

Bugs & All

Newsletter of the
Invertebrate Conservation & Information Network of South Asia (ICINSA)

First record of Indian Cupid from Purulia, West Bengal, India

The butterfly *Everes lacturnus* commonly known as Indian Cupid belongs to the Lycaenidae family of superfamily Papilionoidea (Kehimkar 2016). The species was first reported by Godart in 1824. The butterfly species was identified on the basis of the tailed hind wing (HW), underside (UN) of the wings almost white with some black spots, presence of outer discal spot on space 6 in line with spaces 5 on underside of

the hind wing (UNH), and presence of two orange crowned black spots in spaces 2 and 3 on UNH tornus (Evans 1932; Wynter-Blyth 1957; Kehimkar 2016). This is the first written form of report of *Everes lacturnus* from Purulia, West Bengal located in Chota Nagpur Plateau area.

During the field survey 20 July 2020 one specimen of *Everes lacturnus* was registered at the Leprosy Mission campus situated in Purulia district, West Bengal, India. The specimen was not captured. By the use of Nikon Coolpix P600 camera the butterfly species was photographed.

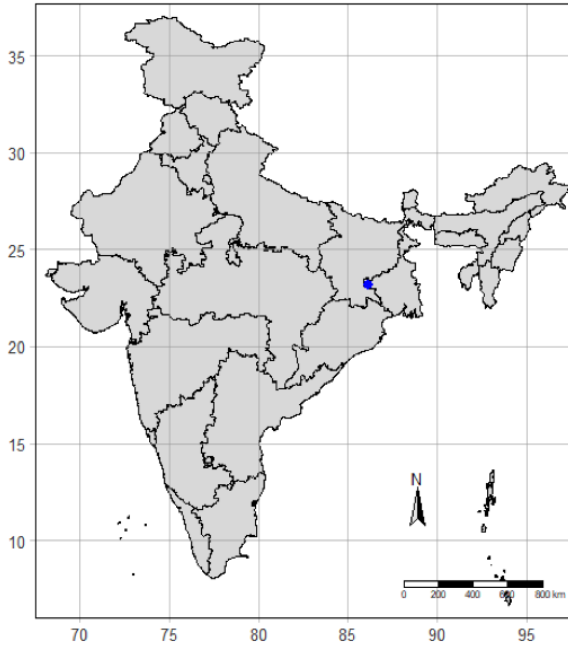
The coordinates of the study site (23.329 N 86.338 E) from

Indian Cupid butterfly photographed at the Leprosy Mission campus, Purulia, West Bengal.

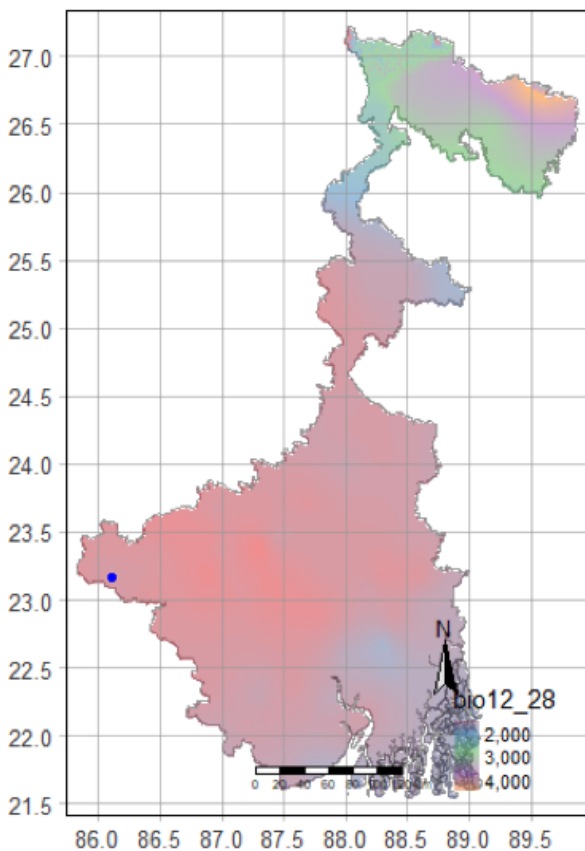


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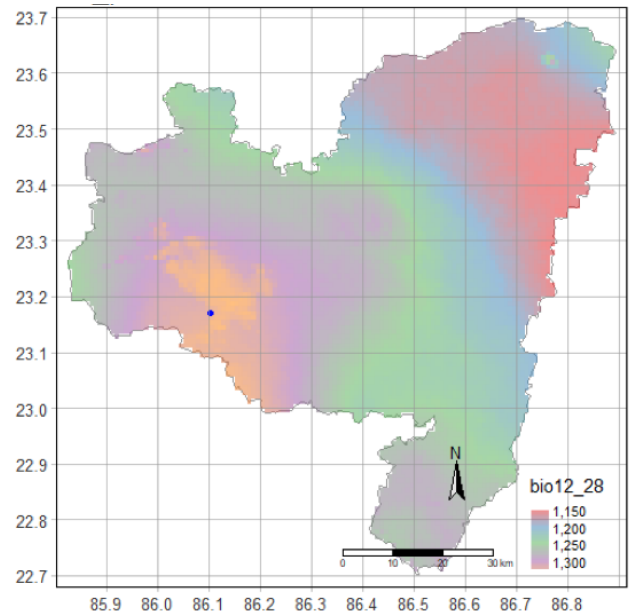
India map showing Purulia District.



Map of West Bengal showing the locality of the observation.

where the butterfly species were observed in collection of nectar from an *Ocimum americanum* plant were plotted in raster plot done by using R Studio 3.6.3 for visualizing the location (R Studio Team 2020).

The butterfly Indian Cupid has distribution in India with records from Maharashtra, Mizoram, Kerala, Telengana, Andhra Pradesh,



Coordinates of the site from where butterfly Indian cupid was photographed plotted in Purulia map.

Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, West Bengal, Nagaland, Gujrat, Odisha, Uttarakhand, Assam, Chattisgarh, and Chandigarh (Churi 2022). Besides India, this butterfly species also found in Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar (Kehimkar 2016). Woody hilly habitats are preferred by this butterfly species but they are also



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seen on plains and depends on flowers for food (Kehimkar 2016). In West Bengal the butterfly species was earlier recorded from three districts namely Hooghly, Burdwan, and Bankura (Churi 2022).

References

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