

Eurytela hiarbas angustata 216 (Aurivillius)

Papilio hiarbas Drury, 1782.III. Nat. Hist. 3:17

First record of *Eurytela hiarbas angustata* (Pied Piper/witlintbosvlieër) forms from Southern Africa, with the descriptions of two new forms of the species *Eurytela hiarbas angustata*

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ABSTRACT

The first finds of *Eurytela* in South Africa are documented and four new forms of the species *Eurytela* of this genus, while *f. janei*, *f. umbranus*, *f. flavescens*, *f. boulleii*, and *f. dyllanii* – lowland coastal in distribution – show affinities to its true genus and species.

KEY WORDS: *Eurytela*, *hiarbas*, *angustata*, pied piper, witlintbosvlieër, new forms, South Africa.

INTRODUCTION

The earliest records of this butterfly are taken in South Africa on 19th May, 1900, by A. Ross at Durban in Kwa-Zulu Natal.

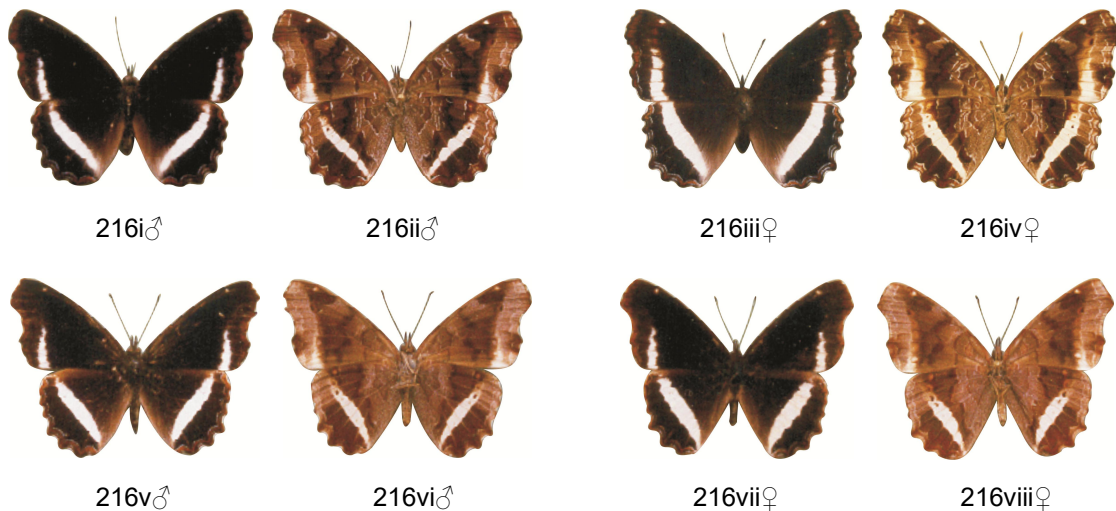
MATERIAL AND METHODS

Food-plants: *Tragia glabrata*, *T. durbanensis* = *Tragia glabrata* var. *glabrata*, *Dalechampia capensis*

Appearance: Throughout the year

Distribution: Knysna to Kwa-Zulu Natal midlands through the eastern parts of Mpumalanga into Mozambique

Description: Pied Piper, Witlintbosvlieër. Wingspan: (♂) 45 -50; (♀) 45-50mm. Originally described by Drury in 1782 as *Papilio hiarbas* and re-described by Aurivillius in 1894 as *Eurytela hiarbas angustata*.





216ix♂



216x♂

Eurytela hiarbas angustata (wf)



- a) (216i and 216ii) The male (♂) the wet form (wf) of the pied piper is an attractive medium-sized black (ground or base colour) butterfly with a clearly defined white band across each hindwing; gradually narrowing, this band crosses on to the forewing and stops half-way to the apex. The outer margin of the hindwing has a scalloped edge

which is bordered with a narrow red-brown band. The underside is mottled with different shades of light brown and a white band appears in the same position as on the upperside.



