



Aglais io by K. Nasiou



**Epirus
region**

Field Guide for Butterflies Identification

The **European Butterfly Monitoring Scheme (eBMS, www.butterfly-monitoring.net)** aims to collect data and promote monitoring and conservation of these insects. The BMS network includes thousands of volunteers collecting data following the same protocol. The **Greek BMS (apollo-grBMS)** is coordinated by the University of Ioannina (BCL, <https://bc.lab.uoi.gr/en/research/projects/apollo/>).

The aim of this guide is to help on the identification of the most common butterfly species in the Epirus region in Northwest Greece.

This guide can be downloaded as pdf file at the following website:
www.butterfly-monitoring.net/field-guides



Count butterflies to save them!

Greek Butterflies

Greece is one of the richest European countries in terms of butterflies, hosting **236 butterfly species**. Epirus region hosts 155 species, out of which 102 presented in this guide.

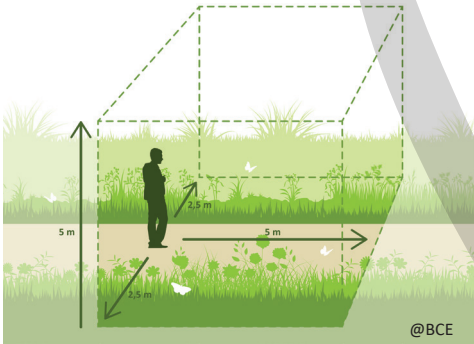
Butterfly Monitoring

To monitor butterflies we use the **transect method**, where a person counts all butterfly species and individuals along a path inside an imaginary cube of 5x5x5 meters (see image below).

The transect must be monitored frequently, at least 3-8 times per year (every 20 days), on sunny days, morning hours with a temperature between 13°C and 35°C and best between 18-25°C. In Greece, the suggested transect length is 300m (one section), although more is welcome. Before starting and at the end, the recorder has to note: temperature, percentage of clouds, and wind strength using the Beaufort scale (see the table).

Another method for monitoring butterflies is the **15-minutes count**, through the app **ButterflyCount**. It is possible to do the count anywhere, along a path or on a fixed point, following the same instructions as previously described regarding weather and time, and turning the phone GPS on while the app is running.

For more information, please visit the website www.butterfly-monitoring.net/el or apollo-grBMS <https://bc.lab.uoi.gr/en/research/projects/apollo/>



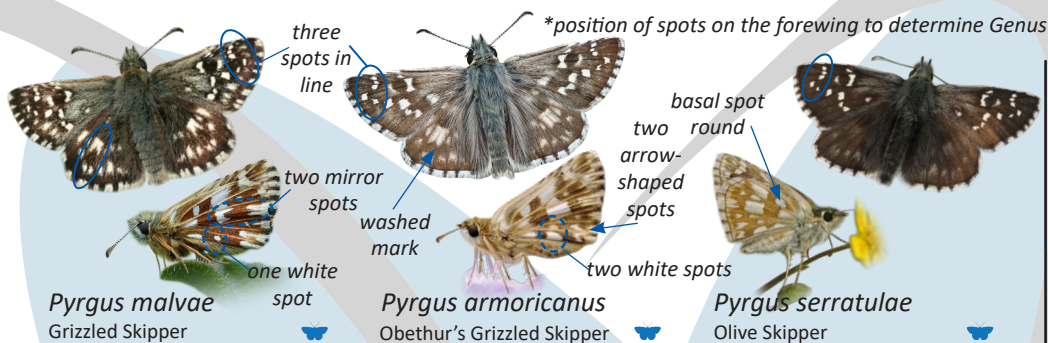
Beaufort scale

0 Calm	Smoke climbs vertically
1 Light Air	Direction shown by smoke drift but not by wind vanes
2 Light breeze	Wind felt on face; leaves rustle; wind vane moved by wind
3 Gentle Breeze	Leaves and small twigs in constant motion
4 Moderate Breeze	Raises dust and loose paper; small branches moved
5 Fresh Breeze	Small trees in leaf begin to sway

How to use this guide

This guide shows 102 butterfly species that you can find in the Epirus region and surrounding areas. Species are ordered by family and similar species are grouped together to help in their identification. Usually, both upper and under side are shown. For those species with sexual dimorphism (males and females have different appearance), both males and females are shown. For an easier identification, pay attention to flight periods: the bars below each species show in bluish the months when butterflies are flying. The symbol on the right represents the approximate size of the species (small, medium, or large). Please note that pictures are not on scale, to better show the details of the different species.

