

Mimeusemia kali

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Mimeusemia kali Latest News

Scientists recently discovered a new species of forester moth named *Mimeusemia kali* in Karnataka's Kali Tiger Reserve in the Western Ghats.

About *Mimeusemia kali*

- It is a new species of forester **moth**.
- It was discovered in **Karnataka's Kali Tiger Reserve** in the **m**.
- It marks the first addition to the genus *Mimeusemia* in nearly 30 years.
- The genus ***Mimeusemia*** belongs to the **forester moth group** within the Noctuidae family.
- These **colourful moths** are **primarily active during the day**, although some species are also seen at dusk and may occasionally be attracted to light.
- *Mimeusemia kali* is distinct from closely related species because of its unique physical characteristics, reproductive structures and genetic features.

Key Facts about Moths

- Moths are a type of **winged insect** that belong to the **order Lepidoptera, which they share with butterflies.**
- There are around **160,000 known species** of moths, **far outnumbering butterfly species.**
- Highly adapted, they **live in all but polar habitats.**
- Moths **vary greatly in size**, ranging in wingspan from about 4 mm (0.16 inch) to nearly 30 cm (about 1 foot).
- **Compared with butterflies, moths have stouter bodies** and often **duller coloring.**
- **Some**, like the luna moth or atlas moth, **are vividly colored.**
- **Moth antennae** are **often feathery**, unlike the thin and clubbed antennae of butterflies.
- The **wings, bodies, and legs** of moths are **covered with dustlike scales** that **come off if the insect is handled.**
- **Most moths are active at night**, but some are diurnal.
- Although their **larvae** may be **destructive to certain plants**—and several moth species are **economically significant pests**—**many moths** are **important pollinators** of the world's wild and domesticated flowering plants, and all stages of their life cycle are important to local food webs.

Key Facts about Kali Tiger Reserve

- Kali Tiger Reserve, earlier known as **Dandeli-Anshi Tiger Reserve**, is located in the Uttara Kannada (North Canara) district of **Karnataka** in the **Western Ghats.**
- It **comprises** two protected areas viz., **Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary** (475.018 Km²) and **Anshi National Park** (339.866 Km²).
- It shares a border with Bhimghad Wildlife Sanctuary in the north, which is further connected to Radhanagari and Koyna wildlife sanctuaries in Maharashtra.
- To the west, it shares borders with five protected areas in Goa.
- **River:** The **Kali River**, which forms the major source of water for Uttara Kannada, flows through the tiger reserve, hence the name.
- **Vegetation:** Forests are primarily **moist deciduous and semi-evergreen**, with excellent **patches of evergreen forests** in the westernmost parts as well as in deep valleys.
- **Flora:** The reserve is rich in plant diversity, featuring species like **teak, silver oak, eucalyptus, bamboo**, and various medicinal plants.
- **Fauna:**
 - Animals found in the reserve include **Tiger, Leopard, Elephant, Bison, Wild dog**, Sambar, Spotted deer, Sloth bear, Wild boar, Hanuman langur, Bonnet macaque, etc.
 - The area holds one of the **highest populations of Great Indian Hornbills in the Western Ghats.**
 - It is also home to **rare black panthers.**

News: **TOI**

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