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NEWS

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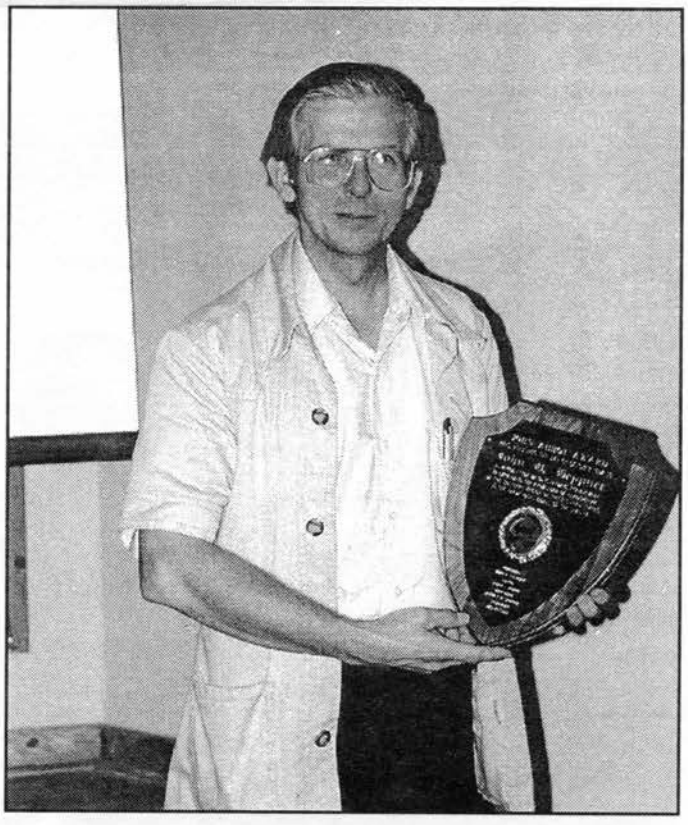
THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY ORGANIZED TO PROMOTE SCIENTIFIC INTEREST AND KNOWLEDGE RELATED TO UNDERSTANDING THE LEPIDOPTERA FAUNA OF THE SOUTHERN REGION OF THE UNITED STATES

EDITOR: LEROY C. KOEHN

JOHN B. HEPPNER, 1997 ABBOTT AWARD RECIPIENT



John Heppner 1997 Abbott Award recipient

Dr. John B. Heppner was born in 1947 in Timmendorfer-Strand, near Lübeck, northern Germany. At age 6, his family moved to New York, where he attended grade schools on Long Island until a 1961 move to San Diego, California. High school was completed in Lakeside, a suburb of San Diego. The first two college years began in 1965 as part of the first class enrolled in the new San Diego campus of the University of California, in La Jolla. In 1967, he transferred to the Berkeley campus to study entomology. It was at Berkeley that the study of Microlepidoptera became of interest, under the guidance of Prof. J. A. Powell. Studies at Berkeley resulted first in a B.A. degree in 1970, followed by a B.S. in entomology in 1972. From 1972-78 he was in graduate school at the University of Florida, Gainesville, under the guidance of Prof. D. H. Habeck. With an award of a pre-doctoral fellowship in 1976 with the Smithsonian Institution, he finished studies for the doctoral degree in Washington and received the Ph.D. in 1978: the dissertation topic was a North American revision of the micro-moth family Glyphipterigidae. From 1978-82 he was curator of Microlepidoptera at the Smithsonian. In 1983, an appointment to the Florida State Collection of Arthropods staff became available, resulting in a move to Gainesville, where he continues as Lepidoptera curator. He is a Research Associate of the Smithsonian Institution and an Adjunct Professor of Entomology of the University of Florida. He is an honorary member of the Hungarian Entomological Society, a Fellow of the Royal Entomological Society of London, and a member of several other entomological societies. He is founder and executive director of the Association for Tropical Lepidoptera, and is editor of their publications. He also is editor of FSCA publications. He has traveled extensively in search of micro-moths and other orders of insects, with particularly long stays in Hungary, Romania, Indonesia, Taiwan, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela, as well as many parts of the USA. He is married since 1980 to the former A. Marina Garcia, of Lima, Peru, and they have one daughter, Vanessa, age 12.

1997 ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

BILL RUSSELL, SECRETARY

The 19th Annual Meeting of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society was held on 11 and 12 October 1997 at the Doyle Conner Auditorium at the Division of Plant Industry in Gainesville, Florida. The meeting honored the dedication and contributions of John A Grossbeck (1883-1914). Arrivals began on Friday with collecting in the turkey oaks near Williston. The near perfect weather conditions found the lepidopterists as well as lepidoptera were attracted to Leroy's lights that night where a Schinia moth did not stand a chance at the sheet.

The meetings began on Saturday morning with thirty-two members, family and friends signing in from the states of Mississippi, Louisiana, Georgia, Florida, and Kentucky. The 8:00 AM coffee and conversation allowed members to meet old friends and make new ones. The Florida State Collection of Arthropods was opened for viewing. At 10:30 AM Chairman, John Calhoun called the business meeting to order. James Taylor, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the slate nominees and conducted the election of officers. With a ballot vote, the following officers were unanimously elected for annual terms beginning January 1, 1998: **Chairman**: John Calhoun; **Treasurer**: Jeff Slotten; **Secretary**: Bill Russell; **Editor**: Leroy Koehn; **Editorial Assistant.**: Paul Milner; **Membership Coordinator**: Drew Hildebrandt; **Board Member-at-Large**: Marc Minno. Jim Taylor presented changes to the Constitution concerning State Coordinators with the changes voted on and approved. James Taylor acknowledged John Calhoun, Jeff Slotten, and Leroy Koehn for their efforts in making the arrangements for the meeting.

John Calhoun solicited recommendations for next year's field trips. James Adams will host a spring field meeting in North Georgia and Barry Lombardini will host a fall field meeting in the Texas Panhandle. Next year's annual meeting was tentatively scheduled for the second week in October. This will be the 20th Annual Meeting and a committee was formed to make it an extra special anniversary meeting. All charter members will be invited to attend. Jeff Slotten gave the treasurers report. Leroy Koehn presented a "State of the Society" report. He also reported on the newsletter and asked for more articles for future newsletters.

During the lunch break, Leroy Koehn and Richard Boscoe lead a group of members to a nearby collecting locality in search of Poanes viator zizaniae which were not yet on the wing.

The general meeting followed after the lunch break with five presentations. Barry Lombardini presented "Lepidoptera of the Texas Panhandle". "The Arogos Skipper Survey Project in Florida" was described by Mark Minno. James Adams illustrated "The Diverse Moth Fauna of West Texas". Tom Emmel reported on the status of the Schaus Swallowtail recovery project. John Calhoun provided an "Updated List of the Butterflies and Skippers of Florida". (Cont. On Pg.#47)

John Heppner (on right) receiving the Plaque of Appreciation for the Florida State Collection of Arthropods from Marc Minno.

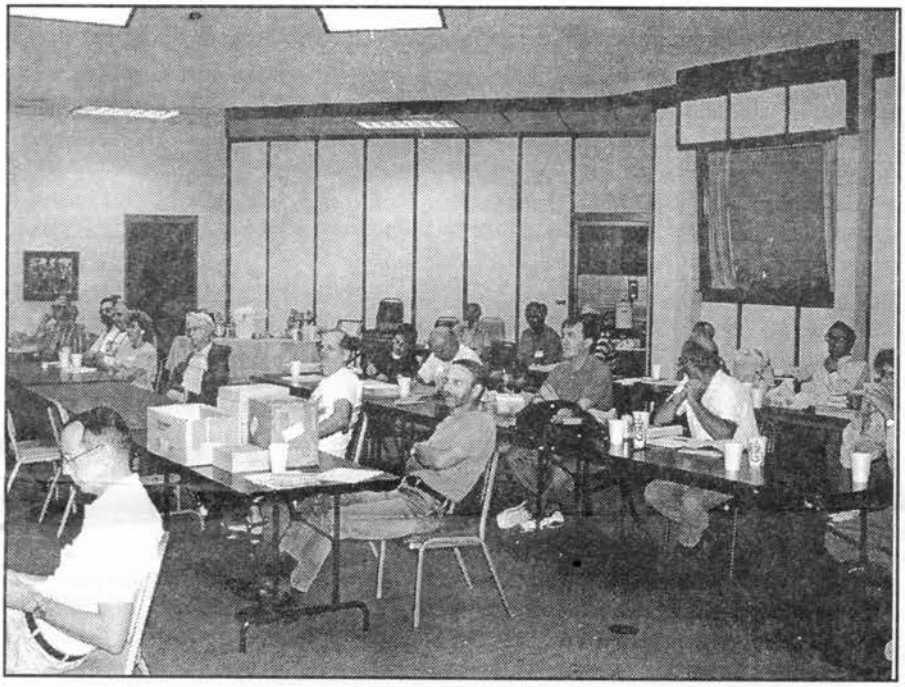
Irving Finkelstien with a Poanes arroni in the net at Yankee Town during the collecting trip on Friday

