



# BUTTERFLIES KAUST



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# Butterflies of KAUST

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So far 15 butterflies have been identified at KAUST. Larsen's 'Butterflies of Saudi Arabia' indicates that 35 species occur in the Hejaz region which includes KAUST. A species will only be found if the plant species, consumed by the larvae, grows locally. As many of the region's plant species are not found at KAUST, it follows that some butterflies will also not be found here.





# African Lime Butterfly

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- Scientific name: *Papilio demodocus*
- Family: *Papilionidae*
- Wingspan: 80 - 100 mm
- First recorded: Island Park, 4, February 2017

A member of the swallowtail family and the largest butterfly found at KAUST. This species is found across southern Asia with a number of sub species identified. This species will visit mud pools if available. Larvae feed on citrus fruits.





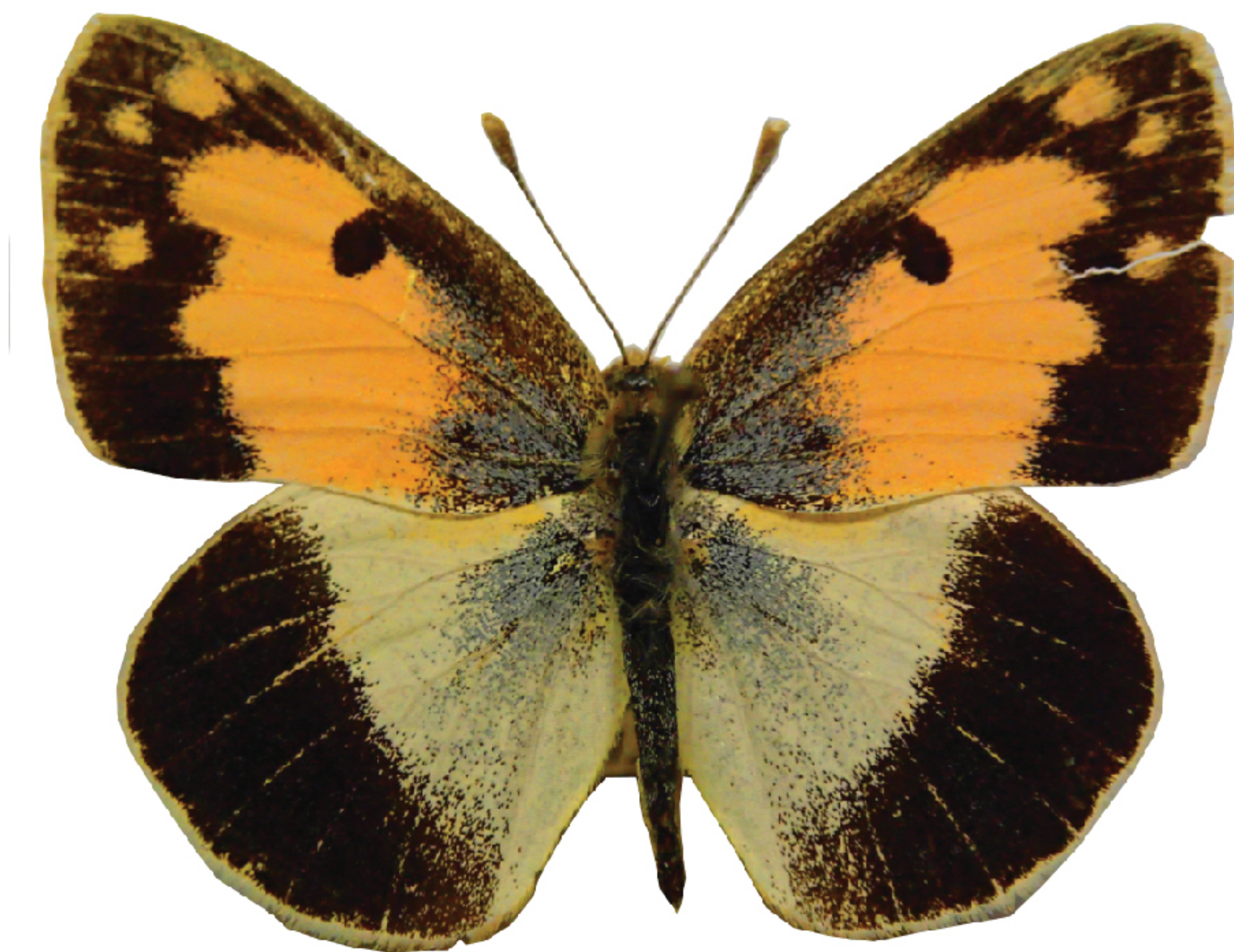
# Caper White

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- Scientific name: *Anaphaeis aurora*
- Family: *Pieridae*
- Wingspan: 55 mm
- First recorded: Golf Course 10, February 2016

A common species throughout Arabia, Africa and India. An accomplished migrant travelling northwards to Lebanon and Egypt. They can erupt and become very common. A subspecies has developed in South-West Arabia which no longer migrates.





