Southern Lepidopterists'
NEWS

EST. 1978 *Official Newsletter of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society*

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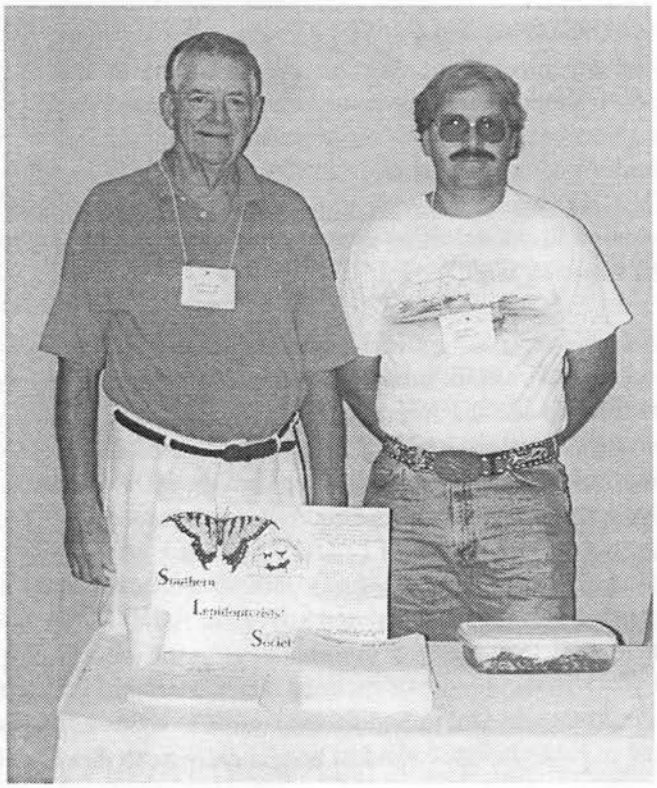
THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY ORGANIZED TO PROMOTE SCIENTIFIC INTEREST AND KNOWLEDGE RELATED TO UNDERSTANDING THE LEPIDOPTERA FAUNA OF THE SOUTHERN REGION OF THE UNITED STATES

LEROY C. KOEHN: EDITOR

SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS IN ARIZONA

The 1999 annual meeting of The Lepidopterists' Society was held in Sierra Vista, Arizona on the 4,5,6,7 & 8 of August. Arizona is a marvelous part of the country to collect and the meeting provided an ideal opportunity to make the trip west. Twenty-four Southern Lepidopterists' attended the meeting. Many of your officers were in attendance, including your Editor.



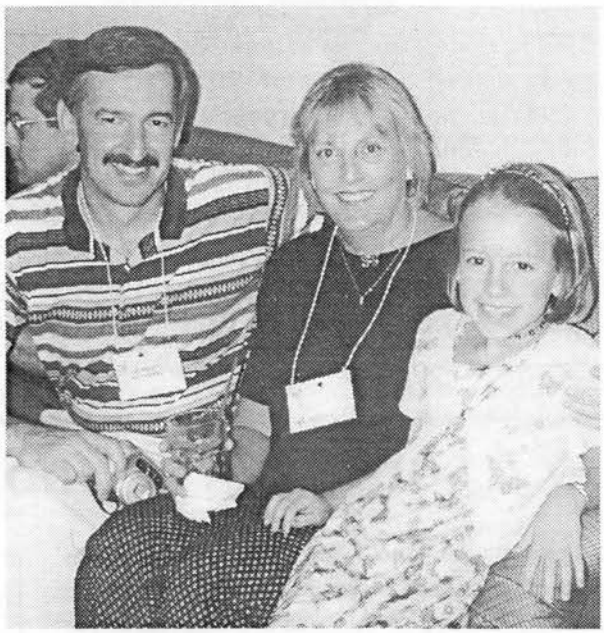
Jim Taylor & Bob Beiriger with the Southern Lepidopterists' Society display

The trip to Arizona proved to be a real adventure. Bob Beiriger and I departed Lake Worth, Florida at 3PM on Thursday, 29 July with a Hertz rental van loaded with all our gear to begin a 1900 mile journey to Arizona. A brief stop in Orlando became necessary to exchange the rental van when it developed a front end problem. The exchange was complex because we had removed the van's rear seat and stored it in my garage. Hertz found another van of the same make and interior color. With the van and seat swapped out, we headed to Gainesville to pick up Jeffrey Slotten. We loaded up Jeff, including his huge collection of larva and pupa, and began an all night driving marathon that ended Friday afternoon at 1PM (2PM EST) at Hondo Creek & US 90, approximately 40 miles west of San Antonio (1404 miles in 23 hours).

Upon our arrival at Hondo Creek, Jeff promptly sprained his right foot on the river rocks and as a result, he limped about for the remainder of the trip. We found many butterflies at Hondo Creek, including Gesta gesta, Nastra julia and Chlosyne janais.

We found the larva of Chlosyne janais on it's host plant, Anisacanthus quadrifidus, some joined Jeff's larval collection. We spent Friday night at Neal's Lodge in Concan, the sight of several Southern Lepidopterists' field meetings. Tired from the drive, we set out light traps and bait traps and called it a night. Saturday we collected around Concan and found Mtioura siva very abundant in the Juniper trees and nearby flowers. A dozen females were taken for ova.

We departed Concan for Sanderson in west Texas with stops at the Nueces River & US 90 west of Uvalde and several canyons between Del Rio and Sanderson. We set out light traps east of Sanderson and checked into the motel. Jeff and I went to a truck stop on the west side of Sanderson to check the lights for moths. Here we met Charles Borderlon (with Guitar) and Ed Knudson (with killing jar) who were also interested in moths at the lights. It was well after mid night when finally went to bed. Sunday morning found us up early and gathering light traps. At Sanderson Canyon, 7 miles east of Sanderson, butterflies were plentiful. Our best catches were Pholisora alpheus, Amblyscrites nysa, and Junonia nigrosuffusa.



The Belmont's

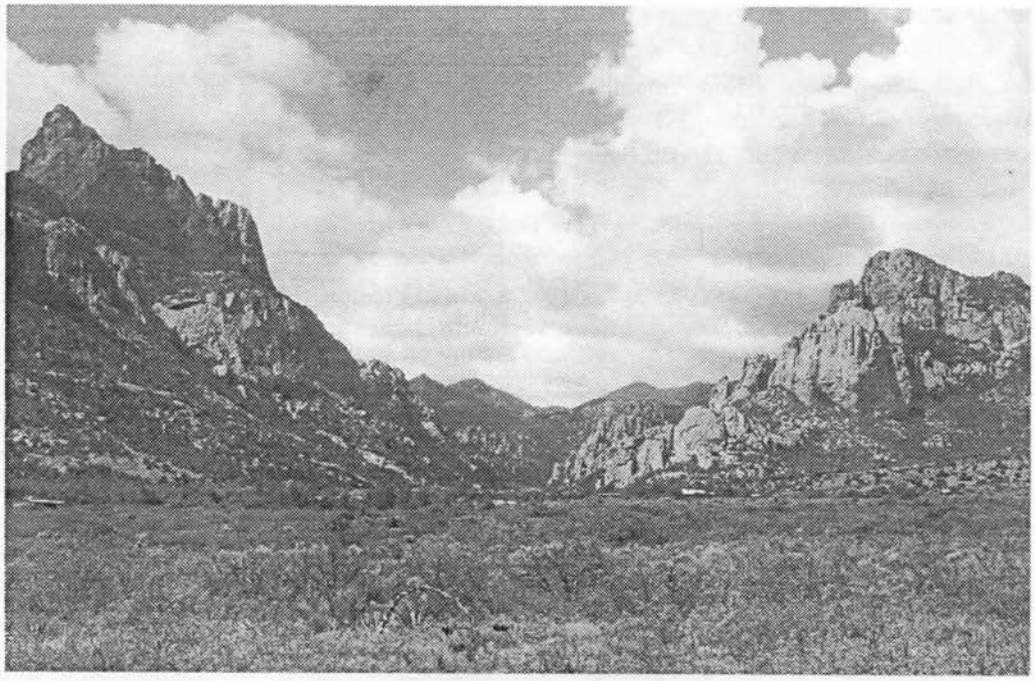
Sunday afternoon we arrived at the Ft. Davis Motor Lodge near Davis Mountains. Again, light traps and bait traps were set out. Here we met James Adams and his mother Irene. Eric and Pat Metzler were also here but we did not meet them. We set up our lights at the Madera Canyon Rest Area in the Davis Mountains. The moths were incredible with many arctiids, sphingids and noctuids covering both sides of the sheet. Most of it was new to your editor, several interesting Heliothis species were taken; Heliocheilus julia, Schinia luxa, Schinia errans, and Schina bina. When we returned to the motel, we found James with his sheet set up in the motel camp ground. He had just taken a male of Daritis howardi. It was well after 2 AM when we went to bed.

Monday morning, a light rain fell as we gathered in the light traps near the motel and went into the town of Ft. Davis to find a restaurant for breakfast and wait out the rain. By the time we had eaten and did a little souvenir shopping, the rain let up and the sun came out. We stopped to pick up several bait traps and light traps in the mountains and to do a little collecting. At a rest area on the side of the mountain we met James and Irene Adams and we jointly sorted through several light traps. In a deep canyon cut Bob Beiriger collected a male Adelpha bredowii. This was his first Adelpha bredowii and was the highlight of the mountains. We also found Oarisma edwardsii, Cyllopsis pertepida, and Cercyonis meadi.