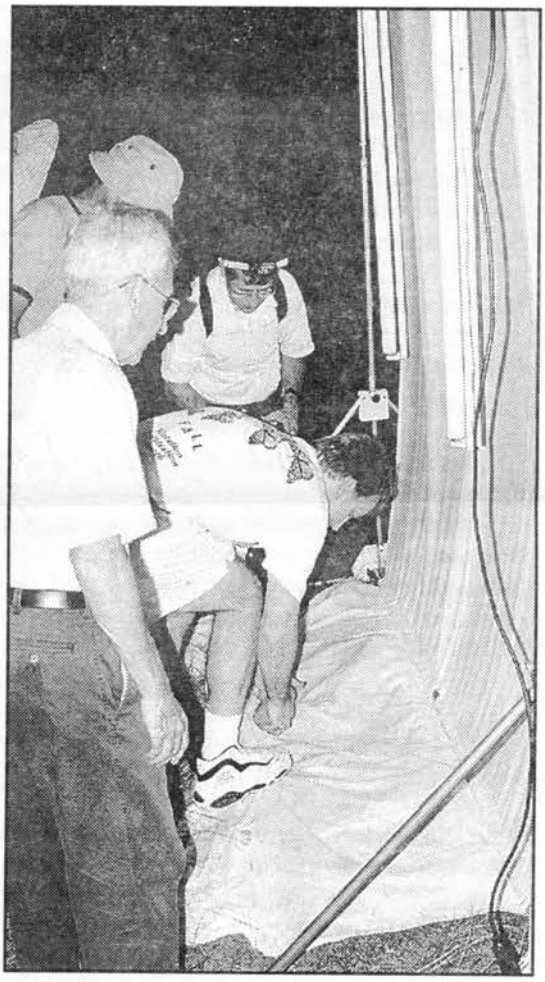
John Calhoun present the Abbot Award to John Heppner. John was recognized for his contributions to Lepidoptera as founder of the "Association for Tropical Lepidoptera", his many publications and research efforts. Marc Minno presented a plaque to The Florida State Collection of Arthropods in recognition of the efforts and support on behalf of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society.

Following the meeting, a banquet was held at the Panda Restaurant followed by a party at the home of Jeffrey Slotten. Jeff meticulously prepared collection was examined thoroughly by almost everyone who came to the party..

It was a great meeting. Plan now to attend the 20th Anniversary Meeting in Gainesville, Florida in 1998!!

PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE ANNUAL MEETING





Top left: Meeting room during presentation of papers. **Lower left**: Executive Board Members; from left to right: Jeffrey Slotten, Treasurer; Paul Milner, Assistant Editor; John Calhoun, Chairman; Leroy Koehn, Editor; James Taylor, Nominating Committee Chairman; Bill Russell, Secretary; Marc Minno, Member-at-Large. **Top right**: James Adams takes the first Schinia at the sheet Friday night with Irving Finkelstien, Bill Russell, and Jeffrey Slotten.

More photographs on Pg.# 52

SPHINGIDAE OF CAPROCK CANYONS STATE PARK, TEXAS AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDINGS.

BY
J. BARRY LOMBARDINI

Caprock Canyons State Park (1), an area comprising 13,906 acres is located in the southeastern portion of Briscoe County, in West Texas. The State of Texas purchased the land in 1975, and the Park opened to the public in 1982 with facilities such as camping, swimming, areas for horse back riding, and a small store. The small community of Quitaque (population 513) is located 3 miles to the south of the Park. Two major urban populations in the area are the City of Lubbock (population 200,000), located approximately 96 miles to the southwest (~2 hour drive) and the City of Amarillo (population 180,000) located approximately 100 miles to the northwest (~2 hour drive).

Landscape: Caprock Canyons State Park is named for the terrain of the area, that is, for the escarpment which makes up ridges and arroyos formed in ancient times by the faulting and fracturing of the earth's crust. This harsh, rugged area features exposed red sandstones and siltstones, processes of the exposed geological formations of the Permian Age. Within the Park, geological evidence of earlier eras can also be observed such as shales of the Triassic Age, caliche caprock of the Pliocene epoch, and sediments that fill depressions of the Pleistocene era. The escarpment, in this area of the panhandle of Texas, which runs north-south separates the flatlands of the Llano Estacado or Staked Plain to the west and the rolling plains to the east. The elevation within Caprock Canyons State Park is approximately 2180 ft in the east and increases to approximately 3180 ft at the western border.

Within Caprock Canyons State Park is Lake Theo, a small lake which covers approximately 120 acres in years of normal rainfall and is used by both day-use and overnight guests for swimming, boating, and fishing. The creeks in the Park are small and only have water if there is sufficient rainfall. In ancient times the tributaries of the Little Red River and Holmes Creek contributed to the erosion involved in forming the canyons and badlands.

Vegetation: At first glance when entering Caprock Canyons State Park one is initially overwhelmed by the appearance of the lack of vegetation. Minimal rainfall and poor soil are the contributing factors to this paucity of vegetation. However, upon closer inspection, there is, indeed, a wide variety of plants, and there are reported to be five different zones of plant life within the Park. These zones are the following: 1) high plains prairie - contains short grasses, 2) scarp woodlands - Mohr's Oak and one-seed juniper are found along with other numerous shrubs, 3) undulating plains - contain mesquite, sand sage, and grasses, 4) badlands - characterized by poor soil and consequently limited grasses. Sparse vegetation including redberry juniper, mesquite, and cacti are also found here, and 5) the bottom lands - populated with cottonwood, plum, hackberry, Rocky Mountain juniper, Mohr's Oak, and tall grasses.

The author visited Caprock Canyons State Park and the immediate area on numerous occasions in 1996 and 1997 collecting moths in the campgrounds with a blacklight. Collecting specimens was also accomplished by visiting buildings with outside lights such as the Ranger Station at the Park entrance and convenience stores in the nearby towns of Quitaque and Turkey.

The following listed species of Sphingidae (Hawkmoths) have been collected. The sites of capture of these specimens are Caprock Canyons State Park, designated by the initials {CCSP}, and the neighboring towns of Quitaque and Turkey (10 miles to the east of the Park) identified by the initials {Qq} and {Tk}. The species recorded from Quitaque and Turkey should also be found in the nearby Park. Additional records for the Park are included which were published in the Southern Lepidopterists' News (2) by Ed Knudsen and Charles Bordelon (identified by their initials in the parentheses, EK&CB). Specimens collected by the author are identified by the initials JBL. Dates of capture are located in brackets. The numbering system is that of the Check List of the Lepidoptera of America North of Mexico edited by R. W. Hodges and colleagues (3). Specimens collected by the author were identified with the aid of the monograph entitled: The Moths of America North of Mexico, Fascicle 21 Sphingoidea, by R.W. Hodges (4).

