



Lithuania



## Field Guide for butterfly identification

The European Butterfly Monitoring Program (eBMS) aims to promote the monitoring and protection of this group of insects. This program is based on thousands of volunteers who systematically count butterflies in accordance with simple, uniform rules for the entire continent. Using all the data collected by volunteers, we can determine the state of the butterfly population and protect them more effectively.

This Field Guide aims to facilitate the task of field identification of the **101 most common butterfly species seen in Lithuania**. The guide also serves as a support tool for those involved in the monitoring of butterflies and describes the standardised methodologies used by eBMS.

***Counting butterflies will help to protect them!***

# Lithuania

Lithuania is a land of 4 years (four different Lithuanians) and forests, lakes and plains. Forests cover as much as a third of Lithuania's territory. The country is still rich in natural, untouched nature, which is concentrated in more than 17.5 % protected areas occupying the national territory. The richest diversity of species is concentrated in state reserves, which are the largest wetlands in the country, as well as in protected forests and meadows.

The most suitable observation period for diurnal butterflies in Lithuania is the second half of May and June, but some species can be observed in July, August or even September. Almost 2,500 butterfly and moths species live in Lithuania, 45 of which are listed in the Lithuanian Red List Book. Entomological reserves have been established to protect butterflies.

## Why monitor butterflies?

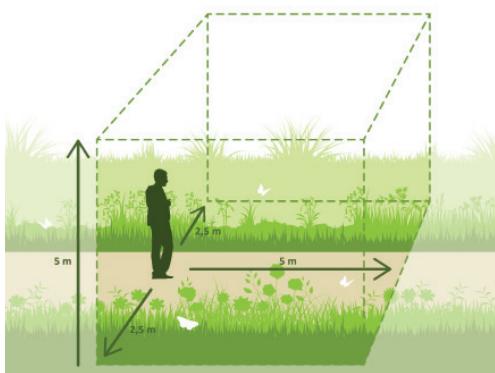
Monitoring the abundance of butterfly populations is an important method for measuring changes in the environment. It provides regular, standardised data to assess the conservation status of butterflies and produces *Butterfly Indicators* that can inform European environmental and agricultural policies. Collecting data for butterfly monitoring is an interesting and relaxing way to spend some of your spare time while helping to understand the conservation status of Lithuanian's butterflies.



## How to count butterflies?

Butterflies can be counted everywhere: in the meadow, in the forest, park, garden, along communication routes or on the so-called wastelands, both in the countryside and in the city. Wherever it is, every count is important. As part of the European Butterfly Monitoring Program (eBMS), data is most often collected during the "**Butterfly Walk**", called transect. This is a fixed route where butterflies are counted regularly, preferably once a week or two. It will be most convenient to mark your transect near your home or work so that you can visit it often.

Another option is to register the butterflies during the "**15-min Count**". It consists in counting butterflies for 15 minutes in a given area. It can be a path, a restricted area (e.g. a garden) or just a specific point.



### Basic rules when counting butterflies:

- Count all the butterflies of each species you encounter in an imaginary cube: 2.5m to the left and right, and 5m in front of and above you
- Walk through the transect/area at a slow, steady pace
- Make observations with good weather (sunny and warm, no rain and strong wind)
- Submit your data to the eBMS database or to the BMS coordinator

## Where to send data?

You can use the eBMS mobile app, [ButterflyCount](#), to record the “15-min Count” or “eBMS Transect”. The application can be installed on [Android](#) or [iOS](#) devices and allows you to count butterflies from anywhere in Europe. Turn on GPS and the app will draw your route while counting butterflies. You will need to create an account on the eBMS website and sign-in on the app to record butterflies with the app.

You can register a transect with the help of the coordinator. More information on the eBMS website: [www.butterfly-monitoring.net](http://www.butterfly-monitoring.net)



Butterfly  
Count  
App

## How to use this field guide

In this field guide you can find images of the **101 most common butterfly species** currently found in Lithuania. These butterflies belong to 5 different families, they are divided into groups according to this (you will find them in the margins of the page). Every butterfly species has both a common English name and a scientific name (written in *italics*). Information is included for each species' flight period, size category and conservation status (see the legend on the back cover of the Field Guide). Butterfly identification is often best done using photographs. Check the diagnostic characteristics highlighted in this guide with the arrows or circles and the remarks to help you with the identification. Note the size indicator next to the species, as the size of the photo does not match the size of the butterfly in reality.