We headed west about 2 PM and arrived at Portal Lodge in south east Arizona well after dark. The final five miles of the journey to the lodge was a challenge as the gravel road passes through cattle country and many of the cows stood in the dark in the middle of the road. Here we found Charle Bordelon, Ed Knudson, James and Irene Adams. We set out a light trap on Onion Saddle and our UV lights in the lodge parking lot, again we were inundated with moths. It was after 3 AM before I went to bed, and closer to dawn for Ed, Charles, and Jeff.

We were up early Tuesday morning to gather the light trap and spend an hour watching humming birds at the feeders around the lodge. We departed for Rustler Park on the top of the mountain only to find it socked in with rain and fog. After waiting an hour with no sign of the rain stopping, we headed for Sierra Vista and the Lepidopterists' Society meeting with a short stop at Wilson Playa for Bob and Jeff to collect some unique tiger beetles. I was amazed at how they collected tiger beetles without a net. They used aerosol cans of RAID. It stopped the tiger beetles dead in their tracks.

We preferred to stay in the woods rather than the hotel in Sierra Vista were the meeting was held. Beattie's Bed & Breakfast in Miller Canyon was just the place deep in the woods and surrounded by apple orchards and flower gardens. There were dozens of feeders to attract hummingbirds which came by the hundreds along with an equal number of birders.



Huachuca Mountains, Arizona

Wednesday we went on the collecting trips that were guided by local Lepidopterists. It was not the best collecting and before the day was over, a rain storm interrupted things. On these field trips we met several other Southern Lepidopterists' Society members, John Peacock, Dave Iftner, Jim Popelka, Paul & Anne Milner, Dr. Charlie Covell (Charlie was on his second trip to Sierra Vista in less than a week. He got his dates wrong and came a week earlier, never a dull moment with Charlie!), James Adams, and Sue Solcomb. Bob, Jeff and I traveled into the Coranodo National Forest Wednesday night to run our lights in Copper Canyon. I had heard stories of great moth collecting, and those stories proved to be true! Again, both sides of the sheet were covered. with moths and it took hours to paper and field pin all the moths Thursday morning. We skipped the field trip Thursday to set up the Southern Lepidopterists' display at the hotel. We went to Garden Canyon in the Huachuca Mountain that afternoon where we collected Pyrrhopyge araxes arizonae, Atrytonopsis lunus, Amblyscirtes texanae, Emesis zela clies, and Eurema proterpia. We had planned to light for moths Thursday night but found that we were exhausted from seven days of non-stop traveling/collecting and we were going to call it a night, after we set out some light traps, however, as we traveled up Miller Canyon where we found James Adams, Bob Belmont and several others running light sheets and it was after 3 AM when we finally made it to bed.

Friday we attended the Lepidopterists Society meeting, at the lunch break we went back Garden Canyon with John Peacock, Charles Covell and Paul and Anne Milner. We returned to the meeting and remained until it adjourned for the day. After a fine evening meal at a local "burn-baby-burn" Mexican restaurant (We even took Jeff, now that's a first!), we picked up Steve Spomer and son (fellow Lepidopterists from Nebraska) at the hotel and headed west for Lake Pena Blanca. I had heard many stories of swarms of moths and for the first time on the trip I was disappointed. At 6,500 feet there was a stiff wind, a very strong stiff wind which made moth collecting almost impossible. In less than an hour we took the light rig down and headed for Sierra Vista, however, when we came to the bottom end of the lake we found that the wind was gone. We also found a UV light operating with a generator in an opening in the woods and not a soul to be found. When we checked it out we found the sheet covered with moths. We went back up the mountain to 3,500 feet and set-up again. There were many moths, but not what we had heard. We took the set-up down about 1 AM and headed for Sierra Vista. I drove on the way back, as we went through the little town of Patagonia, we were stopped for speeding and given a ticket. 46 MPH in a 35 MPH zone (I cannot print my comments on this matter). We never did learn who's lights we found.

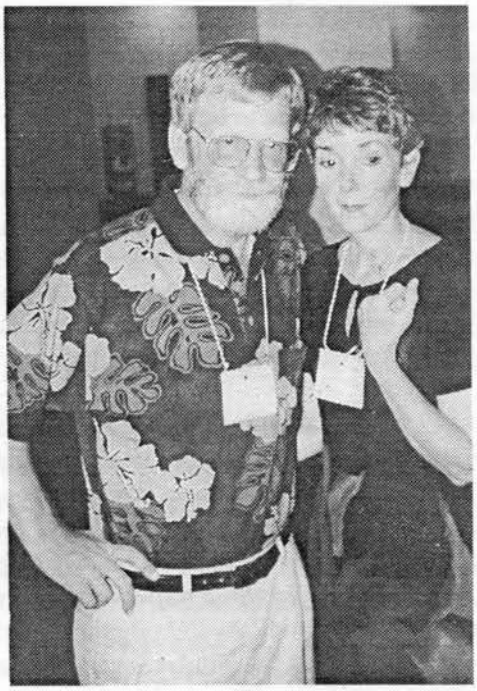
We attended the meetings on Saturday and the banquet Saturday night. After the banquet, Jeff left with Tom Kral for several additional days of collecting. Sunday morning, Bob and I loaded the van and departed Miller Canyon at 6 AM local time or 9 AM EST to begin the long drive home. After a 30 hour nonstop drive (except for gas, pee, and food) we arrived in Lake Worth, Florida at 2:30 PM. It was a great trip!

The following twenty-four members of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society attended the meeting in Sierra Vista, Arizona: James Adams, Robert Beiriger, Bob Belmont, Charles Borderlon, William Conners, Dr. Charles V. Covell Jr., Douglas Ferguson, David Iftner, Ed Knudson, Tom Kral, Eric Metzler, Lee Miller, Jacqueline Miller, Paul Milner, Robert Mower, Dr. Paul Opler, John W. Peacock, James J. Popelka, Floyd Preston, Brian Scholtens, Jeffrey R. Slotten, Michael J. Smith, James M. Taylor, and James Tuttle.

James Mom won the Grand prize!
Guess who has the Trap?

Nne Milner, Paul Milner & Robert Mower.

Southern Lepidopterists members at the banquet.



Mr. & Mrs William Conner

Leroy C. Koehn, Lake Worth, Florida &
Robert Beiriger, West Palm Beach, Florida.

OCCURRENCE OF PARAMIDEA MIDEA MIDEA (Hubner,[1809]) IN EAST TEXAS BY JOSEPH F. DOYLE III

Recently, I received an article by Ronald R. Gatrelle (1998) regarding subspeciation of Paramidea midea annickae (dos Passos and Klots). The paper piqued my curiosity and during an inspection of Paramidea midea in my collection, one example stood out. A male collected by the author on 4 March, 1972 at Martin Dies State Park, Jasper County, Texas. It matched the photograph, No. 4. Anthocharis midea. midea, 29 March, 1975, Edisto Island, Colleton County, South Carolina in Gatrelle's paper.

This specimen has the "large patch" that covers the upperside apical front wing area and extends to the black spot. This is the defining character for the nominate species according to dos Passos and Klots(1965). Also, a slight orange over-scaling on the apex of the dorsal hind wing could be observed under a microscope (4x). The extent of the black scaling at the base of the dorsal front wings also match the photograph. In comparision, all other examples in my collection are Paramidea midea annickae.. Other specimens of Paramidea midea annickae seen by myself are from the R.O. and C.A. Kendall collection housed at the Texas A & M University, College Station, Texas as follows: 1♂, 4 April, 1964, 1 ♂, 31 March 1973, Caddo Lake State Park, Harrison Co., Texas; 1 ♂, 1 April, 1973, S.H. 43 at Big Cypress Creek, Marion Co., Texas

This is the first report of Paramidea midea midea in Texas. Further investigation in the eastern counties of Texas and western Louisiana regarding distribution, life history and morphology should be undertaken.

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NEWSLETTER UPDATE

We continue to grow with many new members and an equal number of former members returning. There are currently 136 member as of 30 September 1999 compared to 118 members in 1998. Only 2 of the 118 members of 1998 did not renew their membership for 1999.This rejuvenation has resulted from the work of Jeffrey Slotten, Treasurer, Drew Hildebrandt, past Membership Coordinator, and John Calhoun, the current Membership Coordinator. Also, as a result of our presence at the Lepidopterists' Society meeting in Sierra Vista, Arizona, six new members joined. The activities of the Society will continue to sustain our growth. The field meetings have been well attended and enjoyable. We need some of you to step forward and help us move the Society forward. If you are interested, please let our Chairman, James Adams hear from you.

The next newsletter deadline is 15 December 1999. Remember to keep the state coordinators informed of your activities. Records are extremely important, even for very common species. Your activities and records could greatly increase our knowledge of the Lepidoptera within your state and the region. Do you have interesting photographs of your activities and specimens? Your report is much more effective when photographs are included. Let your state coordinator hear from you.

The new year will bring in several new officers. The 2000 Annual Meeting will be in Texas in September and several field trips are planned, including another in Texas and one in Florida. 2000 will be a busy year. Plan to attend one or all of the meetings. I look forward to seeing you there.

LEPIDOPTERA OF FLORIDA.

