

Gloucestershire Butterflies and Moths - Forest of Dean

Family	Name	M/B	Latin Name	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Larval Food Plant	Flight Characteristics / Other ID Hints	Notes
Hesperiidae	Dingy Skipper	B	Erynnis tages									Bird's-foot Trefoil		Uncommon in FoD
Hesperiidae	Essex Skipper	B	Thymelicus lineola									Grass spp	Hard to tell from small skipper	Becoming more common.
Hesperiidae	Grizzled Skipper	B	Pyrgus malvae									Wild Strawberry		Uncommon in FoD
Hesperiidae	Large Skipper	B	Ochlodes sylvanus									Cocksfoot Grass and False Brome		Fairly common in FoD
Hesperiidae	Small Skipper	B	Thymelius sylvestris									Yorkshire Fog, grass spp		Fairly common in FoD
Lycaenidae	Brown Argus	B	Aricia agestis									Rock-rose, Erodium, Geranium	Hard to tell from female Common Blue	Becoming more common,
Lycaenidae	Common Blue	B	Polyommatus icarus									Bird's-foot Trefoil, Black Medick, Lesser Trefoil		Fairly common in FoD
Lycaenidae	Holly Blue	B	Celastrina argiolus		H	O	L	L	Y			Shrubs - Holly for spring brood, Ivy for summer brood.		Population peaks - several year cycle. Fairly common
Lycaenidae	Purple Hairstreak	B	Quercusia quercus									Oak trees and Oak hedgerows		Rarely seen but present in FoD
Lycaenidae	Small Copper	B	Lycaena phlaeas									Sheep's Sorrel		Fairly common
Lycaenidae	White-letter Hairstreak	B	Satyrion w-album									Larval food plant - Elm. Nectar favourite = Privet + aphid honeydew		Rarely seen but present in FoD
Nymphalidae	Comma	B	Polygona c-album									Stinging Nettle, Elm, Hop, Bramble		Common
Nymphalidae	Dark Green Fritillary	B	Argynnis aglaja									Hairy Violet, Violet spp		Rare in FoD
Nymphalidae	Painted Lady	B	Vanessa cardui									Thistles		Migrant, occasional years is common
Nymphalidae	Peacock	B	Inachis io									Stinging Nettle		Common
Nymphalidae	Red Admiral	B	Vanessa atalanta									Stinging Nettle. Adults like rotting fruit and tree sap		Common
Nymphalidae	Silver-washed Fritillary	B	Argynnis paphia									Common Dog-Violet		Not uncommon
Nymphalidae	Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	B	Boloria selene									Common Dog-Violet	Cruises close to ground	Rare in FoD - Moseley, Linar Park, Serridge open areas
Nymphalidae	Small Tortoiseshell	B	Aglais urticae									Stinging Nettle		Common
Nymphalidae	White Admiral	B	Limenitis camilla									Honeysuckle		Not common in FoD
Pieridae	Brimstone	B	Gonepteryx rhamni									Buckthorn.		Adults hibernate - can be seen in Autumn and Winter.
Pieridae	Clouded Yellow	B	Colias croceus									Leguminous crops, vetches, clovers.		Summer migrant. Very few Gloucestershire recordings
Pieridae	Green-veined White	B	Pieris napi									Crucifers, Cuckoo Flower, Hedge + Garlic Mustards, Water-cress		Common
Pieridae	Large White	B	Pieris brassicae									Brassicas and Nasturtiums		Common
Pieridae	Orange Tip	B	Anthocharis cardamines									Cuckoo Flower, Garlic Mustard. Sweet Rocket and Honesty in gardens.		Common
Pieridae	Small White	B	Pieris rapae									Wild crucifers, Brassicas and Nasturtiums		Common
Pieridae	Wood White	B	Leptidea sinapis									Vetch.	Weak, floppy flight	Scarce species but present in FoD
Satyridae	Gatekeeper	B	Pyronia tithonus									Grass spp		Common
Satyridae	Marbled White	B	Melanargia galathea									Red Fescue Grass		Rare in FoD
Satyridae	Meadow Brown	B	Maniola jurtina									Grass spp		Common
Satyridae	Ringlet	B	Aphantopus hyperantus									Grass spp	Shady, damp grassland	Common
Satyridae	Small Heath	B	Coenonympha pamphilus									Grass spp		Fairly common in FoD grassy areas
Satyridae	Speckled Wood	B	Pararge aegeria									Grass spp		Common
Arctiidae	Cinnabar	M	Tyria jacobaeae									Common Ragwort, Groundsel	Distinctive yellow and black caterpillars	
Arctiidae	Scarlet Tiger	M	Callimorpha dominula									Common Comfrey, Hemp-agrimony, Nettle, Bramble, Honeysuckle, Meadow-sweet, Sallow ssp		
Geometridae	Brown Silver-line	M	Petrophora chlorosata									Bracken		
Geometridae	Chimney Sweeper	M	Odezia atrata									Pignut		Only known to be in Ruardean
Geometridae	Drab Looper	M	Minoa murinata									Wood spurge		Not common in Dean
Geometridae	Green Carpet	M	Colostyia pectinataria									Hedge Bedstraw, Heath Bedstraw and other Bedstraws		
Geometridae	Silver-ground Carpet	M	Xanthorhoe montana									Various herbaceous plants		
Geometridae	Speckled Yellow	M	Pseudopanthera macularia									Wood Sage, Yellow Deadnettle and other labiates		
Geometridae	Yellow Shell	M	Camptogramma bilineata									Dandelion, Cleavers, Wormwood/Bedstraw/dock/Sorrel, Grass spp. Other low growing broad-leaved plants		
Noctuidae	Burnet Companion	M	Euclidia glyphica									Clovers, grass ssp, Common Bird's-foot Trefoil, Black Medick, Lucerne		
Noctuidae	Mother Shipton	M	Euclidia mi									Clovers, Grass ssp, Common Bird's-foot Trefoil, Black Medick, Lucerne		
Zygaenidae	Forester	M	Adscita statices									Common Sorrel, Sheep's Sorrel		Only known to be in Laymoor Quag (Linear Park)
Zygaenidae	Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet	M	Zygaena ionicerae									Meadow Vetchling, Red Clover, Sanfoin, Greater Bird's-foot Trefoil		
Zygaenidae	Six-spot Burnet	M	Zygaena filipendulae									Common Bird's-foot Trefoil, Greater Bird's-foot Trefoil		

Key: Flight period
Most numerous
Might see



Reference Sources:

The Butterflies of Gloucestershire
Butterflies - Michael Chinery
Butterfly and Moth - Concise Guide
Wider Countryside Butterfly Survey and ID Guide
Forestry Commission FoD
VC34 West Moth Recorder

www.gloucestershire-butterflies.org.uk
Collins Gem
Bloomsbury
UKBMS
Kate Wollen
Michael Bradley

Compiled by:

Jean and Bill Norton
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