

**Grass Skipper Field Marks Cheat Sheet**

7/7/2018

Primary field mark in bold red

Secondary field mark in bold,

"Witch's" with blue fill.

Dorsal FW	Dorsal HW	Ventral FW	Ventral HW		Swarthy Skipper	Clouded Skipper	Least Skipper	European Skipper	Fiery Skipper	Sachem	Peck's Skipper	Tawny-edged Skip	Crossline Skipper	Little Glasswing	No. Broken-dash	So. Broken-dash	Mulberry Wing	Zabulon Skipper	Hobomok Skipper	Broad-winged Skip	Dun Skipper	Dusted Skipper	Ocola Skipper	
X				Mostly Uniform brown	X												M							
	X			Mostly Uniform brown	X	X						X		X	X		M	F			X	X	X	
		X		Mostly Uniform brown	X																M			
			X	Mostly Uniform brown	X							M											X	
X				Mostly brown w/white spots		X								X							F	F	X	X
	X			Mostly brown w/white spots																		F	X	X
		X		Mostly brown w/white spots		X																	X	
			X	Mostly brown w/white spots	X							F	F	F	F							F		
X				Dorsal FW (The Witch's)								F	F	F	F							F		
	X	X		Frosted ventral marginal band		X												F	X			X	F	
	X	X		Mostly orange ventral colors			X	X	X															
		X		Rectangular marks; center 1 extended							X						X		X		X			
		X		Inverted "3" pattern on V HW											X	X								
X	X			FW Hyaline spot(s)					F					X				F						
X	X			Orange / tawny FW costa							M	M			M	M								
X				Conspicuous stigma					M	M	M	M	M		M	M								
X				Inconspicuous stigma		M		M						M								M	M	
X				Single yel or org spot at end of stigma							M	M			M	M								

	Male		Female	
	Dorsal	Ventral	Dorsal	Ventral
<b>Swarthy Skipper</b>	Both: Plain dark brown. FW: Rarely with pale spots in mid-FW.	<b>HW: Brown with light HW veins distinctive.</b>	Both: Plain dark brown. FW: Rarely with pale spots in mid-FW.	<b>HW: Brown with light HW veins distinctive.</b>
<b>Clouded Skipper</b>	Both: Dark, blackish brown. FW: 1 to 2 separate white dots on central FW often inconspicuous in male. Black stigma difficult to see.	<b>Both: Brown w/frosting along outer wing edges.</b> <b>HW: Separate band of frosting at mid-HW. Lacks white on costal edge of the F Zab.</b>	Both: Dark, blackish brown. FW: 1 to 2 separate white dots on central FW consistently prominent in Female. Innermost dot is larger, irregularly shaped.	<b>Both: Brown w/frosting along outer wing edges.</b> <b>HW: Separate band of frosting at mid-HW. Lacks white on costal edge of the F Zab.</b>
<b>Least Skipper</b>	FW: With variable orange. <b>HW: Orange surrounded completely with a broad uniformly dark band.</b>	<b>FW: Black with orange costa and apex.</b> <b>HW: Solid orange with white along veins. Paler at center than along the margins</b> (a quick generally reliable ID clue).	FW: With variable orange. <b>HW: Orange surrounded completely with a broad uniformly dark band.</b>	<b>FW: Black with orange costa and apex.</b> <b>HW: Solid orange with white along veins. Paler at center than along the margins</b> (a quick generally reliable ID clue).
<b>European Skipper</b>	<b>FW: Brassy orange with black veins and border.</b> Narrow black stigma near costa. <b>HW: black toning but w/o large black border as in Least.</b>	Both: Unmarked. Paler than dorsal side. FW: uniformly pale orange. HW: variably grayish-orange, greenish-ochre.	<b>FW: Brassy orange with black veins and border.</b> <b>HW: black toning but w/o large black border as in Least.</b>	Both: Unmarked. Paler than dorsal side. FW: uniformly pale orange. HW: variably grayish-orange, greenish-ochre.
<b>Fiery Skipper</b>	Both: wings are bright orange. <b>FW: Inner edge of brown FW margin is ragged.</b> Prominent stigma with additional dark patch between stigma and apex.	<b>Both: Bright, light to shiny orange base color with variable, small black dots.</b>	FW: Dark brown with irregular tawny spots, some tawny-orange on FW costa. <b>HW: Arrow shaped pattern.</b>	<b>Both: Tawny with black dots of varying size.</b>
<b>Sachem</b>	<b>FW: Very prominent stigma.</b>	<b>HW: Squarish brown patch at center of HW trailing margin.</b>	<b>FW: Two large white hyaline spots.</b>	<b>HW: Large, pale, post-median chevron.</b>

