Updated 11 November 2026. THOMAS DESLOGES (atb.editor@lepsocafrica.org).
ANDREW NOSS (Copy Editor)

Genus *Gegenes* Hübner, [1819]
Dodgers

In Hubner, [1816-[1826]. *Verzeichniss bekannter Schmettlinge* 107 (432 + 72 pp.).
Type-species: *Papilio pumilio* Hoffmansegg, by subsequent designation (Opinion 827, 1967. *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* **24**: 226-227.).

= *Philoodus* Rambur, 1840 *in* Rambur, [1838-40]. *Faune entomologique de l'Andalusie* **2**: 308 (336 pp.).
Type-species: *Hesperia nostrodamus* Fabricius, by subsequent designation (Scudder, 1875. *Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences* **10**: 248 (91-293).).

The genus *Gegenes* belongs to the Family Hesperiidae Latreille, 1809; Subfamily Hesperiinae Latreille, 1809; Tribe Baorini Doherty, 1886.

Gegenes (Dodgers) is an Afrotropical genus with five subgenera (*Gegenes*; *Afrogegenes* De Jong & Coutsis, 2017; *Torbenlarsenia* Kemal & Koçak, 2020; *Flanga* **subgen. nov.** Grishin, 2023a and *Havea* **subgen. nov.** Grishin, 2023a) containing 13 species.

Subgenera and species in the genus *Gegenes* Hübner, [1819]
(Adapted from Grishin, 2023a).

Subgenus *Gegenes*
G. pumilio
G. nostrodamus

Subgenus *Afrogegenes*
G. hottentota
G. letterstedti
G. ocra

Subgenus *Torbenlarsenia*
G. holtzi
G. micans
G. fallax
G. fanta
G. sirena
G. cottrelli

Subgenus *Flanga*
G. perobscura
G. detecta

Subgenus *Havea*
G. havei

Subgenus *Gegenes* Hübner, [1819]

In Hubner, [1816-[1826]. *Verzeichniss bekannter Schmettlinge* 107 (432 + 72 pp.).
Type-species: *Papilio pumilio* Hoffmansegg, by subsequent designation (Opinion 827, 1967. *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* **24**: 226-227.).

Placed as a subgenus of *Gegenes* by Grishin, 2023a in Zhang *et al*. 2023a, Butterfly classification and species discovery by genomics. *The taxonomic report of the international Lepidoptera survey* **11**(3): 80-82.

**Gegenes (Gegenes) pumilio* (Hoffmansegg, 1803)

Dark Dodger (#)



Gegenes (Gegenes) pumilio. Male.
Image courtesy Steve Woodhall.

Papilio pumilio Hoffmansegg, 1803. *Magazin für Insektenkunde (Illeger)* **4**: 202 (181-206).
Gegenes pumilio Hoffmansegg. Swanepoel, 1953a.
Gegenes pumilio (Hoffmansegg, 1804). Pringle *et al*., 1994: 336. [date of authorship erroneous].
Gegenes (Gegenes) pumilio (Hoffmansegg, 1804). Grishin, 2023a, **comb. nov.**



Gegenes (Gegenes) pumilio gambica. Male (Wingspan 33 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Loding, Mpumalanga Province, South Africa. 5 June 2011. J. Dobson.
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.



Gegenes (Gegenes) pumilio gambica. Female (Wingspan 35 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Magaliesburg, Gauteng Province, South Africa. 10 February 2010. J. Dobson.
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.

Type data: No locality given.
Distribution: Sub-Saharan Africa, including Senegal, Gambia, Burkina Faso, Guinea, Ghana, Benin, Nigeria, Angola, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia, South Africa, Eswatini, Saudi Arabia, Yemen (including Socotra), Oman, Madagascar. Not recorded, so far, from Gabon and Cameroon.
Extralimital in southern Europe (including Greece), North Africa, Middle East, north-west India.
Habitat: Savanna and the grassy slopes of mountains (Pringle *et al*., 1994). In West Africa it is mainly in Sudan savanna, but also occurs in the southern Sahel (Larsen, 2005a). In Tanzania from 500 to 2 000 m (Kielland, 1990d).

Habits: A generally uncommon species (Larsen, 1991c). It is both local and uncommon in West Africa (Larsen, 2005a). The flight is low down and rapid and individuals often rest on the ground or on low vegetation. Damp places and flowers are often visited. Males establish territories anywhere in the habitat, only occasionally hilltopping (Pringle *et al*., 1994). They also fly up and down dry riverbeds at great speed (Larsen, 2005a).
Flight period: All year in warmer areas, and from October to March in colder ones (Pringle *et al*., 1994).
Early stages:
Dujardin, 1990.
Henning, Henning, Joannou & Woodhall, 1997: 204.

Egg yellow to pale green; dome-shaped. Final instar larva pale green with white stripes, all but two of which end just short of head; glabrous except posterior segments which are covered by white setae; head pale brown, finely setose, with symmetrical lighter stripes, edged with dark brown; stripes on head begin on either side of a central dorsal point and run down and outwards, before curving inwards to end on either side of mandibles; attains length of 35 mm. Pupa 24 mm; pale green with fine white stripes; cylindrical, tapering posteriorly; pointed cephalic process; wing cases and proboscis poorly defined.
Eggs laid singly on a leaf of foodplant. Larva lives in shelter made from leaves of foodplant, emerging to feed at night. Early instars construct shelter by attaching edges of blade of grass with silk. In last two instars up to five blades used to construct shelter. Duration of larval stages about 45 days. Pupation takes place in larval shelter; pupal stage duration about 60 days.

Sevastopulo vide Cock & Congdon, 2012: 35
Henning, Henning, Joannou & Woodhall, 1997: 205 (photograph of final instar larva and pupa).
Lafranchis, 2005 [Greece].
Larval food:
Cenchrus clandestinus (Hochst. ex Chiov.) Morrone (= *Pennisetum clandestinum* Hochst. ex Chiov.) (Poaceae) (exotic) [Pringle et al., 1994: 336; South Africa].
Cynodon species (Poaceae) [Larsen, 1991c: 436].
Ehrharta erecta Lam. (Poaceae) [Murray, 1959; South Africa].
Relevant literature:
Coutsis & Anastassiu, 2011 [Recorded from the island of Simi, Greece].
Lafranchis, 2005 [Early stages; ecology; Greece].
Larsen, 1982 [Chromosome numbers of different populations].

Gegenes (Gegenes) pumilio pumilio (Hoffmansegg, 1803)
Dark Dodger

Papilio pumilio Hoffmansegg, 1803. *Magazin für Insektenkunde (Illeger)* **4**: 202 (181-206).

Type data: No locality given.
Distribution: Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Oman.
Extralimital in southern Europe, North Africa, Middle East, India.

lefebvrii Rambur, 1840 *in* Rambur, [1838-40] (as sp. of *Philoodus*). *Faune entomologique de l'Andalusie* **2**: 308 (336 pp.). Italy: "Sardaigne".

Gegenes (Gegenes) pumilio gambica (Mabille, 1878)

African Dark Dodger (#)

Pamphila gambica Mabille, 1878. *Petites Nouvelles Entomologiques* **2**: 233 (233-236).
Gegenes pumilio gambica (Mabille, 1878). Dickson & Kroon, 1978.
Synonym of *Gegenes pumilio* (Hoffmansegg, 1804). Ackery *et al*., 1995: 135.
Gegenes pumilio gambica (Mabille, 1878). Pringle *et al*., 1994: 336. [not seen by Ackery *et al*., 1995]
Gegenes (Gegenes) pumilio gambica (Mabille, 1878). Grishin, 2023a, **comb. nov.**.



