** Closest to *A. zetes* but rarely showing a black suffusion of scales on the upperside of the forewings and with the red area more extensive (Kielland, 1990d).

**Distribution:** Kenya (east), Tanzania, Democratic Republic of Congo (Shaba), Malawi, Zambia, Angola (Mendes *et al.*, 2018), Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia (north), South Africa (Limpopo Province, Mpumalanga, North West Province, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape Province, Western Cape Province), Swaziland (Duke *et al.*, 1999).

In South Africa its distribution covers 150 quarter degree squares (889 records) [see <http://vmus.adu.org.za>]. It is regarded as widespread.

**Specific localities:**

**Kenya** – Meru (Larsen, 1991c); Nyambeni Hills (Larsen, 1991c); Teita foothills (D.A. Trembath, *vide* Larsen, 1991c); Karen, Nairobi (Bernaud, 2021).

**Tanzania** – Widespread in the eastern and northern parts (Kielland, 1990d); Mhondo (Suffert, 1904); Ukerewe Island (Le Doux, 1923); Pemba Island (Kielland, 1990d); lower slopes of Mt. Kilimanjaro (Liseki & Vane-Wright, 2018).

**Malawi** – Throughout. Mt Mulanje (Congdon *et al.*, 2010); Zomba Mountain (Congdon *et al.*, 2010); Chikwawa (16 03S 34 48E) (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Chisanga falls (10 33S 33 41E) (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Cholomwani Mt (16 16S 35 09E) (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Dzalanyama Forest Res. (14 28S 33 38E) (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Kalwe Forest (11 36S 34 15E) (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Lengwe N.P. (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Liwonde N.P. (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Malawe Hills (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Mangochi Mts (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Mkuwadzi Forest (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014), Mpatamanga Forest (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Mpingwe Mts (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Mughese Forest (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Nkhata Bay (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Nkhorongo (Mzuzu) (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Ruo River (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Senga Bay Forest Res. (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Soche Mts

(Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Thazima gate (Nyika) (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Thyolo Forest Res. (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Vwaza Marsh Game Res. (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Zavo Chepolwe Forest (Nyika) (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Choma Mt (11 17S 34 04E) (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014).

Zambia – ‘Pays de Marotse’ (TL of *melanophanes*); Solwezi (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Mufulira (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Kamaila Forest Reserve (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Chirundu (Heath *et al.*, 2002).

Mozambique – Mt Inago (Congdon *et al.*, 2010); Mt Chipirone (Congdon *et al.*, 2010); Maputo Special Reserve (Miles & Mulvaney, 2022).

Botswana – Near Sepupa (E. Pinhey, 1968-74); Near Gaborone (A. Gardiner *vide* Larsen, 1991).

Namibia – Rundu (Pennington); Ruacana (Pringle *et al.*, 1994); Caprivi (Pringle *et al.*, 1994); Grootfontein (Pringle *et al.*, 1994); Tsumeb (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Limpopo Province – Acornhoek (Swanepoel, 1953); Mica (Swanepoel, 1953); Lekgalameetse Nature Reserve (“Malta Forest”) (Swanepoel, 1953); Tubex (Swanepoel, 1953); Woodbush (Swanepoel, 1953); Mokeetsi (Swanepoel, 1953); Sibasa (Swanepoel, 1953); Louis Trichardt (Swanepoel, 1953); Waterpoort (Swanepoel, 1953); Saltpan (Swanepoel, 1953); Polokwane (Swanepoel, 1953); Chuniespoort (Swanepoel, 1953); Warmbaths (Swanepoel, 1953); Potgietersrus (Swanepoel, 1953); Doorndraai Dam Nature Reserve (Warren, 1990); Lapalala Wilderness (Woodhall).

Mpumalanga – Komatipoort (Swanepoel, 1953); Barberton (Swanepoel, 1953); Nelspruit (Swanepoel, 1953); Marieps Kop (Swanepoel, 1953; male illustrated above); Burgersfort (Swanepoel, 1953); Verloren Vallei Nature Reserve (Warren, 1990).

North West Province – Potchefstroom (Swanepoel, 1953).

KwaZulu-Natal – Durban (Swanepoel, 1953); Drummond (Swanepoel, 1953); Pietermaritzburg (Swanepoel, 1953); Tugela River (Swanepoel, 1953); Eshowe (Swanepoel, 1953); Empangeni (Swanepoel, 1953); Mtubatuba (Swanepoel, 1953); Hluhluwe (Swanepoel, 1953); St Lucia Bay (Swanepoel, 1953); Mkuze (Swanepoel, 1953); Kosi Bay Nature Reserve (Pringle & Kyle, 2002); Tembe Nature Reserve (Pringle & Kyle, 2002); Ndumo Nature Reserve (Pringle & Kyle, 2002).

Eastern Cape Province – Ngqeleni (Van Son, 1963).

Western Cape Province – Knysna (Hanna Edge in *African Butterfly News* 2023-1); George (F. Rautenbach in *African Butterfly News* 2023-3: 8); Swellendam (F. Rautenbach in *African Butterfly News* 2023-3: 8).

Swaziland – Mlawula N. R. ([www.sntc.org.sz](http://www.sntc.org.sz)); Malolotja N. R. ([www.sntc.org.sz](http://www.sntc.org.sz)).

**Habitat:** Forest and woodland (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Subspecies *melanophanes* occurs in *Terminalia* and *Prunioides* woodland (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). In Tanzania the nominate subspecies occurs at altitudes from sea-level to 1 800 m (Kielland, 1990d).

**Habits:** Flutters slowly through the bush, frequently settling on the leaves of trees. Both sexes feed from flowers (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

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

**Early stages:**

Trimen & Bowker, 1887, Vol. 1: 160 [as *Acraea Acara* Hewitson; KwaZulu-Natal].

“**Larva.** Ochreous-yellow. Each segment broadly banded transversely with purplish-red, the band occupying the middle portion. Spines long and distinctly branched, blackish, springing from tubercles situated in the purplish-red bands; the two dorsal spines on segment next head longer than the rest, erect. Head ochreous-yellow. Legs and prolegs purplish-red.” (Plate I fig. I). **Pupa.** Pinkish-white. Margins of head, limbs, and wing-nervures defined with black. Abdominal rows of spots arranged as in pupae of *A. Horta* and *A. serena*, but more continuous; the spots rose-pink in wide black contiguous rings. Median line of under side of abdomen tinged with rose-pink; two spots of the same colour on median line of back of thorax, and one at base of wings. Head ochreous-yellow. (Plate I fig. Ia). This pupa appears to be rounder and blunter anteriorly than that of *A. Horta*, and is so much more curved that the dorsal outline is strongly convex in a lateral view. The above descriptions are made from a coloured drawing executed by the late Dr. Seaman in 1869, exhibiting a lateral view both of larva and pupa.”

Van Someren & Rogers, 1925: 130.

“The eggs are laid in groups on the under surface of the leaves of a creeper, as yet undetermined. They are a long barrel shape with longitudinal ridges and transverse grooves. Colour yellow. Young larvae in first stage greyish brown, changing at third moult to the following: head orange with black spots above the mandibles and along the

bottom edge of the lateral lobes. Segments 1 to 3 bright yellow, 4-9 deep purple crimson, last three bright yellow. Spines long and black, each set on a raised base shiny blue-black in colour. Fore feet yellowish, black tipped, hind feet dirty yellowish with black edges. Undersurface of body yellowish with greenish tinge. The pupa is very elongate, yellow to orange, occasionally white; central dorsal black mark double, diverging at the head and reaching the tips of the head tubercles. Nervures on wing cases complete. Abdominal marks: two dorsal, one lateral and two ventral lines composed of a series of black contiguous spots, each bearing an orange dot in the centre.”

Clark, in Van Son, 1963: 99.

“**Egg.** Eggs are laid in neat clusters, they are 0.8 mm in diameter by 0.95 mm high, yellowish changing to pale yellowish brown, then almost black before hatching. There are 19 longitudinal ribs with some 20 cross-braces, the latter mostly ill-defined. Egg stage approximately 5 days. **Larva.** Like most *Acraea* larvae, the young larva eats its way out near the top and devours the discarded shell. There are three groups, one taking five instars, another 6, and a third taking 7 instars, the last being generally in a minority. The larvae are gregarious. There is much colour variation. In the 4<sup>th</sup> instar of the 5 and 6 instar groups, some larvae are a much lighter salmon-brown than the larva illustrated, while others are a smoky salmon-brown. Heads vary from salmon to brown. Three segments at each extremity are in all cases light salmon-brown. In the 5<sup>th</sup> instar of the 6 instar group the bases of some protuberances may have a bluish tint. The development proceeds as indicated below:

5 instar		6 instar		7 instar	
Instar	Size in mm.	Instar	Size in mm.	Instar	Size in mm.
1	2-4	1	1.75-3.75	1	1.5-3.5
2	-7	2	-6	2	-5
3	-11	3	-9	3	-7
4	-20	4	-16	4	-11
5	-35	5	-22	5	-17
		6	-35	6	-24
				7	-35

The duration of each instar is from 3 to 6 days, except for the final instar which is about 6-7 days. **Pupa.** 23 to 24 mm long; suspended by cremastral hooks attached to a silken mat. The imago emerges generally after 11 days.”

Bernaud & Murphy, 2014 – images of final instar larva.



*Tildia acara* final instar larva. Image courtesy S. Woodhall.





*Tildia acara* final instar larva. Mughese, Malawi. Images courtesy D. Bernaud.

