



Slovak
common species

Vanessa cardui
@Lucia Benesova

Field Guide for butterfly identification

The **European Butterfly Monitoring Scheme (eBMS)** aims to collect data to promote the monitoring and conservation of this group of insects. The eBMS network relies on thousands of volunteers who systematically collect field data following a defined methodology.

This Field Guide aims to facilitate the task of field identification of **99 most common Slovak butterfly species**. 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.

Counting butterflies will help to protect them!

Discovering Slovak butterflies

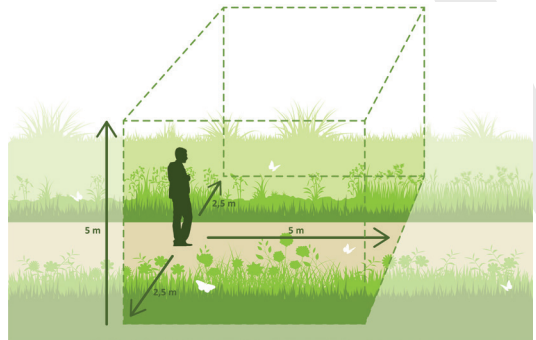
Slovakia, a land of beautiful landscapes and vibrant ecosystems, is home to a remarkable variety of butterflies. This country's diverse geography, from the High Tatras to the lowlands, provides an ideal habitat for these animals.

Monitoring butterflies

The Monitoring Transect method involves systematically walking a fixed route while the recorder walks at a slow pace and records all specimens of butterflies in an imaginary box, 2.5m to each side and 5m in front and above you (see image below).

The frequency of the monitoring transects is carried out once every one or two weeks (preferably), in sunny weather and in the warmest part of the day, at a minimum temperature of 15 °C.

You can also count butterflies with the app **ButterflyCount**, doing 15-minute Counts whenever you want while the GPS follows you. If you want to join the butterfly monitoring, visit www.butterfly-monitoring.net

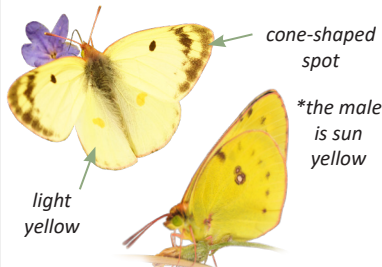


PIERIDAE



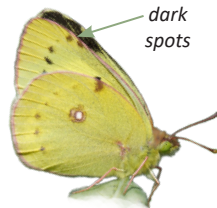
Pale Clouded Yellow
Colias hyale

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



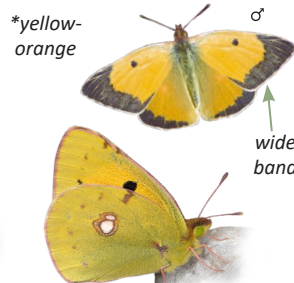
Berger's Clouded Yellow
Colias alfacariensis

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



Eastern Pale Clouded Yellow
Colias erate

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

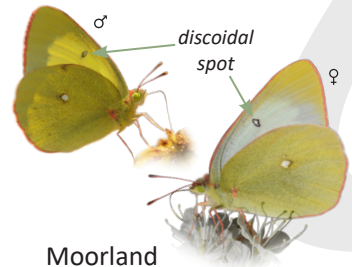


Clouded Yellow
Colias crocea

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



female f. helice



Moorland Clouded Yellow
Colias palaena

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

How to use this Field Guide

This field guide introduces 99 butterfly species in Slovakia, some of which may even visit your own backyard. The species are organized systematically by families, making identification more accessible. To assist with species identification, we've highlighted key features with arrows and circles. Each species is labeled with its English and scientific name (written in *italics*). The bars beneath indicate the months of their occurrence (flight period), while butterfly symbols denote approximate size (**large**, **medium**, or **small**). See back cover for more information about symbols. Anyone with an interest in nature and a willingness to observe can contribute and help protect these exquisite insects and the habitats they depend on.