- b) (216iii and 216iv) The female (♀) the wet form (wf) of the pied piper is an attractive medium-sized blackish-brown (ground or base colour) butterfly with a clearly defined white band across each hindwing; gradually narrowing, this band crosses on to the forewing and stops half-way to the apex. The outer margin of the hindwing has a scalloped

edge which is bordered with a narrow red-brown band. The underside is mottled with different shades of light brown and a white band appears in the same position as on the upperside.

Eurytela hiarbas angustata f. janei (wf)



- a) (216ix and 216x) The female (♀) the wet form (wf) of this pied piper is an attractive medium-sized blackish-brown (ground or base colour) butterfly with a clearly **defined white broad band being much wider than that of the female described in 216iii and 216iv** across each hindwing; gradually narrowing, this band crosses on to the

forewing and stops half-way to the apex. The outer margin of the hindwing has a scalloped edge which is bordered with a narrow red-brown band. The underside is mottled with different shades of light brown and a white band appears in the same position as on the upperside.

Eurytela hiarbas angustata f. umbranus (df)



- a) (216v and 216vi) The male (♂) the dry form (df) of the pied piper is an attractive medium-sized blackish-brown (ground or base colour) butterfly with a clearly defined white band across each hindwing; gradually narrowing, this band crosses on to the forewing and stops half-way to the apex. The outer margin of the hindwing has a scalloped

edge which is bordered with a narrow red-brown band which is less defined on the underside. **The underside has no mottled markings with different shades of light brown and white.** However the white band does remain permeating through the wings and appears in the same position as on the upperside. **The ground or base colour is much lighter and fused in appearance.**



b) (216vii and 216viii) The female (♀) the dry form (df) of the pied piper is an attractive medium-sized blackish-brown (ground or base colour) butterfly with a clearly defined white band across each hindwing; gradually narrowing, this band crosses on to the forewing and stops half-way to the apex.

The outer margin of the hindwing has a scalloped edge which is bordered with a narrow red-brown band which is less defined on the underside. **The underside has no mottled markings with different shades of light brown and white.** However the white band does remain permeating through the wings and appears in the same position as on the upperside. **The ground or base colour is much lighter and fused in appearance.**

REMARKS ON EURYTELA HIARBAS ANGUSTATA

The males of the species are territorial butterflies, and individually sit on a favourite bush or tree guarding its domain. It flies up and down a short beat only a few metres long, with its gliding and short directional changing flight, with a quick flap of its wings. It chases off all intruders and stations itself on the same twig or leaf day after day. The females stay close to their host plants and search for others in the nearby vicinity, hardly venturing out into the open spaces as the males frequently do. The females have a similar flight pattern to that of the males for the exception of the gravid females, which flutter around and near their host plants, in a searching fluttering motion.

INTRODUCTION

The earliest record of this butterfly was taken in South Africa on the 4th August, 1900, by A. Ross at Durban in Kwa-Zulu Natal.



216xi♂



216xii♂



216xiii♀



216xiv♀



216xv♂



216xvi♂



216xvii♀



216xviii♀

Eurytela hiarbasa angustata f. flavescens (wf)



a) (216xi and 216xii) The male (♂) the wet form (wf) of the flavescens piper is an attractive medium-sized dark blackish-brown (ground or base colour) butterfly with a clearly defined orange band across each hindwing; gradually narrowing, this band crosses on to the forewing and stops half-way to the apex. The same as found in (216i). The outer

margin of the hindwing has a scalloped edge which is bordered with a narrow red-brown band. The underside is mottled with different shades of light brown and a white band appears in the same position as on the upperside.



(216xiii and 216xiv) The female (♀) the wet form (wf) of the flavescent piper is an attractive medium-sized dark blackish-brown (ground or base colour) butterfly with a clearly defined orange band across each hindwing; gradually narrowing, this band crosses on to the forewing and stops half-way to the apex. The same as found in (216i). The outer margin of the hindwing has a scalloped edge which is bordered with a narrow red-brown band. The underside is mottled with different shades of light brown and a white band appears in the same position as on the upperside.

edge which is bordered with a narrow red-brown band. The underside is mottled with different shades of light brown and a white band appears in the same position as on the upperside.

