

## *Callophrys rubi* Linnaeus, 1758.

Blaveta verda (ca.) Cejialba (es.), Green hairstreak(en.)

**Distribution.** Widespread and common. North Africa, Europe, Turkey, Russia, Siberia. It is not found on the Atlantic Islands.

**Description. Adult.** 15 mm wingspan. The obverse of the wings is brown in colour. The hindwings have a fine white line on the edge in the females, and the males have a small oval shaped blotch of a lighter brown colour on the hindwings. The back of the wings is green. The face is green, and the eyes are finely ringed in white which is why they are known as cejialba in Spanish. **Caterpillar.** 12-15 mm long. Green in colour with triangular white blotches and red dots. But white ones can also be found. They have spots on their sides and a lengthways white line. They have short fine hairs. **Chrysalis.** 9 mm. Brown in colour with lots of black spots. They normally pupate on dead leaves.

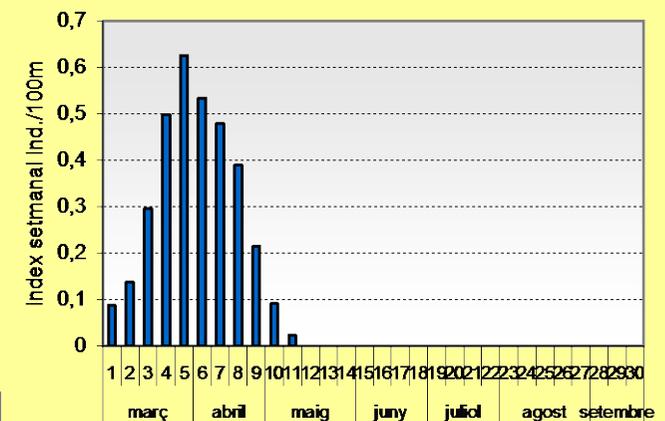
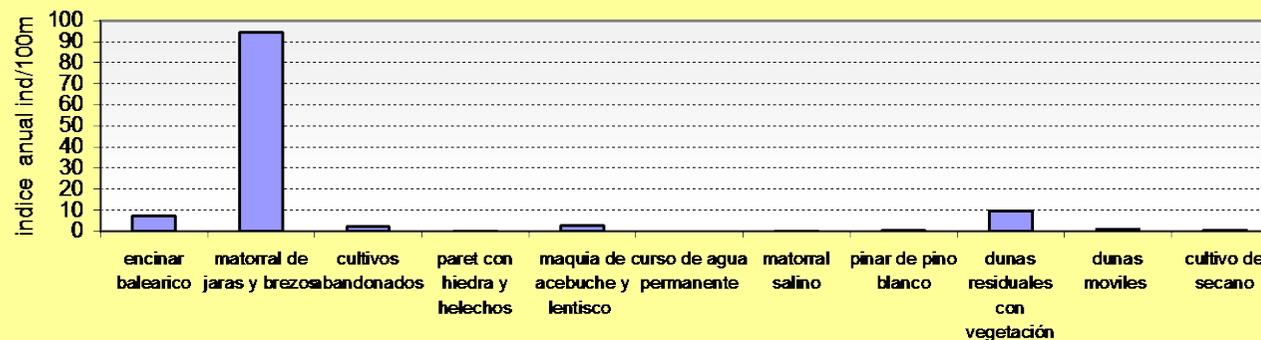
**Foodplants.** Types *Cistus*, *Medicago*, *Trifolium*, *Rubus*, *Dorycnium*.

### *Callophrys rubi* in Menorca

**Representation in the BMS.** (Butterfly Monitoring Scheme) It has very little representation in the annual figures issued by the BMS as it is found for a short period of time, only at the beginning of the season when it is frequently observed. It represents 2.2% of the totals.

**Flight time.** It is the sole species which only appears at the beginning of the season during the months of March, April and until the middle of May. While it usually passes through the Albufera des Grau each year, it has not been seen in the Algendar gorge since 2003. One generation in the spring. It hibernates as a chrysalis.

**Habitat and behaviour.** It is observed in open woods and coastal areas. The habitat in which it is most widespread on the BMS routes is on rockrose and heather especially black rockrose (*Cistus monspeliensis*) and



(*C. salviifolius*). However it can be seen sucking sap from lechetrezna (*Euphorbia dendroides*), cuernecillo de mar (*Lotus citysoides*) and gorse (*Calicotome spinosa*)

**Species present in Menorca.** None



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