

False Apollo and Spring Butterflies of Eastern Greece

Holiday report 1-8 April 2017

Led by Michael de Courcy Williams and Martin Warren



False Apollo female © Harry Faull

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Introduction

This was a new tour especially designed to see the very rare False Apollo at its only mainland European site outside Turkey. The tour was based at the town of Alexandroupoli, close to the Turkish border, from which we could visit a range of sites with diverse habitats including limestone valleys and woodland in the Evros hills, as well as coastal grasslands and the extensive Evros delta. The 11 guests joining our two guides were: Ian and Sue, Elaine and John, Denise and Andy, Harry, Peter, Dave, James, and Geoff.

Day 1: 1 April 2017

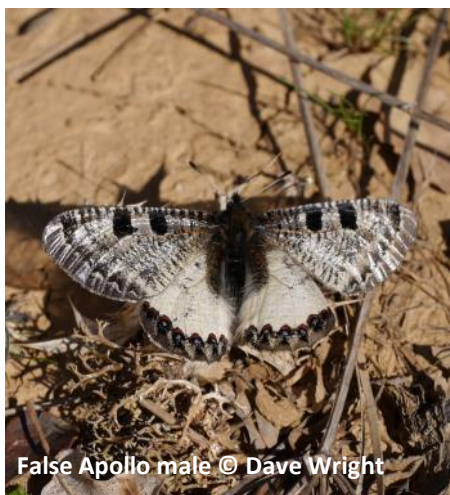
We rendezvoused at Thessaloniki airport before the three hour drive along the motorway to Alexandroupoli. Never wasting an opportunity, we took advantage of a stop at a service station near Moustheni to have a look at the surrounding waste ground and arable land. This gave us our first sightings of the Queen of Spain butterfly, which was to be one of the most ubiquitous species on the trip. This one was looking to lay eggs on a tiny yellow pansy (probably Dwarf Pansy *Viola kitaibeliana*). Like others we saw on the trip, it seemed very small and we wondered whether the first generation is smaller than the later ones we were more familiar with.



We also saw a range of whites: Large, Small, Eastern Dappled, and Eastern Bath. We also saw our first Mallow Skipper, Clouded Yellow and Painted Lady as well as being graced by a flypast of a Scarce Swallowtail. Not bad for a service station!

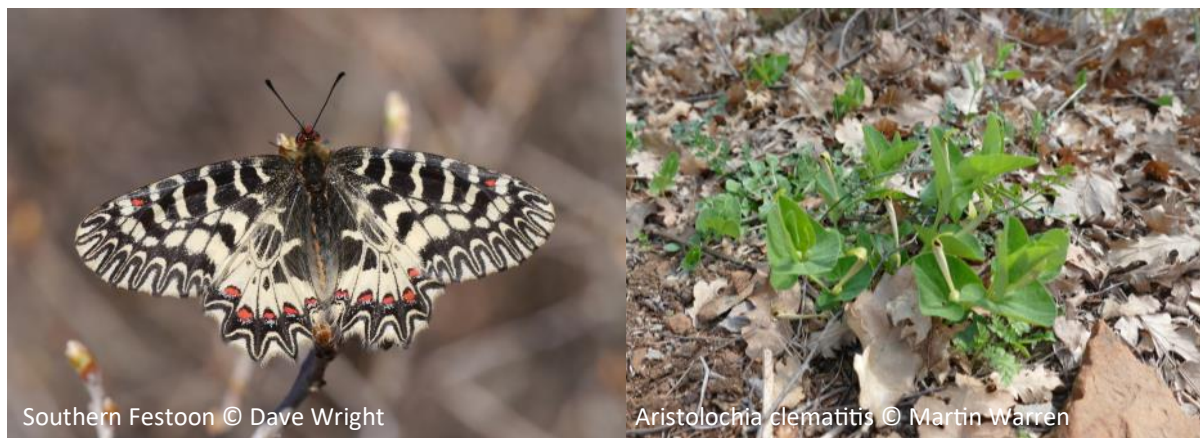
Day 2: 2 April 2017

After a cold night (2C), we took full advantage of a beautifully sunny day to travel into the nearby Evros Hills to look for our main target, the False Apollo. We travelled up through the East Mediterranean High Maquis that characterises the lower slopes of these hills, then up through pine plantation and Hungarian Oak forest that was still bare of leaves after the hard winter.



