red-spotted purple

Limenitis arthemis

Kingdom: Animalia Phylum: Arthropoda

Class: Insecta

Order: Lepidoptera Family: Nymphalida

ILLINOIS STATUS

common, native

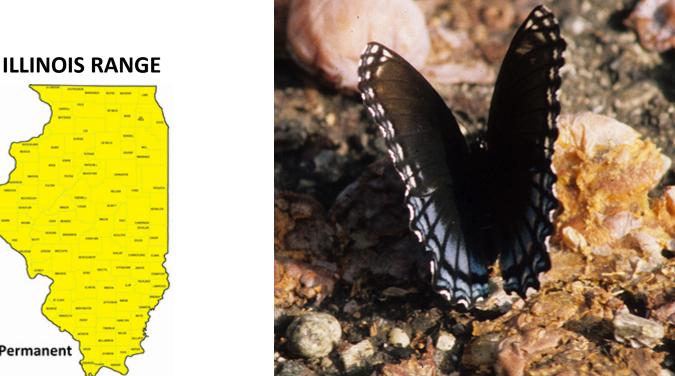
FEATURES

The red-spotted purple has a wingspan of three to four inches. The upperside of the wings is dark blueblack to blue-green. The underside of the forewing has two red-orange bars while the underside of the hindwing has three red-orange spots near the body and a row of red-orange spots near the outer edge of the wing. The caterpillar is gray-brown and white with a hump toward the front end.

BEHAVIORS

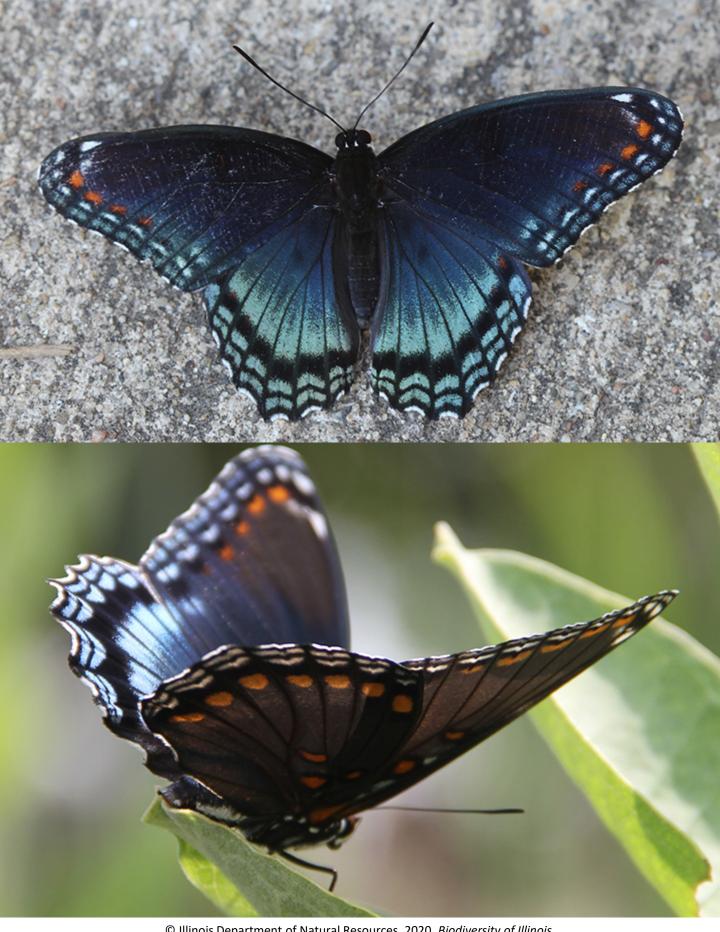
The red-spotted purple may be found statewide in Illinois. Its caterpillar eats the leaves of wild black cherry, poplars, aspens, black oak and other plants. The larva overwinters in a shelter made of leaves.

adult

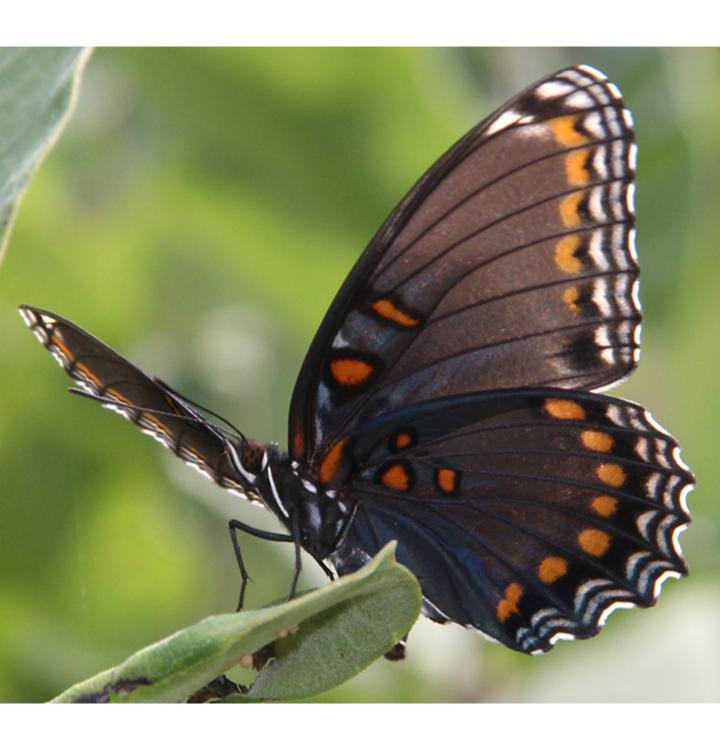


Permanent

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Aquatic Habitats

bottomland forests

Woodland Habitats

bottomland forests; coniferous forests; southern Illinois lowlands; upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

none