

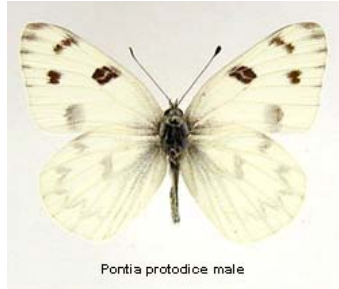


# Utah Bug Club

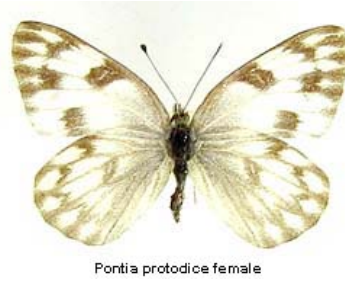
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Pontia protodice male



Pontia protodice female

## Raising Caterpillars of the Checkered White Butterfly:

1. Caterpillars of this butterfly feed on the leaves and flowers of mustard plants such as whitetop (*Cardaria draba*) and tumble mustard (*Sisymbrium altissimum*) which grow here and there in disturbed areas, unbuilt properties, unmowed patches of parks, areas around freeway ramps, growing adjacent to alfalfa fields, etc.



Look along old roadsides or disturbed areas for whitetop. Place caterpillars on leaves or flowers. There is a lot of whitetop along the Lagoon Frontage Road; but there likely is some in Kaysville as well.



Tumble mustard is a little more difficult to find; but there are a lot of plants growing just NE of the intersection of Park Lane and Lagoon Drive in Farmington; just to the west of Shipley Associates. Take cuttings of plants, place in tall, white kitchen bag, and refrigerate.

2. Place larva on a flower or leaves either on whitetop or tumble mustard. Place cuttings of plant into a bottled water similar to what is being provided.
3. Place bottled plant with larva on top of white paper towel on a table away from direct sunlight and pets. The caterpillar will be o.k. in this setup for roughly 5 days before the plant goes bad. At that point, it should be changed out with fresh plant. Be sure not to directly handle the caterpillar while you are changing it. Cut caterpillar off of plant and lay plant sprig with caterpillar onto fresh plant.



Closeup of Checkered White Caterpillar when it gets large in about three weeks.

4. Repeat step 3 until the large caterpillar turns very dark. It is now ready to make a chrysalis. Place larva in an old margarine plastic tub lined with paper towel similar to photo below; OR simply place in a brown lunch sack and secure with paper clips.
5. Allow chrysalis to go undisturbed for 1-2 weeks until it emerges as an adult butterfly. If the caterpillar forms a chrysalis on a stem, fasten the stem with which the chrysalis is attached using masking tape to the emergence container. Keep out of direct sunlight!



Squat tub container with paper towel fastened to lid and side. Tape chrysalis in container. Adult should emerge in 1-2 weeks.



Chrysalis of checkered white butterfly.

Questions, comments or concerns?  
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