Our first stop was off the road to Kirki, a small site that Michael had discovered away from the well-known one in the Potamos valley. Within a few minutes we had our first sighting of the graceful and enigmatic False Apollo flying low over the flowery meadow. Although it is a large butterfly, it is quite hard to follow with its semi-transparent wings blending into the background of dead grass and leaves left after the winter. Our early start paid off because they were just warming up after the cold night and many posed nicely as they basked in the morning sun. Most were the more whitish males but we were also lucky to see a single specimen of the more brightly coloured females. The density of butterflies was quite low and Martin's timed count found just 11 butterflies in an hour's search between 10 and 11 am.

Flying with the False Apollo was the closely related Southern Festoon, which also feeds on the poisonous *Aristolochia* plants that grow among the scrub. Again this posed well for photos, showing off its vivid zig-zag patterns of black and red. Michael gave us a crash course in *Aristolochia* identification, showing us two types growing amongst the surrounding scrub: *A. rotunda* and the more robust *A. hirta*, while the ubiquitous *A. clematitis* was still not showing above ground.



Southern Festoon © Dave Wright

Aristolochia clematitis © Martin Warren

Among the other butterflies seen were numerous Clouded Yellows, occasional Mallow and Grizzled Skipper, plus a few specimens of the dainty Wood White (sinapis type), Green Hairstreak (which seemed very iridescent green), Grecian Copper, Small Copper, Holly Blue, Queen of Spain, and Scarce Swallowtail. We spent a long time looking closely at the Whites, getting to know the small features that separate the Eastern Bath White from the Eastern Dappled White. This was a running exercise each day as we had to look closely at each photo of both under and upper sides.

The meadow was rich with flowers and teemed with insects of all sorts: bees, hoverflies, butterflies and Humming-bird Hawkmoths which flew rapidly from flower to flower. The most conspicuous other insects here were the huge Violet Carpenter bee which bent down each flower as it landed, many Bumblebees (including *Bombus lucorum* with its bright double yellow band), and at least three species of Bee-fly. The shady parts of the meadow contained magnificent drifts of the beautiful Crown Anemone as well as Grape Hyacinth.

After a productive morning at this site, we drove down the hills and round to the site at **Potamos (stop 2)**, where the False Apollo was introduced by Bulgarian entomologists almost 100 years ago. Although this is well documented, Michael thinks that the species may well have been present in the region already as there are other old records both here and elsewhere in North East Greece as well as from nearby in both European and Asiatic Turkey (eg the Gallipoli Peninsula). The site is a broad valley with a network of grazed meadows bordered by forested limestone hills. Alongside the river were spectacular Ent-like Oriental Plane trees, some reaching huge heights and girth. A railwayline runs through the site, once the route of the Orient Express but now little used.



Potamos valley © Martin Warren

After an hour of searching, there was much excitement when we found a pair of mating False Apollos at around 4 pm. It looked a curious business as they flipped back and forth amid the dead leaves! After taking hundreds of photos, someone also found another mating pair nearby, suggesting we were still very early in the flight period.

There were several Brimstones flying and on close examination they were all identified as Powdered Brimstone, a species largely confined to Greece. The distinctive features being the white tips on the upperside of the antennae and a kink in the outer edge of the under hindwing. We also had our first sightings of Swallowtail and Green Underside Blue, and fleeting sightings of Grecian Copper, Wood White and Camberwell Beauty. Southern Festoons were also well scattered around the site.



