

## Scientific Note

**First record of *Lestranicus transpectus* (Moore, 1879) and *Graphium macareus* (Godart, 1819) (Insecta: Lepidoptera: Papilionoidea) in Bangladesh**

Primer registro de *Lestranicus transpectus* (Moore, 1879) y *Graphium macareus* (Godart, 1819)  
(Insecta: Lepidoptera: Papilionoidea) en Bangladesh

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**Abstract.** *Lestranicus transpectus* and *Graphium macareus* are new observations of butterfly fauna to Bangladesh for the first time from Baro Chara (22.50° N, 92.18° E, 9 m), Rangamati district of Chittagong division. These two new findings signify previous sampling gaps and suggest further surveys needed to make an updated and exhaustive checklist for Bangladesh.

**Key words:** Butterfly; Kaptai National Park; Lycaenidae; new record; Papilionidae.

**Resumen.** *Lestranicus transpectus* y *Graphium macareus* son observadas por primera vez en Baro Chara (22.50° N, 92.18° E, 9 m), distrito de Rangamati de la división de Chittagong, Bangladesh. Estos dos nuevos registros evidencian la falta de muestreos previos y sugieren la necesidad de realizar más prospecciones para hacer una lista de verificación exhaustiva y actualizada para Bangladesh.

**Palabras clave:** Lycaenidae; mariposa; nuevo registro; Papilionidae; Parque Nacional Kaptai.

Kaptai National Park (KNP) is situated under Sitapahar Reserve area in Rangamati district falls between the Karnaphuly River and Kaptai mountain ranges (22.50° N, 92.33° E), the south-eastern part of Bangladesh. It is about 57 km north of Chattogram (Chittagong) city and 12 km south of Rangamati Town. With 5464 hectares of area range is usually covered with mixed sub-tropical evergreen forest. Most of the natural forests were replaced by *Tectona grandis* L. f. (Lamiaceae) plantation by British in 1873 (Shihan 2016). KNP area is known as a butterfly hotspot in Bangladesh (Habib *et al.* 2016). Larsen (2004) annotated a checklist of 311 species and assumed another 116 species of butterflies might be present in Bangladesh. IUCN Bangladesh (2015) stated 305 species of butterflies of Bangladesh. Habib *et al.* (2016) compiled 146 species and Shihan (2015) reported some noticeable range extended species from author study site. *Graphium sarpedon* (Linnaeus, 1758), *Graphium eurypylus* (Linnaeus, 1758), *Graphium doson* (Felder, 1864), *Graphium agamemnon* (Linnaeus, 1758), *Graphium antiphates* (Cramer, [1775]), *Graphium nomius* (Esper, 1799) and *Graphium xenocles* (Doubleday, 1842) are recorded previously from Bangladesh (IUCN 2015) and *Graphium aristeus* (Stoll, [1780]) recorded but mistakenly identified as *G.*

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*nomius* (Esper, 1799) (Habib et al. 2015). This butterfly survey was carried out occasionally for three days in the month of March in 2020. During the expedition in Chittagong division, White-banded Hedge Blue *Lestranicus transpectus* (Moore, 1879) (Fig. 2) and Lesser Zebra *Graphium macareus* (Godart, 1819) (Fig. 3) were spotted and photographed by the authors for the first time from Bangladesh.



**Figure 1.** New locality record of *Lestranicus transpectus* and *Graphium macareus* in Bangladesh. / Nuevos registros de localidad de *Lestranicus transpectus* y *Graphium macareus* en Bangladesh.



***Lestranicus transpectus* (Moore, 1879) White-Banded Hedge Blue**

Current known distribution until this study: The global distribution of the taxon is in Sikkim to N.E. India (Varshney & Smetacek 2015), Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam and China (Inayoshi 2020). Larsen (2004) mentioned it from Cachar and Dawki, and he guessed that it may appear in Bangladesh. The species was reported from the Baghmara Reserve Forest of Garo hills in Meghalaya (Kunte *et al.* 2012), Panbari forest (Gogoi 2015) and Barail Wildlife Sanctuary (Gogoi *et al.* 2016) in Assam. Subsequently, the authors have recorded the species from the Kaptai National Park of Bangladesh (aerial distance 265 km from Barail Wildlife Sanctuary, 330 km from Garo Hills, 446 km from Panbari Forest).

**Remarks.** An individual of *Lestranicus transpectus* was recorded from at about 10:39AM (GMT+6) on 09.iii.2020 in a hill stream named “Baro Chara” (22.50° N, 92.18° E, 9 m) (Fig. 1). The butterfly was resting about 1.2-1.4 m above the ground on an unknown leaf. The species was photographed by the authors and later identified using field guides (Evans 1932; Kehimkar 2016). *Lestranicus transpectus* is most similar to *Acytolepis puspa* (Horsfield, [1828]) but can be distinguished by absence of black basal spot at space 7 in its underside hind wings. In addition, rounded and conspicuous black spot in space 7 and small basal spot at space 1b (Kehimkar 2016; Ek-Amnuay 2012) indicate that the photographed specimen belongs to the *L. transpectus* species.



**Figure 2.** *Lestranicus transpectus* basking on the leaf (underside view). / *Lestranicus transpectus* tomando el sol sobre una hoja (vista inferior).

### *Graphium macareus* (Godart, 1819) Lesser Zebra

Current known distribution until this study: This species is distributed in India (Varshney & Smetacek 2015), Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia and Langkawi (Inayoshi 2020). However, the species have well occurred in Khasi-Jaintia hills, Southern part of Assam and West Bengal states (Gogoi *et al.* 2016; Kunte *et al.* 2020; Sinha *et al.* 2019). Kunte *et al.* (2012) reported on the Lepidopteran fauna of the Baghmara Reserve Forest zone of Garo hills of Meghalaya, they observed this species of butterfly in summer season. Gogoi *et al.* (2016) were recorded from Lakhicherra area of Barail Wildlife Sanctuary, Assam. It is important to note that this species does not probably occur in Upper Assam and East Arunachal Pradesh, and is restricted to Garo-Khasi-Jaintia hills in Meghalaya and Cachar hills in Central Assam (Gogoi *et al.* 2016).

**Remarks.** On 09.iii.2020, a single mudpuddling individual of *Graphium macareus* was sighted and photographed at “Baro Chara” (22.50° N, 92.18° E, 9 m), Kaptai National Park, Chittagong district of Bangladesh (Fig. 1). It was observed for a half an hour. The observed individual is characterized by the crescent-shaped marginal white spots in the hind wing (Kehimkar 2016). Moreover, unfolded hind wing and short antennae indicate that the photographed specimen is a species under genus *Graphium* Scopoli, 1777 (Talbot 1939). *Graphium macareus* is similar with *Graphium xenocles* but it can be identified by its smaller size and small yellow tornal spot.



**Figure 3.** *Graphium macareus* puddling on the stone (underside view). / *Graphium macareus* alimentandose sobre una piedra (vista inferior).

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