

INSECT field guide

Dainty Swallowtail Butterfly Papilio anactus

When to look:

October to May, flying season may be longer in warmer areas

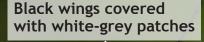
Similar species:

Orchard or Citrus Swallowtail Butterfly: the caterpillars are larger (up to 6 cm long) and lighter green in colour with some pale yellow and brown markings. The butterfly is larger (10-12 cm wingspan) and only the male has black wings, with an arc of creamywhite spots near the tip of each forewing, but not patches over its entire black forewing like the Dainty Swallowtail.

Clearwing or Greasy Swallowtail Butterfly: the forewing is transparent with one or more black spots.

Red and blue patches along its hindwing

The back edge of its hindwing is scalloped



Yellow tip on the body

Image courtesy of Geoff Walker



climatewatch.org.au