**Larval food:**

*Adenia cissampeloides* (Planch. ex Hook.) Harms (Passifloraceae) [Bernaud & Murphy, 2014].

*Adenia glauca* Schinz (Passifloraceae) [Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 82].

*Adenia gummifera* (Harv.) Harms (Passifloraceae) [Bernaud & Murphy, 2014].

*Adenia lobata* subsp. *rumicifolia* (Engl. & Harms) Lye (Passifloraceae) [Bernaud, 2021: 55; Nairobi].

*Passiflora caerulea* L. (Passifloraceae) [Platt, 1921: 99].

*Passiflora edulis* Sims (Passifloraceae) (exotic) [Swynnerton, *vide* Platt, 1921?].

*Passiflora incarnata* L. (Passifloraceae) [Swynnerton, *vide* Platt, 1921].

*Passiflora* species (Passifloraceae) [Dr J.E. Seaman, *in* Trimen & Bowker, 1887, Vol. 1: 160; KwaZulu-Natal].

*caffra* Felder & Felder, 1865 *in* Felder & Felder, [1865-7] (as sp. of *Acraea*). *Reise der Österreichischen Fregatte Novara* 369 (549 pp.). Wien. South Africa: “Caffraria Anglica”. Treated as a form of *Acraea acara* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*tescea* Suffert, 1904 (as ssp. of *Acraea zetes*). *Deutsche Entomologische Zeitschrift, Iris* 17: 19 (12-107). Tanzania: “Mhonda”. Treated as a synonym of *Acraea acara* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*mhondana* Suffert, 1904 (as ssp. of *Acraea zetes*). *Deutsche Entomologische Zeitschrift, Iris* 17: 20 (12-107). Tanzania: “Mhonda”. Treated as a synonym of *Acraea acara* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*ukerewensis* Le Doux, 1923 (as ssp. of *Acraea zetes*). *Deutsche Entomologische Zeitschrift* 1923: 223 (207-226). Tanzania: “Insel Ukerewe, Victoria-Nyanza (Deutsch-Ostafrika)”. Treated as a synonym of *Acraea acara* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*sufferti* Le Cerf, 1927 (as replacement name for *Acraea zetes mhondana* Suffert). *Encyclopédie Entomologique* (B. 3. Lepidoptera) 2: 50 (44-58). Treated as a synonym of *Acraea acara* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*melanophanes* Le Cerf, 1927 (as *Acraea zetes sufferti* form *melanophanes*). *Encyclopédie Entomologique* (B. 3. Lepidoptera) 2: 50 (44-58). **Type locality:** [Zambia]: “Pays de Marotse, N.O. Rhodesia”. Treated as a form of *Acraea acara* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*barberina* van Son, 1963 (as f. of *Acraea zetes acara*). *Transvaal Museum Memoires* No. 14: 96 (130 pp.). South Africa: “Ngqéléni, Pondoland”. Treated as a form of *Acraea acara* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

\* *Tildia barberi* (Trimen, 1881)#  
Waterberg *Acraea*



Barber's *Acraea* (*Tildia barberi*). Male upperside; male underside; female upperside.  
Specimens ex Pretoria. Images courtesy Raimund Schutte.

- Acraea barberi* Trimen, 1881. *Transactions of the Entomological Society of London* **1881**: 433 (433-445).  
*Acraea barberi* Trimen, 1881. Trimen & Bowker, 1887a.  
*Acraea barberi* Trimen. Swanepoel, 1953a.  
*Acraea zetes barberi* Trimen, 1881. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.  
*Acraea zetes barberi* Trimen, 1881. Ackery *et al.*, 1995: 247.  
*Acraea barberi* Trimen, 1881. Henning, G. 1993: 9. [Not seen by Ackery *et al.*, 1995]  
*Acraea (Acraea) barberi* Trimen, 1881. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 82.  
*Acraea (Acraea) barberi* Trimen, 1881. Henning & Williams, 2010.  
*Tildia barberi* (Trimen, 1881). Williams & Henning, 2023: 41 **comb. nov.**



*Tildia barberi*. Male (Wingspan 61 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Montana, Pretoria, Gauteng, South Africa. 12 September 2004. M. Williams.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.



*Tildia barberi*. Female (Wingspan 66 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Montana, Pretoria, Gauteng, South Africa. 12 September 2004. M. Williams.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.



*Tildia barberi*. Female (pale form) (Wingspan 67 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.  
 Montana, Pretoria, Gauteng, South Africa. 23 October 2002. M. Williams.  
 Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.

**Type locality:** [South Africa]: “Transvaal country”.



**Distribution of *Tildia barberi***

Botswana, South Africa.

**Distribution:** Botswana, South Africa (Limpopo Province, Mpumalanga, North West Province, Gauteng).

In South Africa its distribution covers 35 quarter degree squares (206 records) [see <http://ymus.adu.org.za>]. It is regarded as moderately widespread.

**Specific localities:**

Botswana – Kolobeng River (Larsen, 1991); near Ranaka (Larsen, 1991); Selibe-Phikwe (Larsen, 1991); Zanzibar, Tuli Block (Larsen, 1991); Gaborone (Larsen, 1991); Kanye (Larsen, 1991); Molepolole (Larsen, 1991); Tswapong Hills (Larsen, 1991).

Limpopo Province – Nylstroom (Swanepoel, 1953); Warmbaths (Swanepoel, 1953); Rooiberg (Swanepoel, 1953); Potgietersrus – Zaiplaats (Swanepoel, 1953); Blouberg (Swanepoel, 1953); Lapalala Wilderness (Joannou); Highlands Wilderness (Bode & Bode, unpublished checklist); Bateleur Nature Reserve (Chris Willis); Soetdoring Farm [-24.561 28.233] (A. Mayer, pers comm. 2015); Bateleur Nature Reserve (Williams & Dobson, unpub., 2015).

Mpumalanga – Mariepskop area (Henning, 1994c).

North West Province – Groot Marico (Swanepoel, 1953).

Gauteng – Pretoria (Swanepoel, 1953); Pretoria – Montana (Dobsons); Pienaars River (Pringle *et al.* 1994); Boekenhoutskloof on the Moloto Road (Williams, unpublished).

**Habitat:** Savanna (bushveld).

**Habits:** The flight is fluttering and leisurely as they weave their way between trees and bushes in open woodland. Specimens settle often, on flowers or on the leaves of trees (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

**Flight period:** September to April but commonest in September and October (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

**Early stages:**

Van Son, 1963: 101.

“No complete life-history has yet been recorded, but Mr. G.C. Clark, to whom the writer has sent some young



larvae, says that he could not detect any difference from larvae of *acara* after they have gone through four instars. He also states that he does not think the development will proceed any further, as they do not like *Passiflora*, the food-plant of *z. acara*. The full-grown larva is like that of *acara* from which it seems to differ in the presence of purplish black longitudinal bands just outside the bases of the legs and prolegs, and the colour of the head which is orange and has a black spot at the upper angle of the clypeus. The pupa is white, with two dorsal, one lateral and one ventral row of black-ringed adjacent ochraceous spots; veins of the wing-covers, and markings on head and thorax, black.”



*Tildia barberi* eggs and early instar larvae.  
Images courtesy Raimund Schutte.



*Tildia barberi* final instar larva and pupa. Image courtesy Raimund Schutte.

**Larval food:**

*Adenia glauca* Schinz (Passifloraceae) [Van Son, 1963: 101].



*Adenia glauca* growing among rocks. Image courtesy Raimund Schutte.

**\* *Tildia chilo* (Godman, 1880)**  
**Chilo Acraea**

*Acraea chilo* Godman, 1880 *in* Godman & Distant, 1880. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* **1880**: 184 (182-185).  
*Acraea (Acraea) chilo* Godman, 1880. Henning & Williams, 2010.  
*Tildia chilo* (Godman, 1880). Williams & Henning, 2023: 41 **comb. nov.**



*Tildia chilo chilo*. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Ngong, Kenya. April 1993.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Henning Collection.



*Tildia chilo crystallina*. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
71 km south-east of Voi, Kenya. 29 April 1997. AG & MG.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.

**Type locality:** [Ethiopia]: “Kalamet, Sebka Valley, Abyssinia”.

**Distribution:** Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania.

**Habitat:** Dry savanna, especially in river beds (Larsen, 1991c). Dry thornbush country, up to 1 300 m in Tanzania (Kielland, 1990d).

**Habits:** An uncommon and local species in Tanzania (Kielland, 1990d). The flight is powerful (Larsen, 1991c). Both sexes come to flowers (Larsen, 1991c).

**Early stages:**

Bernaud, et al., 2019: 546. (host-plant, egg, larva, pupa; for ssp. *chilo*).



*Tildia chilo chilo* final instar larva. Metu Forest, Uganda. Images courtesy D. Bernaud.

**Larval food:**

*Adenia venenata* Forssk. (Passifloraceae) [Bernaud, et al., 2019: 546; Uganda; for ssp *chilo*].

*Adenia globosa* Engl. (Passifloraceae) [Bernaud, 2021: 36; Uganda; for ssp *crystallina*].

### *Tildia chilo chilo* (Godman, 1880)

**Chilo Acraea**

*Acraea chilo* Godman, 1880 *in* Godman & Distant, 1880. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* **1880**: 184 (182-185).

*Acraea (Acraea) chilo* Godman, 1880. Henning & Williams, 2010.