# Blue Spotted Arab

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- Scientific name: *Colotis phisadia*
- Family: *Pieridae*
- First recorded: Golf Course August 10, 2018

A member of the colotis group of Pieridae butterflies. Apparently common where the larval food plant *Salvadora persica* occurs, a species of plant that has not been recorded at KAUST.





# Yellow Patch White

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- Scientific name: *Colitis halide*
- Family: *Pieridae*
- Distribution: limited to the Sahel region and southern Arabia
- First recorded: South Beach, February 5, 2018

A member of the colotis group of Pieridae butterflies.





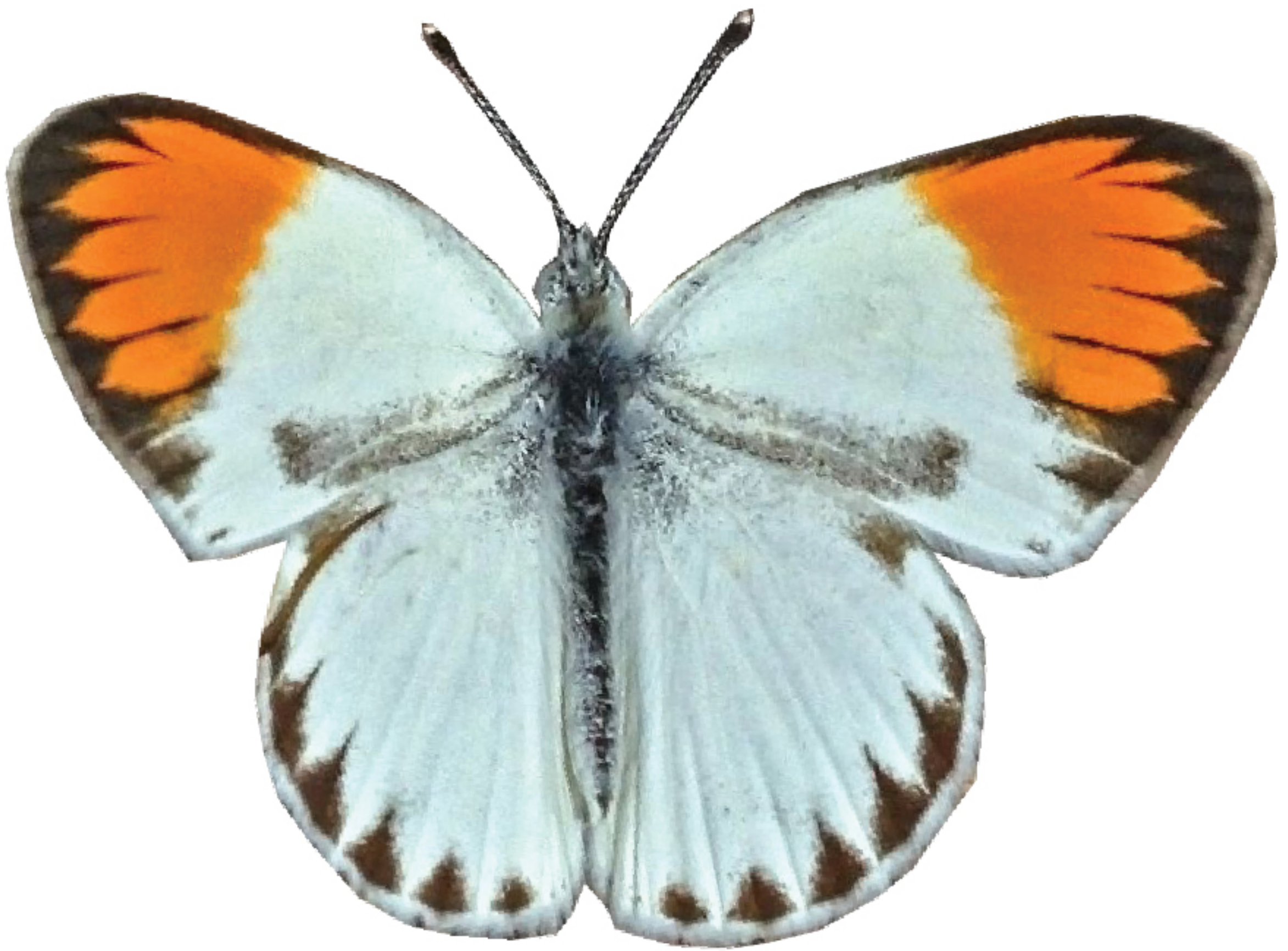
# Scarlet Tip

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- Scientific name: *Colotis danae*
- Family: *Pieridae*
- Wingspan: males 45 - 50 mm, females 48 - 52 mm
- First recorded: South Beach, February 5, 2018

Found throughout Africa and Arabia. The scarlet wingtip of the male is much brighter than on the female. The undersides are much duller still.





# Desert Orange Tip

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- Scientific name: *Colotis liagore*
- Family: *Pieridae*
- Wingspan: 28 - 38 mm
- First recorded: Golf Course, February 10, 2016

A limited distribution across Sahel Africa, southern Arabia and to the very south of Pakistan. The habitat is described as moist savannah.





# African Emigrant

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- Scientific name: *Catospilia florella*
- Family: *Pieridae*
- Wingspan: males 54 - 60 mm, females 56 - 66 mm
- First recorded: Golf Course, April 9, 2017

Found across Africa and Arabia. As the name implies a migrant species which may occur in huge numbers but also be scarce. Larva feed on cassia plants.





# Common Grass Yellow

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- Scientific name: *Eureka hecabe*
- Family: *Pieridae*
- Wingspan: 35 - 45 mm
- First recorded: Golf Course, March 12, 2019

Found across A widespread species usually found near to the ground in grass or scrub habitats.





# Leaden Ciliate Blue

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- Scientific name: *Anthene amarah*
- Family: *Lycaenidae*
- Wingspan: males 21 - 26 mm, females 23 - 29 mm
- First recorded: Golf Course, April 4, 2017

Found throughout tropical Africa and Arabia. The larvae feed on various acacia species of plant. The anthene species often have 3 small tufts of hair on the margin of the hindwing.





