

New Larval Host Plants For Some Tropical Butterflies Of Southern Andhra Pradesh - India



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While investigating the life history strategies and larval performance of several butterfly species in the hill regions of Lankamalai, Thalakona, Belum & Tirumala of Southern Andhra Pradesh during January 2012 to December 2013, two Nymphalid *Precis* species the Peacock pansy *Precis almana* (Linn.) and the yellow pansy *Precis hierta* (Linn.), the other Nymphalid butterflies. The great egg fly *Hypolimnas bolina* (Linn.) and the blue tiger *Tirumala limniace* laying eggs on plants not earlier reported. We found new larval host plant in the same vegetation but feeding at different time period. The list was given below:-

Butterflies (Fig.1)	Larval Host plants listed (Wynter -Blyth -1957)	New Larval Host plants utilized (Fig.2)
<i>Precis almana</i> and <i>Precis hierta</i>	<i>Asteracantha longifolia</i> (L.)Nees	<i>Asystasia gangetica</i> (L.)T. (June - December)
	<i>Sida rhombifolia</i> L.	<i>Ruellina tuberosa</i> L. (June - December)
	<i>Barleria</i> sp. L.	<i>Dipteracanthus prostrates</i> (Poir.)Nees (June - December)
	<i>Justica procumbens</i> L.	
	<i>J. micrantha</i> L.	
	<i>Lepidagathis prostrate</i> Willd.	
	<i>Nelsonia campestris</i> (R.Br.)	
<i>Tirumala limniace</i>	<i>Dregea volubilis</i> L. f.).Benth.ex Hook	<i>Pentatropis capensis</i> (L.f.)Bullock (October - April)
	<i>Calotropis gigantean</i> (L.)W.T.Aiton	
	<i>Marsdenia tenacissima</i> (Roxb.)Moon	
<i>Hypolimnas bolina</i>	<i>Fleurya interrupta</i> L. Chew	<i>Sida veronicaefolia</i> L. (June - December)
	<i>Elatostemma cuneatum</i> Wight	<i>Asystasia gangetica</i> (L.)T. (June - December)
	<i>Portulaca oleracea</i> L	<i>Triumfelta pentandra</i> A.Ric (June - December)

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Reference:

Wynter-Blyth, M.A. (1957). *Butterflies of the Indian region*. The Bombay Natural History Society, Bombay.

Fig: 1. Life cycle of Butterflies

Life cycles of Butterflies



A: Adult



B: Larva



C: Pupa

Life cycle of Precis almana



A: Adult



B: Larva



C: Pupa

Life cycle of Precis hierta



A: Adult



B: Larva



C: Pupa

Life cycle of Tirumala limniace



A: Adult



B: Larva



C: Pupa

Life cycle of Hypolimnias bolina

New Larval Host plants



Ayastasia gangetica (L.) T.



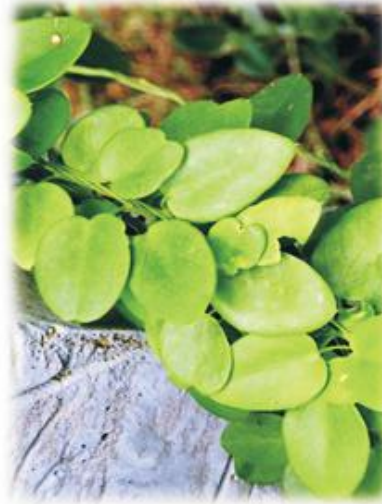
Ruellia tuberosa L.



Sida veronicaefolia L



Dipteracanthus prostratus



Pentstemon capensis



Triumfetta pentandra