List of Species

7771 Agrius cingulatus (Fabricius) {CCSP}(JBL)[5-X-97]
7775 Manduca sexta (Linnaeus) {CCSP} (JBL) [31-VIII-96]
7776 Manduca quinquemaculata (Haworth){CCSP} (JBL) [3,30-VIII-96]
7786 Ceratomia amyntor (Geyer) {CCPS} (JBL) [3-VIII-96]
7790 Ceratomia hageni Grote {CCSP} (EK&CB) [10,11-V-96]
7793 Paratrea Plebeja (Fabricius) {Qq} (JBL) [8-IX-96]
7804 Sphinx libocedrus Henry Edwards {CCSP} (JBL) [30-VIII-96]
7812 Sphinx drupiferarum J.E. Smith {CCSP} (EK&CB) [10,11-V-96]
7821 Smerinthus jamaicensis (Drury) {CCSP} (EK&CB) [10,11-V-96]; (JBL) [28-VII-96, 1-IX-97]
7828 Pachysphinx modesta (Harris) {CCSP} (EK&CB) [10,11-V-96]

Acknowledgments. The author thanks David H. Riskind, Director of the Natural Resources Program, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, for his approval of these studies. Collecting in Caprock Canyons State Park was allowed under permit no. 22-96 issued to the author by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

REFERENCES

1.) Caprock Canyons State Park, Texas State Publications Clearinghouse, PWD-BR-P4501-3/92.

2.) E. Knudsen and C. Bordelon, State Coordinator Reports, Southern Lepidopterists' News, vol. 18 #2, p. 13 (1996).

3.) Check List of the Lepidoptera of America North of Mexico. R.W. Hodges, T. Dominick, D.R. Davis, D.C. Ferguson, J.G. Franclemont, E.G. Munroe, and J.A. Powell, E.W. Classey Limited and The Wedge Entomological Research Foundation, London (1983).

4.) R.W. Hodges, The Moths of America North of Mexico, Fascicle 21 Sphingoidea, E.W. Classey Limited and R.B.D. Publications, Inc., London (1971).

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THE FLIGHT PERIOD OF SYNANTHEDON RUBROFASCIA (HY.EDW.) IN LOUISIANA

BY
VERNON A, BROU

ABSTRACT: Multi-year adult capture data of this gum tree (Nyssa sp.) pest is graphically illustrated.

Additional key words: clearwing, sesiidae, sour gum, swamp gum.

This is a common species throughout much of the eastern United States. Brown and Mizell (1993) states there are one or possibly two broods, adults occurring March to November in Florida. Eichlin and Duckworth (1988) states adults March to August, mostly in May and June. Taft, Smith, and Snow (1991) states there is one brood beginning July in the north-central United States.

In Louisiana, this species has regularly been captured in ultra-violet light traps since 1970. Many dozens of specimens have also been taken by hand net, flight traps, pitfall traps, and fermenting fruit bait traps. Both sexes are equally common in bait traps. The majority of male specimens in Louisiana were captured statewide in traps using experimental and commercially available pheromones. In the southern half of the state, the postmedial area of the forewings of male specimens are marked with substantial black scales besides those occurring on veins. In the central and northern portions of the state, black scales can be non-existant except those covering veins. Dates of capture are plotted on a 7 year composite year-by-day graph Fig. 1. Approximately 38% of the specimens were taken in the month of July, specimens appearing to emerge sporadically April through November.

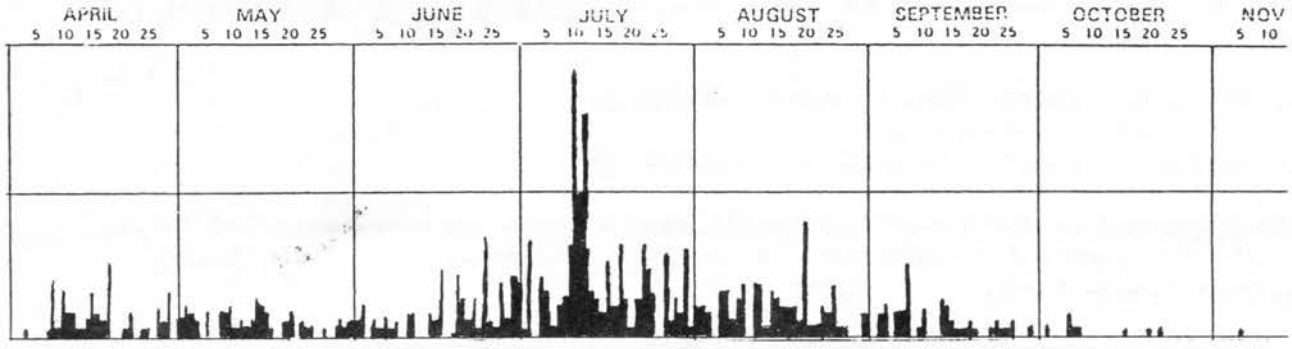

Fig. 1. Dates of capture (1990-96) of Synanthedon rubrofascia, n = 654, at St. Tammany Parish, sec.24,T6,SR12E, 4.2 miles NE Abita Springs, Louisiana.

1998 ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD IN GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA IN OCTOBER

The 1998 Annual Meeting will be the Southern Lepidopterists' Society 20th year. This will be a very special meeting. During the 1997 Annual Meeting in Gainesville, a committee was formed to plan and organize the 20th year Anniversary. All of the past Charter Members will be invited to attend. Plan now to attend! More information will be forth coming in the next newsletter.

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SPRING FIELD MEETING IN NORTH GEORGIA — HOSTED BY JAMES ADAMS

The second annual North Georgia spring field meeting will be held the week end of May 14-17 (just before the new moon) and hosted by James Adams. Both Thursday (May 14th) and Friday (May 15th) night black lighting for moths will be available. The meeting will officially begin at 9:00AM on Saturday. We will meet at the Waffle House restaurant east of Exit 137 off I-75. However, besides the moth collecting mentioned above, James will be able to lead butterfly collecting on the afternoon of Friday, May 15th. (feel free to call/e-mail James for more specifics). Daytime collecting will be available on Saturday and Sunday with moth collecting Saturday night. For geometrid enthusiasts, the rare Lytrosis permagnaria (See fig. #1 on Page #51) will likely be on the wing at this time. Please notify James if you are planning to attend so that he can plan for equipment and make arrangements for collecting. You can contact James using any of the following means: James K. Adams, 1702 Crow Valley Rd., #704, Dalton, GA 30720: Hm Phone:(706)278-6255; e-mail: jadams@carpet.dalton.peachnet. edu

Please feel free to arrive before the May 14th or stay until after the 17th. Although James may not be available to lead you into the field every day, he can certainly suggest areas that may be fruitful for collecting, photography, etc.

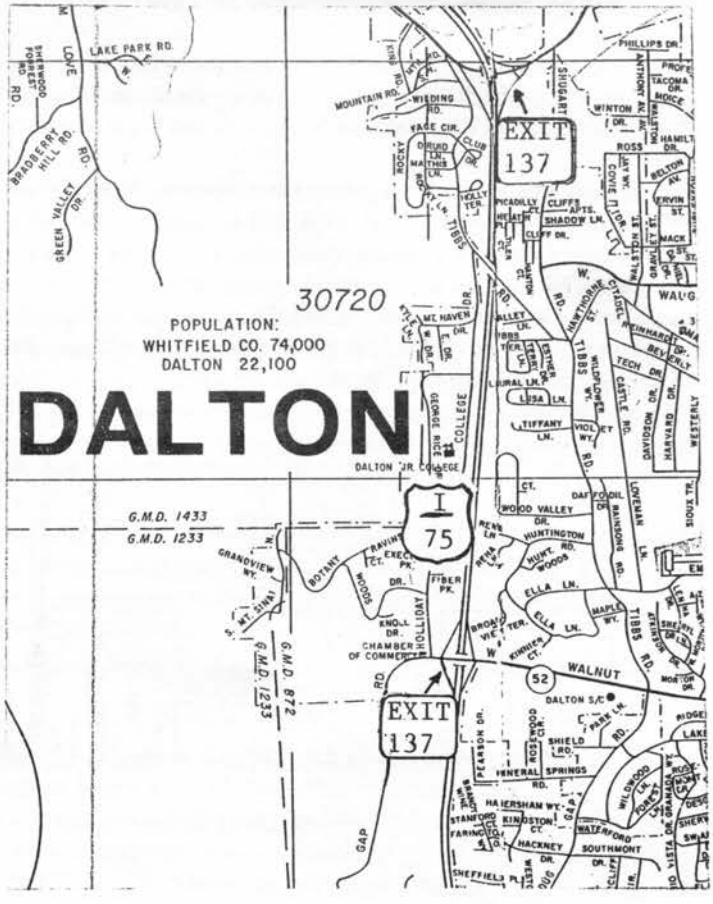
Directions to the meeting location are rather easy. Follow I-75 to Exit 137 in Dalton. Motels and restaurants are numerous at Exit 137 and Exit 136.