False apollo mating © Martin Warren



Powdered Brimstone © John Hayton

Thanks to Andy searching rocks and water courses on both sites, we also sighted several frogs: Marsh, Agile and Balkan Stream Frogs; Smooth Newts in the water trough; and Spur-thighed Tortoise. Overhead were Raven and Eagle. All in all a wonderful sunny day with rare sightings of two pairs of mating False Apollos.

Day 3: 3 April 2017

As the weather remained good, we headed high into the Evros hills to **stop 1 at Tries Vrises** (Three Taps) where there was a rather derelict picnic area at around 600m. The weather was cold and clear in the early morning but we still managed sightings along a sunny track of Southern Festoon, Orange-tip, several whites (Eastern Dappled and Eastern Bath), Green Hairstreak and Grizzled Skipper. A few of us also had fleeting sightings of Large Tortoiseshell, gliding high in the canopy. Keen eyed Dave also found a single Glanville Fritillary larva.



Evros Hills stop 1 © Martin Warren



Glanville Fritillary larva © Dave Wright

Blackthorn was in full flower and one large bush was positively humming with insects. Among them were the huge Violet Carpenter Bee, a Hover-fly bee mimic called *Mallota fuciformis*, a lovely ginger Tawny Mining bee *Andrena fulva*, the black and white *Andrena cineraria*, and many bee-flies. We also saw a nice Spur-thighed Tortoise and bright yellow flowers of the Yellow Asphodel (probably *Asphodeline luteus*) and a small yellow crocus, probably *Crocus flavus*. Andy also showed us a stunning Yellow-bellied Toad which lived up to its name! Michael proudly showed us a rare ant *Liometopum microcephalum*, one of the very few European ant species totally dependent on old trees (saproxylic) that had made a nest in a rotting oak tree.



Spur-thighed Tortoise © Peter Gravett



Yellow crocus © John Hayton

We then pushed on to **stop 2, near the peak of Kallithea**, to have lunch along a forest track amid Hungarian Oaks. Here we were surrounded by scores of Glanville Fritillary larvae but the only butterflies flying were an occasional Queen of Spain, Grizzled Skipper and Southern Festoon.

After lunch, we moved a little down slope to **stop 3 at Avandas**. On the way a few of us saw a Large Tortoiseshell which briefly landed in front of the minibus. When we arrived the weather had become cloudy and there were few butterflies. However we had a nice sighting of a Southern Festoon roosting, and a lovely white orchid, identified later as Roman Orchid *Dactylorhiza romana*.



Large Tortoiseshell © John Hayton



Roman Orchid © John Hayton

We could see brighter weather near the coast, so we decided to head back down and revisit the site at **Potamos for our fourth stop of the day**. Here we encountered most of the butterflies seen on the previous day, but it gave us a chance to take yet more photos of stunning False Apollos and other species. We also had our first sighting of a fresh Brown Argus and saw an Orange-tip female laying eggs on flower-buds of Hoary Cress (*Lepidium draba*).



Brown Argus © Ian Collins



Orange-tip egg-laying © Martin Warren

During the day we saw many notable birds, including Black Stork, Short-toed Eagle, and a distant vulture. Andy also found a wide range of other lizards and frogs (see Appendix).

Day 4: 4 April 2017

The forecast was decidedly iffy with rain in the hills so we stayed near the coast for **stop 1 in the Mesembria Valley**. Despite cloudy weather we saw a few Mallow Skipper, Orange-tip, Wood White, Clouded Yellow, Grecian Copper and Holly Blue. When it brightened, the arable field near the coast came alive with whites, Eastern Bath and Dappled as well as Large and Small Whites.

The valley was full of birds flitting through the scrub. Nightingales were singing their hearts out in the scrub all the way along. Thanks to our local bird expert, Dave, we also identified Eastern Subalpine Warbler, Sardinian Warbler and Black-eyed Wheatear to name a few. By the coast we also saw Gull-billed Tern and Mediterranean Gull as well as the ubiquitous Yellow-legged Gull.



