

BUTTERFLY IDENTIFICATION CHART Sheet 1

MY BUTTERFLY IS:
MOSTLY BROWN or ORANGE

Medium sized butterflies - 25mm - 60mm wingspan

Upper side

Under side



Diamond Sand-skipper

Antipoda atralba - occurs along coastal cliffs south of Adelaide and in pristine heathland in the Hills. Caterpillars are found on small species of saw-sedges *Gahnia* spp. Wingspan: 31mm - 35mm.



Heath Ochre

Trapezites phigalia - found only in the Adelaide hills on ridge tops. Caterpillars feed on mat-rush *Lomandra* spp. Wingspan: 29mm - 31mm.



Varied Sedge-skipper

Hesperilla donnyssa - a common butterfly along the South Mt. Lofty Range and SE SA where it is found along valleys and in wetland areas. Caterpillars feed on large species of saw-sedges *Gahnia* spp. Wingspan: 31mm - 36mm.



Flame Sedge-skipper

Hesperilla idothea clara - a rare butterfly found in cool wetland areas of the South Mt. Lofty Range and SE SA. Caterpillars feed on large species of saw-sedges *Gahnia* spp. growing in shade. Wingspan: 36mm - 39mm.

BUTTERFLY IDENTIFICATION CHART Sheet 2

MY BUTTERFLY IS:
MOSTLY BROWN or ORANGE

Medium sized butterflies - 25mm - 60mm wingspan

Upper side

Under side



Yellow Sedge-skipper

Hesperilla flavescens – a rare butterfly in the Lower South East of SA found in gahnia sedgelands and tea-tree swamplands. Caterpillars feed on *Gahnia* sp. in dense habitat during summer. Wingspan: 32mm - 37mm



Splendid Ochre

Trapezites symmomus soma – a rare skipper in the Lower South East of SA in natural forests where the caterpillar food plant *Lomandra longifolia* occurs. Observed flying from January to March. Wingspan: 44mm



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Bright Shield-skipper

Signeta flammeata – a rare skipper in the Lower South East of SA only known from a few locations in natural forest. Caterpillars feed on soft native grasses *Poa* and *Tetrarrhena*. Observed flying from January to March. Wingspan: male 30mm, female 30mm.



Yellow Ochre

Trapezites lutea – found in low densities throughout much of the grazing areas in the south, however it rarely seen. Caterpillars feed on Iron grass *Lomandra multiflora*. Wingspan: 27mm - 31mm

BUTTERFLY IDENTIFICATION CHART Sheet 3

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Medium sized butterflies - 25mm - 60mm wingspan

Upper side

Under side



Golden-haired Sedge skipper

Hesperilla chrysotricha cyclospila - now threatened in the South Mt.Lofty Ranges. Most likely to be seen in pristine, open wetland areas south of McLaren Vale to coastal SE SA. Caterpillars feed on large species of saw-sedges *Gahnia* sp. Wingspan: 33mm - 36mm.



Orange Palm-dart

Cephrènes augiades sperthias - accidentally introduced by the nursery trade in 1990 and now likely to be found in most parts of suburban Adelaide on the plains. Caterpillars are found on palms. Wingspan: male 37mm, female 41mm.



Large Brown skipper

Motasingha trimaculata trimaculata - a rare woodland species found along the South Mt.Lofty Ranges to the upper SE of SA. Caterpillars feed on certain *Lepidosperma* spp. Wingspan: 33mm - 36mm.



Sciron Ochre

Trapezites sciron - The caterpillar of this skipper feeds on *Lomandra collina* found in sandy, semi arid localities in the upper SE of SA and Eyre Peninsula. Observed flying in early spring. Wingspan: 28mm - 30mm



BUTTERFLY IDENTIFICATION CHART Sheet 4

MY BUTTERFLY IS:
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Medium sized butterflies - 25mm - 60mm wingspan

Upper side

Under side



Orange Ochre

Trapezites eliena – a very rare skipper in the Lower South East of SA natural forests where the caterpillar food plant *Lomandra longifolia* occurs. Observed flying from November to January. Wingspan: 33mm - 37mm



White-veined Sand-skipper

Herimosa albovenata - For many years this skipper was known from only one location, however it has now been found to be widely spread throughout the state. The caterpillars feed on a small species of perennial spear grass. Wingspan: 27mm - 28mm.



