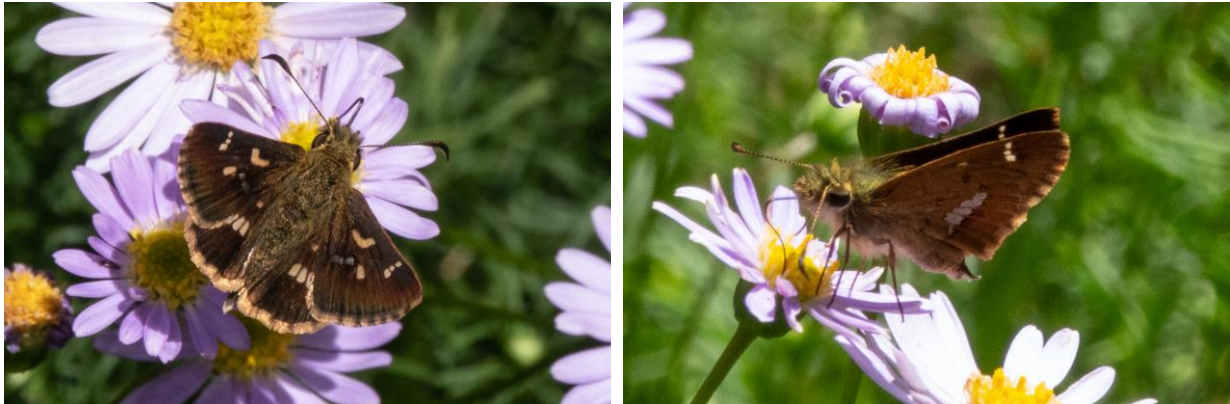


Barred Skipper (*Dispar compacta*)



Barred Skipper (male) showing upper and underside of wings. *Photos: Euan Moore*



Barred Skipper (female). Compared to the male, above, note the different shape of the spots on the forewing and the large single spot on the hindwing. *Photo: Gayle Osborne*

Other Common Names: Dispar Skipper

Family of Butterflies: Hesperidae (skippers)

Wingspan: 23mm

Local Records: This species is more likely to be found in the wetter southern parts of the region. Tony Morton recorded this species in a gully along the Chewton – Fryerstown Road on 23/02/2001. It was also recorded in [Castlemaine in February 2021](#). Most nearby records are from the Macedon Ranges and Wombat Forest.

Distribution outside our region: Most documented Victorian observations of this species are to the east of an imaginary line between Melbourne and Albury. In the west of the state it occurs mainly in cooler areas including Macedon Ranges through to the Grampians, the Otways and the wetter forests north of Portland in the south-west. More widely it is found in the far south-east of South Australia and along the coast and eastern ranges of New South Wales and southern Queensland. Ref [Atlas of Living Australia](#).

Larval Host Plants: Tussock Grass (*Poa* sp.), Weeping Grass (*Microlaena stipoides*), Saw-Sedge (*Gahnia* sp.), Mat Rush (*Lomandra* sp.)

Larval association with ants: None.

Adult Flight Times in Victoria: January to March (occasionally April). Across the entire range, this species is most active in February with less than 5% records outside January - March.

Ref [iNaturalist](#).

Conservation Status:

[The Action plan for Australian Butterflies](#): Vulnerable in Australia

[Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999](#): Not listed

[Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988, Threatened List](#): Not Listed

Other Notes: Probably rare and restricted in the Mount Alexander Shire. The local area appears to be at the edge of the Barred Skipper's distribution. It may be more likely to occur during summers that are cooler than the current average.

References and further reading:

Atlas of Living Australia – [Dispar compacta](#), Barred Skipper

iNaturalist – [Dispar compacta](#), Barred Skipper