

SAMUI BUTTERFLIES

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by Les Day

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Danaus chrysippus chrysippus



Male Underside



Female Upperside

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Linnaeus 1758 - The Plain Tiger

Koh Samui and Koh Pha Ngan.

This is the most commonly seen of the Orange Tigers to be found on the islands. It can be found around gardens and in secondary vegetation, but not in forests.

There is a pale form, *f. alcippoides*, which is the prominent form on the Malay mainland, south of Penang. I have yet to find it here (see Singapore in the 'expeditions' section), but it has been seen on mainland Thailand occasionally, and should be looked for here.

The sexes can be distinguished by a prominent set of scent scales on the hindwing of the male, which is absent on the female, as can be seen in the photos. This is a common trait with most members of the Danainae.

Flight Period

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Wingspan

55 - 65mm

Early Stages

Fully known. More detailed life history information is available from the following resource: [ButterflyCircle Blog](#) (courtesy of Dr. Horace Tan.)



5th Instar larva

Larval Foodplant

Asclepias curassavica and *Calotropis gigantea* (both Asclepiadaceae)

Range

Very widespread, from Greece and Asia Minor to tropical Africa, throughout tropical Asia to Australia.

