

West Virginia White

West Virginia Whites are found in a few counties in east Alabama. They are univoltine, flying only in the spring. Typical habitat is comprised of shady, moist, rich woodlands. These butterflies rarely stray far from their caterpillar hosts, toothworts. Both sexes nectar from a variety of spring-blooming wildflowers, including their host plants. They also visit puddles and other damp areas. Flight is low and slow.



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- Location, time of year, and habitat are important factors to consider when making an identification.
- Sexes are similar, but dorsally, males are whiter and less gray than females. Although there is a great deal of variation in the amount of gray along ventral hindwing veins, males tend to be darker.
- Eyes are blue.
- Antennal clubs are dark with light tips.
- May be confused with Cabbage Whites, female Falcate Orangetips, and male Checkered Whites.





West Virginia White

Dorsal Male

Gray scaling at wing base

Body black on upper surface

*Translucent, whitish wings
Generally whiter than females

West Virginia White *Pieris virginiensis*

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* *Reliable diagnostic markers*

Wingspan: 1 $\frac{3}{8}$ to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches (3.5-4.1 cm)



West Virginia White

Dorsal Female

*Translucent, whitish wings with some gray scaling that extends into wings. Often grayer than males.

Body black on upper surface

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Wingspan: $1\frac{3}{8}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches (3.5-4.1 cm)



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Ventral View

Yellow spot on costal base of
ventral hindwing

*Veins edged in varying amounts
of gray or grayish-brown

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Similar Species

West Virginia White



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Cabbage White



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Female Falcate Orangetip



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Male Checkered White



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