

Lycaenidae | Aphnaeinae | Aphnaeini | Aloeidina

Genus *Aloeides* Hübner, [1819] Russets

In: Hübner, [1816-1826]. *Verzeichniss bekannter Schmettlinge*: 73 (432 + 72 pp.). Augsburg.

Type-species: *Papilio pierus* Cramer, by subsequent designation (Scudder, 1875).

Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences **10**: 107 (91-293).

The genus *Aloeides* belongs to the Family Lycaenidae Leach, 1815; Subfamily Aphnaeinae Distant, 1884; Tribe Aphnaeini Distant, 1884; Subtribe Aloeidina Grishin, 2023a. The other genera in the Subtribe Aloeidina in the Afrotropical Region are *Argyraspodes*, *Erikssonia* and *Trimenia*.

Aloeides (Russets) is a purely Afrotropical genus containing 57 species.

Relevant literature:

Heath *et al.*, 2008 [Trophic and ant associations].

**Species groups in the genus *Aloeides* Hübner, [1819]
(Adapted from Henning, 1993).**

***Aranda* Supergroup**

***A. aranda* group**

***A. aranda* subgroup**

A. aranda

***A. almeida* group**

***A. almeida* subgroup**

A. almeida

A. susanae

A. macmasteri

***A. henningi* subgroup**

A. henningi

A. stevensoni

***Pierus* Supergroup**

***A. pierus* group**

***A. pierus* subgroup**

A. pierus

A. swanepoeli

A. maluti

***A. trimeni* subgroup**

A. trimeni

A. namibiensis

***A. damarensis* subgroup**

A. damarensis

A. conradi

A. angolensis

***A. molomo* group**

***A. molomo* subgroup**

A. molomo

***A. taikosama* group**

***A. taikosama* subgroup**

A. taikosama

***A. griseus* subgroup**

A. griseus

A. plowesi

A. barbarae

***A. barklyi* group**

***A. barklyi* subgroup**

A. barklyi

***Thyra* Supergroup**

***A. thyra* group**

***A. thyra* subgroup**

A. thyra

***A. dryas* subgroup**

A. dryas

A. juana

A. penningtoni

A. depicta

A. apicalis

A. lutescens

A. margaretae

A. caledoni

A. carolynnae

A. titei

A. dicksoni

A. caffrariae

***A. egerides* subgroup**

A. egerides

A. quickelbergei

A. oreas

A. clarki

A. arida

A. gowani

A. nubilus

***A. simplex* subgroup**

A. simplex

A. vansoni

A. bamptoni

A. nollothi

A. tearei

***A. dentatis* subgroup**

A. dentatis

A. pallida

A. braueri

A. pringlei

A. rileyi

A. kaplani

A. rossouwi

A. merces

Incertae sedis

A. argenteus

A. mbuluensis

A. monticola

A. mullini

A. aranda supergroup

A. aranda group

A. aranda subgroup

**Aloeides aranda* (Wallengren, 1857) Apricot Russet (#)



Aloeides aranda. Left: Male. Right: Female.
Images courtesy Steve Woodhall

Cygaritis [sic] *aranda* Wallengren, 1857. *Öfversigt af Kongl. Vetenskaps-Akademiens Förhandlingar. Stockholm annis 1838-1845. Collecta (n.s.)* 2 (4): 43 (55 pp.).

Zeritis aranda (Wallengren, 1857). Trimen & Bowker, 1887b.

Phasis aranda Wallengren. Swanepoel, 1953a.

Aloeides aranda (Wallengren, 1857). Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides aranda (Wallengren, 1857). Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 205.

Aloeides aranda Wallengren, 1857. D'Abrera, 2009: 716.



Aloeides aranda. Male (Wingspan 25 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Walter Sisulu Botanical Garden, Gauteng, South Africa. 24 August 2003. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides aranda. Female (Wingspan 29 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Walter Sisulu Botanical Garden, Gauteng, South Africa. 24 December 2003. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides aranda. Male (Wingspan 26 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Black Rock, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. 25 March 2005. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides aranda. Female (Wingspan 28 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Black Rock, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. 25 March 2005. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: [South Africa]: “Caffraria”.

Holotype in the Swedish Natural History Museum (images available at www2.nrm.se/en/lep_nrm/a).

Diagnosis: The species is very variable, especially in regard to the development of the dark borders of the wings on the upperside. There is a short but distinct anal-angular projection of the hindwing. The hindwing underside, and the apical and marginal areas of the forewing underside, vary in colour – light brown, pinkish, ferruginous brown, light vinous, or purplish-lake. On the hindwing underside the markings are in the form of reduced and mainly separated spots, of which the median series and those in the inner half of the wing are frequently the most noticeable. Specimens from sandy areas often have the spotting on the underside of the hindwing white and prominent. Four named forms are discussed on p. 205 of Pringle *et al.*, 1994.

Distribution: Tanzania, Malawi, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Namibia, South Africa (Limpopo Province, Mpumalanga, North West Province, Gauteng, Free State Province, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape Province, Western Cape Province, Northern Cape Province), Eswatini, Lesotho.

Specific localities:

Tanzania – Mufindi; Lupembe near Njombe (Kielland, 1990d).

Zimbabwe – Headlands (Cottrell). Nyanga (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Namibia – Kaudom Nature Reserve (Swart, 2004).

South Africa –

Limpopo Province – Shilouvane (Oberthür, 1909. Junod (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Highlands Wilderness (Bode & Bode, unpublished checklist).

Western Cape Province – Cape Hangklip; near Mamre (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). KwaZulu-Natal – Tembe Nature Reserve; Ndumo Nature Reserve (Pringle & Kyle, 2002). Rwayi, South Coast (S. Woodhall, unpublished, 2009).

Eastern Cape Province – near Port Elizabeth (Clark & Dickson, 1971).

Western Cape Province – Knysna (Trimen, 1862).

Eswatini – Malolotja Nature Reserve (www.sntc.org.sz).

Habitat: A variety of habitats, including wetter regions of the Karoo, from sea-level to high altitudes (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). In Tanzania it occurs in montane grassland at an altitude of about 1 900 m (Kielland, 1990d).

Habits: Specimens settle on the ground or on low vegetation (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Flight period: September to April (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Early stages:

Clark & Dickson, 1971: 221, plate 104 [as *Aloeides aranda aranda*; near Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape].

“Egg: 0.9 mm diam. x 0.5 mm high. Laid on various plants, which are not necessarily food-plants. Eggs hatch after 9-15 days. Larva: 1st instar 1.5 mm, growing to 3.25 mm in 10-15 days; 2nd instar growing to 5.5 mm in 12-14 days; 3rd instar growing to 7 mm in 13-21 days; 4th instar growing to 10 mm in 15 or more days; 5th instar growing to 13.5 mm in 20 or more days; 6th instar growing to 16 mm in 22 or more days; 7th instar growing to 18 mm in up to 90 days or more. There may be 8 instars, with the sizes proportionately less and the duration of instars exceedingly variable. There is more than one brood a year. On hatching larvae crawl to suitable food-plants or are possibly carried to them by ants. The honey-gland is only noticeable from the 3rd instar but the tubercles are present in all instars. Larvae live concealed where they are feeding until the end of the 2nd instar and then apparently live near the ground where they are in contact with ants. Pupa: 11 mm. Probably found in shelters at the roots of the food-plant or under stones. Emergence varies considerably, depending on seasonal conditions.”
“Recorded from eggs from near Port Elizabeth.”

Heath & Claassens, 2020.

Females were noted ovipositing in sand at the base of the host plants.

Larval food:

Aspalathus species (Fabaceae) [Clark & Dickson, 1971: 224; Heath & Claassens, 2003 – oviposition in sand below plant].

Associated ant:

Pheidole capensis Mayr (Myrmecinae) [Heath & Claassens, 2000].

mars Trimen, 1862 (as sp. of *Zeritis*). *Transactions of the Entomological Society of London* (3) 1: 285 (279-291). [South Africa]: “Knysna”.

zilka Grose-Smith, 1900. *In*: Grose-Smith, 1897-1902 (as sp. of *Aloeides*). *Rhopalocera exotica, being illustrations of new, rare and unfigured species of butterflies* 3: 121 (214 pp.). London. South Africa.

rougemonti Oberthür, 1909 (as sp. of *Zeritis*). *Études de Lépidoptérologie Comparée* 3: 93 (93-98). [South Africa]: “Shilouvane (Zoutpansberg, Nord-Transvaal)”.

marshalli Aurivillius, 1923. *In*: Seitz, 1908-25 (as sp. of *Phasis*). *Die Gross-Schmetterlinge der Erde*, Stuttgart (2) 13 *Die Afrikanischen Tagfalter*: 427 (614 pp.). [Mozambique]: “Gazaland”. Holotype in the Swedish Natural History Museum (images available at www2.nrm.se/en/lep_nrm/m).

A. almeida group

A. almeida subgroup

**Aloeides almeida* (Felder, 1863)

Plain Russet (#)

Nais almeida Felder, 1863. *Verhandlungen der Zoologisch-Botanischen Gesellschaft in Wien* 12: 478 (473-496).

Zeritis almeida (Felder, 1862). Trimen & Bowker, 1887b. [date of authorship erroneous]

Phasis almeida Felder. Swanepoel, 1953a.

Aloeides almeida. Dickson & Kroon, 1978. [date of authorship erroneous].

Aloeides almeida (Felder, 1862). Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 206. [date of authorship erroneous].

Aloeides almeida Felder, 1862. D’Abrera, 2009: 718. [date of authorship erroneous].

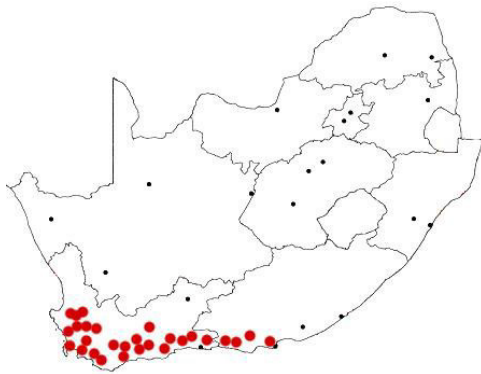


Aloeides almeida. Male (Wingspan 27 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Mannetjiesberg, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 14 December 2005. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides almeida. Female (Wingspan 29 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Du Toit's Kop, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 14 December 2005. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: [South Africa]: “Cap der guten Hoffnung”. [probably the Knysna district (Pringle *et al.*, 1994)].



Distribution of *Aloeides almeida*

South Africa – Eastern Cape
Province, Western Cape Province.

Distribution: South Africa (Eastern Cape Province, Western Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Eastern Cape Province – Baviaanskloof Mountains (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Port Elizabeth (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Western Cape Province – Knysna district; Peninsula Mountains; Franschhoek Mountains; Paarl Mountain; Perdeberg; Riebeeck-Kasteel; Riviersonderend Mountains; Durbanville; Robertson Karoo; Swellendam district; Oudtshoorn; Kammanassie Mountains (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Malmesbury (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Habitat: Mostly in mountainous terrain but some populations are in flat country.

Flight period: September to April. Sometimes there is a break in emergence in the mid-summer months (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

****Aloeides susanae* Tite & Dickson, 1973**

Karkloof Russet (#)

Aloeides susanae Tite & Dickson, 1973. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **29**: 253 (227-280).

Aloeides susanae Tite & Dickson, 1973. Dickson & Kroon, 1978. *Aloeides susanae* Tite and Dickson, 1973. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 201. *Aloeides susanae* Tite & Dickson, 1973. D'Abrera, 2009: 720.



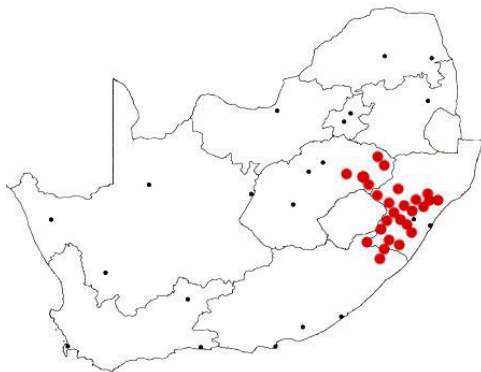
Aloeides susanae. Male (Wingspan 23 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Curry's Post, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. 24 October 2004. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloeides susanae. Female (Wingspan 24 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Curry's Post, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. 24 October 2004. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Natal: Muden”.

Diagnosis: Similar to *Aloeides trimeni*, from which it differs as follows: forewing apex more rounded; wing margins more convex; forewing shorter in proportion to its depth; brown colouration more extensive on both wing surfaces (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides susanae*

South Africa – Free State
Province, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern
Cape Province.

Distribution: South Africa (Free State Province – north-east, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Free State Province – Witkoppe (G. Henning).

KwaZulu-Natal – Muden (TL; H. Cookson). Karkloof; Balgowan; Bulwer Mountain; Kokstad; Mount Gilboa; Mooi River (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Eastern Cape Province – Mount Ayliff (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Habitat: Grassland.

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

Larval food:

Oviposition on a small prostrate legume [Williams, 2006].

****Aloeides macmasteri* Tite & Dickson, 1973**

Large Plain Russet (#)

Aloeides macmasteri Tite & Dickson, 1973. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **29**: 269 (227-280).

Aloeides macmasteri Tite & Dickson, 1973. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides macmasteri Tite and Dickson, 1973. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 206.

Aloeides macmasteri Tite & Dickson, 1978. D'Abrera, 2009: 718. [date of authorship erroneous].



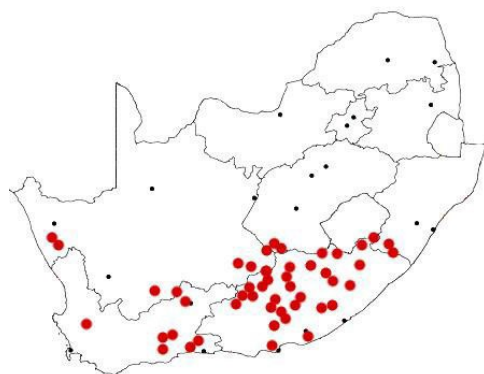
Aloeides macmasteri. Male (Wingspan 30 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Compassberg, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. 9 December 2007. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides macmasteri. Female (Wingspan 33 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
16 km east of Noupoot, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. 16 December 2005. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Cape Province: Hillmoor, Steynsburg”.

Diagnosis: Differs from *Aloeides almeida* in that the cilia are lighter in colour (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides macmasteri*

South Africa – Free State Province,
KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape
Province, Western Cape Province,
Northern Cape Province.

Distribution: South Africa (Free State Province, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape Province, Western Cape Province, Northern Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

KwaZulu-Natal – Kokstad (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013)₈

Eastern Cape Province – Farm Hillmoor, near Steynsburg (TL; Southey). Coega (Clark). Wolvefontein; Glenconnor; Carlton; Sheldon; Eastpoort; Gaika’s Kop; Katberg; Cathcart; Isidenge (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Western Cape Province – Murraysburg; Porterville (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Northern Cape Province – south of Kamieskroon (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Leliefontein (Cottrell).

Habitat: Grassy karoo, nama karoo and succulent karoo.

Flight period: September to April (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Early stages:

Heath & Fisher, 2010. [Metamorphosis 21 (3): 110-119.]

A. henningi subgroup

**Aloeides henningi* Tite & Dickson, 1973

Hillside Russet (#)

Aloeides henningi Tite & Dickson, 1973. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **29**: 267 (227-280).

Aloeides henningi Tite & Dickson, 1973. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides henningi Tite and Dickson, 1973. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 206.

Aloeides henningi Tite & Dickson, 1973. D’Abrera, 2009: 720.



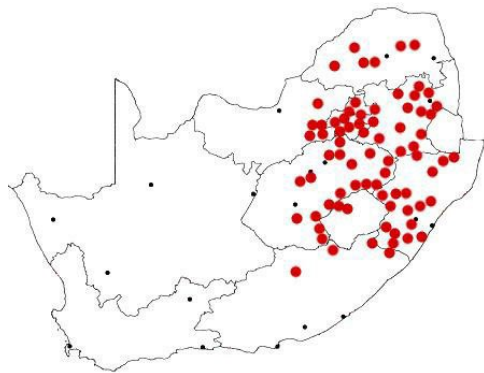
Aloeides henningi. Male (Wingspan 25 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
10 km NE of Koppies, Free State Province, South Africa. 18 October 2009. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides henningi. Female (Wingspan 25 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Greylingstad, Mpumalanga, South Africa. 31 October 2004. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Transvaal: Struben’s Valley, Constantia Kloof”.

Diagnosis: Similar to *Aloeides almeida* but in the male the forewing is shorter; apex more acute; distal margin straighter. In both sexes the tawny orange of the upperside clearer, brighter and covers a greater area. In the forewing underside the spotting in the cell and discal areas has more prominent silver- white centres and tends to be larger but submarginal spots usually smaller and therefore better separated. In the male genitalia recurved hooks on the left side of the aedeagus are present in *almeida* but absent in *henningi* (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides henningi*

South Africa (Limpopo, Mpumalanga, North West Province, Gauteng, Free State Province, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape Province), Eswatini, Lesotho.

Distribution: South Africa (Limpopo, Mpumalanga, North West Province, Gauteng, Free State Province, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape Province), Eswatini, Lesotho.

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Limpopo – Haenertsburg (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Mpumalanga – Verloren Vallei Nature Reserve (Warren, 1990). Volksrust; Barberton; Lydenburg; Pilgrim's Rest (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

North West Province – Potchefstroom (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Gauteng – Stuben's Valley, near Roodepoort (TL; the Hennings). Johannesburg district; Pretoria district (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

KwaZulu-Natal – Natal midlands (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). El Mirador, near Cathkin Peak (Clark & Dickson, 1971).

Eastern Cape Province – Barkly East (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Steynsburg (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Flight period: September to February. According to Henning the butterfly is only on the wing from September to November at the type locality (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Early stages:

Clark & Dickson, 1971: 225 plate 105 [as *Aloeides* species, allied to *Aloeides almeida* (Felder); "El Mirador", near Cathkin Peak, KwaZulu-Natal].

"Egg: Approx. 1 mm diam. x 0.65 mm high. Pale when laid, darkening in time to a pinkish- or purplish- brown colour. The surface pattern consists of a network of fine ridges, with protruberances at their intersections, which form triangular-shaped cells. One egg hatched 19 days after it was laid. **Larva:** 1st instar about 1.5 mm, growing to 2.75 mm in 14-17 days; 2nd instar growing to 4.25 mm in 17 days; 3rd instar growing to some 5 mm in 21-27 days; 4th instar growing to 6.5 mm in 23 days. A single larva which entered the 5th instar died before the end of this instar. The tubercles are already present in the 1st instar, but the honey-gland is apparently not in evidence until after the 3rd instar. In the 1st instar the head is blackish. Body whitish with vinous-coloured longitudinal streaks and some other markings. Neck-shield and anal-shield of a dark colour, but not as dark as the head. The mainly long, subdorsal setae and those of the extremities of the body are for the most part dark coloured, but generally lightening towards their ends; while the lateral setae, of various lengths, are light coloured. In the 2nd instar the basic colouring and marking are much as before, but with a noticeable darkening in tone. The greyish-black neck- and anal-shields bear numerous small, white specialized setae with expanded heads and setae of the same form occur on the main surface of the body. The tubercles have the usual chitinous casings, in this instar. In the 3rd instar the larva has a more greyish ground-colour (due possibly to the food showing through the surface of the body to some extent). The neck- and anal-shields (especially the anal-shield) are of a lighter, apparent colour owing to the number and density of the pale specialized setae on their surface. In addition to the other vinous markings on the body, there is pronounced marking of the same colour anterior to the anal-shield. The setae as a whole are again much more numerous than before and there is a dorso-lateral series of slender setae some distance above the lateral ridge. In the 4th instar the vinous markings are on the whole finer and there is very prominent marking of this colour towards the anal end of the body. Dark setae which in general increase progressively in length in a backward direction form a conspicuous "fan" on either side of segments 10-11. In the 5th instar the larva is light green, with the reddish markings still present though not as prominent as before. The larva is also partly marked with yellow. The setae, generally, have again increased appreciably in number, but those which formed the conspicuous "fan" on segs. 10-11 are relatively shorter and consequently less prominent. Other details will be apparent from the figures of the larva." "Recorded from eggs from "El Mirador", near Cathkin Peak, Natal."

Larval food:

Aspalathus species (Fabaceae) [Clark & Dickson, 1971: 225; (requires confirmation according to Heath *et al.*, 2008)].

Hermannia depressa N.E.Br. (Sterculiaceae) [Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 206].

****Aloeides stevensoni* Tite & Dickson, 1973**

Wolkberg Russet (#)

Aloeides stevensoni Tite & Dickson, 1973. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **29**: 250 (227-280).

Aloeides stevensoni Tite & Dickson, 1973. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides stevensoni Tite and Dickson, 1973. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 199.

Aloeides stevensoni Tite & Dickson, 1973. D'Abrera, 2009: 718.



Aloeides stevensoni. Male (Wingspan 25 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.

Serala, Limpopo Province, South Africa. 9 November 2003. J. Dobson.

Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.

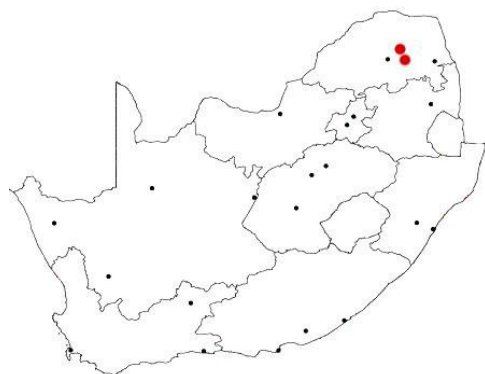


Aloeides stevensoni. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.

MOME, Wolkberg, Limpopo Province, South Africa. 3 October 1992. J. Greyling.

Images M.C. Williams ex Greyling Collection.

Type data: [Zimbabwe]: “Rhodesia: Rusape”. [False locality].



Distribution of *Aloeides stevensoni*

South Africa – Limpopo Province.

Distribution: South Africa (Limpopo Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Limpopo Province – Wolkberg (Swanepoel). Near Haenertsburg (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Bewaarkloof Reserve, 24.134079°S; 29.879103°E (J.E. Terblanche, 2020).

Habitat: Montane grassland at altitudes of about 1 800 m (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Steep, grassy, south-facing slopes at altitudes of 1750–1800 metres (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Habits: Occurs in very restricted colonies. Males fly fast and close to the ground, defending territories on bare patches of ground or along rocky ridges (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Flight period: November and December (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). October (J.E. Terblanche, 2020).

Early stages: Etienne Terblanche has produced the following video, showing oviposition behaviour:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-u6GYMyRuQA>

Conservation status: Classified as Endangered (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

***A. pierus* supergroup**

***A. pierus* group**

***A. pierus* subgroup**

****Aloeides pierus* (Cramer, [1779])
Veined Russet (#)**



Aloeides pierus. Male, Brandvlei, 20 October 2013.
Image courtesy Steve Woodhall.

Papilio pierus Cramer, [1779]. In: Cramer, [1779-80]. *Die Uitlandsche Kapellen voorkomende in de drie waerelddeelen Asia, Africa en America* 3: 71 (176 pp.). Amsteldam & Utrecht.
Zeritis pierus Cramer. Trimen, 1866a.
Zeritis pierus (Cramer, 1782). Trimen & Bowker, 1887b.
Phasis pierus Cramer. Swanepoel, 1953a.
Aloeides pierus (Cramer, 1779). Dickson & Kroon, 1978.
Aloeides pierus (Cramer, 1779). Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 202.
Aloeides pierus Cramer, 1779. D'Abrera, 2009: 718.



Aloeides pierus. Male (Wingspan 28 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Heerenlogenmentsberg, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 13 October 2008. M. Williams.
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.



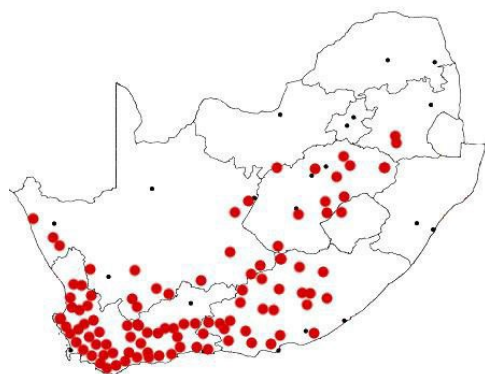
Aloeides pierus male (Wingspan 27 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Images courtesy Jeremy Dobson.



Aloeides pierus. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Albertinia, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 22 October 1992. D.A. Edge.
Images M.C. Williams ex Edge Collection.

Type data: [South Africa]: “Kaap de Goede Hoop”.

