

The Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund Kedestes Butterfly Conservation Project Report

June 2019 – May 2020

Project no: 192519761

Introduction (I.1-2)



Image 1. Adult *Kedestes barberae bunta*.



Image 2. Adult *Kedestes lenis lenis*.

Project Staff Recruitment (I.3)



Image 3. Newly appointed Species Conservation Projects Assistant conducting a survey.

Habitat Management – False Bay Nature Reserve (I.4-13)



Image 4. Encroaching bush is cut back around the habitat patch.



Image 5. Cut material is raked up.



Image 6. Cut brush is removed from the habitat patch.



Image 7. Carrying out fixed point photography.



Image 8. One of the fixed point photography points after bush removal—June 2019.



Image 9. The same area six months later (Nov 2019), showing bush regrowth.



Image 10. One of the fixed point photography points after bush removal—June 2019.



Image 11. The same area six months later (Nov 2019), showing recruitment of the butterflies host grass.



Image 12. Capturing drone footage of the habitat patches



Image 13. Capturing drone footage of the habitat patches.

Habitat Management –Zandvlei Estuary Nature Reserve (I.14-26)



Image 14. The team planting a range of species in the seasonal wetland.



Image 15. The team planting a range of species in the seasonal wetland.



Image 16. Collecting plants for the seasonal wetland.



Image 17. Planting *I.cylindrica* in the hope that the grass patch will spread.



Image 18. Planting *I.cylindrica* in the hope that the grass patch will spread.



Image 19 & 20. Some of the team busy planting.



Image 21. Packets of smoked seeds and bulbs to be planted at the seasonal wetland.



Image 22. International volunteers help to sow the seeds.



Image 23. Encroaching bush is cut back around the naturally occurring *I.cylindrica* patch.



Image 24. Half of the grass is cut down to ground level.



Image 25. The end result after half of the patch has been mown.



Image 26. Weeding of the man-made *I. cylindrica* patch that was cut in June.

Population Abundance Surveys – False Bay Nature Reserve (I.27-31)



Image 27. Kedestes project training session in preparation for surveys.



Image 28. Conducting population abundance surveys for *K.b.bunta*.



Image 29. Conducting abundance surveys at the ACSA Swartklip Site.



Image 30. Conducting abundance surveys at the **ACSA Swartklip Site**.



Image 31. Conducting abundance surveys at Driftsands Nature Reserve.



Image 32. Patch sizes of *I.cylindrica* being calculated at Vesuvius Park.



Image 33. Patch sizes of *I.cylindrica* being calculated at Vesuvius Park.

Captive Rearing (I.34-47)



Image 34. Disinfecting rearing equipment.



Image 35. Producing new caterpillar hotels.



Image 36. Producing new caterpillar hotels.



Image 37. Producing new caterpillar hotel sleeves.



Image 38. Preparing captive egg laying cages for *K.b.bunta* females.



Image 39. The captive egg laying setup.