Part 1. Introduction and Catalog

This first and long-awaited part of the series of 10 volumes on all species of moths and butterflies of Florida is now completed and under final review, and should be in press by the time members read this notice, although the publication process may delay actual release until later in 2000. This new catalog replacing the 1965 Kimball version is the result of a project begun in 1983 and is Vol. 17 of the Arthropods of Florida and Neighboring Land Areas, published by the Florida Dept. of Agric. & Consumer Services, in Gainesville. It is up-to-date as of June 1999, with even some additional new records for Florida noted by SLS members this summer.

The new catalog follows the MONA numbering sequence but with some rearrangements of families to reflect more recent taxonomic changes: added changes to conform to modern treatments was not completely possible due to the numbering sequence but a modern classification of families and subfamilies is noted in the introduction. The book has 638 pages (plus 10 preface pages), including introductory sections with keys to families, 55 black-and-white plates illustrating 1,697 specimens, the main catalog, bibliography, host plant index, and indexes to species names, genera, and common names. Over half the total Florida fauna of 2,878 species is illustrated on the 55 plates: there are new copies of the 26 plates Kimball used (the color plates are reproduced from prints of the original negatives), plus 29 additional plates, including butterfly plates prepared by Kimball but not included in his 1965 book. Future parts will have each species illustrated in color, family by family. Unlike Kimball's species treatments, the catalog does not give individual collection records: this is deferred to the future detailed parts. The present catalog gives a summary of known range for each species within Florida by region and the total known distribution in North America, plus flight periods in Florida by month and a list of all known host plants. The host plant listings are more comprehensive than what was noted in 1965, with 30 years of additional records, corrections and additions of exotics plants that may be grown in Florida. Hosts have been culled as much as possible to remove mere flower visitation records and other erroneous host plant records, which has been augmented by the careful review of several specialist reviewers. The bibliography has been enhanced to include many more papers dealing with Florida Lepidoptera, both from before 1965 and since then. A few new species are noted by number, but there over 100 or more other new species are expected to be described or remain to be discovered in Florida, mainly among the leaf mining Micro Lepidoptera. The catalog notes many new name changes that have occurred in recent years, listed also in a special section on name changes. The indexes list all valid names and synonyms, so older names can be easily found as well.

J. B. Heppner, Series Editor

(Editor's note: This is a long awaited publication that will replace the worn and ragged copy on almost every Florida Lepidopterists book shelf. It will be very welcome. We only hope that the price could be the same!)

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LEPIDOPTEROLOGY, BUTTERFLYING & PUBLIC RELATIONS: COLLECTING vs WATCHING?

The organizers and charter members of The Lepidopterists' Society (LS), founded in 1947 to promote the scientifically sound and progressive study of lepidopterology in all its branches, were collectors and serious students of the Lepidoptera. However, membership was open to all persons interested in any aspect of lepidopterology. With the passage of time and development of increased general public interest, other modes of appreciation of Lepidoptera not involving collecting, e.g. watching, photography, and butterfly gardening, gained adherents within LS and elsewhere. Inspection of the 1998 Membership Directory of the LS suggest that at least 60% of members are collectors and that all of the other forms of Lepidoptera appreciation are well represented therein. (Cont. on Pg. #47)

(Cont. from Pg. #46) A growing concern over the perceived or prospective loss of Lepidoptera populations was crystallized in the formation in 1971 of the Xerces Society by Dr. Robert M. Pyle which was originally dedicated specifically to Lepidoptera conservation. The North American Butterfly Association (NABA) was founded in 1992 by Dr. Jeffrey Glassberg to be a group concerned with all aspects of butterflying (defined as actively searching for butterflies in order to observe and identify them) including the field identification and/or photography (but excluding collecting), listing, gardening, and conservation, and also to promote butterflying with binoculars and not with nets, to serve as a home for people interested in non-consumptive, recreational butterflying and to create a larger constituency for the preservation of butterflies in the long run.

Later on, the definitive U.S. work dealing with the philosophy and practice of all of the various modalities of the appreciation and in more detail with those approaches not involving collecting, was published ["Handbook for Butterfly Watchers". Robert Michael Pyle. Houghton Mifflin Co. New York. 1984 (2nd Ed. 1992)] with sponsorship by the Roger Tory Peterson Institute. More recently there appeared a shorter book of more limited scope devoted to butterflying ["Butterflies Through Binoculars - A Field Guide to Butterflies in the Boston, New York, Washington Region". Jeffrey Glassberg. Oxford University press, New York, 1993] with a forward by Edward O. Wilson and a preface by Robert Robbins.

In 1995-1996, developing news of the indictments and conviction by plea bargain of a number of lepidopterists and dealers for offenses related to perceived violation of wildlife laws raised the simmering debate on the effects of governmental regulations on lepidopterology to a crescendo in the pages of the NEWS of the Lepidopterists' Society. As one aspect of this hullabaloo, there surfaced an incipient polarization of lepidopterists into collectors and non-collectors e.g. watchers. For example, an exchange took place between John H. Acorn [News Lepid. Soc. 38 (1), 12, January 1996] and [ibid 38 (4), 104], and Jeffrey Glassberg [ibid 38(2), 48. April 1996]. Dr. Glassberg holds a doctorate in molecular biology and is President of NABA. Mr. Acorn is a Canadian M.Sc. Entomologist by training. He no longer collects actively, is an active proponent of butterfly watching and has written a butterfly watching guides, Butterflies of Alberta. He works in nature television and in field instruction of groups of children and adults on how to identify butterflies at a distance using binoculars. On suitable occasions, he demonstrates netting of the specimen, identification by gentle handling followed by unharmed release. Nevertheless, he is fully aware that thorough and rigorous study of insects requires the capture, manipulation and sacrifice of individual specimens and bears no animus whatsoever toward collectors.

Mr. Acorn's immediate bone of contention with Dr. Glassberg was the rejection of NABA's flagship publication "American Butterflies" of an earlier draft of the former's article now under discussion on the subject of "catch-and-release" as a suitable supplementary option for butterflyers in addition to observation from a distance. There have been further dialog between the two on the matter which had suggested to Acorn that NABA and Glassberg himself were not friendly to the science of entomology or to rational naturalists in general. Glassberg reacted strongly and defensively that NABA had been confronted on the Internet by "fanatic collectors" falsely stating that it was anti-collecting and even alleging that Glassberg himself believed that all butterfly collecting should be banned, a charge that Glassberg emphatically and completely rejected. He went on to assert that NABA has never said a negative word about collectors or other organizations for which collecting may be a legitimate activity.

As I remarked earlier, Robert Pyle's book on butterfly watching (loc. Cit.) Is, in my opinion, the authoritative treatment of all aspects of the appreciation of Lepidoptera. Dr. Pyle, a Ph.D. lepidopterists from Yale, is a noted conservationist, author, lecturer and researcher on Lepidoptera. Like Mr. Acorn, his field activities primarily involve watching as a matter of preference, but he collects selectively in groups of particular interest. He presents in his book a thoroughgoing, impartial and objective comparison of both collecting and watching, detailing the pros and cons of each as equally worthy and indeed complementary aspects of the wide-ranging and broad-based study and general appreciation of the Lepidoptera. In contrast, Dr. Glassberg's book (loc. Cit.) Is narrowly focused on watching; his only reference to collecting that I encountered was his mention of three anthropogenic causes for the ongoing, perceived decline of butterfly populations, in which context no. 3, after habitat loss and environmental pollution (e.g. pesticide use) was said to be the continued killing of rare and local species by collectors.

If this seeming polarization of collectors and watchers is in fact real, what is the explanation? After 52 years of existence, LS membership now consist of roughly 60% collectors and 40% non-collectors, and until recently there was little or no evidence of any such schism. I recommend your special attention to the second of Acorn's two articles (loc. Cit.) Entitled "Do Butterfly Watchers Have a Responsibility to Their Parent Science?". I believe that his searching and indeed, in my opinion, brilliant discussion goes a long way to providing an answer to the above question. After saying that he is trying "to promote both the science of entomology–collections and all–and the rapidly growing movement of butterfly watching", he continues: "The central issue here, however, is whether insect watchers are justified in doing their own thing', or whether they have an intellectual and moral responsibility to first acknowledge their debt to collection-based systematic research, and secondly declare their support of this sort of research. In my opinion, by saying nothing about collecting pro or con, [NABA] promotes itself at the expense of the very scientists who provide its basic fodder. If the members of NABA are not made aware of the value of legitimate scientific collecting, why should we expect them to support it in any real sense? More importantly, why should we expect the general public to conclude that butterfly watching and collection-based science are complementary activities? (My emphasis). He goes on to say: "By positioning itself in near-perfect alignment with the majority view of environmentally concerned people, I predict that [NABA] will indeed find itself propelled to stardom in the next few years (although it may also fall victim to the mindless list-keeping syndrome that has plagued much of 'birding'."

Let me amplify and extend Mr. Acorn's perceptive analysis, so bringing it into sharper focus as it relates to the ongoing debate on government regulation of collecting as alleged by the environmentalists to be an effective instrument of insect conservation. Butterfly watchers have nothing whatsoever to lose from such governmental intrusion. Indeed, they may welcome it to the extent that they may share the current strong environmentalist and absolutist bias toward preservation of all populations of all current forms of life. On the other hand, as had been forewarned and has now unfortunately been recently demonstrated, this governmental activism in the extreme poses a very real and present threat to collection-based biological science, and hence to all collectors. I continue to suggest that consistency of purpose requires that all members of entomological organizations such as the Southern Lepidopterists' Society, which are dedicated by charter to the primary objective of the advancement of all branches of scientific knowledge in the society's particular field, should continue to be vigilant in the protection of their inherent right to pursue all activities necessary to attainment of this primary objective, including the formation and study of collections of specimens.