A list of the lodging for the Dalton Area is below:

Lodging, exit 136 (Walnut Ave.):	One person	Two people
Best Inns [226-1100; 800-237-8466]	$48.88	$51.88
Comfort Suites [217-6200; 800-221-2222]	$70.00	$75.00
Days Inn [278-0850; 800-325-2525	$39.00	$47.00
Hampton Inn [226-4333; 800-426-7866	$54.00	$66.00
Holiday Inn [278-0500; 800-465-4329	$65.00 first floor $60.00 second floor	
Exit 137 (Hwys 41 and 76):		
Best Western [226-5022; 800-528-1234]	$39.00	$44.00
Country Hearth Inn [278-4300]	$49.95	$49.95
Econo Lodge [226-4545; 800-446-6900	$29.95	$29.95
Heritage Quality Motel [278-1448]	$29.95	$35.95
Motel 6 [278-5522; 800-4-Motel 6]	$25.99	$29.99

Area code for all Dalton numbers is (706). Be aware that many of these motels may have corporate, AARP, etc. discounts not listed above.

MAP OF DALTON



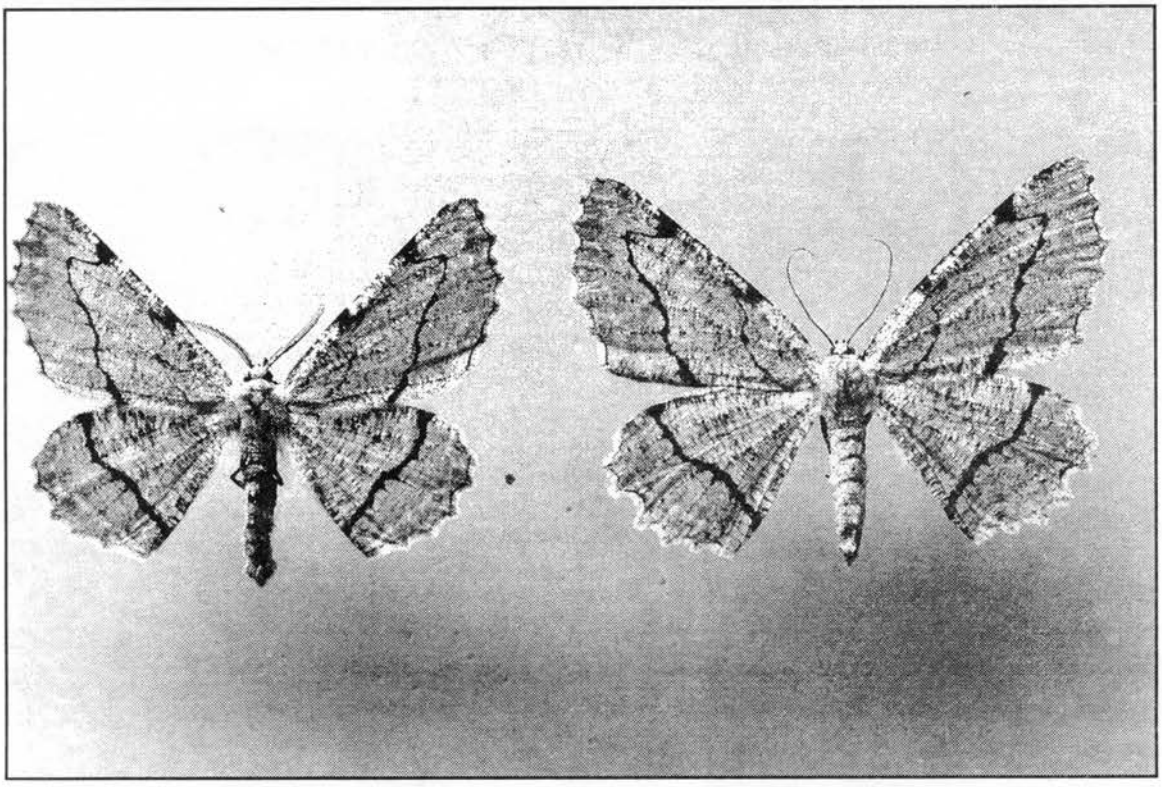


Fig #1: Lytrosis permagnaria (♂ & ♀)

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FALL FIELD MEETING AT CAPROCK CANYONS STATE PARK, 28/29 & 30 AUGUST 1998 HOSTED BY BARRY LOMBARDINI

A fall field meeting will be held the week-end of 21/22 & 23 August 1998 at Caprock Canyons State Park in the Texas Panhandle. We have reserved the "Bunk House and several camp sites. Fall moth collecting will be at its peak during the meeting and over 40 species of Schinia moths have been collected in the panhandle. This will be an exciting meeting. Mark your calenders now and plan to attend. More information will be forth coming in the next newsletter. We look forward to seeing you at Caprock Canyons!

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RESEARCH REQUEST & MEMBERS NOTICE

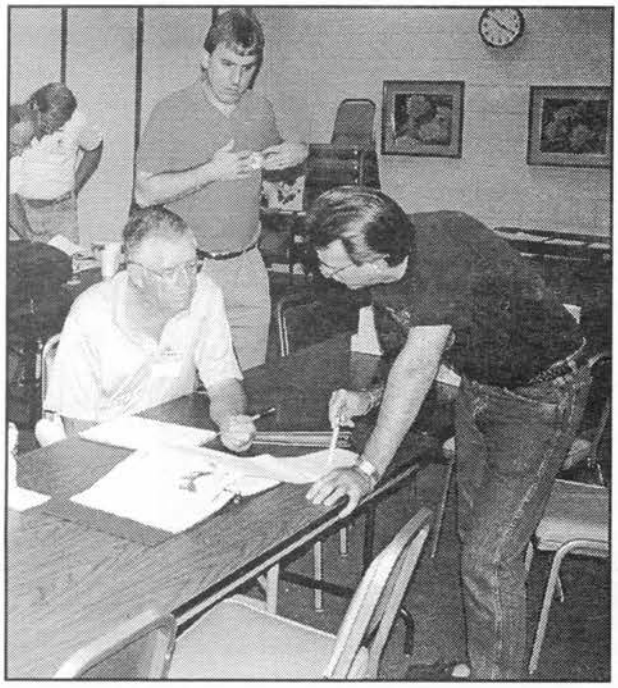
FOR SALE: Light Traps, 12 volt DC or 110 volt AC with 15 watt or 20 watt black lights (straight bulb). The traps are portable and easy to use. Rain drains and beetle screens protect specimens from damage. For a free brochure and price list contact; Leroy C. Koehn, 207 Quail Trail, Greenwood, MS 38930-7315: Tel. 601-455-5498

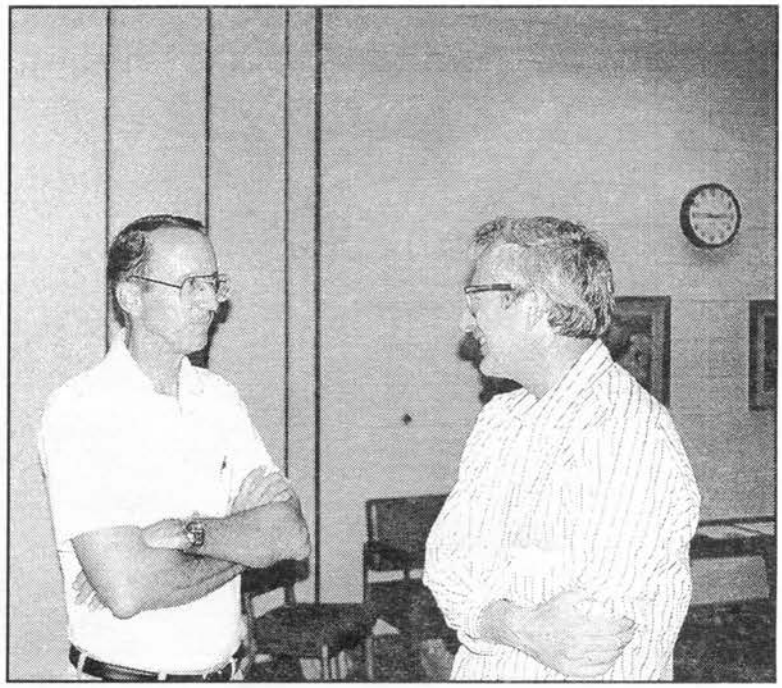
WANTED: Any records of the Eastern Tailed Blue, Everes comyntas, in Florida. This species is very rare in the state and there are few reports during the past ten years. Any information would be greatly appreciated and may help us to better understand the ecology of this species in the region. John Calhoun, 977 Wicks Dr., Palm Harbor, FL 34684. Home phone: 813-785-0715. E-mail bretcal@gte.net.

