

## Genus *Argyrocheila* Staudinger, 1892 Fairy Buffs

*Deutsche Entomologische Zeitschrift, Iris* 4: 215 (215-223).

Type-species: *Argyrocheila undifera* Staudinger, by monotypy.

*Argyrocheila* (**Fairy Buffs**) is a purely Afrotropical genus containing three species.

### \**Argyrocheila bitje* Bethune-Baker, 1915

*Argyrocheila bitje* Bethune-Baker, 1915. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History* (8) 16: 189 (186-203).  
*Argyrocheila bitje* Bethune-Baker, 1915. d'Abrera, 2009: 644.

**Type locality:** Cameroon: "Bitje, Cameroons".

**Illustrations:** The verso of the ?unique male holotype is figured in d'Abrera, 2009: 645.

**Distribution:** Cameroon.

Recorded, in error, from Kenya by d'Abrera (1980) and from Zambia by Heath *et al.* (2002).  
Larsen (2005a) could not substantiate the record from Nigeria by Carcasson (1981).

**Specific localities:**

Cameroon – Bitje (TL).

**Habitat:** Primary forest.

**Early stages:** Nothing published.

**Larval food:** Nothing published.

### \**Argyrocheila inundifera* Hawker-Smith, 1933

*Argyrocheila inundifera* Hawker-Smith, 1933. *Stylops* 2: 10 (1-12).  
*Argyrocheila inundifera* Hawker-Smith, 1933. d'Abrera, 2009: 644.



*Argyrocheila inundifera*. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Zambezi Bridge, Ikelenge, Zambia. 16 June 2007. A. Gardiner.  
Images M. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.



*Argyrocheila inundifera*. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.  
Lumangwe Forest, Northern Province, Zambia. 18 April 2005. A. Gardiner.  
Images M. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.

**Type locality:** [Democratic Republic of Congo]: “Belgian Congo: Katanga”.

**Distribution:** Democratic Republic of Congo (Lualaba, Kivu), Uganda, Kenya (west), Tanzania (north-west), Zambia.

**Specific localities:**

Democratic Republic of Congo – Katanga (TL); Ituri Forest (Ducarme, 2018).

Kenya – Kakamega Forest (Larsen, 1991c).

Tanzania – Kere Hill, Minziro Forest (Congdon & Collins, 1998); Munene Forest (Congdon & Collins, 1998).

Zambia – Ikelenge (Heath *et al.*, 2002); Hillwood Farm, Mwinilunga.

**Habitat:** Primary forest.

**Habits:** Lives in very localized colonies and is rarely met with. The flight is extremely weak (Larsen, 1991c).

**Early stages:** Nothing published.

**Larval food:** Nothing published.

### \**Argyrocheila undifera* Staudinger, 1892

Fairy White

*Argyrocheila undifera* Staudinger, 1892. *Deutsche Entomologische Zeitschrift, Iris* 4: 215 (215-223).

*Argyrocheila undifera* Staudinger, 1892. d’Abrera, 2009: 644.

**Type locality:** Gabon: “Ogowe”.

**Distribution:** Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon, Gabon, Congo, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Tanzania.

**Habitat:** Primary forest.

**Habits:** This is a very scarce species in West Africa (Larsen, 2005a). The flight is very weak and usually from three to four metres above the ground. They seem to prefer deep shade (Congdon & Collins, 1998). Larsen (2005a) noted that they fly weakly, in a straight line, about two metres above the ground. When alarmed it has the habit of dropping into the undergrowth (Bethune-Baker, 1904).

**Early stages:** Nothing published.

**Larval food:** Nothing published.

### *Argyrocheila undifera undifera* Staudinger, 1892

*Argyrocheila undifera* Staudinger, 1892. *Deutsche Entomologische Zeitschrift, Iris* 4: 215 (215-223).

*Argyrocheila undifera undifera* Staudinger, 1892. d’Abrera, 2009: 644.

**Type locality:** Gabon: “Ogowe”.

**Distribution:** Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Nigeria (south and east), Cameroon, Gabon, Congo, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo (Lualaba).

**Specific localities:**

Ivory Coast – Yapo Forest (Warren-Gash, *vide* Larsen, 2005a).

Ghana – Kakum (Larsen, 2005a); Bia National Park (Larsen, 2005a).

Gabon – Ogowe (TL); Akaka (Vande weghe, 2010); Waka (Vande weghe, 2010); Mikongo (Vande weghe, 2010); Langoue (Vande weghe, 2010); Ipassa (Vande weghe, 2010); camp Nouna (Vande weghe, 2010); Bakouaka (Vande weghe, 2010); Kebiri Forest, Bateke Plateau (Vande weghe, 2010).

*Argyrocheila undifera ugandae* Hawker-Smith, 1933

*Argyrocheila undifera ugandae* Hawker-Smith, 1933. *Stylops* 2: 10 (1-12).

*Argyrocheila undifera ugandae* Hawker-Smith, 1933. d'Abreera, 2009: 644.

**Type locality:** Uganda: “Tero Forest, S.E. Budda, 3000 feet”.

**Distribution:** Democratic Republic of Congo (north-east), Uganda, Tanzania (north-west).

**Specific localities:**

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

Uganda – Tero Forest, south-east Budda (TL).

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