

Harvester

Harvesters occur throughout Alabama, but are seldom common. They fly spring, summer, and fall. Harvesters are typically found in woodlands near water, where various shrubs and trees are infested with wooly aphid colonies. When disturbed, flight is extremely erratic. Harvesters rarely (if ever) nectar from flowers. They are frequent puddlers and often sip honeydew secretions from their wooly aphid hosts.



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- Sexes are very similar in appearance. Females may be slightly larger.
- Freshly emerged Harvesters may have a conspicuous purple sheen on ventral hindwings.
- Occasionally population irruptions occur.
- Not easily confused with other species.





Harvester

Dorsal View

Orange ground color

Dark blotches and markings

Dark wing borders

Row of dark spots

Harvester *Feniseca tarquinius*

© Sara Bright

*Reliable diagnostic marker

Wingspan: 1⅛ to 1¼ inches (2.8-3.2 cm)



Harvester

Ventral View

Gold with reddish-orange border

*Many distinctive dark orange/brown circles rimmed with white rings

Orange to purplish-brown ground color

Silvery-white scaling

Harvester *Feniseca tarquinius*

© Vitaly Charny

*Reliable diagnostic marker

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