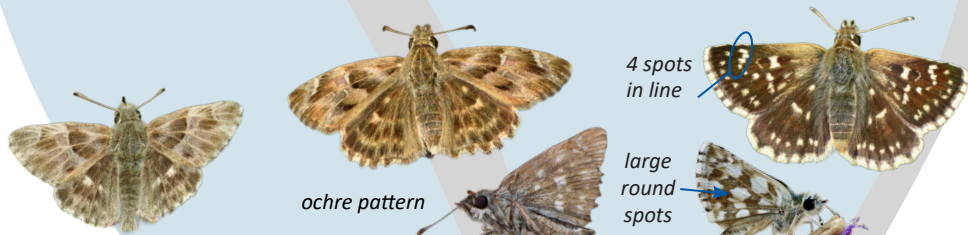
Please check the characters highlighted in this guide through arrows or circles to help with identification. Correct identification of butterflies is often easier through pictures or catching them. On the last page of this guide, you will find the complete legend of all the used symbols.



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

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

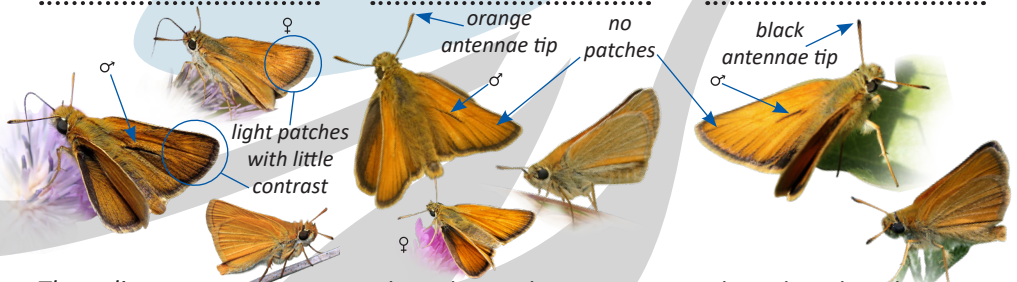
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J F M A M J J A S O N D