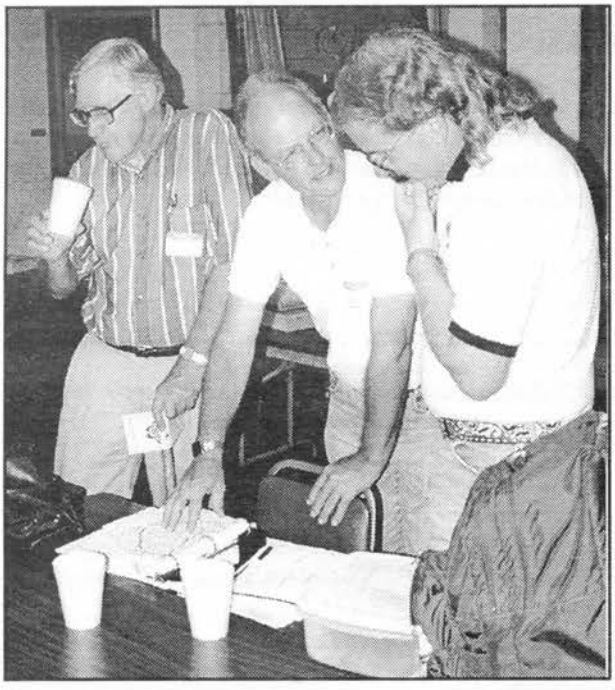
AVAILABLE : Updated List of the Butterflies and Skippers of Florida (Lepidoptera: Papilionoidea and Herpererioidea) by John V. Calhoun. Recently published in the Holarctic Lepidoptera 4(2): 39-50, 1997. For a copy, please send $.78 postage to John V. Calhoun, 977 Wicks Dr., Palm Harbor, FL 34684-4656

"Abstract: An updated list of butterflies and skippers of Florida is presented which treats 193 species (211 species and subspecies). English common names are provided. Type localities are given for species and subspecies described from Florida material. Also included are synonymous and infrasubspecific taxa that possess Florida type localities. The status (resident, naturalized resident, immigrant, accidental introduction, stray, or status unknown) and general geographic range (west, north, central, and south) of each species and subspecies in Florida are indicated. Endemic, as well as rare and imperiled taxa are recognized. Erroneous records are noted in an Appendix."

MORE PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING







Upper left: James Taylor, James Adams and John Calhoun checking out a potentional collecting spot on a field map. **Upper right:** Tom Emmel and Barry Lombardini. **Lower left:** Paul Milner, Bill Russel, and Bob Berieger. **Lower Right:** Group photograph of meeting attendees.

NEWSLETTER UP-DATE

This is the last newsletter for 1997. It has been a good year for the Southern Lepidopterists' Society. Two field meetings were conducted and a very successful annual meeting in Gainesville, Florida was held in October. The current group of officers will continue in 1998, our goals and direction are committed to making the Southern Lepidopterists' Society a viable and enjoyable organization. Our membership continues to grow and there is renewed interest in the Society and Lepidoptera in general.

1998 will be a very busy year for us. Again, two field meetings are scheduled. One in May in northwest Georgia and the other this fall in the Texas panhandle. Plans for our twenty year anniversary meeting are underway and will be an informative and enjoyable meeting. However, even with all the changes and renewed interest, we still need your help and support. Plan to attend one or all of the meetings, report your collecting activities to your state coordinator, and send your Editor an article, note or report for the newsletter. Remember to send photographs where possible. Get involved in 1998 and help us continue to make the Southern Lepidopterists' Society grow.

The format of the newsletter will undergo some major changes in 1998. The Mast head will remain unchanged, however, a larger font size with the use of columns will make the newsletter easier to read. A one inch edge margin will permit hole punching without affecting the print. I am open to any suggestions that will improve the newsletter and make it informative and readable. Please send your suggestions to the Editor. All responses will be acknowledged.

The newsletter deadlines for Vol. 20 are as follows: No. 1: 15 March 1998, No. 2: 15 June 1998, No. 3: 15 September 1998, and No. 4: 15 December 1998. I will keep the deadline dates. The newsletter will be on time.

THIS-N-THAT & OTHER TIDBITS

TRUE STORY FOR YOU THINKERS

A thermodynamics professor had a written take-home exam for his graduate students. It had one question, " Is Hell exothermic or endothermic? Support your answer with proof." Most of the students wrote proofs of their beliefs using Boyle's Law or some variant. One student wrote the following:

First we postulate that if souls exist, they must have some mass. If they do, then a mole of the souls can also have mass. So, at what rate are souls moving into hell and at what rate are souls leaving? I think that we can safely assume that once a soul gets to hell, it will not leave. Therefore no souls are leaving. As for souls entering hell, let's look at the different religions that exist in the world today. Some of these religions state that if you are not a member of their religion, you will go to hell. Since there are more than one of these religions, and people do not belong to more than one religion, we can project that all people and all souls go to hell. With birth and death rates as they are we can expect the number of souls in hell to increase exponentially. Now we look at the rate of change in volume in hell. Boyle's Law states that in order for the temperature and pressure in hell to stay the same, the ratio of the mass of souls and volume needs to stay constant.

#1.) So, if hell is expanding at a slower rate than the rate at which souls enter hell, the temperature and pressure in hell will increase until all hell breaks loose.

#2.) Of course, if hell is expanding at a rate faster than the increase of souls in hell, then the temperature and pressure will drop until hell freezes over.

So. Which is it? If we accept the postulate given me by Theresa Banyan during my freshman year, and take into account the fact that I still have not succeeded in having sexual relations with her, then #2 cannot be true, and hell is exothermic.

The student got the only A.

STATE COORDINATOR REPORTS

We are in need of a coordinator for Alabama. If you are interested in becoming the state coordinator for Alabama, contact the Chairman: John V. Calhoun, 977 Wicks Drive, Palm Harbor, FL 34684-4656, Tel: 813-785-0715.

ALABAMA: No coordinator. (James Adams, State coordinator for Georgia will temporarily assume the responsibilities for coordinating Alabama. Send reports and other items of interests to: James K. Adams, 1702-1005 Crow Valley Rd.., Dalton, GA 30720

Records are from Howard Grisham; all are from the Bingham Mtn. Area (just W. of Hollytree), Jackson County, or the Maysville area, Madison Co. The following list contains species of interest (range extensions, uncommon species, etc.), with likely State records in bold. As mentioned in the previous newsletter, Howard now has a list of over 500 species from this area in northern Alabama.