Lesser Wanderer

Danaus chrysippus petilia - This widespread butterfly is generally uncommon in Adelaide. Caterpillars are similar to the Wanderer caterpillars and normally feed on desert pear a native cotton bush in the north. In Adelaide they have adapted to eat introduced milkweed plants. Wingspan: 60mm.



Glasswing *Acraea*

andromacha - a north and north eastern Australian species, this butterfly has visited South Australia on rare occasions due to extreme climatic conditions in the eastern states. Notable observations in mid 1970's and summer - autumn in 2010 - 2011. The underside is similar to the upperside. Wingspan: 53mm - 56mm.



BUTTERFLY IDENTIFICATION CHART Sheet 5

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Medium sized butterflies - 25mm - 60mm wingspan

Upper side

Under side



Australian Painted Lady
Vanessa kershawi - common in Adelaide gardens particularly during spring as they migrate from northern areas. Caterpillars feed on everlasting daisies. Wingspan: 42mm - 47mm.



Yellow or Australian Admiral
Vanessa itea - sometimes common; caterpillars feed on leaves from the nettle family, *Urtica* spp. and have adapted to the introduced stinging nettle plant. Wingspan: 50mm.



Meadow Argus
Junonia villida calybe - a common butterfly found in meadows, open reserves or vacant blocks. Caterpillars feed on native herbaceous plants and weeds. Wingspan: 40mm - 43mm.



Sword Grass-brown
Tisiphone abeona albifascia - a rare species found in peat swamplands in the Lower South East of SA. Caterpillars feed exclusively on *Gahnia* sedges. Observed flying from November to February. Wingspan: 55mm - 60mm



BUTTERFLY IDENTIFICATION CHART Sheet 6

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Medium sized butterflies - 25mm - 60mm wingspan

Upper side

Under side



Klug's or Marbled Xenica

Geitoneura klugii - a common butterfly flying in spring and summer, found in most areas retaining some native vegetation in Southern Australia. Caterpillars feed on native and introduced grasses. Wingspan: 39mm - 42mm.



Ringed Xenica

Geitoneura acantha - an increasingly rare butterfly, it prefers pristine damp grassy gullies along the South Mt. Lofty Ranges. Caterpillars feed on native and introduced grasses. Wingspan: 39mm - 44mm.



Striped Xenica

Oriexenica kershawi kanunda - known from coastal swamplands in the Lower South East of SA. Caterpillars feed on soft native grasses, *Poa* and *Tetrarrhena*. Observed flying from January to April. Wingspan: 34mm.



Silver Xenica *Oriexenica*

lathoniella herceus - thought to be extinct, having not been since 2007. Previously found in moist grassy woodlands in South East of SA. The caterpillar feeds on soft native grasses, *Poa* and *Microlaena*. Observed flying in March and April. Wingspan: 30mm.



BUTTERFLY IDENTIFICATION CHART Sheet 7

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Medium sized butterflies - 25mm - 60mm wingspan



Upper side

Under side



Bright-eyed Brown

Heteronympha cordace wilsoni – a rare butterfly only known from one location in the Lower South East coastal peatlands. Caterpillar hostplant unknown. Wingspan: 38mm - 42mm



Common Brown

Heteronympha merope - This widespread species is common along the Adelaide Hills Face Zone and in the Adelaide suburbs and occurs throughout S and SE Australia. The caterpillars feed on native and introduced grasses. Wingspan: male 56mm, female 64mm.

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Shouldered Brown

Heteronympha penelope alope – medium size sometimes abundant brown found in grassy woodlands and forests in the Lower South East of SA. Caterpillars feed on native grasses. Observed flying from February to April. Wingspan: male 54mm, female 56mm.

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