

Discover the Fauna of Our Campus

Meadow brown butterfly

Order: Lepidoptera (Butterflies and Moths)

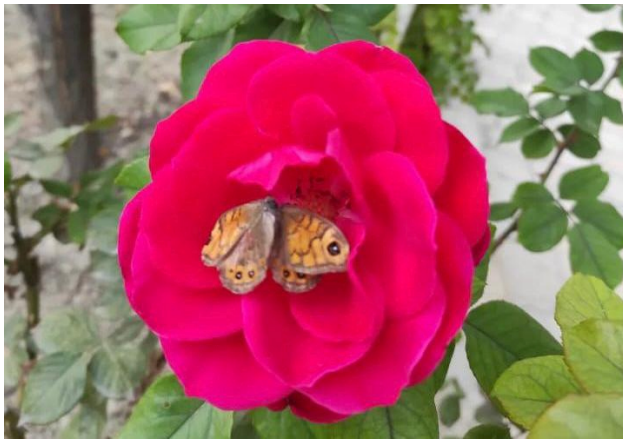
Family: Nymphalidae (Brush-footed butterflies)

Subfamily: Satyrinae (Satyrs and Browns)

Genus: Maniola

Species: Maniola jurtina (Meadow Brown)

The meadow brown butterfly (scientific name: *Maniola jurtina*) is one of the most widespread butterfly species in Eurasia, belonging to the family of nymphalids (Nymphalidae). This butterfly species is an interesting creature that nature lovers often encounter with both its color and lifestyle. The meadow brown butterfly is a medium-sized butterfly (wingspan is usually 40-60 mm). Sexual dimorphism (the different appearance of males and females) is very clearly

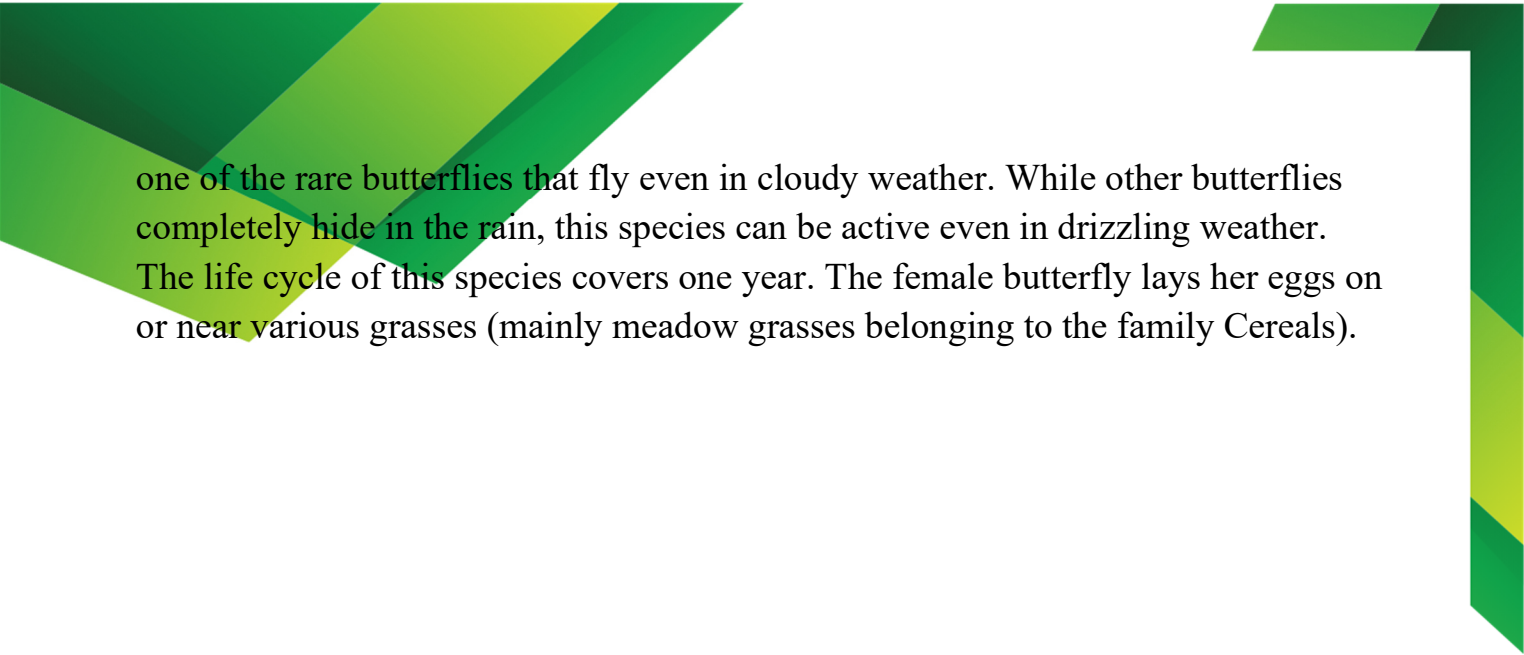


observed in this species.

The upper side of its wings is dark brown (almost black). There is a small “eye” spot with a white dot at the tip of the forewings. They are larger than males. They have large orange areas on their forewings and a larger, sometimes two-spotted “eye” spot. The underside of the wings is gray-brown, which helps the butterfly to hide perfectly among the

grass when it rests and closes its wings (camouflage).

These butterflies are highly adaptable creatures. They are found almost everywhere in Europe, North Africa, Turkey, the Caucasus (including Azerbaijan) and Central Asia. The meadow brown butterfly has a long flight period. It is usually active from late May to early September. They love sunny weather, but are



one of the rare butterflies that fly even in cloudy weather. While other butterflies completely hide in the rain, this species can be active even in drizzling weather. The life cycle of this species covers one year. The female butterfly lays her eggs on or near various grasses (mainly meadow grasses belonging to the family Cereals).

