

Meske's Skipper

Meskes Skippers are rare in Alabama. They are usually residents of pinelands, either wet or dry. There are probably two broods. Both sexes nectar at a variety of flowers.



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- A fairly large skipper
- Long, triangular forewings
- The ventral hindwing spot band is extremely variable; it may be absent or very pronounced.
- May be confused with Delaware Skipper and Arogos Skipper. Meske's has a ventral hindwing spot band that both the other species lack. Meske's has light wing fringe; Delaware's is orange. Meske's lacks the white veining on the ventral hindwing that is present on Arogos. However, given the variability of these field marks and the toll that is taken with wear and tear, dorsal views are important if possible.



Meske's Skipper

Dorsal Male



Dark ground color with limited orange patches.

Orange subapical spots

Dark patch

Stigma within dark patch

Dark border with orange patch;
dark veining

Meske's Skipper *Hesperia meskei*

© Edward Perry IV

*Reliable diagnostic marker

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

Alabama Butterfly Atlas | alabama.butterflyatlas.org

Meske's Skipper

Dorsal Female



Two orange dots near forewing edge

Orange subapical spots

Dark patch

Dark ground color with blocky orange patches

Dark border with orange patch; dark veining

Meske's Skipper *Hesperia meskei*

© Jeff Pippen

*Reliable diagnostic marker

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

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Meske's Skipper

Ventral View



Bright orange to orange-brown ground color

Chevron-shaped spot band

Light-colored fringe

Meske's Skipper *Hesperia meskei*

©Sara Bright

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Ventral Similar Species

Meske's Skipper



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Delaware Skipper



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Arogos Skipper



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