Diagnosis: Characterized on the hindwing underside by the median series which is virtually continuous except for a break at vein 4. The first portion of this series is more basad than the second. The amount of orange colouration on the upperside of the wings is extremely variable in both sexes (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution

South Africa (Mpumalanga, North West Province, Free State Province, Eastern Cape Province, Western Cape Province, Northern Cape Province), Lesotho.

Distribution: South Africa (Mpumalanga, North West Province, Free State Province, Eastern Cape Province, Western Cape Province, Northern Cape Province), Lesotho (lower areas).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Mpumalanga – Morgenzon (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Free State Province – Welkom; Virginia; Springfontein (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Eastern Cape Province – Port Elizabeth (Clark & Dickson, 1971). Aberdeen; Cradock; Grahamstown; upper Swart Kei River, near Queenstown (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Kenton-on-Sea (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Western Cape Province – Lion’s Head, Cape Town (Clark & Dickson, 1971). Saldanha Bay; Melkbosstrand; Tygerberg Hills; Caledon; Worcester; Swellendam; Mossel Bay; Beaufort West; Knysna (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Northern Cape Province – Kimberley; Kleinsee (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Habitat: Inhabits a variety of habitats, including the Fynbos, Karoo and Grassland biomes (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Flight period: September to April. In some localities there is reduced emergence in mid-summer (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Early stages:

Clark & Dickson, 1952: 23.

“...it has been reared to pupation on *Aspalathus*. The eggs are 0.8 mm. diameter by 0.5 mm. high and have the same pattern as those of the Red Copper [*Aloeides thyra*] but with smaller and more “stars”; they hatch in 15-26 days. The young larva on hatching is 1.75 mm. and similar to that of the Red Copper but the plumes of spines on the dorsum only have a set of three each. It progresses through six instars to a final length of 18 mm., taking 10-11 months. The colour after the first instar is pale green with white lines. The green deepens and the white expands, giving a very blurred whitish green appearance in the final instar. The head changes in colour to pale chestnut. There is a well developed honey gland and the tubercles are clearly visible. The pupa has been found under stones on the sides of Lion’s Head. It is unattached and has neither hooks nor girdle, but the cast-off skin is fixed to the end of the abdomen. It is pale, watery green in colour, with a touch of golden brown on the head and down the dorsum of the abdomen. It measures 11 mm. in length. The pupal period is 20 days.” Black and white illustrations of the egg, final instar larva and pupa on plate facing p. 12.

Clark & Dickson, 1971: 228, plate 106 [as *Aloeides pierus*; Cape Town (Western Cape) and Port Elizabeth (Eastern Cape)].

“Egg: 0.8 mm diam. x 0.6 mm high; cream-coloured at first and darkening slightly, later. Laid on ground-level shrubs and even between grains of sand. Eggs hatch after 15-26 days. The discarded shell is not eaten. Larva: 1st instar 1.75 mm, growing to 3 mm in 16-35 days; 2nd instar growing to 4.5 mm in 16-30 days; 3rd instar growing to 6.25 mm in 20-30 days; 4th instar growing to 8.5 mm in 16-25 days; 5th instar growing to 12.5 mm in 26-44 days; 6th instar growing to 18 mm in 30-60 days. The duration of instars is very variable and includes periods of diapause (at least in captivity) which causes a spread-out emergence, but there appear to be usually two broods a year. The tubercles are present in all instars but the honey-gland is only present in the 3rd and subsequent instars. Larvae rest where they are feeding till the end of the 2nd instar, then live in a shelter at the roots of the food-plant, from which they crawl away to feed. They are fully associated with ants, at least in the more advanced instars, though remaining phytophagous like most of the larvae of this genus. Pupa: 11 mm. Found under stones next to the food-plant (on the side of Lion’s Head, Cape Town), near ants’ nests. The pupa is of the general form which is usual in this group and is of a pale greenish colour, touched with golden-brown, anteriorly, and dorsally on the abdomen. Emergence takes place after 20 days. Recorded from material from Cape Town and Port Elizabeth.”

Larval food:

Aspalathus species (Fabaceae) [Clark & Dickson, 1952: 23; locality not noted].

Associated ant:

Lepisiota capensis (Formicinae) [Clark & Dickson, 1956].

euadrus Fabricius, 1787 (as sp. of *Papilio*). *Mantissa Insectorum* 2: 89 (382 pp.). Hafniae. [South Africa]: “Cap. Bon. Spei”.

suetonius Fabricius, 1793 (as sp. of *Papilio*). *Entomologia Systematica emendata et aucta* 3 (1): 320 (488 pp.). [West Africa]: “Indiis”. [False locality].

****Aloeides swanepoeli* Tite & Dickson, 1973**

Grassveld Russet (#)



Aloeides swanepoeli. Male undersides.

Image courtesy Steve Woodhall (left) and Raimund Schutte (right)

Aloeides swanepoeli Tite & Dickson, 1973. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) 29: 262 (227- 280).

Aloeides swanepoeli Tite & Dickson, 1973. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides swanepoeli Tite and Dickson, 1973. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 205.

Aloeides swanepoeli Tite & Dickson, 1973. D’Abrera, 2009: 720.



Aloeides swanepoeli. Male (Wingspan 27 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Lekgalameetse N.R., Limpopo Province, South Africa. 20 October 2012. M. Williams.
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.



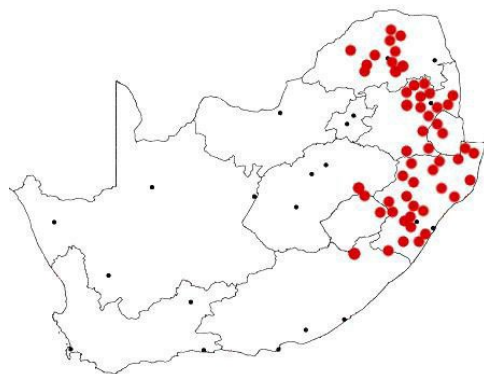
Aloeides swanepoeli. Female (Wingspan 29 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Lekgalameetse N.R., Limpopo Province, South Africa. 15 October 2009. M. Williams.
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.



Aloeides swanepoeli. Female (Wingspan 30 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Sheba Mine, Barberton, Mpumalanga, South Africa. 14 November 2004. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Natal: Botha’s Hill (above railway line) 2,500”.

Diagnosis: Similar to *Aloeides trimeni*, from which it differs in that the upperside ground-colour is more extensive and of a pale tawny-orange colour (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides swanepoeli*

South Africa (Limpopo Province, Mpumalanga, Free State Province, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape Province), Eswatini, Lesotho.

Distribution: South Africa (Limpopo Province, Mpumalanga, Free State Province, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape Province), Eswatini, Lesotho.

Specific localities:**South Africa –**

Limpopo Province – Percy Fyfe Nature Reserve (Warren, 1990). Munnik; Wolkberg; Polokwane; Louis Trichardt (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Lekgalameetse Nature Reserve (Williams, Dec. 2006).

Mpumalanga – Barberton; Waterval-Onder (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Buffelskloof Nature Reserve (Williams).

KwaZulu-Natal – Botha’s Hill (TL); Estcourt; Muden; Utrecht; Empangeni; Loteni; Richard’s Bay (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Eastern Cape Province – Mount Fletcher (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Eswatini – Malolotja Nature Reserve (www.sntc.org.sz).

Habitat: Grassland.

Flight period: August to December (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

****Aloeides maluti* Pringle, 1983****Maluti Russet (#)**

Aloeides maluti Pringle, 1983. *Entomologist’s Record and Journal of Variation* **95**: 173 (173-174).

Aloeides maluti Pringle, 1983. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 203.

Aloeides maluti Pringle, 1983. D’Abrera, 2009: 720.



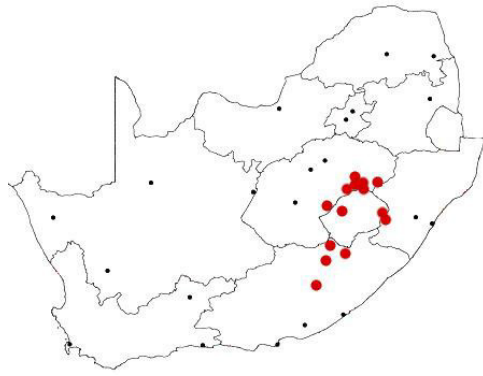
Aloeides maluti. Male (Wingspan 24 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Visierkerf, Fouriesberg, Free State Province, South Africa. 20 February 2010. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides maluti. Female (Wingspan 25 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Sterkspruit, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. 23 December 2010. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: Lesotho: “Rafaelatsane, Lesotho”.

Diagnosis: Closest to *Aloeides pierus*. Distinguished by more extensive and dusker orange ground-colour on upperside; darker and more uniform ground-colour on underside of hindwing; spots on underside of hindwing less elongated and arranged in a pattern different from *Aloeides pierus* (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides maluti*

South Africa (Free State Province, Eastern Cape Province), Lesotho.

Distribution: South Africa (Free State Province, Eastern Cape Province), Lesotho.

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Free State Province – Golden Gate Highlands National Park (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Bethlehem (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Eastern Cape Province – Barkly East district (Oosthuizen); Queenstown (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Lesotho – near Rafolatsane (TL; Pringles); Bushman's Pass, near Maseru.

Habitat: Sandstone formations, on steep heavily eroded lower mountain slopes, in montane grassland (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Habits: Usually encountered singly, flying rapidly on bare and stony ground (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Flight period: Recorded in January and February (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

A. trimeni subgroup

**Aloeides trimeni* Tite & Dickson, 1973

Brown Russet (#)



Aloeides trimeni. Female. Ruimsig, Gauteng.
Image courtesy Steve Woodhall.

Zeritis taikosama (Wallengren, 1857). Trimen & Bowker, 1887b. [Misidentification]

Phasis taikosama Wallengren. Swanepoel, 1953a. [Misidentification]

Aloeides trimeni Tite & Dickson, 1973. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **29**: 260 (227-280).

Aloeides trimeni Tite & Dickson, 1973. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides trimeni Tite and Dickson, 1973. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 203.

Aloeides trimeni Tite & Dickson, 1973. D'Abrera, 2009: 718.



Aloeides trimeni trimeni. Male (Wingspan 27 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Donkerkloof (24 12 4.26S 29 37 56.66E), South Africa. 15 March 2002. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloeides trimeni trimeni. Female (Wingspan 29 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Donkerkloof (24 12 4.26S 29 37 56.66E), South Africa. 1 February 2004. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloeides trimeni trimeni (?). Male (Wingspan 29 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
The Downs, Limpopo Province, South Africa. 14 October 2011. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloeides trimeni trimeni (?). Female (Wingspan 31 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Petrus Steyn, Free State Province, South Africa. 25 February 2007. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloeides trimeni trimeni (?). Female (Wingspan 30 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Petrus Steyn, Free State Province, South Africa. 11 November 2007. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Transvaal: Witpoortje”.

Distribution: Zimbabwe, Botswana (Larsen, unpublished ms, 1995), South Africa, Lesotho.

Habitat: Karoo and grassland, from sea-level to 1 600 m (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Flight period: September to April (n nominate subspecies); September to March (subspecies *southeyi*) (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Early stages:

Clark & Dickson, 1971: 229, plate 107 [as *Aloeides* sp., previously confused with *A. taikosama* (Wallengren); near Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape; subspecies *trimeni*].

“Egg: 0.95 mm diam. x 0.5 mm high. Laid on low shrubs as with most *Aloeides*, and hatching after 20- 22 days. The discarded shell is not eaten. Larva: 1st instar 1.25 mm, growing to 2.75 mm in 14-21 days; 2nd instar growing to 4.5 mm in 14-26 days; 3rd instar growing to 5.5 mm in 26-30 days; 4th instar growing to 7.5 mm in 22-30 days; 5th instar growing to 10 mm in 24 or more days; 6th instar growing to 12.5 mm in 30 or more days; 7th instar growing to 15 mm in 30 or more days. The duration of the instars is very variable, with periods of diapause. The tubercles are present in all instars, but the honey-gland is present only in the 3rd and subsequent instars. Larvae rest, pressed to a stem, low down on a plant. They are associated with ants, in the usual manner. Pupa: 11 mm. Probably concealed among rubbish or in a shelter at the roots of plants. Emergence is very variable but occurs at least after some 15 days under normal conditions, as far as can be judged. Recorded from eggs from near Port Elizabeth.”

Tite & Dickson, 1973: 260 [subspecies *trimeni*].

Henning, S.F., 1984a: 99 [subspecies *trimeni*].

Larval food:

Aspalathus species (Fabaceae) [Clark & Dickson, 1971: 229; subspecies *trimeni*]. *Hermannia depressa* N.E.Br. (Sterculiaceae) [Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 203; subspecies *trimeni*].

Associated ant:

Not specifically ant associated [Henning, S., 1984a: 99; for subspecies *trimeni*].

Aloeides trimeni trimeni Tite & Dickson, 1973

Brown Russet (#)

Zeritis taikosama (Wallengren, 1857). Trimen & Bowker, 1887b. [Misidentification]



Aloeides trimeni trimeni. Male (Wingspan 27 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Donkerkloof (24 12 4.26S 29 37 56.66E), South Africa. 15 March 2002. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloeides trimeni trimeni. Female (Wingspan 29 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Donkerkloof (24 12 4.26S 29 37 56.66E), South Africa. 1 February 2004. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloeides trimeni trimeni (?). Male (Wingspan 29 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
The Downs, Limpopo Province, South Africa. 14 October 2011. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloeides trimeni trimeni (?). Female (Wingspan 31 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Petrus Steyn, Free State Province, South Africa. 25 February 2007. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloeides trimeni trimeni (?). Female (Wingspan 30 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Petrus Steyn, Free State Province, South Africa. 11 November 2007. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Transvaal: Witpoortje”.

Distribution: Zimbabwe, Botswana, South Africa (Limpopo Province, Mpumalanga, North West Province, Gauteng, Free State Province, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape Province, Western Cape Province, Northern Cape Province), Lesotho.

Specific localities:

Botswana – Tauwani River in Bamangwato country (Larsen, 1991).

South Africa –

Limpopo Province – Percy Fyfe Nature Reserve (Warren, 1990). Highlands Wilderness (Bode & Bode, unpublished checklist).

Gauteng – Witpoortjie (TL).

Free State Province – Cyferfontein [-30.3736 25.8131] (R. Griesel, unpublished).

Eastern Cape Province – Queenstown; near Port Elizabeth (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Aloeides trimeni southeyae Tite & Dickson, 1973

Mossel Bay Brown Russet (#)

Aloeides trimeni southeyae Tite & Dickson, 1973. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **29**: 261 (227-280).

Aloeides trimeni southeyae Tite & Dickson, 1973. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides trimeni southeyae Tite and Dickson, 1973. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 203.

Aloeides trimeni southeyae Tite & Dickson, 1973. D'Abrera, 2009: 718.



Aloeides trimeni southeyae. Male (Wingspan 26 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.

Mossel Bay, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 15 December 2005. J. Dobson.

Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloeides trimeni southeyae. Female (Wingspan 27 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.

Mossel Bay, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 15 December 2005. J. Dobson.

Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Cape Province: nr Mossel Bay”.

Distribution: South Africa (Western Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Western Cape Province – Near Mossel Bay (TL). East side of the Gouritz River Bridge; near the Moss gas Oil Refinery (Schlosz) (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Conservation status: Classified as Vulnerable (Henning *et al.*, 2009: 41).

****Aloeides namibiensis* Henning & Henning, 1994**
Namibian Russet

Aloeides namibiensis S.F. and G.A. Henning, 1994. In: Pringle, Henning, & Ball [eds]. *Pennington's butterflies of southern Africa* 2nd edition: 204 (800 pp.).

Aloeides namibiensis Henning & Henning, 1994. D'Abrera, 2009: 720.



Aloeides namibiensis. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
 Images courtesy Jeremy Dobson.

Type data: Namibia: “Omatako Omuramba, 30 Dec. 49.” Holotype in Windhoek Museum, Namibia.

Diagnosis: Most closely related to *Aloeides trimeni*, from which it can be separated by the ochreous greyish brown of the upperside basal area (brown to orange in *trimeni*) and broad postdiscal markings (narrow in *trimeni*) (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Distribution: Botswana, Namibia.

Known only from two pairs from the type locality and specimens from a single locality in Botswana.

Specific localities:

Botswana – According to G. Henning (pers. comm.) I. Coetzer caught this species near the tarred road between Windhoek and Ghanzi (Tsootsha) in January 1999 (Larsen, 1991).

Namibia – Omatako Omuramba, approximately 19°00'S 19°30'E (TL).

Habitat: Arid savanna.

Flight period: The type series was collected on 30 December (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

***A. damarensis* subgroup**

****Aloeides damarensis* (Trimen, 1891)**
Damara Russet (#)



Aloeides damarensis. Female. Senalala.
 Image courtesy Steve Woodhall.

Zeritis damarensis Trimen, 1891. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* **1891**: 90 (59-107).

Phasis damarensis Trimen. Swanepoel, 1953a.

Aloeides damarensis (Trimen, 1891). Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides damarensis (Trimen, 1891). Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 201.

Aloeides damarensis Trimen, 1891. D'Abrera, 2009: 716.



Aloeides damarensis damarensis. Male (Wingspan 30 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Stinkfonteinberge, Northern Cape Province, South Africa. 11 October, 2010. M. Williams.
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.



Aloeides damarensis damarensis. Female (Wingspan 35 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Kakamas, Northern Cape Province, South Africa. 24 March, 2009. M. Williams.
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.

Type data: [Namibia]: “Omaramba-Oamatako”.

Distribution: Zambia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia, South Africa, Eswatini.

Habitat: The nominate subspecies occurs in Karoo and succulent Karoo. Subspecies *mashona* is found in moist savanna (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Habits: Oviposition behaviour has been described by Heath & Gardiner (2009). Females oviposit in soil near the larval host plants.

Flight period: The nominate subspecies flies all year in warmer areas and from September to April in cooler areas. Subspecies *mashona* has been recorded from September to April (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Early stages:

Clark & Dickson, 1971: 232, plate 108 [as *Aloeides damarensis*; Cradock, Eastern Cape].

“Egg: 0.8 mm diam. x 0.4 mm high. Presumably laid singly. Of the general form usual in the genus but with the top rather prominently convex. The surface bears a reticulated pattern, with the fine ridges enclosing mainly triangular cells and with small protruberances at the intersections of the ridges. The egg hatches in 12 days’ time. Larva: 1st instar 1.9 mm, growing to 2.7 mm in 14 days. The tubercles are present from the 1st instar onwards, but the honey-gland apparently appears only after the 2nd instar. In the 1st instar the head is black. Body whitish, with a tinge of yellow, and with pale reddish longitudinal lines and other markings. Neck-shield and the very small anal-shield greyish. The long setae which occur dorso-laterally and at the extremities of the body are fairly dark but are lighter towards their ends, while the shorter setae are pale-coloured. In most cases the setae have pointed ends but some of the smaller subdorsal ones terminate bluntly. In the 2nd instar the larva retains the broken, double medio-dorsal reddish lines and reddish colouring elsewhere but is quite prominently streaked with green subdorsally and laterally. The neck- and anal-shields are reddish-brown. Black setae with light ends occur as an outer dorsal series and at the extremities of the body, and the larva bears small specialized setae with expanded heads. The larva concerned unfortunately died before reaching the end of the 2nd instar. Recorded from eggs from Cradock, eastern Cape Province.”

Heath & Gardiner, 2009.

Gardiner found larvae and pupae at the base and among the roots of *Waltheria indica* plants, in the company of ants belonging to the genus *Pheidole*. These observations were made in Botswana.

Heath & Claassens, 2020.

Females were noted ovipositing in sand at the base of the host plants.

Larval food:

Aspalathus species (Fabaceae) [Clark & Dickson, 1971: 232; Cradock, Eastern Cape; subspecies *damarensis*; (requires confirmation according to Heath *et al.*, 2008)].

Aspalathus species (Fabaceae) [Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 202; subspecies *mashona*; (requires confirmation according to Heath *et al.*, 2008)].

Gnidia kraussiana Meisn. (Thymelaeaceae) [Heath & Gardiner, 2009: 8; Kataba, Western Zambia; subspecies *mashona*].

Suspected to be aphytophagous [Heath *et al.*, 2008: 131; (requires confirmation according to Heath *et al.*, 2008)].

Waltheria indica L. (Sterculiaceae) [Heath & Gardiner, 2009; Botswana].

Associated ant:

Pheidole species [Heath & Gardiner, 2009: 8].

Aloeides damarensis damarensis (Trimen, 1891)

Damara Russet (#)

Zeritis damarensis Trimen, 1891. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* **1891**: 90 (59-107).



Aloeides damarensis damarensis. Male (Wingspan 30 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Stinkfonteinberge, Northern Cape Province, South Africa. 11 October, 2010. M. Williams.
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.



Aloeides damarensis damarensis. Female (Wingspan 35 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Kakamas, Northern Cape Province, South Africa. 24 March, 2009. M. Williams.
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.

Type data: [Namibia]: “Omaramba-Oamatako”.

Distribution: Botswana, Namibia, South Africa (Free State Province – south-west, Eastern Cape Province, Western Cape Province, Northern Cape Province).

Specific localities:

Botswana – Takatokwane; Molopo Valley; Motokwe; Kang; Middelspits (Larsen, 1991); 59-61 km pegs on the Palapye – Martin’s Drift road (Heath & Gardiner, 2009).

Namibia – Omaramba-Oamatako, Damaraland (TL); up to 100 km south and east of Windhoek (Swart, 2004); Mashare (male illustrated above).

South Africa –

Eastern Cape Province – Cradock (Clark & Dickson, 1971). Aberdeen.

Western Cape Province – Beaufort West; Oudtshoorn (Pringle *et al.*, 1994); Matjiesfontein; Prince Albert; Paleisheuvel, 160 km north of Cape Town (Stephen and Kaplan) (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Northern Cape Province – Kimberley (Aurivillius, 1923); Kagaligadi Transfrontier Park (van Son, 1959); Okiep (Lightfoot) (Pringle *et al.*, 1994); Grootvlei Pass, s.w. of Kamieskroon [30°12.945'S: 17°45.032'E] (Heath *et al.*, 2008).

punctata Aurivillius, 1923. *In*: Seitz, 1908-25 (as ab. of *Phasis damarensis*). *Die Gross-Schmetterlinge der Erde*, Stuttgart (2) **13** *Die Afrikanischen Tagfalter*: 427 (614 pp.). South Africa: “Kimberley”.

Aloeides damarensis mashona Tite & Dickson, 1973

Northern Damara Russet (#)

Aloeides damarensis mashona Tite & Dickson, 1973. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **29**: 258 (227-280).

Aloeides damarensis mashona Tite & Dickson, 1973. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides damarensis mashona Tite and Dickson, 1973. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 202.

Aloeides damarensis mashona Tite & Dickson, 1973. D'Abrera, 2009: 716.



Aloeides damarensis mashona. Male (Wingspan 31 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Alldays, Limpopo Province, South Africa. 9 May, 2010. M. Williams.
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.



Aloeides damarensis mashona. Female (Wingspan 36 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Bergpan, Limpopo Province, South Africa. 8 May, 2010. M. Williams.
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.

Type data: [Zimbabwe]: “Rhodesia: Bulawayo”.

Diagnosis: Compared to the male of the nominate subspecies, the dusky brown areas of the upperside are much more extensive. There is a darkened area at the base of the forewing, and in the hindwing the dark area extends from the base over roughly the inner half of the wing, with the remaining tawny orange of the distal half is very clear and the two portions forming a distinct angle where they meet. In the female there is some darkening at the base of the forewing but the distal band is usually broken up into more or less wedge-shaped spots along most of its length; the wing is mainly tawny orange (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Distribution: Zambia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, South Africa (Limpopo Province, Mpumalanga, North West Province, Gauteng, Free State Province – except south-west, KwaZulu-Natal – north), Eswatini.

Specific localities:

Zambia – Mongu (Cottrell, *vide* Heath *et al.*, 2002); near Kataba (Heath & Gardiner, 2009).

Mozambique – Delagoa Bay [Baia de Maputo] (Monteiro).

Zimbabwe – Bulawayo (TL). Nyamandhlovu; Birchenough Bridge; Sabi River; Harare; Mount Selinda (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

South Africa –

Limpopo Province – Highlands Wilderness (Bode & Bode, unpublished checklist)

Mpumalanga – Mariepskop area (Henning, 1994c).

North West Province – Borakalalo Nature Reserve (J. Dobson, unpublished, 2009).

KwaZulu-Natal – Makatini Flats (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

****Aloeides conrads*i (Aurivillius, 1906)**

Savanna Russet

*Phasis conrads*i Aurivillius, 1906. *Archiv för Zoologi* **3** (19): 3 (7 pp.).

