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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 (WEBSITE: www.southernlepsoc.org/)

J. BARRY LOMBARDINI: EDITOR

REPORT OF AN UNUSUAL ARCTIID CATCH IN ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA BY DALE H. HABECK

After several years of running a blacklight in my side yard overlooking Payne's Prairie, I had stopped checking the sheet every night because most of what showed up were the same common species I'd already collected. Imagine my surprise at about 10 pm on the night of November 5, 1989, when I happened to walk out in the yard and see a large pericopine arctiid I hadn't seen before. It was right in the middle sheet standing out like a sore thumb because of the size (wingspan 5.8 cm) and shape of the wings. As usual for moths I collect, it was kept it in a container overnight and the next day in order to obtain eggs for rearing larvae. No eggs were found in the container – no wonder, since it was a male. After the specimen was pinned, I checked in Seitz, Druce, and all the usual references but found no match.



Hypocrita escuintla (Schaus), dorsal view (left), ventral view (right). Florida: Alachua Co. US 441 S. Edge of Payne's Prairie, Edgecliff Subdivision, 5.xi.1989 D.H. Habeck

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The determination came from Cristina Bailey Monzón of the Universidad del Valle de Guatemala who found a specimen of *Hypocrita* (*Eucyane*) escuintla (Schaus) in the Arthropod collection of the Laboratorio de Entomología Sistemática which was similar to this Florida specimen. The original description by Schaus (1920) is based on the male type (USNM No. 22448) from Escuintla, Guatemala. Watson and Goodger (1986) list 38 species of *Hypocrita* Hübner from the neotropics, both *H. escuintla* and *H. celina* Boisduval from Guatemala, but with only the latter of the two species (female) illustrated. The aforementioned illustration is also very similar to the Florida specimen. One undetermined female from Mexico in the FSCA collection at the McGuire Center, MGCL (Chiapas, Las Delicias, July1969, T. Escalante) also appears to be the same species as the Florida specimen.

There have been no additional sightings of this moth in Florida in subsequent years. Just how this neotropical species ended up at my light is still a mystery, but if you are planning a trip to Guatemala, keep an eye out for this impressive moth. It is probably a day-flier like most pericopines. In any case, get off the sofa, turn off the TV, and go check that light. You just never know what might be out there.

Acknowledgements

I thank Anna Cristina Bailey Monzón for the determination, Lyle Buss, UF Dept. Entomology/Nematology for taking the photographs, and Debbie Matthews Lott for assistance in preparing this report.

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NEW MOON DATES - 2007

April 17	July 14	October 11	
May 16	August 12	November 9	
June 15	September 11	December 9	

IMPROVED SLS LOGO

Thanks go to Debbie Lott for the improved version of the SLS logo.

MESSAGE FROM OUR WEBMASTER - DAVE MORGAN

Do you have something you would like to submit to include on the SLS web site?

Perhaps you have a last-minute field trip announcement that didn't make the SLS News, or maybe a short article or survey that would interest SLS members, or even just a great photograph of a moth that you would like to share?

Go to the official SLS site (http://www.southernlepsoc.org) and click the "submissions" link at the bottom of the page. Not only can you submit items for the site, but you can also submit articles for the SLS News and submit records to the state coordinators.

The Southern Lepidopterists' Society

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The Southern Lepidopterists' Society is open to anyone with an interest in the Lepidoptera of the southern region of the United States. Annual membership dues:

Regular	\$20.00			
Student	\$15.00			
Sustaining	\$30.00			
Contributor	\$50.00			
Benefactor	\$70.00			

A newsletter, The News of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society is published four times annually.

Information about the Society may be obtained from the Membership Coordinator or the Society Website: www.southernlepsoc.org/

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DEFINITION: *Crepuscular* - A term used to describe animals that are primarily active during the twilight. The word derives from the Middle English and French word *crepuscule*, meaning "*twilight*". *Crepuscular* is thus in contrast with diurnal and nocturnal. *Crepuscular* animals may also be active on a bright moonlit night. Many animals that are casually described as nocturnal are in fact *crepuscular*. Within the definition of *crepuscular* are the terms **matinal** (or "*matutinal*") and **vespertine**, denoting animals active in the morning (dawn) and evening (dusk), respectively.

The patterns of activity are thought to represent a response to selection from predators. Many predators forage most intensely at night, while others are active at mid-day and see best in full sun. Thus the *crepuscular* habit may reduce predation. Additionally, in hot areas, it may be a way of avoiding thermal stress while capitalizing on available light.

(From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia)

GHOST MONARCHS IN THE FOG BY JUNE & FLOYD PRESTON

On October 17, 2006, we witnessed an unusual sight down in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. As we were driving east from Edinburgh, in Hidalgo Co. Texas, on Texas Highway 107, we ran into very low dense fog. The visibility was only about 15 feet and we pulled off the highway in Elsa. The air temperature was about 85 degrees F. We noticed numerous dark shapes, all heading toward the southwest, crossing the highway in front of us, from only a few feet above the ground to about 15 feet above the road. This was about as high as we could see. The previous day had temperatures in the mid to high 90 degree F. range and it was still warm but somewhat cooler today. We had hopes that the fog would dissipate as the day wore on, but it did not. We watched the Monarchs heading for Mexico for about half an hour and then went on east and a little way north to a collecting site in NW Cameron Co. It was still foggy but not quite as heavy as it was in Elsa. Despite the lack of sun there were numerous butterflies, all just sitting on the nectaring plants in the area.