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

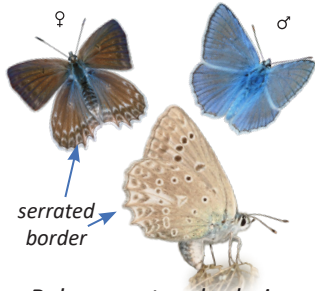
J F M A M J J A S O N D



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

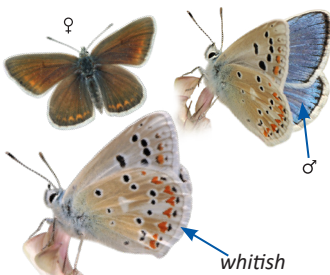
J F M A M J J A S O N D

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



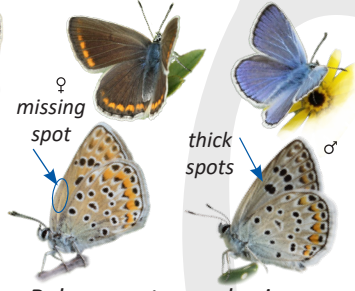
Polyommatus daphnis
Meleager's Blue

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



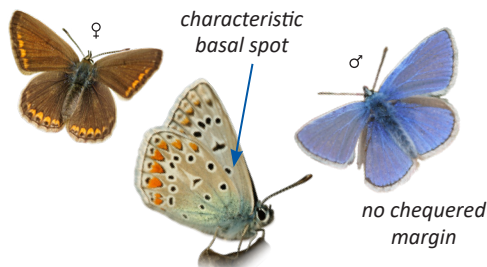
Polyommatus dorylas
Turquoise Blue

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



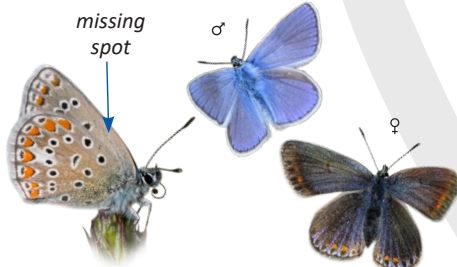
Polyommatus escheri
Escher's Blue

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



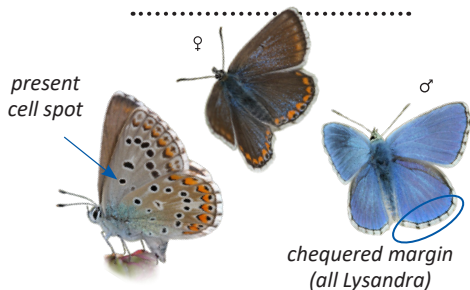
Polyommatus icarus
Common Blue

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



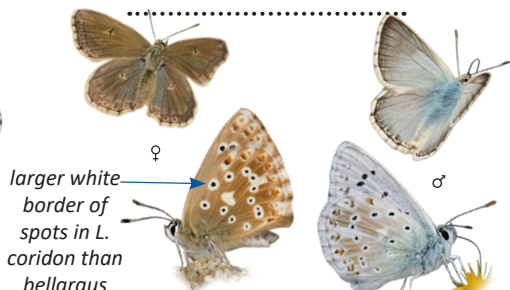
Polyommatus thersites
Chapman's Blue

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



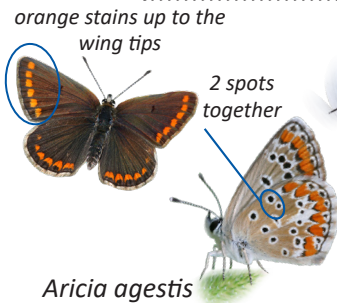
Lysandra bellargus
Adonis Blue

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



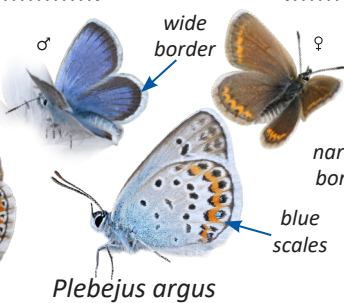
Lysandra coridon
Chalkhill Blue

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



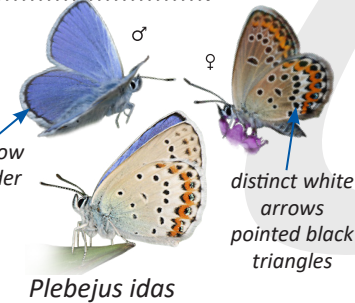
Aricia agestis
Brown Argus

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



Plebejus argus
Silver-studded Blue

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



Plebejus idas
Idas Blue

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



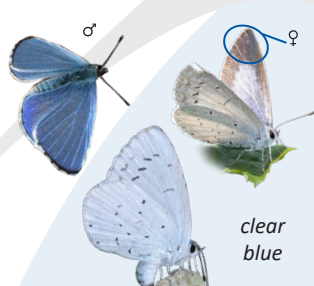
Pseudophilotes vicrama
Eastern Baton Blue

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



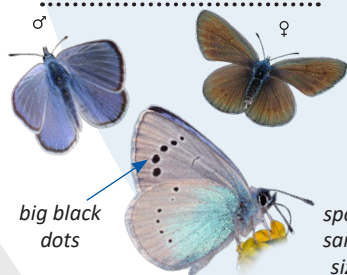
Cupido osiris
Osiris Blue

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



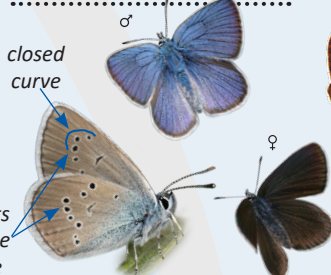
Celastrina argiolus
Holly Blue

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



Glaucopsyche alexis
Green-underside Blue

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



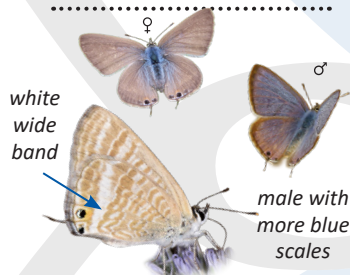
Cyaniris semiargus
Mazarine Blue

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



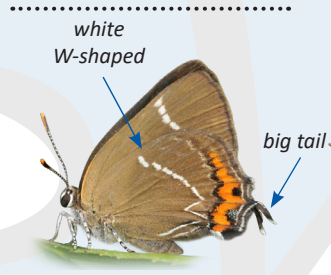
Favonius quercus
Purple Hairstreak

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



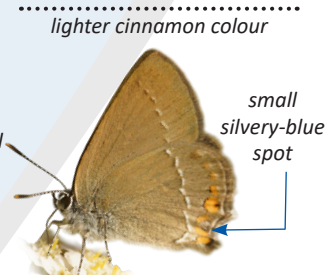
Lampides boeticus
Long-tailed Blue

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



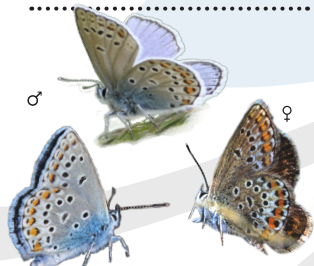
Satyrium w-album
White-letter Hairstreak

