

Checkered White

Checkered Whites are widespread in Alabama, but they are not common. However, once a population is found, they may be abundant in that location. Habitat typically consists of early succession, disturbed areas. Checkered Whites fly spring, summer, and fall. They nectar from a wide variety of flowers and are often found in the vicinity of their weedy host plants, which also serve as nectar sources. Flight is typically low, rapid, and somewhat erratic.

- Checkered Whites are seasonally variable. Spring individuals tend to be smaller and more heavily marked. In spring, males may have dark venation and markings on the ventral hindwing, while summer brood males may be solid white on the ventral surface.
- Dorsally, females are more heavily marked with black than males, especially along the wing margins. Ventrally, females have more extensive yellow-brown markings than males.
- Eyes are blue.
- Antennal clubs are dark with light tips.
- Males may be confused Cabbage Whites, Great Southern Whites, and female Falcate Orangetips. Females may be confused with female Great Southern Whites.



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Checkered White

Dorsal Male



Gray markings on forewing margin

*One to three dark spots/checks
on forewing

White, unmarked hindwing

Checkered White *Pontia protodice*

© Steve Krotzer

* Reliable diagnostic markers

Wingspan 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ -1 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches (3.2-4.4 cm)

Alabama Butterfly Atlas | alabama.butterflyatlas.org

Checkered White

Dorsal Female



Heavy marking on forewing border

*Extensive brownish checks/markings on both forewings and hindwings

White or grayish white background

Checkered White *Pontia protodice*

© David Dodd

* Reliable diagnostic markers

Wingspan 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ -1 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches (3.2-4.4 cm)

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Checkered White

Ventral Male (Summer)

*Several dark gray spots/checks

Predominantly white hindwing

Checkered White *Pontia protodice*

© Sara Bright

* Reliable diagnostic markers

Wingspan 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ -1 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches (3.2-4.4 cm)

Checkered White

Ventral Female



Yellow-tan markings on tip of forewing

*Several dark checks

Extensive yellow-tan venation and markings on hindwing

Checkered White *Pontia protodice*

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* Reliable diagnostic markers

Wingspan 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ -1 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches (3.2-4.4 cm)

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Species Similar to Male

Male Checkered White



Cabbage White



Female Falcate Orangetip



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Great Southern White



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Species Similar to Female

Female Checkered White



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Female Great Southern White



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