In the realm of general public relations the non-collecting or "non-consumptive" forms of butterfly appreciation e.g. watching, photography, and gardening have the advantage over science-based collecting since the artistic, esthetic and emotional appeal of the former, with occasional moral overtones, is generally more accessible to the average person than is the rather more abstract and intellectual approach of the latter. Put it another way, a well-executed color photograph of a gorgeous living butterfly or the sight of a beautiful flower garden populated by equally colorful butterflies flitting about has much more instant appeal than does thoughtful contemplation of a collection of pinned specimens illustrating Müllerian mimicry. Editors of popular magazines seem much more receptive to articles about the former kind of activity, especially with a liberal dollop of human interest thrown in, than to sober treatments of the latter type. A recent article in a regional, general interest magazine serves as an illustration of this and may also further illuminate our search for origin of the presumed polarization of collectors and watchers.

The October 1998 issue of New Jersey Monthly magazine contained on pp. 67-69 a colorfully illustrated article by Curtis Rist entitled "The Man Who Wouldn't Kill a Butterfly", who turns out to be Jeffrey Glassberg. The article is based on interviews with Dr. Glassberg and with Dr. Robert K. Robbins, Chairman of Entomology at the Smithsonian Institution of the U.S. National Museum of Natural History, described as one of Glassberg's lifelong friends. The article is written in a jaunty style, no doubt entertaining to the casual reader but hardly intended to educate that reader by providing a balanced overview of this complex subject. The treatment is superficial, curiously naive and replete with half-truths, dubious references, undocumented assertions and outright errors of fact. It should easily satisfy the environmentalists' criteria for political correctness. The tone is set in the opening paragraph which reads as follows: "While writing a new field guides to Butterflies, Jeffrey Glassberg found little inspiration in the books of the past. (Cont. on Pg. #49)

(Cont. from Pg. #48) Without exception, they show dead butterflies; most of them with their wings cut off and artlessly arranged to display both sides at once. For generations of naturalists, this must have seemed quite useful, but it suddenly struck Glassberg as a little disgusting. 'Imagine a bird guide that showed dead ducks cut in half for the purpose of identification', says Glassberg. 'I don't think there would be much of a market for this among birders'. We then learn that since most butterflies are small and dull in color and obscure in markings, "butterfly enthusiast traditionally netted and killed, or collected, their quarry just to determine the type." Continuing, we read that this new guide enabled people to identify butterflies in life with binoculars and thus led to a "kindlier, gentler hobby." Glassberg opines that "It's pointless to kill these things just so you can put them in your personal box", and again, "There's really no reason anymore why the average person has to collect butterflies just to be able to identify them". Originally, definitive identification even after collecting might "require a mini-autopsy- a task not well suited to the squeamish." But, we are informed that there is a better way. "The tiny banded hairstreak, for example, notable only for a powdery blue dot on its dusky wings, used to be differentiated from the nearly identical hairstreak only upon dissection of its genitalia. Glassberg's method is far friendlier. It involves a close examination of the blue spot on the living butterfly; on the hickory hairstreak, the spot is narrower by about the width of its antenna." This can be done in the field, it is implied, using "small, powerful binoculars that can focus on an object as close as 5 feet away".

A note of alarm is then sounded. "Glassberg's no-nets policy comes at just the right moment for the beleaguered butterfly", which is "increasingly threatened by development and pesticides". And the collector is pointedly added to the roster of threats. "But collectors, too, have had a hand in their decline." This is illustrated by an account of the "disappearance" of the renowned, endangered Mitchell's Satyr from New Jersey which reads like a turn-of-the-century (19th-20th) dime novel or penny dreadful. "New Jersey used to be home [to it]; "-- enthusiasts came from all over the east coast hoping to catch a glimpse of it–", "Year after year, collectors arrived with nets and left with tiny Mitchell's Satry carcasses—"; "As the species dwindled, the collecting intensified"; "– the landowner had guards and dogs and even a fence built to keep the collectors out – but they still went in"; "In 1988 a lone [specimen] was scooped up and dropped into a killing jar. None has been seen since." As a parting gesture of magnanimity, we are informed that "Glassberg does not begrudge the serious lepidopterists who occasionally nets a specimen. "But there's no need to do it every time, he says." An finally, as the butterfly watcher goes out into his garden, he is admonished to "Just be sure to leave the nets inside."

A light-hearted account of Glassberg's early introduction to butterflies adds a bit of human interest spice to further enliven the article. Surprisingly, "Glassberg hasn't always opposed the use of nets. Indeed, he was an avid collector for most of his life.–With his neighborhood friends, including the young Robert K. Robbins, Glassberg would catch butterflies with hats and shirts before graduating to nets, a hobby that lasted until he turned thirteen. –The two gave up butterflies until they attended college. This being the late sixties, one afternoon found them planning an experiment with hallucinogenic mushrooms. But as they were about to embark on their own magical mystery tour, thousands of fluttering orange-brown skippers suddenly surrounded them. Awestruck, Glassberg and Robbins pocketed the mushrooms. 'We got so excited, we went right home and got our butterfly nets – and started collecting again', says Glassberg. After graduating from Tufts University, Glassberg taught in a federal poverty program–'It was one way to avoid the draft', he says, and spent his summer vacations in Mexico and the Amazon with Robbins looking for butterflies". It was not until much later, while working with a group of New York City bird-watchers, that he experienced his final epiphany, made a 180-degree about face and metamorphosed from an avid collector into a super-avid butterfly watcher.

I append a copy of a Letter-to-the-Editor which I sent in to New Jersey Monthly magazine for publication, hoping to give its readers a more balanced overview of the complex subject of butterfly watching compared with butterfly collecting, together with a cover letter introducing myself. In the end, my Letter-to-the-Editor was not published and I received no acknowledgment whatsoever of my submission. This is reminiscent of the failure of the editors of Audubon Magazine to respond satisfactorily to similar letters of protest submitted by several persons with regard to the controversial "Butterfly War" article by Ted Williams published some time ago in that magazine.

J. Benjamin Ziegler, 64 Canoe Brook Parkway, Summit, New Jersey 07901-2288 ***(See Editor's note on Pg.#50)***

(Editors note) Mr. Ziegler is an out spoken and ardent defender of the Lepidopterists' right to collect. A copy of the article "The Man Who Won't Kill a Butterfly" by Curtis Rist which appeared in the New Jersey Monthly magazine can be obtained from Mr. Ziegler by contacting him at the address above.

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CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS

Julian Deal, 2754 Cheatham Court, Acworth, GA 30101; Hm Tel.: 770-974-7019; Off. Tel.: 770-590-5752

Jay Gmerek, 6683 Mt. Hope Dr., San Jose, CA 95120; Hm Tel.: 408-927-5884; FAX: 408-955-9067

H. Wendell Godwin, Rt.#1 Box 60-D, Rocky Gap, VA 24366; Hm Tel.: 304-887-1927; Off.Tel.: 305-256-2883; E-mail: hgodwin@afsrc.ars.usda.gov

Dale Habeck, 10516 SW 12th Terrace, Micanopy, FL 32667-9446; Hm Tel.: 352-466-4250; E-mail: dhha @gnv.ifas.ufl.edu

John McConnell, 13566 Hickory Legend, San Antonio, TX 78247; Hm Tel.: 210-545-6894; Off. Tel.: 210-821-5543; E-mail: jamcconn@txdirect.net

Dr. Mark V. Sanderford, 208 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Danville, VA 24541; Hm. Tel.:804-797-5107; Off. Tel.: 804-797-8545; E-mail: Oleander@game.net

Suzette Slocomb, 219 W. 68th Street, Kansas City, MO 64113

Dr. David L. Wagner, 22 Hunters Run, Storrs, CT 06268

Roland "Ro" Wauer, 315 Padre Lane, Victoria, TX 77905

ADDRESS CHANGES

James K. Adams, 346 Sunset Drive, Calhoun, GA 30701; Hm Tel.: 706-602-6993

Steve Hall, North Carolina Natural Heritage Program, Div. of Parks & Recreation, 1615 MSC, Raleigh, NC 27699-1615; E-mail: Stephen.Hall@ncmail.net.

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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. 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, 6085 Wedgewood Village Circle, Lake Worth, FL 33463-7371: Tel.: 561-966-1655: E-mail: Leptraps@aol.com

FOR SALE: Bait Traps: 15" Diameter X 36" Height, collapsible for travel. Two types available: Flat Bottom and Inverted funnel. For a free brochure and price list contact; Leroy C. Koehn, 6085 Wedgewood Village Circle, Lake Worth, FL 33463-7371: Tel.: 561-966-1655: E-mail: Leptraps@aol.com

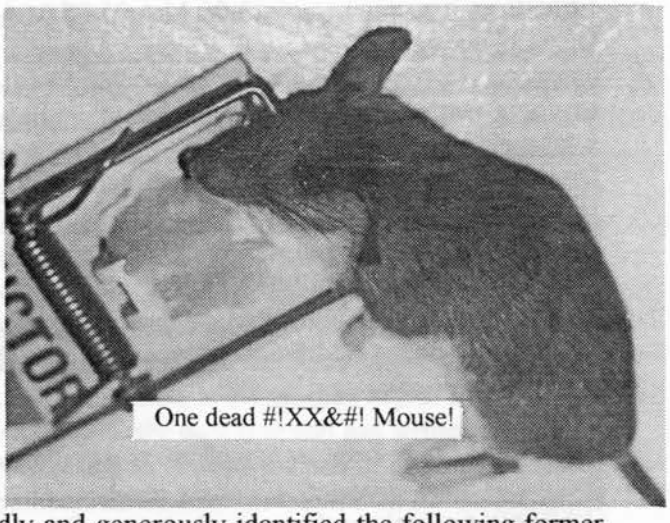
RESEARCH REQUEST: I am interested in any Florida records of the Miami Blue, **Cyclargus thomasi**, since 1989. Please submit relevant data regarding dates, location, sexes, observations etc. Recent attempts to verify its existence in Florida have been unsuccessful, suggesting it may nearly be extirpated from the region. Likewise, I am gathering all Florida records of the newly established **Cyclargus ammon** which appears to be invading at least one area formerly inhabited by **Cyclargus thomasi**. All responses would be greatly appreciated. Submit data to: John Calhoun, 977 Wicks Dr., Palm Harbor, FL, 34684-4656 or e-mail at: jcalhoun@maxximmedical.com.

