

**Genus *Kallimoides* Shirôzu & Nakanishi, 1984**  
**African Leaf**

*Butterflies and Moths, Kyoto* **34**: 107 (97-110).

Type-species: *Kallima rumia* Doubleday, by original designation.

The genus *Kallimoides* belongs to the Family Nymphalidae Rafinesque, 1815; Subfamily Nymphalinae Rafinesque, 1815. The tribal placement in the subfamily is *incertae sedis*. There is one other genus that is also *incertae sedis* in the Afrotropical Region, namely *Vanessula*.

*Kallimoides* (**African Leaf**) is an Afrotropical genus containing a single species.

**\**Kallimoides rumia* (Doubleday, [1849])**  
**African Leaf**



Males of the African Leaf Butterfly (*Kallimoides rumia rattrayi*).  
Cameroon, May 2019. Images courtesy Jeremy Dobson.

*Kallima rumia* Doubleday, [1849] *in* Doubleday & Westwood [1846-52]. *The genera of diurnal Lepidoptera*, London: pl. 52 [1849]; 325 [1850] (1: 1-250 pp.; 2: 251-534 pp.). London.



*Kallimoides rumia rumia*. Male (Wingspan 64 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Bobiri Forest, Ghana. 22 November 2011. J. Dobson.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.



*Kallimoides rumia rumia*. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Mount Tonkouï, Ivory Coast. October 1990. SCC. ABRI-2019-2976.  
Images M.C. Williams ex ABRI Collection.

**Type locality:** Ghana: “Ashanti”.

**Diagnosis:** Wingspan – male 67 mm; female 70 mm.



#### Distribution of *Kallimoides rumia*

Ssp. *rumia* (red) – Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo.

Ssp. *jadyae* (green) – Nigeria, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Congo, Angola, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo.

Ssp. *rattrayi* (blue) – Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania.

**Distribution:** Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo (Suffert, 1904), Nigeria, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Congo, Angola, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania.

Recorded, apparently in error, from Kenya by Neave (1904) (Larsen, 1991c).

**Habitat:** Forest. In Tanzania the Kigoma and Mpanda populations (close to subspecies *rattrayi*) occur at altitudes between 800 and 1 700 m (Kielland, 1990d).

**Habits:** This is a common butterfly in more open places in forest (Larsen, 2005a). Specimens have the habit of settling among vegetation upside down with closed wings, when they suddenly seem to disappear. If disturbed from its resting place it will rapidly fly to another perch and ‘disappear’ when it settles (Kielland, 1990d). Specimens are attracted to sucking-trees (Schultze, 1920). Sometimes they are also attracted to fallen fruit and banana-baited traps (Kielland, 1990d). Males defend territories from perches on

broad leaves about two metres above the ground, sometimes for days on end (Larsen, 2005a). Specimens roost on the underside of green leaves, in contrast to the Oriental *Kallima*, which use dead, brown leaves (Larsen, 2005a).

**Early stages:**

Aurivillius, 1895 [larva].

**Larval food:**

*Brillantaisia* species (Acanthaceae) [Lees, 1989; Korup, Cameroon].

*Kallimoides rumia rumia* (Doubleday, [1849])

**African Leaf**

*Kallima rumia* Doubleday, [1849] *in* Doubleday & Westwood [1846-52]. *The genera of diurnal Lepidoptera*, London: pl. 52 [1849]; 325 [1850] (1: 1-250 pp.; 2: 251-534 pp.). London.



*Kallimoides rumia rumia*. Male (Wingspan 64 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Bobiri Forest, Ghana. 22 November 2011. J. Dobson.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.



*Kallimoides rumia rumia*. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Mount Tonkouï, Ivory Coast. October 1990. SCC. ABRI-2019-2976.  
Images M.C. Williams ex ABRI Collection.

**Type locality:** Ghana: “Ashanti”.

**Distribution:** Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo (Suffert, 1904).

**Specific localities:**

Guinea – Nimbas (Larsen, 2005a); Ziama (Safian *et al.*, 2020).

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

Ghana – Ashanti (TL); Bobiri Butterfly Sanctuary (Larsen *et al.*, 2007).

*amiru* Suffert, 1904 (as ssp. of *Kallima rumia*). *Deutsche Entomologische Zeitschrift, Iris* **17**: 111 (108-123). Togo.

*Kallimoides rumia jadyae* (Fox, 1968)  
Congo African Leaf

*Kallima rumia jadyae* Fox, 1968. *Bulletin de l'Institut fondamental d'Afrique Noire ser. A* **30**: ? (1236-1280).



*Kallimoides rumia jadyae*. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Yokadouma, Cameroon. 9 May 2019. J. Dobson.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.



*Kallimoides rumia jadyae*. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Lobeke, Cameroon. 2 May 2019. J. Dobson.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.



*Kallimoides rumia jadyae*. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Bioko, Equatorial Guinea. January 2002. D. Camiade. ABRI-2019-2975.  
Images M.C. Williams ex ABRI Collection.



*Kallimoides rumia jadyae*. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Moko, Bioko, Equatorial Guinea. March 2007. SCC. ABRI-2019-2977.  
Images M.C. Williams ex ABRI Collection.



*Kallimoides rumia jadyae*. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Kafakumba, Democratic Republic of Congo. September 1935. GF Overlaet. ABRI-2019-2978.  
Images M.C. Williams ex ABRI Collection.

**Type locality:** Cameroon.

**Distribution:** Nigeria, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea (Bioko), Gabon, Congo, Angola, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo (Ubangi, Mongala, Uele, Ituri, Kivu, Tshopo, Tshuapa, Sankuru, Lualaba).

**Specific localities:**

Cameroon – Korup (Larsen, 2005a).

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

Gabon – Kinguele (Vande weghe, 2010); Bitam (Vande weghe, 2010); Akaka (Vande weghe, 2010); Waka (Vande weghe, 2010); Ipassa (Vande weghe, 2010); Langoue (Vande weghe, 2010); Kongou (Vande weghe, 2010); camp Nouna (Vande weghe, 2010); Bakouaka (Vande weghe, 2010).

Central African Republic – Dzanga (Noss, 1998).

Democratic Republic of Congo – Kassai River (Niepelt, 1911); Ituri Forest (Ducarme, 2018); Semuliki Valley (Ducarme, 2018); Mt Mitumba (Ducarme, 2018); Mt Blue (Ducarme, 2018).

*kassaiensis* Niepelt, 1911 (as f. of *Kallima rumia*). *Deutsche Entomologische Zeitschrift, Iris* **24**: 124 (124). [Democratic Republic of Congo]: “Kassaifluss, Kongostaat”.

### *Kallimoides rumia rattrayi* (Sharpe, 1904)

#### Eastern African Leaf

*Kallima rattrayi* Sharpe, 1904. *Entomologist* **37**: 182 (181-183).



*Kallimoides rumia rattrayi*. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Semuliki National Park, Uganda. 4-8 June 2017. M. Williams.  
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.

**Type locality:** Uganda: “Toro”.

**Distribution:** Uganda (west), Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania (north-west).

**Specific localities:**

Uganda – Toro (TL); Semuliki N.P. (Davenport & Howard, 1996); Kibale Forest (R. Schutte, unpublished).

Tanzania – A restricted area of southern Kigoma (south of the Sandstone Ridge) and adjoining areas of Mpanda (Kielland, 1990d); Minzro Forest (Congdon & Collins, 1998).

**Note:** Populations from the Kigoma District, further south, apparently represent an undescribed subspecies (Congdon & Collins, 1998).