LACTURIDAE: Lactura pupula. COSSIDAE: Prionoxystus macmurtrei. TORTRICIDAE: Argyrotaenia alisellana, Choristoneura rosaceana, Archips argyrospila, Platynota flavedana, Amorbia humerosana. ZYGAENIDAE: Pyromorpha dimidiata. LIMACODIDAE: Tortricidia testacea, **Heterogenea shurtleffi**, **Packardia geminata**, Apoda y-inversum, A. biguttata, Prolimacodes badia, Isochaetes beutenmuelleri, Natada nasoni, Isa textula, Adoneta spinuloides, Euclea delphinii, Parasa chloris, Parasa indetermina, Acharia stimulea. PYRALIDAE: Eustixia pupula, Pyrausta niveicilialis, Hymenia perspectalis, Blepharomastix ranalis, Urola nivalis, Tosale oviplagalis, Clydonepteron tecomae, Tetralopha asperatella, Euzophera ostricolorella. TYRIDIDAE: Dysodia oculatana. THYATIRIDAE: Euthyatira pudens. GEOMETRIDAE: Semiothisa promiscuata, S. multilineata, S. quadrinotaria, S. continuata, S. ocelinnata, Econista dislocaria, Glena cribrataria, Cleora sublunaria, Lycia ypsilon, Hypagyrtis ester, Lomographa vesltaliata, L. glomeraria, Thysanopyga intractata, Lytrosis sinuosa, **Lytrosis permagnaria**, Euclaena obtusaria, E. amoenaria, E. petcinaria, Pero zalissaria, Ceratonyx satanaria, Campaea perlata, Selenia kentaria, Metarranthis duaria, M. angularia, M. homuraria, M. obfirmaria, Anagoga occiduaria, Plagodis serinaria, P. kuetzingi, P. phlogosaria, Plagodis fervidaria, P. alcoolaria, Caripeta aretaria, Idaea furciferata, I. demissaria, I. obfusaria, Cyclophora packardi, Xanthorhoe ferrugata, Orthonama centrostrigaria, Venusia comptaria, Eupithecia herefordaria. URANIIDAE (EPIPLEMINAE): Callizzia amorata. SATURNIIDAE: Sphingicampa bicolor, S. bisecta, Anisota pellucida. SPHINGIDAE: Ceratomia hageni, Sphinx chersis, Sphinx franckii, Paonias astylus, Enyo lugubris. ARCTIIDAE: Lycomorpha pholus, Utetheisa bella, Euerythra phasma, Apantesis phalerata, A. vittata, Grammia anna, G. parthenice intermedia. LYMANTRIIDAE: Dasychira tephra. NOCTUIDAE: Zanclognatha obscuripennis, Redectis vitrea, Bomolocha baltimoralis, B. palparia, B. abalienalis, B. deceptalis, B. madefactalis, B. sordidula, Ascalapha odorata, Argyrostrotis anilis, Catocala innubens, C. habilis, C. judith, C. obscura, C. residua, C. sappho, C. insolabilis, C. nebulosa, C. cara, C. amatrix, C. illecta, C. orba, C. mira, C. connubialis, Eosphoropteryx thyatyroides, Eutelia pulcherrima, Acontia tetragona, Colocasia flavicornis, C. propinquilinea, Acronicta radcliffei, A. spinigera, A. lobeliae, A. retardata, A. noctivaga, Agriopodes fallax, Harrismemna trisignata, Apamea lignicolora, Callopistria mollissima, C. cordata, Psaphida thaxterianus, Xanthopastis timais, Orthosia alurina, Achatia distincta, Orthodes crenulata.

ARKANSAS: Mack Shotts, 514 W. Main Street, Paragould, AR, 72450 No Report!

FLORIDA: Tom Neal, 1705 NW 23rd Street, Gainesville, FL 32605

Prior to the annual meeting on Thursday, 9 October 1997, Leroy Koehn and Barry Lombardini collected near the old cemetery and the microwave tower on Leo MacQuire Road in St. Johns County and found the following: Pterourus glaucus australis, Pterourus troilus, Battus philenor, Phoebis sennae, Eurema daira, Prysitia lisa, Abaeis nicippi, Agraulis vanillae, Junonia coenia, Phyciodes phaon, Phyciodes tharos, Strymon melinus, Calycopis cecrops, Urbanus proteus, Urbanus dorantes, Hesperia attalus, Nastra neamathlea, Atalopedes campestris, Polites vibex, and Lerema accius. They found the following moths at UV lights: Enyo lugubris, Schinia tuberculum, S. gloriosa, S. trifascia, S. spinosae, S. sordida, S. saturata, Cisthene subjecta, Pygarctia abdominalis, and Syntomeida epilais.

On Friday, 10 October, 1997, Leroy and Barry were joined by Irving Finkelstein and Bill Russell and together they visited the turkey 0aks west of Williston in Levy County and found: Atilides halesus, Parrhasius m-album and Hesperia meskei. Also in Levy County, they visited the Yankee Town area and found several interesting species: Mitoura grynea, Poanes aaroni howardi, Euphyes pilatka, Copaeodes minimus, Panoquina panoquin, Urbanus proteus, and Urbanus dorantes. The group was joined for black lighting that evening in the Turkey Oaks by Jeffrey Slotten and James Adams. They took the following: Enyo lugubris, Schinia bina, S. tuberculum, S. gloriosa, S. trifascia, S. spinosa, S. sordida, S. saturata, Cisthene subjecta, and Apantesis phyllira.

Jeffrey Slotten visited south Florida on 2/4 November 1997 and reported the following: Collier County, Everglades City at UV lights: Phryxus caicus, Erinnyis obscura, and Madoryx pseudothyreus. Dade County, Larry & Penny Thompson Park he found: Polites baracoa, and Eurema lisa. Dade County, Homestead area at UV lights: Cautethia grotei, Eumorpha labruscae, Perigonia lusca, Erinnyis obscura, Protambulyx carteri and Cisseps fulvicolis. He also visited Key Largo, Monroe County and found: Junonia genoveva, Leptotes cassius and Eurema daira. Collecting in Alachua County near Gainesville on 13 November 1997, Jeff took a Papaipema speciosissima at UV light. John Kutis reorted taking Cisthene striata and Cisthene plumbea at Lake Charles, Marion County.

Jeff visited south Florida again on 27/29 November 1997 and reported finding the following: Dade County, Homestead area at UV lights. Perigonia lusca, Protambulyx strigilis, Erinnyis ello and Xylophanes pluto. He also found Siproeta stelenes in avocado groves and a single Aellopos tantalus flying along roadside plants. In Everglades City, Collier County, Jeff reported finding: Eupseudosoma involutum floridum, Madoryx pseudothyreus, Phryxus caicus, and Erinnyis ello.

GEORGIA: James K. Adams, 1702 Crow Valley Rd.. #704, Dalton, GA 30720

Records represent either newly identified or collected species (mostly for NW Georgia), which may include common species that have simply not been recorded previously, or additional unusual records (range extensions, flight period extensions, uncommon species, etc.). New county records (as far as I can tell) are boldface. Contributors include Irving Finkelstein (IF), Bill Russell(BR) and James Adams (all other records). Records are from the Dalton/Rocky Face, Whitfield Co. area unless otherwise specified. "Car." is the Carbondale Rd. Exit (#134) off of I-70, Whitfield Co.; "Gil." is Gates Chapel Rd., 8 mi. NW of Ellijay (north of Hwy. 52), Gilmer Co.

LYCAENIDAE: **Atlides halesus**, estimated hundreds of individuals, Lowndes Co., S. of Ray City, 12 x. 1997 (BR and IF). NOCTUIDAE: Papaipema polymniae, 26 x. 1997 (Car.); P.cataphracta, 27 x. 1997; Xylotype capax; 8 xi. 1997 (Gil., IF), also 1 xii. 1997; **Metaxaglaea inulta**, 1 xii. & 9 xii. 1997 (at bait).

LOUISIANA: Vernon Brou, 74320 Jack Loyd Rd., Abita Springs, LA 70420

Second state record for Noctua pronuba, 15 Oct 1997. New state record for Portentomorpha xanthialis (Gn.), pictured on plate "U", MONA fasc, 13.2B. An apparent migration of Euxoa auxiliaris (Grt.) In November, 15 specimens of this rarely seen Louisiana species were taken. All records from Sec. 24T6,SR12E, 4.2 mi. Ne of Abita Springs, Louisisana.