Grecian Copper © Harry Faulk



Mallow Skipper © John Hayton

For lunch we moved to our second stop of the day amongst the magical old olive groves at Makri near Cyclops Cave. By now the weather was warm and sunny and good butterfly sightings came thick and fast. First were Nettle-tree butterflies, often flying frustratingly out of the reach in the tree-tops. There were also good views of both Scarce and European Swallowtail hill-topping above the limestone cliffs of Cyclops Cave. We also had our first and only sighting of a Wall.



Swallowtail © John Hayton



Nettle-tree Butterfly © James Weightman

However, the star of the show was a Large Tortoiseshell, which after flying for at least half an hour around the canopy of a large Nettle Tree, conveniently descended to a lower branch to lay eggs. Why it chose that branch we don't know, maybe to avoid bird predators or ants? Either way it gave us a unique chance to photograph the act of egg-laying, with each egg being laid painstakingly to form a neat spiral around the tip of the twig. Around 60 eggs were laid in about half an hour before she flew off, leaving us all with neck ache from looking up for so long! Few people have ever witnessed this in the wild so we were extremely lucky.



Large Tortoiseshell egg-laying © Ian Collins



Large Tortoiseshell eggs © Ian Collins

Day 5: 5 April 2017

The day started rainy so we delayed our start until it eased. We then headed west for about an hour to the ancient site of Ismaros on the coast. The valley has a rich vegetation as it overlies limestone rocks and is grazed by cattle as well as goats to give a parkland-like appearance. As the weather was still dull we concentrated on birds and were lucky to have great views of Hoopoe as well as large mixed flocks of Goldfinch, Linnet and warblers (Eastern Subalpine and Sardinian among them). There were also Cirl Bunting, Cuckoo and pairs of striking Black-eared Wheatear. Andy also wowed us (well some of us) with a Worm Snake sitting under a rock, looking for all the world like a worm!



In a brighter period we searched in vain for the Grass Jewel, but did see lots of fast flying Clouded Yellow, including the white *helice* form, and the occasional Bergers Clouded Yellow (assumed because it feeds on Horseshoe Vetch which was abundant). There were also quite a few Brown Argus, which confused us for a while as they had very large orange lunules on the hind wing, similar to the *cramera* form found in Spain.

As the weather brightened we moved back east for **stop 2 along the path of the old Roman Road (Via Egnatia) near Mesti**. The Via Egnatia is a massive feat of engineering as it ran all the way from the west coast of Greece to Constantinople, providing a link ultimately back to Rome. The habitat here was grazed limestone grassland with scattered scrub. We found several nice plants including a short Bearded Iris (probably *Iris reichenbachiana*) in both its yellow and purple forms. There were not many butterflies about but a few Clouded Yellow (inc mating pair and *helice* form), the usual whites, and a single Grecian Copper which posed nicely for photos. Andy found us a Eastern (or Buresch's) Crested Newt which had a bright orange belly.



Day 6: 6 April 2017

The weather looked good when we started so we headed up into the hills again within the Dardia National Park. We made several short stops to see if we could find the Eastern Festoon, but this sadly eluded us. **Stop 1 was by some beehives at the head of the Provaton Rema valley**, which we steered round to see some nice butterflies including Southern Festoon, Queen of Spain, and the usual whites. An eagle-eyed member of the group spotted a spindly Praying Mantis nymph that resembled a tiny robot with gothic horns. The books suggest this was probably *Empusa fasciata*. Andy also found us a beautiful Aesculapian Snake which posed nicely for us to photograph.



Praying Mantis nymph © Peter Gravett



Southern Festoon © Geoff Woodcock

We soon moved on to **stop 2 by Pessani Bridge**. Here we had good views of Queen of Spain egg-laying on the tiny Dwarf Pansy *Viola kitaibeliana*, as well as a Green Underside Blue female (which is brown above), Brown Argus and only Speckled Wood of the trip. There was also a nice purple form of the Roman Orchid *Dactylorhiza romana* by the road. Andy once again trumped us by finding a huge Glass Snake (well over 2 foot long), which is actually a large type of slow-worm *Pseudopus apodus*. Near the site, we also had a fine view of a juvenile Egyptian Vulture flying overhead.



