

Klugii



20 mm

A male Marbled Xenica (the female lacks the raised scales across the fore-wings)

Marbled Xenica, Klug's Xenica

Geitoneura klugii

The Marbled Xenica is one of the family of 'Browns', butterflies which have orange, brown and yellow markings contrasting with grey-brown patterning. They also have 'eye-spots' on both wings. Beneath, the forewings are similar to the upper side, but the hind-wings typically have a very cryptic "dead leaf" pattern, which makes them very difficult to spot once they settle.

Caterpillars of the Marbled Xenica eat various native grasses; the adults are common in summer, more so after New Year.



A Marbled Xenica, well camouflaged in the grass



Another male Marbled xenica



Marbled xenica underside