### ARKANSAS BUTTERFLY CHECKLIST

**NOTES**

Name ____________________________
Address __________________________
City/State/Zip ______________________
Email ____________________________
County __________________________ 
Date ___/___/____ Species Total __________________________

Comments __________________________

Checklist compiled and updated by Lori Spencer, Lepidopterist and members of the Arkansas State Parks Natural Resources team.

Additional resources:
* [e-butterfly.org](http://e-butterfly.org)
* [www.butterfliesandmoths.com](http://www.butterfliesandmoths.com)
* [www.arkansusbutterflylady.com](http://www.arkansusbutterflylady.com)
* Arkansas Butterflies and Moths by Lori Spencer
* To join the Arkansas Butterfly Online Discussion Group, send an email with the word SUBSCRIBE in the subject line to ARBFLY-L@listserv.ark.edu.

**Cover Photo:** Female Diana fritillary by Don R. Simons. The Diana fritillary is the state butterfly of Arkansas.

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**Arkansas State Parks**

#1 Capitol Mall

Little Rock, AR 72201

(501) 682-1191

[www.ArkansasStateParks.com](http://www.ArkansasStateParks.com)

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**Checklist Key**

**Region Abbreviations**

- Ozark Plateau (OZ)
- Arkansas River Valley (ARV)
- Ouachita Mountains (OM)
- Crowley’s Ridge (CR)
- Mississippi Delta (MD)
- Golf Coastal Plain West Region (GC)
- West Region
- Arkansas River Valley
- Ozark Plateau
- Ouachita Mountains
- Mississippi Delta

**Statewide (ST)**

- **Relative Abundance (RA) Symbols**
  - **C**: Common (almost always seen each year)
  - **U**: Uncommon (few individuals seen at each spot each year)
  - **R**: Rare (unlikely to see more than 1-2 individuals, not every year)
  - **L**: Local (not widely dispersed within range listed, even with suitable habitat)

**Directional Abbreviations**

- **N**: North
- **N. 1/2**: Northern half
- **N. 1/4**: Northern quarter
- **S**: South
- **S. 1/2**: Southern half
- **S. 1/4**: Southern quarter
- **W**: West
- **W. 1/2**: Western half
- **E**: East
- **E. 1/2**: Eastern half

**Species of Hesperidae — Skippers**

- **Flight Months**
- **Region(s)**
- **Relative Abundance**

- **Species**
- **Hesperidae — Skippers continued**

**Species**

- **Flight Months**
- **Region(s)**
- **Relative Abundance**

**Papilionidae — Swallowtails**

- **Flight Months**
- **Region(s)**
- **Relative Abundance**

**Pieridae — White & Sulphurs**

- **Flight Months**
- **Region(s)**
- **Relative Abundance**

**What to Look For**

- **Feeding:** Butterflies drink with a long, straw-like tube called a proboscis.
- **Puddling:** Drinking liquids from damp ground, sand, or other source.
- **Drinking nectar from flowers?** Observe the flower species, color, height, and shape.

**Flight:**

- Flight slow, graceful, soaring?
- Flight short, erratic pattern?

**Thermoregulation:** Butterflies are cold-blooded and must rely on the temperature of their environment to warm their muscles. Butterflies orient their wings to the sun, a behavior called basking.

- **Dorsal basking (wings open to the sun)?**
- **Lateral basking (wings closed, tilted 90° to sun)?**

**Mating:** Mating behavior is poorly understood and seldom observed.

- **Patrolling down a trail or road (males patrol in search of females)?**
- **Penching (males sit and wait for females to fly by an opening, such as a field)?**
- **Hilltopping (unmarried males fly to hilltops in search of females on their way up)?**
- **Courtship (females accepting or rejecting males)?**
- **Mating (may last several hours, one sex may fly away carrying the mate)?**