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



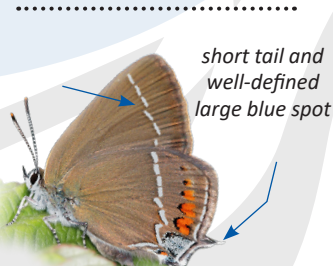
Satyrium acaciae
Sloe Hairstreak

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



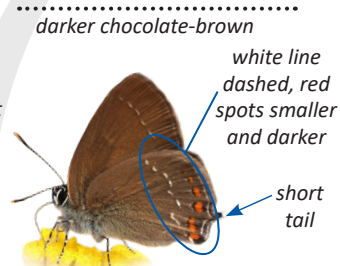
Kretania sephirus
Zephyr Blue

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



Satyrium spini
Blue-spot Hairstreak

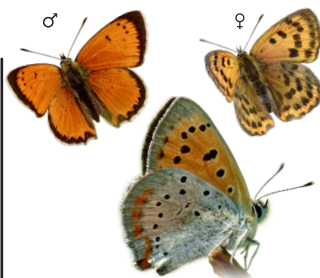
J F M A M J J A S O N D



Satyrium ilicis
Ilex Hairstreak

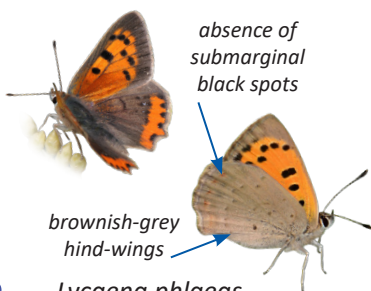
J F M A M J J A S O N D

LYCAENIDAE



Lycaena ottomana
Grecian Copper

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



Lycaena phlaeas
Small Copper

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



Callophrys rubi
Green Hairstreak

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

NYMPHALIDAE



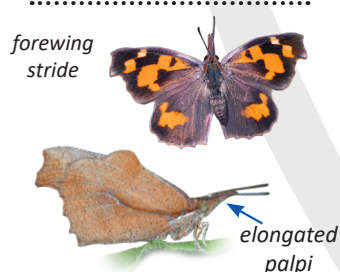
Erebia medusa
Woodland Ringlet

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



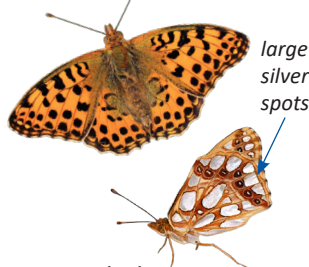
Erebia ottomana
Ottoman Brassy Ringlet

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



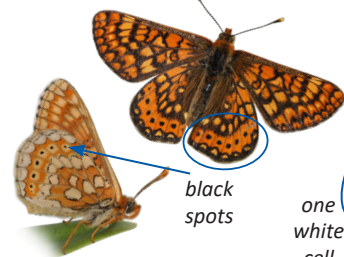
Libythea celtis
Nettle-tree Butterfly

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



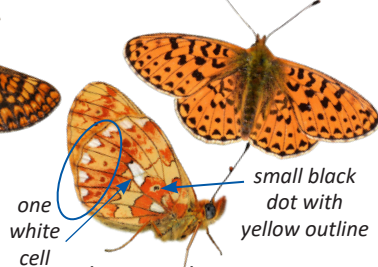
Issoria lathonia
Queen of Spain Fritillary

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



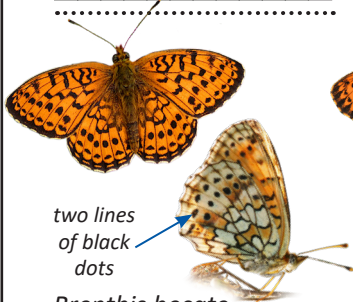
Euphydryas aurinia
Marsh Fritillary

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



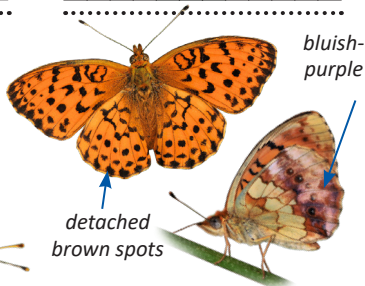
Boloria euphrosyne
Pearl Bordered Fritillary