MISSISSIPPI: Bryant Mather, 213 Mt. Salus Dr., Clinton, MS 39056

Leroy Koehn visited the Malmasion Wildlife Management Area, Grenada County , during September, and October and reporting finding the Following: 9/14 Sept; Poanes yehl, Poanes zabulon, Amblyscirtes aesculapius, Enodia portlandia misarkae, Enodia creola, and Satyrodes appalachia. During early September moth collecting was excellent and the following were taken in September 11 Sept; Schinia thoreaui, S. nundina, S. gaurae, S. bina, S. sanguinae, Isoparce cupressi, Eumorpha fasciata; 26 Sept with Drew Hildebrandt; Paratraea plebeja, Leucanopsis longa, Grammia parthenice, Catocala vidua, C. retecta, C. amatrix, and Pyrrhia umbra; 12 October: Schinia bifascia (a late record). The weather in the Mississippi delta was very mild with a hard freeze occurring on 19 November, however, several warm days brought out some butterflies in his backyard in Leflore County: Colias eurytheme,Phoebis sennae,Zerene cesonia, Agraulis vanillae, Strymon melinus, Urbanus proteus, Hylephila phyleus and Pyrgus communis. 25 Nov: Phoebis sennae, Zerene cesonia, and Colias eurytheme.

Ricky Patterson reporting taking a ♂ Poanes aaroni howardi, and 2♂♂ Euphyes bayensis at Bay St. Louis, Hancock County on 26 September 1997. He plans to send them to John Shuey to confirm the identification, however, since they are from the type locality, he believes his determination will be correct. He also found a single ♂ of Euphyes dion at Big Biloxi Recreation Area, Harrison County.

NORTH CAROLINA: Steve Hall, NC Natural Heritage Program, Div. of Parks & Recreation, P.O. Box 27687, Raleigh, NC 27611

The following selected records were submitted by Harry LeGrand. All records were made through binoculars unless otherwise stated. County names are in italics.

Eurema daira: One was collected by Bill Grooms on 21 August 1992 near Duck on the Dare Outer Banks; the specimen was identified by Harry Pavulaan. This is apparently the second NC record for a coastal county and the first record for the species in North Carolina in the 1990s, based on information available to the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program. Feniseca tarquinius: I observed two very worn individuals along a U.S. Forest Service road in Buncombe on the late date of 20 September. Calephelis virginiensis: I had an excellent one-day count of 24, in Pender on 3 October. Despite these numbers, this species is highly dependent in North Carolina on high-quality, diverse pine flatwoods and savannas. As far as I know, this species has not been reported at any new sites in North Carolina in several years and may be seriously threatened by habitat loss and fire suppression. Heliconius charitonius: One was photographed (photo on the internet for viewing) by Randy Emmitt in his yard in northern Orange on 12 October. This is a new county record; there are reports now from at least five counties in North Carolina. This is the first tangible documentation for the species in the state, according to information available to North Carolina Natural Heritage Program. Whether this was a legitimate stray, whether it was a released/escaped individual, or whether it was reared from eggs/pupae/larvae on passion-vine carried in from out-of-state will likely never be known. Polygonia progne: Derb Carter carefully observed one in Buncombe on 14 September; this site is a few miles from where I had seen one in July 1991. The habitat at these sites is high elevation, rich hardwood forests with a dirt road passing through the forests. (Cont. On Pg.#56)

(Cont. From Pg. #55) Vanessa cardui: I saw none all year in North Carolina, and I received just two or three reports in North Carolina this fall season, of single individuals. With the increasing popularity of butterfly kits, plus releases of butterflies at various festivities, could these reports have been of non-wild individuals? At any rate, this was a second consecutive off-year for the species in North Carolina. Cyllopsis gemma: I saw three each in Buncombe on 20 September and Madison on 21 September, apparently first records for these mountain counties. Based on these observations, I suspect that the species is not truly rare in the mountains but that simply there is little field work this late in the season. Hesperia leonardus: I saw single fresh males at two sites in Montgomery County on 27 September, the earliest date I have for the species in North Carolina; all my previous records have been in October. Paul Hart reported one at Raven Rock State Park in Harnett (new county record) on 4 October, this county lies along the Fall Line, at the presumed southeastern edge of the range. Hesperia meskei: I observed four individuals in Bladen County on 5 October for a new county record This is east of the main population center in the North Carolina Sandhills, though the habitats were sandy margins of longleaf pine woods (similar to that in the Sandhills). All were seen nectaring on Carphephorus bellidifolius, the chief nectar source of Hesperia meskei in the fall season. Poanes aaroni: A total of eight, seven at one site and one at another, was a good state count in mainland Dare on 19 September; only one had been seen in the same area on 14 September. Most were on Pluchea sp. at the edge of a brackish marsh. Euphyes berryi: This rare species reaches the northern edge of its range in coastal North Carolina, and it is known from only two counties in the state. The species was reconfirmed as still occurring in North Carolina this fall, When Jeff Pippen and I saw three on 14 September and six on 19 September in mainland Dare; a male and a female were collected on the latter date for confirmation. The habitat at the 1997 site was a mix of wet fields, marshes, and swampy areas alongside a large ditch. Eupatorium coelestinum was the primary nectar source. This site is located fairly close to where Steve Hall had photographed, but had not positively identified a skipper apparently belonging to this species in 1994. [See Fig.#1: The photograph is of a female observed within a sedgy drainage ditch on 10 August 1994. No trace of the frosted veins characteristic of Euphyes berryi are evident, although the underwing color is quite close to Harry's specimens of this species; I did not get a chance to see the upper surface -- Steve Hall] Calpodes ethlius: One was seen at Carolina Beach, New Hanover, on 4 October, the only report of an adult that I received this season. Panoquina ocola: This was a rather poor year for the species in North Carolina. My peak single day count was only 25. Except for the even poorer year in 1996, I can often find 100+ in a day in the southeastern counties in fall.

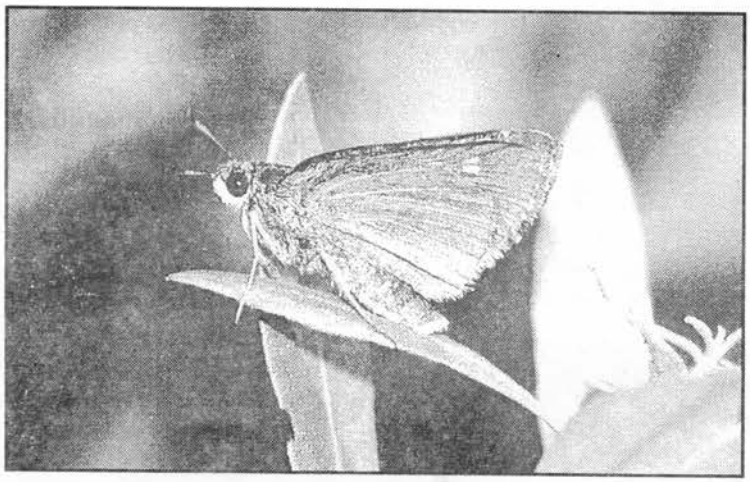


Fig. #1: Poanes berryi

The following selected records were submitted by Steve Hall. They represent recently sorted summer collections from the Devil's Gut TNC Preserve in the lower Roanoke River floodplain (Martin County). All specimens were collected using a 15 watt UV bucket trap.

Hypomecis longipectinaria: 30/VII, two ♂ collected from a narrow island of mesic hardwoods surrounded by cypress-gum swamp; 25/VIII, 1 male taken from the same site. This population may represent the current northern range limit for this species, which was initially known only from Texas and Florida (Blanchard and Knudson; Proc. Ent. Soc. Wash. 86:291-294); Bo Sullivan also now has a large series from several sites in the southeastern Coastal Plain of North Carolina. These specimens were determined based on their genitalia, which closely correspond to the description given by Blanchard and Knudson. They were somewhat paler than Hypomecis gnopharia, as also described, but not so much that I would want to rely on that trait (the same is true for the longer pectinations of the antennae). Several other specimens were subsequently identified in previous samples I had taken at this site: 21/V/96, one ♂; 18/VII/96, three ♂ (all determined based on genitalia). Another specimen that upon dissection also turned out to be this species is one I had obtained from a Piedmont site (Orange County, North Carolina) on 31/V/92. All of these specimens, as well as those collected by Bo Sullivan, were taken in bottomland or mesic hardwood habitats, which contrast sharply with the fairly xeric sites where we have taken Hypomecis gnopharia and Hypomecis umbrosaria. Zanclognatha atrilineela: 25/VIII; two males collected at different trap sites, one on another island of mesic hardwoods, the other on top of a beaver lodge in the middle of extensive cypress-gum swamp. These specimens may represent the current northern range limits for this species. Doug Ferguson (pers. comm.) knew of specimens only from as far north as Charleston County, South Carolina, along the Atlantic slope, although Bo Sullivan now has several specimens from southeastern North Carolina. As was true for Hypomecis longipectinaria, all North Carolina specimens have been taken in forested floodplain habitats. Tripudia flavofasciata: 25/VIII, one specimen taken at the same island of mesic forest as one of the Zanclognatha atrilineela. Bo Sullivan and I have taken only a few specimens of this species, again all from wet forested habitats. Virtually all collections have been represented by singletons, so it is difficult to draw any conclusions about the habitat of this species. Does anyone have any information? Argillophora furcilla: 30/VII, one specimen taken the same trap site as for Hypomecis longipectinaria; this trap site is located in the middle of a thick stand of cane, the host plant for this species (Eric Quinter, pers. comm.). Heterogenea shurtleffi: 25/VIII, 15 ♂ and 23 ♀ collected from beaver lodge site mentioned above. (Cont. on Pg. #57)

