

Genus *Semalea* Holland, 1896 Silky Skippers

Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London **1896**: 64 (2-107).
Type-species: *Hesperia pulvina* Plötz, by original designation.

= *Xanthodisca* Aurivillius, [1925] *In* Seitz, [1908-25]. *Die Gross-Schmetterlinge der Erde, Stuttgart* (2) 13 *Die Afrikanischen Tagfalter*: 528 (614 pp.).
Type-species: *Astictopterus vibius* Hewitson, by monotypy.

The genus *Semalea* belongs to the Family Hesperidae Latreille, 1809; Subfamily Hesperinae Latreille, 1809, Tribe Astictopterini, Swinhoe, 1912, Subtribe Hypoleucina, Huang *et al.*, 2024.

Semalea (**Silky Skippers**) is an Afrotropical genus of nine species. The larvae of two of the species in the genus are known to feed on members of the plant family Zingiberaceae (Cock *et al.*, 2016).

Note: According to Ackery *et al.*, 1995:107 the description of the nominal species *Semalea scapa* Evans (1937) from Cameroon is based on a mislabelled specimen of *Paphias dictys* Godman & Salvin from the Neotropical Region.

Note: Larsen (2005a: 512) considers *proxima* (Plötz, 1886) [*Stettiner Entomologische Zeitung* **47**: 95 (83-117)] to be a *nomen dubium*. Ackery *et al.* (1995) gave *bauri* (Plötz, 1886) [TL Ghana: “Aburi”; *Stettiner Entomologische Zeitung* **47**: 98 (83-117)] as a synonym of *proxima*. The latter taxon was not mentioned by Larsen (2005a); its status is therefore uncertain.

Note: Zhang *et al.*, 2023a, synonymize *Xanthodisca* Aurivillius, [1925] with *Semalea*. This is a taxonomic decision with which Huang *et al.*, 2024 label as premature and therefore ignore. However, they make no formal taxonomic changes.

**Semalea arela* (Mabille, 1891) Brown Silky Skipper

Hypoleucis arela Mabille, 1891. *Bulletin de la Société Entomologique de Belgique* **35**: 69 (59-88, 106-121, 168-187).
Semalea arela (Mabille, 1891). Dickson & Kroon, 1978.
Semalea arela (Mabille, 1891). Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 329.



Semalea arela. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Ndjole, Gabon. 20 June 2016. J. Dobson.
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson collection.



Semalea arela. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Zambezi Rapids, Ikelenge, Zambia. 16 April 2002.
Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.

Type locality: Gabon. Described from a female.

Diagnosis: The male has a brand on either side of the origin of vein 2 of the forewing (Cock *et al.*, 2016).

Distribution: Senegal, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Benin (central), Nigeria, Cameroon, Gabon, Congo, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia (north), Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe (east).

Specific localities:

Senegal – Basse Casamance (Larsen, 2005a).

Liberia – Wologizi (Safian *et al.*, 2020).

Ghana – Bobiri Butterfly Sanctuary (Larsen *et al.*, 2007); Boabeng-Fiema Monkey Sanctuary (Larsen *et al.*, 2009).

Benin – see Coache *et al.*, 2017.

Cameroon – Victoria (Mabille, 1891); Alen (Strand, 1913); Korup (Larsen, 2005a).

Gabon – Malibe (Vande weghe, 2010); Talaguga (Vande weghe, 2010); Tchimbele (Vande weghe, 2010); Bakouaka (Vande weghe, 2010); Langoue and Ipassa in Ivindo National Park (Vande weghe, 2010); Lope National Park (Vande weghe, 2010).

Democratic Republic of Congo – Ituri Forest (Ducarme, 2018); Semuliki Valley (Ducarme, 2018); Mt Mitumba (Ducarme, 2018).

Kenya – Shimba Hills (Larsen, 1991c); Meru (Larsen, 1991c); Makadara Forest, Shimba Hills (Cock *et al.*, 2016); coast (Cock *et al.*, 2016).

Tanzania – Throughout (Kielland, 1990d); Pemba Island (Kielland, 1990d); coast (Cock *et al.*, 2016).

Malawi – Mt Mulanje (Congdon *et al.*, 2010); Nyika N.P. (J. Timberlake, pers. comm., 2019).

