NEW LARVAL FOOD PLANTS OF
EUPLOEA CORE CORE (CRAMER)
(NYMPHALIDAE: LEPIDOPTERA: INSECTA)

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The Common Crow, Euploea core core (Cramer) is a widespread butterfly occurring in many habitats. It is a polyphagous insect, known to feed on a variety of plant species including Ficus bengalensis, F. racemosa, F. religiosa, F. elastica, Streblus asper (Moraceae); Cryptolepis elegans, C. buchanani, Hemidesmus indicus, Tylophora indica (Asclepiadaceae); Holarrhena pubescens, Ichnocarpus frutescens, Nerium odorum and N. oleander (Apocynaceae) as reported by Wynter-Blyth (1957), Gay et al. (1992) and Kunte (2000).

Since 1993, we have been observing Common Crows laying eggs on the young reddish buds of Ficus arnottiana (Moraceae), a common fig tree found along the rocky parts of the Madiyipara hills, Payangadi, Kannur District, Kerala. We have also observed its breeding on Carissa carandas (Apocynaceae), a small spiny climbing shrub cultivated in the area. All records were during monsoon from June to August and many golden pupae were noted during this period.

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References