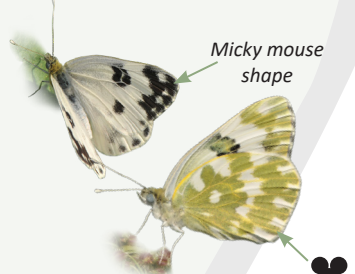
Brimstone
Gonepteryx rhamni

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Orangetip
Anthocharis cardamines

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Bath White
Pontia edusa

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Black-veined White
Aporia crataegi

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Green-veined White
Pieris napi

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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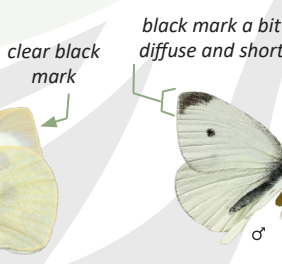
Wood White
Leptidea sinapis/juvernica

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Large White
Pieris brassicae

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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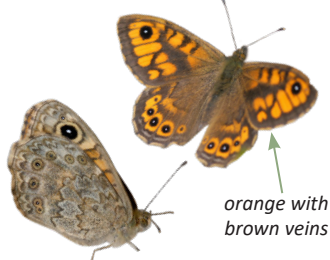
Small White
Pieris rapae

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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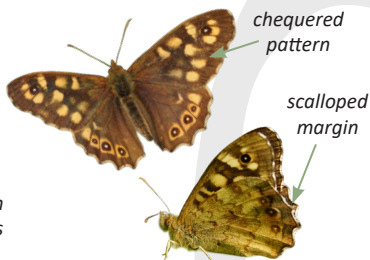
Large Wall Brown
Lasiommata maera

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



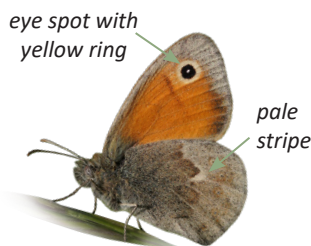
Wall Brown
Lasiommata megera

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



Speckled Wood
Pararge aegeria

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



Small Heath
Coenonympha pamphilus

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



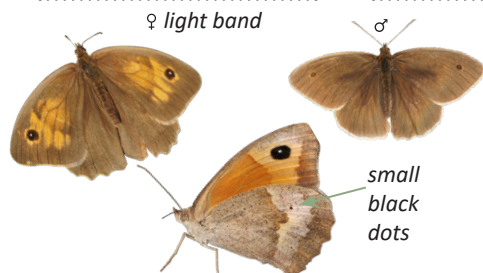
Chestnut Heath
Coenonympha glycerion

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



Pearly Heath
Coenonympha arcania

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



Meadow Brown
Maniola jurtina

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



Map
Araschnia levana

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



Arran Brown
Erebia ligea

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



Woodland Ringlet
Erebia medusa

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



Marbled White
Melanargia galathea

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

eye-spot
blue pupil



♂



dentate
white band

Purple Emperor
Apatura iris



J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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eye-spot
without pupil



♂



Lesser Purple Emperor
Apatura ilia



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

orange color
and two rows
black spots



White Admiral
Limenitis camilla



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

one row
black spots



Poplar Admiral
Limenitis populi



J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Woodland Grayling
Hipparchia fagi



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



Great Banded Grayling
Brintesia circe



J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Ringlet
Aphantopus hyperantus



J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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False Grayling
Arethusana arethusa



J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Dryad
Minois dryas



J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Camberwell Beauty
Nymphalis antiopa

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



Large Tortoiseshell
Nymphalis polychloros

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



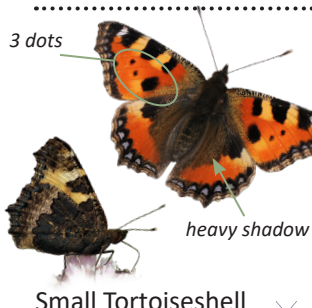
Yellow Legged Tortoiseshell
Nymphalis xanthomelas