Eurytela hiarbas angustata f. bouleii (wf)



c) (216xv and 216xvi) The male (♂) the dry form (df) of the oribi piper is an attractive medium-sized dark blackish-brown (ground or base colour) butterfly with a clearly defined orange band across each hindwing; gradually narrowing, this band crosses on to the forewing and stops half-way to the apex. The same as found in (216i). The outer margin of the hindwing

has a scalloped edge which is bordered with a narrow red-brown band. **The underside has no mottled markings with different shades of light brown and white.** However the orange band does remain permeating through the wings and appears in the same position as on the upperside. **The ground or base colour is much lighter and fused in appearance.**

Eurytela hiarbas angustata f. dyllanii (wf)



d) (216xvii and 216xviii) The male (♂) the intermediate form (if) of the latent piper is an attractive medium-sized dark blackish-brown (ground or base colour) butterfly with a clearly defined orange band across each hindwing; gradually narrowing, this band crosses on to the forewing and stops half-way to the apex. Different to that found in (216i). **The outer**

edge of the orange band facing the outer margin of the wing is fused into the ground or base colour and fuses further into the ground or base colour along the veins of the wings, giving the appearance of an unclear cut line as found in 216i and 216xv. This specimen shows no consistency in the orange band as found in the other specimens of these forms. The outer margin of the hindwing has a scalloped edge which is bordered with a narrow red-brown band. **The underside has no mottled markings with different shades of light brown and white.** However the orange band does remain permeating through the wings and appears in the same position as on the upperside. **The ground or base colour is much lighter and fused in appearance.** This shows a consistency with the other specimens recorded here.

Year	Month	Specimens	Specimens	Condition	Location
1958	September 11	1	216xiii (♀)	Good	Umkomaas
1968 -1971	Not known	3	216xi (♂)	All good	Bluff, Durban, Kwa-Zulu Natal
1998	June 09	1	216xv (♂)	Damaged	Woodbush, Mpumalanga
1970	August 12	1	216xiii (♀)	Slightly Damaged	La-Lucia of Durban North, KZN
2001	August 17	1	216xi (♂)	Damaged	Ramsgate Beach, Kwa-Zulu Natal
2003	April 11	1	216xi (♂)	Good	Lot 1034, Fascadale Rd, Ramsgate
2003	July 03	1	216xv (♂)	Damaged	Ramsgate Beach, Kwa-Zulu Natal
2004	May 21	1	216xvii (♂)	Good	Oribi Gorge, Kwa-Zulu Natal
2004	May 26	1	216xi (♂)	Damaged	Oribi Gorge, Kwa-Zulu Natal
2004	August 22	1	216xi (♂)	Damaged	Oribi Gorge, Kwa-Zulu Natal
2005	April 25	1	216xiii (♀)	Damaged	Trafalgar Beach, Isingolweni
2005	September 03	1	216xi (♂)	Damaged	Lot 1034, Fascadale Rd, Ramsgate

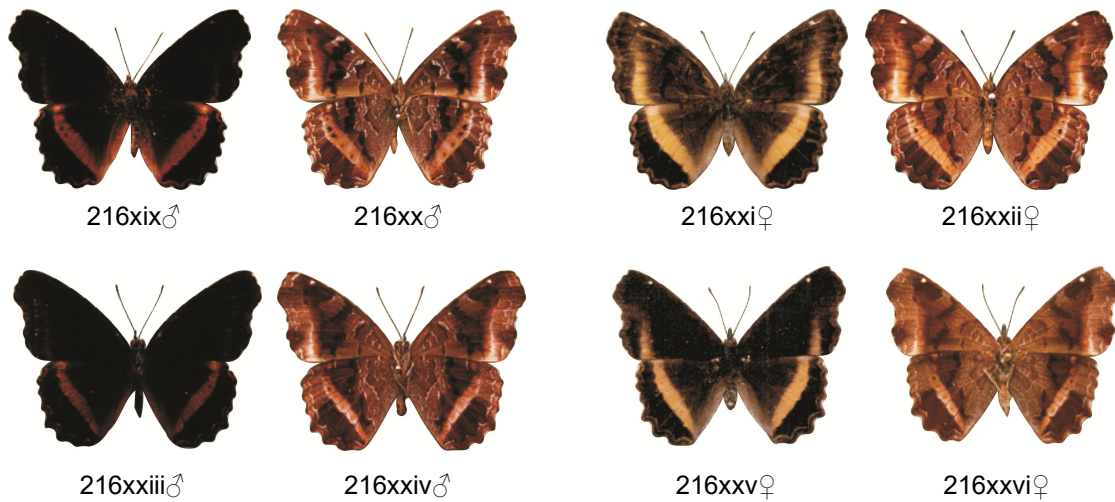
REMARKS ON EURYTELA HIARBAS ANGUSTATA f. flavescens

