

# SAMUI BUTTERFLIES

www.samuibutterflies.com

by Les Day

home

about

contact

insects ▼

expeditions ▼

galleries ▼

Insects >> Butterflies >> Papilionidae >> Chilasa clytia clytia

## Chilasa clytia clytia



f. dissimillima Male upperside



f. dissimillima Male underside

### Linnaeus 1758 - The Common Mime

A very interesting species occurring in two form groups, a brown one and a black/grey striped group. One of each group has been found, so far, on Samui, *f. onpape* for the former, and *f. dissimillima* for the latter. Of the two, *f. dissimillima* is by far the more common.

Both groups mimic various members of the *Danainae* family, with varying degrees of success (the Brown group being rather better at mimicking *Euploea* species than the Black/grey group are of *Ideopsis*, *Parantica* and *Tirumala* species).

This butterfly is not uncommon, can be found in secondary growth, and often visits gardens to feed on *Ixora* and *Lantana* flowers. It is interesting to note that the larval foodplants have strong smelling leaves used locally in making soap, and the male adult butterfly, if smelt close to (not recommended), exhibit a perfumed fragrance (the females less so).

### Flight Period

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

### Wingspan

75 - 95mm

### Early Stages

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

### Larval Foodplant

*Cinnamomum*, *Litsea* sp. (*Lauraceae*)

### Range

Nepal to Thailand and Malaysia (Other subspecies are found in Sri Lanka, India to South China, Philippines and the Lesser Sunda Islands of Indonesia)



f. onpape Male upperside



f. onpape Male underside

[<< Back to Papilionidae overview](#)