## PAPILIONIDAE



Swallowtail  
*Papilio machaon*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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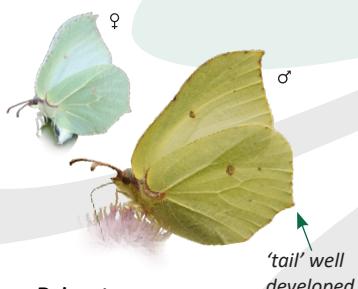
Clouded Apollo  
*Parnassius mnemosyne*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Black-veined White  
*Aporia crataegi*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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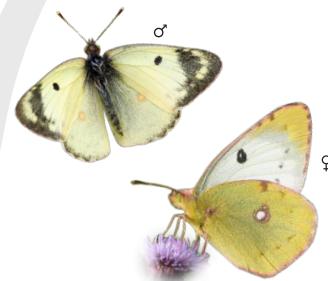
Brimstone  
*Gonepteryx rhamni*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Moorland Clouded Yellow  
*Colias palaeno*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Pale Clouded Yellow  
*Colias hyale*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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## PIERIDAE

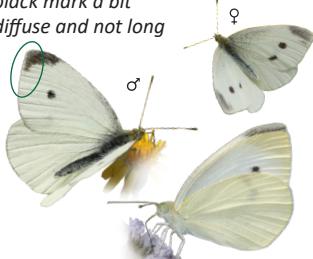
# PIERIDAE



**Green-veined White**  
*Pieris napi*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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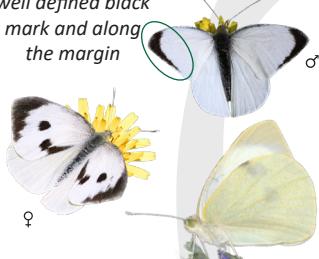
black mark a bit  
diffuse and not long



**Small White**  
*Pieris rapae*

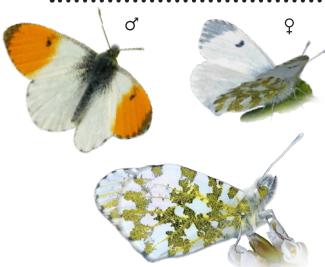
I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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well defined black  
mark and along  
the margin