STATE COORDINATOR REPORTS

We are in need of a coordinator for Mississippi. If you are interested in becoming the state coordinator for Mississippi, contact the Chairman: James K. Adams, 346 Sunset Drive SE, Calhoun, GA 30701; Email: JADAMS@em.daltonstate.edu

ALABAMA : C. Howard Grisham, 573 Ohatchee Road, Huntsville, AL 35811; E-mail: cgrisham@HiWAAY.net

Although butterflies, particularly swallowtails have been a bit slow, the moth side of lep collecting has, here in Northeast Alabama, continued with the same late spring and early summer diversity and numbers as were experienced in late winter and early spring. The following records, unless otherwise noted, are moths collected either from Hollytree, Jackson County, Alabama, in Paint Rock Valley, near the base of Bingham Mountain (herein "J"), or from Maysville, Madison County, Alabama, on Berry Mountain (herein "M") by Howard Grisham, or my son Charles. Lytrosis permagnaria was again common to abundant at Hollytree, with specimens collected May 8, 9, 10 and 15. The population peak occurred from May 16 to 28, or thereabout, but a mouse saw fit to consume the twenty or so specimens which I captured during that time frame and about which I naively felt were safe on a shelf eight feet off the floor. Justice may or may not have been served, but I must confess to a feeling of euphoria a couple of days later when I photographed the presumed culprit as per the illustration. #!XX&#!


One dead #!XX&#! Mouse!

Dr. Richard Brown at Misissippi State University has most kindly and generously identified the following former ufo's taken at the following dates and places ("M" or "J"): Adela caeruleella, (J:5-2-98 J:4-11-97 J:4-22-99) (M:4-5-97); Adela ridingsella (J:4-29-98 J:4-25-98); Kearfottia albifasciella (J:6-20-97); Cephitinea obscurostrigella (M:12-3-98); Acrolophus cressoni (M:7-15-98); Acrolophus mortipennella (J:6-27-97); Acrolophus plumifrontella (M:7-13-97 M:7-18-97) (J:6-26-98 J:6-19-98); Acrolophus popeanella (M:7-13-97 M:7-3-97); Acrolophus texanella (J:6-27-97 J:6-10-98); Solenobia walshella (J:3-7-98); Semioscopis megamicrella (J:2-26-99); Psilocorsis reflexella (J:6-20-97 J:4-25-98); Ethmia longimaculella (M:5-11-98); Gonioterma mistrella (J:7-17-98); Decantha boreasella (J:5-23-98); Eido trimaculella (J:5-17-97); Pseudochelaria walsinghami (M:6-2-97); Fascista cercerisella (J:5-7-97); Dichomeris punctidiscella (M:5-27-97); Olethreutes fasciatana (M:6-9-97): Olethreutes astrologana (J:5-4-97 J:5-29-98); Olethreutes cespitana (J:8-14-98); Eucosma dorsisignatana (M:10-11-97); Eucosma similana (M:9-27-98) (J:9-18-98); Epiblema desertana (M:4-25-97); Chimoptesis pennsylvaniana (J:2-26-99); Proteoteras naracana (J:5-5-98 J:4-22-99); Proteoteras moffatiana (J:6-20-97 J:6-27-97); Pseudexentera cressoniana (M:2-21-98 M:2-25-98) (J:2-26-98 J:4-3-98 J:3-12-99); Pseudexentera spoliana (J:2-26-99); Pseudexentera hodsoni (M:3-25-98); Chimoptesis gerulae (J:2-5-99); Ancylis burgessiana (J:5-14-97); Sereda tautana (J:3-19-99); Cydia caryana (M:3-31-97) (J:4-29-98 J:4-25-98 J:5-5-98); Cydia toreuta (J:6-21-98); Cydia/Melissopus latiferreanus (J:8-31-97 J:7-10-98 J:5-29-98 J:6-6-97); Croesia semipurpurana (M:5-17-97 M:5-18-97); Acleris maculidorsana (M:3-25-98); Decodes basiplaganus (J:10-31-98); Pandemis lamprosana (J:5-29-98); Pandemis limitata (M:5-18-97); Argyrotaenia velutinana (M:3-25-98); Argytotaenia juglandana (J:7-3-97 J:6-6-97); Choristoneura fractivittana (M:5-11-97) (J:5-14-97); Choristoneura rosaceana (M:5-22-98 M:5-6-97 M:5-5-97); Archips semiferana (J:6-13-97); Archips magnoliana (J:5-26-98); Archips grisea (J:5-17-97 J:5-16-98 J:5-24-98); Archips nigriplagana (J:5-30-97); Ptycholoma virescana (M:4-25-97); Platynota flevedana (M:5-11-98) (J:8-14-98); Platynota idaeusalis (J:5-17-97); Slossonella tenebrosa (J:5-16-98); Synclita obliteralis (J:9-18-98); Nephrogramma separata (J:9-5-98 J:6-26-98); Xanthophysa psychialis (M:6-2-97); Loxostege cereralis (J:6-27-97); Pyrausta onythesalis (J:5-14-98 J:7-12-98); Pyrausta rubricalis (J:9-18-98); Pyrausta homonymalis (J:5-24-98); Pyrausta orphisalis (J:6-10-98); Pyrausta tyralis (M:4-23-99);

Udea rubigalis (J:5-29-98) (M:6-4-97); Lineodes integra (M:5-11-98); Diasemiodes nigralis (J:8-14-98); Anageshna primordialis (M:5-11-97) (J:5-8-98 J:5-23-98 J:5-24-98 J:7-17-98 J:5-17-98 J:5-23-98 J:5-24-98); Colomychus talis (J:6-26-98) (J:7-4-98); Palpita quadristigmalis (J:6-24-98); Psara obscuralis (M:5-13-98 M:6-12-97); Herpetogramma pertextalis (J:7-2-98); Herpetogramma thestealis (J:7-2-98); Herpetogramma aeglealis (J:6-12-98 J:6-26-98); Pilocrocis ramentalis (J:10-31-98); Microcrambus elegans (M:6-27-97); Fissicrambus mutabilis (M:5-11-98); Aglossa cuprina (M:6-27-97) (J:6-17-97 J:6-27-97); Arta statalis (J:7-2-98); Condylolomia participalis (J:6-5-98 J:6-17-98); Oneida lunulalis (M:5-27-98); Tallula atrifascialis (J:9-18-98 J:9-25-98); Pococera expandens (J:5-12-98) (M:5-18-97); Acrobasis palliolella (J:6-5-98); Acrobasis aurorella (J:7-30-98); Acrobasis demotella (M:5-5-97); Glyptocera consobrinella (J:5-12-98); Nephopterix vetustella (M:5-18-97 M:5-6-97); Nephopterix subcaesiella (J:6-6-97); Nephopterix uvinella (J:6-6-97); Nephopterix celtidella (J:4-25-98); Tlascala reductella (M:6-22-97); Elasmopalpus lignosellus (M:9-27-98); Euzophera semifuneralis (M:4-25-97); Geina periscelidactyla (J:5-23-98); Geina sheppardi (J:5-22-98); Platyptilia carduidactyla (J:7-25-97 J:9-12-97); Semiothisa transitaria (M:5-13-98 M:4-25-98 M:4-30-97 M:7-1-97) (J:5-8-98); Semiothisa gnothosaria (J:8-7-98); Glena plumosaria (M:5-13-98); Cleora sublunaria (J:3-19-99); Protoboarmia porcelaria (J:9-12-98); Melanolophia canadaria (J:4-25-98 J:4-5-98 J:8-29-98 J:3-30-98); Tetracis crocallata (M:5-24-97 M:4-11-98); Lobocleta ossularia (M:5-12-98; M:6-5-98); Idaea scintillularia (M:6-3-98) (J:6-20-97); Leptostales pannaria (M:6-28-97); Lophosis labeculata (M:6-16-97); Euphyia unangulata (J:5-12-98); Orthonama centrostrigaria (J:4-15-98); Disclisioprocta stellata (M:9-7-98 M:9-28-97); Hydrelia lucata (J:5-16-98); Schizura leptinoides (J:7-15-98); Dashychira manto (J:8-17-98); Orgyia definita (M:9-8-98) (J:7-26-98 J:6-10-98 J:6-21-98 J:6-19-98); Orgyia leucostigma (J:5-23-98 J:5-29-98); Idia rotundalis (J:8-14-98); Idia lubricalis (M:5-25-97); Bomolocha/Hypena palparia (J:5-23-98 J:6-17-98); Ophiuche/Hypena minualis (M:8-29-98); Metalectra richardsi (J:7-11-97) (M:5-7-97 M:5-26-97 M:8-30-98); Pseudanthracia coracias (M:7-5-97); Zale phaeocapna (J:3-27-98 J:3-30-98 J:4-3-99); Nycteola frigidana (M:5-6-97); Hyperstrotia villificans (J:5-12-98); Acronicta tritona (J:4-25-98); Achatia distincta (J:4-2-99).