Zambia – Ikelenge (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Solwezi (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Mufulira (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Samfya (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Mbala (Heath *et al.*, 2002).

Angola – Huila Province (Mendes *et al.*, 2013).

Mozambique – Dondo Forest (Pennington and Cookson); Amatongas Forest (male illustrated above); Gorongoza (Pinhey); Mt Namuli (Congdon *et al.*, 2010); Mt Mabui (Congdon *et al.*, 2010).

Zimbabwe – Mount Selinda (Pennington).

Habitat: Forest, including drier forest (Larsen, 2005a). Also in heavy woodland (Kielland, 1990d). In Tanzania from 400 to 2 000 m (Kielland, 1990d).

Habits: Flies only in the morning, until about 10:00, except when it is cloudy and warm, when it may fly later in the day. Frequently settles on grass, in sunlit spots (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). It generally flies lower down, and is seen in more open places than its congeners (Larsen, 2005a). Males perching in sunlit areas engage in furious territorial battles (Larsen, 1991c). Individuals are attracted by flowering bushes (Kielland, 1990d).

Flight period: All year (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Early stages:

Cock *et al.*, 2016: 213

Larval food:

Aframomum species (Zingiberaceae) [Sevastopulo, 1974 (Kenya); Vuattoux, 1999 (Ivory Coast); Condamin, *vide* Larsen, 2005a (Basse Casamance, Senegal); Larsen, 2005a (Zambia)].

Aframomum alboviolaceum (Ridl.) K. Schum. (Zingiberaceae) [Vuattoux, 1999; Ivory Coast; as *A.*

latifolium K. Schum.].
Aframomum cereum (Hook. f.) K. Schum. (Zingiberaceae) [Vuattoux, 1999; Ivory Coast; as *A. sceptrum* (Oliv. & D. Hanb.) K. Schum.].
Aframomum orientale Lock (Zingiberaceae) [Cock *et al.*, 2016; Kenya].
Hedychium sp. (Zingiberaceae) (Exotic) [Cock *et al.*, 2016; in captivity].
Panicum species (Poaceae) [Real, *vide* Condamin mss (Larsen, 2005a); very doubtful (Larsen, 2005a)].
Pennisetum species (Poaceae) [Real, *vide* Condamin mss (Larsen, 2005a); very doubtful (Larsen, 2005a)].
Setaria species (Poaceae) [Real, *vide* Condamin mss (Larsen, 2005a); very doubtful (Larsen, 2005a)].
Zingiber species (Zingiberaceae) [Sevastopulo, 1975 (Kenya); Kielland, 1990d: 245; probably a misidentification for *Aframomum* by Sevastopulo according to Cock *et al.*, 2016].

nox Mabilles, 1891 (as sp. of *Pamphila*). *Bulletin de la Société Entomologique de Belgique* **35**: 168 (59-88, 106-121, 168-187). Cameroon: “Victoria”. Described from a male.

atimus Holland, 1896 (*Nomen nudum*). *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* **1896**: 68 (2-107).

defectula Strand, 1913 (as ab. of *Baoris arela*). *Archiv für Naturgeschichte* **78** (A.12.): 51 (30-84). Cameroon: “Alen”.

****Semalea atrio* (Mabilles, 1891)**
Small Silky Skipper

Cobalus atrio Mabilles, 1891. *Bulletin de la Société Entomologique de Belgique* **35**: 82 (59-88, 106-121, 168-187).



Semalea atrio. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Mamove, North Kivu, Democratic Republic of Congo. June 2011. ABRI Leg. ABRI-2019-2476.
Images M.C. Williams ex ABRI Collection.

Type locality: Cameroon: “Camaroons”.

Distribution: Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo (east), Tanzania (north-west).

Specific localities:

Guinea – Ziama (Safian *et al.*, 2020).

Sierra Leone – Tiwai Island (Belcastro, *vide* Larsen, 2005a).

Liberia – Wologizi (Safian *et al.*, 2020).

Ivory Coast – Nimba area (Larsen, 2005a); Abidjan area (Larsen, 2005a).

Ghana – Kakum (Larsen, 2005a); Atewa Range (Larsen, 2005a); Bia (Larsen, 2005a); Kofuridia (Larsen, 2005a); Kumasi (Larsen, 2005a); Sunyani (Larsen, 2005a).