Small Peacock Moth © Dave Wright



Green Underside Blue © Harry Faull

Stop 3 was down a forest track at Mega Rema. Here there were occasional Southern Festoons and whites but not much else apart from a nice shiny Green Hairstreak and a few Glanville Fritillary larvae. Right at the end of the track, after most of us had turned back, Dave spotted a fabulous moth, which turned out to be the Small Peacock Moth *Saturnia pavionella*, which is the southern European version of the Emperor Moth.

We then moved on for lunch but the weather closed in rapidly and the distant thunder got closer and closer. When it was overhead and lightning bolts were clearly visible, we decided to cut our losses and head back towards the coast and sunshine, to our old favourite site at **Potamos for stop 4 of the day**. This produced the usual species but we were again frustrated by a lack of Eastern Festoons. However we did find some eggs of the Southern Festoon, laid in a cluster of over twenty eggs on a tiny emerging plant of *Aristolochia rotunda* alongside the railwayline. But probably the star of the show was once again produced by Andy who found a young Ottoman Viper, a venomous species that he posed for us to take photos at a safe distance!



Ottoman Viper © John Hayton



Southern Festoon eggs © James Weightman

Day 7: 7 April 2017

The weather by now had really turned bad with steady rain. Despite this we headed for the Evros delta where we hoped at least to spot some nice birds. Fortunately, the rain had stopped by the time we drove along the long dirt roads that stretch on embankments through the vast flat delta. At **stop 1 in the east part of the Delta** we had fabulous views of Marsh Harrier, including males dive bombing females. We also had good views of both Black and White Stork, Glossy Ibis, Black-headed yellow Wagtail, Ferruginous Duck, Spur-winged Plover, Purple and Squacco Heron and the rare Pygmy Cormorant.

We then moved to **stop 2 at the western side of the delta** where there was some scrubby grassland amongst the arable fields. Despite the weather, we saw a few Southern Festoons a few whites and had a great view of a freshly emerged Scarce Swallowtail which posed nicely showing both upper and undersides. We also found a solitary orchid of *Ophrys mammosa*, a beautiful flowering Summer Snowflake (*Leucojum aestivum*), a large hairy moth caterpillar (ID unknown) and Water Damselfly and Blue-tailed Damselfly. The best bird sighting of the stop was a fly-past of three White Pelican, which soared round gracefully in a thermal above. Andy also found us a Dice Snake, Spur-thighed Tortoise, Marsh Frog and Green Toad.



Scarce Swallowtail © Harry Faulk



Group shot © John Hayton



White Pelicans © Harry Faulk

Day 8: 8 April 2017

We were up early for the long drive to the airport which went smoothly but there was sadly no time for stops. Along the way we saw several White Storks.

Overview

The trip was hugely successful in having several chances to see the very rare False Apollo and we were privileged to see two mating pairs. Although other butterflies were rather thin on the ground, we had good close up views of other stunning species including Southern Festoon, Grecian Copper, Scarce Swallowtail and Queen of Spain. We were also extremely fortunate to see a Large Tortoiseshell not only in the act of laying eggs on Nettle tree but at a height that could be photographed.

We were also privileged to see a fabulous list of birds, including some very rare species like the

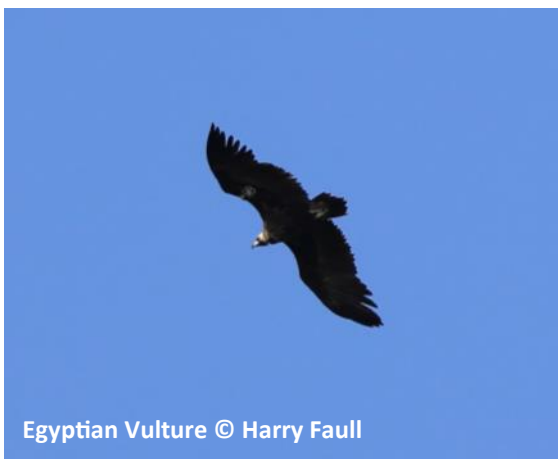


Wood White © Harry Faull



Green Underside Blue male © Ian Collins

White Pelican and Egyptian Vulture. Despite Andy saying that reptiles were thin on the ground, he did manage to find us four snake species (Dice, Aesculapian, Worm, and Ottoman Viper) and a stunning large Glass Snake (slow-worm). Also both species of Tortoise (Spur-thighed and Hermans), as well as a great variety of frogs, newts and toads.