*Tildia chilo chilo* (Godman, 1880). Williams & Henning, 2023: 41 **comb. nov.**



*Tildia chilo chilo*. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.

Ngong, Kenya. April 1993.

Images M.C. Williams ex Henning Collection.

**Type locality:** [Ethiopia]: “Kalamet, Sebka Valley, Abyssinia”.

**Distribution:** Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Sudan, Ethiopia (south), Somalia, Uganda (extreme west), Kenya (north-west).

**Specific localities:**

Yemen – Usil-Hagela (TL).

Ethiopia – Kalamet, Sebka Valley (TL).

Uganda – Kokilokit, Mount Moroto (Bernaud, *et al.*, 2019).

Kenya – Mount Marsabit (TL of *magnifica*); Kibwezi (Larsen, 1991c); Nairobi (Larsen, 1991c); Mount Kulal (Larsen, 1991c); Ol Jogi Ranch, Nanyuki (Williams, 1998; unpublished)..

*yemensis* Le Doux, 1931 (as ssp. of *Acraea chilo*). *Mitteilungen der Deutschen Entomologischen Gesellschaft* 2: 42 (42-43). **Type locality:** Yemen: “Usil-Hagela, Süd-West-Arabien”. Treated as a synonym of *Acraea chilo* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*magnifica* Carpenter & Jackson, 1950 (as ssp. of *Acraea chilo*). *Proceedings of the Royal Entomological Society of London* (B) 19: 105 (97-108). **Type locality:** [Kenya]: “Mt. Marsabit, 4000 ft.”. Treated as a synonym of *Acraea chilo* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

### *Tildia chilo crystallina* (Grose-Smith, 1890)

*Acraea crystallina* Grose-Smith, 1890. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History* (6) 5: 167 (167-168).

Synonym of *Acraea chilo* Godman, 1880. Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*Acraea chilo crystallina* Grose-Smith, 1890. Bernaud, 2021: 35.

*Tildia chilo crystallina* (Grose-Smith, 1890). Williams & Henning, 2023: 41 **comb. nov.**



*Tildia chilo crystallina*. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
71 km south-east of Voi, Kenya. 29 April 1997. AG & MG.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.

**Type locality:** Kenya: “Voi River, interior of Mombasa”.

**Distribution:** Kenya (south-east), Tanzania (north-east).

**Specific localities:**

Kenya – Voi River (TL); Mombasa (Larsen, 1991c); .

Tanzania – Kilimanjaro (Weymer, 1903); Below Mount Oldeani (Kielland, 1990d); near Arusha (Kielland, 1990d); Same, at the foot of the South Pares (Baker, *vide* Cordeiro, 1995); lower slopes of Mt. Kilimanjaro (Liseki & Vane-Wright, 2018).

*rosina* Rogenhofer, 1891 (as sp. of *Acraea* [*Telchinia*]). *Verhandlungen der Zoologisch-Botanischen Gesellschaft in Wien* 41: 565 (563-566). Kenya [coast]: “Nyika”. Treated as a synonym of *Acraea chilo* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014. Regarded as a synonym of *Acraea chilo crystallina* and designated as the male type for *Acraea chilo crystallina* by Bernaud, 2021: 35.

*wissmanni* Weymer, 1903 (as sp. of *Acraea*). *Deutsche Entomologische Zeitschrift, Iris* 16: 223 (221-235). Tanzania: “Kilima Ndscharo, von Ureguha und Ukami im Hinterlande von Deutsch-Ostafrika”. Treated as a synonym of *Acraea chilo* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014. Treated as a synonym of *Acraea chilo crystallina* by



\* *Tildia hypoleuca* (Trimen, 1898)  
Namibian *Acraea*



Upper side of a male (left) and underside of a female (right) Namibian *Acraea*. Khan River Valley, near Arandis, Namibia.  
Images courtesy Raimund Schutte.

- Acraea hypoleuca* Trimen, 1898. *Transactions of the Entomological Society of London* **1898**: 2 (1-16).  
*Acraea hypoleuca* Trimen, 1898. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.  
*Acraea (Acraea) hypoleuca* Trimen, 1898. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 83.  
*Acraea (Acraea) hypoleuca* Trimen, 1898. Henning & Williams, 2010.  
*Tildia hypoleuca* (Trimen, 1898). Williams & Henning, 2023: 41 **comb. nov.**



*Tildia hypoleuca*. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Ogams Hills, Namibia. January 1983.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Henning Collection.



*Tildia hypoleuca*. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Rossing, Namibia. April 1979.

**Type locality:** None given in the original description (the unique holotype label data stated only ‘Coll. Watson, 1871’).

**General remarks:** “The first specimen of *Tildia hypoleuca* was a male collected in 1871 but with no recorded locality. Trimen made his description in 1898 from this specimen. The origin of that specimen was a point of contention for many years; Eltringham came to the conclusion that it could be from South West Africa [Namibia]. The closest relative of *Tildia hypoleuca* is *Tildia chilo* Godman, which occurs from East Africa to Arabia. The second specimen was taken by Dr Brown at Maltahöhe in South West Africa; it was a female and was described by Dr Pinhey in 1972. This specimen is illustrated in *Pennington’s butterflies of southern Africa* (1978) as No. 120. In 1979 I [Stephen Braine] collected a female at Rössing and in 1982 I found a male at the Ugab River. In January 1983 I collected six males at the Ogam Hills and another male at the Ugab River. All these localities are in South West Africa [Namibia]. This butterfly is not as rare as it was originally thought to be. It has been found at several other localities by myself. ... I have recorded this butterfly from the Swakop River northwards to the Sechomib River in the central section of Kaokoland.” (Braine & Henning, 1984).



#### Distribution of *Tildia hypoleuca*

Namibia.

**Distribution:** Namibia.

#### **Specific localities:**

Namibia – Farm Mooirivier in the Maltahöhe district, on the edge of the Zaris mountains (H. Brown); Rössing (S. Braine); Ugab River (Braine); Ogams Fountain, in Kaokoland (S. Braine); Khumib Konkol (Ficq); Khan River Valley near Arandis (R. Schutte and J. Dobson, pers. comm.).

**Habitat:** Arid savanna. Flies in gullies and on granite outcrops where its larval host-plant grows (Braine & Henning, 1984).

**Habits:** Adults fly from 10h00 to 18h00. It has been found to feed on the flowers of two *Psilocaulon* species, with a marked preference for the flowers of *Calicorema capitata* (Braine & Henning, 1984).

**Flight period:** December to June, with peak emergence in January and February (Braine & Henning, 1984).

**Early stages:**

Braine & Henning, G., 1984: 6 (*Metamorphosis* 1(10): 6).

“On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January 1984, while scouting about the granite hills south of a place known as Ogams Fountain on a patrol in Koakoland, I came across several *Acraea hypoleuca*. The insects were feeding on flowers of *Calicorema capitata* and a few perfect specimens were captured between 11h00 and 12h30. After a short lunch break I returned to the area of granite outcrops to search for the foodplant of this “common” acraea! Luck was on my side this particular afternoon for the first specimen observed was fluttering about the large bulbous plant *Adenia pechuelli* of the family Passifloraceae, which grows fairly prolifically in the above-mentioned area. It seemed as if this particular insect was investigating the plant with the intention of ovipositing and on closer observation I found the ‘ultimate sight’, three large larvae peering at me from the top of the upright stems. After searching through several other plants, a few more larvae were collected. Only four of the larvae pupated and all emerged within ten days. No egg cases could be found, but small batches of newly hatched larvae of between 8 to 15 were found together on the buds and shoots of the

foodplant, normally placed low down near the bulbous ‘foot’ of the plant.

The final instar larvae are pale silvery grey with four large purplish black spots across each segment. The spines arise from tubercles situated on these spots. The spines are quite long with small branches and are pale ochreous brown in colour with the branches being dark brown. The head is orange with pale ochreous marks dorsally and a small brown lateral dot near the mouthparts, which are dark brown. The legs and prolegs are ochreous. The pupa is white. The abdomen has two dorsal and one lateral row of black-ringed ochreous spots connected by black marks. On the ventral surface are two closely aligned rows of black marks. The veins on the wing-covers and the markings on the thorax and head are black.”

Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 83.



*Tildia hypoleuca* habitat, Khan River Valley (left) and host-plant in a granite outcrop (right). Images courtesy Raimund Schutte.



Final instar larvae of *Tildia hypoleuca* feeding on the epidermis of the stems of their host-plant.  
Images courtesy Raimund Schutte.

**Larval food:**

*Adenia pechuelii* (Engl.) Harms (Passifloraceae) [Braine & Henning G., 1984: 6].

**Relevant literature:**

Schutte, 2021 [evolution and host-plant relationship; African Butterfly News 2021 no. 2: 9]

**\* *Tildia oscari* (Rothschild, 1902)  
Ethiopian *Acraea***

*Acraea oscari* Rothschild, 1902. *Novitates Zoologicae* 9: 595 (595-598).

*Acraea (Acraea) oscari* Rothschild, 1902. Henning & Williams, 2010.

*Tildia oscari* (Rothschild, 1902). Williams & Henning, 2023: 41 **comb. nov.**



*Tildia oscari*. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Bongu, Ethiopia. July 2009.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Henning Collection.



*Tildia oscari*. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Bongu, Ethiopia. July 2009.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Henning Collection.

**Type locality:** Ethiopia: “Banka, Malo”.

**Distribution:** Ethiopia.

**Specific localities:**

Ethiopia – Banka, Malo (TL).

