

Polyommatus bellargus Rottemburg, 1775. Sin *Lysandra bellargus*

Blaveta (cat.); Niña celeste (cast.); Adonis blue (eng.)

Distribution. Most of Europe, Turkey, Iraq, Iran. Absent in Northern Belgium, Holland, Northern Germany and Southern Italy. Of the Mediterranean Islands it is only present in Majorca and Menorca.

Description. Adult. Approx.30 mm wingspan. Sexual dimorphism. The males are blue with black and white edges on the wings. Sometimes they have greenish tints. The forewings sometimes have submarginal black spots and the hindwings very occasionally have orange dots at the anal angle but normally they do not have these features. The females are dark brown interspersed with blue. On the hindwings there are submarginal black and orange blotches. The edges of the wings are the same as in the males, black and white. Caterpillar. 12 mm long. **Chrysalis** 11 mm They pupate amongst dead leaves.

Foodplants. They feed off plants type *Coronilla*, *Hippocrepis*, *Genista* y *Trifolium* amongst others.

Polyommatus bellargus in Menorca

Representation in the BMS (Butterfly Monitoring Scheme) They have never been observed in any of the three routes taken by the BMS. It can therefore be considered that their presence in Menorca is infrequent.

Flight time. Having two broods .As it has not been observed by the BMS, there is no flight curve pattern.

Habitat and behaviour. Open spaces predominately with herbaceous vegetation.

Similar species present in Menorca. It can be confused with *Polyommatus icarus*, but it is larger and differs because the edge of its white wings has black intersecting grooves. (fimbrias).

*Polyommatus
bellargus*

