

Aphrodite Fritillary

Speyeria aphrodite

-The Aphrodite Fritillary is a very pretty butterfly. As you can see by the pictures below, the upper-side is a reddish orange to brown.

-The life history of the Aphrodite Fritillary is interesting. The males patrol around for the females during the warm hours of the day. When the female is ready to lay her eggs, she walks around on the ground and lays single eggs near violets. First stage caterpillars do not feed, but over-winter until spring, when they eat the young leaves of the violets.



Wingspan: 2 ½ to 3 ¼ inches

Caterpillar hosts: The Aphrodite Fritillary caterpillar feeds only one violets. However it does seem to prefer some violets more than others. The Northern Downy Violet (*Viola fimbriatula*) and the Lance-Leaved Violet (*Viola lanceolata*) seem to be its favorites.

Adult foods: The favorite food for the adult Aphrodite Fritillary is the nectar of Milkweeds.