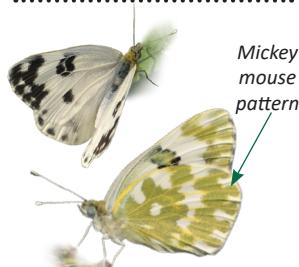
**Large White**  
*Pieris brassicae*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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**Orange-Tip**  
*Anthocharis cardamines*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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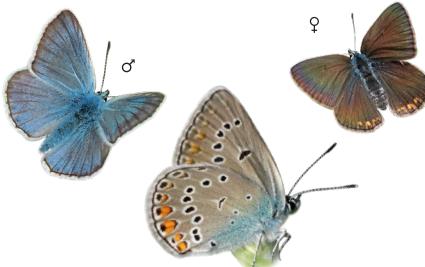
**Eastern Bath White**  
*Pontia edusa*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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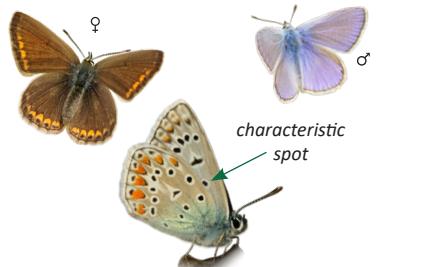
**Wood/Cryptic Wood White**  
*Leptidea sinapis/juvernica*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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**Amanda's Blue**  
*Polyommatus amandus*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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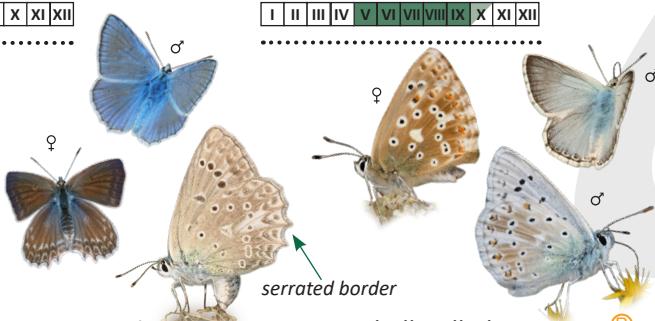
**Common Blue**  
*Polyommatus icarus*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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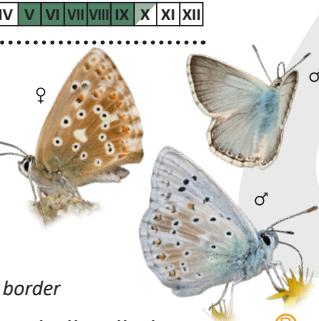
**Green Hairstreak**  
*Callophrys rubi*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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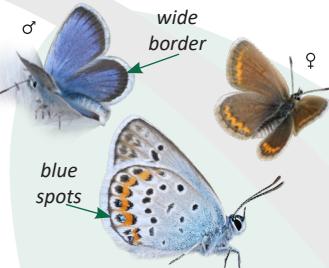
**Meleager's Blue**  
*Polyommatus daphnis*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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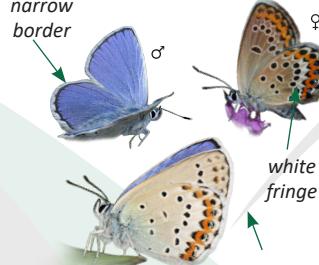
**Chalk Hill Blue**  
*Lysandra coridon*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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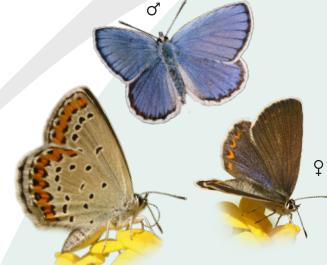
Silver-studded Blue  
*Plebejus argus*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Idas Blue  
*Plebejus idas*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Reverdin's Blue  
*Plebejus argyrognomon*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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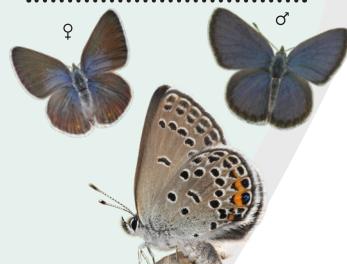
Short-Tailed Blue  
*Cupido argiades*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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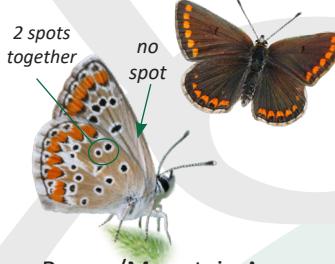
Small Blue  
*Cupido minimus*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Cranberry Blue  
*Plebejus optilete*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Brown/Mountain Argus  
*Aricia agestis/artaxerxes*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Eumedonia eumedon  
*Eumedonia eumedon*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Holly Blue  
*Celastrina argiolus*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Mazarine Blue  
*Cyaniris semiargus*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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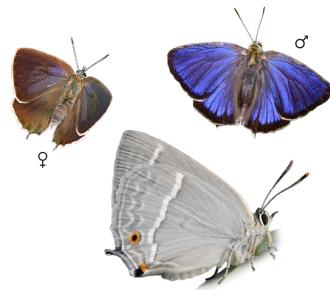
Scarce Large Blue  
*Phengaris teleius*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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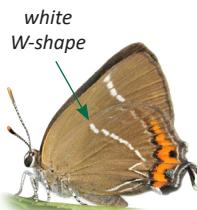
Large Blue  
*Phengaris arion*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Purple Hairstreak  
*Favonius quercus*

I II III IV V VI VII VIII IX X XI XII



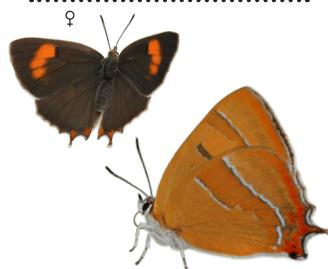
White-letter Hairstreak  
*Satyrium w-album*