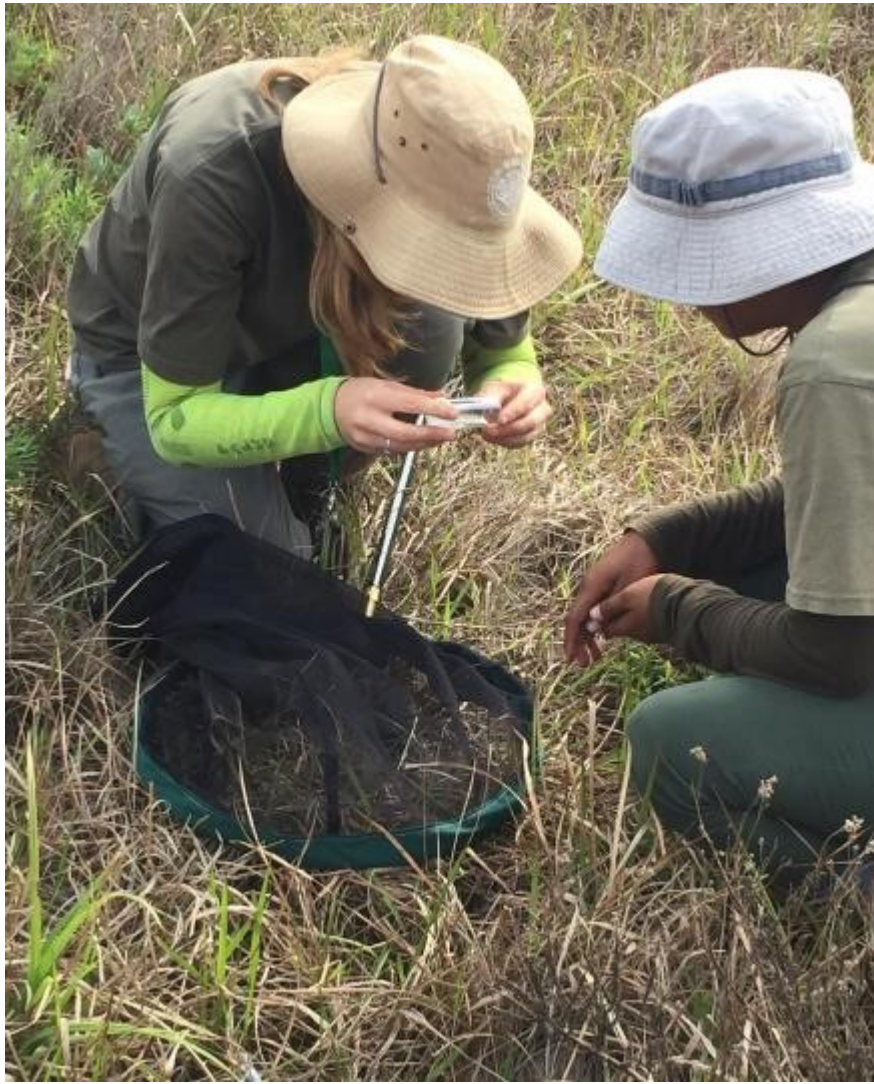


Image 40. Collecting female *K.b.bunta*'s.



Image 41. *K.b.bunta*.



Image 42. *K.b.bunta* feeding whilst being held in captivity.



Image 43. *K.b.bunta* being released onto a nectar plant.



Image 44. Combing the host plants for predators, before the addition of the captive laid eggs.



Image 45. Adding the captive laid eggs to host plants.



Image 46. Adding the captive laid eggs to host plants.

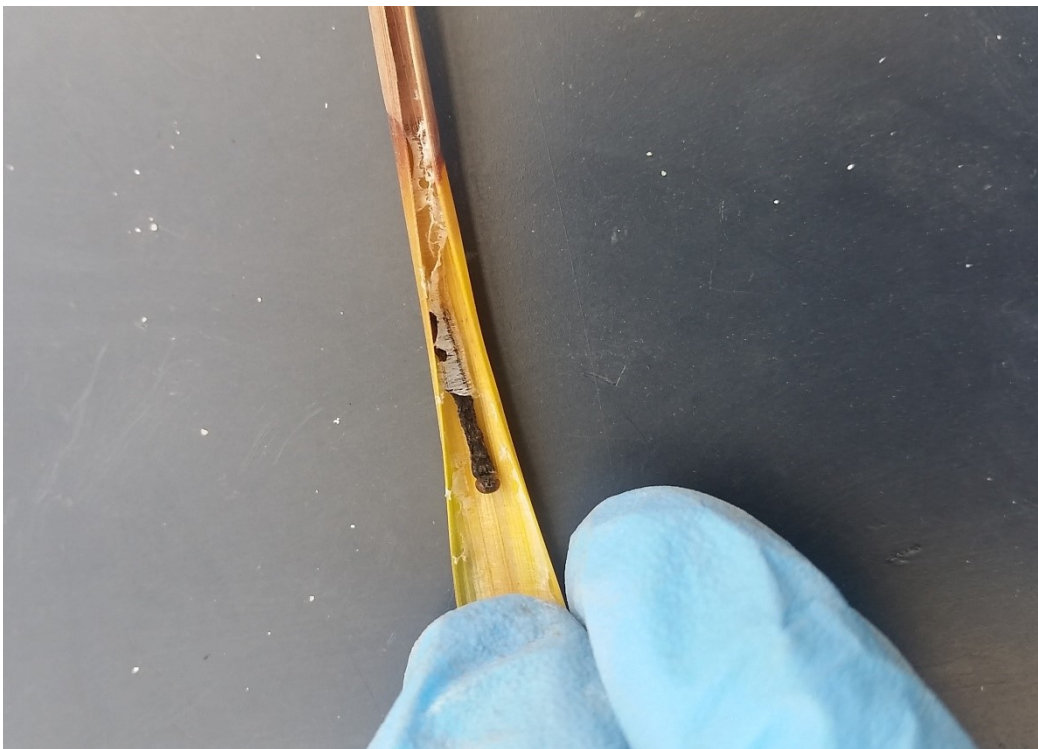


Image 47. Dead *K.l.lenis* larva.

Awareness Raising and Project Promotion (I.48-53)



Image 48. Louise Baldwin and CTEET colleagues attending and presenting at the 8th Society for Ecological Restoration conference.



Image 49. Louise Baldwin presenting at the 8th Society for Ecological Restoration conference.



Image 50. Project Manager, Louise Baldwin presenting at the Lepidopterists Society of Africa Conference/AGM.



Image 51. Learners making their own butterflies.



Image 52. The class with their finished butterflies.



Image 53. The mural painted outside the Environmental Education Centre.



Image 54. *K.b.bunta*.