

Long-tailed Pea-blue (*Lampides boeticus*)



Long-tailed Pea-blue, underside.

Photo: Euan Moore

Other Common Names: Pea Blue, Tailed Blue, Long-tailed Blue.

Family of Butterflies: *Lycaenidae* (Blues and Coppers)

Size: 25mm males, 27mm females.

Local records: There is a record from the south of our region on iNaturalist and Atlas of Living Australia.

Tony Morton's records of Long-tailed Pea-blue from the local area (between 2000 to 2013):

Date	Location	Notes
25-Nov-2012	Tower, Tunnel Hill Tk., Elphinstone	-
31-Oct-2012	Kalimna Point	-
30-Oct-2012	The Monk, Chewton	-
11-Sep-2012	Kalimna Park	-
18-Nov-2011	Kalimna Point	-
14-Oct-2011	Kalimna Point	-
1-Nov-2006	Kalimna Point	-
21-Sep-2005	Kalimna Park	-
28-Nov-2002	Kalimna Point, Castlemaine	-
10-Jan-2001	Rotunda & Ridge, Kalimna Park	-
14-Nov-2000	Rotunda, Kalimna Park	-
8-Nov-2000	Rotunda, Kalimna Park	-
12-Oct-2000	Rotunda, Kalimna Park	-
12-Oct-2000	Gully, Chewton/Fryerstown Road	-

Distribution outside our region: There are scattered records from across most of Victoria, but not alpine areas or east Gippsland. This species has been reported from all states of Australia. Globally its range extends from NZ and the Pacific islands across southern Asia, Europe and much of Africa.

Larval Host Plants: Plants from the family Fabaceae, both native and introduced, including gardens peas, beans, and Montpellier Broom (*Genista monspessulana*).

Larval association with ants: Ants from the genera *Iridomyrmex*, *Froggattella* or *Camponotus*.

Adult Flight Times in Victoria: It is believed that at least two generations are completed each year, and possibly three in some areas. Relatively high numbers of adults seen in flight in Victoria from September to March, but with some seen from August to May.

Conservation Status:

[The Action plan for Australian Butterflies:](#) Vulnerable in Australia

[Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999:](#) Not listed

[Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 – Threatened List:](#) Not Listed

Other Notes: Probably common in the Mount Alexander Shire, including within urban gardens. Larvae are often attended by ants from one of the following genera: *Iridomyrmex*, *Froggattella* or *Camponotus*. (Field 2013)

References and further reading:

Atlas of Living Australia – [Lampides boeticus](#), Long-tailed pea-blue.

iNaturalist – [Lampides boeticus](#), Long-tailed pea-blue