



# Green Hairstreak

*Callophrys rubi* (Linnaeus, 1758)

## DESCRIPTION

Wingspan: From 2.4 to 2.8 cm. **Closed wings:** They are shiny green, and the forewings yellowish. The margins are thin and brown, with white hairs (*fimbriae*). There are dots that form an arch on the hindwings, although they often reduce to an only dot close to the front margin. In Spanish, it was named *Cejialba* [Fair Eyebrows], due to the fact that its eyes have white colour around them. **Open wings:** This species never stretches its wings, which are dark brown.

## KEY FOR VISUAL IDENTIFICATION



Thin brown margin

A series of white dots which make an arch. They often reduce to one and only spot



White colour around eyes



## SIMILAR SPECIES

**Chapman's Green Hairstreak:** This species is generally darker green and paler. Its butterflies have a wavy white stripe on each wing, which is clearly visible on the hindwings. There is red or orange colour around the eyes, although it is often vague and it can even be white.



## BIOLOGY &amp; HABITAT

These butterflies fly in winter and spring, above all in March and April, and they take one generation to do so. Typical habitats in their case are scrubland, sunny and warm places, and above all mountains. Their caterpillars feed on different families, for example, on leguminous plants such as *Dorycnium pentaphyllum*, or on the family Cistaceae plants, such as Montpellier Cistus (*Cistus monspeliensis*) and Sage-leaved Rock-rose (*Cistus salvifolius*).

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
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## DISTRIBUTION

The species is rather spread along the GMP, as it only does not go to the places without any local vegetation. It is more common in mountainous areas and it can be found at limited number of places along the coast or in the north of the province.

