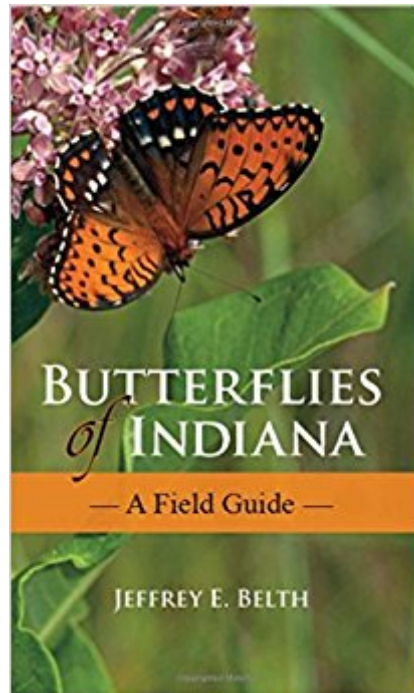




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Butterflies Of Indiana: A Field Guide (Indiana Natural Science)



Synopsis

Winner of the 2013 National Outdoor Book Award for best Nature Guidebook. This book is the first field guide to Indiana's butterflies and their close relatives, the skippers. All species and subspecies recorded from the state are shown. An illustrated "Quick Key" narrows the identification process to several similar species. Photographs with arrows pointing to "field marks" then highlight the differences between those species and allow easy identification, even for people just beginning their study of butterflies. Text, range map, and abundance graph are opposite the photographs for easy reference. Also included are photographs of eggs, larvae, or chrysalises of many species.

Numerous plants important to butterflies, either as larval hosts or as nectar sources, are also depicted. Fully illustrated chapters describing Indiana's natural regions, how to find butterflies, watching and photographing butterflies, butterfly biology and behavior, butterfly habitats, and butterfly conservation, are also included.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As an Indiana resident who has been interested in entomology for almost 40 years and has been photographing and researching the insects of Indiana for the past 10, I had been waiting for the publication of this book since the author first told me he was preparing it some seven years ago. I have to say that it was well worth the wait. This is not just an excellent field guide to the butterflies of Indiana, but also one of the finest field guides on butterflies that I have seen for any state. This book has much to recommend it. First of all, photographs of live specimens as opposed to dead, pinned

ones were used as the examples in the identification section, showing the reader how each species appears in life, in the situation in which the reader will be encountering them. In addition to showing particular species in their natural state, this choice appears to reflect a continuation of the more current emphasis on leaving nature as uncultured as possible. Even so, Belth displays a balanced attitude on the subject, seeming to prefer photographing over collecting but understanding the necessity of reasonable collecting, as reflected in the Lepidopterists' Society statement on collecting reproduced in the book. Second, the book includes updated range maps that provide the student of Indiana's butterfly fauna with more precise information about where particular species are and are not known to occur in the Hoosier state, thereby helping to counteract the implication of the title that every species is equally distributed throughout Indiana.

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