

Genus *Katreus* Watson, 1893 Giant Sprite

Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London **1893**: 115 (3-132).

Type-species: *Astictopterus johnstonii* Butler, by original designation.

= *Choristoneura* Mabille, 1890. *Bulletin de la Société Entomologique de France* (6) **9**: 156 (149-150, 155-156, 167-169, 183-184). Type-species: *Choristoneura apicalis* Mabille, by monotypy. [Invalid; junior homonym of *Choristoneura* Lederer, 1859].

= *Loxolexis* Karsch, 1895.

Entomologische Nachrichten. Berlin **21**: 320 (289-322).

Type-species: *Loxolexis percnoptera* Karsch, by monotypy.

= *Daratus* Lindsey, 1925. *Annals of the Entomological Society of America* **18**: 84 (75-106). [(Unnecessary) replacement name for *Choristoneura* Mabille.]

The genus *Katreus* belongs to the Family HesperIIDae Latreille, 1809; Subfamily Katreinae Grishin, 2019. The other genus in this Afrotropical subfamily is *Ortholexis*.

Katreus (**Giant Sprite**) is an Afrotropical genus containing a single species.

**Katreus johnstonii* (Butler, 1888) Giant Sprite

Astictopterus johnstonii Butler, 1888. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* **1887**: 573 (567-574).

Katreus johnstonii Butler, 1888. Larsen, 2005a.

Katreus johnstonii (Butler, 1888). Cock & Congdon, 2011b.



Katreus johnstonii. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Yakoli, Central African Republic. November 1995. SC. ABRI-2019-2032.
Images MC Williams ex ABRI Collection.



Katreus johnstonii. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Yakoli, Central African Republic. February 1992. SC. ABRI-2019-2033.
Images MC Williams ex ABRI Collection.

Type locality: Cameroon: “Rio del Rey”.

Distribution: Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon, Gabon, Congo, Central African Republic.

Specific localities:

Sierra Leone – Guma Valley near Freetown (Larsen, 2005a).

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

Ivory Coast – Gagnoa (Larsen, 2005a); Abengourou (Larsen, 2005a); Yeale (Larsen, 2005a); Tai National Park (Larsen, 2005a).

Ghana – Atewa Range (Larsen, 2005a); Ankasa (Larsen, 2005a); Likpe (Larsen, 2005a).

Nigeria – Sapoba (Larsen, 2005a); Ahoada (Larsen, 2005a); Okwangwo (Larsen, 2005a); Oban Hills (Larsen, 2005a).

Cameroon – Rio del Rey (TL); Barombi Station (Karsch, 1895).

Gabon – Tchimbele (Vande weghe, 2010).

Central African Republic – Yakoli (ABRI Collection).

Habitat: Primary, undisturbed forest only (Larsen, 2005a).

Habits: This is a rare skipper (Larsen, 2005a). Both sexes patrol territories between 10:00 and 12:00, flying in loops of about five metres in diameter, approximately a metre above the ground (Larsen, 2005a). When resting they do so on the underside of a broad leaf, with the wings held flat (Larsen, 2005a).

Early stages: Nothing published.

Larval food: Nothing published.

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

percnoptera Karsch, 1895 (as sp. of *Loxolexis*). *Entomologische Nachrichten. Berlin* **21**: 322 (289-322). Cameroon: “Barombi-Station am Elefantensee in Kamerun”.