Underwings have been as abundant as I have ever seen, with the following records on which one or more specimens were collected: Catocala innubens (J:7/8/99 J:7/25/99); Catocala piatrix (M:8/14/99); Catocala epione (J:6/8/99); Catocala muliercula (Covington Co., AL, on Hiway 331, 8 miles N. of Fla. Line: 6/16/99); Catocala habilis (J:7/23/99); Catocala serena (J:6/25/99 J:7/2/99 J:7/14/99 J:7/20/99); Catocala judithi (J:6/11/99 J:6/21/99 J:7/20/99) (M:7/2/99); Catocala flebilis (J:6/25/99 J:7/14/99 J:7/16/99 J:7/20/99 J:6/29/99 J:7/12/99) (M:6/22/99 M:7/2/99); Catocala angusi (J:8/14/99 J:7/20/99 J:8/20/99 J:8/22/99); Catocala obscura (J:7/4/99 J:7/16/99) (M:7/15/99); Catocala sappho (J:6/29/99 J:7/1/99 J:7/4/99 J:7/2/99 J:7/8/99 J:7/9/99 J:7/14/99 J:7/16/99 J:7/20/99 J:7/12/99 J:7/23/99 J:7/25/99 J:7/30/99 J:8/14/99) Catocala residua (J:6/29/99 J:6/25/99 J:7/1/99 J:7/4/99 J:7/2/99 J:7/14/99 J:7/20/99) (M:5/27/99); Catocala retecta (J:7/2/99 J:7/14/99 J:7/16/99 J:7/20/99); Catocala dejecta (J:6/11/99 J:7/1/99) (M:7/6/99); Catocala insolabilis (J:6/21/99 J:6/25/99 J:7/2/99 J:7/4/99 J:7/8/99 J:7/23/99); Catocala vidua (J:7/14/99 J:8/30/99); Catocala lacrymosa (J:7/16/99 J:8/20/99 J:8/18/99); Catocala palaeogama (J:6/21/99 J:6/25/99 J:7/1/99 J:7/20/99 J:7/30/99) (M:7/15/99 M:9/3/99); Catocala nebulosa (J:8/20/99 J:8/30/99); Catocala subnata (J:7/8/99 J:7/16/99 J:7/20/99 J:8/14/99) (M:7/15/99); Catocala neogama (J:7//7/99 J:7/12/99 J:7/30/99) (M:7/15/99); Catocala ilia (J:7/4/99 J:7/7/99 J/7/20/99); Catocala illecta (M:5/28/99 M:6/12/99); Catocala sordida (J:6/21/99); Catocala andromedae (J:7/4/99 J:7/20/99); Catocala coccinata (J:6/11/99 6/21/99) (M:7/6/99); Catocala ultronia (J:6/25/99 J:6/8/99 J:7/16/99) (M:6/23/99 M:6/9/99); Catocala mira (J:6/21/99); Catocala micronympha (J:6/21/99 J:6/25/99) (M:5/30/99 M:6/8/99); Catocala connubialis (J:7/2/99) (M:6/9/99); Catocala amica (J:6/21/99 J:6/25/99 J:7/2/99 J:7/16/99).

The following Sphinx's were collected: Agrius cingulatus (J:5/15/99); Manduca sexta (J:7/23/99); Manduca rustica (M:8/11/99); Manduca jasminearum (J:7/2/99 J:7/8/99); Ceratomia amyntor (M:6/9/99 M:6/10/99 M:6/8/99); Ceratomia hageni (M:5/28/99 M:5/30/99 M:7/2/99 M:7/6/99 M:7/7/99); Paratraea plebeja (J:7/20/99 J:8/18/99) (M:7/7/99); Sphinx canadensis (J:8/14/99 J:8/30/99) (M:6/9/99); Sphinx franckii (J:6/21/99) (M:6/9/99 M:6/22/99); Sphinx kalmiae (J:8/18/99); Lapara coniferarum (M:6/22/99 M:7/2/99 M:7/7/99 M:8/11/99); Paonias excaecatus (J:6/11/99 J:7/12/99) (M:6/12/99); Paonias myops (J:7/16/99); Paonias astylus (J:5/15/99 J:7/23/99); Laothoe juglandis (J:6/21/99); Hemaris thysbe (M:7/14/99); Eumorpha pandorus (J:7/14/99) (M:6/4/99); Sphecodina abbottii (J:7/23/99) (M:7/7/99); Darapsa myron (J:5/8/99 J:6/25/99); Darapsa pholus (J:5/15/99); Xylophanes tersa (J:7/14/99); Hyles lineata (M:5/13/99).

In particular, it is noted that Sphinx canadensis has continued its trespass into Northeast Alabama and has been fairly common into August. I have records starting May 5 and going through August 30. Since the specimens collected August 30, 1999, were fresh, the species undoubtedly is persisting as an adult this year well into September.

ARKANSAS: Mack Shotts, 514 W. Main Street, Paragould, AR, 72450; No report.

FLORIDA: Robert L. Beiriger, 4068A Palm Bay Circle, West Palm Beach, FL 33406; E-mail: brts@gnv.ifas.ufl .edu

Jeff Slotten collected three males of Sphingicampa bicolor on September 10 through the 12 1999 in Gainesville, Alachua County. This is a **STATE RECORD** and quite a nice range extension.

Tom Neal reported finding Euphyes berryi on September 8, 1999 at Newnans Lake, Putman County.

Robert Beiriger collected at several locations around Homestead, Dade County, on July 5th, 1999. On the wing was Electrostrymon angelia, Leptodes cassius, Hemiargus ceraunus, Dryas iulia, Heliconius charitonius, Appias drusilla, Strymon columella, S. acis, S. martialis, Eurema dina helios, E. daira daira, E. d. palmira, Phoebis agarithe, P. sennae, Ascia monuste, Wallengrenia otho, Hylephila phyleus, Polites baracoa and Lerema accius.

Leroy Koehn was extremely busy being a full time Lepidopterists while he has been unemployed this fall. He visited many areas with his light traps and bait traps and filed the following report.

He visited Jonathan Dickenson State Park, Martin County on 11 occasions in August and 16 occasions in September. His notable catches follow: 17 Aug; In light traps: Schinia saturata, S. sordida and Cisthene subjecta. He also found Polites themistocles, and Atrytone arogos. 18 Aug; In light traps: Eupseudosoma involutum floridum, Eucereon carolina, and Neoplynes eudora. 22Aug; In light traps: Argyrostrotis quadrifilaris, and a male of Anisota virginiensis which is rarely encountered at UV light. In bait traps: Phuphena obliqua, Parallelia similis and Polygonia interrogationis, this common northen nymphalid is at the extreme southern end of it's range. 30 Aug; In bait traps: Anaea andria and Amphion floridensis. (All the literature state that it is found throughout the region; This is the first time Leroy encountered this bug south of Okeechobee County) he also collected a ♂ Cylopsis gemma, and several Danaus eresimus tethys. 3 Sept; In light traps: Schinia nubila, S. lynx, Holomelina laeta and Amolita roseola. 18 Sept: He collected Amblyscirtes alternata, Nastra neamathala, and Euphyes arpa. In bait traps he took a large ♀ of Thysania zenobia. 29 September he collected Poanes aaroni howardi, Euphyes arpa, Euphys berryi, Atytonopsis loammi, Atrytone arogos, Polites themistocles, Nastra neamathla, Hesperia meskei straton, H.attalus slossonae, and Danaus eresimus tethys. He also found Aphrissa statira and Artogeia rapae. The latter is seldom encountered in south Florida. This individual was in excellent condition and believe it or not, is a county record.

Leroy set out bait traps along the Sugar Ridge (natural barrier along the northeast side of Lake Okeechobee) were Hackberry trees (Celtis) occur in Okeechobee, Martin and Palm Beach counties. He collected Asterocampa flora, A. alicia, Polygonia interrogantionis, and Catocala amica in Bait Traps. On the same ridge south of the town of Okeechobee, Okeechobee County, he collected Urbanus dorantes, Dryas iulia largo, and Junonia everate.

On several visits to Homestead/Florida City area of Dade County, Leroy reported the following: 6 September, Navy Wells Pine Land Preserve, Strymon acis bartrami and Appias drusilla. 16 September in Light traps: Syntomeida ipomoeae, Pseudocharis minima, Perigonia lusca and Pachylia ficus. Leroy's best find was Chlorostrymon maesites in Fuch's Hammock 19 August and a small hammock on SW 194Ave. near Navy Wells Pineland Preserve on 22 August.

