

Dusted Skipper

Dusted Skippers are rare in Alabama, known from only two counties in the northeast part of the state. There is one flight that occurs in spring. Preferred habitat is woodland clearings, power-cuts, and other disturbed areas that are typically maintained by fire. Colonies are very limited. These skippers do not stray far from their host grasses. Males perch on or near the ground. Females fly close to the ground depositing eggs. Both sexes nectar from spring wildflowers.

- Sexes are somewhat dimorphic. Males have a very indistinct stigma that is difficult to see. Females have heavier markings on dorsal wings.
- May be confused with Clouded Skippers. Dusted have a white line over the eye that Cloudeds lack. Dusted usually have a single white spot on the ventral hindwing that Cloudeds do not.





Dusted Skipper

Dorsal Male

White eye line

Three subapical spots

One or two small, white spots

Brown ground color

Dusted Skipper *Atrytonopsis hiana*

© Vitaly Charny

*Reliable diagnostic marker

Wingspan: 1¼ - 1½ inches (3.2 - 3.9 cm)



Dusted Skipper

Dorsal Female

Three subapical spots

Variable number of distinct white spots

Brown ground color

White eye line

Dusted Skipper *Atrytonopsis hiana*

© Sara Bright

*Reliable diagnostic marker

Wingspan: 1¼ - 1½ inches (3.2 - 3.9 cm)



Dusted Skipper

Ventral View

- Very pointed wing
- Rich brown ground color
- Variable number of white dots
- Single basal white dot
- Heavy marginal frosting
- White palps and eye line

Dusted Skipper *Atrytonopsis hiana*

© Sara Bright

*Reliable diagnostic marker

Wingspan: 1¼ - 1½ inches (3.2 - 3.9 cm)

Similar Species

Dusted Skipper



© Sara Bright

Clouded Skipper



© Vitaly Charny