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



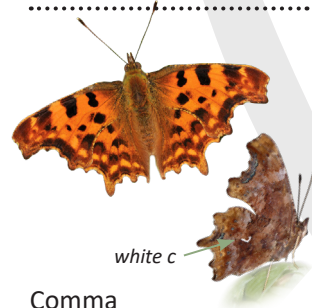
Peacock
Aglais io

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



Small Tortoiseshell
Aglais urticae

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



Comma
Polygonia c-album

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



Painted Lady
Vanessa cardui

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



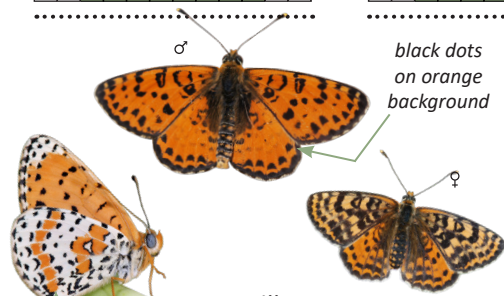
Red Admiral
Vanessa atalanta

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



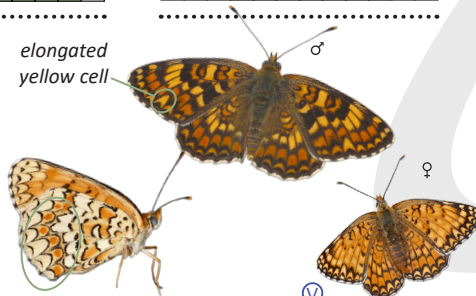
Queen of Spain Fritillary
Issoria lathonia

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



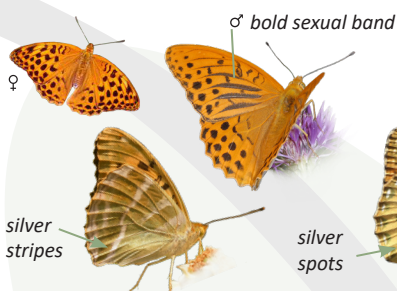
Spotted Fritillary
Melitaea didyma

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



Knapweed Fritillary
Melitaea phoebe

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



Silver-washed Fritillary
Argynnis paphia

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

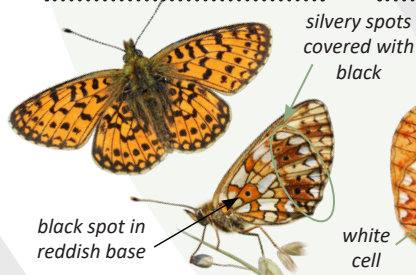
Dark Green Fritillary
Speyeria aglaja

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



High Brown Fritillary
Fabriciana adippe

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

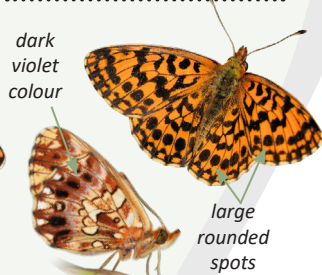


Small Pearl Bordered Fritillary
Boloria selene

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

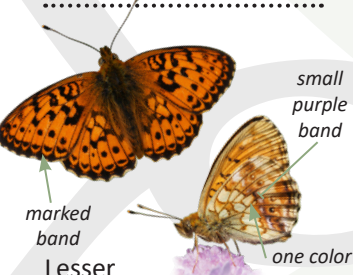
Pearl Bordered Fritillary
Boloria euphrosyne

