Common Rose

Pachliopta aristolochiae



Inside



Outside



Chrysalid

REIMAN GARDENS
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Common Rose

Pachliopta aristolochia

Order: Lepidoptera
Family: Papilionidae

Etymology: The origin of *Pachliopta* is currently unknown. The specie aristolochia is Greek for birthwort.

Wing span: 3 - 3.5 inches (75 - 85 mm)

Habitat: The Common Rose is primarily found in lowland forest with occasional visits to the surrounding areas.

Host Plant: The larvae feed on a variety of plants which include *Aristolochis tagala*, Apama and Thottea.

Adult Food Source: The adults can be found feeding on a variety of flowers.

Life History: Males patrol the habitat looking for females. After mating the female searches for host plants to lay her eggs on. The caterpillars feed on the host plant until they form their chrysalis.

Flights: During the spring and summer months there are a couple generations in the northern part of their range, while in the south it can be possible to find adults year round.

Fun Facts: The Common Rose is considered to be a distasteful butterfly to most predators and displays its colors and pattern to warn predators of its status. One of the female forms of the Common Mormon (*Papilio polytes*) is even considered to be a mimic of the Common Rose.

Range:

