

## Uganda Butterflies 2023

More 1,200 butterflies have been recorded in Uganda, but there are few resources for identification. Here are species I photographed during a Wild Latitudes trip to southern Uganda in February of 2023, the dry season. My tentative ID is based on *Butterflies of East Africa* (Martins & Collins, Struik Nature Pocket Guides, 2016) and iNaturalist postings. English names are not standardized across sources so search using scientific names. For an introduction to the natural history of butterflies see <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Butterfly>.  
Dennis Deck

### Swallowtails (*Papilionidae*)

Big showy butterflies that ever one notices.



Green-banded Swallowtail (*Papilio phorcas*)



Flying Handkerchief/African Mocker Swallowtail (*Papilio dardanus*)



Citrus Swallowtail (*Papilio demodocus*)

### Whites and Yellows (*Pieridae*)

These are white, yellow, or a combination.



Puddle party of whites and yellows (males use their proboscis for minerals in the mud which it passes to females in the sperm packet).



Angled Grass Yellow (*Eurema desjardinsi*)



Common Grass Yellow (*Eurema hecabe*)





**Common Grass Yellow (*Eurema hecabe*)**



**Common Grass Yellow (*Eurema solifera*)**



**Round-winged Orange Tip (*Colotis euipe*)**



**Scarlet Tip (*Colotis danae*) M**



**Scarlet Tip (*Colotis danae*) M ?**



**Red Tip (*Colotis antevippe*)**



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**Red Tip** (*Colotis antevippe*)



**African Common White** (*Belonius creona*)



**Veined Golden Arab/Tip** (*Colotis vesta*)



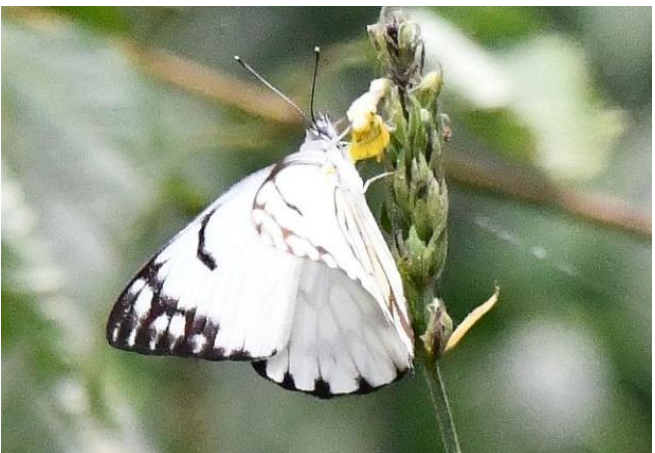
**Raffray's White** (*Belenois raffrayi*)



**Veined Golden Arab/Tip** (*Colotis vesta*)



**False Dotted Border** (*Belenis thyia meldolae*)



**Brown-veined White** (*Belenois aurota*)



**Victoria White** (*Belenois victoria*)





**Common White/African Caper** (*Belenois creona*)



**Common White/African Caper** (*Belenois creona*)



**Unidentified white**



**Zebra White** (*Pinacopteryx eripha*)



**African Wood White** (*Leptosia epaphia*)



**Immaculate Wood White** (*Leptosia nupta*) ?





Wood White sp.



Natal Babul Blue (*Azanus natalensis*)



Unidentified yellow



Unidentified blue (*Anthene sp.*)

**Hairstreaks, Blues, Coppers (*Lycaenidae*)**

Most Hairstreaks have tails. Blues are small and males generally have blue upper side.



White-banded Babul Blue (*Azanus isis*)



Unidentified blue (*Athene sp.*)



Ciliate Blue sp. (*Anthene sp.*)





**Dark Grass Blue** (*Zizinia anatossa*)

**Brush-footed Butterflies** (*Nymphalidae*)  
The largest and most diverse group holds their tiny forelegs on chest so you see only 4 legs.

**Snouts** (*Libytheinae*)



**South African Snout** (*Libythea laius*)

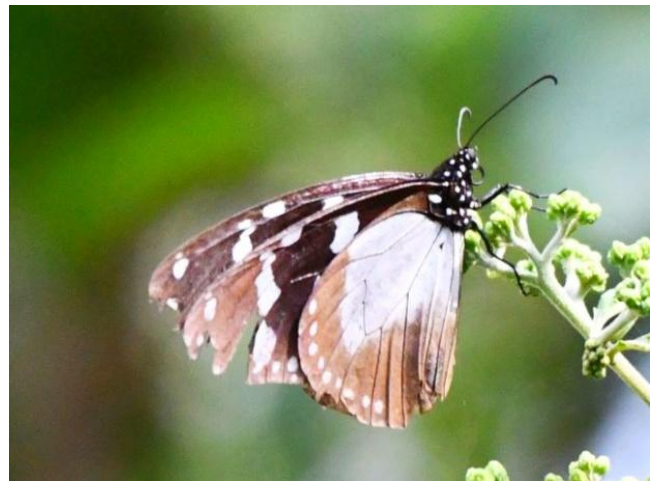
**Milkweed Butterflies** (*Danaini*)