**Early stages:** Nothing published.

**Larval food:** Nothing published.

\* *Tildia trimeni* (Aurivillius, [1899])#  
Kalahari Acraea





Male Trimen's *Acraea* (*Tildia trimeni*). Image courtesy Steve Woodhall.

*Acraea barberi* ab. or var. *trimeni* Aurivillius, [1899] *in* Aurivillius, [1898-9]. *Kungliga Svenska Vetenskapakademiens Handlingar* **31** (5): 91 (1-561).

*Acraea zetes trimeni* Aurivillius, 1898. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

*Acraea zetes trimeni* Aurivillius, 1899. Ackery *et al.*, 1995: 248.

*Acraea trimeni* Aurivillius, 1899. Henning, 1993: 9. [Not seen by Ackery *et al.*, 1995]

*Acraea (Acraea) trimeni* Aurivillius, 1899. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 82.

*Acraea (Acraea) trimeni* Aurivillius, 1899. Henning & Williams, 2010.

*Tildia trimeni* (Aurivillius, [1899]). Williams & Henning, 2023: 41 **comb. nov.**



*Tildia trimeni*. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Augrabies National Park, South Africa. 6 January 1997. Gardiner collection leg.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.



*Tildia trimeni*. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Tswalu Game Reserve, Northern Cape Province, South Africa. 28 October, 2006. G. Henning.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Henning Collection.

**Type locality:** [Namibia]: “Rehoboth (Deutsch S. W. Afrika)”; South Africa: “West Griqualand, Transvaal”.

**Distribution:** Botswana (extreme south-west), Namibia (central and south), South Africa (Free State Province – south-west, Eastern Cape Province – north-east, Northern Cape Province).

In South Africa its distribution covers 15 quarter degree squares (54 records) [see <http://vmus.adu.org.za>]. It is regarded as localized.

**Specific localities:**

Namibia – Rehoboth (TL); Eros Mountains near Windhoek (Le Doux, 1931); Tsumeb (Le Doux, 1931); Erongo Mountains, 160 km n.w. of Windhoek (K. Reddig, ABN, 2020 no. 2).

Eastern Cape Province – Steynsburg (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Northern Cape Province – just north of Prieska (Pennington); Bladgrond, west of Prieska (Pennington); Griquatown (Pringle *et al.*, 1994); Douglas (Pringle *et al.*, 1994); Upington (Pringle *et al.*, 1994); Barkly West (Pringle *et al.*, 1994); Windsorten (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

**Habitat:** Arid savanna.

**Habits:** Specimens have been seen feeding from the flowers of tall thorn trees. Males hilltop, and select a perch about which they hover (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

**Flight period:** October to March. Apparently commonest in October (Pringle *et al.* 1994).

**Early stages:** Nothing published.

**Larval food:** Nothing published.

**Note:** Pierre & Bernaud (2014: 7) treat *Acraea trimeni* as a form of *Acraea barberi*.

*eros* Le Doux, 1923 (as f. of *Acraea zetes barberi*). *Deutsche Entomologische Zeitschrift* **1923**: 218 (207-226). Namibia: “Eros Gebirge bei Windhoek (Deutsche-Südwestafrika)”. Treated as a form of *Acraea barberi* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*nigromacula* Le Doux, 1931 (as f. of *Acraea zetes trimeni*). *Deutsche Entomologische Zeitschrift* **1931**: 56 (49-59). Namibia: “Tzumb, D.-S.-W.-Afrika”. Treated as a form of *Acraea barberi* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

**\* *Tildia turna* (Mabille, 1877)**  
**Madagascan Mottled Acraea**

*Acraea turna* Mabille, 1877. *Petites Nouvelles Entomologiques* **2**: 158 (157-158).

*Acraea (Acraea) turna* Mabille, 1877. Henning & Williams, 2010.

*Tildia turna* (Mabille, 1877). Williams & Henning, 2023: 41 **comb. nov.**



*Tildia turna*. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Toliara, Madagascar. 18 April 2018. J. Dobson  
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.



*Tildia turna*. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Ifaty, Madagascar. 18-19 April 2018. J. Dobson  
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.

**Type locality:** Madagascar.

**Distribution:** Madagascar.

**Specific localities:**

Madagascar – Mahobo (Grose-Smith & Kirby, 1892); Beloha (Le Cerf, 1927); Toliara (male illustrated above); Ifaty (female illustrated above).

**Habitat:** Forest (Lees *et al.*, 2003) [incorrect – MCW]. Dry bushveld savanna (pers. obs., April, 2018).

**Early stages:** Nothing published.

**Larval food:** Nothing published.

*marmorata* Grose-Smith & Kirby, 1892 *in* Grose-Smith & Kirby, 1887-92 (as sp. of *Acraea*). *Rhopalocera exotica, being illustrations of new, rare and unfigured species of butterflies* 1: 9 (183 pp.). London. Madagascar: “Mahobo, Madagascar”. Treated as a synonym of *Acraea turna* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*lacteata* Le Cerf, 1927 (as ssp. of *Acraea turna*). *Encyclopédie Entomologique* (B. 3. Lepidoptera) 2: 51 (44-58). Madagascar. Treated as a form of *Acraea turna* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*scioptera* Le Cerf, 1927 (as f. of *Acraea turna lacteata*). *Encyclopédie Entomologique* (B. 3. Lepidoptera) 2: ? (44-58). Madagascar: “Beloha, Madagascar”. Treated as a form of *Acraea turna* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

**\* *Tildia zetes* (Linnaeus, 1758)**  
**Large Spotted Acraea**

*Papilio zetes* Linnaeus, 1758. *Systema Naturae* 1, Regnum Animale, 10<sup>th</sup> edition: 487 (824 pp.). Holmiae.

*Acraea zetes* (Linnaeus, 1758). Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

*Acraea (Acraea) zetes* (Linnaeus, 1758). Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 82.

*Acraea (Acraea) zetes* (Linnaeus, 1758). Henning & Williams, 2010.

*Tildia zetes* (Linnaeus, 1758). Williams & Henning, 2023: 41 **comb. nov.**



*Tildia zetes zetes*. Male (Wingspan 63 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Kakum Forest, Ghana. 20 November 2011. J. Dobson.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.



*Tildia zetes zetes*. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Lubowa, Central Region, Uganda. 5 July 2015. T. Desloges.  
Images T. Desloges ex Desloges Collection.



*Tildia zetes zetes*. Female (form menippe). Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Ubijaja, Benin. June 1955.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Henning Collection.

**Type locality:** [Africa]: “India”. [False locality.]

**Distribution:** Senegal, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau (Aurivillius, 1910), Guinea, Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, Benin (Fermon *et al.*, 2001), Nigeria, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Sao Tome & Principe (all three islands), Gabon, Angola, Namibia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Mozambique (Timberlake *et al.*, 2007), Namibia.

**Habitat:** Open deciduous forest and woodland savanna (Heath *et al.*, 2002; Larsen, 2005a). In West Africa it has colonized disturbed areas in the forest zone (Larsen, 2005a). In Tanzania at altitudes between 800 and 2 000 m (Kielland, 1990d).

**Habits:** Not normally a numerous butterfly (Larsen, 1991c). The flight is rather fast and swooping (Larsen, 1991c). Both sexes are very fond of flowers (Larsen, 1991c).

**Early stages:**

Eltringham, 1912. (larva, pupa).

Van Someren & Rogers, 1925. (larva, pupa).

Darlow, 1949b.

Bernaud & Pierre, 1996. (egg, larva, pupa).

Larsen, 1999. (pupa).

Pierre, Bernaud & Oremans, 2002. (ssp *annobona*; Sao Tome and Principe).

Bernaud, *et al.*, 2019: 538. (host-plant, egg, larva, pupa).





*Tildia zetes zetes* final instar larva. Kisubi, Uganda. Images courtesy D. Bernaud.

**Larval food:**

- Adenia cisampelloides* (Planch. ex Hook.) Harms (Passifloraceae) [Van Someren, 1974: 322; Pierre & Vuattoux, 1978 (Ivory Coast)].
- Adenia lobata* (Jacq.) Engl. (Passifloraceae) [Van Someren, 1974: 322; Bernaud & Pierre, 1996].
- Barteria fistulosa* Mast. (Passifloraceae) [Pierre & Vuattoux, 1978 (Ivory Coast); as *B. fistulosa*; Jiggins *et al.*, 2003 (Uganda); as *Barteria acuminata* ssp. *fistulosa* Baker].
- Barteria nigrimana* Hook. f. (Passifloraceae) [Bernaud, *et al.*, 2019: 538; as *B. nigrimana*].
- Basananthe zanzibarica* (Mast.) W.J.de Wilde (Passifloraceae) [Van Someren, 1974: 322; Pierre & Vuattoux, 1978 (Ivory Coast); = *Tryphostemma zanzibaricum*].
- Deidamia* species (Passifloraceae) [Pierre & Vuattoux, 1978 (Ivory Coast)].
- Hydnocarpus* species (Flacourtiaceae) [Kielland, 1990d: 166].
- Passiflora* species (Passifloraceae) [Dickson & Kroon, 1978; Pierre & Vuattoux, 1978 (Ivory Coast)].
- Phyllobotryum spathulatum* Müll.Arg. (Flacourtiaceae) [Lees, 1989 (Cameroon)].
- Smeathmannia laevigata* Sol. Ex R Br. (Passifloraceae) [Bernaud, *et al.*, 2019: 538].
- Tacsonia* species (Passifloraceae) [Pierre & Vuattoux, 1978 (Ivory Coast)].
- Theobroma cacao* L. (Sterculiaceae) [Smith, 1965 (Ghana)].

