

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. Dusteds 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*

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*Reliable diagnostic marker

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

Alabama Butterfly Atlas | alabama.butterflyatlas.org

Dusted Skipper

Dorsal Female



Three subapical spots

Variable number of distinct white spots

Brown ground color

White eye line

Dusted Skipper *Atrytonopsis hiana*

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

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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

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Similar Species

Dusted Skipper



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Clouded Skipper



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