

**Re: Matsukaze**

by Matsukaze, 15-Apr-18 06:35 PM GMT

They are back!



**Re: Matsukaze**

by bugboy, 15-Apr-18 08:47 PM GMT

That image is surely the very essence of early spring 😊

**Re: Matsukaze**

by David M, 17-Apr-18 07:12 PM GMT

**bugboy wrote:**

That image is surely the very essence of early spring 😊

Absolutely! Guy Padfield, eat your heart out! 😊

**Re: Matsukaze**

by Matsukaze, 09-May-18 11:07 PM GMT

Moths...



*Brimstone Moth*



*Iron Prominent*



*Brindled Beauty*



*Brindled Pug (?)*



*Pine Beauty*

**Re: Matsukaze**

by Matsukaze, 09-May-18 11:10 PM GMT

Spring butterflies...





**Re: Matsukaze**

by Andrew555, 10-May-18 08:50 AM GMT

Some lovely moths there Matsukaze, and spring butterflies as well. 😊

**Re: Matsukaze**

by David M, 10-May-18 08:23 PM GMT

**Matsukaze wrote:**  
Spring butterflies...

It's a wonderful time of year, for sure. Few insects are as adorable as Orange Tips, so we must remember that we'll lose them soon, and we must make the most of them whilst they're here.

**Re: Matsukaze**

by Matsukaze, 07-Jul-18 07:47 PM GMT

Blue-spot Hairstreak...





Dragonfly – Black-tailed Skimmer female?



**Re: Matsukaze**

by Pauline, 07-Jul-18 09:17 PM GMT

Lovely shots of a beautiful butterfly Matsukaze. Where were they taken?

**Re: Matsukaze**

by Matsukaze, 07-Jul-18 10:19 PM GMT

Provence – northern Var. The butterfly is fairly common there. The foodplant – some kind of buckthorn – must be very common, as the numerous Brimstones and Cleopatras also use it, but I've yet to work out how to identify it.

**Re: Matsukaze**

by ernie f, 08-Jul-18 07:40 AM GMT

Hi, Matsukaze – love those pics of the Blue Spot Hairstreak.

Incidentally – did you notice if they did a wing-roll? As you are probably aware – my current obsession. 😊

**Re: Matsukaze**

by David M, 10-Jul-18 06:33 AM GMT

Blue Spot has to be my favourite French Hairstreak and you've captured it extremely well there, Matsukaze,

**Re: Matsukaze**

by Matsukaze, 11-Jul-18 07:33 PM GMT

**ernie f wrote:**

Hi, Matsukaze – love those pics of the Blue Spot Hairstreak.

Incidentally – did you notice if they did a wing-roll? As you are probably aware – my current obsession. 😊

Yes they did, as did both species of Ilex Hairstreak. I only saw the one Sloe Hairstreak.

In Britain we are unlucky in our hairstreaks, which rarely descend to ground-level. These four French species of hairstreak are much more co-operative, regularly nectaring on small, shrubby plants like mints and thymes, where they are surprisingly hard to see since they do not move much.

**Re: Matsukaze**

by Matsukaze, 11-Jul-18 07:35 PM GMT

**David M wrote:**

Blue Spot has to be my favourite French Hairstreak and you've captured it extremely well there, Matsukaze,

They are indeed lovely creatures. I was fortunate to catch them at the beginning of their flight period. Later in the year, they will often have lost their blue spots due to bird attack – which I suppose is what it is there for, but it does make identifying them that little bit more complicated.

**Re: Matsukaze**

by David M, 11-Jul-18 10:43 PM GMT

**Matsukaze wrote:**

**David M wrote:**

Blue Spot has to be my favourite French Hairstreak and you've captured it extremely well there, Matsukaze,

They are indeed lovely creatures. I was fortunate to catch them at the beginning of their flight period. Later in the year, they will often have lost their blue spots due to bird attack – which I suppose is what it is there for, but it does make identifying them that little bit more complicated.

I don't think it's just birds that attack that area, Matsukaze. I reckon spiders & lizards inflict damage too. Like you say, it's amazing just how many lose their blue spots but at least it shows that this type of defence mechanism works!

**Re: Matsukaze**

by Matsukaze, 31-Oct-18 09:34 PM GMT

Provence butterflies, June 2018.



*Black-veined White: "don't try this at home"*

**Re: Matsukaze**

by Wurzel, 31-Oct-18 11:14 PM GMT

Cracking species and shots Matsukaze – I've missed out on Niobes twice now and have never been on the continent at the right time for Black-veined Whites 🍷🍷 I did try and turn one of my High Browns into a Niobe but it just didn't work 😞😞

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Matsukaze**

by Matsukaze, 31-Oct-18 11:47 PM GMT

[quote]I did try and turn one of my High Browns into a Niobe but it just didn't work

This time I had the opposite problem.

**Re: Matsukaze**

by David M, 01-Nov-18 10:17 PM GMT

Very nice, Matsukaze.

Roll on next summer! 😊