

A GYNANDROMORPH OF *DELIAS ARGENTATA* FROM IRIAN JAYA (LEPIDOPTERA: PIERIDAE)

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On a trip with the Lepidopterist's Society to Irian Jaya during October of 1990, a gynandromorph of *Delias argentata* Roepke was collected by the junior author on 24 October along the Sigit Sigit River, Walesi, near Wamena in the Baliem Valley. Bernard D'Abbrera's *Butterflies of the Australian Region* (1971) lists the range of this species as the Ibele Valley and its status as rare. The figure above shows the striking difference between the left (female) and right (male) sides. Examination of the external genitalia suggest that this specimen is perfectly bilateral (the internal structures were not dissected).

Wing shape is visibly different between the two sides, the right side being more broad. The measured forewing length showed the right side to be only 1mm wider than the left (male/right = 23.1mm; female/left = 22.1mm). The female is characterized by having wider black margins dorsally than the male, and three distinctive orange marks near the apex of the forewing, similar to the marks found ventrally in both sexes. The female also has a small patch of bright yellow and orange scales along the margin

of black within the forewing discal cell.

A total of 5 individuals of this species were taken: with the gynandromorph as the exception, all were males. At the University of Florida, a series of 18 specimens collected at various dates (7 Sep 1989; 13-17 Jan 1990; 5-9 Apr 1990; 1-4 Jul 1990; 24-28 Oct 1990) within the Baliem Valley (Dagum, Kuruagi, Sigit Sigit and Mil Rivers) was also found to contain mostly males and only one female. D'Abbrera (*op. cit.*) illustrates the male only.