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



Violet Fritillary
Boloria dia

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

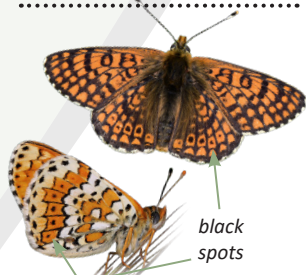


Lesser Marbled Fritillary
Brenthis ino

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

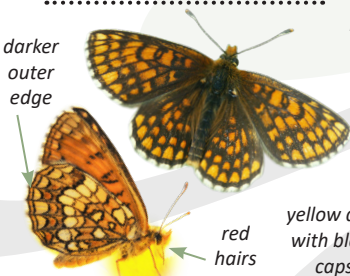
Scarce Fritillary
Euphydryas maturna

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



Granville Fritillary
Melitaea cinxia

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



Nickerl's Fritillary
Melitaea aurelia

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

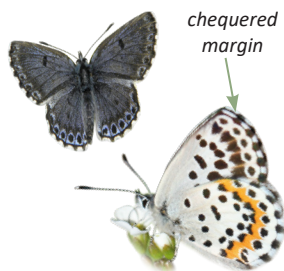
False Heath Fritillary
Melitaea diamina

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



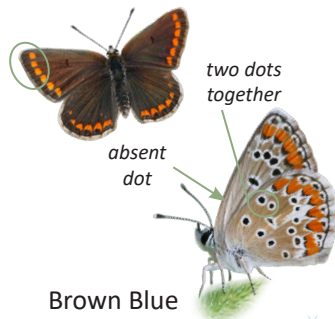
Heath Fritillary
Melitaea athalia

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



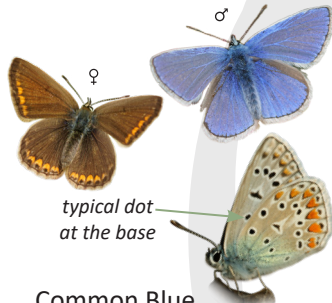
Chequered Blue
Scolitantides orion

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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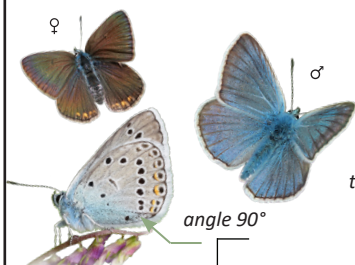
Brown Blue
Aricia agestis

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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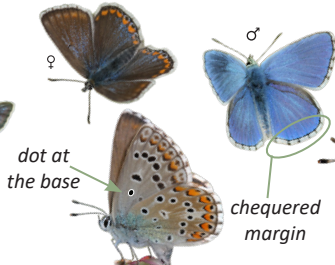
Common Blue
Polyommatus icarus

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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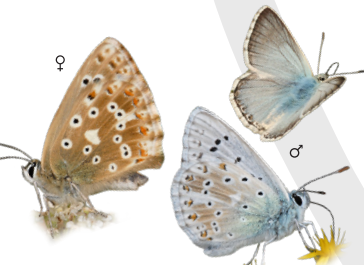
Amanda's Blue
Polyommatus amandus

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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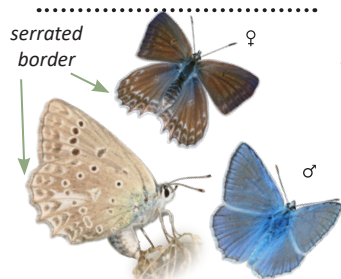
Adonis Blue
Lysandra bellargus

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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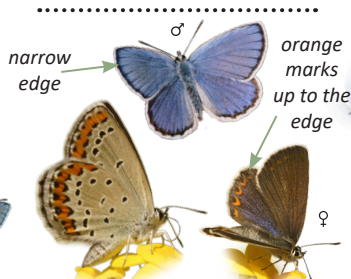
Chalk Hill Blue
Lysandra coridon

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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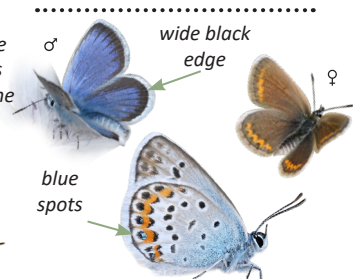
Meleager's Blue
Polyommatus daphnis

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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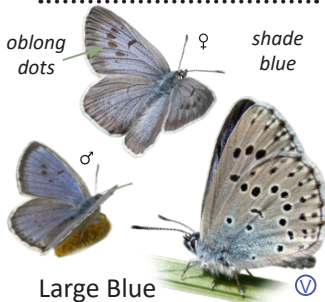
Reverdin's Blue
Plebejus argyrognomon

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Silver Studded Blue
Plebejus argus

