

NJ Swallowtails – ID Guide. Named for their HW tails, they are NJ’s largest butterflies.

Two species that are yellow-and-black:

Eastern Tiger Swallowtail. Throughout NJ. Hostplants are Tuliptree *Liriodendron tulipifera*, White Ash *Fraxinus americana*, Wild Cherry *Prunus serotina*.

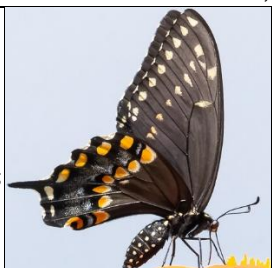
 Female	 Male	Tiger pattern. Black border with yellow dashes on FW, thin crescents on HW. HW: F with blue clouding, M with little or none.		Sexes similar: Tiger pattern. HW: marginal row of orange spots capped yellow, submarginal black band with blue clouding. Body yellow with black stripes.
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Eastern Giant Swallowtail. Breeds NW, wanders throughout NJ. Hostplant is Common Pricklyash *Zanthoxylum americanum*.

	Sexes similar. Dorsal view: black, bands of yellow spots form an “X” (smaller Black Swallowtail lacks “X”). Tails spoon-shaped, yellow centers. In flight rapid alternation of black/yellow may give the impression that the butterfly is orange.	All NJ Swallowtails have a spring brood and a (usually) larger summer brood. Peak typically late July – early August.		Sexes similar: Mostly yellow. FW: narrow zigzag post-median line; HW: post-median band of black-bordered blue spots & cell-end bar, two red spots. Body yellow, black dorsal stripe.
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Four species that are largely black, ornamented with white/yellow/orange/blue:

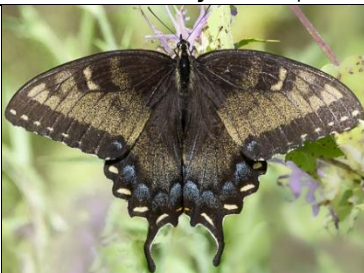
Black Swallowtail. Widespread, favors extensive open areas. Hostplants are in Parsley family: Queen Anne’s-lace *Daucus carota*, garden Parsley, Dill, etc.

 Female	 Male	FW/HW: two complete bands - marginal round spots/crescents, post-median teardrops. Inner band has “extra” spots (one toward rear; one at anterior margin); cell-end bars often show. M has larger spots, F blue clouding.		Ventral view: M/F similar: Underside mirrors upper-side pattern. HW: two complete bands of orange spots. Body black with yellow dots. To separate a fluttering F from Spicebush, ‘extra’ anterior FW spot often easiest mark to find. Smallest of this group.
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Spicebush Swallowtail. Widespread, favors areas with hostplants Spicebush *Lindera benzoin* and Sassafras *Sassafras albidum*, nearby open areas.

 Female	 Male	Marginal/submarginal spots pale blue when fresh. FW: two bands of spots; both tend to fade before reaching anterior margin. HW: marginal crescents, inner blue clouding; both more intense in M.		Sexes similar: Underside mirrors upperside pattern. HW: two bands of orange spots; post-median band has one spot replaced with a blue “comet”, sometimes with orange cap. Body black with yellow dots.
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Eastern Tiger Swallowtail – Black form. Females only. Yellow replaced by black except for marginal hyphens & crescents.

		Blue clouding, if extensive, (as at far left) crossed by line of black crescents. Some individuals (near left) are intermediate yellow/black.		Ventral view: FW with marginal pale “hyphens”. HW: one band of narrow orange spots, submarginal blue clouding, trace of Tiger pattern. Body dark.
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Pipevine Swallowtail. Widespread but scarce. Hostplants are native/cultivated Pipevines *Aristolochia*.

 Female	 Male	F charcoal-black, some blue iridescence. HW: sub-marginal ovals; FW: incomplete band of smaller round spots. M velvet-black, much iridescent blue, similar spots.		FW: partial band of white spots. HW: one band of large round orange spots in field of iridescent blue. Inner HW of F tan, M black. Body black, iridescent blue, white spots
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