Nigeria – Okomu (Larsen, 2005a); Ikom (Larsen, 2005a).

Tanzania – Minziro Forest (uncommon) (Congdon & Collins, 1998).

Habitat: Primary forest.

Habits: A rare skipper, throughout its range (Larsen, 2005a). Flies low down, on forest margins, along

forest paths, and in clearings in the forest (Congdon & Collins, 1998).

Early stages: Nothing published.

Larval food: Nothing published.

****Semalea kola* Evans, 1937**
Cross River Silky Skipper

Semalea kola Evans, 1937. *A catalogue of the African Hesperiidae indicating the classification and nomenclature adopted in the British Museum*: 122 (212 pp.).



Semalea kola. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Ebogo, Cameroon. May 2019. J. Dobson.
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.

Type locality: Cameroon: “Cameroons (Bitje)”.

Distribution: Nigeria (Cross River loop), Cameroon.

Specific localities:

Nigeria – Ikom (Larsen, 2005a).

Cameroon – Bitje (TL).

Habitat: Probably only in wet forest in good condition (Larsen, 2005a).

Habits: This is a very rare skipper (Larsen, 2005a).

Early stages: Nothing published.

Larval food: Nothing published.

****Semalea pulvina* (Plötz, 1879)**
Branded Silky Skipper

Hesperia pulvina Plötz, 1879. *Stettiner Entomologische Zeitung* **40**: 353 (353-364).

Semalea pulvina Plötz, 1879. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Semalea pulvina (Plötz, 1879). Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 328.



Semalea pulvina. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.



Semalea pulvina. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Zambezi Bridge, Ikelenge, Zambia. 21 April 2015.
Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.

Alternative common names: Silky Dart; Silky Skipper.

Type locality: Ghana: “Aburi”.

Diagnosis: Characterized on the hindwing upperside by the presence of a large, shiny black band (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Taxonomy: The lighter coloured southern populations (Shaba (DRC), Malawi, Zambia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe) represent an undescribed subspecies (Cock *et al.*, 2016).

Distribution: Senegal, Guinea-Bissau (Aurivillius, 1910), Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, Nigeria, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea (Bioko), Gabon, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan (south), Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia (north), Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe (eastern border).

Specific localities:

Guinea – Ziama (Safian *et al.*, 2020).

Liberia – Wologizi (Safian *et al.*, 2020).

Ghana – Aburi (TL); Boabeng-Fiema Monkey Sanctuary (Larsen *et al.*, 2009).

Cameroon – Buea (Strand, 1913); Korup (Larsen, 2005a).

Equatorial Guinea – Caldera de Luba, Bioko (Martin, 2015).

Gabon – Probably throughout (Vande weghe, 2010); Nyonie (Vande weghe, 2010); Safala (Vande weghe, 2010); Mondah (Vande weghe, 2010); Pointe Pongara (Vande weghe, 2010); Waka National Park (Vande weghe, 2010); Kinguele (Vande weghe, 2010); Evengue (Vande weghe, 2010); Ndougou, Fernan Vaz (Vande weghe, 2010); Langoue, Ivindo National Park (Vande weghe, 2010); Mikongo, Lope National Park (Vande weghe, 2010); Nouna (Vande weghe, 2010); Mpassa, Bateke Plateau National Park (Vande weghe, 2010).

Democratic Republic of Congo – Makala (Bethune-Baker, 1908); Ituri Forest (Ducarme, 2018); Semuliki Valley (Ducarme, 2018); Mt Mitumba (Ducarme, 2018).

Uganda – Kisindi Road, Toro (Bethune-Baker, 1908); Mpanga Forest (Safian & Pycrz, 2020).

Kenya – Ugaia, south of Kisumu (Neave, 1904); Yala River (D.A. Trembath, *vide* Larsen, 1991c); Kakamega Forest (D.A. Trembath, *vide* Larsen, 1991c); Meru Forest (Cock *et al.*, 2016).

Tanzania – Throughout (Kielland, 1990d); Pemba Island (Kielland, 1990d); Tukuyu (Cock *et al.*, 2016); Lulanda, near Mufindi (Cock *et al.*, 2016); Rondo (Cock *et al.*, 2016).