	Male		Female	
	Dorsal	Ventral	Dorsal	Ventral
<b>Peck's Skipper</b>	<b>FW: Single yellow spot at end of stigma.</b> HW: Central rectangular yellow mark extended.	<b>HW: Central rectangular yellow mark extended.</b>	HW: Central rectangular yellow mark extended.	<b>HW: Central rectangular yellow mark extended.</b>
<b>Tawny-edged Skipper</b>	<b>FW: Brown or olive-brown above with bright rufous-orange costa. The stigma runs more parallel to the costal margin than in Crossline. A solitary orange "keyhole" mark appears at the end of the stigma</b> (both Broken-dashes and Peck's.)	HW: Usually unmarked brownish, brassy-orange, or mustard colored. Occasionally has a pale, crescent-shaped spot band as in Crossline (but usually fainter when present). <b>Sub-marginal V FW contrasts with HW color.</b>	<b>FW: Spots are larger and more orangish than in other four "witches".</b>	HW: Usually unmarked brownish, brassy-orange, or mustard colored. Occasionally has a pale, crescent-shaped spot band as in Crossline (but usually fainter when present). <b>Sub-marginal V FW contrasts with HW color. F wrist bracelet shows.</b>
<b>Crossline Skipper</b>	<b>FW: Dark brown base. Prominent stigma crosses the FW. Bright orange FW field stops at stigma. 2 to 3 orange spots at end of stigma, the central mark better defined than in Tawny-edged or Northern BD.</b>	HW: orange brown to olive buff below, with variable post-median crescent band, spots can be sharp elongate, or pale and diffuse, or virtually absent. <b>Low contrast between HW color and FW costal margin.</b>	<b>FW: Has two to three yellowish cream colored spots in center, spots are more rocket-like than rectangular as in Tawny-edged.</b>	HW: orange brown to olive buff below, with variable post-median crescent band, spots can be sharp elongate, or pale and diffuse, or virtually absent. <b>Low contrast between HW color and FW costal margin.</b>
<b>Little Glassywing</b>	<b>FW: Diagonal row of pearly white translucent spots ("glassy wing), central one next to male stigma is rectangular.</b>	HW: Band of thin, inconspicuous, unevenly aligned, dash-like marks forms a crescent on post-medial HW. <b>Note separate white mark on costal HW.</b>	<b>FW: Diagonal row of pearly white, translucent spots ("glassy wing), the largest spot is squarish.</b>	HW: Band of thin, inconspicuous, unevenly aligned, dash-like marks forms a crescent on post-medial HW. <b>Note separate white mark on costal HW.</b>
<b>Northern Broken-dash</b>	<b>FW: Stigma divided into 2 parts with yellow-orange keyhole mark at end of inner stigma.</b>	HW: Brown base with a vague backward "3" pattern on HW. Backward "3" does not have to be present.	<b>FW: Spots are moderately sized and light yellow. Most prominent two spots are generally rectangular.</b>	HW: Brown base with a vague backward "3" pattern on HW. Backward "3" does not have to be present.
<b>Southern Broken-dash</b>	<b>FW: Stigma divided into 2 parts with prominent orange spot at end of stigma.</b>	HW: Rusty base with a vague backward "3" pattern on HW. Backward "3" does not have to be present.	FW: Similar to Northern BD but spots generally more orange-toned than NBD.	HW: Rusty base with a vague backward "3" pattern on HW. Backward "3" does not have to be present.