Gegenes pumilio gambica. Male (Wingspan 33 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Loding, Mpumalanga Province, South Africa. 5 June 2011. J. Dobson.
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.



Gegenes (Gegenes) pumilio gambica. Female (Wingspan 35 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Magaliesburg, Gauteng Province, South Africa. 10 February 2010. J. Dobson.
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection

Type data: "Ex interiore Senegambia". The type in "Coll. Mabille" appears to have been lost.
Diagnosis: Subspecies *gambica* differs from the nominate subspecies in having more prominent markings on the underside of the hindwing and reduced spots in the female forewing. Subspecies *monochroa* is smaller and darker, with barely visible spots (De Jong & Coutsis, 2017).
Distribution: Sub-Saharan Africa, including Senegal, Gambia, Burkina Faso, Guinea, Ghana, Benin, Nigeria, Angola, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia, South Africa (Limpopo Province, Mpumalanga, North West Province, Gauteng, Free State Province, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape Province), Eswatini, Madagascar.
Specific localities:
Gambia – Karantaba Tenda (Baker).
Ghana – Mole National Park (Larsen, 2005a).
Benin – Atacora, Lokosa, Batia, Tanguiéta (Coache *et al*., 2017).
Angola – Moxico Province (Mendes *et al*., 2013).
Kenya – Kacheliba; Kakamega Forest; Ologorsaile (Larsen, 1991c).
Tanzania – Widespread (Kielland, 1990d).; Katavi National Park (Fitzherbert *et al*., 2006).
Zambia – Lusaka; Chisamba; Ndola; Mpongwe; Luongo River; Kawambwa (Heath *et al*., 2002).
Mozambique – Maputo Special Reserve (Miles & Mulvaney, 2022).
Zimbabwe – Odzi Bridge.
Botswana – Okavango River (Trimen, 1891). 7 localities (Larsen, 1991l).
Namibia – Omrora; Otiemboro (Trimen, 1891). Windhoek; Guchab (Pringle *et al*., 1994). Buschbrunnen Farm (Pinhey).

South Africa –
Limpopo Province – Throughout (Swanepoel, 1953). Percy Fyfe Nature Reserve (Warren, 1990). Lekgalameetse Nature Reserve ("Malta Forest"); Highlands Wilderness (Bode & Bode). Soetdoring Farm (A. Mayer, 2015). Bateleur Nature Reserve (Williams & Dobson, 2015).
Mpumalanga – Throughout (Swanepoel, 1953). Barberton (Trimen, 1891). Doorndraai Dam Nature Reserve (Warren, 1990). Buffelspoort Nature Reserve (Williams).
North West Province – Throughout (Swanepoel, 1953). Potchefstroom (Trimen, 1891). Kgaswane Mountain Reserve; Mountain Sanctuary N.R. (Williams). Utopia Resort (C. Dobson, 2006).
Gauteng – Throughout (Swanepoel, 1953). Buffelsdrif Conservancy (Williams).
Free State Province – Ladybrand; Ficksburg; Bloemfontein (Swanepoel, 1953).
KwaZulu-Natal – Tugela; Hluhluwe; Estcourt; Ixopo (Swanepoel, 1953).
Eastern Cape Province – Toleni; Kei River; Umtata (Swanepoel, 1953).
Eswatini – Mlawula N. R. (www.sntc.org.sz).
Madagascar – Ft Dauphin (= Taolagnaro) (De Jong & Coutsis, 2017).
Note: It is probable that the Afrotropical taxon gambica (Mabille, 1878) will be found to be specifically distinct since its chromosome number (n = 41) differs from that of the western Mediterranean populations (pumilio (Hoffmansegg, 1804)) with a chromosome number of n = 24. If this proves to be the case, then the range of gambica will include sub-Saharan Africa, southern Arabia to Lebanon and Turkey, thence to northern India (Larsen, 1982a). See also Larsen, 2005a: 545.

occulta Trimen, 1891 (as sp. of *Pamphila*). *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* **1891**: 103 (59-107). [South Africa]: "Transvaal; Barberton, Potchefstroom"; [Namibia/Botswana]: "Omrora; Otiemboro; Okavango River".

ursula Holland, 1896 (as sp. of *Parnara*?). *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* **1896**: 64 (2-107). "East Africa".

Gegenes (Gegenes) pumilio monochroa Rebel, 1907
Socotra Dark Dodger

as? Rebel, 1907. *Denkschrift der Akademie der Wissenschaften Wien*. **71** (2): 37, 77 (31-130). [1931 republication].
Synonym of *Gegenes pumilio* (Hoffmansegg, 1804). Ackery *et al*., 1995: 135.
Gegenes pumilio monochroa (Rebel, 1907). Henning *et al*., 1997: 203.
Gegenes (Gegenes) pumilio monochroa (Rebel, 1907). Grishin, 2023a, **comb. nov.**.

Type data: Yemen: "Sokótra".
Distribution: Yemen (Socotra Island).

**Gegenes (Gegenes) nostrodamus* (Fabricius, 1793)
Pygmy Dodger

Hesperia nostrodamus Fabricius, 1793. *Entomologia Systematica emendata et aucta* **3** (1): 328 (488 pp.).
Gegenes nostrodamus (Fabricius, 1793).
Gegenes (Gegenes) nostrodamus (Fabricius, 1793). Grishin, 2023a, **comb. nov.**.



Gegenes (Gegenes) nostrodamus. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Tihama, Yemen. October 1992. SCC. ABRI-2019-2676.
Images M.C. Williams ex ABRI Collection.



Gegenes (Gegenes) nostrodamus. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Wadi Bana, Batays, Yemen. January 1994. SCC. ABRI-2019-2677.
Images M.C. Williams ex ABRI Collection.

Type data: North Africa: "Barbaria".
Distribution: Senegal (extreme north-west), Burkina Faso, Benin (north), Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Oman.

Extralimital in the Southern Palaearctic Region, north Africa, Middle East, India.

Specific localities:
Senegal – Richard-Toll; Mako (Larsen, 2005a).
Burkina Faso – Kou; W National Park – TRPL (Jamonneau *et al.*, 2026)
Benin – W National Park, Tanguiéta (Coache *et al*., 2017).
Sudan – Khartoum Botanical Gardens (Larsen, 2005a).
Habitat: In West Africa it is an oasis butterfly in the Sahel (Larsen, 2005a).
Larval food:
Aerulopus species (Poaceae) [Benyamini, 1994; Sinai].
Panicum species (Poaceae) [Benyamini, 1994; Sinai].

proclea Walker, 1870 (as sp. of *Pamphila*). *Entomologist* **5**: 56 (48-57). Egypt: "Cairo".

karsana Moore, 1874 (as sp. of ?). Ref?. Larsen, 2005a: 546 states that this subspecies (from the Oriental Region) is "superfluous".

Subgenus *Afrogegenes* De Jong & Coutsis, 2017

De Jong & Coutsis, 2017. *Tijdschrift voor Entomologie* **160**: 41-60.
Type-species: *Hesperia hottentota* Latreille, 1824, by original designation.

Placed as a subgenus of *Gegenes* by Grishin, 2023a in Zhang *et al*. 2023a, Butterfly classification and species discovery by genomics. *The taxonomic report of the international Lepidoptera survey* **11**(3): 80-82.