I II III IV V VI VII VIII IX X XI XII



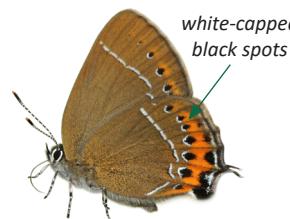
Blue Spot Hairstreak  
*Satyrium spinii*

I II III IV V VI VII VIII IX X XI XII



Brown Hairstreak  
*Thecla betulae*

I II III IV V VI VII VIII IX X XI XII



Black Hairstreak  
*Satyrium pruni*

I II III IV V VI VII VIII IX X XI XII



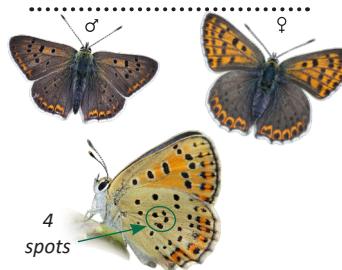
Ilex Hairstreak  
*Satyrium ilicis*

I II III IV V VI VII VIII IX X XI XII



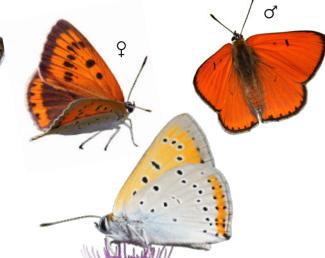
Small Copper  
*Lycaena phlaeas*

I II III IV V VI VII VIII IX X XI XII



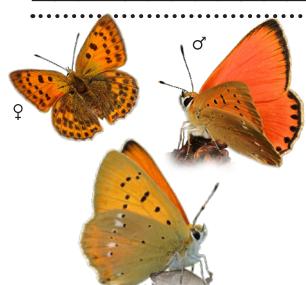
Sooty Copper  
*Lycaena tityrus*

I II III IV V VI VII VIII IX X XI XII



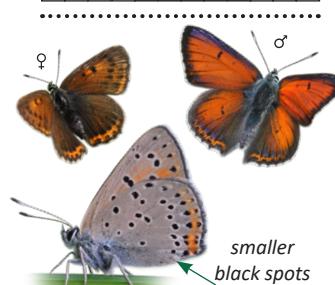
Large Copper  
*Lycaena dispar*

I II III IV V VI VII VIII IX X XI XII



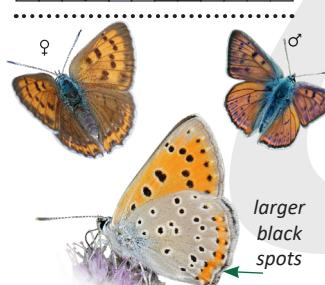
Scarce Copper  
*Lycaena virgaureae*

I II III IV V VI VII VIII IX X XI XII



Purple Edged Copper  
*Lycaena hippothoe*

I II III IV V VI VII VIII IX X XI XII



Purple Shot Copper  
*Lycaena alciphron*

I II III IV V VI VII VIII IX X XI XII



Purple Emperor  
*Apatura iris*



I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Lesser Purple Emperor  
*Apatura ilia*



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Camberwell Beauty  
*Nymphalis antiopa*



I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Poplar Admiral  
*Limenitis populi*



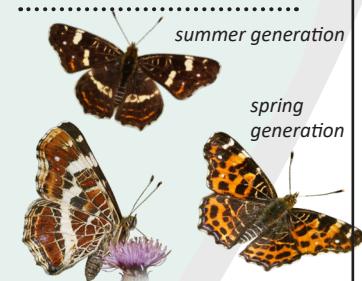
I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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White Admiral  
*Limenitis camilla*



I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Map  
*Araschnia levana*



I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Red Admiral  
*Vanessa atalanta*



I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Painted Lady  
*Vanessa cardui*



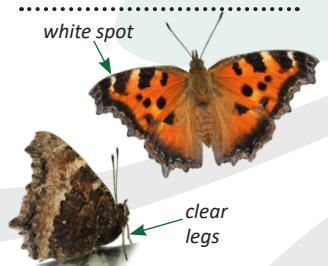
I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Peacock  
*Aglais io*