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



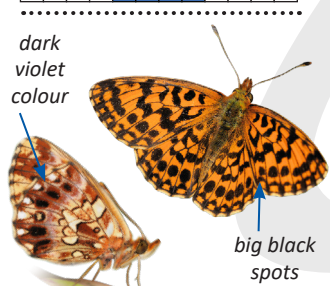
Brenthis hecate
Twin-spot Fritillary

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



Brenthis daphne
Marbled Fritillary

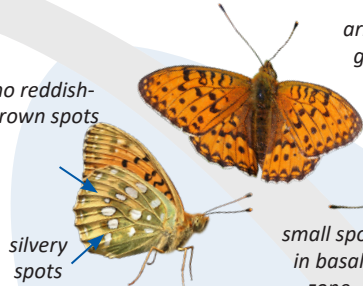
J F M A M J J A S O N D



Boloria dia
Weaver's Violet Fritillary

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

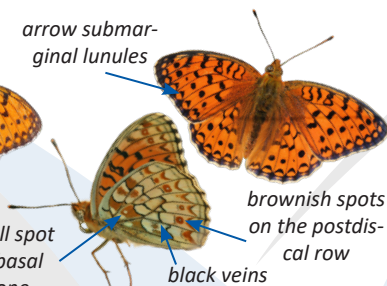
no reddish-brown spots



Speyeria aglaja
Dark Green Fritillary

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

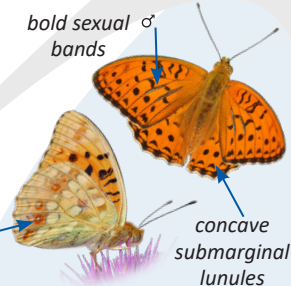
arrow submarginal lunules



Fabriciana niobe
Niobe Fritillary

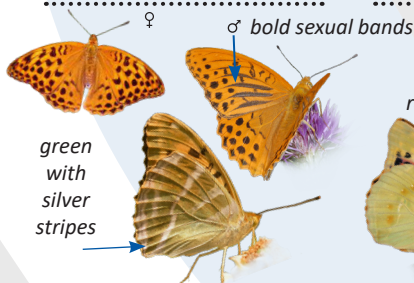
J F M A M J J A S O N D

bold sexual ♂ bands



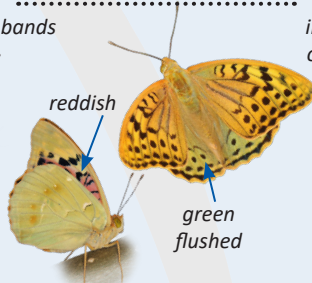
Fabriciana adippe
High Brown Fritillary

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



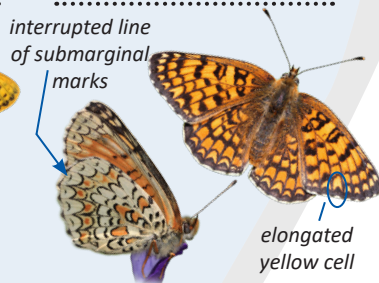
Argynnis paphia
Silver-washed Fritillary

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



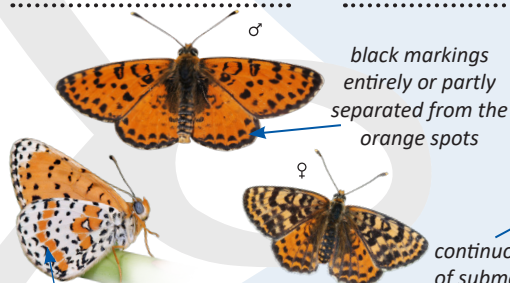
Argynnis pandora
Cardinal

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



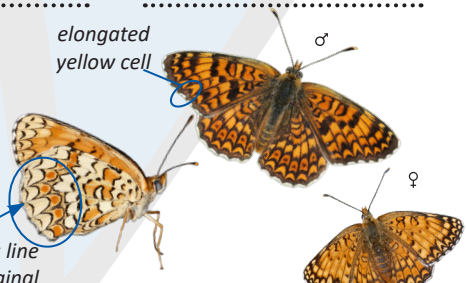
Melitaea ornata
Eastern Knapweed Fritillary