**Gegenes (Afrogegenes) hottentota* (Latreille, [1824])

Masked Dodger (#)

Hesperia hottentota Latreille, [1824] *in* Latreille & Godart, [1819], [1824]. *Encyclopédie Méthodique*. Histoire Naturelle [Zoologie] **9** Entomologie: 777 (1-328 [1819], 329-828 [1824]).
Gegenes hottentota (Latreille, 1823). Dickson & Kroon, 1978.
Gegenes hottentota (Latreille, 1824). Pringle *et al*., 1994: 336.
Afrogegenes hottentota (Latreille, 1824). De Jong & Coutsis, 2017.
Gegenes (Afrogegenes) hottentota (Latreille, 1824). Grishin, 2023a, **comb. nov.**.



Gegenes (Afrogegenes) hottentota. Male (Wingspan 33 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Rayton, Gauteng, South Africa. 15 March 1998. M. Williams.
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.



Gegenes (Afrogegenes) hottentota. Female (Wingspan 34 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside
Port St Johns, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. 23 March 2008. J. Dobson.
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.

Type data: [South Africa]: "Cap de Bonne-Espèrance". [*Patria falsa*]. Holotype male in the Paris Museum.
Diagnosis: On the forewing upperside the black tornal patch is diagnostic (Pringle *et al*., 1994).
Distribution: Sub-Saharan Africa, including Senegal, Gambia, Mali, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Burkina Faso, Sierra Leone, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Benin, Nigeria, Gabon, Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana, South Africa (Limpopo Province, Mpumalanga, Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape Province), Eswatini,Saudi Arabia (south-west), Yemen.

Specific localities:
Gambia – Basse (Baker).
Burkina Faso – W National Park – TRPL and North (Jamonneau *et al.*, 2026)
Benin – Houeyogbe Forest (Coache & Rainon, 2016). 12 localities (Coache *et al*., 2017).
Nigeria – Ikoyi Island, Lagos; Ekonganaku, Oban Hills (Larsen, 2005a).
Gabon – Iguela; Ekouyi, Bateke Plateau (Vande weghe, 2010).
Angola – Benguela Province; Bie Province; Huambo Province; Kuando-Kubango Province; Moxico Province (Mendes *et al*., 2013).
Democratic Republic of Congo – Ituri Forest; Semuliki Valley; Mt Mitumba (Ducarme, 2018).
Tanzania– 11 localities (Kielland, 1990d). Katavi National Park (Fitzherbert *et al*., 2006).
Malawi – Mt Mulanje (Congdon *et al*., 2010).
Zambia – 9 localities (Heath *et al*., 2002).
Mozambique – Njesi Plateau (Congdon *et al*., 2010). Maputo Special Reserve (Miles & Mulvaney, 2022).
Zimbabwe – Harare district (Pringle *et al*., 1994).
Botswana – Okavango Delta (Pinhey). 7 localities (Larsen, 1991l).
South Africa –
Limpopo Province – Nylstroom (P. Kruger).
Mpumalanga – Louw's Creek; Nelspruit; Lydenburg (Pringle *et al*., 1994). Makande (Wood).
Gauteng – Honeydew (Pringle *et al*., 1994). Rayton district (Williams). Near Pretoria (the Hennings). Johannesburg (R. Steele).
KwaZulu-Natal – Margate (G. Henning). Emanguzi (Woodhall). Nagle Dam; Winklespruit (Pringle *et al*., 1994). Ladysmith (Nagle). Vryheid (O'Conner). Hammarsdale (Fortman); Tembe Nature Reserve; Ndumo Nature Reserve (Pringle & Kyle, 2002).
Eastern Cape Province – Port St Johns (Lunderstedt).
Habitat: Marshy areas with thick grass, especially in valleys (Pringle *et al*., 1994). A savanna butterfly (Larsen, 2005a). Also in forest clearings (Larsen, 1991c). In Tanzania from sea-level to 1 800 m (Kielland, 1990d).
Habits: Common in some parts of its range, e.g. Kenya (Larsen, 1991c) but not very common in West Africa (Larsen, 2005a). Very rare in South Africa. Flies low and fast but settles often, on blades of grass. Males establish territories in their marshy habitat, and defend them aggressively (Larsen, 1991c; Pringle *et al*., 1994).
Flight period: All year, with peak emergence in April and May (Pringle *et al*., 1994).
Larval food:
Cenchrus clandestinus (Hochst. ex Chiov.) Morrone (= *Pennisetum clandestinum* Hochst. ex Chiov.) (Poaceae) (kikuyu grass) [Pinhey, 1949].
Cenchrus purpureus (Schumach) Morrone (= *Pennisetum purpureum* Schumach.) (Poaceae) (napier fodder) [Pinhey, 1949].
Ehrharta erecta Lam. (Poaceae) [Pinhey, 1949].
Oldenlandia corymbosa L. (Rubiaceae) [Vuattoux, 1999 (Côte d'Ivoire); very unlikely (Larsen, 2005a)].
Poaceae [Van Someren, 1974: 325].
Note: The host-plants given by Dickson & Kroon (1978: 201) and Larsen (1991c) are actually those of *Afrogegenes letterstedti* (= *niso*) – see Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 336 for comments. Cock & Congdon, 2012 state that confirmation of the food plants of *G. hottentota* would be desirable].
Relevant literature:
Kroon, 1973 [genitalia of *hottentota* vs *niso*].

> ***obumbrata*** Trimen, 1891 (as sp. of *Pamphila*). *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* **1891**: 103 (59-107). "Ehanda".

**Gegenes (Afrogegenes) letterstedti* (Wallengren, 1857)

Brown Dodger (#)





Gegenes (Afrogegenes) letterstedti.
Images courtesy Steve Woodhall

Papilio niso Linnaeus, 1764. *Museum Ludovicae Ulricae Reginae* 339 (720 pp.). Holmiae.
Hesperia letterstedti Wallengren, 1857. *Öfversigt af Kongl. Vetenskaps-Akademiens Förhandlingar. Stockholm* annis 1838-1845. Collecta (n.s.) **2** (4): 49 (55 pp.). [South Africa]: "Caffraria". Holotype in the Swedish Natural History Museum (images available at www2.nrm.se/en/lep_nrm/l).
Pamphila letterstedti Wallengren, 1857. Trimen, 1866a.
Pamphila hottentota (Latreille, 1823). Trimen & Bowker, 1889. [misidentification for *Afrogegenes letterstedti*]
Gegenes letterstedti (Wallengren, 1857). Evans, 1937.
Gegenes niso (Linnaeus, 1764). Evans, 1947.
Gegenes hottentota Latreille, 1824. Swanepoel, 1953a. [misidentification for *Afrogegenes letterstedti*]
Gegenes niso niso (Linnaeus, 1764). Dickson & Kroon, 1978.
Gegenes niso niso (Linnaeus, 1764). Pringle *et al*., 1994: 336.
Afrogegenes letterstedti (Wallengren, 1857). De Jong & Coutsis, 2017, **comb. nov.**.
Gegenes (Afrogegenes) letterstedti (Wallengren, 1857). Grishin, 2023a, **comb. nov.**.



Gegenes (Afrogegenes) letterstedti. Male (Wingspan 31 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Rayton, Gauteng, South Africa. 4 April 1998. M. Williams.
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.



Gegenes (Afrogegenes) letterstedti. Female (Wingspan 33 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Cintsa East, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. 20-31 December, 2001. M. Williams.
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.

