

Pest Profile



Photo credit: Cindy Perkovich, University of Nebraska

Common Name: Clouded Sulphur

Synonyms: Yellow Sulphur, Common Sulphur

Scientific Name: *Colias philodice*

Order and Family: Lepidoptera: Pieridae

Size and Appearance:

| | Length (mm) | Appearance |
|-----------------------------|-------------|---|
| Egg | | Cream colored, turning to red with age. |
| Larva/Nymph | | Plump green caterpillars with a covering of short fine hairs, a green stripe down the back and sometimes having pale yellow sides. |
| Adult | 38mm – 70mm | Light yellow wings with brown edges. Some display a white color instead of the yellow, referred to as the “alba” form. Both sexes display a double hind wing spot that is a yellow-brown color. |
| Pupa (if applicable) | | |

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Adults: Siphoning, Larvae: Chewing

Host plant/s: Adults thrive on nectars from various flowering plants. Larvae feed on host plants where their eggs are laid. These include black locust and many species of legume including clover and alfalfa.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): The effects of their feeding can cause a decline in aesthetics of the host plant. If multiple broods are laid and allow an abundance of caterpillars feeding on the host, great amounts of foliage damage may occur.

References:

Barton, B. (2004). *Colias philodice*. Animal Diversity Web. Retrieved from
http://animaldiversity.org/accounts/Colias_philodice/

Clouded Sulphur Colias philodice Godart, 1819. (2015). Butterflies and Moths of North America:
Retrieved from: <http://www.butterfliesandmoths.org/species/Colias-philodice>