GEORGIA: James K. Adams, 346 Sunset Drive SE, Calhoun, GA 30701; Email:JADAMS@em.daltonstate.edu

Records are from James Adams, Irving Finkelstein (IF), William Russell (WR), Howard Grisham (HG), Mike Lockwood (ML), Ron King (RK) and Mike Chapman (MC), and represent new or interesting records (range extensions, unusual dates, uncommon species, county records, etc.) or newly identified species, mostly for NW Georgia. Records are from the Dalton/Rocky Face, Whitfield County area unless otherwise specified. "Pig." represents Pigeon Mountain area, Walker County; "Tay." represents Taylor's Ridge, 5 miles W. of Villanow along Hwy. 136, Walker County; "Car." represents the Carbondale exit (134) off I-75, Whitfield County; "Con." represents the Murray/Whitfield County line, nr. the Conasauga river, on Hwy. 76; "Gates" refers to a site on Gates Chapel Rd., 3 miles N. of Hwy. 52, 8 miles W. of Ellijay; "Blue" indicates Blue Ridge, Fannin County. Definite county/state records are indicated.

NYMPHALIDAE: Speyeria aprhodite, 22 August 1999, Cooper's Creek Rec. Area, Fannin County (IF). **LYCAENIDAE**: Satyrium kingi (4), Allatoona Dam Picnic Area, Bartow County (IF). **HESPERIIDAE**: Poanes hobomok, 12 June 1999 (Coop.); Problema byssus (3+), 19 June 1999, Juliette, Jones County (**COUNTY**, MC); Problema byssus and Euphyes dion, 12 Sept. 1999, Allatoona Dam area, 4 miles east of I-75 at exit 125, Bartow County (IF); Erynnis baptisiae, 19 June 1999, Forsyth County (**COUNTY**, MC).

SPHINGIDAE: Paonias astylus (4), 11-13 June 1999 (Gates; WR and IF); also 4 July 1999 (Car.). **ARCTIIDAE**: Dahana atripennis, 22 June 1999, 5 miles W. of Brunswick, Glynn County(MC). **NOCTUIDAE**: Macrochilo hypocritalis **(STATE)**, 11 July 1999; Catocala nebulosa, 10 July 1999; Acronicta betulae, 28 June 1999; Homophoberia apicosa, 5 Sept. 1999 (Gates; IF); Noctua pronuba (**STATE**), 10 July 1999 (RK); Callopistria floridensis, 7 Sept. 1999, Calhoun (SE), Gordon County; Schinia thoreaui, 9 Sept. 1999 (Car.). **NOTODONTIDAE**: Peridea ferruginea, 27 June 1999, Hiawassee, Towns County **GEOMETRIDAE**: Lytrosis sinuosa, 10 June 1999 (Tay.); Metarrhanthis angularia, 4 July 1999. **LIMACODIDAE**: Packardia geminiata, 27 June 1999 (Blue); Monoleuca semifascia, 10 June 1999 (Tay.; JA, ML, and HG). **URODIDAE**: Urodus parvula, 14 June 1999 (Gates, **COUNTY**; IF). **EPIPYROPIDAE**: Fulgoraecia exigua, 7 & 9 Sept. 1999, Calhoun (SE), Gordon County. **SESIIDAE**: Synanthedon exitiosa, 6 Sept. 1999, **at lights**, Calhoun (SE), Gordon County; Vitacea polistiformis (numerous, at pheromone), 20 & 22 August 1999, Atlanta, Fulton County (IF at his house).

LOUISIANA: Michael Lockwood, 215 Hialeah Avenue, Houma, LA 70363; No report.

MISSISSIPPI: Drew Hildebrandt, 710 Laney Drive, Clinton, MS 39056; E-mail: Drew@umsmed.edu. No report.

NORTH CAROLINA: Steve Hall, North Carolina Natural Heritage Program, Div. of Parks & Recreation, 1615 MSC, Raleigh, NC 27699-1615;E-mail; Stephen.Hall@ncmail.net.

Place names refer to counties unless otherwise stated, and records are not new county reports unless indicated. HL = Harry LeGrand.

General Comments: Number of individuals were greatly reduced from past summers in North Carolina, presumably because of a very wet and cold spell from late April to early May, and again in mid-May. Overall numbers seemed to be just 50% of normal, and the numbers of resident pierids such as Pieris rapae and Colias eurytheme were only roughly 20% of normal. Open-country species were hit harder than forest species, and larger species such as Papilionidae and Pieridae were down more so than were Hesperiidae. In addition, the northward movement of migrants was poor this summer, with very few Urbanus proteus, among others. **LYCAENIDAE:** Fixsenia favonius ontario, a first record for the heavily-studied northeastern Piedmont was one in medium wear seen by HL on a monadnock in Orange (**COUNTY**) on June 18. This appears to be at the inner edge of the range, and the species has not been found in nearly all of the Piedmont nor mountains in North Carolina.; Mitoura hesseli, a worn individual was seen on July 25 in Moore by HL et al.; Erora laeta, one was observed in Avery on July 3 by Simon Thompson and Susan Mitchell; the habitat was a hedgerow between meadows at high elevation.

NYMPHALIDAE: Polygonia faunus smythii, a fresh individual was seen on a U.S. Forest Service road in Graham by HL on August 6. This rarity has apparently declined in the state in recent decades, for reasons unknown to HL.; Enodia anthedon, HL observed a female ovipositing on Microstegium vimineum, a noxious and aggressive grass, in Clay on August 5. This grass has now become abundant over most of the state, mainly in bottom lands, and HL suspects that this is now the most frequent host plant for the butterfly, at least in the eastern Piedmont.; Danaus gilippus, one was seen in Durham (**COUNTY**) on the early date of June 27, by Will Cook. As the species is essentially accidental in the Piedmont, and most reports for the state come from coastal sites from July to late fall, one wonders if this might have been an escaped individual. **HESPERIIDAE:** Autochton cellus, one was well-studied in Alleghany (**COUNTY**) on July 31 by Eric Dean, for a very rare state report and an overdue first record for the northern mountain counties.; Erynnis martialis, HL and others observed one at a known spot in Durham on July 17. The individual seemed fresh, suggesting that the second brood starts around mid-July in the central part of the state.; Hesperia sassacus, good state counts of seven were noted by HL at two sites on June 8, and four at one site on June 9, all in Watauga (**COUNTY**). Habitats were extensive meadows and small mountaintop openings; both males and females were present, and most were nectaring on Trifolium pratense. The species is clearly not rare, at least locally, in the northern mountain counties.; Atrytone arogos arogos, a male in medium wear was carefully studied at the only currently known state site in Carteret, on August 22 (HL et al.). The species had been found at the site two weeks earlier by Bo Sullivan.; Problema byssus, a large colony was found at a new site by Jeff Pippen in Pender on August 22. He counted eight individuals, mainly very fresh males.; Poanes yehl, a fresh individual was seen by Randy Emmitt and Will Cook at a stand of Arundinaria in Lincoln (**COUNTY**) on August 29. There are very few Piedmont records, and this site is slightly inland of the known range.; Euphyes bimacula, one was seen in a telephone line clearing through a wetland in Harnett on July 22 by Paul Hart. The species has previous been found in the county, which lies at the inner edge of the range. Amblyscirtes hegon, a worn individual was seen by HL on a mountaintop opening in Avery (**COUNTY**) on June 30. This was probably part of the first brood, but fresh individuals of the second brood are seen at low elevations in the mountains by early July. Might there be just one brood above 4000 feet?; Amblyscirtes aesculapius, one was seen in Cherokee (**COUNTY**) by HL on August 5, for a rare mountain record.; Amblyscirtes carolina, one was seen near a large stand of Arundinaria in Lincoln (**COUNTY**) on August 29 by Randy Emmitt and Will Cook. This site, in the southern Piedmont, is slightly inland of the previously known edge of the range.

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

TENNESSEE: John Hyatt, 5336 Foxfire Place, Kingsport, TN 37664; E-mail: jhyatt@eastman.com. No Report

TEXAS: Ed Knudson, 8517 Burkhart Road, Houston, TX 77055; E-mail: eknudson@wt.net.

Knudson & Bordelon reported the following from Texas July 31- Oct. 12, 1999

Kinney County, Pinto Creek (near Bracketville) Gesta invisius, Mestra amymone, Strymon istapa (formerly S. columella istapa), 31 July; Ancyloxypha arene, 14 Aug.

Terrell County, Sanderson, Eutelia furcata (Noctuidae), 31 July (2nd TX. record)

El Paso County, Anthony, 1 Aug. Oslaria pura (Noctuidae, **NEW STATE RECORD** (Collected at TX/NM state line)

Jeff Davis County, Davis Mts. Preserve (Texas Nature Conservancy) Stamnodes splendorata, Sabulodes niveostriata (Geometrids), Aug.10, collected by Eric Metzler, new for TX. Lacinipolia basiplaga , Nocloa nanata, Cirrhophanus dyari, Lythrodes tripunctata, Hexorthodes inconspicua, Orthodes bolteri, Aug. 9,10 coll Knudson & Bordelon. (Noctuidae).

Jeff Davis County, 10 miles W. Ft. Davis, 3,4 Oct. Euhagena nebraskae (Sesiidae), coll. Knudson & Bordelon. **(NEW STATE RECORD)**

Jeff Davis County, Davis Mts. State Park. 9 Aug. Carmenta verecunda (Sesiidae). coll. Knudson & Bordelon (in pheromone trap); Davis Mts. State Park, 3 Oct. Nycteola fletcheri, (Noctuidae), coll. Knudson (**NEW STATE RECORD**).

