

Genus *Zingha* (Stoll, [1780]) Red Emperor

Proceedings of the Royal Entomological Society of London (B) **8**: 136 (133-138). [Replacement name for *Monura* Mabille.]

Type-species: *Papilio zingha* Stoll, 1780 by monotypy.

= *Monura* Mabille, 1876. *Bulletin de la Société Zoologique de France* **1**: 280 (194-203, 274-281). Type-species: *Papilio zingha* Stoll, by monotypy. [Invalid; junior homonym of *Monura* Ehrenburg, 1831, and *Monura* Gistel, 1874.]

The genus *Zingha* belongs to the Family Nymphalidae Rafinesque, 1815; Subfamily Charaxinae Guenée, 1865; Tribe Charaxini Guenée, 1865.

Zingha (Red Emperor) is a monotypic Afrotropical genus.

**Zingha zingha* (Stoll, [1780]) Red Emperor

Papilio zingha Stoll, [1780] *in* Stoll, [1780-2]. *Die Uitlandsche Kapellen voorkomende in de drie waerreldeelen Asia, Africa en America* **4** [part]: 53 (29-252).

Charaxes (*Charaxes*) *zingha* (Stoll, [1780]). Aduse-Poku *et al.*, 2009.

Zingha zingha (Stoll, [1780]). Bouyer, 2023. **stat. rev.**



Zingha zingha. Male (Wingspan 70 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Mabira Forest, Uganda. 14 June 2009. J. Dobson.
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.



Zingha zingha. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
San Pedro, Ivory Coast. 25 July 1996.
Images M.C. Williams ex Gardiner Collection.

Type locality: “op de Kust van Afrika [on the coast of Africa]”.

Distribution: Senegal, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Benin (central), Nigeria (south), Cameroon, Gabon, Congo, Angola, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo (north), Uganda, Tanzania (west).

Specific localities:

Senegal – Basse Casamance (Larsen, 2005a).

Guinea – Parc National Haut du Niger (Larsen, 2005a). (Safian *et al.*, 2020).

Sierra Leone – Freetown (Owen & Chanter, 1972).

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

Ivory Coast – Bossematie (Larsen, 2005a).

Ghana – Atewa Range (Joly, 2003). Cape Coast (Larsen, 2005a). Bobiri Butterfly Sanctuary (Larsen *et al.*, 2007). Boabeng-Fiema Monkey Sanctuary (Larsen *et al.*, 2009).

Benin – See Coache *et al.*, 2017.

Nigeria – Warri (Larsen, 2005a).

Cameroon – Korup (Lees, 1989).

Gabon – Probably throughout (Vande weghe, 2010).

Central African Republic – Dzanga (Noss, 1998).

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

Uganda – Semuliki N.P. (Davenport & Howard, 1996).

Tanzania – Kasye Forest; Mihumu Forest (Kielland, 1990d).

Habitat: Lowland evergreen forest and, to a lesser extent gallery forest and coastal scrubland (Larsen, 2005a). In Tanzania it is found at altitudes of 800 to 900 m (Kielland, 1990d).

Habits: A widespread and fairly common species. Specimens are found in the more open, sunny parts of the forest and on forest margins. The flight is slower than most other species of Charaxini and both sexes are more retiring. They usually settle, head downwards, under large leaves. (Larsen, 2005a & Kielland, 1990d) Decaying animal matter does not attract males (Henning, 1989) but both sexes come to fermenting fruit. They will even come to fresh paw-paw placed on forest paths (Larsen, 2005a).

Early stages:

Van Someren, 1935: 50.

Henning, 1989 [larval head capsule].

Larval food:

Hugonia castaneifolia Engl. (Linaceae) [Van Someren, 1974: 321].

Hugonia platsepala Welw. ex Oliv. (Linaceae) [Van Someren, 1974: 321].

berenice Drury, 1782 (as sp. of *Papilio*). *Illustrations of Natural History* 3: index et 13 (76 pp.). Sierra Leone: “Sierra Leon”.