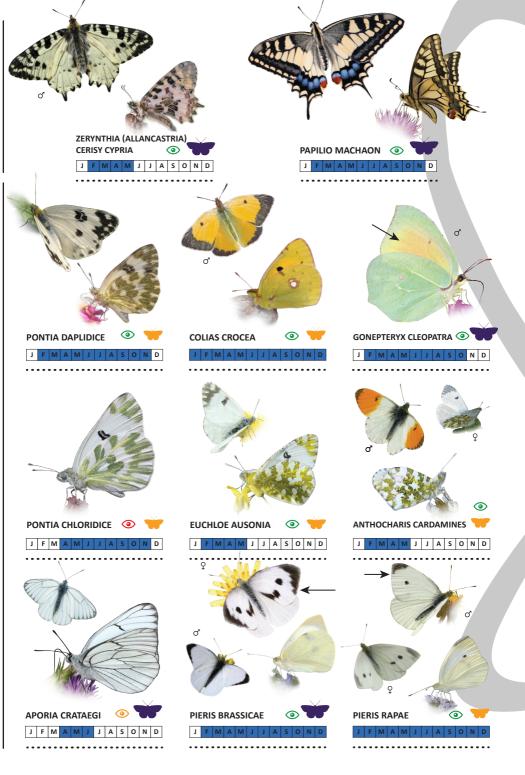


The European Butterfly Monitoring Scheme (eBMS) aims to promote the monitoring and conservation of this group of insects. This scheme relies on thousands of volunteers who systematically count butterflies following simple rules of a standardised methodology. This includes transects (fixed route), or 15-min counts where all butterfly species and individuals are registered. Using all the data collected by volunteers we can determine the status of the butterfly populations and protect them effectively.

This guide aims to facilitate the task of field identification of **48 butterfly species**, the most common species that you can see in Cyprus. This guide also serves as a support tool for those involved in the Monitoring of Butterflies through the methodologies standardized by eBMS for all of Europe.

