

Butterfly family - Pieridae

Orange Tip (*Anthocharis cardemines*)



male



Female



Male underside

No image

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When Seen: Please note these dates are variable depending on the weather conditions.

Butterfly: (1) 1st wk Apr – 2nd wk Jun.

Larvae: (1) 3rd wk May – 3rd wk Jul

Pupa: (1) 2nd wk Jul – 2nd wk May.

Note: The pupa over winters.

Food Plants:

Larvae: Cuckooflower (*Cardamine pratensis*) and Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*). Charlock (*Sinapis arvensis*), Hairy Rock-cress (*Arabis hirsuta*), Hedge Mustard (*Sisymbrium officinale*), Large Bitter-cress (*Cardamine amara*), Turnip (*Brassica rapa*) and Winter-cress (*Barbarea vulgaris*) are also used.

Butterfly: Bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scriptus*), Bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), Bugle (*Ajuga reptans*), Cuckooflower (*Cardamines pratensis*), Dandelion (*Taraxacum* agg.), Greater

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Stitchwort (*Stellaria holostea*), Hawkweeds (*Hieracium/Hypochoeris*), Ragged Robin (*Lychnis flos-cuculi*), Red Campion (*Silene dioica*) and Vetches (*Vicia spp.*).

Habitat:

This species fly over large areas and can be seen everywhere from woodland to grassland and gardens.

The orange tips of the male are striking and is the reason why these are more often seen than the female which lacks this orange marking. The undersides of the wing of both sexes is striking but acts as good camouflage when at rest. The male flies quite long distance between nectaring, seeking females. The females can be found near to larvae food plants where she lays her eggs.

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