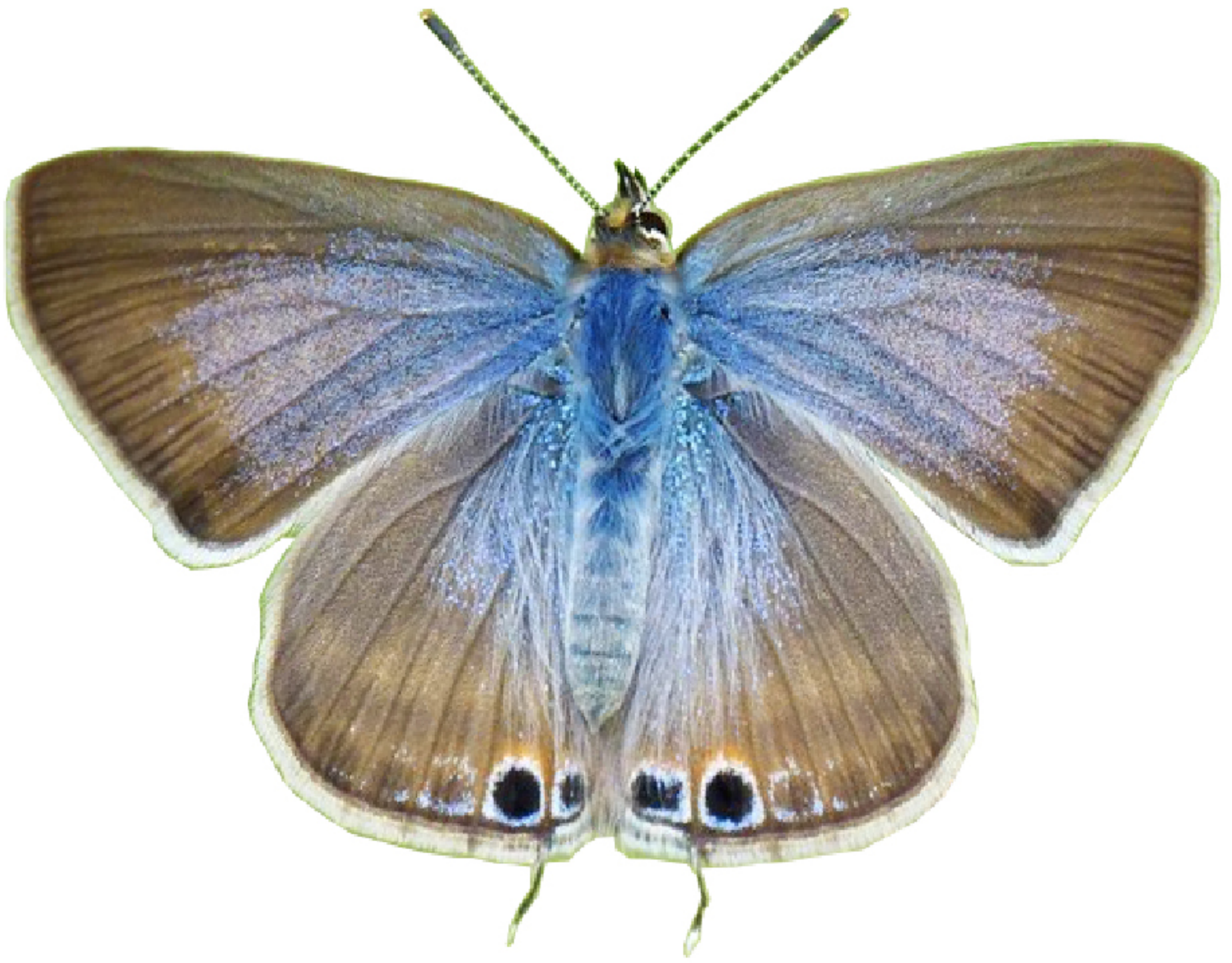
# Mediterranean Pierrot

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- Scientific name: *Tarucus rosaceus*
- Family: *Lycaenidae*
- First recorded: Golf Course, April 9, 2017

An eremic (desert) species found throughout the Sahara, Arabia and parts of the Subcontinent. The larvae are associated with plants of the ziziphus genus commonly called jujube. The larvae live inside ant colonies.





# Pea Blue

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- Scientific name: *Lampides boeticus*
- Family: *Lycaenidae*
- Wingspan: 24 - 34 mm
- First recorded: Golf Course, October 30, 2017

A species found across Europe, North Africa and southern Asia. Often has 3 generations in a year. Migratory.





# African Grass Blue

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- Scientific name: *Zizeeria knysna*
- Family: *Lycaenidae*
- Wingspan: male 18 - 23 mm, female 21- 26 mm
- First recorded: Golf Course, October 30, 2017

Found in west Mediterranean areas and Arabia. The species name knysna, refers to a place in South Africa but the species there has now been reclassified to an alternative name. Very small.





# Grass Jewel

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- Scientific name: *Freyeria trochylus*
- Family: *Lycaenidae*
- Wingspan: male 18 - 23 mm, female 21- 26 mm
- First recorded: Golf Course, October 25, 2018

A species found at the Golf Course on October 25, 2018 is probably this species. Distribution across Middle East, Africa and southern Asia.





