

Common Butterflies & Moths of Newfoundland & Labrador





White admiral (Limenitis arthemis)

Only occurs in Newfoundland and Labrador from mid-late July. Commonly seen in forest clearings, along sunny forest paths or roadsides.



Milbert's Tortoiseshell (Aglais milberti)

Also known as 'fire-rim' butterflies, the wings are rimmed in orange with two red 'eyes' near the front edges. Found on goldenrods, lilacs, and thistles.



European Skipper (Thymelicus lineola)

The most common Skipper seen in Newfoundland. Introduced to North America in 1910. Found in grassy meadows and bogs.



Red Admiral (Vanessa atalanta)

Territorial butterflies. Commonly seen feeding on the nectar of wild and cultivated flowers in parks, gardens and woodland clearings.



Mourning Cloak (Nymphalis antiopa)

Overwinter as adults, unlike most other butterflies in Newfoundland and Labrador, so wings often look ragged in the spring. Primarily feed on tree sap.



Arctic Skipper (Carterocephalus palaemon)

Contrary to its name, found outside the Arctic in boreal and mixed deciduous forests. Adults are active from late May to mid July.



Canadian Tiger Swallowtail (Papilio canadensis)

Can be seen from mid-June to late July. Common in woodlands, fields, and along roadsides. Often seen on flowers or 'mud-puddling' on moist dirt.



Cabbage White (Pieris rapae)

Larval form is a pest that feeds on cabbage. Adults have white wings with one or two black spots. Very common in agricultural and urban areas.



Common Ringlet (Coenonympha tullia)

Found in grassy, boggy, and tundra habitats as well as meadows and along roadsides. A common butterfly with variable colouration.



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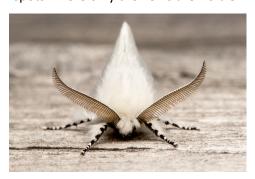
Northern Spring Azure (Celastrina lucia)

One of the first butterflies to become active in the spring. The upper sides of the wings are predominantly blue, with black margins.



Fireweed Clearwing Moth (Albuna pyramidalis)

Large, day-flying moths that can be confused with bees or wasps. Wings have patches of scaleless, see-through spots where only the veins are visible.



White Satin Moth (Leucoma salicis)

A pure white moth with black stripes on its legs. Was introduced to North America in 1920. Can be seen from late July to early August.



Silvery Blue (Glaucopsyche lygdamus)

Can be found on pink or purple wildflowers near forest edges, bogs, and roadsides. Adults are active from mid-June to mid-July.



One-eyed Sphinx (Smerinthus sp.)

Large moth (wingspan up to 9 cm) with two blue eye spots on the hindwings. Adults are active from June to mid-July. Do not feed as adults.



Yarrow Plume Moth (Gillmeria pallidactyla)

Moths with distinctly modified wings that give them a thin T-shaped body (a mating pair is picture here). Larvae feed on varrow or occasionally tansy.



Bog Copper (Lycaena epixanthe)

There is a subspecies of this butterfly that is found in Newfoundland and Nova Scotia. They prefer boggy wetlands.



Blueberry Leaftier (Acleris curvalana)

Larvae feed on blueberry plants, then curl up the leaves to pupate inside of them. Adults are active from late June to late August.



Virginia Ctenucha Moth (Ctenucha virginica)

A day-flying moth with distinctive coloring: black-brown wings, a vibrant blue thorax, and an orange head. Can be seen during June and July.