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Large Blue
Phengaris arion

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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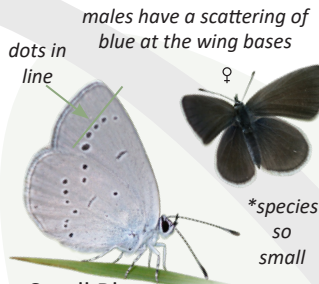
Dusky Large Blue
Phengaris nausithous

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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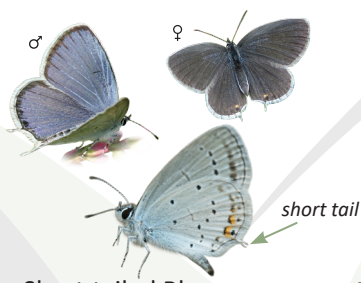
Scarce Large Blue
Phengaris teleius

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Small Blue
Cupido minimus

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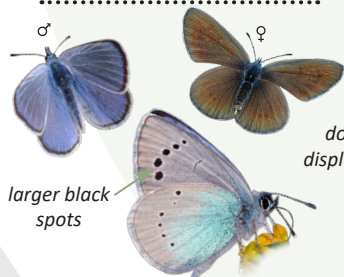


Short-tailed Blue
Cupido argiades

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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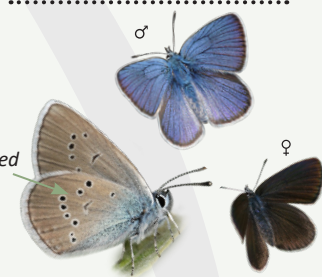
Eastern Short-tailed Blue
Cupido decoloratus

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Green-underside Blue
Glaucopsyche alexis

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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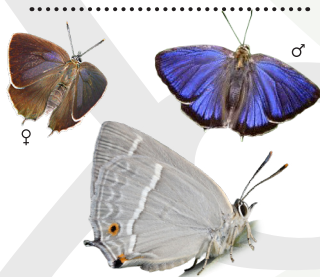
Mazarine Blue
Cyaniris semiargus

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Holly Blue
Celastrina argiolus

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Purple Hairstreak
Favonius quercus

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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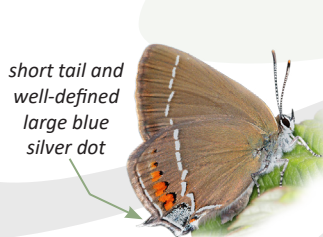
Green Hairstreak
Callophrys rubi

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Brown Hairstreak
Thecla betulae

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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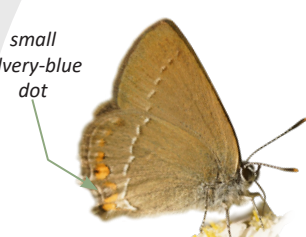
Blue-spot Hairstreak
Satyrium spini

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Black Hairstreak
Satyrium pruni

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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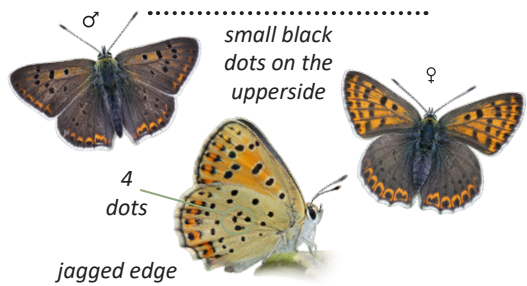
Sloe Hairstreak
Satyrium acaciae

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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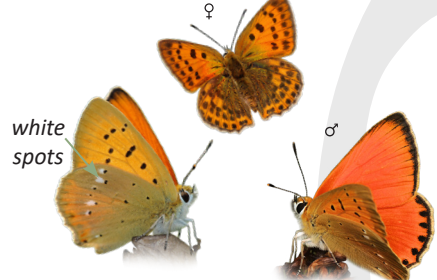
Purple Edged Copper
Lycaena hippothoe

