

South Dakota Citizen Science Pollinator Project

Photos by Doug Backlund.



Regal Fritillary (*Speyeria idalia*) is similar in size to the Monarch. The upper side of the forewing is bright red-orange with black markings. The upperside of the hindwing is black with a row of white spots. On the wing edge is a row of spots that are orange in males and white in females. The underside of the forewing is orange with a band of white spots and a black fringe. The hindwing is dark greenish brown with elongate white spots.

They look like a Monarch dipped in chocolate.



Monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*). The upperside of male is bright orange with wide black borders and black veins. The upperside of female is orange-brown with wide black borders and blurred black veins. Both sexes have white spots on borders. Males have a “pouch” on the hind wing, females do not.



Viceroy butterfly (*Limenitis archippus*) is a mimic. The coloring and pattern of Monarch and Viceroy wings look nearly identical. However, a Viceroy has a black line that runs parallel to the wing edge of the hindwing. They are smaller than a Monarch, but do not depend on size alone for identification.

Where To Look - Adult butterflies and bumble bees feed on a variety of flowers. They can be found statewide in open fields, meadows, weedy areas, marshes, roadsides, and your backyard. If you can find flowers, you will find pollinators.

When - They can be active any time spring to fall. They will be most active between 10 am and 3 pm on warm, low wind days.

Single Observation/Spot Record

Use this form if you are doing informal observations (i.e. while hiking or in your backyard).

Site Name: _____ County: _____

Observer Name: _____

Contact Information: Email: _____ and/or Phone #: _____

Date: _____ Time: _____ Temperature: _____ Wind: _____

Beaufort Scale of Wind (0: Calm, smoke rises vertically, 1 Light Air, Smoke drift indicates wind direction, still wind vanes, 2 Light Breeze, Wind felt on face, leaves rustle, wind vanes begin to move, 3 Gentle Breeze leaves and small twigs constantly moving, light flags extended, 4 Moderate Breeze dust, leaves, and loose paper lifted, small tree branches move, 5 Fresh Breeze Small trees in leaf begin to sway, 6 Strong Breeze larger tree branches moving, whistling in wires, 7 Near Gale Whole trees moving, resistance felt walking against wind)

Location:

Give a GPS location if you know one or your best description of where you were (i.e. Directions from Town/Landmark)

Number of Butterflies:

Was there a group of the same type? YES / NO

Other butterflies around the area: Lots _____ A few _____ None _____

If Monarchs were present, did any of them have a tag? (A small white circle/sticker on the wing) (It may be possible to read the tag number with binoculars). YES / NO Tag Number: _____

Number of Regal Fritillaries:

Number of *Male* Fritillaries: _____

Number of *Female* Fritillaries: _____

Number of *Unknown Sex* Fritillaries: _____

Number of Monarch Butterflies:

Number of *Male* Monarchs: _____

Number of *Female* Monarchs: _____

Number of *Unknown Sex* Monarchs: _____

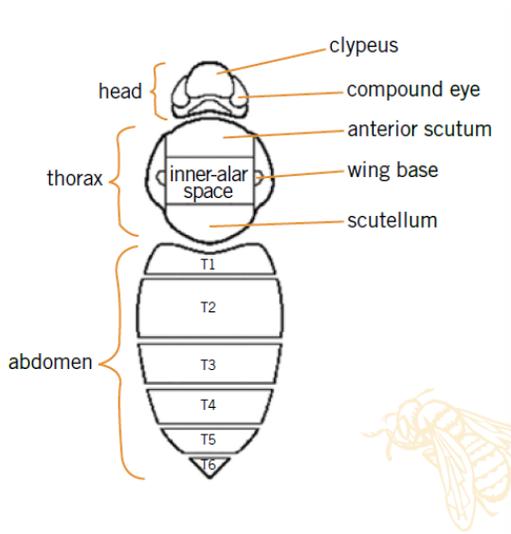
General Notes about the butterflies:

Number of Bumble Bees: _____

Were they all the same: YES / NO

General description:

Stripe colors. Here is a diagram to color in.



Notes:

What flowers did the pollinators like best?

Send photos if you can.

Send to:

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Pollinator Biologist

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OR

Charlene "Charlie" Bessken

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Thank you for helping us help pollinators!

To save paper, please print the identification page once, but make multiple copies of the data form as needed.