

SAMUI BUTTERFLIES

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by Les Day

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Eurema hecabe hecabe



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Moore 1886 - The Common Grass Yellow

Koh Samui and Koh Pha Ngan.

There are six members of the *Eurema* genus on the Islands. They are all very similar, and it is nearly impossible to identify most of them on the wing. The main differences between the species are a) the number of spots in the underside forewing cell, combined with b) the shape of the upperside forewing black markings and c) the shape of the apical area markings on the forewing underside. As the English name suggests, this species should be looked for on grasslands, and other open spaces.

This species is of medium size, has two cell spots, with the black forewing border deeply excavated and at right angles to the dorsum below vein 2 or sloping slightly to the base.

This is the commonest butterfly in the Eastern Tropics, and is very common on Samui and can be found anywhere.

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

35 - 45mm

Early Stages

Fully known. More detailed life history information is available from the following resources: S. Igarishi - Life Histories of Asian Butterflies, Volume.2 , Page 376.

Larval Foodplant

A large range of *Leguminosae*

Range

A very cosmopolitan species which can be found throughout Africa, Madagascar, Saudi Arabia, India, Sri Lanka, and throughout S. Asia through Australia and the Solomons to Fiji and Tonga.