<b>Mulberry Wing</b>	Both: Rich blackish brown above with reddish-purple overtones (mulberry). FW: generally unmarked. May have wrist bracelet and 2 small central FW marks.	HW: Yellow airplace on dark, reddish-brown sky.	FW: Similar to male but FW spots are yellow and more prominent. HW: has a crescent of yellow spots.	HW: Yellow airplace on dark, reddish-brown sky.
<b>Zabulon Skipper</b>	FW: Very bright yellow-orange with somewhat narrow black borders. <b>Dark patch near FW apex and, often unconnected black line.</b> No stigma.	FW: <b>Apex yellow vs. brown in Hobomok.</b> HW: <b>Broad, ill-defined yellow patch with rust-brown dots. HW brown at the base but with yellow shoulder.</b>	FW: All dark with glassy, angular outer FW markings. HW: Unmarked.	FW: Dark brown with yellowish-white trapezoidal spots. HW: <b>Rich, blotchy mahogany brown with broad marginal frosting; distinctive white outline on costal edge of HW.</b>
<b>Hobomok Skipper</b>	FW: Variable yellow-orange field with irregularly shaped border. <b>Dark markings near FW apex often form an "S" shape.</b>	FW: <b>Apex all brown vs. yellow in Zab.</b> HW: <b>Extended yellow rectangle and small yellow basal spot enclosed in brown.</b>	FW: Similar to male but orange more restricted, becomes brownish near FW base.	HW: <b>Extended yellow rectangle and small yellow basal spot enclosed in brown. Brown trailing borders frosted.</b>
<b>Broad-winged Skipper</b>	FW: Dark with small orange field including a cell-end mark. No stigma. HW: Field is bright orange, reflects pattern of V HW with scalloped trailing pattern.	FW: <b>Sub-apical spot.</b> HW: <b>dull to rusty tan, with long, pale ray extending out from wing base. Crossed by spot band giving effect of cross.</b>	FW: Similar to male but FW marks are smaller and cream-white. HW: marks reduced. Reflect HW pattern.	FW: <b>Sub-apical spot.</b> HW: <b>dull to rusty tan, with long, pale ray extending out from wing base. Crossed by spot band giving effect of cross.</b>
<b>Dun Skipper</b>	<b>FW: Dark brown with faint black stigma, otherwise unmarked.</b>		<b>FW: dark with 2, very small central spots and usually, a 2 dot wrist bracelet. Center spot tends to be taller than wide.</b>	HW: Plain, dull brown to tan. May have vague post-median spot band. Note bare spot at wing attachment.
<b>Dusted Skipper</b>	FW: Brown with white spots (3 sub-apical and 1 to 2 in center). HW: Plain brown.	<b>Both: Rich brown with heavy marginal frosting.</b> HW: <b>Single white dot near base.</b>	FW: Similar to male with additional squarish cream yellowcenter spots. HW: Plain brown.	<b>Both: Rich brown with heavy marginal frosting.</b> HW: <b>Single white dot near base.</b>
<b>Ocola Skipper</b>	FW: Pointed with 2 off-white spots, largest shaped like arrowhead.	<b>Both: Brown with somewhat lighter veins.</b> FW: <b>Very long and narrow.</b> HW: Usually unmarked. Some have faint, post-median band of tiny spots.	FW: Pointed with 2 off-white spots, largest shaped like arrowhead. Spots generally larger on female.	<b>Both: Brown with somewhat lighter veins.</b> <b>Purplish sheen when fresh.</b> FW: <b>Very long and narrow.</b> HW: Usually unmarked. Some have faint, post-median band of tiny spots.