*Aloeides conrads*i Aurivillius, 1907. D'Abrera, 2009: 718. [date of authorship erroneous].



Aloeides conradsii jacksoni. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.

Ngong Hills, Kenya. 25 March 1995.

Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.



Aloeides conradsii jacksoni. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.

Near Kisames, Magadi Road, Kenya. 16 April 2002.

Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.

Type data: [Tanzania]: “Deutsch Ost-Afrika: Ukerewe”.

Holotype in the Swedish Natural History Museum (images available at www2.nrm.se/en/lep_nrm/c).

Distribution: Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia.

Habitat: Savanna. (“Open bush country”, according to Larsen, 1991c). Deciduous woodland. Subspecies *angoniensis* occurs in open montane habitats, from 1 000 to 2 000 m in altitude, particularly at the higher altitude (Kielland, 1990d).

Habits: Found as localised colonies, sometimes only a few square metres in extent. They fly low down, settling often, on the ground or grass stalks. Occasionally they sun themselves with the wings held three-quarters open. Both sexes are fond of flowers (Larsen, 1991c).

Flight period: Subspecies *angoniensis* flies in the dry season (August-September) in Tanzania (Kielland, 1990d).

Early stages:

Van Someren, 1974: 331.

“Females seen laying eggs in trails of ants. When larvae hatch, collected and taken by ants to nest. What they feed on not known.”

Aloeides conradsi conradsi (Aurivillius, 1906)

Savanna Russet

Phasis conradsi Aurivillius, 1906. *Archiv für Zoologi* 3 (19): 3 (7 pp.).

Type data: [Tanzania]: “Deutsch Ost-Afrika: Ukerewe”.

Holotype in the Swedish Natural History Museum (images available at www2.nrm.se/en/lep_nrm/c).

Distribution: Tanzania (central).

Specific localities:

Tanzania – Ukerewe (TL). Dodoma; Singida; Shinyanga; Ibwaga near Kongwa; Itigi, s.e. of Tabora; Itumba, s.e. of Tabora (Kielland, 1990d).

Aloeides conradsi jacksoni Tite & Dickson, 1973

Kenyan Savanna Russet

Aloeides conradsi jacksoni Tite & Dickson, 1973. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) 29: 247 (227-280).

Aloeides conradsi jacksoni Tite & Dickson, 1973. D'Abrera, 2009: 718.



Aloeides conradsi jacksoni. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Ngong Hills, Kenya. 25 March 1995.
Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.



Aloeides conradsi jacksoni. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Near Kisames, Magadi Road, Kenya. 16 April 2002.
Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.

Type data: Kenya: “Nairobi”.

Note: Kielland (1990d: 185) is not convinced that this is a valid subspecies because there is no ecological or geographical barrier between subspecies *talboti* and subspecies *jacksoni*.

Distribution: Kenya (east of the Rift Valley), Tanzania (north-west).

Specific localities:

Kenya – Nairobi (TL); Meru Forest (Larsen, 1991c).

Tanzania – West of Mount Longido (Kielland, 1990d).

Aloeides conradsi talboti Tite & Dickson, 1973

Tanzanian Savanna Russet

Aloeides conradsi talboti Tite & Dickson, 1973. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **29**: 247 (227-280).

Aloeides conradsi talboti Tite & Dickson, 1973. D'Abrera, 2009: 718.

Type data: Tanzania: “Ngorongoro Crater, Arusha District, 5,800”.

Distribution: Kenya (west of the Rift Valley), Tanzania (north).

Specific localities:

Kenya – South Kavirondo; Kisumu district (Larsen, 1991c).

Tanzania – Ngorongoro Crater (TL). Usa River near Arusha; near Lake Manyara; Oldeani; Moshi-Arusha Road at 1000 to 1 800 m (Kielland, 1990d).

ochraceous Joicey & Talbot, 1924 (as male f. of *Phasis conradsi*). *Bulletin of the Hill Museum, Witley* **1**: 546 (539-564). [Tanzania]: “Tanganyika Territory: District of the Great Craters”.

Aloeides conradsi angoniensis Tite & Dickson, 1973

Malawian Savanna Russet

Aloeides conradsi angoniensis Tite & Dickson, 1973. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **29**: 248 (227-280).

Aloeides conradsi angoniensis Tite & Dickson, 1973. D'Abrera, 2009: 718.



Aloeides conradsi angoniensis. Male (paratype). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Ncheu, Malawi. 25 September 1962.

Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.



Aloeides conradsi angoniensis. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Lusaka to Fort Jameson road, Zambia. 27 November 1963.

Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.

Type data: Malawi: “Ncheu”.

Distribution: Tanzania (west), Malawi, Zambia.

Specific localities:

Tanzania – Mpanda; Kigoma (Kielland, 1990d).

Malawi – Ncheu (TL). Sawi Valley, Nyika National Park; Nyika N.P. (J. Timberlake, pers. comm., 2019).

Zambia – Isoka (Heath *et al.*, 2002).

****Aloeides angolensis* Tite & Dickson, 1973**

Angolan Russet

Aloeides angolensis Tite & Dickson, 1973. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **29**: 249 (227-280).

Aloeides angolensis Tite & Dickson, 1973. D'Abrera, 2009: 720.

Type data: Angola: "Benguella". Holotype (male): Benguella, 26.ix.1904 (Dr Ansorge), B.M. Type No. Rh. 17228. Allotype (female); data as holotype. B.M. Type No. Rh. 17229).

Diagnosis: Most similar to *A. damarensis*.

Distribution: Angola.

Specific localities:

Angola – Benguella (TL).

***A. molomo* group**

***A. molomo* subgroup**

****Aloeides molomo* (Trimen, 1870)**

Mottled Russet (#)



Aloeides molomo. Female ovipositing in soil.
Image courtesy Peter Webb.

Zeritis molomo Trimen, 1870. *Transactions of the Entomological Society of London* **1870**: 373 (341-390).

Zeritis molomo Trimen, 1870. Trimen & Bowker, 1887b.

Phasis molomo Trimen. Swanepoel, 1953a.

Aloeides molomo (Trimen, 1870). Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides molomo (Trimen, 1870). Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 198.

Aloeides molomo Trimen, 1870. D'Abrera, 2009: 718.



Aloeides molomo molomo. Male (Wingspan 27 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Near Stoffberg, Mpumalanga, South Africa. 16 October 2004. M. Williams.
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.



Aloeides molomo molomo. Female (Wingspan 28 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Petrus Steyn, Free State Province, South Africa. 11 November 2007. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: [Lesotho]: “Koro-Koro”.

Distribution: Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia, South Africa, Eswatini, Lesotho.

Recorded, in error, from Angola by Trimen (1891).

Habitat: Savanna and grassland. Subspecies *kiellandi* occurs in montane grassland at altitudes from 1 200 to 2 000 m (Kielland, 1990d).

Habits: Oviposition behaviour has been described by Heath & Gardiner (2009). Females lay their eggs in soil near the larval host plants.

Flight period: September to December (n nominate subspecies); August to January and March-April (subspecies *krooni*); September to December (subspecies *coalescens*) (Pringle *et al.*, 1994); August-September (subspecies *kiellandi*) (Kielland, 1990d).

Early stages:

Ficq, *vide* Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 198 [northern Namibia; subspecies *krooni*].

“Ficq found eggs on the plant *Sida ovata* in northern Namibia, and pupae with larvae sheltering in the nest of a small reddish-brown ant at the base of the foodplant.”

Gardiner, in Heath *et al.*, 2002: 93

Females of subspecies *coalescens* Tite & Dickson, 1973 have been observed ovipositing in sand below *Gnidia kraussiana* (Thymelaeaceae).

Larval food:

Gnidia species (Thymelaeaceae) [Heath & Claassens, 2003; oviposition in sand below plant; subspecies *coalescens*; (requires confirmation according to Heath *et al.*, 2008)].

Gnidia involucrata A. Rich. (Thymelaeaceae) [Heath & Gardiner, 2009; Headlands, Zimbabwe; probably the named species of plant; subspecies *coalescens*].

Gnidia kraussiana Meisn. (Thymelaeaceae) [Gardiner, *vide* Heath *et al.*, 2002: 93; subspecies *coalescens*; misidentification for *Gnidia involucrata* A. Rich.?].

Hermannia transvaalensis Schinz (Sterculiaceae) [Peter Webb, pers. comm. 13 Sep. 2017; Irene, Gauteng].

Sida ovata Forssk. (Malvaceae) [Ficq, *vide* Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 198; northern Namibia; subspecies *krooni*].



Hermannia transvaalensis. Image ex Peter Webb.

Associated ant:

“a small reddish brown ant” [Ficq, *vide* Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 198; northern Namibia; for subspecies *krooni*].

Aloeides molomo molomo (Trimen, 1870)

Mottled Russet (#)

Zeritis molomo Trimen, 1870. *Transactions of the Entomological Society of London* **1870**: 373 (341-390).



Aloeides molomo molomo. Male (Wingspan 27 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Near Stoffberg, Mpumalanga, South Africa. 16 October 2004. M. Williams.
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.



Aloeides molomo molomo. Female (Wingspan 28 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Petrus Steyn, Free State Province, South Africa. 11 November 2007. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: [Lesotho]: “Koro-Koro”.

Distribution: South Africa (Limpopo Province, Mpumalanga, North West Province, Gauteng, Free State Province, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape Province, Northern Cape Province), Eswatini, Lesotho.

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Limpopo Province – Percy Fyfe Nature Reserve (Warren, 1990). Wolkberg (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Mpumalanga – Stoffberg.

KwaZulu-Natal – Mount Ngwibi.

Northern Cape Province – Kimberley (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Eswatini – Malolotja Nature Reserve (www.sntc.org.sz).

Lesotho – Koro Koro (TL; Bowker).

Aloeides molomo mumbuensis Riley, 1921

Zambian Mottled Russet

Aloeides molomo mumbuensis Riley, 1921. *Transactions of the Entomological Society of London* **1921**: 250 (234-259).

Aloeides molomo mumbuensis Riley, 1921. D’Abrera, 2009: 718.

Type data: [Zambia]: “Mumbwa”.

Distribution: Zambia.

Specific localities:

Zambia – Mumbwa, Livingstone (Dollman) (TL; Heath *et al.*, 2002).

Aloeides molomo kiellandi Carcasson, 1961

Tanzanian Mottled Russet

Aloeides molomo kiellandi Carcasson, 1961. *Occasional Papers. Coryndon Memorial Museum, Nairobi* 7: 19 (1-23).

Aloeides molomo kiellandi Carcasson, 1961. D'Abrera, 2009: 718.

Type data: [Tanzania]: “Wanzizi, 1500 m., Mpanda, Western Province, Tanganyika”.

Distribution: Tanzania (west).

Specific localities:

Tanzania – Wanzizi, Mpanda (TL). Mpanda; Kigoma (Kielland, 1990d).

Aloeides molomo krooni Tite & Dickson, 1973

Kalahari Mottled Russet (#)

Aloeides molomo krooni Tite & Dickson, 1973. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History) (Entomology)* 29: 240 (227-280).

Aloeides molomo krooni Tite & Dickson, 1973. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides molomo krooni Tite and Dickson, 1973. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 198.



Aloeides molomo krooni. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.

Kang, Botswana. 12 January 1999. J. Greyling.

Images M.C. Williams ex Greyling Collection.



Aloeides molomo krooni. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.

23 km west of Kanye, Botswana. 9 January 1999. J. Greyling.

Images M.C. Williams ex Greyling Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “Cape Province: Kuruman”.

Diagnosis: Slightly smaller than the nominate subspecies; both wing surfaces paler; on the upperside the distal borders are narrower; on the hindwing underside the cloudy transverse band is less apparent (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Distribution: Botswana, Namibia (north), South Africa (Northern Cape Province).

Specific localities:

Botswana – Nkate (Van Son, 1936). Okavango Swamps (Dickson & Kroon, 1978). Matcha College, Kang; Makgadigadi; Tshane; Tshabong; Ghanzi; Mochudi; Moremi; Duthlwe; near Motokwe; Kumukwane; Mogoditshane; near Gaborone (Larsen, 1991).

Namibia – Kombat (Swart, 2004).

Northern Cape Province – Kuruman (TL). Upington (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Aloeides molomo coalescens Tite & Dickson, 1973

Zimbabwean Mottled Russet

Aloeides molomo coalescens Tite & Dickson, 1973. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **29**: 241 (227-280).

Aloeides molomo coalescens Tite & Dickson, 1973. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides molomo coalescens Tite and Dickson, 1973. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 198.

Aloeides molomo coalescens Tite & Dickson, 1973. D'Abrera, 2009: 718.



Aloeides molomo coalescens. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.

Headlands, Zimbabwe. 17 September 2000.

Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.



Aloeides molomo coalescens. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.

Headlands, Zimbabwe. 27 September 2001.

Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.

Type data: [Zimbabwe]: “Rhodesia: Umtali”.

Distribution: Zimbabwe, ?Mozambique.

Specific localities:

Zimbabwe – Umtali (now Mutare) (TL; Sheppard). Headlands; Rusape; Bulawayo; Mount Selinda; Odzi; Macheke (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Aloeides molomo handmani Tite & Dickson, 1973

Malawian Mottled Russet

Aloeides molomo handmani Tite & Dickson, 1973. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **29**: 242 (227-280).

Aloeides molomo handmani Tite & Dickson, 1973. D'Abrera, 2009: 718.



Aloeides molomo handmani. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Viphya, Malawi. 3 October 2013.
Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.



Aloeides molomo handmani. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Viphya, Malawi. 3 October 2013.
Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.

Type data: Malawi: “near Ncheu”.

Distribution: Malawi.

Specific localities:

Malawi – near Ncheu (TL); Nyika.

A. taikosama group

A. taikosama subgroup

**Aloeides taikosama* (Wallengren, 1857)

Dusky Russet (#)



Aloeides taikosama. Males. Tembe, northern KwaZulu-Natal and KwaMhalanga, Mpumalanga.
Images courtesy Steve Woodhall (left) and Raimund Schutte (right).

Cygaritis [sic] *taikosama* Wallengren, 1857. *Öfversigt af Kongl. Vetenskaps-Akademiens Förhandlingar. Stockholm annis 1838-1845. Collecta* (n.s.) 2 (4): 43 (55 pp.).

Zeritis orthrus Trimen, 1874. Trimen & Bowker, 1887b. [Synonym of *Aloeides taikosama*] *Phasis orthrus* Trimen, 1874. Swanepoel, 1953a. [Synonym of *Aloeides taikosama*] *Aloeides taikosama* (Wallengren, 1857). Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides taikosama (Wallengren, 1857). Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 200.
Aloeides taikosama Wallengren, 1857. D'Abrera, 2009: 716.



Aloeides taikosama. Male (Wingspan 25 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
 Irene, Gauteng Province, South Africa. 12 January 2008. J. Dobson.
 Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloeides taikosama. Female (Wingspan 29 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
 Walter Sisulu Botanical Gardens, Gauteng Province, South Africa. 26 December 2003. J. Dobson.
 Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.

Type data: [South Africa]: “Caffraria”.

Holotype in the Swedish Natural History Museum (images available at www2.nrm.se/en/lep_nrm/t).

Diagnosis: Characterized by a hint of tails at veins 1B and 2 of the hindwing (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Distribution: Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia, South Africa (Limpopo Province, Mpumalanga, North West Province, Gauteng, Free State Province, KwaZulu-Natal, Northern Cape Province), Eswatini, Lesotho.

Specific localities:

Mozambique – Maputo (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Botswana – East; Ramokgwebane; West Gaborone (Larsen, 1991).

South Africa –

Limpopo Province – Doorndraai Dam Nature Reserve (Warren, 1990). Lekgalameetse Nature Reserve (“Malta Forest”); Highlands Wilderness (Bode & Bode, unpublished checklist). Soetdoring Farm [-24.561 28.233] (A. Mayer, pers comm. 2015).

Mpumalanga – Mariepskop area (Henning, 1994c).

North West Province – Kgaswane Mountain Reserve (Williams). Utopia Resort (C. Dobson, 2006). Borakalalo Nature Reserve (J. Dobson, unpublished, 2009).

Gauteng – Pretoria (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

KwaZulu-Natal – Tembe Nature Reserve (Pringle & Kyle, 2002).

Eswatini – Mlawula Nature Reserve (www.sntc.org.sz).

orthrus Trimen, 1874 (as sp. of *Zeritis*). *Transactions of the Entomological Society of London* **1874**: 340 (329-341).
 [South Africa]: “Natal”.

A. griseus subgroup

**Aloeides griseus* Riley, 1921 Zambian Russet

Aloeides griseus Riley, 1921. *Transactions of the Entomological Society of London* **1921**: 251 (234-259).

Aloeides griseus Riley, 1921. D'Abbrera, 2009: 718.



Aloeides griseus. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.

Nyika, Zambia. 1 October 2013.

Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.



Aloeides griseus. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.

Nyika, Zambia. 1 October 2013.

Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.

Type data: [Zambia]: “Solwezi, N.W. Rhodesia”.

Distribution: Malawi (north), Zambia.

Specific localities:

Malawi – Juniper Forest, Nyika; Nyika N.P. (J. Timberlake, pers. comm., 2019).

Zambia – Solwezi (TL). Lusaka; Mumbwa; Nyika (Heath *et al.*, 2002).

****Aloeides plowesi* Tite & Dickson, 1973**

Zimbabwe Russet

Aloeides plowesi Tite & Dickson, 1973. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **29**: 252 (227-280).

Aloeides plowesi Tite & Dickson, 1973. Dickson & Kroon, 1978. *Aloeides plowesi* Tite and Dickson, 1973. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 200.

Aloeides plowesi Tite & Dickson, 1973. D'Abrera, 2009: 720.



Aloeides plowesi. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.

Chimanimani, Zimbabwe. 12 October 1999. Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.



Aloeides plowesi. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.

Chimanimani, Zimbabwe. 12 October 1999. Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.

Type data: [Zimbabwe]: “Rhodesia: Salisbury”.

Diagnosis: Most closely related to *Aloeides barbarae* (see this species for differences). Also related to *Aloeides taikosama*. Differs as follows from *taikosama*: on the forewing upperside the pale submarginal spots nearest the costa are placed slightly more distad than the corresponding marking in *taikosama*; underside spotting more prominent and underside colouring of a richer tone (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Distribution: Zimbabwe.

Specific localities:

Zimbabwe – Salisbury (now Harare) (TL; Marshall). Bulawayo; Umvukwes Hills; Chimanimani; Rusape; Nyanga (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Flight period: August to November, May and June (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

****Aloeides barbarae* Henning & Henning, 1994**

Barborton Russet (#)



Aloeides barbarae. Left: Male. Right: Female.
Images courtesy Steve Woodhall.

Aloeides barbarae S.F. and G.A. Henning, 1994. In: Pringle, Henning, & Ball [eds]. *Pennington's butterflies of southern Africa* 2nd edition: 200 (800 pp.).

Aloeides barbarae Henning & Henning, 1994. D'Abrera, 2009: 720.



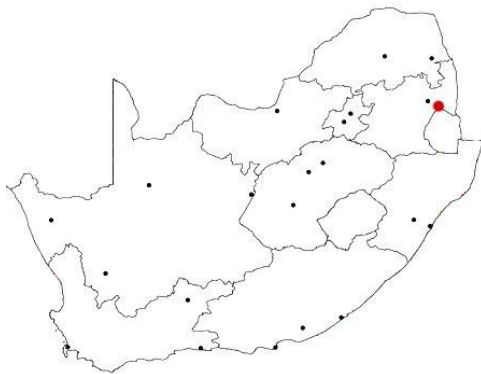
Aloeides barbarae. Male (Wingspan 23 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Sheba Mine, Mpumalanga, South Africa. 13 November 2004. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides barbarae. Female (Wingspan 25 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Sheba Mine, Mpumalanga, South Africa. 13 November 2004. M. Williams.
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “Barberton, Transvaal, 3 Dec. 1989, N.K. Owen-Johnston.” Holotype in Transvaal Museum, Pretoria.

Diagnosis: Closest to *Aloeides plowesi*. Differs in the following respects: upperside olivaceous grey- brown (dingy brown in *plowesi*); forewing markings indistinct (distinct in *plowesi*); forewing underside orange patch smaller; hindwing underside spots smaller and more scattered (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides barbarae*

South Africa (Mpumalanga),
Eswatini.

Distribution: South Africa (Mpumalanga), Eswatini.

The type locality is on a hillock near the Sheba Mine, in the mountains above Barberton.

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Mpumalanga – Sheba Mine, near Barberton (TL).

Eswatini – Malolotja Nature Reserve (www.sntc.org.sz).

Habitat: Grassland, with scattered small rocks and stones (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Habits: Found in very restricted colonies. Males establish and defend territories on bare patches of ground (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Flight Period: October-November; February (J. Dobson, ABN, 2020 no. 2).

Conservation status: Classified as Endangered (Henning *et al.*, 2009: 41).

A. barklyi group

A. barklyi subgroup

**Aloeides barklyi* (Trimen, 1874)

Silvery Russet (#)



Aloeides barklyi. Left: Male. Springbok, Namaqualand. Right: Female (right). Goegap N.R..
Images courtesy Steve Woodhall (left) and Allison Sharp (right).

Zeritis barklyi Trimen, 1874. *Transactions of the Entomological Society of London* **1874**: 338 (329-341).

Zeritis barklyi Trimen, 1874. Trimen & Bowker, 1887b.

Phasis barklyi Trimen. Swanepoel, 1953a.

Aloeides barklyi (Trimen, 1874). Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides barklyi (Trimen, 1874). Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 199.

Aloeides barklyi Trimen, 1874. D'Abrera, 2009: 718.



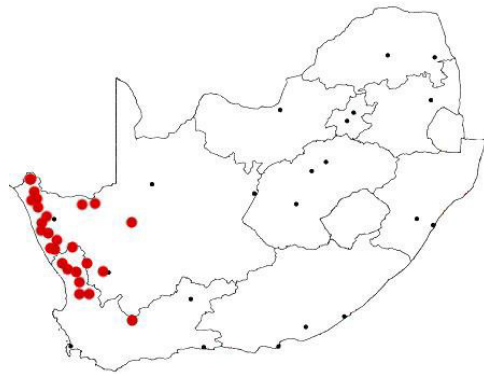
Aloeides barklyi. Male (Wingspan 32 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Carolusburg, Northern Cape Province, South Africa. 29 August 2008. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides barklyi. Female (Wingspan 34 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Nuwerus, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 12 October 2008. M. Williams.
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.

Type data: [South Africa]: “Namaqualand, Cape Colony”.

Diagnosis: The silvery grey ground-colour on the upperside of the wings is absolutely distinctive (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides barklyi*

South Africa (Western Cape Province, Northern Cape Province).

Distribution: South Africa (Western Cape Province, Northern Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Western Cape Province – South of Vanrhynsdorp (Swanepoel, 1953). Between Koekenaap and Nuwerus; south of Nuwerus (Schlosz). Clanwilliam district (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Matjiesfontein (Van Son).

Northern Cape Province – Between Kommaggas and Spektakel; between Kommaggas and Koekenaap (Trimen); Oograbies, near Port Nolloth; Steinbokfontein; Springbok; Kamieskroon; Garies (Swanepoel, 1953). Grootvlei Pass, s.w. of Kamieskroon [30°12.945'S: 17°45.032'E] (Heath *et al.*, 2008). Richtersveld N.P.; Kenhardt (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Habitat: Rocky slopes and hills in succulent Karoo (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Habits: Flies fast and erratically within its territory and is very alert and wary (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Both sexes are attracted to purple-flowered mesems but are very alert even when nectaring from these flowers (Williams, unpublished). Females oviposit directly onto hard-packed sandy-gravel ground, never on or close to a plant. Eggs are laid both in direct sunlight, between various aridaceous plants, and in shade below small rock overhangs. Ants in the vicinity of eggs that were laid were identified as *Lepisiota capensis* Mayr (Heath *et al.*, 2008).

Flight period: August to October. At a locality south of Clanwilliam there is a consistent autumn (April-May) brood (Ball, *vide* Pringle *et al.*, 1994). At Nuwerus Schlosz encountered the species in May (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Early stages:

Heath & Claassens, 2020.

Females were noted ovipositing in sand at the base of the host plants.

Larval food:

Larvae suspected to be aphytophagous [Heath *et al.*, 2008; (requires confirmation according to Heath *et al.*, 2008)].

Associated ant:

Suspected to be *Lepisiota capensis* Mayr (Formicinae) [Heath *et al.*, 2008; Grootvlei Pass, sw of Kamieskroon; (requires confirmation according to Heath *et al.*, 2008)].

A. thyra supergroup

A. thyra group

A. thyra subgroup

**Aloeides thyra* (Linnaeus, 1764) Red Russet (#)



Aloeides thyra. Male. Brenton-on-Sea.
Image courtesy Steve Woodhall.