Malawi – Mt Mulanje (Congdon *et al.*, 2010); Nyika N.P. (J. Timberlake, pers. comm., 2019).

Zambia – Ikelenge (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Mwinilunga (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Chingola (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Mufulira (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Luongo River (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Lumangwe Falls (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Kasama (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Mbala (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Hillwood (Cock *et al.*, 2016).

Angola – Kwanza Sul Province; Moxico Province (Mendes *et al.*, 2013).

Mozambique – Vila Gouveia (Pringle *et al.*, 1994); Gorongoza (Pinhey); Mt Namuli (Congdon *et al.*, 2010); Mt Mabu (Congdon *et al.*, 2010); Mt Yao [-12.4432 36.5114] (Congdon & Bayliss, 2013).

Zimbabwe – Chimanimani (Pringle *et al.*, 1994); Chirinda Forest (Pringle *et al.*, 1994); Mwenezi River (Pinhey); Laurenceville, Vumba.

Habitat: Forest and riverine vegetation. In Tanzania from 400 to 2 000 m (Kielland, 1990d).

Habits: This is the commonest member of the genus *Semalea* (Larsen, 2005a). It is active in the morning, apparently disappearing into the forest undergrowth by midday. Numbers of specimens have been noted feeding on blossoms of the water berry tree (*Syzygium cordatum*) (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Normally flies on the edges of forest and on paths in forest. It perches on leaves and has a strong flight (Larsen, 2005a).

Flight period: August-September and February to May (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Early stages:

Cock *et al.*, 2016: 216

Larval food:

Aframomum species (Zingiberaceae) [Heath *et al.*, 2002; Larsen, 2005a].

Aframomum zambesiacum (Baker) K. Schum. *zambesiacum* (Zingiberaceae) [Cock *et al.*, 2016; Kakamega, Kenya].

Siphonochilus aethiopicus (Schweinf.) B.L.Burt (Zingiberaceae) [Pennington, *in* Dickson & Kroon, 1978: 196; as *Kaempferia aethiopica*; Zambia].

ilias Plötz, 1879 (as sp. of *Hesperia*). *Stettiner Entomologische Zeitung* **40**: 355 (353-364). Ghana: “Aburi”.

tenebricosa Plötz, 1882 (as sp. of *Hesperia*). *Stettiner Entomologische Zeitung* **43**: 316 (314-344, 436-456). [Invalid; introduced in synonymy and not subsequently made available.]

carbo Mabille, 1890 (as sp. of *Cobalus*). *Bulletin de la Société Entomologique de France* (6) **9**: 169 (149-150, 155-156, 167-169, 183-184). Sierra Leone: “Sierra-Leone”.

paucipunctata Bethune-Baker, 1908 (as sp. of *Ceratrachia*). *Annals and Magazine of Natural History* (8) **2**: 481 (469-482). [Uganda]: “Toro, Kisindi Road”; Democratic Republic of Congo: “Makala”.

punctifera Strand, 1913 (as ab. of *Baoris ilias*). *Archiv für Naturgeschichte* **78** (A.12.): 51 (30-84). Cameroon: “Buea in Kamerun”.

****Semalea sextilis* (Plötz, 1886)**

Dark Silky Skipper

Hesperia sextilis Plötz, 1886. *Stettiner Entomologische Zeitung* **47**: 89 (83-117).



Semalea sextilis. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Kasuo, North Kivu, DRC. September 2012. ABRI Leg..
Images J. Dobson ex ABRI Collection.



Semalea sextilis. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Kasuo, North Kivu, DRC. September 2012. ABRI Leg..
Images J. Dobson ex ABRI Collection.

Type locality: Ghana: “Aburi”.

Distribution: Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon, Gabon, Angola, Congo, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, ?Kenya (west), Tanzania (west).

Recorded, apparently in error, from Zambia by Ackery *et al.*, 1995 (Heath *et al.*, 2002).

Specific localities:

Ghana – Aburi (TL).

Cameroon – Alen (Strand, 1913).