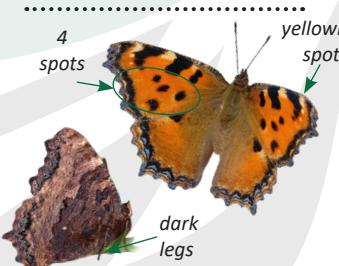
I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Yellow Legged Tortoiseshell  
*Nymphalis xanthomelas*



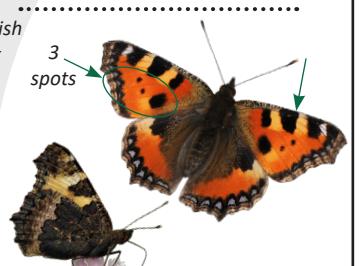
I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Large Tortoiseshell  
*Nymphalis polychloros*



I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Small Tortoiseshell  
*Aglais urticae*



I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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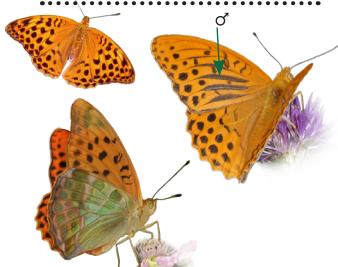
**Dark Green Fritillary**  
*Speyeria aglaja*



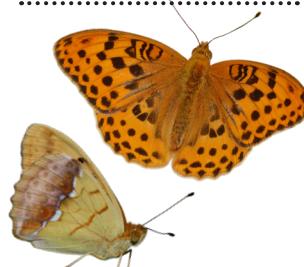
**High Brown Fritillary**  
*Fabriciana adippe*



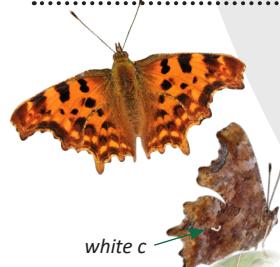
**Niobe Fritillary**  
*Fabriciana niobe*



**Silver-Washed Fritillary**  
*Argynnis paphia*



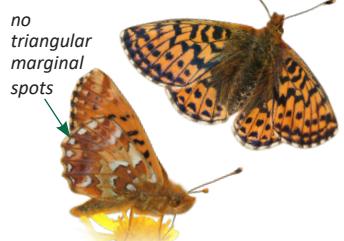
**Pallas's Fritillary**  
*Argynnis laodice*



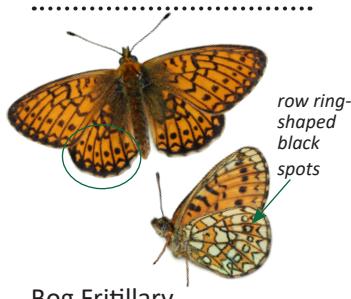
**Comma**  
*Polygonia c-album*



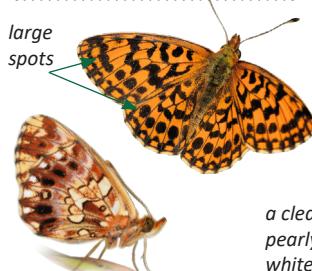
**Queen of Spain Fritillary**  
*Issoria lathonia*



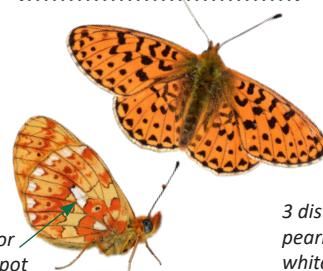
**Cranberry Fritillary**  
*Boloria aquilonaris*