Brewster County, Big Bend National Park, Chisos Basin, 12 Aug. Nocloa aliaga (Noctuidae), coll. Knudson (**NEW STATE RECORD**); Big Bend National Park, Green Gulch, 11 Aug (and 5 Oct.) Carmenta arizonae; and 5 Oct, Carmenta subaerea, (Sesiidae) Knudson & Bordelon; Big Bend National Park, Rio Grande Village, 12 Aug. Hymnoclea palmii, Zenodoxus mexicanus (Sesiidae), Knudson & Bordelon

NOTE: There have been 16 new state record moths (2 also new USA records) for Texas in 1999 (so far). The new moths for the USA include Purius superpulverea (Hidalgo County, TX, March 1999) and Elaphria devara (Hidalgo County, TX. Dec. 1998, & Cameron County, TX. Apr.1999.). The most interesting State record to us was Euhagena nebraskae. We collected 8 males on Oct 3,4, about 10 miles west of Ft. Davis (near Crow's Nest turnoff), between 1330-1530 hrs. They were attracted to pheromones attached to our nets and vehicle. They were the typical form (not intensa).

We also found a mostly yellow form of Vitacea admiranda at Big Bend National Park, 11,12 Aug., Chisos Basin, which resembles the large yellow Polistes sp. found there. This wasp also seems to be attracted to the same pheromone and will sting with little provocation!

VIRGINIA : Harry Pavulaan, 494 Fillmore Street, Herndon, VA 22070; E-mail: hpavulaan@aol.com

1999 was highlighted by an unprecedented drought with three periodic and prolonged record heat-waves that began in April and lasted through August. Most nectar sources performed poorly by late May, showing delayed, shortened blooming periods, or apparently producing little nectar for insect consumption. Some plants, such as Actinomeris alternifolia aborted blooming altogether in some areas, having a detrimental effect on the few host-dependent Celastrina neglecta that emerged during the drought. Mass vegetational wilting occurred in many areas of northern Virginia where scant rain activity had missed some locations entirely, and some freshwater wetlands and small ponds completely dried out.

Many new county records were established by a few observers in a few trips. Virginia remains one of those states where historical collecting activities were concentrated around the larger cities, universities, mountains and shore areas, leaving vast data-voids for even the commonest species. Present-day reporting still clusters around the major population centers, though several observers are actively surveying butterflies in counties still lacking in sufficient data. Most new data is based field observation. However, the most active observers follow strict guidelines in the identification of butterflies. Unfortunately, we have yet to develop a culture of "mothing" anywhere near the current level of butterfly observation.

Note: Records listed by county or independent-city (equal to county status). Following the county/independent city listings are: date; name of nearest community and/or locality (if given); reporting person's initials; means of identification if known (all records based on observational notes except where noted) in parentheses; and any observational notes. Key to sources: AC=Anne Chazel, BG=Bill Grooms, CC=Charles Covell (review and interpretation of collecting records), CH=Carolyn Henly, CK=Clyde Kessler, DW=David Wright, FH=Felice Hancock, GR=Bruce Grimes, HO=Chris Hobson, HP=Harry Pavulaan, JB=Janet Bruner, SR=Steve Roble, TM=Tom McAvoy.

BUTTERFLIES: Epargyreus clarus: Surry Co. **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/26/99, Chippokes Plantation State Park, FH. Washington County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/20/99, Damascus, TM.; Urbanus proteus: Fairfax County: 9/25/99, Herndon, HP (net/release). Loudoun County: 10/3/99, Leesburg, BG. York County **(COUNTY RECORD)**:10/3/99, Yorktown, Yorktown Battlefield, HP, nectaring on Abelia shrubs.;

Erynnis juvenalis: Patrick County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 4/17/99, near Fairystone Park, CK.; Pyrgus communis: Accomack County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: (no date, from 1998 summary report), Chincoteague N.W.R., SR. Caroline County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 10/3/99, Maryton and Port Royal, HP. James City County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 10/3/99, near Jamestown, Colonial National Historic Park, Colonial Parkway, HP, nectaring on Solidago. Middlesex County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 10/3/99, Jamaica, HP.; Hylephila phyleus: Caroline County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 10/3/99, Port Royal, HP. Gloucester County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 10/3/99, Wicomico , HP.; Lerema accius: Gloucester County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 10/3/99, Glenna, HP. James City County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 10/3/99, near Jamestown, Colonial National Historic Park, Colonial Parkway, HP, nectaring on Solidago. Middlesex County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 10/3/99, Jamaica and Saluda, HP. York County: 10/3/99, Yorktown, Yorktown Visitor Center, HP, 50+ nectaring on Abelia shrubs.; Hesperia leonardus: Spotsylvania County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 9/12/99, Thornburg, HP.; Polites themistocles: Accomack County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: (no date, from 1998 summary report), Chincoteague N.W.R., SR.Spotsylvania County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 9/12/99, Thornburg, HP.; Atalopedes campestris: James City County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 10/3/99, near Jamestown, Colonial National Historic Park, Colonial Parkway, HP, nectaring on Solidago. Surry County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/26/99, Hog Island State W.M.A., FH, very common.; Problema bulenta: Charles City County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 8/23/99, Chickahominy River, HO & SR.; Eurytides marcellus: Arlington County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 8/4/99, East Falls Church, JB. Surry County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/26/99, Chippokes, Lower Chippokes Creek, FH.; Papilio polyxenes: James City County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/26/99, Jamestown Island, FH.; Papilio glaucus: Surry County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/26/99, Chippokes Plantation State Park, FH.; Papilio troilus: Isle of Wight County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/26/99, Moonlight, FH.; Pontia protodice: Loudoun County: 10/1/99, Leesburg, HP (voucher), common (50+).; Artogeia rapae: James City County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/26/99, Jamestown Island, FH.; Anthocharis midea annickae: Accomack County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: (no date, from 1998 summary report), Chincoteague N.W.R., SR.; Colias philodice: Caroline County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 10/3/99, Maryton, HP. James City County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/26/99, Jamestown Island, FH. Surry County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/26/99, Chippokes Plantation State Park and Hog Island State W.M.A., FH.; Eurema nicippe: Accomack County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: (no date, from 1998 summary report), Chincoteague N.W.R., SR. Caroline County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 10/3/99, Maryton and Port Royal, HP. Essex County **(COUNTY RECORD)**:10/3/99, Loretto, Occupacia and Tappahannock, HP. James City County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 10/3/99, Jamestown Island, HP, nectaring on Solidago. Middlesex County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 10/3/99, frequent along route 17 between Jamaica and Saluda, HP. York County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 10/3/99, Yorktown, Yorktown Battlefield, HP. Phoebis sennae: Surry County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/26/99, Hog Island State W.M.A., FH. Satyrium caryaevorum: Fairfax County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 7/3/99, Herndon, HP (vouchered), nectaring on Indian Hemp in suburban garden. Montgomery County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 7/29/99, Prices Fork, det. TM.; Strymon melinus humuli: Caroline County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 10/3/99, Port Royal, HP.; Everes comyntas: Surry County**(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/26/99, Hog Island State W.M.A., FH.; Celastrina sp. (unspecified taxon): Accomack County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: (no date, from 1998 summary report), Chincoteague N.W.R., SR.; Celastrina neglecta: James City County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/6/64, CC (voucher). Mecklenburg County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: larva found on shrubby Cornus sp., 6/27/99, South Hill, DW.; Libytheana bachmanii: Caroline County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 10/3/99, Maryton, HP. Euptoieta claudia: Caroline County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 10/3/99, Port Royal, HP. Surry County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/26/99, Hog Island State W.M.A., FH.; Speyeria cybele: Washington County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/20/99, Damascus, TM.; Charidryas nycteis: Patrick County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 4/17/99, near Fairystone Park, CK.; Phyciodes tharos: Surry County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/26/99, Hog Island State W.M.A., FH.; Vanessa cardui: Isle of Wight County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/26/99, Moonlight, FH.; Vanessa virginiensis: Essex County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 10/3/99, Loretto, HP.; Vanessa atalanta: Caroline County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 10/3/99, Port Royal, HP.; Junonia coenia: Caroline County **(COUNTY RECORD)**:10/3/99, Maryton and Port Royal, HP. James City County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/26/99, Jamestown Island, FH; 10/3/99, near Jamestown, Colonial National Historic Park, Colonial Parkway, HP, extremely abundant (1,000+), multiple forms, nectaring on Solidago.; Satyrodes appalachia: Cumberland County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/26/99 (no location),CH.; Megisto cymela ("type-I" spring-flying taxon): Isle of Wight County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/6/64, along route 32, CC (voucher). Madison County. **(COUNTY RECORD)**:

6/13/99, Big Meadow, Skyline Drive, Shenandoah National Park, HP. Middlesex County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/5/65, Christchurch, CC (voucher). Page County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/13/99, Big Meadow, Skyline Drive, Shenandoah National Park, HP. Suffolk **(CITY RECORD)**: 5/16/59, Great Dismal Swamp, CC (voucher). York County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/6/64, Yorktown, CC (voucher).; Megisto cymela ("type-II" summer-flying taxon): Suffolk **(CITY RECORD)**: 7/17/59, Great Dismal Swamp, CC (voucher). Surry County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/26/99, Hog Island State W.M.A., FH. Virginia Beach **(CITY RECORD)**: 7/2/59, CC (voucher).; Cyllopsis gemma: Floyd County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 8/28/99, Rocky Knob, GR. Patrick County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 8/28/99, Rocky Knob, GR. (NOTE: same specimen, flew across county line); Danaus plexippus: Gloucester County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 10/3/99, widespread in southward migratory movement along route 17, especially at Wicomico, HP. Russell County **(COUNTY RECORD)**: 6/9/99, Cooper Creek, TM.

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