

Bell's Roadside-Skipper

Bell's Roadside-Skipper is very rare in Alabama. It has only been sighted in May, but at least two flights probably occur. Habitat consists of open areas near woodland streams. Males perch to wait for females. They also take minerals from damp earth. Both sexes avidly nectar.



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- Small
- Sexes are similar. Males have a stigma that is small and almost invisible.
- Upper dorsal hindwing may have indistinct white markings that mirror the ventral side.
- May be confused with Pepper and Salt Skippers and Reversed Roadside-Skippers. Ventral hindwing spots are less defined than in Pepper and Salt Skippers; lacks the gray-green hue of Pepper and Salt Skippers when fresh. Bell's is slightly larger. Bell's R-S's have distinctly checkered wing fringe that Reversed Roadside-Skippers lack.



Bell's Roadside Skipper

Dorsal View



Dark brown wing color

Transverse white dots on forewing;
innermost often shaped like a "V"
or chevron

Checkered fringe

Bell's Roadside Skipper *Amblyscirtes bellii*

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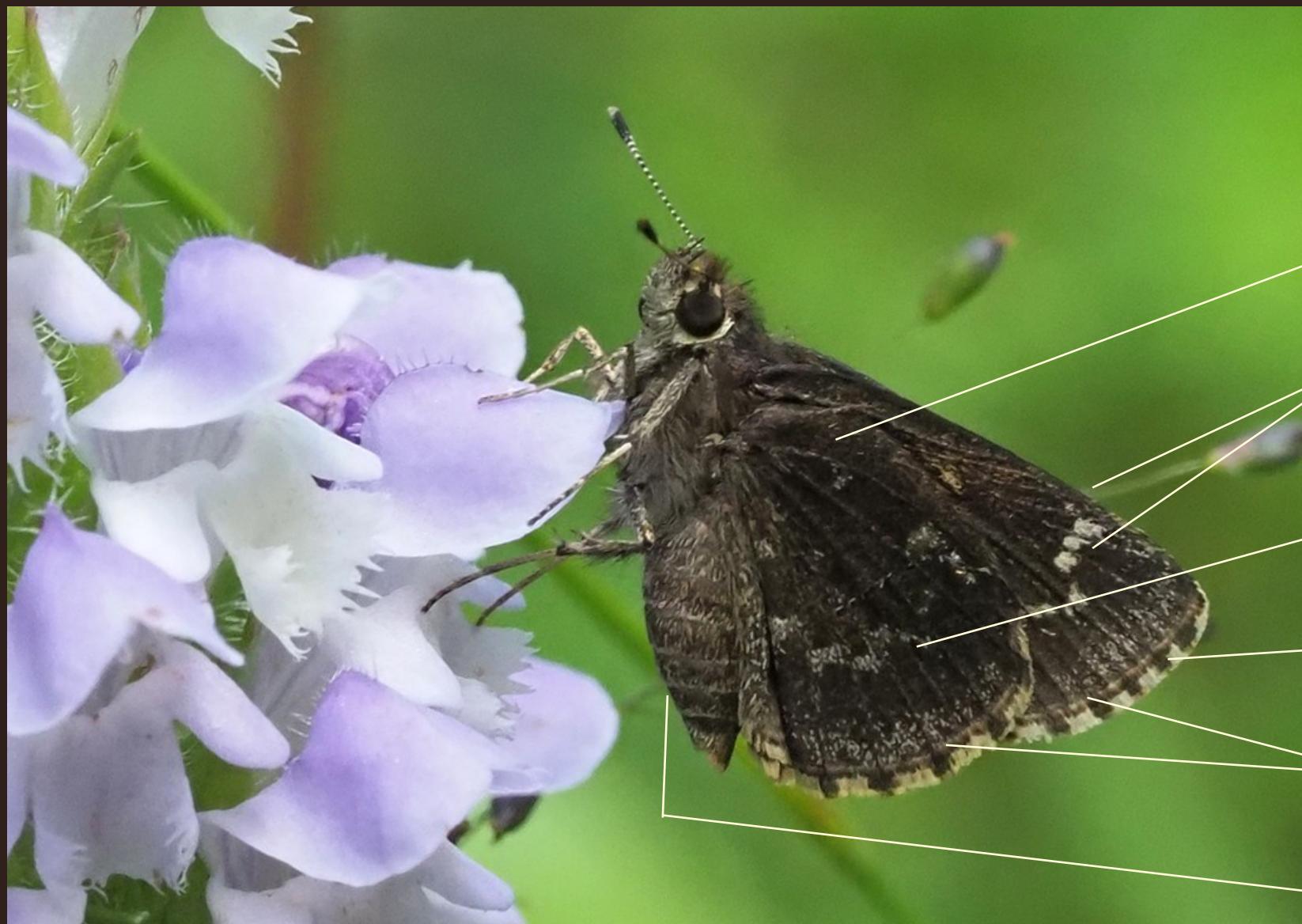
* Reliable diagnostic marker

Wingspan: 1 - 1¼ inches (2.7 - 3.2 cm)

Alabama Butterfly Atlas | alabama.butterflyatlas.org

Bell's Roadside Skipper

Ventral View



Wings gray-black

Forewing spot band; usually has tiny adjacent spot

Zigzag of tiny white spots

Checkered black-and-cream fringe

Light frosting

Light rings

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Similar Species

Bell's Roadside-Skipper



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Pepper and Salt Skipper



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Reversed Roadside-Skipper



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