

BUTTERFLY LIFE CYCLE TIMELINE

Metamorphosis Observation Log

DAYS 1 - 7

Stage 1: The Egg (Ovum)

Small, round, or oval objects usually laid on the underside of milkweed or host leaves. High mortality risk during this period.

DAYS 7 - 21

Stage 2: The Larva (Caterpillar)

The feeding stage. The larva molts (sheds skin) approximately 5 times (instars) as it grows rapidly in size.

DAYS 21 - 35

Stage 3: The Pupa (Chrysalis)

The transformation stage. The caterpillar tissues are broken down and rebuilt into the adult butterfly structure.

FINAL STAGE

Stage 4: The Adult (Imago)

Emergence and wing inflation. The primary focus shifts to nectar feeding and reproduction to begin the cycle again.

Observation Notes

Environmental Conditions

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