Papilio thyra Linnaeus, 1764. *Museum Ludovicae Ulricae Reginae*: 329 (720 pp.). Holmiae.

Zeritis thyra Linnaeus. Trimen, 1866a.

Zeritis thyra (Linnaeus, 1764). Trimen & Bowker, 1887b.

Phasis thyra Linnaeus. Swanepoel, 1953a.

Aloeides thyra (Linnaeus, 1764). Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides thyra (Linnaeus, 1764). Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 183.

Aloeides thyra Linnaeus, 1764. D'Abrera, 2009: 714.

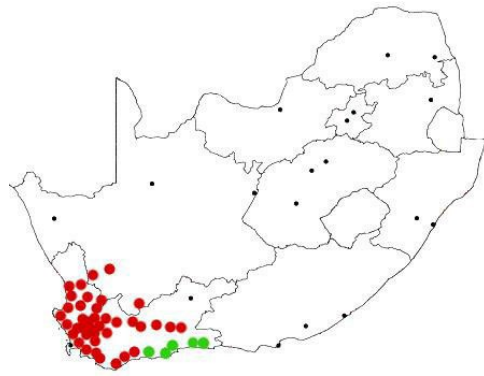


Aloeides thyra thyra. Male (Wingspan 24 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Dasklip Pass, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 12 December 2005. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloeides thyra thyra. Female (Wingspan 26 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Gydo Mountain, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 11 December 2005. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.

Type data: [South Africa]: “Cap. B. Spei”. Lectotype designated by Honey & Scoble, 2001: 387.



Distribution of *Aloeides thyra*

[ssp. *thyra* – red dots] South Africa – Western Cape Province, Northern Cape Province.

[ssp. *orientis* – green dots] South Africa – Western Cape Province.

Distribution: South Africa.

Habitat: Occurs in a variety of habitats, including the sea-shore, sandy scrub-covered ground, and at high altitudes in mountains. It also penetrates parts of the Karoo (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Subspecies *orientis* occurs in small colonies on sandy ground.

Habits: Males stay within the confines of a small area, taking short, fast, erratic flights. They settle on the ground but in very hot weather may alight on low vegetation. Females have a more wandering flight pattern. Males will occupy the tops of small eminences, should these be available (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Adults have been noted feeding on the flowers of *Lampranthus elegans* (Jacq.) Schwant and *L. falciformis* (Haw.) N.E.Br. (Ficoideae) and *Leyssera gnaphalodes* L. (Asteraceae) (Claassens & Dickson, 1977).

Flight period: All the warmer months of the year (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Early stages:

Trimen & Bowker, 1887, Vol. 2: 168 and 197 [as *Zeritis Thyra* (L.); near Cape Town, Western Cape; nominate subspecies].

Page 168: “**Pupa.** Thick, rounded, with blunt head and dorso-thoracic prominence. Without silken attachment, lying quite free under stones.” Page 197: “**Pupa.** Dull yellowish-green; back of thorax greener than the other parts. Abdomen with a median dorsal dark-ashy streak. Spiracles raised, brownish. About half an inch in length; thick, rounded, smooth; head blunt; dorso-thoracic prominence elevated but blunt. (Lying, quite free of any attachment or cocoon, under a stone, near Cape Town, 27th September 1874). The larva’s skin, which still surrounded the tail of this pupa, was dull-brown, rather closely set with short black (and some white) spines; the head rather large, shining dark-brown. A ♂ imago emerged on 20th October.”

Clark & Dickson, 1952: 22 [Lion’s Head, Cape Town, Western Cape; nominate subspecies].

“The pupa was found under stones on the sides of Lion’s Head as far back as 1906 but no record was made of it. Recently pupa cases have been found under stones in the same locality and from these it has been possible to reconstruct the pupa.” Black and white illustrations of the egg, larva and pupa on plate facing p. 12. NB – The descriptions of the egg and larva actually refer to *Aloeides depicta* (see below).

Claassens & Dickson, 1974: 253 [Twelve Apostles (Camp’s Bay), and Signal Hill (Sea Point) – both Western Cape; nominate subspecies].

“Trimen (1887) found a pupa of *Al. thyra* near Cape Town under a stone. The pupa has also been found by the late Gowan Clark under stones on Lion’s Head as far back as 1906, and some twenty years ago by C.G.C. Dickson in the same locality, also under stones. A fairly complete account, with some figures, of what was considered to be the life-history of *Al. thyra* has been given by Clark and Dickson (1952), but it must be emphasised that these observations, apart from the reference to the pupa, apply strictly to the subsequently described species *Al. depicta* Tite and Dickson (1968). **New Material.** Larvae: Two final instar larvae of *Al. thyra* were found by the first author on the 7th October 1972 and 8th September 1973. On both occasions the larvae were situated in small depressions in the soil under stones covering nests of the small, black sugar ant *Acantholepis capensis* Mayr. (Formicidae: Camponotinae). An earlier instar larva was discovered clinging to the underside of a stone covering the nest of the ants in which the second final instar larva was found. Pupae: Three pupae were found by the authors in two nests of *A. capensis* on 7th October 1972 and the first author collected another two pupae under similar circumstances on 28th October 1972 and 26th September 1973. All material referred to above was obtained from the same area on the slopes of the Twelve Apostles above Camp’s Bay. Another pupa was found on the slopes of Signal Hill above Ocean View Drive, Sea Point, on 27th September 1973. The latter specimen was also associated with *A. capensis* and like most other pupae found by the present authors, was attached to the underside of a rock. The cast skin and head-piece of the larva seem usually to remain in position at the anal end of the pupa and may become partly embedded in the silk spun previously by the larva on the surface of the rock.

The Larvae. The larva, found in 1972, was in the late final instar and, when fully extended decidedly elongated, and narrowing towards the distal end. When first discovered it was 20 mm long under full extension. (The specimen found in 1973 attained a length of 24 mm when fully extended). The colour was greyish-green, with longitudinal reddish-brown lines and two rows of orange patches on the dorsal surface. The colour some days before pupation was dull green, with medio-dorsal darker-green streak and some very poorly defined traces of other longitudinal lines. Apart from very minute specialised setae, rather short black spines were scattered over the body as a whole. Lateral setae on the ridge and at the extremities of the body were largely light-coloured, some darker and in general longer than other setae on the larva. The tubercles were of the highly specialised form usual in this group and related species and, when extruded from their short spined casings, curved over towards the honey-gland with their long hair-like processes fully extended and spread out, the action of the tubercles being very rapid. The head was very dark greyish or brown-black, the neck-shield inconspicuous against its background and of a greyish tint. The much smaller, earlier instar larva approximated closely in form, colouring and marking to the final instar as described. The setae were less numerous but longer in

proportion to the size of the larva, as might be expected in an earlier instar in this group. The larva of *Al. thyra* is very close to that of *depicta* T. and D., as figured by Clark and Dickson (1971). The colouring and pattern are very similar in each case. Some differences in detail are apparent in other respects – these including the smaller setae and lenticels on certain parts of the larvae. Shortly after the larva was put in a glass container it attempted to burrow into the soil but soon discontinued this activity and moved upwards against the glass above the soil. The larva made no attempt to feed on fine leaved *Aspalathus* with fresh flowers but wandered about the glass, spinning silk as it went along and resting in the contracted attitude at the upper end of the track of silk. Finally it was placed on top of the *Aspalathus* where it remained without changing its position and, after a few days pupated without any apparent attachment, on 31st October. The butterfly, a moderately sized female (fore-wing measurement 15.5 mm) emerged on 21st November. The larva found in 1973 pupated but the imago which became visible through the pupal shell failed to hatch. The smaller larva was seen to feed on *Aspalathus* but died within a few days. During the first days of its captivity the final instar larva described above was kept under observation together with some specimens of the ant *A. capensis*. The ants were seen running back and forward over the dorsal surface of the larva and whenever an ant arrived at the extended tubercles on segment 11 the latter were suddenly retracted. The purpose of this strange behaviour was not understood and the observations were stopped due to the ants escaping from the container.” “**The Pupae.** The pupa found by the second author in 1972 was 14.25 mm in length, robust in proportion and of a general green colour. The head piece and old larval skin were attached to the anal end. The colour changed gradually and by the 24th October was largely amber, but brown in places, especially on the thorax, above the wing cases, and at the anterior end of the pupa. The small spiracles were distinct, under magnification, and dark brown. Very small spines were scattered over much of the surface of the pupa but there were no cremastral hooks. By 27th October the colour of the forewings was apparent through the wing-cases, and a large female (forewing measurement 18.5 mm) emerged just before 8.30 a.m. on 30th October. The wings took an appreciable time to expand, showing little or no increase in size for the first eight minutes and only attaining their full size 20 minutes after emergence. In view of the small size of the host ants and the very narrow exits that suit them, one wonders how the comparatively large butterfly escapes from the ants’ nest. The unusually long time taken by the newly emerged imago to complete wing expansion may be part of the answer to this problem. Unfortunately three of the remaining pupae kept under observation were parasitised and another two did not hatch although in both the latter cases the wing pattern of the imago became visible through the pupal skin. The pupa found on 7.x.1972 produced a parasitic fly *Blepharella setigera* Corti (Diptera: Tachinidae).” “**Distribution and Ecology.** The workers of the ant [*Acantholepis capensis*] are shiny black and about 4 mm long. The queens, of which usually more than one is present in a nest, are about 6 mm long and of a dull brown colour. The species is without soldiers. The ants are too small to be able to carry the comparatively large *Al. thyra* larvae into their nests and it may be assumed that the larvae crawl into the nests, guided perhaps by the sense of smell. It is of interest to note that the pupae of *Al. thyra* recorded by Trimen, Clark and Dickson (*Loc. cit.*) were all found under stones but not associated with ants. These pupae presumably were left behind when the ants abandoned their nests and were unable to carry them into their new abodes.” “It might be assumed, from the fact of both the larvae and pupae being found in ants’ nests that the larvae of *Al. thyra* is not phytophagous throughout its life-cycle. We have no evidence, however, of this being so and it is felt that further observation in this direction is desirable. The later larva which is mentioned and figured, did in captivity feed on the food plant up to the time it was ready to pupate. Other related species or groups are known to be very closely associated with ants, sheltering in their special structures, the hollow stems which they frequent, or other concealed places, in the larval state, but coming out to feed, usually at night, on the food-plant which the species happens to use. Several species of *Aloeides*, including *A. depicta*, have been reared through the entire larval state on *Aspalathus laricifolius* Berg. and without any ant association. It is possible, therefore, that under natural conditions the larva of *Al. thyra* only shelters in ants’ nests, while remaining phytophagous. *Al. thyra* seems nearly always to be found in the vicinity of *Aspalathus laricifolius* Berg., and the second author has observed eggs being laid in nature at the base of these plants, sometimes in sand and on occasion two or more together. It may be mentioned that *Al. pierus* (Cram.) has been seen to behave in the same manner when ovipositing, although in the case of this species plants other than the known food-plant (also *Aspalathus*) may be selected for this purpose.

Claassens & Dickson, 1977.

“This paper describes how some of the new material was used, both in the field and under artificial conditions, for a detailed study of the intimate relationship between the larvae and their “host” ants. The most gratifying result of our investigations was a better understanding of the function of the retractile tubercles of the larvae. It is now suggested that the tubercles secrete a volatile substance which alarms and disperses the ants imbibing an epidermal secretion of the larvae. It is further suggested that the dispersal of the ants ensures that they leave a scented trail between the nest and the food-plant, upon which the larvae travel at night when they desert the “host” ants’ nests temporarily to feed. Our observations were also rewarding in that several aspects of the myrmecophilous behaviour of the larvae which had escaped our notice during previous investigations could be recorded.”

Larvae in various instars were found in nests of the host ants under stones, sometimes as many as 20 under a single stone. Most of the larvae were found near the edges of the stones clinging to the undersurface of the stones. Ant nests were usually close to the larval host plants (up to 60 cm away at most). In formicaria it was noted that the ants removed frass produced by the larvae to their middens. Larvae were always accompanied by ants. Towards sunset larvae, accompanied by ants, left the nest for food plants in the arena. The larvae were seen to follow the pheromone trails of the ants. “While moving from the nest to the arena the larvae repeatedly extended their tubercles. When the tubercles were extended from their spiny casings, the ants which happened to be near them, whether on the larvae or in their proximity, became very excited. They rushed up to the tubercles which, when their long hair-like processes crowning their extremities were touched by the ants’ antennae, retracted immediately and rapidly. The ants subsequently ran around wildly and seemingly excited. They were obviously aware of something in the air surrounding them, and, their antennae held high up, they groped in all directions as they ran about.” “The number of ants participating in the “dance” varied as it depended upon the number of ants attending the larvae or that were close enough to the tubercles to perceive the secretion. The closer the ants happened to be to the protruded tubercles, the greater the excitement they caused among them. The “scent” of the secretion, possibly a pheromone, was often shared with other ants met on their way. This “sharing” was established by two ants touching each other’s antennae. Thus the effectiveness of the tubercles was increased. However, the increased activity the secretion induced in the ants was of short duration, usually not exceeding two or three seconds.

The tubercles can be extruded at shorter or longer intervals and they are usually extended both at the same time. Their effect on the ants is greatest when they are fully extended and when their hair-like processes “dust” a maximum area.” Clark & Dickson (1956) hypothesized that the tubercles might deter ants from becoming too persistent in their efforts to obtain the secretion of the honey-gland. However, no honey-gland is present in the later instars of *A. thyra*. The tubercles are only extruded when the larva becomes active and they thus appear to ensure that ants are in attendance when larvae are moving from one place to another. While the larva is feeding the tubercles are not extruded. The pheromone trail laid by the accompanying ants appears to act

as a guide to the larva on its way back to the nest. The authors postulate that the larvae produce an epidermal secretion that is attractive to the ants. The ants are more active around the larva when it is feeding than when it is at rest in the ant nest. They thus think that the larva produces more epidermal secretion when it is feeding. The authors were unable to show that ants stimulated by extruded tubercles were more aggressive towards other introduced insects. Alate males and queens of the host ant did not respond to the tubercles and nor did workers of *Crematogaster peringueyi*. Host ant workers interact with the pupae, concentrating their activities around the spiracles of the pupa. Although ants pull on the broken pupal skin of emerging imagos, as well as on the imagos themselves, they neither assist or hinder pupal eclosion. Ants show little interest in the discarded pupal case (cf. *Lepidochrysops* species – Cottrell, 1965; Claassens, 1974, 1976).

Claassens & Dickson, 1980.

Larval food:

Aspalathus acuminata Lam. subsp. *pungens* (Thunb.) R.Dahlgren (Fabaceae) [Claassens & Dickson, 1977].

Aspalathus cymbiformis DC. [Claassens & Dickson, 1977]. *Aspalathus laricifolia*

P.J.Bergius (Fabaceae) [Claassens & Dickson, 1974].

Associated ant:

Lepisiota capensis (Mayr.) [Claassens & Dickson, 1974: 253; localities as given under “early stages”, above; as *Acantholepis capensis*].

Aloeides thyra thyra (Linnaeus, 1764)

Red Russet (#)

Papilio thyra Linnaeus, 1764. *Museum Ludovicae Ulricae Reginae*: 329 (720 pp.). Holmiae.



Aloeides thyra thyra. Male (Wingspan 24 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Dasklip Pass, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 12 December 2005. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloeides thyra thyra. Female (Wingspan 26 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Gydo Mountain, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 11 December 2005. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.

Type data: [South Africa]: “Cap. B. Spei”. Lectotype designated by Honey & Scoble, 2001: 387.

Distribution: South Africa (Western Cape Province, Northern Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Western Cape Province – Lion’s Head, Cape Town (Clark & Dickson, 1952). Twelve Apostles, Camp’s Bay; Signal Hill, Sea Point (Claassens & Dickson, 1974). Cape Peninsula; Lambert’s Bay; Clanwilliam; Matjiesfontein; Cape Agulhas (Pringle, *et al.*, 1994). DeRust (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013). Paarl; Yzerfontein (Williams).

Northern Cape Province – Calvinia (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

nycetus Stoll, 1781. *In*: Stoll, 1780-2 (as sp. of *Papilio*). *Die Uitlandsche Kapellen voorkomende in de drie waerreldeelen Asia, Africa en America* 4 [part]: 178 (29-252). Amsteldam & Utrecht. [South Africa]: “Kaap de Goede Hoop”.

euadrus Fabricius, 1787 (as sp. of *Papilio*). *Mantissa Insectorum* 2: 89 (382 pp.). Hafniae. [South Africa]: “Cap. Bon. Spei. [& only.]”.

***Aloeides thyra orientis* Pringle, 1994**
Brenton Red Russet (#)

Aloeides thyra orientis Pringle, 1994. *Metamorphosis* 5 (3): 109 (107-114).



Aloeides thyra orientis. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
5 km west of Gouritz River Mouth, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 1 February 2009. D.A. Edge.
Images M.C. Williams ex Edge Collection



Aloeides thyra orientis. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Uitzicht, Brenton, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 26 February 2012. D.A. Young.
Images M.C. Williams ex Edge Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “Knysna, 11.III.1987, E.L. Pringle.”

Described from 18 males and two females from, Knysna, Brenton and Stilbaai. Holotype in Natural History Museum, London.

Distribution: South Africa (Western Cape Province – south-east).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Western Cape Province – Knysna (TL). Brenton; Stilbaai (Pringle, 1994). Near Gouritz River Mouth (D. Edge). Mossel Bay (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Conservation status: Classified as Endangered (Henning *et al.*, 2009: 43).

A. dryas subgroup

**Aloeides dryas* Tite & Dickson, 1968 Escarpment Russet (#)



Aloeides dryas. Male resting on a grass stem on a hilltop in the Chunies Mountains, Limpopo Province.
Image courtesy Raimund Schutte.

Aloeides dryas Tite & Dickson, 1968. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **21**: 379 (369-388).

Aloeides dryas Tite & Dickson, 1968. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides dryas Tite and Dickson, 1968. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 192.

Aloeides dryas Tite & Dickson, 1968. D'Abrera, 2009: 716.



Aloeides dryas. Male (Wingspan 29 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Lekgalameetse Nature Reserve, Limpopo Province, South Africa. 5 January 2012. M. Williams.
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.

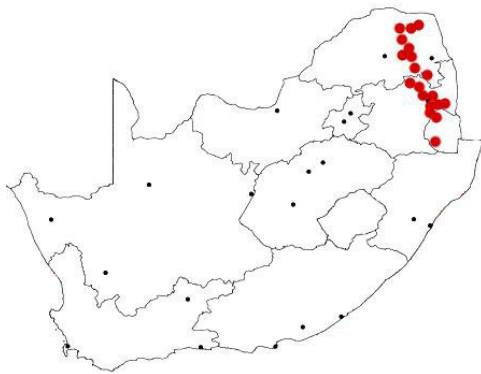


Aloeides dryas. Male (Wingspan 30 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Dirkiesdorp, Mpumalanga, South Africa. 22 December 2004. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides dryas. Female (Wingspan 32 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
The Downs, Limpopo Province, South Africa. 1 November 2009. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Transvaal: Zoutpansberg, Shilouvane”.



Distribution of *Aloeides dryas*

South Africa (Limpopo, Mpumalanga),
Eswatini.

Distribution: South Africa (Limpopo, Mpumalanga), Eswatini.

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Limpopo Province – Shiluwane (TL; Junod). Polokwane; Wolkberg (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Louis Trichardt (Breijer). Levubu (Le Roux). Lekgalameetse Nature Reserve (Williams, September, 2002).

Mpumalanga – Blydepoort; Lydenburg; Barberton (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Eswatini – Malolotja Nature Reserve (www.sntc.org.sz).

Habitat: Montane grassland, often but not always near forest (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Habits: Males are inveterate hilltoppers (Williams, unpublished). The linked video here, by Etienne Terblanche shows oviposition behaviour: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m9Uz-hej_gI

Flight period: October to April. There are also records from Barberton, in June (Pringle *et al.*, 1994) and Lekgalameetse, in September (Williams, unpub. 2002).

Larval food:

Lotononis species (Fabaceae) [B. Le Roux, 1997: pers. comm. (unpublished); Levubu, Limpopo Province].

Associated ant:

Lepisiota species [B. Le Roux, 1997: pers. comm. (unpublished); Levubu, Limpopo Province].

****Aloeides juana* Tite & Dickson, 1968**
Black-bordered Russet (#)



Aloeides juana. Left: Male. Right: Female. Witwater Farm, Namaqualand.
 Images courtesy Steve Woodhall.

Aloeides vansonii juana Tite & Dickson, 1968. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **21**: 379 (369-388).

Aloeides juana Tite & Dickson, 1968. Tite & Dickson, 1973. **stat. rev.**

Aloeides juana Tite & Dickson, 1968. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides juana Tite and Dickson, 1968. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 191.

Aloeides juana Tite & Dickson, 1968. D'Abrera, 2009: 716.



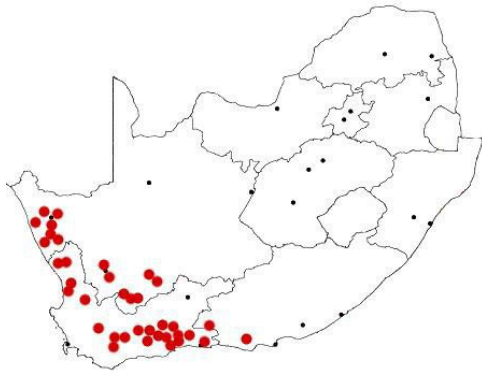
Aloeides juana. Male (Wingspan 32 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
 Swartberg Pass, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 12 December 2009. J. Dobson.
 Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides juana. Female (Wingspan 33 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
 Huirivier Pass, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 13 December 2009. J. Dobson.
 Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Cape Province: Hills 3½ miles S. of Ladismith”.

Diagnosis: Similar to *Aloeides vansonii* but differs in the deeper reddish colour of the upperside, wider and more intensely black wing margins, and generally darker underside (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution

South Africa – Eastern Cape Province, Western Cape Province, Northern Cape Province.

Distribution: South Africa (Eastern Cape Province, Western Cape Province, Northern Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Eastern Cape Province – Patensie (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Western Cape Province – 5 km south of Ladismith (TL). Swartberg Pass.

Northern Cape Province – Little Namaqualand (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Habitat: Fynbos, at elevated altitudes (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Also in succulent karoo (Little Namaqualand).

Flight period: September to December and March are the recorded months (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

**Aloeides penningtoni* Tite & Dickson, 1968

Natal Russet (#)



Aloeides penningtoni. Male. Alverstone, KwaZulu-Natal.
Image courtesy Steve Woodhall.

Aloeides penningtoni Tite & Dickson, 1968. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **21**: 380 (369-388).

Aloeides penningtoni Tite & Dickson, 1968. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides natalensis Tite & Dickson, 1968. Dickson & Kroon, 1978. [Synonym of *penningtoni*].

Aloeides penningtoni Tite and Dickson, 1968. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 192.

Aloeides penningtoni Tite & Dickson, 1968. D'Abrera, 2009: 716.



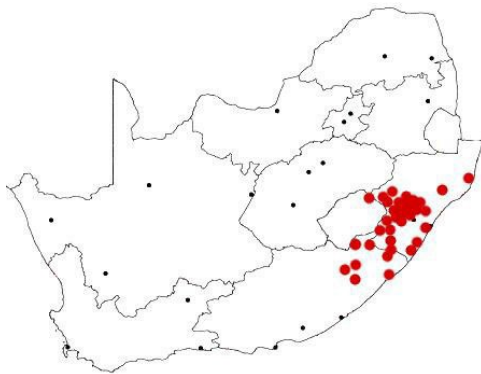
Aloeides penningtoni. Male (Wingspan 29 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Kokstad, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa 27 December 2005. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloeides penningtoni. Female (Wingspan 30 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Cathedral Peak, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa 5 January 2006. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Natal: Gillitts, Durban”.

Diagnosis: Similar to *Aloeides dryas*, from which it may be distinguished on the forewing upperside by the distinctly triangular apical patch and by the more conspicuous chequering of the cilia (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides penningtoni*

South Africa (KwaZulu-Natal,
Eastern Cape Province), Lesotho.

Distribution: South Africa (KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape Province), Lesotho.

Specific localities:

South Africa –

KwaZulu-Natal – Gillitts (TL; Higgins). Muden (Tite & Dickson, 1968). Estcourt; the Midlands; the Drakensberg; Enseleni (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Mtubatuba (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013). Mike’s Pass, Cathedral Peak (Williams).

Eastern Cape Province – East Griqualand; the Transkei (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Mthatha (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Habitat: Grassland.