Gabon – Malibe (Vande weghe, 2010); Kinguele (Vande weghe, 2010); Tchimbele (Vande weghe, 2010); Waka National Park (Vande weghe, 2010); Bakouaka (Vande weghe, 2010); Camp PPG, Bateke Plateau National Park (Vande weghe, 2010).

Angola – Cabinda Province (Mendes *et al.*, 2013).

Democratic Republic of Congo – Ituri Forest (Ducarme, 2018); Central Forest Block (Ducarme, 2018); Mt Mitumba (Ducarme, 2018).

Kenya – Kakamega Forest (Carcasson, *vide* Larsen, 1991c; record requires confirmation).

Tanzania – Wanzizi Hills, 1 500 m, Mpanda (Kielland, 1990d; single male).

Habitat: Forest in good condition (Larsen, 2005a).

Habits: A relatively scarce skipper (Larsen, 2005a).

Early stages: Nothing published.

Larval food: Nothing published.

pusillima Strand, 1913 (as ab. of *Semalea noctula*). *Archiv für Naturgeschichte* **78** (A.12.): 52 (30-84).
Cameroon: “Unikum von Alen”.

**Semalea corvinus* (Mabille, 1890) Western Dark Silky Skipper

Cobalus corvinus Mabille, 1890. *Bulletin de la Société Entomologique de France* (6) **9**: 169 (149-150, 155-156, 167-169, 183-184).

Synonym *Semalea sextilis* (Plötz, 1886).

Semalea corvinus (Mabille, 1890) **stat. rest.** Zhang *et al.* 2023a.

Type locality: Sierra Leone: “Sierra Leone”.

**Semalea vibius* (Hewitson, 1878) Golden Yellow Disc

Actiopterus vibius Hewitson, 1878. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History* (5) **1**: 343 (340-348).

Pardaleodes vibius (Hewitson, 1878). Holland, 1896.

Xanthodisca vibius (Hewitson, 1878). Aurivillius, 1925.

Xanthodisca vibius (Hewitson, 1878). Pringle *et al.*, 1994:
Semalea vibius (Hewitson, 1878), **comb. nov.** Grishin, 2023a.



Semalea vibius. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Mpanga Forest, Uganda. 10 June 2017. J. Dobson.
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.



Semalea vibius. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Zambezi Bridge, Ikelenge, Zambia. 19 June 2007.
Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.



Semalea vibius. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Ikelenge, Zambia. March 1977. A. Heath. ABRI-2019-2432.
Images M.C. Williams ex ABRI Collection.

Type locality: Gabon: “Gaboon”.

Distribution: Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Kenya (west), Tanzania (east), Malawi, Zambia (north-west and north-east), Zimbabwe.

Recorded, in error, from Ivory Coast by Berger, 1962 (Larsen, 2005a). Also recorded in error from West Africa by Larsen, 1991c.

Specific localities:

Gabon – Nouna (Vande Weghe, 2010); Crystal Mountains (Vande Weghe, 2010); Lake Evaro (Vande Weghe, 2010); Iguela (Vande Weghe, 2010); Gamba (Vande Weghe, 2010); Waka National Park (Vande Weghe, 2010).

Democratic Republic of Congo – Ituri Forest (Ducarme, 2018); Mt Mitumba (Ducarme, 2018).

Kenya – Kakamega (M. Clifton, *vide* Larsen, 1991c).

Tanzania – Kigoma (Kielland, 1990d); Dodoma (Kielland, 1990d); Uluguru Mountains (Kielland, 1990d); Mwanihana Forest (Kielland, 1990d); Mikumi National Park (Kielland, 1990d); Rondo Plateau (Kielland, 1990d); Kihansi (Cock *et al.*, 2016).

Malawi – Utsara, Nkhata Bay (male specimen illustrated above).

Zambia – Ikelenge (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Mwinilunga (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Kawambwa (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Kalungwishi River (Heath *et al.*, 2002).

Zimbabwe – Gweru (Buchanan, 1985; single record).

Habitat: Forest and moist dense woodland, especially *Brachystegia* woodland (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). In Tanzania in forest, from 500 to 1 700 m (Kielland, 1990d).

Habits: Found mainly on the edges of forests. Also flies in denser parts of the forest where males have aerial contests in the semi-shade of the forest canopy (Kielland, 1990d). It is known to mud-puddle (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Both sexes come to feed in open places (Larsen, 1991c).