Egyptian Vulture © Harry Faull



Aesculapian Snake © John Hayton

Gallery and Species lists overleaf

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A collage of 15 photographs showing various wildflowers and plants in a natural setting, likely a meadow or field. The images are arranged in a grid-like fashion, with some larger and some smaller, showing different species and colors including white, purple, blue, yellow, and pink.

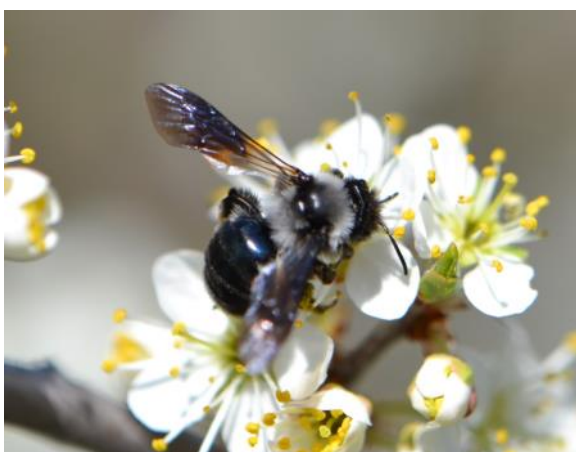
Insects © Peter Gravett



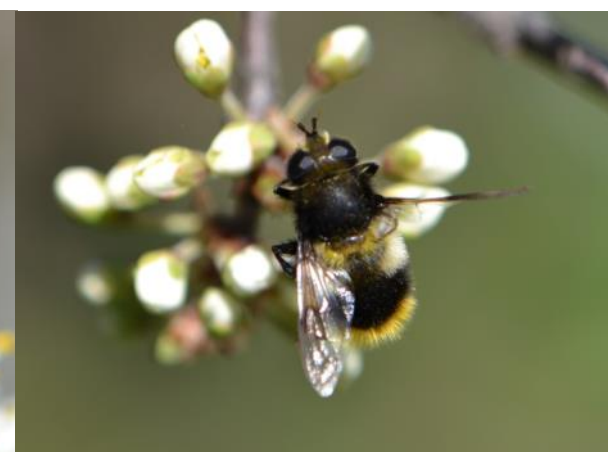
Anthopora sp © Peter Gravett



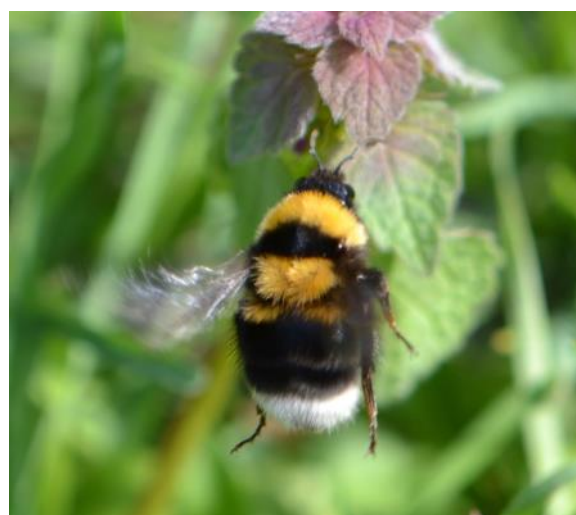
Carpenter Bee *Xylocopa* sp © Peter Gravett