*Tildia zetes zetes* (Linnaeus, 1758)  
Large Spotted *Acraea*

- Papilio zetes* Linnaeus, 1758. *Systema Naturae* 1, Regnum Animale, 10<sup>th</sup> edition: 487 (824 pp.). Holmiae.
- Acraea zetes zetes* (Linnaeus, 1758). Dickson & Kroon, 1978.
- Acraea (Acraea) zetes zetes* (Linnaeus, 1758). Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 82.
- Acraea (Acraea) zetes zetes* (Linnaeus, 1758). Henning & Williams, 2010.
- Tildia zetes zetes* (Linnaeus, 1758). Williams & Henning, 2023: 41 **comb. nov.**



*Tildia zetes zetes*. Male (Wingspan 63 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Kakum Forest, Ghana. 20 November 2011. J. Dobson.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.



*Tildia zetes zetes*. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Lubowa, Central Region, Uganda. 5 July 2015. T. Desloges.  
Images T. Desloges ex Desloges Collection.



*Tildia zetes zetes*. Female (form *menippe*). Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Ubijaja, Benin. June 1955.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Henning Collection.

**Type locality:** [Africa]: “India”. [False locality.]

**Distribution:** Senegal, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau (Aurivillius, 1910), Guinea, Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, Benin (south, west), Nigeria, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea (Bioko), Gabon, Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan (south), Uganda, Somalia, Kenya (west), Tanzania (west), Malawi, Zambia (north-west and Copperbelt), Mozambique (Timberlake *et al.*, 2007), Namibia (north).

**Specific localities:**

Senegal – Basse Casamance (Larsen, 2005a).

Gambia – Fajara, Bijilo, Abuko, Pirang, Keneba, Tanji, Kartong (Jon Baker, pers. comm., May 2020).

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

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

Ghana – Ankasa N.P. (Larsen, 2005a); Shai Hills (Larsen, 2005a); Bobiri Butterfly Sanctuary (Larsen *et al.*, 2007); Boabeng-Fiema Monkey Sanctuary (Larsen *et al.*, 2009).

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

Nigeria – Calabar (Drury, 1782); Oban Hills N.P. (Larsen, 2005a).

Cameroon – Korup (Larsen, 2005a).

Gabon – Throughout (Vande weghe, 2010).

Democratic Republic of Congo – 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 (Safian & Pyrcz, 2020); Bwamba; 54 localities are listed in Bernaud, *et al.*, 2019.

Kenya – Mount Marsabit (TL of *rudolphi*); Mount Kulal (Larsen, 1991c); Turkana (Larsen, 1991c); Nairobi

(Larsen, 1991c).

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

Malawi – North (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014). Chisasira Forest (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Nkhata Bay (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Kaporo road (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014); Mughese Forest (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014).

Zambia – Ikelenge (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Kasangezhi (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Mufulira (Heath *et al.*, 2002); “to the south of Lake Tanganyika” (Neave *vide* Heath *et al.*, 2002).

Mozambique – Mount Chipirone (Timberlake *et al.*, 2007); Mt Yao [-12.4432 36.5114] (Congdon & Bayliss, 2013).

Namibia – Kombat (J. Braine; probably a stray).

*menippe* Drury, 1782 (as sp. of *Papilio*). *Illustrations of Natural History* **3**: index et 16 (76 pp.). London. Sierra Leone: “Sierra Leon”; Senegal; Gambia; Nigeria: “Calabar”. Treated as a synonym of *Acraea zetes* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*mycenaea* Hübner, 1819 *in* Hübner, [1816-[1826]] (as sp. of *Telchinia*). *Verzeichniss bekannter Schmettlinge* 27 (432 + 72 pp.). Augsburg. No locality given. Treated as a synonym of *Acraea zetes zetes* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*jalema* Godart, 1819 *in* Latreille & Godart, [1819], [1824] (as sp. of *Acraea*). *Encyclopédie Méthodique. Histoire Naturelle [Zoologie]* **9** Entomologie: 234 (1-328 [1819], 329-828 [1824]). Paris. “Afrique”. Treated as a synonym of *Acraea zetes zetes* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*rudolphi* Eltringham, 1929 (as ssp. of *Acraea zetes*). *in* Eltringham, *et al.*, 1929. *Transactions of the Entomological Society of London* **77**: 490 (475-504). **Type locality**: [Kenya]: “Marsabit”. Treated as a form of *Acraea zetes zetes* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

### *Tildia zetes sidamona* (Rothschild & Jordan, 1905)

#### Northern Large Spotted *Acraea*

*Acraea zetes sidamona* Rothschild & Jordan, 1905. *Novitates Zoologicae* **12**: 179 (175-191).

*Acraea (Acraea) zetes sidamona* Rothschild & Jordan, 1905. Henning & Williams, 2010.

*Tildia zetes sidamona* (Rothschild & Jordan, 1905). Williams & Henning, 2023: 41 **comb. nov.**

**Type locality**: [Ethiopia]: “Alata, Sidamo; Fanole”.

**Distribution**: Ethiopia.

**Specific localities**:

Ethiopia – Alata, Sidamo (TL); Fanole (Rothschild & Jordan, 1905).

### *Tildia zetes annobona* (d’Abrera, 1980)

#### Annabon Large Spotted *Acraea*

*Acraea zetes annobona* d’Abrera, 1980. *Butterflies of the Afrotropical region* 144 (593 pp.). Melbourne.

*Acraea (Acraea) zetes annobona* d’Abrera, 1980. Henning & Williams, 2010.

*Tildia zetes annobona* (d’Abrera, 1980). Williams & Henning, 2023: 41 **comb. nov.**

**Type locality**: Equatorial Guinea: “Pigalu, (Annobón)”; Sao Tome and Principe: “Sao Tomé Is”.

**Distribution**: Equatorial Guinea (island of Annobon), Sao Tome and Principe Islands (Mendes & Bivar de Sousa, 2022).

**Specific localities**:

Equatorial Guinea – Pigalu, Annobon (TL),

\* *Tildia anemosa* (Hewitson, [1865])#  
Broad-bordered Acraea



Broad-bordered Acraea (*Tildia anemosa*) male (left) and female (right)..  
Images courtesy Steve Woodhall (left) and I. & A. Sharp (right).

*Acraea anemosa* Hewitson, [1865], *in* Hewitson, [1862-6]. *Illustrations of new species of exotic butterflies* 3: 15 (124 pp.). London.  
*Acraea anemosa* Hewitson, 1865. Trimen & Bowker, 1887a.  
*Acraea anemosa* Hewitson. Swanepoel, 1953a.  
*Acraea anemosa* Hewitson, 1865. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.  
*Acraea (Acraea) anemosa* Hewitson, 1865. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 83.  
*Acraea (Acraea) anemosa* Hewitson, 1865. Henning & Williams, 2010.  
*Tildia anemosa* (Hewitson, [1865]). Williams & Henning, 2023: 41 **comb. nov.**



*Tildia anemosa*. Male (Wingspan 53 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Loding, Mpumalanga, South Africa. 5 December 2010. M. Williams.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.



*Tildia anemosa*. Female (Wingspan 61 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.



**Type locality:** “Zambesi”. Types in NHM, London.



#### Distribution of *Tildia anemosa*

Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania, Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Zambia, Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia, South Africa.

**Distribution:** Somalia (south), Kenya (coast), Tanzania, Democratic Republic of Congo (Lualaba), Malawi, Zambia, Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia (Caprivi), South Africa (Limpopo Province, Mpumalanga, North West Province, Gauteng, Free State Province, KwaZulu-Natal - north), Swaziland.

In South Africa its distribution covers 146 quarter degree squares (528 records) [see <http://vmus.adu.org.za>]. It is regarded as widespread.

#### **Specific localities:**

Somalia – Ola Uager (Storace, 1949).

Kenya – Teita Hills (Larsen, 1991c); Shimba Hills (Larsen, 1991c); Kibwezi (Larsen, 1991c); Mount Sagala (Larsen, 1991c); Ukambani (Larsen, 1991c); Mrima Hill (Larsen, 1991c).

Tanzania – Common in the west (Ufipa, Mpanda, Kigoma) but scarce elsewhere (Kielland, 1990d); Mwera (Strand, 1911); Kitungulu (Strand, 1911); Urungu (Strand, 1911); Turiani in Morogoro (Kielland, 1990d); Image Mountain (Kielland, 1990d); Pugu Hills (Kielland, 1990d); Mikumi National Park (Kielland, 1990d); Katavi National Park (Fitzherbert *et al.*, 2006).

Malawi – North and South (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014). Mt Mulanje (Congdon *et al.*, 2010); Zomba Mountain (Congdon *et al.*, 2010); 15 localities given in Bernaud & Murphy (2014).

Zambia – Lake Bangweolo (Eltringham, 1912); Mutema (Riley, 1921); Solwezii (Riley, 1921); Ikelenge (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Mufulira (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Mumbwa (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Lusaka (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Kafue (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Livingstone (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Victoria Falls (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Kalungwishi River (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Lufubu River (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Mbala (Heath *et al.*, 2002); below the Mafinga Mountains (Heath *et al.*, 2002).

Mozambique – Macequece (Fountaine, 1911).