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



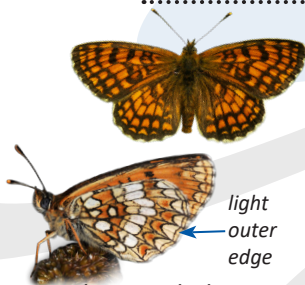
Melitaea didyma
Spotted Fritillary

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



Melitaea phoebe
Knapweed Fritillary

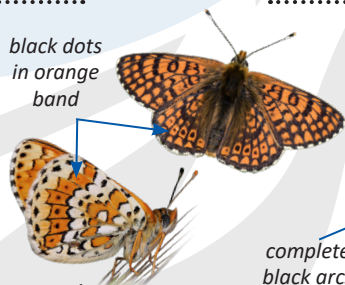
J F M A M J J A S O N D



Melitaea athalia
Heath Fritillary

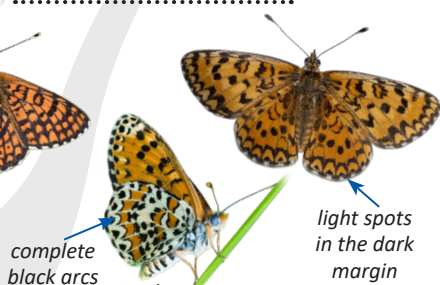
J F M A M J J A S O N D

black dots in orange band



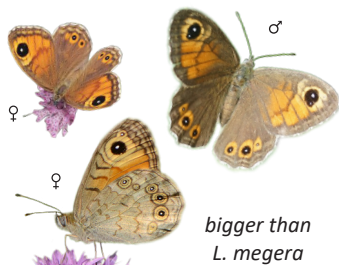
Melitaea cinxia
Glanville Fritillary

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



Melitaea trivia
Lesser Spotted Fritillary

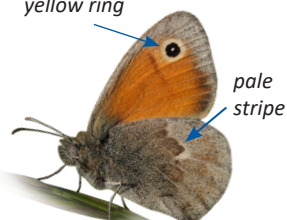
J F M A M J J A S O N D



Lasiommata maera
Large Wall Brown

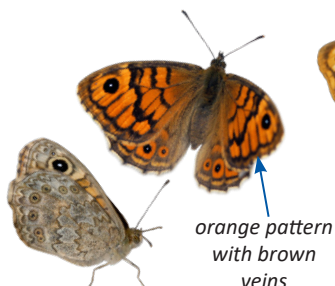
J F M A M J J A S O N D

eyespot with
yellow ring



Coenonympha pamphilus
Small Heath

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



Lasiommata megera
Wall Brown

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

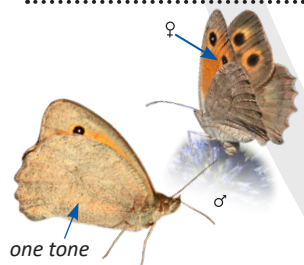
Pararge aegeria
Speckled Wood

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



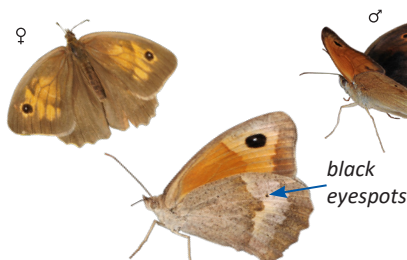
Coenonympha arcania
Pearly Heath

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



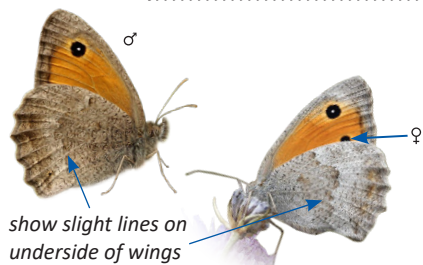
Hyponephele lupina
Oriental Meadow Brown

