

## coral hairstreak *Satyrium titus*

Kingdom: Animalia

Division/Phylum: Arthropoda

Class: Insecta

Order: Lepidoptera

Family: Lycaenidae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

### FEATURES

The coral hairstreak has a wingspan of 1.0 to 1.5 inches. The male's wings are pointed, while the female's wings are broader and more rounded. There are no tails on the wings. The upperside of the wings is dull brown. The underside of the wings is lighter brown than the upperside and has a row of white-ringed, black spots. The hindwing has a row of orange-red spots, each with a black cap topped by a white crescent.

### BEHAVIORS

The coral hairstreak may be found statewide. It lives in open fields, pastures, prairies, woodland edges, savannas and gardens. The larvae eat the leaves of wild black cherry (*Prunus serotina*) and other *Prunus* species. The adults are territorial and feed on nectar from flowers. One generation per year is produced. The adults are active from May through August. The egg stage overwinters.

### HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

none

Woodland Habitats

none

Prairie and Edge Habitats

black soil prairie; dolomite prairie; edge; gravel prairie; hill prairie; sand prairie; shrub prairie

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