Zimbabwe – Victoria Falls (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Botswana – Gaborone (Larsen, 1991); Modipane (Larsen, 1991); Ngotwane Siding (Larsen, 1991); Lobatse (Larsen, 1991); Tlokwen (Larsen, 1991); Ngotwane (Larsen, 1991); Ranaka (Larsen, 1991); Kanye (Larsen, 1991); Letlhakeng (Larsen, 1991); Takotakwane (Larsen, 1991); Sekoma (Larsen, 1991); Serowe (Larsen, 1991); Zanzibar in the Tuli Block (Larsen, 1991); Shashe (Larsen, 1991); Mpandama-Tenga (Larsen, 1991); 50 km south of Kasane (Larsen, 1991); Kasane (Larsen, 1991); Gabane (Larsen, 1991).

Namibia – Katima Mulilo (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Limpopo Province – Warmbaths (Swanepoel, 1953); Potgietersrus (Swanepoel, 1953); Matlabas (Swanepoel, 1953); Blouberg (Swanepoel, 1953); Zoutpansberg (Swanepoel, 1953); Munnik (Swanepoel, 1953); Polokwane (Swanepoel, 1953); Chuniespoort (Swanepoel, 1953); Acornhoek (Swanepoel, 1953); Percy Fyfe Nature Reserve (Warren, 1990); Lekgalameetse Nature Reserve (Williams, Dec. 2006); Highlands Wilderness (Bode & Bode, unpublished checklist; Bateleur

Nature Reserve (Williams & Dobson, unpub., 2015).  
Mpumalanga – Lydenburg district (Swanepoel, 1953); Groblersdal (Swanepoel, 1953); White River (Swanepoel, 1953); Barberton (Swanepoel, 1953); Mariepskop area (Henning, 1994c).  
North West Province – Zeerust (Swanepoel, 1953); Kgaswane Mountain Reserve (Williams); Borakalalo Nature Reserve (J. Dobson, unpublished, 2009).  
Gauteng – Pretoria (Swanepoel, 1953); Zoutpan (Tswaing crater) (Williams); Enoch’s Walk; Rosslyn; Muldersdrift (L. Erasmus, ABN, 2020 no. 2).  
Free State Province – Bloemfontein (Swanepoel, 1953).  
KwaZulu-Natal – Nongoma (Pringle *et al.*, 1994); Mkuze district (Pringle *et al.*, 1994); Tembe Nature Reserve (Pringle & Kyle, 2002).  
Swaziland – Mlawula N. R. ([www.sntc.org.sz](http://www.sntc.org.sz)); Malolotja N. R. ([www.sntc.org.sz](http://www.sntc.org.sz)).

**Habitat:** Savanna and open forest. In Tanzania it is found at altitudes from near sea-level to 1800 m (Kielland, 1990d).

**Habits:** A fairly common species (Larsen, 1991c). Normally seen singly, flying some distance above the ground, between the trees, with a leisurely, fluttering flight pattern. It settles occasionally on low vegetation or the leaves of trees (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

**Flight period:** All year in warmer areas; September to May in cooler localities (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

**Early stages:**

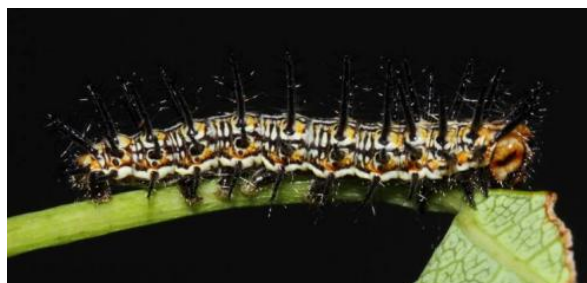
Fountaine, 1911: 61. [Macequece, Mozambique].

“This very handsome, extremely active little larva occurred very commonly at Macequece, on almost every available piece of its food-plant, a creeper, identified at the Board of Agriculture at Pretoria as (most probably) *Modecca abyssinica*. I first discovered it, in the usual way, by watching a female laying eggs; these are laid in batches of various sizes, some with about ten eggs together, others having as many as twenty-five or even more. The larva is very easy to rear, and feeds up very rapidly, and it remains only about eight days in pupa; but where the difficulty comes in, is that the supply of its food-plant should meet the demand, as it is dark-coloured very inconspicuous little creeper, most difficult to find, and when a piece is discovered it is generally sustaining two or three or more larvae of this same species. In colour it is a bright, shiny red-russet, shaded into deep yellow at the extremities, the spines are long, furry and black. The pupa is dingy white in ground-colour, the wing-case the same, but heavily outlined and veined in black, the rows of abdominal spots are deep orange, very heavily surrounded with black.”

Van Someren and Rogers, 1925: 133.

“Eggs yellowish cream, laid in clusters on a vine (unnamed). Larva first brownish, becoming yellow on the first four segments, and the last two, and red-brown on intermediate ones. Spines long and branched, those on segment 2 being the longest. Pupa white with nervular marks on the wing cases, and the usual abdominal black marks with orange spots.”

Bernaudo & Murphy, 2014: 75 – host-plant, larva and pupa.



*Tildia anemosa* final instar larva (left) and pupa (right).  
 Images courtesy I. & A. Sharp.



*Tildia anemosa* final instar larva. Vwaza Marsh, Malawi. Images courtesy D. Bernaud.

#### Larval food:

*Adenia digitata* (Harv.) Engl. (Passifloraceae) [Williams, 1996: 131; Gravelotte, Limpopo Province].

*Adenia glauca* Schinz (Passifloraceae) [Williams, 1996: 131; Pretoria, Gauteng].

*Adenia venenata* Forssk. (Passifloraceae) [Fontaine, 1911: 61; as *Modecca abyssinica* Hochst.; Macequece, Mozambique].

Grasses (Poaceae) [Kielland, 1990d: 151; highly improbable].

*Vitis* species (Vitaceae) [Kielland, 1990d: 151].

*arcticincta* Butler, 1883 (as sp. of *Acraea*). *Annals and Magazine of Natural History* (5) **12**: 103 (101-107). Kenya: "Victoria Nyanza". Type in NHM, London. Treated as a synonym of *Acraea anemosa* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*alboradiata* Aurivillius, 1899 *in* Aurivillius, 1898-9 (as ab. of *Acraea anemosa*). *Kungliga Svenska Vetenskapakademiens Handlingar* **31** (5): 91 (1-561). Namibia: "Damaraland, Zambesi". Treated as an aberration of *Acraea anemosa* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*interrupta* Thureau, 1904 (as ab. of *Acraea anemosa*). *Berliner Entomologische Zeitschrift* **48**: 303 (301-314). Uganda [*patria falsa* according to Bernaud, 2021: 33]. Treated as an aberration of *Acraea anemosa* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*mosana* Suffert, 1904 (as ssp. of *Acraea anemosa*). *Deutsche Entomologische Zeitschrift, Iris* **17**: 20 (12-107). No locality given. Treated as a synonym of *Acraea anemosa* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*dubiosa* Suffert, 1904 (as ssp. of *Acraea anemosa*). *Deutsche Entomologische Zeitschrift, Iris* **17**: 20 (12-107). Tanzania: "Hinterland von Tanga". Type in NHM, London. Treated as a synonym of *Acraea anemosa* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*discoguttata* Strand, 1909 (as ab. of *Acraea anemosa*). *Archiv für Naturgeschichte* **75** (1.3.): 376 (367-386). No locality given. Treated as an aberration of *Acraea anemosa* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*ufipana* Strand, 1911 (as ab. of *Acraea anemosa*). *Mitteilungen aus dem Zoologischen Museum in Berlin* **5**: 279 (275-304). Tanzania: "Mwera, N. Ufipa". Treated as an aberration of *Acraea anemosa* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*urungensis* Strand, 1911 (as ab. of *Acraea anemosa*). *Mitteilungen aus dem Zoologischen Museum in Berlin* **5**: 279 (275-304). Tanzania: "Kitungulu, Urungu". Treated as an aberration of *Acraea anemosa* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*conjuncta* Niepelt, 1937 (as f. of *Acraea anemosa*). *Festschrift zum 60. Geburtstage von Professor Dr. Embrik Strand* **3**: 558 (556-559). Somalia: "Italienich-Somaliland". Treated as a form of *Acraea anemosa* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*macrosticta* Storage, 1949 (as ssp. of *Acraea anemosa*). *Annali del Museo Civico di Storia Naturale (di Genova) Giacomo Doria* **64**: 25 (12-29). Somalia: "Ola Uagèr". Treated as a synonym of *Acraea anemosa* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014. Bernaud (2021: 34) suspects that this may be a valid subspecies but states that more research is needed.

\* *Tildia welwitschii* (Rogenhofer, 1893)

*Acraea welwitschii* Rogenhofer, 1893. *Verhandlungen der Zoologisch-Botanischen Gesellschaft in Wien* **42**: 573 (571-575).

*Acraea welwitschii* Rogenhofer, 1893. Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*Tildia welwitschii* (Rogenhofer, 1893). Williams & Henning, 2023: 41 **comb. nov.**



*Tildia welwitschii* f. *alboradiata*. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. September 1965.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Henning Collection.



*Tildia welwitschii*. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Katanga, Democratic Republic of Congo. May 1968.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Henning Collection.



*Tildia welwitschii* f. *welwitschii*. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Livingstone, Zambia. October 1968.



**Type locality:** Angola: “Africa occidentalis, Angola”.

**Distribution:** Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

**Specific localities:**

Angola – .

