

Genus *Kipepeo* Talavera *et al.*, 2021
Veined Grass Jewel

TALAVERA, G., LUKHTANOV, V.A., PIERCE, N.E. & VILA, R. 2021. Barcodes combined with multilocus data of representative taxa can generate reliable higher-level phylogenies. *Systematic Biology* ? (?): 11 (1-14).
Type-species: *Everes kedonga* Grose-Smith, 1898.

The genus *Kipepeo* belongs to the Family Lycaenidae Leach, 1815; Subfamily Polyommatae Swainson, 1827; Tribe Polyommata Swainson, 1827; Subtribe Polyommata Swainson, 1827. The other genera in the Subtribe Polyommata found in the Afrotropical Region are *Chilades*, *Freyeria*, *Luthrodes* and *Birabiro*.

Kipepeo (**Veined Grass Jewel**) is a monobasic Afrotropical genus.

****Kipepeo kedonga* (Grose-Smith, 1898)**
Veined Grass Jewel



Male Kedong Cupid (*Chilades kedonga*). Nanyuki, Kenya.
Image courtesy Andre Coetzer.

Everes kedonga Grose-Smith, 1898. *Novitates Zoologicae* **5**: 357 (350-358).
Chilades kedonga (Grose-Smith, 1898). Ackery *et al.*, 1995.
Synonym of *Chilades naidina* (Butler, 1886). Balint, 1999 (*Neue Entomologische Nachrichten* **46**: 46 (1-89)). **syn. nov.**
Chilades kedonga (Grose-Smith, 1898). D'Abrera (2009: 844).
Chilades kedonga (Grose-Smith, 1898). Talavera *et al.*, 2013: 188.
Chilades kedonga (Grose-Smith, 1898). Williams, 2020. **stat. rev.**
Kipepeo kedonga (Grose-Smith, 1898). Talavera *et al.*, 2021.



Kipepeo kedonga. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Nanyuki, Loldaiga, Kenya. 00 14 28 N 37 06 35 E. 25 June 2016. A.J. Coetzer.
Images M.C. Williams ex Coetzer Collection.



Kipepeo kedonga. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Nanyuki, Loldaiga, Kenya. 00 14 28 N 37 06 35 E. 25 June 2016. A.J. Coetzer.
Images M.C. Williams ex Coetzer Collection.

Type locality: [Uganda]: “Second Kedong”.

Distribution: Ethiopia (south), Somalia, Uganda (east), Kenya, Tanzania.

Specific localities:

Uganda – Second Kedong (Grose-Smith, 1898).

Kenya – Kikuyu Escarpment (Bethune-Baker, 1905); Nairobi (Larsen, 1991c); Kima (Larsen, 1991c); Karura (Larsen, 1991c); Makueni (Larsen, 1991c); Longonot (Larsen, 1991c); Chyulu Hills (Larsen, 1991c); the Mara (Larsen, 1991c); Ngong (Larsen, 1991c); Nanyuki (Larsen, 1991c); Ol Jogi Ranch, near Nanyuki (Williams).

Tanzania – Ruaha National Park (Kielland, 1990d); Tabora (Haldane, *vide* Kielland, 1990d); North slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro at 1600 m (Cordeiro, 1995).

Habitat: Grassy areas in savanna, especially dry *Acacia* savanna.

Habits: Individuals fly low down among short grass. Both sexes feed from flowers. Specimens often bask with the wings held partially open (Larsen, 1991c).

Early stages: Nothing published.

Larval food:

Acacia species (Fabaceae) [Van Someren, 1974: 330].

Valchellia pseudofistula (Harms) Kyal. & Boatwr. (Fabaceae) [Congdon *et al.*, 2017; Uluwani, Tanzania].

pulchristriata Bethune-Baker, 1905 (as sp. of *Lycaena*). *Novitates Zoologicae* **12**: 495 (492-496). [Kenya]: “Kikuyu Escarpment”.