(Cont. from Pg. #56) A few additional females were collected at the other sites trapped on this date. Forbes described this small Limacodid as rare and neither Bo Sullivan nor I have previously taken (or at least identified) this species in North Carolina. Males are quite dark and small, matching the illustration given in Holland (the simple antennae and single pair of spurs on the hind tibiae confirm the identification). Females, on the other hand are larger and more of a cinammon-brown color on their forewings; hindwings are a brownish gray rather than the black of the males. Holland lists beech and ironwood among the host plants of this species, both of which occur within the floodplain.

The following record was submitted by Bo Sullivan.

Noctua pronuba: 2/IX, one specimen taken at Mt. Jefferson State Park (collections done with permission of the park superintendent). This is apparently the first record from the state for this introduced Eurasian species, which was also recorded from New Jersey for the first time just this year (Dale Schweitzer, pers. comm.)..

SOUTH CAROLINA: Ron Gatrelle, 126 Wells Rd.., Goose Creek, SC 29445 No Report!

TENNESSEE: John Hyatt, 439 Forest Hills Dr., Kingsport, TN 37663 No Report!

TEXAS: Ed Knudsen, 8517 Burkhart, Houston, TX 77055

Hardin County, Village Creek State Park, 4 specimens of Carmenta odda recovered from a pheromone trap 20 September, indicating existence of a second brood in Texas. (Bordelon & Knudson = B&K)

Liberty County, Big Thicket National Preserve, Menard Creek, 20 October. One female of Leucanopsis longa (ECK), second capture of this species in Texas.

Uvalde County, Concan, 1 November; Sesiids: Vitacea admiranda and Zenodoxus palmi recovered from pheromone trap (last checked in August). Additional Zenodoxus palmi, Carmenta armasata and C. albociliata were collected the same day flying to pheromone.

Night collecting was rather poor, as it was quite cool, mostly micros including: Stigmella grandisella, (Nepticulidae); Arotrura longissima, A. atascosa, Asymmetrura matutella, Neoscythris fissirostris, (Scythrididae); Thyris maculata (one at light and one in E,Z,ODDA/Z,Z,ODDA 1:1 combo trap) (Thyrididae); Pseudocabotia balconiensis, Pyrusta new species? near napaealis, P. nexalis, P. pseuderosnealis, (Pyralidae; Drepanulatrix garneri, Plataea blanchardi (Geometridae); Grammia parthenenice intermedia, Euchaetes cressida, Crambidia myrlosca, C. cephalica, Lycomorpha pholus, (diurnal) (Arctiidae); Geniapteryx servia, Toxonprucha psegmatpteryx, Hemibryomina chryselectra, Pseudanarta singula, Cerathosia tricolor, Lacinipolia palilis, Protorthodes orobia, Ulolonche disticha, Agrotis venerabilis, Feltia pecrinicornis, (Noctuidae) (B&K).

Jefferson County, Beaumont, 29 October; Bordelon recovered a fairly fresh specimen of Catocala vidua from a bait trap. He also reports Amphion floridensis common in bait traps August through October.

VIRGINIA: Harry Pavulaan, 494 Fillmore Street, Herndon, VA 22070 No Report.

Counties listed first. Note, new county records are in all-caps. New independent-city records (equal to county status) are listed similarly. Following the county/independent city listing, are: date; name of nearest community and/or locality (if given); reporting person's initials; means of identification (if known) in parentheses; and any observational notes.

Key to sources: CK=Clyde Kessler, DS=Don Schwab, HP=Harry Pavulaan, JB=Julia Bristow, KL=Kathleen Lathrop, RS=Richard Smith.

Atalopedes campestris: Fairfax: late Sept. - early Oct., Vienna and Herndon, HP (observations). Third seasonal flight produced the heaviest local irruption that I have ever observed. Individuals were present in my garden and in local fields by the thousands, swarming on Asters, Goldenrods, Liatris and Buddleia. I am currently overwintering captive larvae outside, in a protected and covered terrarium containing a miniature lawn habitat, only taking them indoors when the temperature drops considerably below freezing. These formed large webbed shelters, consisting of several grass blades woven together, and are lined with frass. The larvae have an odd habit of abandoning the webbed shelters during coldest weather, climbing up to exposed grass blade tips and up the sides of the terrarium, then becoming dormant. Pieris rapae: ISLE OF WIGHT: 3/28/97, Cats Ponds, DS (sight). PORTSMOUTH city: 3/28/97, Craney Island, DS (sight). Paramidea midea: ISLE OF WIGHT: 3/28/97, Cats Ponds, DS (sight). Colias eurytheme: PORTSMOUTH city: 3/28/97, Craney Island, DS (sight). Phoebis sennae: Fairfax: local brood or migratory flight continued from last report. Additional sightings in Herndon as follows: 9/17/97, 9/18/97, 9/19/97, last seen 9/22/97 (all sightings HP). No consistent directional movement noted. Mitoura grynea: PATRICK: (1997, no data), CK, nectaring on Mountain Mint. Incisalia henrici: HENRY: (1997, no data), CK.(Cont. on Pg. #58)

Incisalia niphon: PAGE: 6/19/76, 6/20/76, Luray (previously overlooked note from original Eastern Butterfly Atlas correspondence files, no source listed). Celastrina neglecta: Several new county records were recently determined by David Wright, and are summarized as follows. Data will be published in future publications: AMHERST, APPOMATTOX, NEW KENT, LANCASTER. (Note: Celastrina neglecta has finally been treated at full "species" status, in "Butterflies of New Jersey" by Michael Gochfeld and Joanna Burger. Add a new species column to your checklists!) Polygonia interrogationis: Fairfax: 1/4/98, Herndon, HP (sight), sunning in garden near firewood pile. Similar sightings in past years leads me to believe this species hibernates in my wood pile. Rotting fruit bait placed near the wood pile during the fall may attract hibernators. Wood is stacked loosely in alternating fashion, covered on top by a tarp. Polygonia comma: Fairfax: 1/2/97, Great Falls Nat. Park, HP (sight). Nymphalis antiopa: Fairfax: 1/2/97, Great Falls Nat. Park, HP (sight). Basilarchia arthemis arthemis: BATH: 8/16/97, nr. Warm Springs, KL (sight). Basilarchia arthemis, partially-banded form: FREDERICK: 10/9/97, George Washington National Forest near Mountain Falls, RS (sight). Hermeuptychia sosybius: FLOYD, PATRICK: Sept. 1997, Blue Ridge Parkway, CK, exactly on county border. Danaus plexippus: NEWPORT NEWS city: 10/25/97, JB (sight).

The only report of moths was: Alsophila pometaria: Fairfax: 1/2/98 (collected), 1/4/98 (net/release), 1/7/98 (sight), all Herndon, HP.

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The Southern Lepidopterists' News is published four times annually. Membership dues are $12.00 annually. The organization is open to anyone with an interest in the Lepidoptera of the southern United States. Information about he Society may be obtained from, and dues may be sent to: Jeffrey R. Slotten, Treasurer, 5421 NW 69th Lane, Gainesville, FL 32653

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