Flight period: August to January and April are the recorded months (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

natalensis Tite & Dickson, 1968 (as sp. of *Aloeides*). *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **21**: 380 (369-388). South Africa: “Natal: Muden”. Synonymy follows Henning, 1987 (*Journal of the Entomological Society of Southern Africa* **50**: 242 (241-248)).

****Aloeides depicta* Tite & Dickson, 1968**

Marbled Russet (#)

Aloeides depicta Tite & Dickson, 1968. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **21**: 383 (369-388).

Aloeides depicta Tite & Dickson, 1968. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides depicta Tite and Dickson, 1968. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 195.

Aloeides depicta Tite & Dickson, 1968. D'Abrera, 2009: 716.

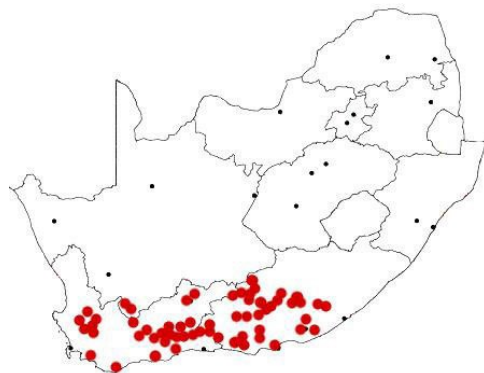


Aloeides depicta. Male (Wingspan 28 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Lootsberg Pass, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. 22 September 2002. N.K. Owen-Johnston.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides depicta. Female (Wingspan 33 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Lootsberg Pass, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. 6 October 2002. N.K. Owen-Johnston.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Cape Province: Uitvlugt”.



Distribution of *Aloeides depicta*

South Africa – Eastern Cape Province,
Western Cape Province, Northern
Cape Province.

Distribution: South Africa (Eastern Cape Province, Western Cape Province, Northern Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Eastern Cape Province – Uitvlugt, near Port Elizabeth (TL). Camdeboo Mountains; Burgersdorp; Bedford;
Cradock; Uitenhage; Kareedouw (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Keiskammahoek (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Western Cape Province – Swartberg Pass; Matjiesfontein; Uniondale; Kouga Mountains (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).
Hermanus; Porterville (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Habitat: Karoo.

Flight period: Spring to Autumn. There is a record for June (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Early stages:

Clark & Dickson, 1952: 22 [as *Aloeides thyra*; locality not noted].

“The eggs are laid on the ground or on various shrubs; it is doubtful if these constitute the food plants but the larvae have been reared to pupation on *Aspalathus*. The eggs are greenish brown with a beautiful pattern of fine ribs arranged in an hexagonal star, the centre of which is raised and rounded. They are 0.9 mm. in diameter by 0.5 mm. high and take 21 days to hatch. The young larva is 1.75 mm. on hatching and is very pale yellow with salmon pink wavy lines and a black head. Each segment has a double plume of four swept-back spines on the dorsum and a fringe of four spines low down the side. The final segments resemble a fan by reason of a fringe of long spines. The larva progresses through seven instars to a final length of 18 mm. This takes some 10 months. After the first instar the larva is pale green with crimson wavy stripes and a white stripe low down the side. The colours deepen with each instar till they are light blue and red. The white line changes to yellow and later is touched above with salmon. On most segments a yellow spot develops in front of the dorsal cluster of spines. Larvae have a well developed honey gland and easily detected tubercles and care has to be taken that the “honey” exuding from the gland does not ferment, cause mildew and kill the larva. Normally ants attend to this.”

Tite & Dickson, 1968.

Clark & Dickson, 1971: 213, plate 100 [as *Aloeides depicta depicta*; Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape].

“Egg: 0.9 mm diam. x 0.5 mm high. Laid on various, almost ground-level, shrubs and even in sand, where ants possibly pick them up. Eggs hatch after 21-25 days. Larva: 1st instar 1.75 mm, growing to 3 mm or 2.75 mm in 24 or 18 days; 2nd instar growing to 4.5 or 3.75 mm in 12 or 22 days; 3rd instar growing to 6.5 or 5 mm in 16 days; 4th instar growing to 8.5 or 7 mm in 25 days; 5th instar growing to 10.5 or 9 mm in 40 days; 6th instar growing to 14.5 or 12.5 mm in 50 days; 7th instar growing to 18 mm or 15 mm in 60 days; 8th instar growing to 18 mm. (The first sets of figures apply, in each case, to 7-instar larvae and the second sets to 8-instar larvae, but the duration of instars for 8-instar larvae are not recorded beyond the 2nd instar). There may also be only 6 instars, with shorter duration and proportional sizes permitting of more than one brood. Tubercles are present in all instars, but the honey-gland is not apparent till the 3rd instar. Larvae live concealed where they are feeding until the end of the 2nd instar, then generally rest near the ground, where they are associated with ants. 7-instar larvae can considerably shorten the duration of instars, giving a spread out emergence. There are periods of diapause. Pupa: 11 mm. Probably normally found under stones near the ants and the larva’s food-plant. The pupal period varies between big limits and may include hibernation. Recorded from eggs from Port Elizabeth.”

Pringle, 1998.

Larval food:

Aspalathus species (Fabaceae) [Clark & Dickson, 1952: 22; in captivity; (requires confirmation according to Heath *et al.*, 2008)].

Associated ant:

Lepisiota capensis (Mayr, 1862) (Formicinae) [Pringle, 1998; Bedford, Eastern Cape Province].

****Aloeides apicalis* Tite & Dickson, 1968**

Ponted Russet (#)



Aloeides apicalis. Male. Springbok, Namaqualand.
Image courtesy Steve Woodhall.

Aloeides depicta apicalis Tite & Dickson, 1968. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **21**: 384 (369-388).

Aloeides apicalis Tite & Dickson, 1968. Dickson & Kroon, 1978. **stat. nov.**

Aloeides apicalis Tite and Dickson, 1968. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 196.

Aloeides apicalis Tite & Dickson, 1968. D’Abrera, 2009: 716.



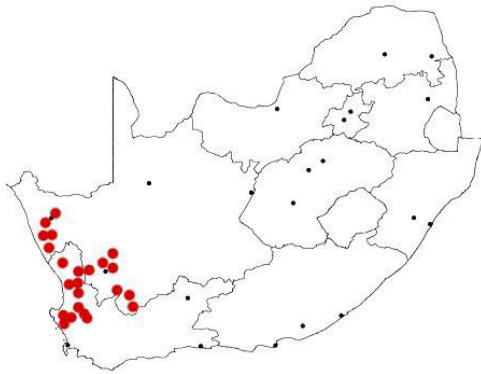
Aloeides apicalis. Male (Wingspan 25 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Lambert's Bay, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 1 September 2007. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides apicalis. Female (Wingspan 28 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Lambert's Bay, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 1 September 2007. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Cape Province: O’okiep, Little Namaqualand”.

Diagnosis: Close to *Aloeides depicta* but in the male it is easily distinguished by the very pointed forewings and pronounced anal-angle of the hindwings (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution: South Africa –
Western Cape Province, Northern
Cape Province.

Distribution: South Africa (Western Cape Province, Northern Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Western Cape Province – near Piketberg (Van Son). Citrusdal; Clanwilliam; Seven Weeks Poort; Laingsburg (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Koringsberg, Moorreesburg (Heath & Claassens, 2000). 7 km south of Lambert's Bay (Heath *et al.*, 2008). Darling; Ceres (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Northern Cape Province – Okiep (TL). Hantamsberg; south of Springbok (Stephen). Near Sutherland (the Pringles).

Habitat: Karoo and fynbos.

Flight period: September to November (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Early stages:

Heath *et al.*, 2008.

“The dorsal nectary organ (DNO) was absent from all the final instar larvae, although examination of a frozen section revealed an underlying DNO structure beneath the cuticle.”

Larval food:

Aspalathus spinosa L. (Fabaceae) [Heath & Claassens, 2000; Koringsberg, Moorreesburg].

Roepera teretifolia (Schltr.) Beier & Thulin (Zygophyllaceae) [Heath *et al.*, 2008; 7 km south of Lambert's Bay].

Associated ant:

Monomorium fridae Forel (Myrmicinae) [Heath & Claassens, 2000; Koringsberg, Moorreesburg; Heath *et al.*, 2008; 7 km south of Lambert's Bay].

****Aloeides lutescens* Tite & Dickson, 1968**

Breede River Russet (#)

Aloeides lutescens Tite & Dickson, 1968. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **21**: 385 (369-388).

Aloeides lutescens Tite & Dickson, 1968. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides lutescens Tite and Dickson, 1968. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 196.

Aloeides lutescens Tite & Dickson, 1968. D'Abrera, 2009: 716.



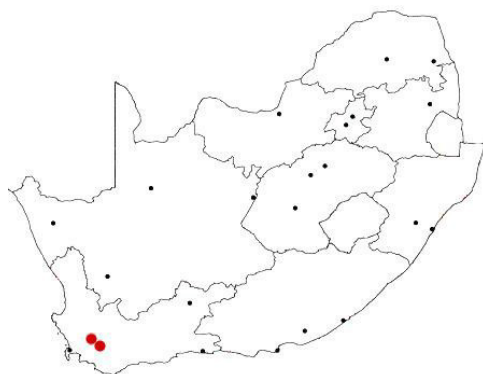
Aloeides lutescens. Male (Wingspan 27 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Hammanshof, Bree River, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 19 October 2008. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides lutescens. Female (Wingspan 31 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Hammanshof, Bree River, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 19 October 2008. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Cape Province: Below De Wets Berg, Brand Vlei”.

Diagnosis: Closest to *Aloeides carolynnae*, from which it differs in the following respects: on both wing surfaces ground-colour darker and brighter; hindwing underside light postdiscal patch in area 4 virtually absent; hindwing underside marginal dots more conspicuous (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides lutescens*

South Africa – Western Cape Province.

Distribution: South Africa (Western Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Western Cape Province – Brandvlei Dam, south of Worcester (TL). Below the Roodeberg in the Robertson Karoo (Kaplan and Cottrell). 20 km south-east of Worcester (Schlosz and Brinkman). Scherpenhewel area (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Habitat: Low-lying sandy ground in karoo vegetation (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Flight period: Summer and autumn (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Larval food:

(By inference) *Aspalathus* species (Fabaceae) [Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 196; (requires confirmation according to Heath *et al.*, 2008)].

Conservation status: Classified as Vulnerable (Henning *et al.*, 2009: 45).

****Aloeides margaretae* Tite & Dickson, 1968**
West Coast Russet (#)



Aloeides margaretae. Male. Lambert's Bay.
Image courtesy Steve Woodhall.

Aloeides margaretae Tite & Dickson, 1968. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **21**: 386 (369-388).

Aloeides margaretae Tite & Dickson, 1968. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides margaretae Tite and Dickson, 1968. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 198.

Aloeides margaretae Tite & Dickson, 1968. D'Abrera, 2009: 716.



Aloeides margaretae. Male (Wingspan 28 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Lambert's Bay, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 1 September 2007. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



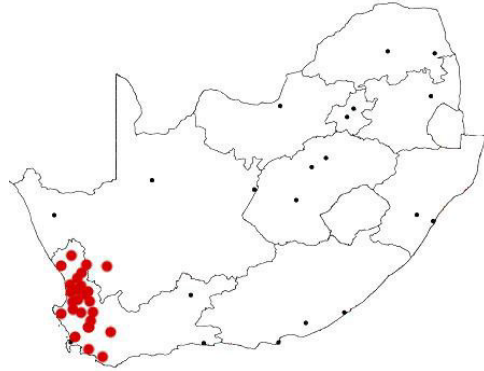
Aloeides margaretae. Female (Wingspan 31 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Lambert's Bay, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 1 October 2010. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Cape Province: South Lambert’s Bay”.

Note: Heath & Claassens (2020), based on adult morphology, suggest that *A. margaretae* may be a junior synonym of *A. apicalis*.

Diagnosis: The hindwing underside has characteristic markings, consisting of a prominent light stripe, which may be partially broken, and which extends for a short distance across the centre of the wing.

These markings stand out well against the warm brown to red-brown ground-colour (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides margaretae*

South Africa – Western Cape Province.

Distribution: South Africa (Western Cape Province, Northern Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Western Cape Province – south of Lambert’s Bay (TL). North of Lambert’s Bay; Redelinghuys; Piketberg (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Hermanus (Rossouw). Struisbaai (Heath). Yzerfontein; Gansbaai; Bitterfontein (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013). Gydo Mountain; Mooresburg; Lambert’s Bay; Graafwater (Heath & Claassens, 2020).

Northern Cape Province – Nieuwoudtville (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Habitat: Fynbos.

Flight period: Spring to autumn (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Early stages:

Heath & Claassens, 2020 [egg, larvae, pupa, life history].

Larval food:

Aspalathus spinosa L. (Fabaceae) [Woodhall, 2005a].

Aspalathus spinescens Thunb. (Fabaceae) [Heath & Claassens, 2020].

Atriplex bolusii C.H. Wright (Amaranthaceae) [Heath & Claassens, 2020].

Hermannia trifurca L. (Malvaceae) [Heath & Claassens, 2020].

Roepera teretifolia (Schltr.) Beier & Thulin (Zygophyllaceae) [Heath & Claassens, 2020].

Wiborgia fusca Thunb. (Fabaceae) [Heath & Claassens, 2020].

Associated ant:

Monomorium fridae Forel, 1905 (Myrmicinae) [Heath & Claassens, 2020].

****Aloeides caledoni* Tite & Dickson, 1973**

Splendid Russet (#)

Aloeides caledoni Tite & Dickson, 1973. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **29**: 271 (227-280).

Aloeides caledoni Tite & Dickson, 1973. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides caledoni Tite and Dickson, 1973. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 194.

Aloeides caledoni Tite & Dickson, 1973. D'Abrera, 2009: 718.



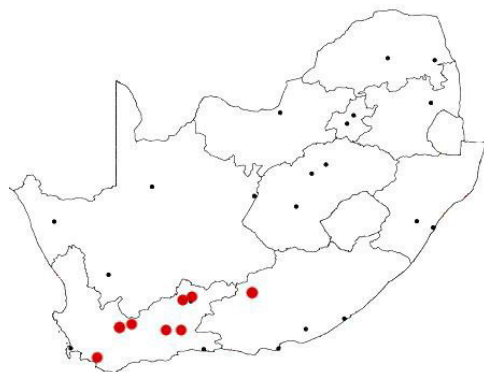
Aloeides caledoni. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Shaw's Mountain, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 24 October 1976.
Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.



Aloeides caledoni. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Shaw's Mountain, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 24 October 1976.
Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “Cape Province: Shaw’s Mountain, south of Caledon”.

Diagnosis: Resembles *Aloeides depicta* on the upperside but can be distinguished in the male by a break in the dark costal border of the forewing upperside, before the wing base (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides caledoni*

South Africa (Eastern Cape
Province, Western Cape Province).

Distribution: South Africa (Eastern Cape Province, Western Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Eastern Cape Province – Nieu-Bethesda (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Western Cape Province – Shaw’s Mountain, south of Caledon (TL). Touw’s River (N. Duke).
Matjiesfontein (Badham; single male). South of Oudtshoorn (Dickson; single male).

Habitat: Fynbos and karoo.

Flight period: September to November (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

****Aloeides carolynnae* Dickson, 1983**

Dark Russet (#)

Aloeides carolynnae Dickson, 1983. *Entomologist's Record and Journal of Variation* **95**: 4 (1-6).

Aloeides carolynnae Dickson, 1983. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 196.

Aloeides carolynnae Dickson, 1983. D'Abrera, 2009: 720.



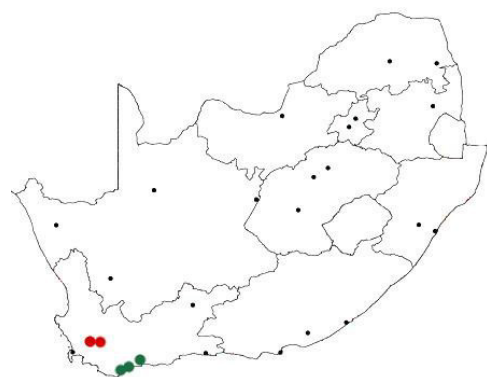
Aloeides carolynnae carolynnae. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Goudini, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 16 February 1994. D.A. Edge.
Images M.C. Williams ex Edge Collection.



Aloeides carolynnae carolynnae. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Goudini, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 16 February 1994. D.A. Edge.
Images M.C. Williams ex Edge Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “South Western Cape Province: near Goudini”.

Diagnosis: Close to *Aloeides lutescens*, from which it differs in the following respects: on the upperside the ground-colour is darker orange-red and the distal margins are wider; on the underside of the hindwing, and forewing apical and distal margin, the ground-colour is much darker; on the hindwing underside there is usually no evidence of the light discal patch that is invariably present in *lutescens* (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides carolynnae*

South Africa:

[ssp. *carolynnae* – red dots] Western Cape Province.

[ssp. *aurata* – green dots] Western Cape Province.

Distribution: South Africa.

Habitat: The nominate subspecies is found in rough, mountainous terrain in typical fynbos. Subspecies *aurata* occurs in flat, sandy terrain (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Habits: When disturbed males fly off very rapidly but soon return to the same spot (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Flight period: November to March, for the nominate subspecies, and September to March for subspecies *aurata* (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Larval food:

(By inference) *Aspalathus* species (Fabaceae) [Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 197; for the nominate subspecies at the type locality; (requires confirmation according to Heath *et al.*, 2008)].

Aloeides carolynnae carolynnae* Dickson, 1983*Dark Russet (#)**

Aloeides carolynnae Dickson, 1983. *Entomologist's Record and Journal of Variation* **95**: 4 (1-6).



Aloeides carolynnae carolynnae. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Goudini, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 16 February 1994. D.A. Edge.
Images M.C. Williams ex Edge Collection.



Aloeides carolynnae carolynnae. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Goudini, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 16 February 1994. D.A. Edge.
Images M.C. Williams ex Edge Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “South Western Cape Province: near Goudini”.

Distribution: South Africa (Western Cape Province).

Specific localities:**South Africa –**

Western Cape Province – Slanghoek Valley, near Goudini (TL; Ball). South-west side of the Badsberg, north-west of Rawsonville (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Conservation status: Classified as Endangered (Henning *et al.*, 2009: 44). The population at the type locality has apparently been destroyed by the planting of a vineyard.

Aloeides carolynnae aurata Pringle, 1994

De Hoop Dark Russet (#)

Aloeides carolynnae aurata Pringle, 1994. In: Pringle, Henning, & Ball [eds]. *Pennington's butterflies of southern Africa* 2nd edition: 197 (800 pp.).



Aloeides carolynnae aurata. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
De Hoop Nature Reserve, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 13 February 1994. D.A. Edge.
Images M.C. Williams ex Edge Collection.



Aloeides carolynnae aurata. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Still Bay, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 12 October 1997. D.A. Edge.
Images M.C. Williams ex Edge Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “Witsand, 6 Sept. 1990, E.L. Pringle.” Place of deposition of holotype not specified.

Diagnosis: Differs from the nominate subspecies in the following respects: slightly larger; distal margins of both wings more rounded; upperside ground-colour brighter in male and lighter in female; upperside distal-marginal border of forewing and apical patch of hindwing narrower and without black scaling on the veins basad of the border; distal lunules of hindwing upperside less crenulate; cilia less distinctly chequered; underside forewing orange-red area more reddish; hindwing underside whitish grey markings less extensive, median series more weakly fused and less sagittate, and remaining spotting much reduced in size (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Distribution: South Africa (Western Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Western Cape Province – close to the Breede River, near Witsand (TL; the Pringles). On a limestone ridge near the De Hoop Nature Reserve (Heath, Brinkman and Ball). Between Riversdal and Still bay (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Conservation status: Classified as Vulnerable (Henning *et al.*, 2009: 44).

****Aloeides titei* Henning, 1987**
Mountain Russet (#)



Aloeides titei. Verlorenvallei, Mpumalanga.
Image courtesy Justin Bode.

Aloeides titei Henning, 1987. *Journal of the Entomological Society of Southern Africa* **50**: 243 (241-248).
Aloeides titei G.A. Henning, 1987. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 192.
Aloeides titei Henning, 1987. D'Abrera, 2009: 718.



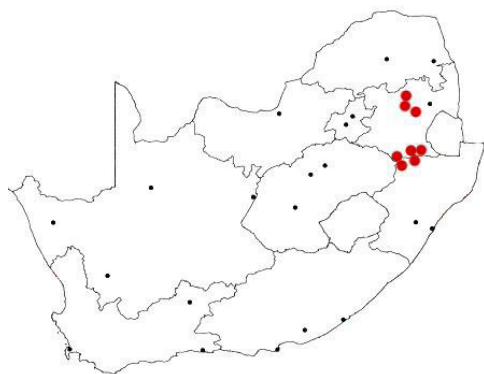
Aloeides titei. Male (Wingspan 28 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Wakkerstroom, Mpumalanga, South Africa. 7 November 2004. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloeides titei. Female (Wingspan 30 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Wakkerstroom, Mpumalanga, South Africa. 2 March 2003. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Kastrol Nek, Transvaal”.

Diagnosis: Closest to *Aloeides penningtoni*, from which it can be separated by the following features: wings more elongated; on the hindwing underside the ground-colour has a lighter tone, and the silvery markings are better defined and edged with black distally; labial palpi with longer and more numerous scales and lacking whitish patches (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides titei*

South Africa – Mpumalanga,
KwaZulu-Natal.

Distribution: South Africa (Mpumalanga, KwaZulu-Natal – north-west).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Mpumalanga – Kastrol Nek, near Wakkerstroom (TL). Dullstroom (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Mountainlands, Barberton (J. Dobson, ABN, 2020 no. 2).

KwaZulu-Natal – Amajuba Mountain, near Volksrust (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Utrecht (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Habitat: Grassland, on the slopes of mountains, often in bare eroded patches (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Habits: Occurs in scattered, discrete colonies (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Flight period: November to February (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

**Aloeides dicksoni* Henning, 1987

Amatola Russet (#)

Aloeides dicksoni Henning, 1987. *Journal of the Entomological Society of Southern Africa* **50**: 245 (241-248).

Aloeides dicksoni G.A. Henning, 1987. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 192.

Aloeides dicksoni Henning, 1987. D'Abrera, 2009: 720.



Aloeides dicksoni. Male (Wingspan 28 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Torr Doon, Hogsback, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. 12 December 2001. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

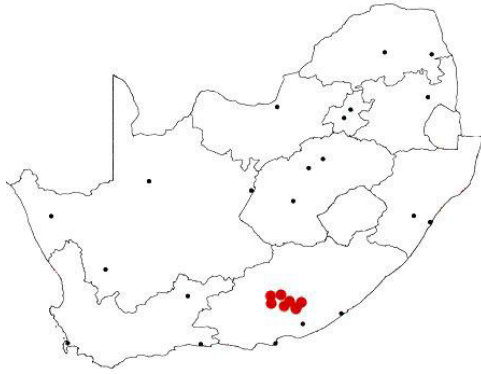


Aloeides dicksoni. Female (Wingspan 30 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Torr Doon, Hogsback, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. 21 December 2010. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Cradock, Cape Province”.

Diagnosis: Closest to *Aloeides penningtoni*, but differs in the following respects: hindwing underside ground-colour much paler, with the silvery markings less distinct and edged distally with blackish brown;

antennae reddish brown to greyish brown (black in *penningtoni*); distal segment of labial palpi comparatively shorter in proportion to the second segment (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides dicksoni*

South Africa – Eastern Cape Province.

Distribution: South Africa (Eastern Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Eastern Cape Province – lower slopes of the Bankberg, near Cradock (TL; the Pringles). Winterberg, near Adelaide; Elandsberg, near Stutterheim (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Seymour (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Habitat: Grassland and karoo, at fairly high altitudes (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Habits: Typical for the genus (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Flight period: Early November to mid-December on the Bankberg and Winterberg and to the end of December on the Elandsberg (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

**Aloeides caffrariae* Henning, 1987

Border Russet (#)

Aloeides caffrariae Henning, 1987. *Journal of the Entomological Society of Southern Africa* **50**: 246 (241-248).

Aloeides caffrariae G.A. Henning, 1987. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 193.

Aloeides caffrariae Henning, 1987. D'Abrera, 2009: 720.



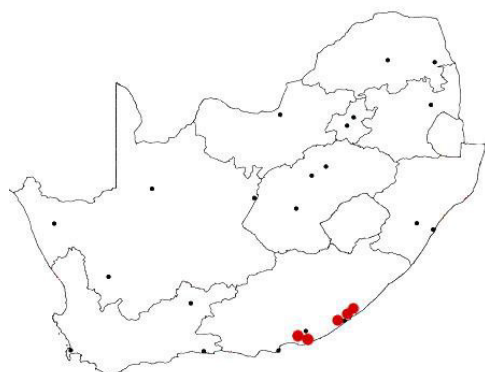
Aloeides caffrariae. Male (Wingspan 27 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Haga Haga, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. 26 December, 2001. M. Williams.
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.