**Bog Fritillary**  
*Boloria eunomia*



**Weaver's Fritillary**  
*Boloria dia*



**Pearl Bordered Fritillary**  
*Boloria euphrosyne*



**Small Pearl Bordered Fritillary**  
*Boloria selene*

1 I II III IV V VI VII VIII IX X XI XII

1 I II III IV V VI VII VIII IX X XI XII

1 I II III IV V VI VII VIII IX X XI XII

# NYMPHALIDAE

darker border lunules



False Heath Fritillary   
*Melitaea diamina*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Heath Fritillary   
*Melitaea athalia*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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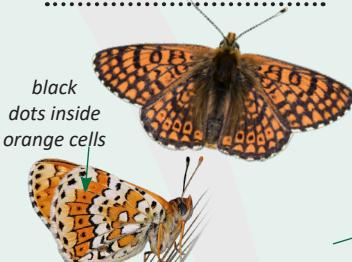
Knapweed Fritillary   
*Melitaea phoebe*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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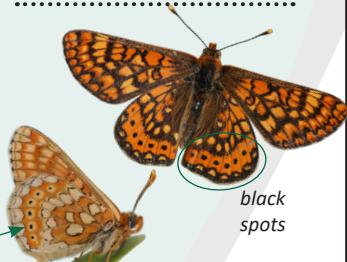
Spotted Fritillary   
*Melitaea didyma*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Glanville Fritillary   
*Melitaea cinxia*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Marsh Fritillary   
*Euphydryas aurinia*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Lesser Marbled Fritillary   
*Brethis ino*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Marbled Fritillary   
*Brethis daphne*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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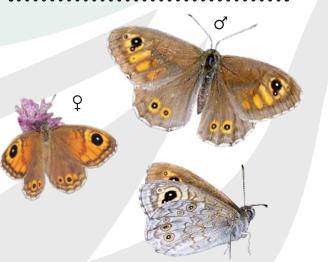
Scarce Fritillary   
*Euphydryas maturna*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Wall Brown   
*Lasiommata megera*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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Large Wall Brown   
*Lasiommata maera*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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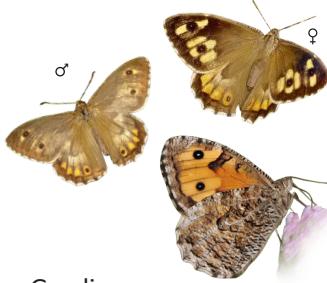


Speckled Wood   
*Pararge aegeria*

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
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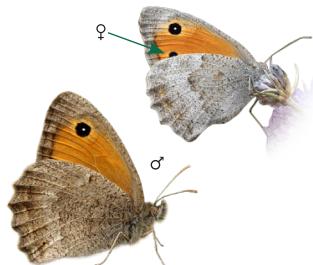
**Rock Grayling**  
*Hipparchia hermione* ♂



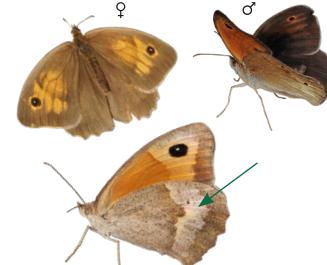
**Grayling**  
*Hipparchia semele*



**Baltic Grayling**  
*Oeneis jutta* ♂



**Dusky Meadow Brown**  
*Hyponephele lycaon*



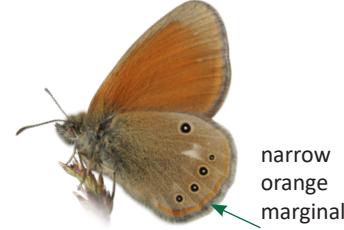
**Meadow Brown**  
*Maniola jurtina*



**Woodland Brown**  
*Lopinga achine*



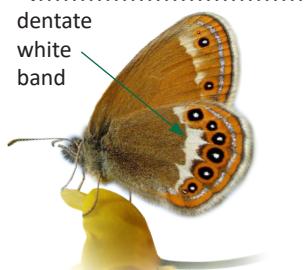
**Pearly Heath**  
*Coenonympha arcania*



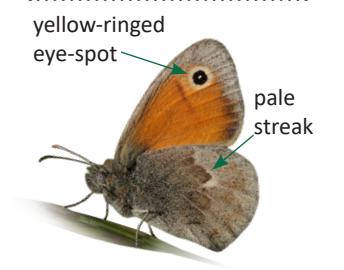
**Chestnut Heath**  
*Coenonympha glycerion*



