

Yellow Ochre (*Trapezites luteus* subsp. *leucon*)



Yellow Ochre, *Trapezites luteus* subsp. *leucon*, from Barringhup showing upper surface (left) and the lower surface (right) with the single diagnostic white spot on the hind wing. Photo: Kerrie Jennings, Dec. 2021.



Museum specimens. Photo: Tony Morton

Note 1: The male occurs on the top row and the female on the bottom row. The upper side of the butterfly wings are shown on the left and the underside side of the butterfly wings are shown on the right.

Note 2: The plant name refers to the plant upon which the butterfly larvae (caterpillars) feed.

Other Common Names: Rare White-spot Skipper

Family of Butterflies: *Hesperiidae* (skippers)

Size: Wingspan 30mm.

Local Records: There are few local records for this species. [Atlas of Living Australia](#) has a single museum record from Castlemaine collected 1988 while the next closest record is from Creswick. There is a [recent record](#) on iNaturalist from Maldon along with other [records](#) from Macedon and Riddells Creek. There is another recent record from Barringup in 2021. Tony Morton recorded this species in Kalimna Park, Castlemaine on several occasions as well as in the Fryerstown area.



Yellow Ochre, *Trapezites luteus* subsp. *leucon*, from Maldon. Photo: Albert Wright. 2020.

Tony Morton's records of Yellow Ochre from the local area (between 2000 to 2013): Eleven

Date	Location	Notes
8-Nov-2000	Rotunda, Kalimna Park	
14-Nov-2000	Rotunda, Kalimna Park	
25-Nov-2000	Rotunda, Kalimna Park	
26-Nov-2003	Kalimna Park, Castlemaine, Vic.	Female, fresh
16-Nov-2004	Kalimna Park, Castlemaine, Vic.	
17-Oct-2005	Kalimna Point	
11-Nov-2009	Kalimna Park	10 a.m. - 1 p.m. 34°C
14-Oct-2011	Kalimna Point	
11-Sep-2012	Kalimna Park	
30-Oct-2012	Garden, Fryerstown	2 males
24-Nov-2012	Garden, Fryerstown	

Distribution outside our region: Most documented Victorian observations of this species shown in [Atlas of Living Australia](#) are to the eastern suburbs of Melbourne and the Latrobe Valley. Field, 2013, also shows a number records to the north and west of Melbourne.

Larval Host Plants: Mat Rushes (*Lomandra filiformis* and *Lomandra longifolia*).

Larval association with ants: None

Adult Flight Times in Victoria: Two peaks each year (October to December and February to April), although it is thought that adults emerging in autumn are from larvae more than 10 months old. That is, eggs laid during the first peak are unlikely to have completed their life cycle in time for the second peak.

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

References:

Atlas of Living Australia – [Trapezites lutea](#), Yellow Ochre

iNaturalist Australia – [Trapezites lutea](#) Yellow Ochre