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Cover Photo of founder of BIONOTES *Late* Dr. R.K. Varshney

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SIGHTING OF PLAIN TIGER (*DANAUS CHRYSIPPUS* LINN., 1758) FORM *DORIPPUS* IN NEW DELHI, INDIA

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Four forms of *Danaus chrysippus* are known from India, viz. *chrysippus*, *alcippoides*, *amplifascia* and *dorippus* (Smetacek, 2001). The first form is the most common in the country whereas sighting of the other three forms are rare (Smetacek, 2001). The form *dorippus*, known to be a common form in Africa, is sighted only rarely in India (Smith *et al.*, 1997; Smetacek, 2001). This form is differentiated from the other forms by lack of a white band on the forewing (Smetacek, 2016). It has been observed only on few occasions in several states – Uttarakhand (foothills), Bengal, Bihar, Rajasthan and Maharashtra (Smetacek, 2001) and Andhra Pradesh (M. Yuvaraj & Smetacek, 2019). It was recorded by Ashton in the year 1972 from Delhi (Ashton, 1972).

Here, I report sighting of *Danaus chrysippus* form *dorippus* from Rohini area of Northwest Delhi, India in the afternoon of March 14, 2021. The butterfly was found to be gliding over flowers on the lawns of a residential society. It was observed for 10 minutes, and photographed using a digital camera (Fig. 1).

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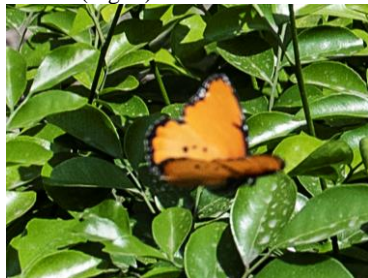


Fig.1: Image of *Danaus chrysippus* form *dorippus* as observed in Rohini area of Northwest Delhi, India.