Aloeides caffrariae. Female (Wingspan 31 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Citsa West, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. 28 December, 2001. M. Williams.
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “Quinera River, East London, Cape”.

Diagnosis: Similar to *Aloeides penningtoni*, from which it can be distinguished by: its smaller size; more elongated forewing; paler ground-colour on the upperside and hindwing underside; greyish antennae (black in *penningtoni*); distal segment of labial palpi comparatively longer than the second segment; cilia more distinctly chequered (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides cafferariae*

South Africa (Eastern Cape Province).

Distribution: South Africa (Eastern Cape Province – coast).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Eastern Cape Province – Quinera River, East London (TL). Beacon Bay; Buffalo Pass; Cintsa East; Bathurst; Grahamstown; Boknes (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Haga Haga (the Dobsons and Williams). Cintsa West (Mayer). Bushman’s River Mouth (Williams).

Habitat: Grassland, on coastal hills.

Habits: Lives in colonies of a few to more than a dozen individuals in areas with short grass. Specimens fly low down and soon settle after being disturbed (Williams, pers. obs.). Oviposition behaviour has been described by Williams (2006). When searching for oviposition sites the female flies slowly in circles or in a zig-zag pattern. On encountering an *Aspalathus* shrub she alights on top, briefly antennates the leaves and proceeds to make her way into the shrublet, moving downwards until she reaches the ground at the base of a main stem. The female then crawls around on the ground between debris and vegetation below the shrublet, eventually ovipositing in the soil before flying away to nectar or rest.

Flight period: October to March (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Larval food:

Aspalathus species (Fabaceae) [Williams, unpublished, December 2004; Bushman’s River Mouth, Eastern Cape Province; based on oviposition; (requires confirmation according to Heath *et al.*, 2008)].

A. egerides subgroup

**Aloeides egerides* (Riley, 1938) Red Hill Russet (#)

Phasis thyra form *egerides* Riley, 1938. *Transactions of the Royal Entomological Society of London* **87**: 238 (233-245).
Aloeides egerides Tite & Dickson, 1968. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **21**: 385 (369-388).
Aloeides egerides (Riley, 1938). Dickson & Kroon, 1978.
Aloeides egerides Riley, 1938. D'Abrera, 2009: 716.



Aloeides egerides. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Fisherhaven, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 2 April 2011.
Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.

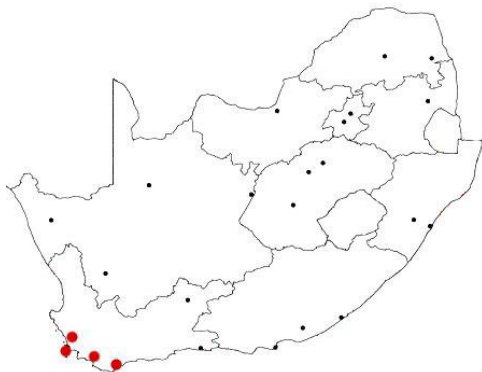


Aloeides egerides. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Red Hill, Simonstown, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 13 October 1973.
Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “Redhills Simonstown”.

Authorship ascribed to Riley (1938) (ICZN 45.6.4.1.).

Diagnosis: Close to *Aloeides lutescens*, from which it differs as follows: upperside ground-colour paler; hindwing upperside apical patch extended to a point about half-way along the costa; underside markings much clearer (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides egerides*

South Africa – Western Cape Province.

Distribution: South Africa (Western Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Western Cape Province – Red Hill, above Simonstown (TL; Dickson and Robertson). Near Philadelphia on the road to Mamre; the Katzenberg Hill area; Piketberg (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Lambert's Bay (Woodhall, 2005a). Near Struisbaai (Heath). Pella Mission near Mamre (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Habitat: Sandy ground in fynbos (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Flight period: October to April but may be scarcer in midsummer (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

****Aloeides quickelbergei* Tite & Dickson, 1968**

Outeniqua Russet (#)

Aloeides quickelbergei Tite & Dickson, 1968. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **21**: 381 (369- 388).

Aloeides quickelbergei Tite & Dickson, 1968. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides quickelbergei Tite and Dickson, 1968. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 193.

Aloeides quickelbergei Tite & Dickson, 1968. D'Abrera, 2009: 716.

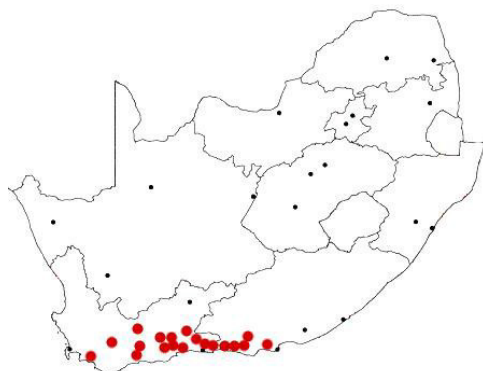


Aloeides quickelbergei. Male (Wingspan 25 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Mannetjiesberg, Western Cape Province, South Africa 16 December 2009. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloeides quickelbergei. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Buffelsnek, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 2 December 1991. E.L. Pringle.
Images M. Williams ex Pringle Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “Cape Province: Robinson Pass”.



Distribution of *Aloeides quickelbergei*

South Africa – Eastern Cape Province,
Western Cape Province.

Distribution: South Africa (Eastern Cape Province – south-west, Western Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Eastern Cape Province – on the mountains near Kareedouw (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Western Cape Province – Robinson Pass (TL; Brauer). Montagu Pass; Outeniqua Pass (Quickelberge).

Perdeberg, near Knysna; Kammanassie Mountains; the Langeberg, above Grootvadersbos (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Garcia Forestry (Van Son). Hermanus; near Port Elizabeth (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Habitat: Montane fynbos.

****Aloeides oreas* Tite & Dickson, 1968**

Small Mountain Russet (#)



Aloeides oreas. Nsikeni.

Image courtesy Steve Woodhall.

Aloeides oreas Tite & Dickson, 1968. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **21**: 382 (369-388).

Aloeides oreas Tite & Dickson. Dickson & Kroon, 1978. [Date of authorship omitted].

Aloeides oreas Tite and Dickson, 1968. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 193.

Aloeides oreas Tite & Dickson, 1968. D'Abreu, 2009: 716.



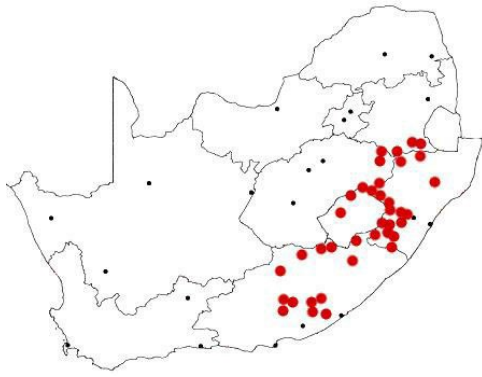
Aloeides oreas. Male (Wingspan 23 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Oliviershoek, Free State Province, South Africa. 18 December 2010. M. Williams.
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.



Aloeides oreas. Female (Wingspan 25 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Dirkiesdorp, Mpumalanga, South Africa. 22 December 2004. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Natal: Loteni”.

Diagnosis: Similar to *Aloeides penningtoni* on the upperside but the cilia are weakly chequered.



Distribution of *Aloeides oreas*

South Africa (Mpumalanga, Free State Province, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape Province), Lesotho.

Distribution: South Africa (Mpumalanga, Free State Province, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape Province), Lesotho.

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Mpumalanga – Wakkerstroom (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Dirkiesdorp (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Free State Province – Witkoppe, near Vrede; Golden Gate Highlands National Park (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Platberg, Harrismith (Dobson, Williams & Schutte, unpublished, 2010).

KwaZulu-Natal – Loteni, at 2 300 m (TL); Giant's Castle (Pennington). Amajuba (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Eastern Cape Province – Steynsburg; Hankey (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Stutterheim (Quickelberge). Bedford (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Habitat: Montane grassland.

Flight period: September to February (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

**Aloeides clarki* Tite & Dickson, 1968

Coega Russet (#)



Aloeides clarki. Left: Male. Right: Female.

Images courtesy Steve Woodhall.

Aloeides clarki Tite & Dickson, 1968. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **21**: 382 (369-388).

Aloeides clarki Tite & Dickson. Dickson & Kroon, 1978. [Date omitted].

Aloeides clarki Tite and Dickson, 1968. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 195.

Aloeides clarki Tite & Dickson, 1968. D'Abreu, 2009: 716.



Aloeides clarki. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.

Coega, Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. D. Edge.

Images H. Edge, ex Edge Collection.



Aloeides clarki. Male (Wingspan 27 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Baviaanskloof Mountains, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. 15 December 2009. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

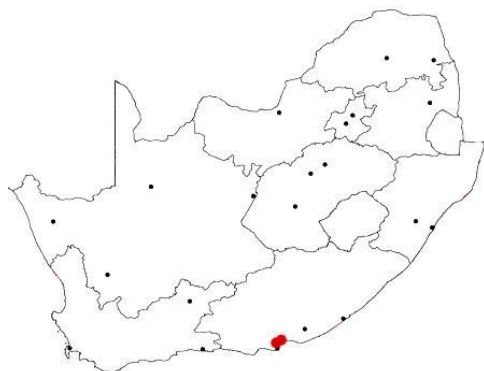


Aloeides clarki. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Coega, Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. D. Edge.
Images H. Edge, ex Edge Collection.



Aloeides clarki. Female (Wingspan 27 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Baviaanskloof Mountains, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. 15 December 2009. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Cape Province: Aloes-Coega Flats”.



Distribution of *Aloeides clarki*

South Africa (Eastern Cape Province).

Distribution: South Africa (Eastern Cape Province, Western Cape Province ?).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Eastern Cape Province – Aloes-Coega Flats, near Port Elizabeth (Tl; Clark). Sundays River (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Western Cape Province – Avontuur ? (the Pringles)

Habitat: Fynbos.

Flight period: October to April (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Early stages:

Tite & Dickson, 1968: 382.

Clark & Dickson, 1971: 217, plate 102 [as *Aloeides clarki*; Aloes-Coega Flats, Eastern Cape Province].

“Egg: 0.9 mm diam. x 0.5 mm high. White to pale greenish in colour. The surface bears a fine reticulated pattern, as in the illustration. Eggs are presumably laid singly. The egg hatches 12 days after being laid. Larva: 1st instar. On emergence, 1.25 mm, growing to 2.75 mm in 12 days (May); 2nd instar growing to 4 mm in 18 days; 3rd instar growing to 6 mm in 17 days; 4th instar entered by larva, which, however, died before reaching the end of the instar. The tubercles are present in the 1st and later instars, but the honey-gland, as far as is known, is only present from and after the 3rd instar. In the 1st instar the head is black. Body pale stone- coloured with reddish longitudinal lines and some other marking of the same colour anteriorly and posteriorly. Neck-shield black and the small anal-shield dark greyish. The longer setae are either of a dark colour, lightening towards their ends, or are entirely light coloured, and the small setae at least mainly light-coloured. There are a few minute white, rather mushroom-shaped setae immediately adjoining the tubercles. In the 2nd instar the body as a whole is pale greenish-grey, with longitudinal and some other reddish markings. The dorsal setae, which are partly dark, are club-shaped and the lateral setae and those at the ends of the body are of the pointed type. Small setae of the specialized type, with expanded heads, now occur numerous on the surface of the body. At this stage the larva spins a small “nest” between the leaves of the food-plant in which to hide. In the 3rd instar the larva is of a deeper and more greyish colour and the longitudinal lines tend to be darker. The dorsal setae are relatively shorter and the small specialized setae are more numerous than before. The tubercles have chitinous casings (as was the case in the previous instar). In the 4th instar the colouring is again deeper, and the head remains black. The large neck-shield is still black and the anal-shield dark greyish. The setae in general are relatively shorter than before, the only fairly long ones being those which occur laterally and at the extremities of the body, while the small specialized setae are very numerous. It can be assumed that there will be 6 or 7 instars, as with related species the life-histories of which have been fully worked out. Recorded from eggs from Aloes- Coega Flats, eastern Cape Province.”

Larval food:

Aspalathus species (Fabaceae) [Clark & Dickson, 1971: 217; Aloes-Coega Flats, Eastern Cape; (requires confirmation according to Heath *et al.*, 2008)].

Associated ant:

Monomorium species (Myrmecinae) [Pringle, *vide* Heath *et al.*, 2008: 137].

Conservation status: Classified as Endangered (Henning *et al.*, 2009: 46).

****Aloeides arida* Tite & Dickson, 1968**
Namaqualand Russet (#)



Aloeides arida. Females. Lambert's Bay, Western Cape Province (left) and Springbok, Namaqualand (right).
Images courtesy Steve Woodhall.

Aloeides arida Tite & Dickson, 1968. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **21**: 384 (369-388).

Aloeides arida Tite & Dickson, 1968. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides arida Tite and Dickson, 1968. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 196.

Aloeides arida Tite & Dickson, 1968. D'Abrera, 2009: 716.

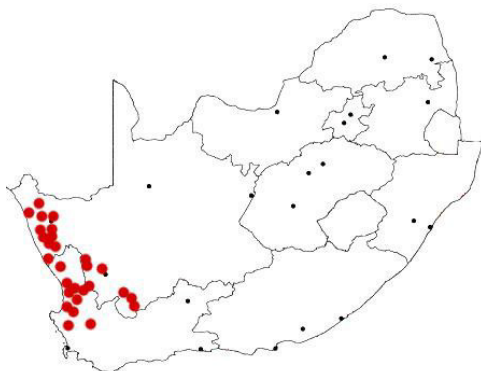


Aloeides arida. Male (Wingspan 30 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Leipoldtville, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 2 September 2007. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides arida. Female (Wingspan 33 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Leipoldtville, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 2 September 2007. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Cape Province: Garies, 1,800 ft”.



Distribution: South Africa –
Western Cape Province, Northern
Cape Province.

Distribution: South Africa (Western Cape Province, Northern Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Western Cape Province – hill south-west of Redelinghuys; Lambert’s Bay (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Strandfontein, West Coast (Williams, unpub.). Ceres (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Northern Cape Province – Garies (TL; Wood). Hantamsberg (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Springbok (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Steinkopf (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Habitat: Succulent karoo.

Flight period: August to February (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

****Aloeides gowani* Tite & Dickson, 1968**

Karoo Russet (#)

Aloeides gowani Tite & Dickson, 1968. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **21**: 387 (369-388).

Aloeides gowani Tite & Dickson, 1968. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides gowani Tite and Dickson, 1968. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 195.

Aloeides gowani Tite & Dickson, 1968. D'Abrera, 2009: 716.



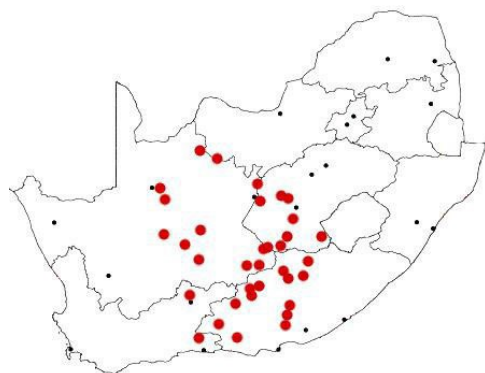
Aloeides gowani. Male (Wingspan 27 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Springfontein, Free State Province, South Africa. 21 December 2003. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides gowani. Female (Wingspan 29 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
30 km south of Wepener, Free State Province, South Africa. 15 December 2007. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Cape Province: Naauwpoort”.

Diagnosis: Closely related to *Aloeides clarki* (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides gowani*

South Africa – Free State Province,
Eastern Cape Province, Western Cape
Province, Northern Cape Province.

Distribution: South Africa (Free State Province, Eastern Cape Province, Western Cape Province, Northern Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Free State Province – Jagersfontein (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Cyferfontein [-30.3736 25.8131] (R. Griesel, unpublished).

Eastern Cape Province – Sheldon; Kendrew; Molteno; Burgersdorp (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Steytlerville (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Western Cape Province – Prince Alfred’s Pass (Cottrell) (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Northern Cape Province – Naauwpoort (= Noupoot) (TL). Colesburg; Britstown; Kimberley; Hotazel (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Habitat: Karoo.

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

Early stages:

Tite & Dickson, 1968.

Clark & Dickson, 1971: 216, plate 101 [as *Aloeides gowani*; near Noupoot, Northern Cape Province].

“Egg: 1 mm diam. x 0.5 mm high. Whitish-yellow when laid, turning later to dull chocolate. Laid on a leaf or shoot or possibly even in the sand, near the food-plant. Eggs hatch after about 15 days. The discarded shell is not eaten. Larva: 1st instar 1.25 mm, growing to 2.5 mm in 10 days; 2nd instar growing to 5 mm in 12 days; 3rd instar growing to 8.5 mm in 17 days; 4th instar growing to 11 mm in 18 days; 5th instar growing to 14 mm in 36 days; 6th instar growing to 18 mm in 75 days. The duration of the instars is very erratic and may include periods of diapause. The honey-gland is only noticeable from the 3rd instar but the tubercles are present in all instars. The larva is whitish when it emerges, with pale reddish longitudinal lines, black or blackish head and dark greyish neck-shield and anal-shield, the latter circular and very small. The setae are largely dark coloured, but many of them, especially laterally are light-coloured. Colour changes and other differences which occur as the larva passes through the various instars are shown in the accompanying plate. In the final instar the head and neck-shield are black and the anal-shield is of a greyish-brown colour, this being influenced by the densely distributed specialized setae with expanded heads which occur over the entire upper surface of the larva and influence the effective colour in other parts also. The body as a whole is of a rather greyish-blue colour, and there are longitudinal series of markings of a reddish to dull orange colour, with some yellow colouring also in certain places. Pupa: 11 mm. Of the usual form in this genus; of an orangy-brown colour, lighter in parts, such as the wing cases, which may have a slightly greenish tinge. Recorded from eggs from near Naaupoort, eastern Cape Province.”

Larval food:

Aspalathus species (Fabaceae) [Clark & Dickson, 1971: 216; ? near Noupoot, Northern Cape Province; (requires confirmation according to Heath *et al.*, 2008)].

****Aloeides nubilus* Henning & Henning, 1982**

Cloud Russet (#)

Aloeides nubilus Henning & Henning, 1982. *Journal of the Entomological Society of Southern Africa* **45**: 234 (231-238).

Aloeides nubilus G.A. and S.F. Henning, 1982. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 193.

Aloeides nubilus Henning & Henning, 1982. D’Abrera, 2009: 718.



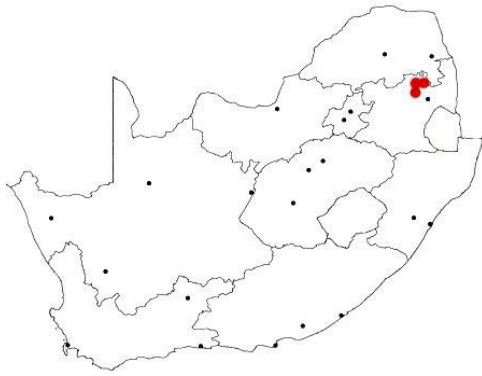
Aloeides nubilus. Male (Wingspan 23 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Sterkspruit Nature Reserve, Mpumalanga, South Africa. 22 September 2001. M. Williams.
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.



Aloeides nubilus. Female (Wingspan 25 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Robber’s Pass, Mpumalanga, South Africa. 21 September 2002. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Klipbankspruit, Sabie, Transvaal [Mpumalanga]”.

Diagnosis: Closest to *Aloeides oreas*. Distinguished by different wing shape; on hindwing underside there is fusion of the discoidal fascia into a large silvery patch; well developed submarginal silvery band; distal band on upperside of forewing more irregular (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides nubilus*

South Africa – Mpumalanga.

Distribution: South Africa (Mpumalanga).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Mpumalanga – Klipbankspruit, near Sabie (TL; Hull and Rossouw) [the colony at the type locality has been extirpated due to the planting of exotic tree plantations]. Near Mount Sheba Nature Reserve (Currie). Morgenzon Forestry area at the top of Robber's Pass near Pilgrim's Rest (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Sterkspruit Nature Reserve (Williams; single male). Trout Hideaway (Henning *et al.*, 2009). Elandsberg (Dobsons, ABN, 2020 no. 2).

Habitat: Rocky areas in montane grassland (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). At altitudes above 1 800 m (Henning *et al.*, 2009).

Habits: Flies fairly fast, just above the ground. Males establish territories on flat areas above rocky ridges. Females are usually found below the ridges and spend a great deal of time walking on the ground or basking in the sun (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Flight period: September and October are the only recorded months (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Larval food:

Probably *Rotheca hirsuta* (Hochst.) R.Fern. (= *Clerodendrom triphyllum* (Harv.) H.Pearson (Lamiaceae) [Henning *et al.*, 2009].

Conservation status: Classified as Endangered (Henning *et al.*, 2009: 45).

A. simplex subgroup

**Aloeides simplex* (Trimen, 1893)

Dune Russet (#)

Zeritis simplex Trimen, 1893. *Transactions of the Entomological Society of London* **1893**: 136 (123-143).

Phasis simplex Trimen. Swanepoel, 1953a.

Aloeides simplex (Trimen, 1893). Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides simplex (Trimen, 1893). Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 189.

Aloeides simplex Trimen, 1893. D'Abrera, 2009: 716.



Aloeides simplex. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.

Kuruman, Northern Cape Province, South Africa. 16 September 1984. D.A. Swanepoel.

Images M.C. Williams ex Greyling Collection.



Aloeides simplex. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Upington, Northern Cape Province, South Africa. 24 September 1981. I. Coetzer.
Images M.C. Williams ex Greyling Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “Port Nolloth, Cape Colony”. [False locality].

Distribution: Botswana, Namibia (Damaraland), South Africa (Northern Cape Province).

Specific localities:

Botswana – Tshabong (Pennington). Okavango Delta (Pinhey). Bokspits; Kalkfontein; Maun area; Gweta; Mabutsane (Larsen, 1991). From Sekoma to Ghanzi, along the Trans Kalahari highway; 2 km north of Kang (Heath & Gardiner, 2009).

Namibia – Damaraland (TL; Andersson).

South Africa –

Northern Cape Province – Kagaligadi Transfrontier Park – 10 miles north of Twee Rivieren, in bed of Nossob River (van Son, 1959). Kuruman; Hotazel (Woodhall, 2005a).

Habitat: Kalahari dune veld, including red dunes (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

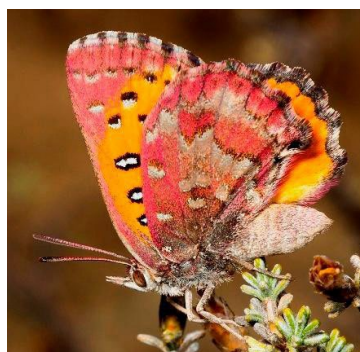
Habits: Oviposition behaviour has been described by Heath & Gardiner (2009). Females lay their eggs in soil at the base of the larval host plants.

Flight period: September to March (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). April (Heath & Gardiner, 2009).

Larval food:

Melolobium microphyllum (L.f.) Eckl. & Zeyh. (Fabaceae) [Heath & Gardiner, 2009; Kang, Botswana].

****Aloeides vansoni* Tite & Dickson, 1968**
Roggeveld Russet (#)



Aloeides vansoni. Left: Male. Ex Geelhoek, 1 December 2013. Right: Female ex Verlatekloof, Sutherland, 1 December 2013.
Images courtesy Steve Woodhall.

Aloeides vansoni Tite & Dickson, 1968. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **21**: 378 (369-388).

Aloeides vansoni Tite & Dickson, 1968. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides vansoni Tite and Dickson, 1968. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 191.

Aloeides vansoni Tite & Dickson, 1968. D’Abrera, 2009: 716.



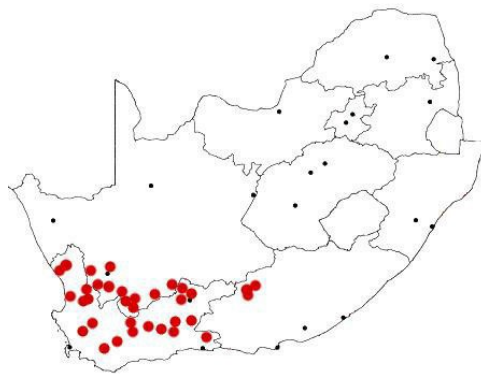
Aloeides vansoni. Male (Wingspan 30 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Sutherland, Northern Cape Province, South Africa. 18 October 2008. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloeides vansoni. Female (Wingspan 32 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Sutherland, Northern Cape Province, South Africa. 18 December 2003. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Cape Province: Matjesfontein”.