**African Queen** (*Danaus chrysippus*)



**Monk** (*Amauris tautarea*) (under by Randy Countryman)



**Novice** (*Amauris ochlea*)





F



M

**Layman** (*Amauris albimaculata*)

**Satyrs** (*Satyrinae*)



**Jeffrey's Bush Brown** (*Bicyclus jefferyi*)



**Chirinda Bush Brown** (*Bicyclus campina*)



**Golo Bush Brown** (*Bicyclus golo*)



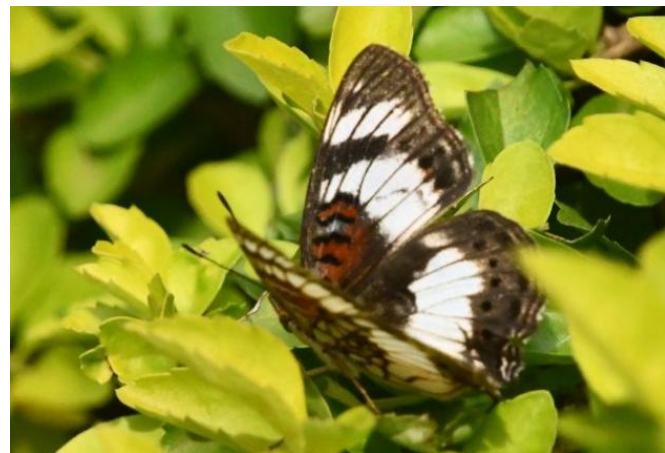
**Nymphs (Nymphalinae)**



**Little Pansy (*Junonia sphia*)**



**Golden Pansy (*Junonia stygia*)**



**Little Pansy (*Junonia sphia*)**



**Dark Blue Pansy (*Junonia oenome*)**





**Brown Pansy (*Junonia stygia*)** (Randy Countryman)



**Brown Pansy (*Junonia stygia*)**



**Soldier Commodore (*Junonia terea*)**



**Diadem (*Hypolimnas misippus*)** M Wikipedia





**Eared Commodore** (*Precis tugela*) (Randy Countryman)

**Tropical Brushfoots** (*Biblidinae*)



**Diadem** (*Hypolimnys misippus*) F Wikipedia



**Serene Sailor** (*Neptis serena*)



**Yellow-base Sailor** (*Neptis metella*)



**Forest Commodore** (*Precis rauana*)





**Black and Orange (*Vanessa milca*)**

**Longwings (*Heliconiinae*)**



**Boisduval's Tree Nymph (*Sevenia boisduvali*)**



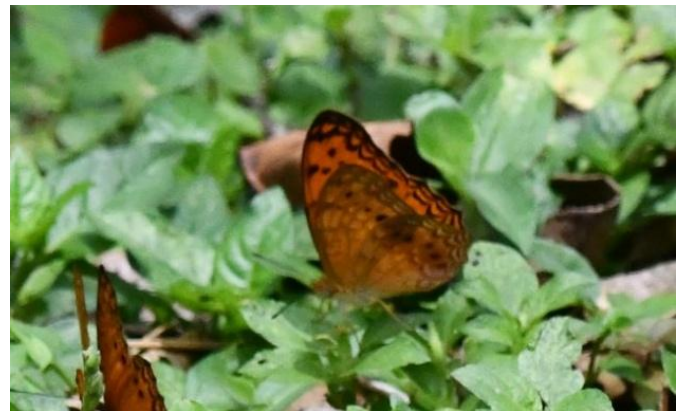
**Boisduval's Tree Nymph (*Sevenia boisduvali*)**



**Velvet Tree Nymph (*Sevenia occidentalis*)**



**Velvet Tree Nymph (*Sevenia occidentalis*)**



**African Leopard Fritillary (*Phalanta eurytis*)**





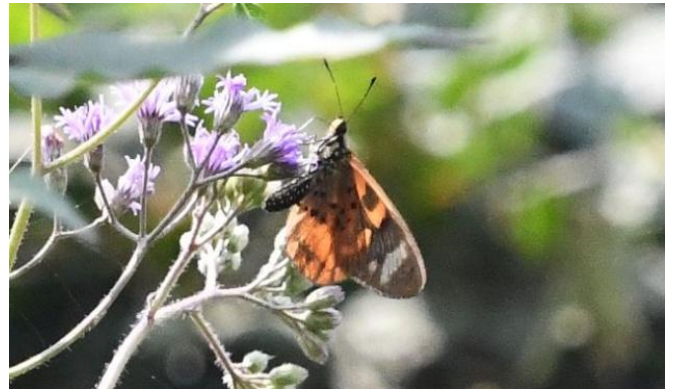
Dancing/Orange-streak Acraea (*Acraea bonsasia*)



Small Orange Acraea (*Acraea serena*) ? (Randy Countryman)



Black-winged Acraea (*Acraea asboloplintha*)



Whitebar Acraea (*Acraea encedon*)



Whitebar Acraea (*Acraea encedon*)





**Tiny Acraea** (*Acraea uvui*)



Unidentified Brushfoot



Unidentified Brushfoot

## Skippers

Skippers were an early divergence from other butterflies with a unique antenna, slightly flattened and twisted.

### Spread-wing Skippers (*Pyrginae*)



**Savana Elf** (*Eretis lugens*)



**Dusky Elf** (*Eretis melania*)





**Grizzled Skipper** (*Spialia dromus*)

**Grass Skippers** (*Hesperiinae*)



**Savanna Pathfinder** (*Pardaleodes incerta*)



**Olive-haired Swift** (*Borbo borbonica*)



**Foolish Swift** (*Borbo fatuellus*)



**White-banded Swift** (*Pelopedas thrax*)



**Unknown Grass Skipper**



**Savanna Pathfinder** (*Pardaleodes incerta*)



## Skipperlings (Heteropterinae)



**Golden Slyph** (*Metisella midas*)

## Moths

There are about six times the number of moths than butterflies worldwide though most are nocturnal. Both have an initial caterpillar stage but there are many more moths. Note that if the adult antenna lacks a bulb on the end, then you know it is a moth. The best source for Uganda currently appears to be the iNaturalist project Moths of Uganda.



**White Bear Tiger Moth** (*Chiomachla leuconoe*)