Type data: [South Africa]: "Cap b. Spei". Lectotype designated by Honey & Scoble, 2001: 355. De Jong & Coutsis (2017) argue that this lectotype is invalid as they regard *niso* to be a *nomen dubium*.
Distribution: Sub-Saharan Africa, including Senegal, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Benin, Nigeria, São Tomé and Príncipe, Gabon, Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana (north), Namibia, South Africa (Limpopo Province, Mpumalanga, North West Province, Gauteng, Free State Province, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape Province, Western Cape Province), Eswatini, Lesotho, Arabian Peninsula (Saudi Arabia, Yemen).
Specific localities:
Gambia – Abuko, Walikunda, Saruja, Kajakat Island, Niani, Basse (Baker).
Burkina Faso – Toussiana (Jamonneau *et al.*, 2026)
Ghana – Boabeng-Fiema Monkey Sanctuary (Larsen *et al*., 2009).
Benin – 10 localities (Coache *et al*., 2017) (as *niso brevicornis*).
Gabon – Pongara; Tchimbele; Iguela; Bateke Plateau; Leconi; Ekouyi-Mbouma (Vande weghe, 2010).
Angola – Bie Province; Huambo Province; Huila Province; Kwanza Sul Province; Malanje Province; Moxico Province (Mendes *et al*., 2013).
Democratic Republic of Congo – Ituri Forest; Semuliki Valley; Mt Mitumba; Mt Blue (Ducarme, 2018).
Kenya – Chyulu Hills (van Someren, 1939).
Tanzania – Throughout; Lukwangule Plateau (Kielland, 1990d). Katavi National Park (Fitzherbert *et al*., 2006).
Malawi – Mt Mulanje; Zomba Mountain (Congdon *et al*., 2010). Nyika N.P. (J. Timberlake, 2019).
Zambia: 15 localities (Heath *et al*., 2002).
Mozambique – Mt Namuli; Mt Mabu (Congdon *et al*., 2010). Mt Mecula (Congdon & Bayliss, 2013). Maputo Special Reserve (Miles & Mulvaney, 2022).
Botswana – Kazungula; Mpandama-Tenga; Moremi; Maun; Okavango Delta; Shakawe (Larsen, 1991l).
South Africa –
Limpopo Province – Throughout (Swanepoel, 1953). Lekgalameetse Nature Reserve ("Malta Forest"); Highlands Wilderness (Bode & Bode). Soetdoring Farm (A. Mayer, 2015). Bateleur Nature Reserve (Williams & Dobson, 2015).
Mpumalanga – Throughout (Swanepoel, 1953). Verloren Vallei Nature Reserve (Warren, 1990). Sterkspruit Nature Reserve; Buffelspoort Nature Reserve (Williams).
North West Province – Throughout (Swanepoel, 1953). Kgaswane Mountain Reserve (Williams). Utopia Resort (C. Dobson, 2006). Borakalalo Nature Reserve (J. Dobson, 2009).
Gauteng – Throughout (Swanepoel, 1953). Witwatersrand Botanical Gardens (J. Dobson, 2001). Buffelsdrif Conservancy (Williams).
Free State Province – Ladybrand; Harrismith (Swanepoel, 1953). Platberg, Harrismith (Dobson, Williams & Schutte, 2010). Cyferfontein (R.Griesel).
KwaZulu-Natal – Throughout; Kokstad (Swanepoel, 1953). Muden (Williams). Kosi Bay Nature Reserve; Tembe Nature Reserve; Ndumo Nature Reserve (Pringle & Kyle, 2002).
Eastern Cape Province – Dordrecht (Evans, 1937). Port Elizabeth; Grahamstown; Cathcart; Elliot; Somerset East; Burgersdorp (Swanepoel, 1953). Gaika's Kop; Cintsa East (Williams).
Western CapeProvince – CapeTown; Worcester; Caledon; Swellendam; Knysna (Swanepoel, 1953).
Eswatini – Mlawula N. R. (www.sntc.org.sz); Malolotja N. R. (www.sntc.org.sz).
Habitat: Occupies a wide range of habitats, including savanna, grassland and open patches in forest (Pringle *et al*., 1994). In the central highlands of Kenya it has been seen at altitudes of at least 3 000 m (Larsen, 1991c). In Tanzania at altitudes from sea-level to 2 600 m (Kielland, 1990d).
Habits: This is a locally very common butterfly (Kielland, 1990d; Larsen, 2005a). The flight is fast and specimens are difficult to follow when in flight. Frequently settles on grass stems. Both sexes feed from flowers and males mud-puddle. Males establish territories in grassy patches using grass stems or low bushes as perches. Territories may be contiguous and the resident males of adjacent territories may spend much time chasing each other out of one another's territories (Pringle *et al*., 1994). Larsen (1991) noted males on civet scat and Cock (in Cock & Congdon, 2012) noted a male feeding on a bird dropping.
Flight period: All year but somewhat scarcer from May to September (Pringle *et al*., 1994).
Early stages:
Clark, 1940: 42.
Descamps, 1956 [larva & pupa]
Clark, *in* Dickson & Kroon, 1978: p. 280; plate 38 [as *Gegenes niso*; Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape].
Henning, Henning, Joannou & Woodhall, 1997: 207 (photograph of final instar larva and pupa).
Cock & Congdon, 2012: 33 [ovum, larva & pupa; for subspecies *brevicornis*]



Gegenes (Afrogegenes) letterstedti. Left: Final instar larva. Right: Pupa.
Images courtesy Allison Sharp.

Larval food:
Cenchrus clandestinus (Hochst. ex Chiov.) Morrone (= *Pennisetum clandestinum* Hochst. ex Chiov.) (Poaceae) (exotic) [Dickson & Kroon, 1978: 201; South Africa].
Cynodon species (Poaceae) [Woodhall, 2005a].
Ehrharta erecta Lam. (Poaceae) [Dickson & Kroon, 1978: 201; South Africa].
Hyparrhenia species (Poaceae) [Larsen, 1991c].
Imperata species (Poaceae) [Larsen, 1991c].
Leersia hexandra Sw. (Poaceae) [Cock & Congdon, 2012; Nairobi].
Megathyrsus maximus (Jacq.) B.K. Simon & S.W.L. Jacobs (= *Panicum maximum* Jacq.) (Poaceae) [Cock & Congdon, 2012; in captivity].
Oryza sativa L. (Poaceae) (rice) [Deschamps, 1956; Cameroon].
Setaria sp. (Poaceae) [Collins, *vide* Cock & Congdon, 2012; Kenya].
Themeda triandra Forssk. (Poaceae) [Pringle *et al.*, 1994: 336; South Africa].
Zea mays L. (Poaceae) [Cock & Congdon, 2012].

niso Linnaeus, 1764 (a sp. of *Papilio*). *Museum Ludovicae Ulricae Reginae* 339 (720 pp.). Holmiae. Regarded to be a *nomen dubium* by De Jong & Coutsis, 2017.

indica Mabille, 1883 (as sp. of *Pamphila*). *Bulletin de la Société Entomologique de Belgique* **27**: 65 (51-78). [Africa]: "Inde". [False locality.]

brevicornis Plötz, 1884 (as sp. of *Thymelicus*). *Stettiner Entomologische Zeitung* **45**: 290 (284-290). Type locality: Angola. Regarded to be a *nomen dubium* by De Jong & Coutsis, 2017.