Diagnosis: Somewhat resembles *Aloeides simplex* but the ground colour on the upperside of the wings is deeper orange and the dark margins are wider (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides vansoni*

South Africa – Eastern Cape Province,
Western Cape Province, Northern
Cape Province.

Distribution: South Africa (Eastern Cape Province, Western Cape Province, Northern Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Eastern Cape Province – Nieu-Bethesda (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Western Cape Province – Matjesfontein (TL). Prince Albert Road; Swartberg Pass (northern side); Beaufort West; near the summit of the Nuweveld Mountains (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Bitterfontein (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Northern Cape Province – Sutherland (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). De Aar (Sloggett).

Habitat: Tankwa karoo.

Flight period: Spring to mid-summer (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

**Aloeides bamptoni* Tite & Dickson, 1977

Steinkopf Russet (#)

Aloeides bamptoni Tite & Dickson, 1977. *Entomologist's Record and Journal of Variation* **89**: 209 (209-212).

Aloeides bamptoni (Tite & Dickson, 1977). Dickson & Kroon, 1978. [authors erroneously bracketed].

Aloeides bamptoni Tite and Dickson, 1977. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 189.

Aloeides bamptoni Tite & Dickson, 1977. D'Abrera, 2009: 718.



Aloeides bamptoni. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Blesberg Mine, Northern Cape, South Africa. August 1987. D. Edge.
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.



Aloeides bamptoni. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Blesberg Mine, Northern Cape, South Africa. September 1986. D. Edge.
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “Cape Province: 22 km. NNE of Steinkopf”.

Diagnosis: Similar to *Aloeides simplex*, from which it differs in the following respects: on the upperside the distal margins are wider and darker; forewing underside marginal series not margined by white as they are in *simplex* (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Distribution: South Africa (Northern Cape Province – Little Namaqualand).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Northern Cape Province – 22 km north-north-east of Steinkopf (TL). Steinkopf; 37 km north of Steinkopf; Springbok; 27 km north of Springbok; near Komaggas; 40 km north of Hondeklip Bay; Port Nolloth (inland of?) (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). 10 km north of Steinkopf, on the east side of the N7 road [29 11.821S 17 48.615E] (Heath *et al.*, 2008).

Habitat: Succulent karoo.

Habits: Adults fly in dry gullies (Heath *et al.*, 2008).

Flight period: August to December are the recorded months (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Larval food:

Hermannia species (Sterculiaceae) [Heath *et al.*, 2008; 10 km north of Steinkopf].

Associated ant:

Lepisiota capensis Mayr (Formicinae) [Heath *et al.*, 2008; 10 km north of Steinkopf].

****Aloeides nollothi* Tite & Dickson, 1977**
Port Nolloth Russet (#)



Aloeides nollothi. Male. Wallekraal, Namaqualand.
Image courtesy Steve Woodhall.

Aloeides nollothi Tite & Dickson, 1977. *Entomologist's Record and Journal of Variation* **89**: 210 (209-212).
Aloeides nollothi Tite & Dickson, 1977. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.
Aloeides nollothi Tite and Dickson, 1977. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 189.
Aloeides nollothi Tite & Dickson, 1977. D'Abrera, 2009: 718.



Aloeides nollothi. Male (Wingspan 21 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
McDougall Bay, Northern Cape Province, South Africa. 31 August 2008. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides nollothi. Female (Wingspan 22 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
McDougall Bay, Northern Cape Province, South Africa. 31 August 2008. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides nollothi. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Hondekli Bay, Northern Cape Province, South Africa. 17 September 2011. J. Greyling.
Images M.C. Williams ex Greyling Collection.



Aloeides nollothi. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Steinkopf, Northern Cape Province, South Africa. 2 October 1994. J. Greyling.
Images M.C. Williams ex Greyling Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “Cape Province: McDougall’s Bay (near Port Nolloth)”.

Diagnosis: Very similar to *Aloeides bamptoni* but differs in the following respects: forewing apex of male more acute; a more distinctly defined pattern on the more greyish hindwing underside in both sexes; on forewing upperside the distal margin is wider and more scalloped along its inner edge; cilia more clearly chequered; fore- and hindwing underside spotting more prominent (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Distribution: Namibia (Swart, 2004), South Africa (Western Cape Province, Northern Cape Province).

Specific localities:

Namibia – Between Rosh Pinah and Aus (Swart, 2004).

South Africa –

Western Cape Province – north of Lambert’s Bay (Woodhall, 2005a).

Northern Cape Province – McDougall’s Bay, near Port Nolloth (TL); Hondekli Bay (Bampton).

Groenriviermond (Heath *et al.*, 2008). Steinkopf (Williams).

Habitat: Coastal sand dunes.

Flight period: Recorded from September to December (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Early stages:

Heath *et al.*, 2008.

“On one occasion at Hondekli Bay, as many as eight 3rd instar larvae were found together beneath *Roepora flexuosa* (Eckl. & Zeyh.) Beier & Thulin (Fig. 8, plate no. 3). The larvae normally rest in crevices in the plant stem, often below the surrounding substrate. The pupae are sometimes found where the larvae had previously rested, or in the surface leaf litter surrounding the foodplant.”

Larval food:

Roepora species (Zygophyllaceae) [Heath *et al.*, 2008; Groenriviermond].

Roepora flexuosa (Eckl. & Zeyh.) Beier & Thulin (Zygophyllaceae) [Heath *et al.*, 2008; Hondekli Bay].

Hermannia species (Sterculiaceae) [Heath *et al.*, 2008; Groenriviermond].

Associated ant:

Lepisiota capensis Mayr (Formicinae) [Heath *et al.*, 2008; Groenriviermond].

****Aloeides tearei* Henning & Henning, 1982**

Sandy Russet

Aloeides tearei Henning & Henning, 1982. *Journal of the Entomological Society of Southern Africa* **45**: 236 (231-238).

Aloeides tearei G.A. and S.F. Henning, 1982. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 190.

Aloeides tearei Henning & Henning, 1982. D'Abrera, 2009: 718.



Aloeides tearei. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
8 miles north of Aus, Namibia. 20 May 1965.
Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.



Aloeides tearei. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Rosh Pinah, Namibia. 4 October 1989.
Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.

Type data: [Namibia]: “13 km north of Aus”.

Diagnosis: Differs from *Aloeides simplex* in the following respects: smaller; on the upperside of the wings the dark margins are wider. The markings on the upperside of the wings strongly resemble those of *Aloeides bamptoni*, while the hindwing underside markings are similar to those of *Aloeides nollothi*. Differs from these two taxa in the darker brown hindwing underside ground-colour and better developed submarginal lunules (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Distribution: Namibia (south).

Specific localities:

Namibia – 13 km north of Aus (TL; Littlewood). Kupferberg Pass, 30 km south-west of Windhoek (Stephen). Gamsberg in south-west Namibia (Swart, 2004).

Habitat: Semi-desert.

Habits: Has the usual habits of the genus, flying rapidly for a short distance before settling abruptly, with closed wings, on rocks or on the ground. It is particularly fast-flighted and elusive for an *Aloeides* (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Flight period: August to October, February and May are the months so far recorded (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

A. dentatis subgroup

**Aloeides dentatis* (Swierstra, 1909)

Toothed Russet (#)



Aloeides dentatis. Males. In the Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve, Gauteng.
Images courtesy Raimund Schutte.

Phasis dentatis Swierstra, 1909. *Annales of the Transvaal Museum* 1: 177 (175-178).

Aloeides dentatis (Swierstra, 1909). Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides dentatis (Swierstra, 1909). Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 186.

Aloeides dentatis Swierstra, 1909. D'Abrera, 2009: 716. [misspelling of author's name].



Aloeides dentatis dentatis. Male (Wingspan 24 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Suikerbosrand, Gauteng Province, South Africa. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

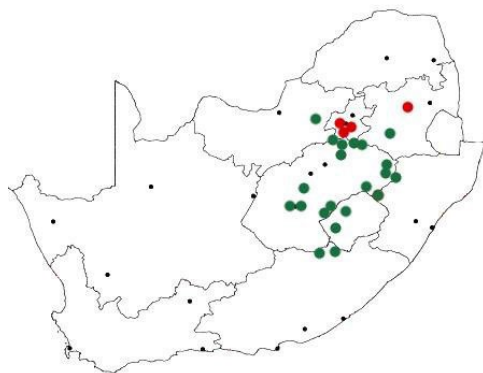


Aloeides dentatis dentatis. Male (Wingspan 25 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Kliprivier Nature Reserve, Gauteng Province, South Africa. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides dentatis dentatis. Female (Wingspan 27 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Bronkhorstspuit, Gauteng Province, South Africa. 26 September 2006. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: [South Africa]: “Waterval Onder”.



Distribution of *Aloeides dentatis*

[ssp. *dentatis* – red dots] South Africa – Mpumalanga, Gauteng.

[ssp. *maseruna* – green dots] South Africa – North West Province, Free State Province, KwaZulu-Natal, Lesotho.

Distribution: South Africa, Lesotho.

Habitat: Montane grassland. Subspecies *maseruna* occurs in flat, sparse grassland near rivers or marshy places (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Habits: Specimens fly off rapidly when disturbed but soon resettle, usually on the ground, within the same general area (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Flight period: September to March (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Early stages:

Tite & Dickson, 1973: 225.

Henning, S.F., 1983a: 65 [Witpoortjie = Ruimsig, Roodepoort, Gauteng].

Henning, S.F., 1983b: 341.

Henning, S.F., 1984a: 99.

Henning, S.F., 1984c.

Henning & Henning, 1985: 16.

Henning, S.F., 1987: 215.

Larval food:

Hermannia althaeifolia L. (Sterculiaceae) [Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 187; in captivity].

Hermannia depressa N.E.Br. (Sterculiaceae) [Henning, S., 1983: 73; Witpoortjie, near Krugersdorp, Gauteng].

Hermannia jacobaeifolia (Turcz.) R.A.Dyer (Sterculiaceae) [Henning, G., 1988: 13; Heilbron, Free State (Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 187 give the locality as Boons); (*Met.* 1 (21): 13); as *Hermannia cristata*; plant name corrected in *Met.* 1 (22): 9.]

Lotononis eriantha Benth. (Fabaceae) [Henning, G., 1988: 9; Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve, Gauteng] (*Met.* 1 (22): 9).

Lotononis species? (Fabaceae) [Henning, G., 1988: 13; Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve, Gauteng] (*Met.* 1 (21): 13).

Associated ant:

Lepisiota capensis (Mayr.) [Henning, S., 1983: 73; Witpoortjie, near Krugersdorp, Gauteng; as *Acantholepis capensis*].

Aloeides dentatis dentatis (Swierstra, 1909)

Toothed Russet (#)

Phasis dentatis Swierstra, 1909. *Annales of the Transvaal Museum* 1: 177 (175-178).



Aloeides dentatis dentatis. Male (Wingspan 24 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Suikerbosrand, Gauteng Province, South Africa. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides dentatis dentatis. Male (Wingspan 25 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Kliprivier Nature Reserve, Gauteng Province, South Africa. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides dentatis dentatis. Female (Wingspan 27 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Bronkhorstspuit, Gauteng Province, South Africa. 26 September 2006. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: [South Africa]: “Waterfal Onder”.

Distribution: South Africa (Mpumalanga, Gauteng).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Mpumalanga – Waterval-Onder (TL).

Gauteng – Witpoortjie (= Ruimsig, near Roodepoort) (the Hennings). Pretoria (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve (Kroon).

Conservation status: Classified as Vulnerable (Henning *et al.*, 2009: 47).

Aloeides dentatis maseruna (Riley, 1938)

Free State Toothed Russet (#)

Phasis thyra maseruna Riley, 1938. *Transactions of the Royal Entomological Society of London* **87**: 239 (233-245).

Aloeides dentatis maseruna. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides dentatis maseruna (Riley, 1938). Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 187.

Aloeides dentatis maseruna Riley, 1938. D'Abrera, 2009: 716.



Aloeides dentatis maseruna. Male (Wingspan 25 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Leeuspruit, Sebokeng, Gauteng Province, South Africa. 3 February 2008. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides dentatis maseruna. Female (Wingspan 27 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Heilbron Dam, Free State Province, South Africa. 15 February 2004. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: [Lesotho]: “Maseru, Basutoland”.

Diagnosis: Differs from the nominate subspecies in that on the upperside the black of the wing margins is less intense and, on the hindwing underside, median and submarginal series are wider (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Distribution: South Africa (North West Province, Free State Province, KwaZulu-Natal), Lesotho.

Specific localities:

South Africa –

North West Province – Boons (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Free State Province – Ladybrand; Heilbron; Warden; Reitz; Vrede; Vaal River (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

KwaZulu-Natal – Royal Natal National Park (Quickelberge). Kwekwe (Terblanche).

Lesotho – Maseru (TL).

****Aloeides pallida* (Riley, 1938)**
Giant Russet (#)



Aloeides pallida.
 Image courtesy Steve Woodhall.

Phasis thyra form *pallida* Riley, 1938. *Transactions of the Royal Entomological Society of London* **87**: 238 (233-245). *Aloeides pallida* Tite & Dickson, 1968. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **21**: 374 (369-388). *Aloeides pallida* (Riley, 1938). Dickson & Kroon, 1978.
Aloeides pallida (Riley, 1938). Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 183.
Aloeides pallida Riley, 1938. D'Abrera, 2009: 714.



Aloeides pallida pallida. Male (Wingspan 35 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
 Springfontein, Free State Province, South Africa 20 September, 1992. N. Owen-Johnston.
 Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloeides pallida pallida. Female (Wingspan 40 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
 Springfontein, Free State Province, South Africa 5 October, 2003. J. Dobson.
 Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloeides pallida "Camdeboo population". Male (Wingspan 36 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
 20 km north-west of Aberdeen, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa 11 December 2009. J. Dobson.
 Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloioides pallida “Camdeboo population”. Female (Wingspan 39 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
20 km north-west of Aberdeen, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa 11 December 2009. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



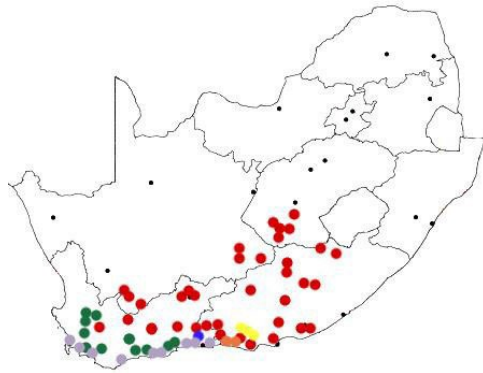
Aloioides pallida “Galgeberg population”. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Galgeberg, McGregor, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 5 January 1997. J. Greyling.
Images M.C. Williams ex Greyling Collection.



Aloioides pallida “Galgeberg population”. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Galgeberg, McGregor, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 5 January 1997. J. Greyling.
Images M.C. Williams ex Greyling Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “Steyneberg [Steynsburg] (C.P.)”. Authorship ascribed to Riley (1938) (ICZN 45.6.4.1).

Diagnosis: Much larger than *Aloioides thyra*, with the ground-colour on the upperside of the wings paler. On the upperside of the hindwing, in the male, the broad dark area is downwardly produced, with its inner edge largely straight. The underside has a pale tone and on the hindwing the markings have a distinctive pattern, but do not contrast very strongly with the background (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides pallida*

[ssp. *pallida* – red dots] Free State Province, Eastern Cape Province, Western Cape Province, Northern Cape Province.

[ssp. *grandis* – green dots] Western Cape Province.

[ssp. *jonathani* – blue dot] Western Cape Province.

[ssp. *juno* – salmon dots] Eastern Cape Province, Western Cape Province.

[ssp. *littoralis* – mauve dots] Western Cape Province

[ssp. *liversidgei* – yellow dots] Eastern Cape Province.

Distribution: South Africa.

Habitat: The nominate subspecies is essentially a butterfly of the Karoo. Subspecies *grandis* and subspecies *liversidgei* are found in rugged mountainous country. Subspecies *jonathani* inhabits dense mountain fynbos (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Subspecies *juno* occurs in relatively open patches of ground in tall Macchia (fynbos) country (Pringle, 1994).

Habits: Males are highly territorial, selecting their territories on open patches. Males perch on the ground in their territories, with the wings held closed. If disturbed they will fly about rapidly before returning to the same general area (Pringle, 1994).

Flight period: The nominate subspecies flies from about September to midsummer. Subspecies *jonathani*, *liversidgei* and *juno* have been recorded in November and December (Pringle *et al.*, 1994; Pringle, 1994).

Early stages:

Tite & Dickson, 1968: 374.

Clark & Dickson, 1971: 220, plate 103 [as *Aloeides pallida pallida*; Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape].

“**Egg:** Approximately 1 mm diam. x 0.65 mm high. Of a pale colour when laid but later of a somewhat pinkish-brown colour (although individual eggs may vary in this respect). The surface-pattern consists of a network of fine ridges which form triangular cells. The incubation period is not known but should be much the same as the allied species. **Larva:** About 1.5 mm on emergence, the duration of the instar not having been noted. Basically of a whitish tint. The head black or black [sic], and the neck-shield at least largely so. Anal-shield dark greyish. Body with vinous-coloured longitudinal streaks, including the medio-dorsal pair of broken lines. The tubercles are already present in the 1st instar. The numerous setae, varying in length, which occur in a series well to each side of the centre-line of the body are dark coloured (but tend to lighten towards their ends), as are at least the majority of the setae at the ends of the body. The fairly long lateral setae are pale coloured. There appear to be some stud-shaped setae of the specialized form on the neck-shield and on segment 11, between the tubercles, and minute pale setae of a normal or more normal type elsewhere on the surface of the body. In the 2nd instar the basic marking of the body is much as before. As would be expected, the tubercles have chitinous casings at this stage. Most of the larger setae now broaden somewhat from their bases towards their outer ends, and terminate bluntly. The setae which occur more or less sub-dorsally are considerably reduced in number but there is an increase in the number of lateral setae, as is also the case with the smaller setae on the body. As the only larva to be obtained died in the 2nd instar, no further details of the life-history could be recorded. **Pupa:** It may be mentioned that the late Dr. H.K. Barnard found a pupa of *A. pallida grandis* in Bain's Kloof in 1928 – which yielded an imago on 9 November. Recorded from eggs from Port Elizabeth.”

Heath & Claassens, 2000.

Edge, 2005c: 110 [Northern shore of Swartvlei Lake, near Sedgefield, Western Cape Province; undescribed subspecies].

Larval food:

Aspalathus species (Fabaceae) [Clark & Dickson, 1971: 220; reared only to 2nd instar; subspecies *pallida*]. Host ant brood in final instar [Heath & Claassens, 2000; subspecies *grandis*].

Possibly aphytophagous [Heath *et al.* 2008: 138; subspecies *grandis*; (requires confirmation according to Heath *et al.*, 2008)].

Aphytophagous (by inference) [Edge, 2005; undescribed subspecies; (requires confirmation according to Heath *et al.*, 2008)].

Associated ant:

Lepisiota capensis [Heath & Claassens, 2000; subspecies *grandis*]. *Lepisiota capensis* (Formicinae) [Edge, 2005; undescribed subspecies].

Aloeides pallida pallida (Riley, 1938)

Giant Russet (#)

Phasis thyra form *pallida* Riley, 1938. *Transactions of the Royal Entomological Society of London* **87**: 238 (233-245).



Aloeides pallida pallida. Male (Wingspan 35 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Springfontein, Free State Province, South Africa 20 September, 1992. N. Owen-Johnston.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloeides pallida pallida. Female (Wingspan 40 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Springfontein, Free State Province, South Africa 5 October, 2003. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Steyneberg [Steynsburg] (C.P.)”.

Authorship ascribed to Riley (1938) (ICZN 45.6.4.1).

Distribution: South Africa (Free State Province, Eastern Cape Province, Western Cape Province, Northern Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Free State Province – Reddersburg; Springfontein (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Eastern Cape Province – Steynsburg (TL). Port Elizabeth (Clark & Dickson, 1971). Cape St Francis (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Annshaw (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Western Cape Province – Willowmore; Matjiesfontein (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Touws River (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Northern Cape Province – Middelpos (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Aloeides pallida grandis Tite & Dickson, 1968

Grand Giant Russet (#)

Aloeides pallida grandis Tite & Dickson, 1968. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **21**: 375 (369-388).

Aloeides pallida grandis Tite & Dickson, 1968. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides pallida grandis Tite and Dickson, 1968. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 184.

Aloeides pallida grandis Tite & Dickson, 1968. D’Abrera, 2009: 716.



Aloeides pallida grandis. Male (Wingspan 36 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Du Toit's Kloof, Western Cape Province, South Africa 12 December 2005. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloeides pallida grandis. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Du Toit's Kloof, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 19 November 2000. J. Greyling.
Images M.C. Williams ex Greyling Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “Cape Province: Du Toit’s Kloof”.

Diagnosis: This is the largest of the subspecies of *pallida* and is also the largest species of *Aloeides*. The female has very broad marginal borders on the upperside of the wings. The ground-colour on the upperside is darker in specimens from more easterly localities and paler in the more arid western areas (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Distribution: South Africa (Western Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Western Cape Province – Du Toit’s Kloof (TL). Bain’s Kloof; Franschhoek Mountains; Grootvadersbos; Garcia’s Pass near Riversdale (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Gydo Mountain (G. Henning). Paarl; Grabouw; Porterville; near George (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Aloeides pallida littoralis Tite & Dickson, 1968

Knysna Giant Russet (#)

Aloeides pallida littoralis Tite & Dickson, 1968. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **21**: 375 (369-388).

Aloeides pallida littoralis Tite & Dickson, 1968. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides pallida littoralis Tite and Dickson, 1968. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 184.

Aloeides pallida littoralis Tite & Dickson, 1968. D’Abrera, 2009: 716.



Aloeides pallida littoralis. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Woodbourne, Knysna, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 21 November 1995. D.A. Edge.
Images M.C. Williams ex Edge Collection.



Aloeides pallida littoralis. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
The Heads, Knysna, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 23 November 1991. D.A. Edge.
Images M.C. Williams ex Edge Collection.



Aloeides pallida littoralis. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Still Bay, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 14 November 1996. J. Greyling.
Images M.C. Williams ex Greyling Collection.



Aloeides pallida littoralis. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Still Bay, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 10 November 1996. J. Greyling.
Images M.C. Williams ex Greyling Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “Cape Province: Knysna”.

Diagnosis: Similar to ssp. *grandis* but on the forewing upperside the inner edge of the distal band is distinctly concave between the veins in areas 1, 2 and 3, and the veins are usually more heavily scaled. On the hindwing upperside the apical patch extends further towards the base, closely approaching the discoidal spot (Pringle, *et al.*, 1994).

Distribution: South Africa (Western Cape Province – southern coast).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Western Cape Province – Knysna (TL). Stanford, near Hermanus (Rossouw). Stillbaai (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Shaw’s Mountain, south of Caledon (N. Duke and Cottrell). Somerset West (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013). Plettenberg Bay.

Aloeides pallida jonathani Pringle, 1987
Kammanassie Giant Russet (#)

Aloeides pallida jonathani Pringle, 1987. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 184.
Aloeides pallida jonathani Pringle, 1987. D'Abbrera, 2009: 716.



Aloeides pallida jonathani. Male (Wingspan 34 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Mannetjiesberg, Western Cape Province, South Africa 16 December 2009. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.



Aloeides pallida jonathani. Female (Wingspan 41 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Mannetjiesberg, Western Cape Province, South Africa 16 December 2009. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy Jeremy and Chris Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Kammanassie Mountain”.

Diagnosis: Closest to the nominate subspecies but, on the upperside of the wings, the ground-colour is a deeper orange-red and the black markings are more intense. The hindwing underside is light to deep purple and in some specimens is invaded by yellowish scaling; the light markings are not white, as in the other subspecies, but are dark grey, sparingly flecked with white scales; the discoidal fascia are more solid and continuous than in the other subspecies (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Distribution: South Africa (Western Cape Province).

Specific localities:

Western Cape Province – Kammanassie Mountains (TL; Ball).

Aloeides pallida juno Pringle, 1994 Tsitsikamma Giant Russet (#)

Aloeides pallida juno Pringle, 1994. *Metamorphosis* 5 (3): 111 (107-114).



Aloeides pallida juno. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Kareedouw Pass, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. 24 November 1994. D.A. Edge.
Images M.C. Williams ex Edge Collection.



Aloiides pallida juno. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Kareedouw Pass, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. 24 November 1994. D.A. Edge.
Images M.C. Williams ex Edge Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “Karreedouw, 27.XI.1992, A.B. Pringle.”