**Habitat:** Nothing published.

**Habits:** Nothing published.

**Early stages:** Nothing published.

**Larval food:** Nothing published.

*lobemba* Eltringham, 1912 (as ssp. of *Acraea welwitschii*). *Transactions of the Entomological Society of London* **1912**: 99 (1-374). Zambia: “L. Bangweolo, Lualaba River”. Treated as a synonym of *Acraea welwitschii* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*lutea* Riley, 1921 (as ssp. of *Acraea welwitschii*). *Transactions of the Entomological Society of London* **1921**: 244 (234-259). Zambia: “Mutema, Lukanga Valley, Kashitu, N.W. Rhodesia”. Treated as a synonym of *Acraea welwitschii* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*nivea* Riley, 1921 (as ssp. of *Acraea welwitschii*). *Transactions of the Entomological Society of London* **1921**: 245 (234-259). Zambia: “Solwezi”. Treated as a synonym of *Acraea welwitschii* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

### \* *Tildia pseudolygia* (Butler, 1874)

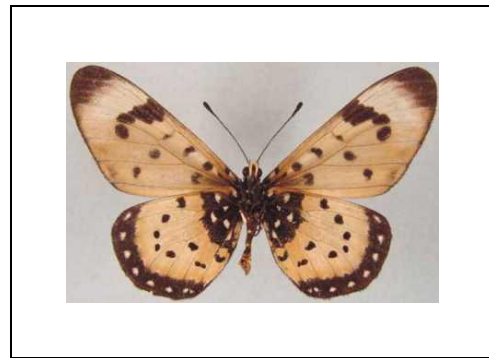
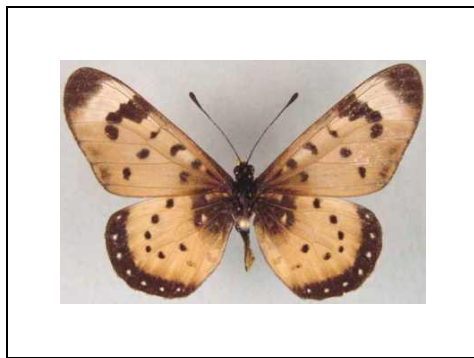
#### Pale *Acraea*

*Acraea pseudolygia* Butler, 1874. *Cistula Entomologica* **1**: 213 (209-217).

*Acraea pseudolygia* Butler, 1874. Eltringham, 1912.

*Acraea (Acraea) pseudolygia* Butler, 1874. Henning & Williams, 2010.

*Tildia pseudolygia* (Butler, 1874). Williams & Henning, 2023: 41 **comb. nov.**



*Tildia pseudolygia pseudolygia*. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Wingspan: 65mm. Mokambo Hill, Mokambo, Zambia/Zaire border, 4600'. 6-II-1983. M.A. Newport.  
(Henning collection – H129).

**Type locality:** Angola: “Quanza”.

**Distribution:** Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Democratic Republic of Congo, Zambia, Angola.

Records for Malawi (Congdon *et al.*, 2010) are erroneous (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014).

**Habitat:** Savanna. In Tanzania at altitudes from near sea-level to 2 100 m (Kielland, 1990d).

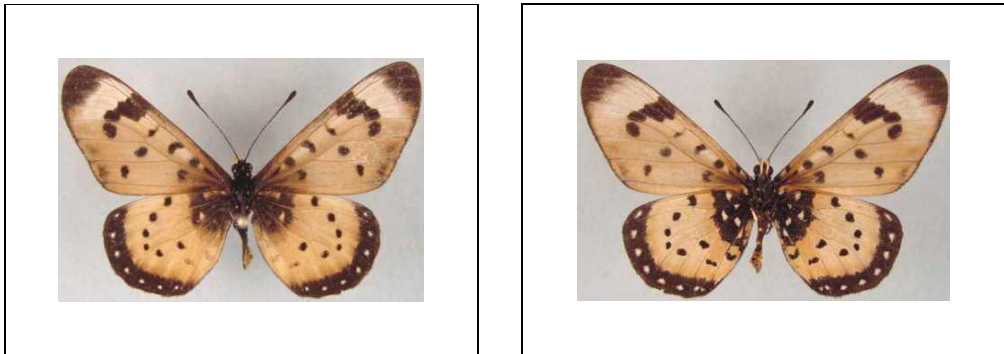
**Habits:** A relatively uncommon species (Larsen, 1991c). On the wing subspecies *astrigera* is impossible to tell apart from *A. anemosa* (Larsen, 1991c).

**Early stages:** Nothing published.  
**Larval food:** Nothing published.

### *Tildia pseudolycia pseudolycia* (Butler, 1874)

#### Pale Acraea

*Acraea pseudolycia* Butler, 1874. *Cistula Entomologica* 1: 213 (209-217).  
*Acraea pseudolycia* Butler, 1874. Eltringham, 1912.  
*Acraea (Acraea) pseudolycia pseudolycia* Butler, 1874. Henning & Williams, 2010.  
*Tildia pseudolycia pseudolycia* (Butler, 1874). Williams & Henning, 2023: 41 **comb. nov.**



*Tildia pseudolycia pseudolycia*. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Wingspan: 65mm. Mokambo Hill, Mokambo, Zambia/Zaire border, 4600'. 6-II-1983. M.A. Newport.  
(Henning collection – H129).

**Type locality:** Angola: “Quanza”.

**Distribution:** Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo (Lualaba, Maniema), Zambia (west).

**Specific localities:**

Angola – Quanza (TL).

Zambia – a single male taken at Mokambo on the Zambia-D.R.C. border by Newport (Heath *et al.*, 2002; illustrated above).

*brunnea* Eltringham, 1911 (as f. of *Acraea astrigera*). *Novitates Zoologicae* 18: 151 (149-153). Angola; Uganda: “Unyoro and Masindi (Unyoro); Entebbe”. Treated as a form of *Acraea pseudolycia pseudolycia* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

### *Tildia pseudolycia astrigera* (Butler, 1899)

#### Orange Pale Acraea

*Acraea astrigera* Butler, 1899. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* 1899: 421 (417-427).  
*Acraea pseudolycia astrigera* Butler, 1899. Eltringham, 1912.  
*Acraea (Acraea) pseudolycia astrigera* Butler, 1899. Henning & Williams, 2010.  
*Tildia pseudolycia astrigera* (Butler, 1899). Williams & Henning, 2023: 41 **comb. nov.**



*Tildia pseudolygia astrigera*. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Mpanda, Tanzania.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Henning Collection.

**Type locality:** [Kenya]: “On the road from Machako’s to Naugia, 4800 feet”.

**Distribution:** Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda (north), Kenya (central and east), Tanzania, Zambia (east).  
Records for Malawi (Congdon *et al.*, 2010) are erroneous (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014).

**Specific localities:**

Ethiopia – Lake Auasa (Gabriel, 1949).

Uganda – 22 localities are listed in Bernaud, *et al.*, 2019.

Kenya – Between Machakos and Naugia (TL); Kitui (Larsen, 1991c); Machakos (Larsen, 1991c); coast (Larsen, 1991c); Fort Hall (Larsen, 1991c); Ngong (Larsen, 1991c); Meru (Larsen, 1991c); southern Masai (Larsen, 1991c); Narok (Larsen, 1991c).

Tanzania – Ugogo (Weymer, 1903); Kigoma (Kielland, 1990d); Ufipa (Kielland, 1990d); Mufindi (Kielland, 1990d); Uzungwa Range (Kielland, 1990d); Rubeho Mountains (Kielland, 1990d); Kiboriani Mountains (Kielland, 1990d); Njoge Mountain (Kielland, 1990d); Kimboza Forest (Kielland, 1990d); Uluguru Mountains (Kielland, 1990d); Nguru Mountains (Kielland, 1990d); Oldeani-Ngorongoro (Kielland, 1990d); Mount Lolkisale (Kielland, 1990d); Arusha (Kielland, 1990d); Katavi National Park (Fitzherbert *et al.*, 2006); lower slopes of Mt. Kilimanjaro (Liseki & Vane-Wright, 2018); Mpanda (male illustrated above).

Zambia – Mansya River (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Isoka (Heath *et al.*, 2002).

*emini* Weymer, 1903 (as sp. of *Acraea*). *Deutsche Entomologische Zeitschrift, Iris* **16**: 221 (221-235).  
Tanzania: “Ugogo”. Treated as a synonym of *Acraea pseudolygia astrigera* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

*auasa* Gabriel, 1949 (as female f. of *Acraea pseudolygia astrigera*). *Proceedings of the Royal Entomological Society of London (B)* **18**: 207 (207-216). Ethiopia: “Lake Auasa”. Treated as a female form of *Acraea pseudolygia astrigera* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

***T. rabbaiae* species-group**

\* *Tildia rabbaiae* (Ward, 1873)#  
Clear-wing *Acraea*



Female Clear-wing Acraeas (*Tildia rabbaiae perlucida*).  
Images courtesy Raimund Schutte (left) and Steve Woodhall (right).

*Acraea rabbaiae* Ward, 1873. *Entomologist's Monthly Magazine* **10**: 152 (59-60, 151-152).

*Acraea rabbaiae* Ward, 1873. Trimen & Bowker, 1887a.

*Acraea rabbaiae* Ward. Swanepoel, 1953a.

*Acraea rabbaiae* Ward, 1873. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

*Acraea (Acraea) rabbaiae* Ward, 1873. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 74.

*Acraea (Acraea) rabbaiae* Ward, 1873. Henning & Williams, 2010.

