

ISSN 0972- 1800

BIONOTES

VOLUME 23, NO. 1

QUARTERLY

JANUARY - MARCH, 2021



Date of Publication: 12th April, 2021

BIONOTES

**A Quarterly Newsletter for Research Notes and News
On Any Aspect Related with Life Forms**

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Address for Correspondence

Butterfly Research Centre, Bhimtal,
Uttarakhand 263 136, India. Phone: +91
8938896403.

Email: butterflyresearchcentre@gmail.com

From Volume 21

**Published by the Entomological Society of India (ESI), New Delhi (Nodal Officer: V.V.
Ramamurthy, ESI, New Delhi)**

And

Butterfly Research Centre, Bhimtal

Executive Editor: Peter Smetacek

Assistant Editor: Shristee Panthee

Butterfly Research Trust, Bhimtal

Published by Dr. R.K. Varshney, A Biologists Confrerie, Raj Bhawan, Manik Chowk,
Aligarh (up to volume 20 (2018)) R.N.I. Registration No. 71669/99.

Cover Photo by Parixit Kafley of *Balinta octonotata*

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NEW DISTRIBUTION RECORDS OF ONE-SPOT GRASS YELLOW *EUREMA ANDERSONI JORDANI* CORBET & PENDLEBURY, 1932 (LEPIDOPTERA: PIERIDAE) IN NEPAL

ANISHA SAPKOTA¹, SAJAN K.C.² & PARBATI KANDEL³

¹*Agriculture and Forestry University, Rampur, Chitwan, Bagmati Province, 13712, Nepal.*
anishasapkota363@gmail.com

²*Lakeside, Pokhara, Kaski, Gandaki Province, 33700, Nepal.*

³*Agriculture and Forestry University, Rampur, Chitwan, Bagmati Province, 13712, Nepal.*

Reviewer: Peter Smetacek

Abstract

New distribution records of *Eurema andersoni jordani* Corbet & Pendlebury (Lepidoptera: Pieridae) from three locations in Nepal are presented.

Introduction

New distribution records of previously unknown species in the country or known species but with a limited known range of distribution is frequent in Nepal, where many nooks and crannies still remain unexplored. P. van der Poel (2020) reported *Eurema andersoni jordani* Corbet & Pendlebury, 1932 from Lakeside, Pokhara at 850 masl. He sighted 2 individuals at the same location in June and July and reported them to occur occasionally. This species was previously listed by Thapa (1998) without any distribution data. Consequently, Smith (2010) did not include this species and placed it under “redundant names”. Later, photographs were taken in west Nepal, but they were not clear enough to be conclusive. It occurs from Uttarakhand to N.E. India (Varshney & Smetacek, 2015).

Like its common name suggests, *E. andersoni* Moore, 1886 bears only one cellspot on UnFW, however it might easily be confused with *E. hecabe* (Linnaeus, 1758), which typically has 2 UnFW cellspots but can also have single to no spot at all. That being said, *E. andersoni* differs in having a deeper yellow groundcolour, rounded HW margin which is more angled in *E. hecabe*. Along with one

zigzag spot in UnFW cell, Evans (1932) also added that *E. andersoni* lacks scattered black scales or rusty spots on the underside *Eurema* typically bear. In addition, UnFW apex is marked brown at all instances (Evans, 1932) and UnHW postdiscal space 7 has a squiggle with its tail pointing to the spot in the cellend. Another similar *Eurema*, *E. blanda* (Boisduval, 1836) has 3 FW cellspots and sometimes 4.

Observations

Three individuals of *E. andersoni*, were recorded from 3 different locations that are quite distant from the original location (OL) from which it was reported, *i.e.* Lakeside, Kaski (van der Poel, 2020). One of the sightings was from Shaktikhor, Chitwan, Bagmati Province, 81.5 km South-East of OL (27°43'56.6"N 84°37'32.4"E at 525 masl) on October 8, 2020, the other was sighted at Balithum, Gulmi, Gandaki Province (28° 4' 5.592"N 83° 19'31.4256"E at 1350 masl), 65 km South-West of OL on November 29, 2020, by a paddy field and the most recent sighting was from Baglung Bazaar, Baglung, Gandaki Province (28°15'28.6"N 83°36'22.9"E at 950 masl), 37km West of OL on February 7, 2021, by Kaligandaki river. Note that the distances

given here are air distance taken from Google Maps, and not road distance. While Chitwan is essentially a terai district, the location in question lies in the transition zone between hills and terai, while Gulmi and Baglung are hilly districts in central Nepal. Both individuals from Chitwan and Gulmi were mud puddling alone and uninterruptedly, while the individual from Baglung was found perched on a leaf.

Conclusion

This finding suggests that *E. andersoni* is found both in the hilly and terai regions of Nepal and probably has a more extensive distribution throughout the country, albeit elusive.

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Fig. 1: *E. andersoni* individual sighted at Shaktikhor, Chitwan



Fig. 2: *E. andersoni* individual sighted at Balithum, Gulmi



Fig. 3: *E. andersoni* individual sighted at Baglung Bazaar, Baglung