Flight period: January to May (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Early stages:

Cock *et al.*, 2016: 219

Larval food:

Aframomum species (Zingiberaceae) [Kielland, 1990d: 243; Tanzania; as *Amomum* sp.].

Aframomum zambesiacum (Baker) K. Schum. *zambesiacum* (Zingiberaceae) [Cock *et al.*, 2016; Kakamega, Kenya].

Amomum sp. [Le Pelley, 1959; Uganda; probably a misspelling for *Aframomum*].

**Semalea rega* (Mabille, 1889) Western Yellow Disc

Pamphila rega Mabille, 1889. *Bulletin de la Société Entomologique de France* (6)9: 150 (149-150, 155-156, 167-169, 183-184).

Xanthodisca rega (Mabille, 1889). Aurivillius, 1925.

Xanthodisca vibius rega (Mabille, 1889). Evans, 1937.

Xanthodisca rega (Mabille, 1889). Carcasson, 1981.

Semalea rega (Mabille, 1889), **comb. nov.** Grishin, 2023.



Semalea rega. Male (Wingspan 25 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Biakpa Mountain Paradise, Ghana. 24 November 2011. J. Dobson.
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.



Semalea rega. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Mate, eastern Ghana. October 2010. RV, SY. ABRI-2019-2434.
Images M.C. Williams ex ABRI Collection.

Type locality: Sierra Leone: “Sierra-Leone”.

Distribution: Senegal, Guinea-Bissau (Larsen, 2005a), Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Benin (south, central), Nigeria, Cameroon, ? Gabon.

Specific localities:

Senegal – Basse Casamance (Larsen, 2005a).

Guinea – Ziama (Safian *et al.*, 2020).

Liberia – Wologizi (Safian *et al.*, 2020).

Ivory Coast – Lamto (Vuattoux, 1999).

Ghana – Boabeng-Fiema Monkey Sanctuary (Larsen *et al.*, 2009).

Benin – see Coache *et al.*, 2017.

Nigeria – Obudu (Larsen, 2005a); Oban Hills (Larsen, 2005a).

Gabon – Ogove (Holland, 1896).

Habitat: Both wet and dry forests, as well as secondary growth (Larsen, 2005a).

Habits: Not a particularly common skipper, with an apparently patchy distribution pattern (Larsen, 2005a).

Early stages:

Cock *et al.*, 2016: 221

Larval food:

Aframomum cereum (Hook. f.) K. Schum. (Zingiberaceae) [Vuattoux, 1999; Lamto, Ivory Coast; as *A. sceptrum* (Oliv. & D.Hanb.) K.Schum.].

Note: Populations in Senegal, Guinea-Bissau and dry parts of Guinea may be of subspecific status (Larsen, 2005a).

staudingeri Holland, 1896 (as sp. of *Osmodes*). *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* **1896**: 42 (2-107).
Cameroon: Efoulan (see Zhang *et al.* 2023a page 76).

sierrae Holland, 1896 (as sp. of *Pardaleodes*). *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* **1896**: 78 (2-107).
Sierra Leone. Moved to *Xanthodisca* by Aurivillius, 1925.

evansi Picard, 1949 (as f. of *Xanthodisca vibius rega*). *Revue Française d'Entomologie* **16**:150 Sierra Leone.

****Semalea malawi* Grishin, 2023**
Malawi Yellow Disc

Semalea malawi **spec. nov.** Grishin, 2023 in Zhang *et al.*, 2023a. *The taxonomic report of the international Lepidoptera Survey*. **11** (3): 75.

Type locality: Malawi: ca. 9 mi E of Nkhata Bay, Vizara Rubber Plantation, elevation 800 m.

Holotype: ♂ deposited in American Museum of Natural History, New York, NY.

Etymology: Named for the country with the type locality. The name is a noun in apposition.

Diagnosis: Differs from *vibius* by lack of FW sub-apical spots, wider FW orange patch, and brown ventral HW which is unspotted and lightly dusted with orange scales (Grishin, 2023).

Distribution: Malawi, Tanzania.

Specific Localities:

Malawi – Vizara Rubber Plantation (TL)

Tanzania – Amani Malaria Station, Usambara Mts.