*Tildia rabbaiae* (Ward, 1873). Williams & Henning, 2023: 41 **comb. nov.**



*Tildia rabbaiae rabbaiae*. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
15 km east of Chilenze, Tanzania. 30 March 1995. AG & MG.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.



*Tildia rabbaiae rabbaiae*. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Arabuko-Sokoke Forest, Kenya. 26 May 2002. AG.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.

**Type locality:** [Kenya]: “Ribé” [=Rabai].

**Distribution:** Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Swaziland.



**Habitat:** Coastal forest and bush (Kielland, 1990d). In Tanzania at altitudes from sea-level to 600 m (Kielland, 1990d).

**Habits:** A rather rare butterfly in South Africa (Van Son, 1963) but common in Kenya (Larsen, 1991c). It generally flies high in the forest canopy, occasionally descending to feed at flowers. The flight pattern is light and dancing (Larsen, 1991c). Females are usually seen fluttering on the edges of the forest, sometimes low down (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

**Flight period:** September to April (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Subspecies *perlucida* has been recorded from September to June (Henning & Henning, 1996).

**Early stages:**

Monteiro, 1891: 219. [subspecies *perlucida*].

“All the caterpillars of the Acraeas that I have seen are thickly studded with spines, that of *A. rabbaiae* being bright red with black spines, and make elegant suspended pupa coverings, through which the future wings can be most plainly distinguished, more so than in any other species I have seen.”

Van Someren & Rogers, 1925: 116 [nominate subspecies; as *Acraea rabbaiae mombasa*].

“The eggs of this species are long, barrel-shaped, slightly more tapering at the upper end. There is a slight trace of longitudinal and transverse ribs. They are laid in clusters or groups on the underside of the leaves of two species of creepers (as yet unidentified). Newly laid eggs are creamy, but they rapidly turn greyish brown. When the larvae are in their first stages they are greyish brown, becoming in the third and last instar reddish brown on all the segments except the first three and last. These are dull yellowish. The spines are long and branched. Fore legs yellowish, hind black. Underside of body dull whitish. Head glossy black. The pupa is elongate, thicker in the region of the wingcases and tapering at the tail end. The colour is variable but is generally whitish or cream, inclining to buff on the wingcases. The thorax is angled posteriorly and laterally, a black line arises from the apex of each projection and is carried inward and forward to meet in a common line on the dorsum. The wing cases are finely lined in black. The abdominal segments are decorated with two dorsal, one lateral and one ventral, rows of contiguous spots, one to each segment, each bearing a large orange spot in the centre.”

Henning, S., & Henning, G., 1989: 30.

**Larval food:**

*Adenia cissampeloides* (Passifloraceae) [Kielland, 1990d: 163].

*Basananthe zanzibarica* (Mast.) W.J. de Wilde (Passifloraceae) [Van Someren, 1974: 322; as *Tryphostemma zanzibaricum*].

### *Tildia rabbaiae rabbaiae* (Ward, 1873)

#### Clear-wing Acraea

*Acraea rabbaiae* Ward, 1873. *Entomologist's Monthly Magazine* **10**: 152 (59-60, 151-152).

*Acraea (Acraea) rabbaiae rabbaiae* Ward, 1873. Henning & Williams, 2010.

*Tildia rabbaiae rabbaiae* (Ward, 1873). Williams & Henning, 2023: 41 **comb. nov.**



*Tildia rabbaiae rabbaiae*. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
15 km east of Chilenze, Tanzania. 30 March 1995. AG & MG.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.



*Tildia rabbaiae rabbaiae*. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Arabuko-Sokoke Forest, Kenya. 26 May 2002. AG.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.

**Type locality:** [Kenya]: “Ribé” [=Rabai].

**Distribution:** Kenya (coast), Tanzania (coast), Mozambique (north).

**Specific localities:**

Kenya – Rabai (TL); Mombasa (Grose-Smith, 1889); Arabuko-Sokoke Forest (Larsen, 1991c); Shimba Hills (Larsen, 1991c); Teita Hills (Larsen, 1991c).

Tanzania – Mtwara (Kielland, 1990d); Dendene Forest (Kielland, 1990d); Pugu Hills (Kielland, 1990d); Usarumu (Kielland, 1990d); Uluguru Mountains near Morogoro town (Kielland, 1990d); Kiono Forest at Sadani (Kielland, 1990d).

*mombasae* Grose-Smith, 1889 (as sp. of *Acraea*). *Annals and Magazine of Natural History* (6) 3: 127 (121-137). Kenya: “Mombasa”. Treated as a synonym of *Acraea rabbaiae rabbaiae* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.

### *Tildia rabbaiae perlucida* (Henning & Henning, 1996)#

Southern Clear-wing *Acraea*

*Acraea (Acraea) rabbaiae perlucida* Henning & Henning, 1996. *Metamorphosis* 7 (2): 66 (65-67).

*Acraea (Acraea) rabbaiae perlucida* Henning & Henning, 1996. Henning & Williams, 2010.

*Tildia rabbaiae perlucida* (Henning & Henning, 1996). Williams & Henning, 2023: 41 **comb. nov.**



*Tildia rabbaiae perlucida*. Male (Wingspan 49 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Manguzi Forest, KwaZulu-Natal. 12 May 2009. M. Williams.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.



*Tildia rabbaiae perlocida*. Female (Wingspan 61 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.  
 Tembe, KwaZulu-Natal. 14 May 2009. M. Williams.  
 Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.

**Type locality:** South Africa: “South Africa: Tembe, KwaZulu-Natal, 20.v.1993, S.E. Woodhall.” Described from 32 males and 19 females. Holotype in the Transvaal Museum, Pretoria.

**Distribution:** Malawi (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014), Mozambique (south), Zimbabwe (east), South Africa (Mpumalanga, Gauteng [single specimen], KwaZulu-Natal), Swaziland.

In South Africa its distribution covers 19 quarter degree squares (140 records) [see <http://vmus.adu.org.za>]. It is regarded as moderately widespread.

**Specific localities:**

Malawi – Extreme south (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014). Thyolo Forest Reserve = Cholo Forest (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014).

Mozambique – Maputo (Van Son, 1963); Dondo Forest (Pringle *et al.*, 1994); Maputo Special Reserve (Miles & Mulvaney, 2022).

Zimbabwe – Lundi (Van Son, 1963); Mutare district (Van Son, 1963); Vumba (Van Son, 1963); Mount Selinda (Van Son, 1963); Chipinga (Van Son, 1963); Melsetter (Van Son, 1963).

Mpumalanga – Komatipoort (Swanepoel, 1953).

KwaZulu-Natal – Tembe Nature Reserve (TL); St Lucia Bay (Swanepoel, 1953); Michaelhouse, Balgowan (Pennington; single male); Balcomb’s Hill near Kranskop (Pennington; single male); False Bay (Pennington; single specimen); Eshowe Forest (Swanepoel, 1953); Emanguzi Forest (Pringle *et al.*, 1994; male and female illustrated above); Kosi Bay Nature Reserve (Pringle & Kyle, 2002).

Swaziland – Singceni (Pennington; single male).

**\* *Tildia zonata* (Hewitson, 1877)**  
**Black-lined *Acraea***

*Acraea zonata* Hewitson, 1877. *Entomologist’s Monthly Magazine* **14**: 154 (153-155).

*Acraea (Acraea) zonata* Hewitson, 1877. Henning & Williams, 2010.

*Tildia zonata* (Hewitson, 1877). Williams & Henning, 2023: 41 **comb. nov.**



*Tildia zonata*. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.

Shimba Hills, Kenya. July 1982.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Henning Collection.

**Type locality:** [Tanzania]: “Darrasalam”.

**Distribution:** Kenya (coast), Tanzania (coast), Malawi, Mozambique (Congdon *et al.*, 2010).

**Specific localities:**

Kenya – Mombasa (Grose-Smith, 1889); Teita Hills (Larsen, 1991c); Shimba Hills (Larsen, 1991c).

Tanzania – Dar es Salaam (TL); Mtwara (Kielland, 1990d); Zanzibar (Kielland, 1990d); Dendene Forest (Kielland, 1990d); Pugu Hills (Kielland, 1990d); Kiono Forest (Kielland, 1990d); Usambara Mountains (Kielland, 1990d); Uluguru Mountains (Kielland, 1990d); Nguru Mountains (Kielland, 1990d); Kanga Mountains (Kielland, 1990d); Mount Bondwa in the Ulugurus (Kielland, 1990d); Kindoroko Forest Reserve in the North Pares at 1600-1700 m (Cordeiro, 1995).

Malawi – A single record from Mzeze, central Malawi (Bernaud & Murphy, 2014).

**Habitat:** Coastal forest and dense woodland (Larsen, 1991c). In Tanzania at altitudes from sea-level to 600 m; sometimes as high as 2 140 m (Kielland, 1990d).

**Habits:** This is a generally rare species, except in the Shimba Hills, where small numbers may be encountered year round (Larsen, 1991c). Usually flies high up, circling around tree tops for long periods (Larsen, 1991c). The flight is described as hovering (Kielland, 1990d). Both sexes visit flowering herbs and bushes (Kielland, 1990d).

**Early stages:** Nothing published.

**Larval food:** Nothing published.

*makupa* Grose-Smith, 1889 (as sp. of *Acraea*). *Annals and Magazine of Natural History* (6) **3**: 126 (121-137). Kenya: “Mombasa”. Treated as a synonym of *Acraea zonata* by Pierre & Bernaud, 2014.