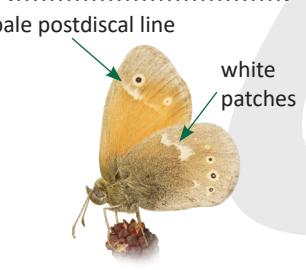
**Ringlet**  
*Aphantopus hyperantus*



**Scarce Heath**  
*Coenonympha hero*

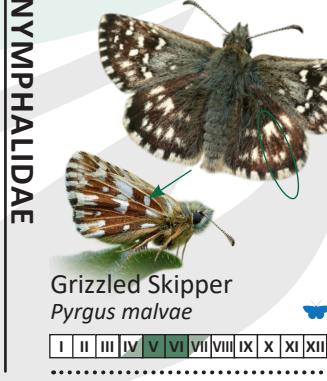
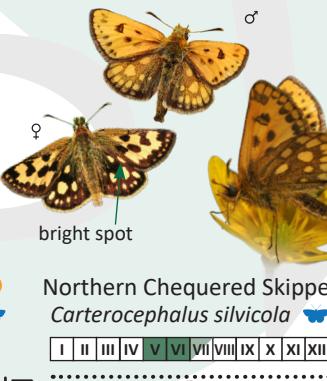
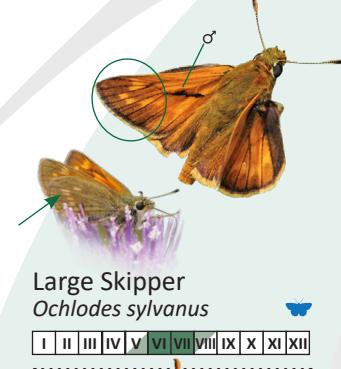
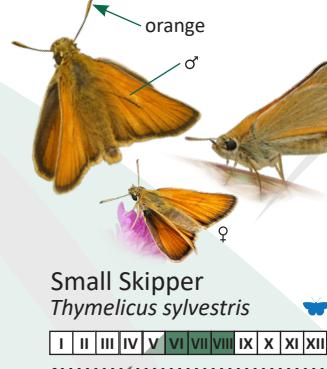
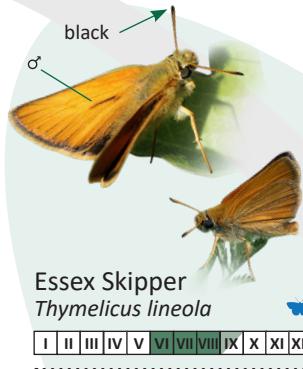


**Small Heath**  
*Coenonympha pamphilus*



**Large Heath**  
*Coenonympha tullia* ♂

# HESPERIIDAE



# NYMPHALIDAE

**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, which provide an expert basis for further action in the protection of butterflies and their habitats.

More information about the project can be found at [www.butterfly-monitoring.net/lit/lithuania-bms](http://www.butterfly-monitoring.net/lit/lithuania-bms). Join the Facebook group for volunteers: [BMS Lietuvoje, dieninių drugių stebėjimai](#). You can also be helped by the members of the Lithuanian Society of Entomologists, who you can find in the Facebook group: [Lietuvos entomologų draugija](#). Join eBMS in Lithuania and help count all Lithuanian moths.

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This guide was funded by DG-Env (European Commission) under the SPRING service contract. It can be found and downloaded from the eBMS website:

[www.butterfly-monitoring.net/bms-materials](http://www.butterfly-monitoring.net/bms-materials)

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Graphic design: Eveline van der Jagt & Cristina Sevilleja

eBMS - European Butterfly Monitoring Scheme

SPRING - Strengthening Pollinator Recovery through  
INdicators and monitorinG

Cover image *Phengaris arion* and page 2, *Brenthis hecate*, author Giedrius Švitra

Conservation status based on the European Red List (van Swaay et al., 2010):

Near Threatened ●

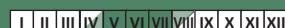
(R) Rare

Probability to see a species:

(L) Very Rare

Flight period: months when butterflies are seen

Months shaded darker green: high probability;  
pale green: lower probability



Butterfly size:

Small



Medium



Large

Sex:

♀ Female ♂ Male



Symbols:

→ ○ Specific characteristics to identify the species



UK Centre for  
Ecology & Hydrology

