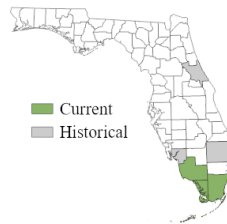


FLORIDA PURPLEWING

Eunica tatila tatilista

Order: Lepidoptera
Family: Nymphalidae
FNAI Ranks: G5T4T5/S1S2
U.S. Status: none
FL Status: none



Description: Medium sized, 21-31 mm (0.9-1.2 in.). Dorsal wing surfaces are iridescent purple in males, blue in females. Ventral wing surfaces mottled with gray and brown. Ventral surfaces of the hindwings with a row of inconspicuous eye spots. Forewings have a series of white spots on both surfaces.

Similar Species: Dingy purplewing (*Eunica monima*) is smaller [16-24 mm (0.6-1.0 in.)] and duller purple on the dorsal wing surfaces.

Habitat: Tropical hardwood hammocks.

Seasonal Occurrence: Most common January, March - June, and August - September.

Florida Distribution: Historically known from Collier, Lee, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Palm Beach and Volusia Counties. Presently only known from Collier, Miami-Dade, and Monroe Counties.

Range-wide Distribution: Extreme southern Florida, including the Florida Keys, and the Greater Antilles (Deyrup and Franz 1994).

Conservation Status: Species of Greatest Conservation Need in Florida. Nearly all occurrences in Florida are on protected managed areas with good quality tropical hardwood hammock habitat.

Protection and Management: Pesticide usage should be banned in areas where this species occur.

References: Deyrup and Franz 1994



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