Conservation of Butterflies in South Africa (CBISA) has nine specimens in its collection. There are eight males and one female. In 1958, a female was collected by C.G.C. Dickson at Umkomaas, Kwa-Zulu Natal. Deryck E.

Whiteley had captured three male specimens on the bluff in Durban between 1968 to 1971 which were placed in the Durban Museum for safe keeping with his entire collection. In 2002 it was discovered that these specimens had disappeared and could not be found to make comparisons. Ivor Migdoll had a female specimen collected in 1970 at La-Lucia of Durban North in Kwa-Zulu Natal. After his passing, his collection was given to his wife and never seen again. This butterfly flies up and down a short beat with its gliding and short directional changing flight, with a quick flap of its wings. The females stay close to their host plants and search for others in the nearby vicinity, hardly venturing out into the open spaces as the males frequently do. The females have a similar flight pattern to that of the males for the exception of the gravid females, which flutter around and near their host plants, in a searching fluttering motion.

INTRODUCTION

The earliest record of this butterfly was taken in South Africa on the 14th April 2002, by Earle Whiteley at Ramsgate in Kwa-Zulu Natal.



Eurytela hiarbas angustata f. *vashti* (wf)



- a) (216xix and 216xx) The male (♂) the wet form (wf) of the ramsgate piper is an attractive medium-sized dark black (ground colour) butterfly with a clearly defined **ochre-brown band across each hindwing; gradually narrowing, this band crosses on to the forewing and stops on the 1st anterior cell of the forewing.** Similar as found in

(216i) but not near the apex. The outer margin of the hindwing has a scalloped edge which is bordered with a narrow red-brown band. The underside is mottled with different shades of light brown and an **ochre band appears in the same position as on the upperside. Along the ochre band on the forewing there appears a white band parallel to the ochre band ending near the apex.**



- b) (216xxi and 216xxii) The female (♀) the wet form (wf) of the ramsgate piper is an attractive medium-sized **dark blackish-brown (ground colour) butterfly with a clearly defined greyish creamy band across each hindwing; gradually narrowing, this band crosses on to the forewing and stops half-way to the apex.** The

same as found in (216i). The outer margin of the hindwing has a scalloped edge which is bordered with a narrow red-brown band. The underside is mottled with different shades of light brown and an **ochre band appears in the same position as on the upperside. Along the lighter orange-creamy band on the forewing, there appears a white band parallel to the ochre band ending near the apex.**

Eurytela hiarbas angustata f. vlcekea (df)



e) (216xxiii and 216xxiv) The male (♂) of the vlcek's piper is an attractive medium-sized **dark black (ground colour) butterfly with a clearly defined ochre brown band across each hindwing; gradually narrowing, this band crosses on to the forewing and stops on the 1st anterior cell of the forewing.** Similar as found in (216i) but not

near the apex. The outer margin of the hindwing has a scalloped edge which is bordered with a narrow red-brown band. **The underside has no mottled markings with different shades of light brown and an ochre band appears in the same position as on the upperside. The ground or base colour is much lighter and fused in appearance. Along the ochre band on the forewing there appears a white band (less defined and not as striking as in 216xx) parallel to the ochre band ending near the apex.**