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



Maniola jurtina
Meadow Brown

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



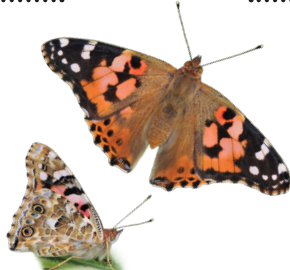
Hyponephele lycaon
Dusky Meadow Brown

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



Vanessa atalanta
Red Admiral

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



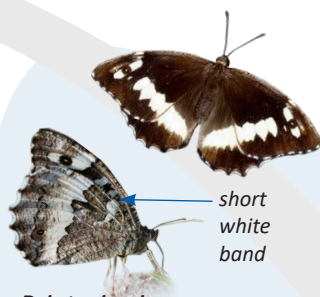
Vanessa cardui
Painted Lady

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



Aglais io
Peacock

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



Brintesia circe

Great Banded Grayling

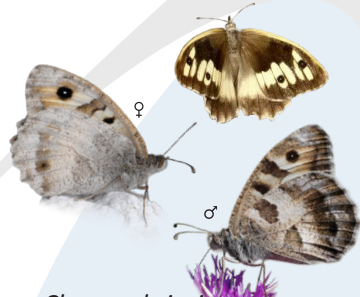
J F M A M J J A S O N D



Arethusana arethusa

False Grayling

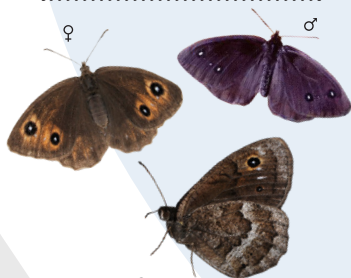
J F M A M J J A S O N D



Chazara briseis

Hermit

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



Satyrus ferula

Great Sooty Satyr

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



Pseudochazara tisiphone

Dark Grayling

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



Kirinia roxelana

Lattice Brown

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



Nymphalis antiopa

Camberwell beauty

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



Limenitis reducta

Southern White Admiral

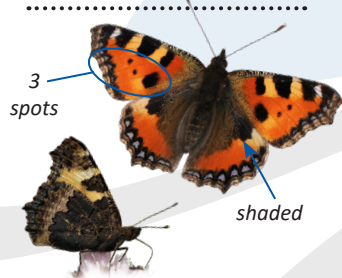
J F M A M J J A S O N D



Melanargia galathea

Marbled White

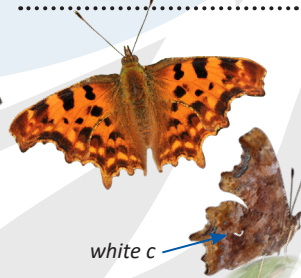
J F M A M J J A S O N D



Aglais urticae

Small Tortoiseshell

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



Polygonia c-album

Comma

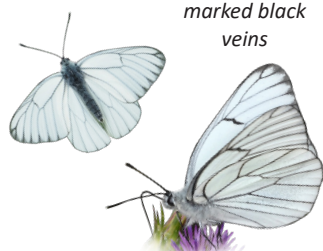
J F M A M J J A S O N D



Melanargia larissa

Balkan Marbled White

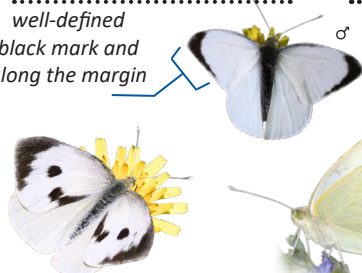
J F M A M J J A S O N D



Aporia crataegi
Black-veined White

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

well-defined
black mark and
along the margin



Pieris brassicae
Large White

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



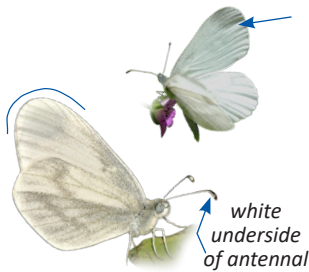
Pieris napi
Green-veined White

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



Anthocharis cardamines
Orange-tip

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



Leptidea sinapis
Wood White

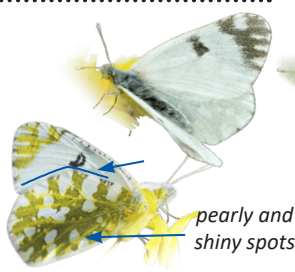
J F M A M J J A S O N D

well-defined
black mark



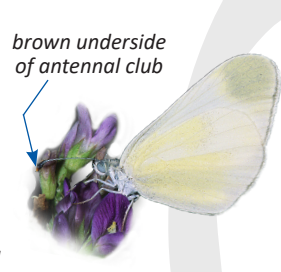
Pieris mannii
Southern Small White

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



Euchloe ausonia
Eastern Dappled White

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



Leptidea duponcheli
Eastern Wood White

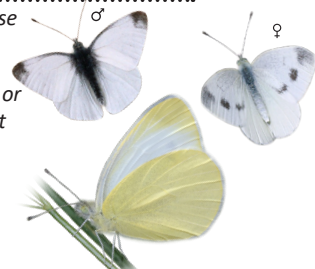
J F M A M J J A S O N D

black mark a bit
diffuse and not
long



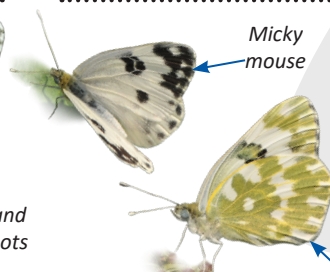