You can download this field guide in pdf on the eBMS website













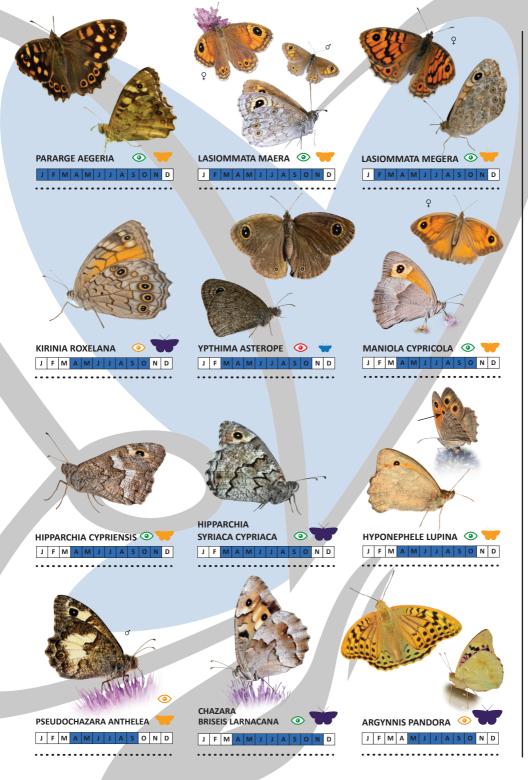


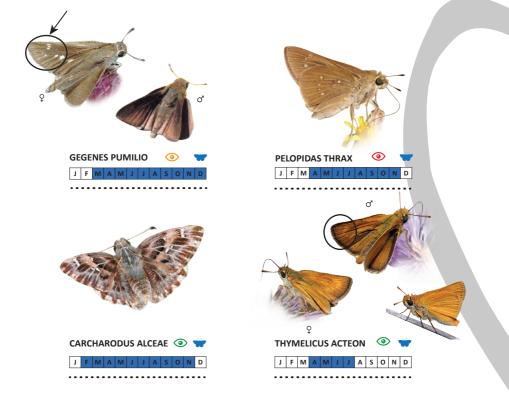












Cyprus

Cyprus has 53 species of butterfly. Among these are three endemic species *Glaucopsyche paphos, Hipparchia cypriensis, Maniola cypricola* and three endemic subspecies *Zerynthia cerisy cypria, Hipparchia syriaca cypriaca* and *Chazara briseis larnacana*. Species such as *Nymphalis polychloros*, which is considered almost extinct, *Catopsilia florella, Deudorix livia and Azanus jesous* are not included in this guide due to very infrequent sightings. *Chazara persephone* is also omitted as the most recent sighting of the species was a decade ago.

This guide presents **48 of the most common butterfly species** in Cyprus. They can be found in all kinds of habitats such as scrublands, forests, rivers, grasslands and agricultural areas. The greatest number of species may be seen during May and June, ranging from sea level to the peaks of the Troodos Mountains.

Why butterfly monitoring?

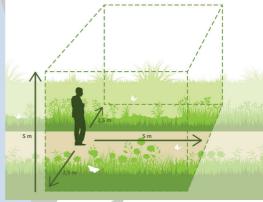
Monitoring butterfly populations is an important method for measuring changes in the environment. It provides regular, standardised data to assess the conservation status of butterflies and produce butterfly indicators that can inform environmental and agricultural European policies. Collecting data for the Butterfly Monitoring Scheme is an interesting and relaxing way to spend some of your time while helping to understand the conservation status of the butterflies of Cyprus.

Methodologies

Transect:

The transect is the most widely used method in the European BMS (eBMS) for monitoring butterflies. It consists of a fixed route that is visited with a certain frequency to record the different butterfly species and their respective abundance. Basic rules to follow:

- Count all butterflies by individual species in an imaginary box, 2.5m to each side and 5m in front and above you (like in the image)
- Walk your transect at a slow, constant pace
- The visits should be done with good weather: sunny and warm, with no rain and not too windy
- Report your records to the national coordinators or to eBMS website or app.



15-min Count:

Another methodology used in eBMS is based on counting butterflies for 15 minutes in a given area. This can be a path, a delimited area (such as a garden) or simply a fixed point. Follow the same rules specified for the transect.

You can use the eBMS mobile application,

ButterflyCount, to record 15-min Counts or transects registered in eBMS. It can be installed on Android or Apple devices and allows the collection of butterfly counts from anywhere in Europe. Enable your GPS and the app will draw your route while counting butterflies.

Butterfly Count

For more information visit the eBMS website: www.butterfly-monitoring.net

Butterfly Conservation Europe and the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (UKCEH) formed the European Butterfly Monitoring Scheme (eBMS) to bring together data from different Butterfly Monitoring Schemes of Europe. All member countries share their data annually to the eBMS database, to analyse and produce the population trends of the European butterfly species and European Butterfly Indicators. Join the eBMS community and help us to preserve butterflies counting them anywhere!

Visit the eBMS website, www.butterfly-monitoring.net to find out more information about butterfly monitoring and how to submit your butterfly data. If you would like to participate in monitoring butterflies in Cyprus, contact the coordinators: Elli Tzirkalli - ellitzirkalli@gmail.com & Özge Özden - ozgefuller@gmail.com

Cyprus Butterfly Study Group (CBSG) works towards the conservation of Cyprus butterflies. Join our group by sending an email to cbsg2012@gmail.com or follow the Facebook Page "Cyprus Butterfly Study Group". Visit http://www.cyprusbutterflies.co.uk/index.html for further information

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ABLE - Assessing ButterfLies in Europe eBMS - European Butterfly Monitoring Scheme Ease of finding:

Easy

Medium
Difficult

Flight period: months when butterflies are seen

J F M A M J J A S O N D

Butterfly size:

Small Medium

Sex:

P Female

n Male

Other symbols:



Specific features to identify species

