**Gegenes (Afrogegenes) ocra* (Evans, 1937)
Yellow Dodger (#)

Gegenes hottentota ocra Evans, 1937. *A catalogue of the African Hesperiidae indicating the classification and nomenclature adopted in the British Museum*: 190 (212 pp.).
Synonym of *Gegenes hottentota* (Latreille, [1824]). Dickson & Kroon, 1978.
Synonym of *Gegenes niso* (Linnaeus, 1764). Pringle *et al*., 1994.
Synonym of *Gegenes hottentota* (Latreille, [1824]). Ackery *et al*., 1995.
Afrogegenes ocra (Evans, 1937). De Jong & Coutsis, 2017, **comb. nov.**.
Gegenes (Afrogegenes) ocra (Evans, 1937). Grishin, 2023a, **comb. nov.**.



Afrogegenes ocra. Male (Wingspan 30 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Gaika's Kop, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. 1 January, 2002. M. Williams.
Images M.C. Williams ex Williams Collection.



Afrogegenes ocra. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Dordrecht, Eastern Cape, South Africa. December 2006. J. Dobson.
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.

Type data: South Africa: "Dordrecht, Cape of Good Hope".
Distribution: Mozambique (south), South Africa (Western Cape Province, Eastern Cape Province, KwaZulu-Natal).
Specific localities:
Mozambique – Delagoa Bay (Maputo) (De Jong & Coutsis, 2017).
South Africa –
Eastern Cape Province – Gaika's Kop.

Subgenus *Torbenlarsenia* Kemal & Koçak, 2020

= *Larsenia* Chiba, Fan & Sáfián, 2016 *in* Fan *et al*., 2016. *PLoS ONE* **11** (7): 10.
Type-species: *Hesperia holtzi* Plötz, 1883, by original designation. Homonym of *Larsenia* Warén, 1989 (Mollusca: Vanicoridae).

Placed as a subgenus of *Gegenes* by Grishin, 2023a in Zhang *et al*. 2023a, Butterfly classification and species discovery by genomics. *The taxonomic report of the international Lepidoptera survey* **11**(3): 80-82.

**Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) holtzi* (Plötz, 1883)
Variable Dodger (#)

Hesperia holtzi Plötz, 1883. *Stettiner Entomologische Zeitung* **44**: 44 (26-64, 195-233).
Pelopidas holtzii (Plötz, 1883). Evans, 1937. [misspelling of species name].
Pelopidas holtzii Plötz. Swanepoel, 1953a. [misspelling of species name].
Borbo holtzii (Plötz, 1882). Dickson & Kroon, 1978. [misspelling of species name; date of authorship erroneous].
Borbo holtzii (Plötz, 1882). Kielland, 1990d. [misspelling of species name; date of authorship erroneous].
Borbo holtzii (Plötz, 1883). Pringle *et al*., 1994: 335. [misspelling of species name]
Larsenia holtzi (Plötz, 1883). Fan *et al*., 2016: 10.
Torbenlarsenia holtzi (Plötz, 1883). Kemal & Koçak, 2020: 3, **comb. nov**.
Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) holtzi (Plötz, 1883). Grishin, 2023a, **comb. nov.**



Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) holtzi. Male (Wingspan 37 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Mphaphuli Nature Reserve, Limpopo Province, South Africa. 18 June 2005. J. Dobson.
Images M.C. Williams ex J. Dobson Collection.



Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) holtzi. Female (Wingspan 40 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Manguzi Forest, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. 22 May 2004. J. Dobson.
Images M.C. Williams ex J. Dobson Collection.

Type data: Angola.
Diagnosis: The white markings of the upperside are markedly reduced. The spots on the underside of the hindwing are variable: in the winter brood they are generally dark, whereas in the summer brood they are white-centered. In dry season specimens the ground colour on the underside of the hindwing and the apex of the forewing is lilac-grey. As in Gegenes (*Torbenlarsenia) gemella* the palpi are grey beneath but Gegenes (*Torbenlarsenia)holtzi* has more spots on the underside of the hindwing (Pringle *et al*., 1994).
Distribution: Sub-Saharan Africa, including Senegal (south-east), Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Benin (throughout), Nigeria, Gabon, Angola, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, South Africa (Limpopo Province, Mpumalanga, KwaZulu-Natal – north), Eswatini.
Specific localities:
Ghana – Boabeng-Fiema Monkey Sanctuary (Larsen *et al*., 2009).
Benin – Houeyogbe Forest (Coache & Rainon, 2016). 10 localities (Coache *et al*., 2017).
Gabon –Port Gentil (Picard, 1949). Pongara; Iguela; Lope (Vande weghe, 2010).
Angola – Bie Province; Huambo Province; Huila Province; Kwanza Sul Province; Lunda Sul Province; Moxico Province (Mendes *et al*., 2013).
Democratic Republic of Congo – Semuliki Valley; Mt Mitumba (Ducarme, 2018).
Kenya – Mombasa; Mumias; South Kavirondo (Larsen, 1991c).
Tanzania – Widespread but commoner in the west (Kielland, 1990d). Madibira (Gaede, 1917).
Malawi – Zomba Mountain (Lathy, 1901).
Zambia – 19 localities (Heath *et al*., 2002).
Zimbabwe – Lundi.
South Africa –
Limpopo Province – Lekgalameetse Nature Reserve ("Malta Forest"); Duiwelskloof; Munnik; Polokwane; Sibasa; Vivo (Swanepoel, 1953). Soetdoring Farm (A. Mayer, 2015).
Mpumalanga – White River (Swanepoel, 1953).
Habitat: Frost-free savanna. In Tanzania from 300 to 2 200 m (Kielland, 1990d).
Habits: A fairly scarce skipper (Larsen, 2005a). Flies fast, as for most species in the genus. Often seen feeding from flowers or at muddy places. Males may hilltop but generally establish territories anywhere in the habitat, particularly on the edges of the bush, where they perch on shrubs (Pringle *et al*., 1994).
Flight period: All year, but often more common in winter (Pringle *et al*., 1994
Larval food:
(Probably) grasses (Poaceae) [Dickson & Kroon, 1978: 200].
Rottboellia cochinchinensis(Lour.)Clayton (Poaceae)[Vuattoux, 1999; Lamto, Côte d'Ivoire; as *Rottboellia megaphylla*].

aures Mabille, 1883 (as sp. of *Pamphila*). *Bulletin de la Société Entomologique de Belgique* **27**: 64 (51-78). "Afrique Orientale".

cana Lathy, 1901 (as sp. of *Baoris*). *Transactions of the Entomological Society of London* **1901**: 35 (19-36). [Malawi]: "Zomba".

caesia Gaede, 1917 (as sp. of *Baoris*). *Internationale Entomologische Zeitschrift* **11**: 30 (29-31). [Tanzania]: "Madibira, Deutsch-O.-Afrika".

aequalis Gaede, 1917 (as sp. of *Baoris*). *Internationale Entomologische Zeitschrift* **11**: 31 (29-31). [Tanzania]: "Madibira, Deutsch-O.-Afrika".

rougeoti Picard, 1949 (as sp. of *Pelopidas*). *Revue Française d'Entomologie* **16**: 151 (147-152). Gabon: "Port Gentil".

Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) micans* (Holland, 1896)

Marsh Dodger (#)




Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) micans. Left: Female. Right: Male.
Images courtesy Steve Woodhall.

Parnara micans Holland, 1896. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* **1896**: 63 (2-107).
Pelopidas micans (Holland, 1896). Evans, 1937.
Pelopidas micans Holland. Swanepoel, 1953a.
Borbo micans (Holland, 1896). Dickson & Kroon, 1978.
Borbo micans (Holland, 1896). Pringle *et al*., 1994: 334.
Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) micans (Holland, 1896). Grishin, 2023a, **comb. nov.**.



Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) micans. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Pungwe Bridge, Zimbabwe. 9 April 1995. J. Greyling.
Images M.C. Williams ex Greyling Collection.



Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) micans. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Pungwe Bridge, Zimbabwe. 8 April 1994. J. Greyling.
Images M.C. Williams ex Greyling Collection.

Type data: Gabon: "Valley of the Ogové".
Diagnosis: Characterized by its orange-brown colour and ochreous spots (Pringle *et al*., 1994).
Distribution: Sub-Saharan Africa, including Gambia, Sierra Leone, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Benin (south, central), Nigeria, Gabon, Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe (eastern border), Botswana (north), South Africa (KwaZulu-Natal – north).

Specific localities:
Gambia – Walikunda, Niani (Baker).
Ghana – Boabeng-Fiema Monkey Sanctuary (Larsen *et al*., 2009).
Benin – Athiémé, Pénéssoulou (Coache *et al*., 2017).
Nigeria – Agege (Larsen, 2005a).
Gabon – Ogove Valley (TL).
Angola – Bengo Province; Huila Province; Kwanza Norte Province; Malanje Province (Mendes *et al*., 2013).
Democratic Republic of Congo – Ituri Forest; Semuliki Valley (Ducarme, 2018).
Uganda – Mpanga Forest (Safian & Pyrcz, 2020).
Kenya – 7 localities (Larsen, 1991c).
Tanzania – 11 localities (Kielland, 1990d).
Malawi – Mt Mulanje; Zomba Mountain (Congdon *et al*., 2010). Nyika N.P. (J. Timberlake, 2019).
Zambia – 11 localities (Heath *et al*., 2002).
Mozambique – Dondo Forest (Pennington).
Zimbabwe – Vumba Mountains (Barnes). Chirinda Forest (Pinhey).
Botswana – Okavango Delta (Pinhey). Shakawe; Kasane; Sepupa (Larsen, 1991l).
South Africa –
KwaZulu-Natal – Kosi Bay Nature Reserve (Pennington). Maphelane Nature Reserve (S. Woodhall, unpublished, 2009).
Habitat: Swamps and marshes in open country or near streams. Also around lakes in rainforest (Larsen, 2005a). In Tanzania from 300 to 1 700 m (Kielland, 1990d).
Habits: Because of its specialized habitat requirements populations tend to be very localized (Larsen, 2005a). It may be numerous when a colony is found (Larsen, 2005a). Compared to its congeners the flight is slow. It flies just above the level of the grass, often settling on prominent blades of grass (Pringle *et al*., 1994). Males establish territories in the marsh, using a clump of grass as a perch (Pringle *et al*., 1994).
Flight period: All year but commonest in autumn and winter. Larsen (2005a) states that they are on the wing when the grass is green.
Larval food:
Hypolytrum heteromorphum Nelmes (Cyperaceae) [Vauttoux, 1999; Côte d'Ivoire].

**Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) fallax* (Gaede, 1916)
Swift Dodger (#)

Parnara fallax Gaede, 1916. *Internationale Entomologische Zeitschrift* **9**: 126 (105-106, 109-112, 125-126).
Pelopidas fallax (Gaede, 1916). Evans, 1937.
Pelopidas fallax Gaede. Swanepoel, 1953a.
Borbo fallax (Gaede, 1916). Dickson & Kroon, 1978.
Borbo fallax (Gaede, 1916). Pringle *et al*., 1994: 334.
Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) fallax (Gaede, 1916). Grishin, 2023a, **comb. nov.**



Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) fallax. Male (Wingspan 40 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Umtamvuna River, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. 5 January2004. J. Dobson.
Images M. Williams ex Dobson Collection.



Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) fallax. Female (Wingspan 42 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Umtamvuna River, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. 28 April 2005. J. Dobson.
Images M. Williams ex Dobson Collection.

Type data: Cameroon: "Jaunde-Bezirk, Camerun".
Diagnosis: Can be identified by the two clear spots in the cell of the forewing (a character it shares with *Borbo fanta*) and the irregular spots in spaces 2 to 5 of the hindwing underside (Pringle *et al*., 1994).
Distribution: Sub-Saharan Africa, including Gambia, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Benin (south, north-west), Nigeria, Cameroon, Gabon, Angola, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan (south), Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana (north), Namibia (north), South Africa (Limpopo Province, Mpumalanga, North West Province, Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal), Eswatini.
Specific localities:
Ghana – Boabeng-Fiema Monkey Sanctuary (Larsen *et al*., 2009).
Benin – 9 localities (Coache *et al*., 2017).
Nigeria – Ikeja Airport, Lagos (Larsen, 2005a).
Cameroon – Jaunde-Bezirk (TL).
Angola – Bengo Province; Cabinda Province; Kwanza Sul Province; Malanje Province (Mendes *et al*., 2013).
Democratic Republic of Congo – Mt Mitumba (Ducarme, 2018).
Uganda – Semuliki N.P. (Davenport & Howard, 1996).
Kenya – Kakamega Forest; Meru National Park; Kibwezi (Larsen, 1991c).
Tanzania – Widespread, except Northern Highlands (Kielland, 1990d).
Malawi – Nyika N.P. (J. Timberlake, pers. comm., 2019).
Zambia – 9 localities (Heath *et al*., 2002).
Zimbabwe – Trelawney (Pennington).
Botswana – Kasane (Pinhey). Chobe River; Kazungula; Gumare; Sepupa; Shakawe (Larsen, 1991l).
South Africa –
Limpopo Province – 9 localities (Swanepoel, 1953).
Mpumalanga – Barberton; Lydenburg district (Swanepoel, 1953).
North West Province – Kgaswane Mountain Reserve (Williams).
KwaZulu-Natal – Oribi Gorge; Durban; Eshowe; St Lucia Bay (Swanepoel, 1953). Kosi Bay Nature Reserve; Tembe Nature Reserve; Ndumo Nature Reserve (Pringle & Kyle, 2002). Umkomaas (Williams).
Habitat: Coastal bush and moist savanna. In Tanzania from 600 to 2 000 m (Kielland, 1990d).
Habits: An uncommon skipper (Larsen, 2005a). The flight is fast. Specimens are occasionally seen feeding from flowers or mud-puddling. Males hilltop but often establish territories in clearings in the bush where they perch on grass stems or on the ground (Pringle *et al*., 1994).
Flight period: All year but scarcer in winter (Pringle *et al*., 1994).
Early stages:
Clark, *in* Dickson & Kroon, 1978: p.272; plate 34 [as *Borbo fallax*; Durban, KwaZulu-Natal].
Larval food:
Ehrharta erecta Lam. (Poaceae) [Murray, 1959; South Africa].
Grasses (Poaceae) [Van Someren, 1974; East Africa].
Saccharum sp. (Poaceae) [Larsen, 1991c: 433].

**Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) fanta* (Evans, 1937)

Sandy Dodger

Pelopidas fanta Evans, 1937. *A catalogue of the African Hesperiidae indicating the classification and nomenclature adopted in the British Museum*: 181 (212 pp.).
Borbo fanta Evans, 1937. Larsen, 2005a: 542.
Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) fanta (Evans, 1937). Grishin, 2023a.



Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) fanta. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Bomponi, Vumba, Zimbabwe. 6 May 1999.
Images M.C. Williams ex J. Greyling Collection.



Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) fanta. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Lauranceville, Vumba, Zimbabwe. 27 March 1993.
Images M.C. Williams ex J. Greyling Collection.

Type data: Ghana: "Gold Coast".
Diagnosis: Similar to *Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) fallax* but on the hindwing underside the spots in areas 2 and 5 are in line (Pringle *et al*., 1994).
Distribution: Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Benin (south, north-west), Nigeria, Cameroon, Gabon, Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya (south-west), Tanzania, Zambia (central and north), Mozambique, Zimbabwe (east), ?Botswana (north).
Specific localities:
Gambia – Basse, Mansa Konko, Pakali Ba (Baker).
Guinea – Ziama (Safian *et al*., 2020).
Ghana – Bobiri Butterfly Sanctuary (Larsen *et al*., 2007). Boabeng-Fiema Monkey Sanctuary (Larsen *et al*., 2009).
Benin – Houeyogbe Forest (Coache & Rainon, 2016). 9 localities (Coache *et al*., 2017).
Angola – Huambo Province; Malanje Province (Mendes *et al*., 2013).
Democratic Republic of Congo – Ituri Forest; Semuliki Valley (Ducarme, 2018).
Tanzania – West; Uluguru Mountains; Uzungwa Range (Kielland, 1990d).
Zambia – Mufulira; Ndola; Mkushi; Mansa; Luongo River (Heath *et al*., 2002). Dola Hill, Ndola; Mwekera Picnic Sites (Williams).
Mozambique – Dondo Forest (Pennington

Zimbabwe – Vumba (Evans, 1949). Witchwood Valley, below the Vumba Mountains (Barnes). Bomponi (Pennington).

Habitat: Savanna, but also colonizes degraded forest (Larsen, 2005a). In Tanzania from 600 to 1 700 m (Kielland, 1990d).

Habits: A fairly common butterfly (Larsen, 2005a). Specimens are most likely to be found in the afternoon, while perching on the leaves of trees, two to three metres above the ground (Pringle *et al*., 1994). Males are territorial and contests take place at high speed (Larsen, 2005a).

Larval food:

Bambusa vulgaris Schrad. ex J.C.Wendl. (Poaceae) (exotic) [Vuattoux, 1999; Côte d'Ivoire; nominate subspecies].

barnesi Evans, 1949 (as ssp. of *Pelopidas fanta*). *Annals and Magazine of Natural History* (12) **2**: 56 (54-56). [Zimbabwe]: "Vumba, S. Rhodesia". Synonymized with *Borbo fanta* (Evans, 1937) by Larsen, 2005a: 542, **syn. nov.**.

**Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) sirena* (Evans, 1937)

Intermittent Dodger

Pelopidas sirena Evans, 1937. *A catalogue of the African Hesperiidae indicating the classification and nomenclature adopted in the British Museum*: 181 (212 pp.).

Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) sirena (Evans, 1937). Grishin, 2023a, **comb. nov.**.



Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) sirena. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Isombo, Ikelenge, Zambia. October 1973. ABRI-2019-2674.
Images M.C. Williams ex ABRI Collection.



Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) sirena. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Misaka, Ndola, Zambia. February 1977. A. Heath. ABRI-2019-2675.
Images M.C. Williams ex ABRI Collection.

Type data: Kenya.

Distribution: Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Kenya (west), Tanzania (west), Malawi, Zambia (north).

Recorded, in error, from Guinea by Berger (1962) and from Sierra Leone by Belcastro (1986) (Larsen, 2005a). Recorded from north-eastern Zimbabwe by Larsen (1991: 434) but not included in Pringle *et al*., 1994.

Specific localities:

Angola – Huambo Province (Mendes *et al*., 2013).

Kenya – Kakamega Forest; South Kavirondo (Larsen, 1991c).

Tanzania – Mpanda; Ngara District (Kielland, 1990d).
Malawi – Nyika N.P. (J. Timberlake, 2019).
Zambia – 10 localities (Heath *et al*., 2002); Mufunza (Williams).
Habitat: Forest clearings (Larsen, 1991c). Also in woodland (Kielland, 1990d). In Tanzania at altitudes from 1 000 to 1 800 m (Kielland, 1990d).
Habits: This is a rare skipper (Larsen, 1991c).
Larval food:
Species of grass (Poaceae) [Heath *et al*., 2002].

**Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) cottrelli* Larsen, 2013
Pale Dodger

Borbo cottrelli Larsen, 2013. *Tropical Lepidoptera Research* **23** (2): 92 (92-98).
Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) cottrelli Larsen, 2013. Grishin, 2023a, **comb. nov.**.



*Gegenes (Torbenlarsenia) cottrelli. M*ale (holotype). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Kasama District, Zambia.
Images Torben Larsen ex. Hope Collection.



Gegenes (Torbelarsenia) cottrelli. Female (paratype). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Kasama District, Zambia.
Images Torben Larsen ex. Hope Collection.

Type data: Zambia: "Kasama District, Lower Chambezi Valley". Holotype (male) in the Hope Entomological Collections, Oxford University Museum. UK.
Distribution: Zambia.
Specific localities:
Zambia – Kasama District (TL); Luwingu to mouth of Chambezi River (Larsen, 2013).

Subgenus *Flanga* Grishin, 2023

Described as **subgen. nov.** of *Gegenes* by Grishin, 2023a in Zhang *et al*. 2023a, Butterfly classification and species discovery by genomics. *The taxonomic report of the international Lepidoptera survey* **11**(3): 82.
Type species: *Parnara perobscura* Druce, 1912, by original designation.

******Gegenes (Flanga) perobscura* (Druce, 1912)
Small Dodger

Parnara perobscura Druce, 1912. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History* (8) **9**: 504 (500-504).
Pelopidas perobscura (Druce, 1912). Evans, 1937.
Larsenia perobscura (Druce, 1012). Fan *et al*., 2016: 10.
Torbenlarsenia perobscura (Druce, 1912). Kemal & Koçak, 2020: 3, **comb. nov.**.
Gegenes (Flanga) perobscura (Druce, 1912). Grishin, 2023a, **comb. nov.**.



Gegenes (Flanga) perobscura. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Yekepah, Nimba Mountains, Liberia. 10 January 2014. J. Dobson.
Images M.C. Williams ex Dobson Collection.



Gegenes (Flanga) perobscura. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside. Wingspan: 29mm.
Mwinilunga District, Zambia. 22 March, 1981.
A.J. Gardiner. (Gardiner Collection).

Type data: Ghana: "Addah, West Africa".
Distribution: Senegal, Gambia, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin (throughout), Nigeria, Cameroon, Gabon, Angola, Sao Tome & Principe (Sao Tome), Congo, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan (south), Uganda, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Kenya (south-west), Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia (north), Mozambique.
Specific localities:
Gambia – Keneba, Walikunda (Baker).
Guinea – Ziama (Safian *et al*., 2020).
Liberia – Wologizi (Safian *et al*., 2020).
Ghana – Addah (TL). Atewa Range (Larsen, 2005a). Bobiri Butterfly Sanctuary (Larsen *et al*., 2007). Boabeng-Fiema Monkey Sanctuary (Larsen *et al*., 2009).
Togo – Bismarckburg (Gaede, 1916).
Benin – Houeyogbe Forest (Coache & Rainon, 2016). 17 localities (Coache *et al*., 2017).
Nigeria – Oban Hills (Larsen, 2005a).
Cameroon – Jaunde-Bezirk (Gaede, 1916). Korup (Larsen, 2005a).
Gabon – Pointe Pongara; Lope; Bateke Plateau (Vande weghe, 2010).
Angola – Uige Province (Mendes *et al*., 2013).
Democratic Republic of Congo – Ituri Forest; Mt Mitumba (Ducarme, 2018).