Pieris rapae
Small White

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



Pieris ergane
Southern Small White

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

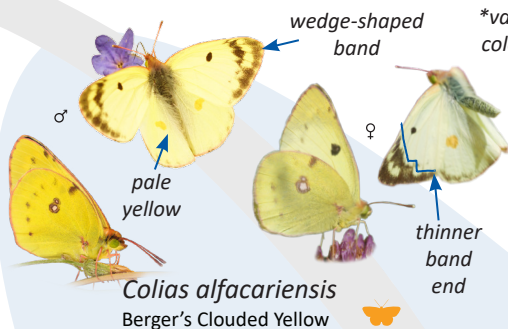


Pontia edusa
Eastern Bath White

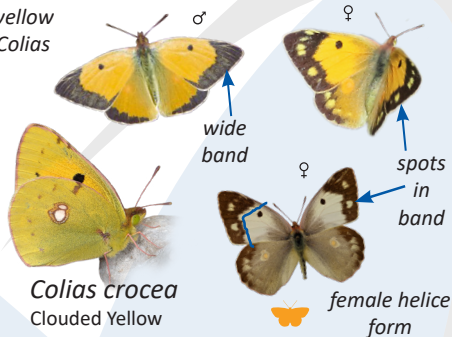
J F M A M J J A S O N D

pale
yellow

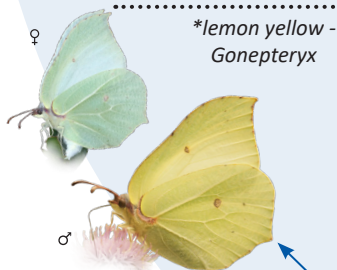
Micky
mouse



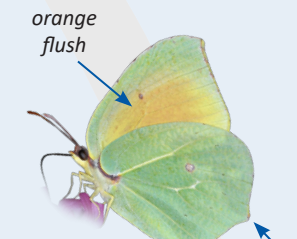
J F M A M J J A S O N D



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



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



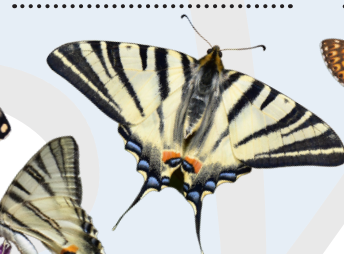
J F M A M J J A S O N D



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



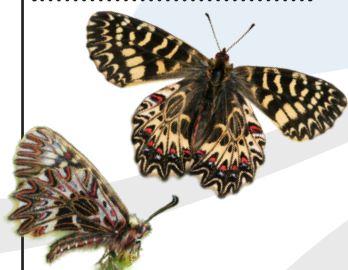
J F M A M J J A S O N D



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



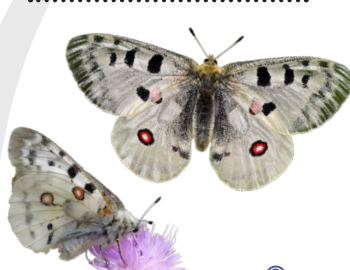
J F M A M J J A S O N D



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



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

Butterfly Conservation Europe (BCE) and UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (UKCEH) have created the European Butterfly Monitoring Scheme (eBMS) to collect data from different Butterfly Monitoring Schemes all over Europe. Each State cooperating to this project shares data with eBMS yearly, in order to analyse and evaluate population trends of European butterflies and European indicators, creating a starting line for future policies to protect butterflies and their habitat.

The coordinator of the Greek Butterfly Monitoring Scheme (apollo-grBMS) is BCL (Biodiversity Conservation Lab) at the Department of Biological Applications & Technology of the University of Ioannina. For more guidelines on how to register, sample butterflies in the field, identification tools and manuals, please visit the lab page <https://bc.lab.uoi.gr/en/research/projects/apollo/> or directly download material from the apollo google drive (see link below).

This guide can be downloaded as pdf file on the eBMS website: www.butterfly-monitoring.net/field-guides and from apollo drive <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1RbWuwRM7EnRxplqR9soQxz4LFCM9Rxe>

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Graphis design: Cristina G. Sevilleja

eBMS - European Butterfly Monitoring Scheme
SPRING - Strengthening Pollinator Recovery through Indicators and monitoring

Flight period: months when butterflies are flying

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

Butterfly size:

 Small



Medium



Large


Gender:


♀ Female ♂ Male

Symbols:

→ ○ Noticeable characters useful for species identification

Species label:

 protected species

 sensitive species (threatened by trade/ collection)

December 2024