# Plain Tiger

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- Scientific name: *Danaus chrysippus*
- Family: *Nymphalidae*
- Wingspan: 70 - 80 mm
- First recorded: Golf Course, February 4, 2017

A widespread species found in Australia, Africa and Asia. The larvae consume milkweed plants which contains toxic compounds which in turn make the butterfly unpalatable to most predators.





# Painted Lady

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- Scientific name: *Vanessa cardui*
- Family: *Nymphalidae*
- Wingspan: 50 - 90 mm
- First recorded: Island mangroves, February 2, 2018

A widespread species found throughout Africa, Europe and Asia. A migratory species which appears to navigate using the sun. The route is dependent on the climatic conditions at the time.





# Yellow Pansy

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- Scientific name: *Junonia hierta*
- Family: *Nymphalidae*
- Wingspan: 45 - 60 mm
- First recorded: Golf Course, May 9, 2018

Found from Africa to South Eastern Asia. Usually found in grassland or scrub. The female is similar to the male only somewhat duller.





# Diadem

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- Scientific name: *Hypolimnys misippus*
- Family: *Nymphalidae*
- Wingspan: 55 - 90 mm
- First recorded: Golf Course, April 9, 2017

A widespread species found across Africa, Asia and Australia. The females mimic similar toxic species, in our area the Plain Tiger.