Rwanda – Cyamudongo Forest (Uwizelimana *et al*., 2021).
Kenya – Kisumu; Kisii; Suna (Larsen, 1991c).
Tanzania –West; Nguru Mountains; Kanga Mountains; Mufindi in the Uzungwa Range (Kielland, 1990d).
Malawi – Nyika N.P. (J. Timberlake, 2019).
Zambia – Ikelenge; Mwinilunga; Kasama; Chingola (Heath *et al*., 2002); Mutundu South (Williams).
Mozambique – Mt Namuli (Congdon *et al*., 2010).
Habitat: Moist savanna, with some capacity to colonize degraded forest (Larsen, 2005a). In Tanzania from 800 to 1 900 m (Kielland, 1990d).
Habits: Populations are localized but the butterfly may be common where it occurs (Larsen, 2005a). Individuals fly low down and readily visit flowers (Larsen, 2005a).
Larval food:
Species of grass (Poaceae) [Heath *et al*., 2002].

gemina Gaede, 1916 (as sp. of *Parnara*). *Internationale Entomologische Zeitschrift* **9**: 126 (105-106, 109-112, 125-126). Cameroon: "Jaunde-Bezirk, Kamerun".

trigemina Gaede, 1916 (as sp. of *Parnara*). *Internationale Entomologische Zeitschrift* **9**: 126 (105-106, 109-112, 125-126). Togo: "Bismarckburg".

karschi Aurivillius, 1925 *in* Seitz, 1908-25 (as f. of *Parnara detecta*). *Die Gross-Schmetterlinge der Erde*, Stuttgart (2) **13** *Die Afrikanischen Tagfalter*: 537 (614 pp.). Togo; "CongoDistrict". Holotype in the Swedish Natural History Museum (images available at www2.nrm.se/en/lep_nrm/d).

falarus Mabille; Aurivillius, 1925 *in* Seitz, 1908-25. *Die Gross-Schmetterlinge der Erde*, Stuttgart (2) **13** *Die Afrikanischen Tagfalter*: 537 (614 pp.). [Invalid; manuscript name introduced in synonymy.]

**Gegenes (Flanga) detecta* (Trimen, 1893)
Rusty Dodger (#)

Pamphila detecta Trimen, 1893. *Transactions of the Entomological Society of London* **1893**: 141 (123-143).
Pelopidas detecta (Trimen, 1893). Evans, 1937.
Pelopidasdetecta Trimen. Swanepoel,1953a.
Borbo detecta (Trimen, 1893). Dickson & Kroon, 1978.
Borbo detecta (Trimen, 1893). Pringle *et al*., 1994:334.
Gegenes (Flanga) detecta (Trimen, 18930). Grishin, 2023a, **comb. nov.**.



Gegenes (Flanga) detecta. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Lake Edward, Democratic Republic of Congo.
Images T. Larsen ex. NHM Collection.



Gegenes (Flanga) detecta. Female (Wingspan 37 mm). Left – upperside; right – underside.
Manguzi Forest, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. 22 May 2004. J. Dobson.
Images M. Williams ex Dobson Collection.

Type data: [South Africa]: "Malvern, Natal". Holotype male in the Natural History Museum, London.
Diagnosis: Characterized on the forewing underside by the ochreous costa (Pringle *et al*., 1994).
Distribution: Sao Tome & Principe (Sao Tome); Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, South Africa (Mpumalanga, KwaZulu-Natal), Eswatini. Recorded, in error, from Liberia by Lindsey & Miller (1965) (Larsen, 2005a).
Specific localities:
Angola – Bengo Province; Kuando-Kubango Province; Kwanza Norte Province; Kwanza Sul Province; Luanda Province; Malanje Province (Mendes *et al*., 2013).
Democratic Republic of Congo – Semuliki Valley (Ducarme, 2018).
Uganda – Mpanga Forest (Safian & Pyrcz, 2020).
Kenya – Taru (Butler, 1898). 10 localities (Larsen, 1991c).
Tanzania – Widespread (Kielland, 1990d).
Malawi – Mt Mulanje (Congdon *et al*., 2010).
Zambia – 10 localities (Heath *et al*., 2002).
Mozambique – Dondo Forest (Pringle *et al*., 1994). Mt Mabu (Congdon *et al*., 2010).
South Africa –
Mpumalanga – Louw's Creek (Pringle *et al*., 1994).
KwaZulu-Natal – Malvern (TL; Barker). Colenso; Durban; Eshowe; St Lucia Bay (Swanepoel, 1953). Burman Bush; Umhlanga Rocks; Hluhluwe; Makatini Flats; Kosi Bay Nature Reserve (Pringle *et al*., 1994). Tembe Nature Reserve; Ndumo Nature Reserve (Pringle & Kyle, 2002).
Eswatini – Singceni (Pringle *et al*., 1994; single record).
Habitat: Moist woodland. In Tanzania from sea-level to 2 000 m (Kielland, 1990d).
Habits: This is a common species (Larsen, 1991c). The flight is fast and low down. Specimens perch on the ground or on rocks. Males are avid hilltoppers, using rocks on the hilltop as perches.
Flight period: Probably all year; scarcer in winter (Pringle *et al*., 1994).
Larval food:
Ehrharta erecta Lam. (Poaceae) [Murray, 1959; South Africa].
Saccharum officinarum L. (Poaceae) (sugar cane) [Box, 1953; South Africa].

fallatus Mabille; Holland, 1896 (as sp. of *Pamphila*). *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* **1896**:63 (2-107).[Invalid; manuscript name introduced in synonymy.]

pyrrhobaphes Mabille, 1898 (as sp. of *Pamphila*). *Annales de la Société Entomologique de France* **66**: 214 (182-231). "Lac Tanganyika".

auritinctus Butler, 1898 (as sp. of *Baoris*). *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* **1898**: 416 (395-444). [Kenya]: "Taru".

Subgenus *Havea* Grishin, 2023

Described as **subgen. nov.** of *Gegenes* by Grishin, 2023a in Zhang *et al*. 2023a, Butterfly classification and species discovery by genomics. *The taxonomic report of the international Lepidoptera survey* **11**(3): 82.
Type species: *Hesperia havei* Boisduval, 1833, by monotypy.

**Gegenes (Havea) havei* (Boisduval, 1833)

Malagasy Dodger

Hesperia havei Boisduval, 1833. *Nouvelles Annales du Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris* **2**: 212 (149-270).
Pelopidas havei (Boisduval, 1833). Evans, 1937.
Gegenes (Havea) havei (Boisduval, 1833). Grishin, 2023a, **comb. nov.**.



Gegenes (Havea) havei. Male. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Ranamofana, Madagascar. October 2018. ABRI Team. ABRI-2019-2670.
Images M.C. Williams ex ABRI Collection.



Gegenes (Havea) havei. Female. Left – upperside; right – underside.
Andasibe, Madagascar. October 2018. ABRI Team. ABRI-2019-2671.
Images M.C. Williams ex ABRI Collection.

Type data: Madagascar.
Distribution: Madagascar (widespread).
Erroneously recorded from South Africa by Trimen, 1866a (as *Pamphila havei* Boisduval) (MCW).
Habitat: Transformed forest margins, grasslands, and anthropogenic environments (Lees *et al*., 2003).