Andrena cineraria © Peter Gravett



Mallota fuciformis © Peter Gravett



Bombus sp © Peter Gravett



Longhorn Beetle *Docradian* sp in cop © Peter Gravett

Insects



Liometopum microcephalum ants © James Weightman



Rose Chafer © Peter Gravett



Paper Wasp *Polistes* sp © Peter Gravett

Herptiles



Green Lizard © Peter Gravett



Glass Snake (slow-worm) © Peter Gravett



Dice Snake © Peter Gravett



Yellow-bellied Toad © Martin Warren



Buresch's Crested Newt © Martin Warren



Aesculapean Snake © Peter Gravett

Eastern Dappled vs Eastern Bath Whites



Eastern Dappled White © Ian Collins



Eastern Dappled White © John Hayton



Eastern Bath White © John Hayton



Eastern Bath White © Martin Warren



Photographing False Apollos © Martin Warren



Photographing Southern Festoon © Martin Warren

Butterfly list: Greenwings trip to East Greece – 1-8 April 2017

Species	English name	Trip	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>Erynnis tages</i>	Dingy Skipper	?			2?				
<i>Carcharodus alceae</i>	Mallow Skipper	✓	1	1,2		1		3,4	2
<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>	Grizzled Skipper	✓		1,2	1-4			1,2	
<i>Zerynthia polyxena</i>	Southern Festoon	✓		1,2	1-4			1-4	
<i>Archon apollinus</i>	False Apollo	✓		1,2	4			4	
<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>	Scarce Swallowtail	✓	1	1,2	4			4	
<i>Papilio machaon</i>	Swallowtail	✓		2	4	2			
<i>Leptidea sinapis complex</i>	Wood White complex	✓		1,2	4	1, 2		1-3	
<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>	Orange-tip	✓		1,2	1-4	1,2	2	1-4	2
<i>Euchloe ausonia</i>	Eastern Dappled White	✓		1,2	1-4	1,2	2	1-4	2
<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	Large White	✓	1	1	3	1,2		4	1
<i>Pieris rapae</i>	Small White	✓	1	2	4	1,2	2		
<i>Pontia edusa</i>	Eastern Bath White	✓	?	1,2	1	1,2	2	?	
<i>Pontia chloridice</i>	Small Bath White	?		?	?				
<i>Colias crocea</i>	Clouded Yellow	✓	1	1,2	1-4	1,2	1,2	1-4	1,2
<i>Colias alfacariensis</i>	Berger's Clouded Yellow	✓					1		
<i>Gonepteryx farinosa</i>	Powdered Brimstone	✓		2	4			4	
<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>	Small Copper	✓		1,2	4	2			
<i>Lycaena ottomana</i>	Grecian Copper	✓		1,2		1,2	2	4	
<i>Callophrys rubi</i>	Green Hairstreak	✓		1	1,4	2		3	
<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>	Holly Blue	✓		1,2	3	1,2		3	
<i>Glaucopsyche alexis</i>	Green-underside Blue	✓		2	4	2		1,2	
<i>Aricia agestis</i>	Brown Argus	✓			4		1,2	2	
<i>Libythea celtis</i>	Nettle-tree Butterfly	✓				2			
<i>Issoria lathonia</i>	Queen of Spain Fritillary	✓	1	1,2	1,2,4	1,2		1-4	
<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	Red Admiral	✓				2			
<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	Painted Lady	✓	1				1	3	
<i>Aglais io</i>	Peacock	✓		2	4				
<i>Polygonia egea</i>	Southern Comma	?			?	?			
<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>	Camberwell Beauty	✓		2	4	1			
<i>Nymphalis polychloros</i>	Large Tortoiseshell	✓		?	1-3	2	2	3,4	
<i>Melitaea cinxia</i>	Glanville Fritillary (larvae)	✓			1,2			3,4	
<i>Pararge aegeria</i>	Speckled Wood	✓						2	
<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	Wall Brown	✓				2			

Key to stops

Day 1: 1 = Moustheni (Service Station)