Described from 36 males and 12 females from Kareedouw and Nature’s Valley. Holotype in the Natural History Museum, London.

Diagnosis: Specimens of subspecies *juno* are as large as those of subspecies *grandis* but there is no blackening of the veins on the upperside, the black markings on the upperside are less extensive, and the ground-colour on the upperside of the wings is a lighter orange. On the hindwing underside the median and submarginal bands are comparatively better developed (Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 184).

Distribution: South Africa (Eastern Cape Province, Western Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Eastern Cape Province – Karreedouw (TL; the Pringles).

Western Cape Province – Nature’s Valley (Ball).

Aloiides pallida liversidgei Pringle, 1994
Baviaanskloof Giant Russet (#)

Aloiides pallida liversidgei Pringle, 1994. *In*: Pringle, Henning, & Ball [eds]. *Pennington’s butterflies of southern Africa* 2nd edition: 185 (800 pp.).



Aloiides pallida liversidgei. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Bergplaas, Baviaanspoort Mountains, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. 25 November 1994. D.A. Edge.
Images M.C. Williams ex Edge Collection.



Aloiides pallida liversidgei. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Nietgenaamd (33 23 02; 23 11 38), Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. 18 October 2009. D.A. Edge.
Images M.C. Williams ex Edge Collection.



Aloeides pallida liversidgei. Male (Holotype). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Berg Plaats, [Eastern Cape Province], South Africa. 24 November 1984. P.S. Liversidge.
Images courtesy Andrew Magnay ex Magnay Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “Baviaanskloof 24 Nov. 1984 (P.S. Liversidge).” Holotype (male) in collection of Andrew Mangay.

Diagnosis: Compared to the nominate subspecies, the following differences are apparent: the ground- colour of the upperside of the wings is of a slightly more reddish tone; on the forewing upperside the distal margin is distinctly narrower and is less lunulate along its inner edge; there is no trace of black scaling on the veins basal to the wing margin; on the hindwing upperside the apical patch is present only as a slight thickening of the distal band and there is no black scaling of the veins in the orange-red area; on the hindwing underside the light markings are usually dull brownish grey (usually bright silvery grey in the nominate subspecies); hindwing underside ground-colour consistently medium- brown (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Distribution: South Africa (Eastern Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Eastern Cape Province – summits of the Baviaanskloof Mountains, near Patensie (TL; Liversidge and the Pringles).

****Aloeides braueri* Tite & Dickson, 1968**

Long Hill Russet (#)

Aloeides braueri Tite & Dickson, 1968. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)* (Entomology) **21**: 376 (369-388).

Aloeides braueri Tite & Dickson, 1968. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides braueri Tite and Dickson, 1968. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 187.

Aloeides braueri Tite & Dickson, 1968. D’Abrera, 2009: 716.



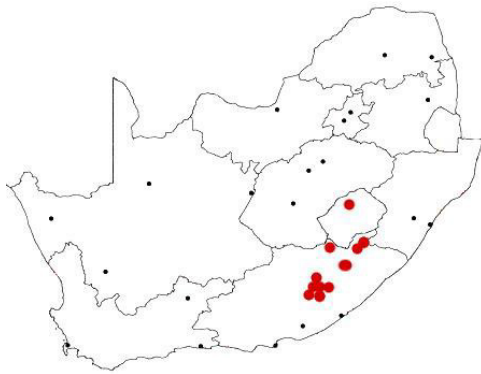
Aloeides braueri. Male (Wingspan 27 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Queenstown, Eastern Cape, South Africa. December 2020. J. Dobson.
Images M. C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.



Aloeides braueri. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Queenstown, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. 26 November 1971. V.L. Pringle.
Images M. Williams ex Pringle Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “Cape Province: Bulhoek, Queenstown”.

Diagnosis: Similar to *Aloeides pallida* but the ground-colour of the upperside is lighter, the black margins are relatively narrow and the cilia have very pronounced white spaces (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides braueri*

South Africa (KwaZulu-Natal,
Eastern Cape Province), Lesotho.

Distribution: South Africa (KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape Province), Lesotho.

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Eastern Cape Province – Bulhoek, Queenstown (TL; Brauer). Cathcart (Quickelberge). Stutterheim (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Lesotho – Nsutuse Pass (Jacot-Guillarmod). Pitseng (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Habitat: Grassland.

Flight period: The recorded months are October, November, January and February (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

**Aloeides pringlei* Tite & Dickson, 1976 Winterberg Russet (#)

Aloeides pringlei Tite & Dickson, 1976. *Entomologist's Record and Journal of Variation* **88**: 177 (177-180).

Aloeides pringlei Tite & Dickson, 1976. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides pringlei Tite & Dickson, 1973. D'Abrera, 2009: 720. [date of authorship erroneous].



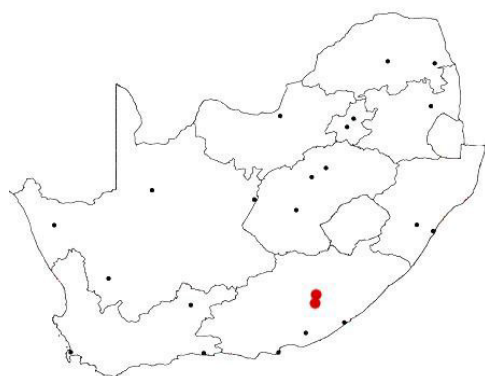
Aloeides pringlei. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Great Winterberg, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. 18 November 1993. D.A. Edge.
Images M.C. Williams ex Edge Collection.



Aloeides pringlei. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Great Winterberg, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. 18 November 1993. D.A. Edge.
Images M.C. Williams ex Edge Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “Cape Province: Winterberg”.

Diagnosis: Most similar to *Aloeides pallida*, from which it can be distinguished by its less robust build, deeper tone of the ground-colour on the upperside of the wings, narrower black margins on the upperside, less well developed apical patch on the hindwing upperside, and relatively indistinct cilia (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides pringlei*

South Africa (Eastern Cape Province).

Distribution: South Africa (Eastern Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Eastern Cape Province – Great Winterberg, at about 2 000 m (TL; Pennington and V. Pringle). Farm Hyndhope in the foothills of the Winterberg (E. Pringle).

Habitat: Montane grassland. The soil type is sandy loam and the rocks are sandstone. The dominant grass species is a species of *Merxmuellera* and the dominant shrub *Chrysocoma tenuifolia* (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Flight period: November and December.

Larval food:

Suspected to be aphytophagous [Heath *et al.*, 2008; (requires confirmation according to Heath *et al.*, 2008)].

Associated ant:

Lepisiota capensis Mayr (Formicinae) [Heath *et al.*, 2008; type locality].

****Aloeides rileyi* Tite & Dickson, 1976**

Lesotho Russet (#)

Aloeides rileyi Tite & Dickson, 1976. *Entomologist's Record and Journal of Variation* **88**: 179 (177-180).

Aloeides rileyi Tite & Dickson, 1976. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides taylori Tite & Dickson, 1976. Dickson & Kroon, 1978. [Synonym of *rileyi*]

Aloeides rileyi Tite and Dickson, 1976. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 194.

Aloeides rileyi Tite & Dickson, 1976. D'Abrera, 2009: 718.



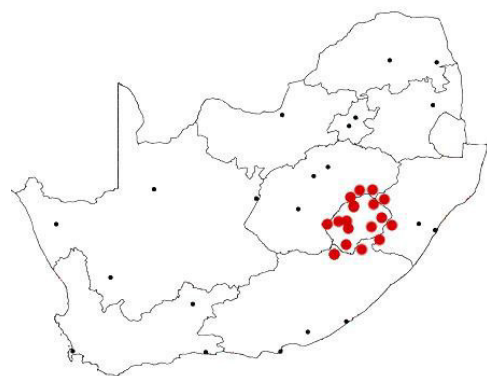
Aloeides rileyi. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Golden Gate, Free State, South Africa. December 1986. D. Edge.
Images M. C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.



Aloeides rileyi. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Golden Gate, Free State, South Africa. December 1986. D. Edge.
Images M. C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.

Type data: Lesotho: “Butha Buthe”.

Diagnosis: Similar to *Aloeides oreas* but differs in the narrower black distal band on the forewing upperside; the apical patch is not noticeably widened at its junction with the distal band; cilia grey, heavily chequered with olive-brown (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides rileyi*

South Africa (Free State
Province, KwaZulu-Natal,
Eastern Cape Province), Lesotho.

Distribution: South Africa (Free State Province, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape Province), Lesotho.

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Free State Province – Golden Gate Highlands National Park (Pennington; male illustrated above). Clarens (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Eastern Cape Province – Lady Grey (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Lesotho – Butha-Buthe (TL; Pennington). Mokhotlong; Rafolatsanes; Blue Mountain Pass (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

taylori Tite & Dickson, 1976 (as sp. of *Aloeides*). *Entomologist's Record and Journal of Variation* **88**: 180 (177-180). South Africa: "Orange Free State: Golden Gates".

pallida Woodhall, 2000 (as f. of *Aloeides rileyi*). *Metamorphosis* **11** (1): 29 (28-32).

****Aloeides kaplani* Tite & Dickson, 1977**

Broad-bordered Russet (#)

Aloeides kaplani Tite & Dickson, 1977. *Entomologist's Record and Journal of Variation* **89**: 211 (209-212).

Aloeides kaplani Tite & Dickson, 1977. Dickson & Kroon, 1978.

Aloeides kaplani Tite and Dickson, 1977. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 186.

Aloeides kaplani Tite & Dickson, 1977. D'Abrera, 2009: 718.



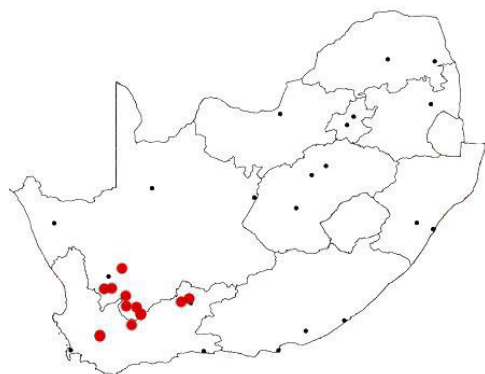
Aloeides kaplani. Male (Wingspan 30 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Sutherland, Northern Cape Province, South Africa. 18 October 2008. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides kaplani. Female (Wingspan 35 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Sutherland, Northern Cape Province, South Africa. 18 October 2008. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: "Cape Province: Sutherland".

Diagnosis: Closest to *Aloeides pallida grandis*, from which it differs as follows: on the hindwing upperside the apical patch is less quadrangular and the black discoidal spot is absent; on the forewing underside the spot above vein 5 is further from the base of the wing (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides kaplani*

South Africa – Western Cape
Province, Northern Cape Province.

Distribution: South Africa (Western Cape Province, Northern Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Western Cape Province – near Matjiesfontein (Pringle *et al.*, 1994). Beaufort West (the Pringles). Ceres (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013).

Northern Cape Province – near Sutherland (TL; Kaplan). Hanover (the Pringles).

Habitat: Nama Karoo.

Flight period: August and October are the recorded months (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

****Aloeides rossouwi* Henning & Henning, 1982**
Stoffberg Russet (#)

Aloeides rossouwi Henning & Henning, 1982. *Journal of the Entomological Society of Southern Africa* **45**: 231 (231-238).

Aloeides rossouwi G.A. and S.F. Henning, 1982. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 187.

Aloeides rossouwi Henning & Henning, 1982. D'Abrera, 2009: 720.



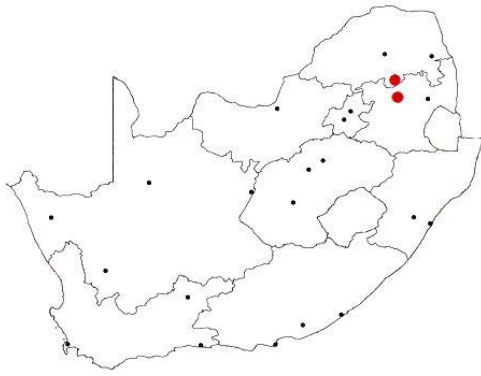
Aloeides rossouwi. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Perdekop, Limpopo Province, South Africa. 12 November 2001. J. Greyling.
Images M.C. Williams ex Greyling Collection.



Aloeides rossouwi. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Stoffberg, Mpumalanga Province, South Africa. 18 October 1999. J. Greyling.
Images M.C. Williams ex Greyling Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “Stoffberg, Transvaal”.

Diagnosis: Similar to *Aloeides dryas* on the upperside and *Aloeides dentatis* on the underside, but more closely related to the latter species. Distinguished from both of these species by the rounder wing shape, on the upperside by the larger apical patches on both wings, and on the forewing upperside by two to three orange spots in the black apical patch (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides rossouwi*

South Africa – Limpopo Province, Mpumalanga.

Distribution: South Africa (Limpopo Province, Mpumalanga).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Limpopo Province – Paardeplaats (Perdekop) [-25.0574; 29.7687] (J. Greyling, pers. comm., 2014).

Mpumalanga – a few km south-west of Stoffberg (TL; Rossouw). summit of Die Berg (Henning).

Habitat: Rocky gullies and ridges just below a grassland-covered escarpment.

Habits: Flies rapidly, just above the ground, settling frequently, with closed wings, on the ground or on rocks (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Flight period: October to February (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Early stages:

Henning, S. & Henning, G. 1989: 82.

“The pupae are yellowish-brown and of the usual plain rounded shape of the genus. Length 13 mm. The earlier part of the life history is unknown. Pupae were found in the tunnels of an ants’ nest beneath a stone.”

Associated ant:

Lepisiota species [Henning, S., & Henning, G., 1989: 82; as *Acantholepis* species].

Conservation status: Classified as Endangered (Henning *et al.*, 2009: 48).

**Aloeides merces* Henning & Henning, 1986

Wakkerstroom Russet (#)



Aloeides merces. Wakkerstroom, Mpumalanga Province.
Images courtesy Raimund Schutte.

Aloeides merces Henning & Henning, 1986. *Journal of the Entomological Society of Southern Africa* **49**: 339 (337-341).

Aloeides merces S.F. and G.A. Henning, 1986. Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 195.

Aloeides merces Henning & Henning, 1986. D’Abrera, 2009: 720.



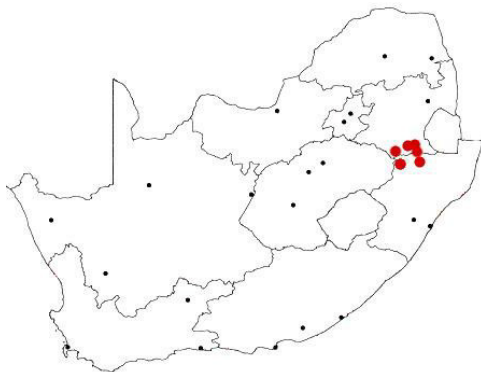
Aloeides merces. Male (Wingspan 26 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Wakkerstroom, Mpumalanga, South Africa. 7 November 2004. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.



Aloeides merces. Female (Wingspan 28 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Dirkiesdorp, Mpumalanga, South Africa. 22 December 2004. J. Dobson.
Images courtesy J. & C. Dobson.

Type data: South Africa: “Wakkerstroom, Transvaal”.

Diagnosis: Closest to *Aloeides rileyi*, from which it can be separated by the following features: forewing apex more rounded; forewing upperside orange patch extends postdiscally to vein 4 (vein 5 in *rileyi*) and is more rounded apically; hindwing upperside apical patch ground-colour much paler and black marginal spots absent (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides merces*

South Africa – Mpumalanga,
KwaZulu-Natal.

Distribution: South Africa (Mpumalanga, KwaZulu-Natal).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Mpumalanga – mountains north-east of Wakkerstroom (TL; the Hennings and Edges). Mountains above Dirkiesdorp (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

KwaZulu-Natal – Amajuba Mountain (Woodhall).

Habitat: Montane grassland at altitudes of about 2 200 m (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Flight period: October and November (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Incertae sedis

**Aloeides argenteus* Henning & Henning, 1994 Desert Russet

Aloeides argenteus G.A. and S.F. Henning, 1994. *In*: Pringle, Henning, & Ball [eds]. *Pennington's butterflies of southern Africa* 2nd edition: 190 (800 pp.).

Aloeides argenteus Henning & Henning, 1994. D'Abrera, 2009: 720.

Type data: Namibia: “riverbed near Sima Hill, Kaokoland, 30 Mar. 1986, H.C. Ficq.” Holotype in Transvaal Museum, Pretoria.

Diagnosis: Characterized by the pale orange ground colour on the upperside of the wings, and the very pale ochreous underside with large silvery markings (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Distribution: Namibia.

Known only from the type locality.

Specific localities:

Namibia – Ganias River, near Sima Hill, 19° 15'S 13° 00'E (TL; Braine and Ficq).

Habitat: Very arid area just inland of the coastal dunes. The type locality is in a dry river-bed (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Habits: Specimens settle on rocks and pebbles, many of which are white (quartzitic) (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Flight period: March (Henning & Henning, 1994).

**Aloeides mbuluensis* Pringle, 1994 Mbulu Russet (#)

Aloeides mbuluensis Pringle, 1994. *In*: Pringle, Henning, & Ball [eds]. *Pennington's butterflies of southern Africa* 2nd edition: 188 (800 pp.).

Aloeides mbuluensis Pringle, 1994. D'Abrera, 2009: 720.



Aloeides mbuluensis. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Mbulu, Tsomo, Eastern Cape, South Africa. December 2020. M. Williams.
Images M. C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.



Aloeides mbuluensis. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Mbulu, Tsomo, Eastern Cape, South Africa. December 2020. J. Dobson.
Images M. C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “Mbulu, Transkei, 3 Jan. 1974, E.L. Pringle.” Place of deposition of types not stated.

Diagnosis: Similar to *Aloeides pallida*, *Aloeides braueri* and *Aloeides pringlei*.

The male of *mbuluensis* differs from that of *pallida* in the following respects: smaller than *pallida*; there are numerous, long, ribbon-like scales on the second segment of the labial palpi (shorter and fewer in *pallida*); forewing apex more sharply pointed and distal margin more evenly rounded; on the forewing upperside the inner margin of the distal band less lunulate, more vertical between areas 3 and 1B (in *pallida* this band is strongly oblique, reaching its greatest inward extent in area 1B; hindwing upperside apical patch much smaller and tapers obliquely to reach the distal margin in area 3 or 4 (in *pallida* the apical patch is squarer and has an inward extension in area 4); distal lunules less crenulate; cilia strongly chequered (weakly in *pallida*). Female of *mbuluensis* smaller; forewing apex more sharply pointed; forewing upperside dark markings with a straighter inner edge to the distal band, which is not as concave in interspaces 1, 2 and 3; hindwing upperside black patch narrower and less square-shaped; distal lunules less crenulate; cilia more strongly chequered (Pringle, *in* Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

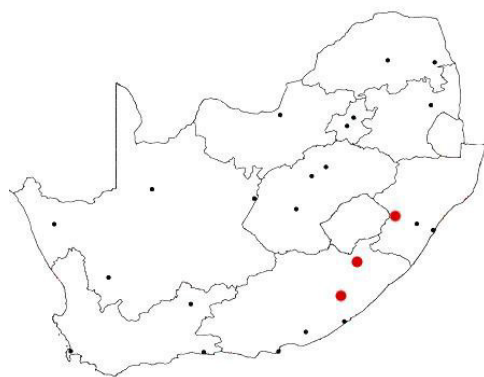
The male of *mbuluensis* differs from that of *braueri* in the following respects: upperside ground-colour orange-red (tawny orange in *braueri*); on the forewing upperside a faint dark discocellular spot (absent in *braueri*); dark upperside markings much blacker and less dentate along the inner margin of the distal band; hindwing upperside apical patch larger. Female of *mbuluensis* with upperside ground colour darker; forewing upperside distal band with a less dentate inner edge than in *braueri*; hindwing upperside black apical patch larger (Pringle, *in* Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

The male of *mbuluensis* differs from that of *pringlei* in the following respects: there are numerous, long, ribbon-like scales on the second labial palpi (shorter and fewer in *pringlei*); forewing apex more sharply pointed and distal margin more evenly rounded; cilia strongly chequered (weakly in *pringlei*); forewing upperside distal margin broader. Female of *mbuluensis* smaller; forewing apex more sharply pointed; cilia more strongly chequered; forewing upperside distal margin broader; hindwing upperside lunules less crenulate (Pringle, *in* Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

The underside of both sexes of *mbuluensis* differs from that of *pallida* in the following respects: hindwing underside ground-colour lighter; forewing underside dark markings of submarginal series obliterate silvery markings from areas 4 to 8 (in *pallida* there are dark markings only in areas 1 to 3); submarginal series elbowed sharply inwards in area 7 (in *pallida* the series forms an even curve) (Pringle, *in* Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

The underside of both sexes of *mbuluensis* differs from that of *braueri* in the following respects: hindwing underside ground-colour darker (Pringle, *in* Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

The underside of both sexes of *mbuluensis* differs from that of *pringlei* in the following respects: hindwing underside ground-colour lighter; silvery markings dull and inconspicuous (in *pringlei* bright and finely etched against the background) (Pringle, *in* Pringle *et al.*, 1994).



Distribution of *Aloeides mbuluensis*

South Africa – KwaZulu-Natal,
Eastern Cape Province.

Distribution: South Africa (KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape Province), Lesotho.

Specific localities:

South Africa –

KwaZulu-Natal – Loteni (I. Coetzer).

Eastern Cape Province – Mbulu (TL; the Pringles).

Lesotho – Sehonghong Valley.

Habitat: Grassy ironstone country, in montane grassland (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

Habits: Similar to other species of the genus (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).

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

****Aloeides monticola* Pringle, 1994**
Cedarberg Russet (#)

Aloeides monticola Pringle, 1994. *Metamorphosis* 5 (3): 112 (107-114).

Aloeides monticola Pringle, 1994. D'Abrera, 2009: 720.



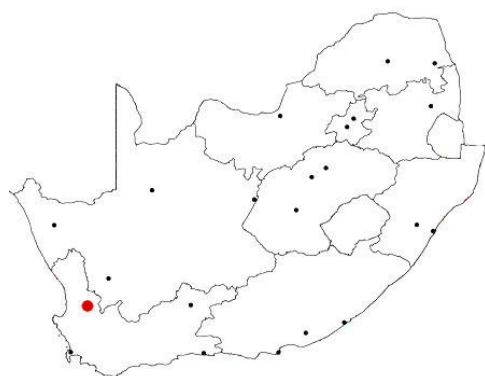
Aloeides monticola. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
 Cedarberg, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 4 November 1991. V.L. Pringle.
 Images E. Pringle ex Pringle Collection.



Aloeides monticola. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
 Cedarberg, Western Cape Province, South Africa. 4 November 1991. V.L. Pringle.
 Images E, Pringle ex Pringle Collection.

Type data: South Africa: “Cedarberg, 23.X.1990, V.L. Pringle.”

Described from six males and one female, from the type locality. Holotype in the Natural History Museum, London.



Distribution of *Aloeides monticola*

South Africa – Western Cape Province.

Distribution: South Africa (Western Cape Province).

Specific localities:

South Africa –

Western Cape Province – Cedarberg (TL).

Habitat: Open, rocky ground on the higher slopes of the Cedarberg (Pringle, 1994).

Flight period: Recorded in October and November (Pringle, 1994).

****Aloeides mullini* Henning & Henning, 1996**
Nyanga Russet

Aloeides mullini Henning & Henning, 1996. *Metamorphosis* 7 (1): 9 (8-11).
Aloeides mullini Henning & Henning, 1996. D'Abrera, 2009: 718.



Aloeides mullini. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
 Mount Rukotso, Nyanga, Zimbabwe. 12 August 1988.
 Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.



Aloeides mullini. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
 Nyanga Downs, Zimbabwe. 3 September 1984.
 Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.

Type data: Zimbabwe: “Zimbabwe: Nyanga, 15.ix.1984, I. Mullin.”

Described from 20 males and 11 females. Holotype in Transvaal Museum, Pretoria.

Note: First published as “*Aloeides* undescribed species” in Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 191.

Distribution: Zimbabwe (east).

Known only from the Nyanga highlands in north-eastern Zimbabwe.

Specific localities:

Zimbabwe – Nyanga (TL).

Habitat: Montane grassland. There are several colonies at about 2 500 m altitude.

Habits: Males congregate on high, rocky ridges where they establish territories on patches of bare ground. The flight of the males is fast but they frequently settle on the ground or on small rocks. When settled they have the habit of leaning over to one side, with their wings closed, possibly in order to capture more radiant energy from the sun. Females are usually found lower down and are more widespread. They have a slower, fluttering flight. Both sexes feed from flowers.

Flight period: Recorded from late August to late September (Pringle *et al.*, 1994).