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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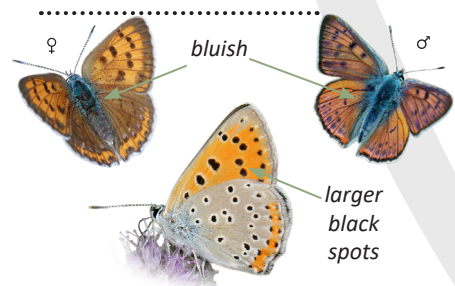
Sooty Copper
Lycaena tityrus

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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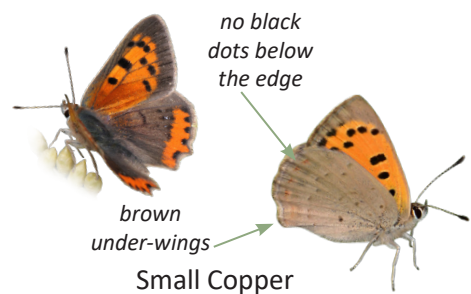
Scarce Copper
Lycaena virgaureae

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Purple-shot Copper 
Lycaena alciphron

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Small Copper
Lycaena phlaeas

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Large Copper 
Lycaena dispar

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Swallowtail
Papilio machaon

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Scarce Swallowtail
Iphiclides podalirius

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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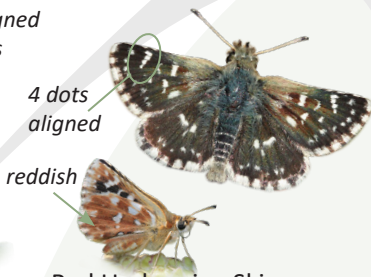
Dingy Skipper
Erynnis tages

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



Grizzled Skipper
Pyrgus malvae

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



Red Underwing Skipper
Spialia sertorius

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



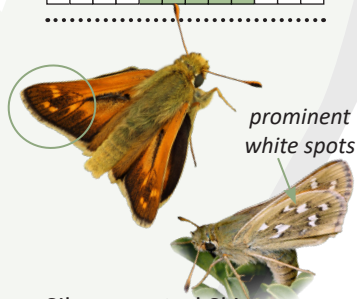
Large Chequered Skipper
Heteropterus morpheus

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



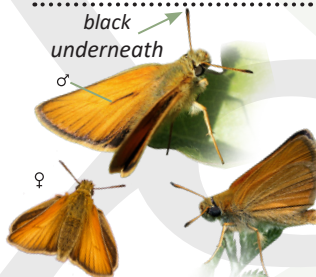
Chequered Skipper
Carterocephalus palaemon

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



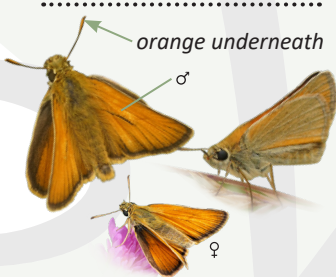
Silver-spotted Skipper
Hesperia comma

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



Essex Skipper
Thymelicus lineola

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



Small Skipper
Thymelicus sylvestris

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



Large Skipper
Ochlodes sylvanus

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



Clouded Apollo
Parnassius mnemosyne

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



Southern Festoon
Zerynthia polyxena

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

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.

Monitoring butterfly populations and their habitats is not just a pastime; it is a critical endeavor that offers invaluable insights into the health of our environment. 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 Slovakia you can contact the email: bms.slovensko@gmail.com.

Connect with us on Facebook and Instagram to stay updated on butterfly conservation efforts on the social accounts Instagram [/bms_slovensko](https://www.instagram.com/bms_slovensko) and Facebook [/bmsslovensko](https://www.facebook.com/bmsslovensko).

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Graphic design: Cristina G. Sevilleja

eBMS - European Butterfly Monitoring Scheme
SPRING - Strengthening Pollinator Recovery through
INDicators and monitoringG

November 2023

Conservation status in Slovakia (Red List):
 Vulnerable  Endangered/
Critically Endangered

Flight period: months when butterflies are seen

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

Butterfly size:
 Small  Medium  Large

Sex:
♀ Female ♂ Male

Symbols:
→ ○ Specific characteristics to
identify the species