a)



b) (216xxv and 216xxvi) The female (♀) the wet form (df) of the vlcek's piper is an attractive medium-sized **dark blackish-brown (ground colour) butterfly with a clearly defined greyish creamy band across each hindwing; gradually narrowing, this band crosses on to the forewing and stops half-way to the apex.** The

same as found in (216i). The outer margin of the hindwing has a scalloped edge which is bordered with a narrow red-brown band. **The underside has no mottled markings with different shades of light brown and an ochre band appears in the same position as on the upperside. The ground or base colour is much lighter and fused in appearance. Along the ochre band on the forewing there appears a white band (less defined and not as striking as in 216xxii) parallel to the ochre band ending near the apex.**

REMARKS ON EURYTELA HIARBAS ANGUSTATA f. vashti

Conservation of Butterflies in South Africa (CBISA) has eight male (♂) and 11 (♀) female specimens in its collection. During 2002 CBISA had bred over 60 specimens and released the remainder into the Mvutchini Valley where the first female specimen was collected. The life history was recorded in 2004 by Earle Whiteley. These butterflies fly in and amongst the undergrowth of the vegetation, sometimes coming out into the very narrow bush pathways, to fly a short beat with its gliding and short directional changing flight, with a quick flap of its wings. The females stay close to their host plants and search for others in the nearby vicinity, hardly venturing out into the open spaces as the males frequently do. The females have a similar flight pattern to that of the males for the exception of the gravid females, which flutter around and near their host plants, in a searching fluttering motion.

GENERAL REMARKS ON SPECIES

The larvae are covered in short spines and the head possesses a V-like projection. The pupae are light green, long and angular, with two flat wing-like projections on each side. The pied piper may be found flying throughout the year in woodland and forest habitats from the eastern Mpumalanga to Zululand and Kwa-Zulu Natal and as far south-westwards as Knysna.

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- Steve Collins from Nairobi, and expert in the genus, who believes that this new f. *vashti* is an evolutionary butterfly, his assistance and help.
- Deryck E. Whitely, who helped me study the form and helped with collecting and breeding specimens and data of other specimens for the describing of the forms.
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- Dr. Mike Mstovski from the Natal Museum for his participation in the development of progress in the discovery of forms in this paper.

REFERENCES

1. In the publication of Steve Woodhall, 'Field Guide to Butterflies of South Africa', 2005, page 128, with plates (1a, and 1b), it shows the specimens and their descriptions similar to the specimens marked in this paper as 216i (♂) and 216ii (♂)
2. The publication of Ivor Migdoll, 'Field Guide to the Butterflies of Southern Africa', 1987, page 166, with plates on page 59 (59a 59b and 59c), shows the specimens and their descriptions similar to the specimens marked in this paper as 216i (♂) and 216ii (♂) and 216iii
3. In the publication, 'Pennington's Butterflies of Southern Africa', 1994, page 114 with plates on page 539 and 541 (216ai, 216aai and 216aaii), shows the specimens and their descriptions similar to the specimens marked in this paper as 216i (♂) and 216ii (♂) and 216xv(♂)
4. In the publication of Bernard D'Abrera F.R.E.S., 'Butterflies of the Afrotropical Region', 1980, page 242, shows the specimens and their descriptions similar to the specimens marked in this paper as 216i (♂) and 216i (♂)i and 216ii(♀) and 216iv (♀).
5. In the book of Dr. David A. Swanepoel, 'Butterflies of Southern Africa' 1953, page 126, with plates Pl. XI, fig 8, shows the specimens and their descriptions similar to the specimens marked in this paper as 216i (♂) and 216ii (♀) and 216xi (♂)
6. In the book of Clark G. C. Dickson, 'What Butterfly Is That?' 1972, page 31, with plates shows the specimens of 216i and 216xxi and their descriptions similar on page 34.
7. In the METAMORPHOSIS Vol: 21, number 4, December 2010, page 169 to 172 with plates on centre fold page is the accepted description of Earnest Pringle of the Lepidopterist Society of Southern Africa.

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