Day 2: 1 = Kirki; 2 = Potamos

Day 3: 1 = Tries Vrises (Three Taps); 2 = Lunch stop near Kalithea; 3 = Avandas; 4 = Potamos

Day 4: 1 = Mesembria Valley; 2 = Makri (Old Olive Grove)

Day 5: 1 = Ismaros; 2 = Roman Road at Mesti

Day 6: Dadia National Park: 1 = Beehive area (Provaton Rema); 2 = Pessani Bridge; 3 = Mega Rema (track); 4 = Potamos

Day 7: Evros delta. 1 = Evros East; 2 = Evros West

Bird species list as reported during evenings (not comprehensive)

Birds species checklist 1-7 April 2017								
Common name	Scientific	day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4	day 5	day 6	day 7
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>					✓		
Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax pygmeus</i>							✓
White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>							✓
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>							✓
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>							✓
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>							✓
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea pupurea</i>							✓
Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>			✓	✓			✓
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>						✓	✓
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>				✓			✓
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>							✓
Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>							✓
Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>							✓
Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circus gallicus</i>			✓			✓	
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>				✓	✓		✓
Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>					?		
Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>						✓	
Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>							✓
Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>						✓	✓
Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>		✓					
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>							✓
Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>			?			✓	
Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>				✓			✓
Spur-winged Plover	<i>Hoplopterus spinosus</i>							✓
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>							✓
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>				✓			
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>				✓	✓		
Mediterranean Gull	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>				✓	✓		
Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>				✓		✓	
Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>					✓		
Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>							✓
Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>							✓
Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>				✓		✓	✓
Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>						✓	
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>			✓				
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>				✓			
Wood Lark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>					✓		
Crag Martin	<i>Hirundo rupestris</i>			✓				
House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>							✓
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>					✓		✓
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>				✓			
Black-headed Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava feldegg</i>							✓

Bird checklist (cont'd)

White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>						✓	
Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>				✓		✓	✓
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>					✓		
Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>				✓	✓		
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>							✓
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>						✓	
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>						✓	
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>							✓
Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>				✓	✓	✓	
Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>				✓	✓		
Eastern Orphean Warbler	<i>Sylvia crassirostris</i>					✓		
Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>			✓				✓
Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>							✓
Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>				✓			
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>				✓			✓
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>						✓	
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		✓					
Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		✓	✓			✓	
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓					
Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>							✓
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>					✓		
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>					✓		
Common Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>					✓		
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>					✓		
Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>			✓		✓		

Amphibians and reptiles list as reported in evenings
East Greece, 1-7 April 2017

English name	Species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Smooth Newt	<i>Lissotriton vulgaris</i>			✓ N		✓		
Buresch's Crested Newt	<i>Triturus ivanbureschi</i>					✓		
Common Toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>			✓				
Yellow-bellied Toad	<i>Bombina variegata</i>			✓			✓	
Green Toad	<i>Bufo viridis</i>					✓		✓
Marsh Frog	<i>Pelophylax ridibundus</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓
Agile Frog	<i>Rana dalmatica</i>		✓					
Greek Stream Frog	<i>Rana graeca</i>		✓					
Spur-thighed Tortoise	<i>Testudo graeca</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hermann's Tortoise	<i>Testudo hermanni</i>				✓	✓	✓	
Turkish Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus turcicus</i>					✓		
Pond Terrapin	<i>Emys orbicularis</i>						✓	
Balkan Terrapin	<i>Mauremys rivulata</i>						✓	
Eastern Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta viridis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	
Erhard's Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis erhardii</i>			✓				
Balkan Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis tauricus</i>			✓		✓	✓	
Snake-eyed Skink	<i>Ablepharus kitaibelii</i>			✓				
Glass Snake	<i>Pseudopus apodus</i>				✓		✓	
Worm Snake	<i>Xerotyphlops vermicularis</i>				✓			
Aesculapian Snake	<i>Zamenis longissimus</i>						✓	
Dice Snake	<i>Natrix tessellata</i>							✓
Ottoman Viper	<i>Montivipera xanthina</i>						✓	