(June & Floyd Preston, 832 Sunset Drive, Lawrence, KS 66044; E-Mail: <u>petlep@ku.edu</u>)

CAN YOU NAME THE AUTHOR OF THIS SHORT STORY?

Who is the author of the story from which the following excerpts were taken?

"DURING the dread reign of the Cholera in New York, I had accepted the invitation of a relative to spend a fortnight with him in the retirement of his cottage ornee on the banks of the Hudson...The fact is, that soon after my arrival at the cottage there had occurred to myself an incident so entirely inexplicable, and which had in it so much of the portentous character, that I might well have been excused for regarding it as an omen...

Near the close of exceedingly warm day, I was sitting, book in hand, at an open window, commanding, through a long vista of the river banks...As this creature first came in sight, I doubted my own sanity – or at least the evidence of my own eyes; and many minutes passed before I succeeded in convincing myself that I was neither mad nor in a dream. Estimating the size of the creature by comparison with the diameter of the large trees near which it passed – the few giants of the forest which had escaped the fury of the land-slide – I concluded it to be far larger than any ship of the line in existence...

The mouth of the animal was situated at the extremity of a proboscis some sixty or seventy feet in length, and about as thick as the body of an ordinary elephant...The trunk was fashioned like a wedge with the apex to the earth. From it there were outspread two pairs of wings - each wing nearly one hundred yards in length – one pair being placed above the other, and all thickly covered with metal scales; each scale apparently some ten or twelve feet in diameter...

But the chief peculiarity of this horrible thing was the representation of a Death's Head, which covered nearly the whole surface of its breast, and which was as accurately traced in glaring white, upon the dark ground of the body, as if it had been there carefully designed by an artist. While I regarded the terrific animal, and more especially the appearance on its breast, with a feeling or horror and awe – with a sentiment of forthcoming evil, which I found it impossible to quell by any effort of the reason, I perceived the huge jaws at the extremity of the proboscis suddenly expand themselves...

Upon recovering, my first impulse, of course, was to inform my friend of what I had seen and heard... 'But for your exceeding minuteness,' he said, 'in describing the monster, I might never have had it in my power to demonstrate to you what it was. In the first place, let me read to you a schoolboy account of the genus Sphinx, of the family Crepuscularia of the order Lepidoptera, of the class of Insecta – or insects. The account runs thus:...'"

SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY 2006 SURVEY OF LEPIDOPTERA: OSCEOLA NATIONAL FOREST, FLORIDA BY MARC C. MINNO

The Southern Lepidopterists' Society (SLS) held two field meetings at the Osceola National Forest during 2006 in order to survey for butterflies and moths. This forest contains vast tracts of land, mostly pine flatwoods uplands interspersed with forested wetlands, and this region has been little explored entomologically. Mr. George Foley, District Ranger, provided a permit (letter file code 2600) allowing members to collect specimens.

Spring surveys were conducted on March 24-26, 2006, by Julietta Brambila, Tom Neal, Marc Minno, and Amy Wright (see Southern Lepidopterists' News vol. 28, No. 2, p. 53). The weather was sunny, but cold. Carolina Willow (*Salix caroliniana*) and Purple Thistle (*Cirsium horridulum*) were the main flowers attractive to butterflies. Tom Neal briefly used his mercury vapor light and a sheet to collect moths, but neighboring campers soon disconnected the electricity, and that was that. However, the next morning we did find a few moths that had been attracted to incandescent lights around the restrooms and entrance kiosk, although overnight temperatures were near freezing. Amy Wright also made some extra trips to look for butterflies in the forest in March and April.

On September 22-24, 2006, the Southern Lepidopterists' Society (SLS) again searched for butterflies and moths in the Osceola National Forest. Attending were Robert Beiriger, Marc Minno, Tom Neal and family, and Amy Wright (Figure 1). Flowers attractive to butterflies included Groundnut (*Apios americana*), Spanish Needles (*Bidens alba*), Hairy Chaffhead (*Carphephorus paniculatus*), Poor Joe (*Diodia teres*), Smooth Elephantsfoot (*Elephantopus nudatus*), Tievine (*Ipomoea cordatotriloba*), Carolina Redroot (*Lachnanthes carolinana*), and Pickerelweed (*Pontederia cordata*).

The best finds were Aaron's Skipper (*Poanes aaroni*) along the northern shore of Ocean Pond in the campground, as well as Palmetto Skipper (*Euphyes arpa*) and Dion Skipper (*Euphyes dion*) that were visiting the flowers of Carolina Redroot. Robert Beiriger used a few light traps and Tom Neal set up a sheet and mercury vapor light in the campground, but moth diversity at the lights was low. The noctuid migrants, *Anticarsia gemmatilis* and *Ancla infecta* were very abundant, however.

At least 23 sites in Osceola National Forest were surveyed for Lepidoptera (Table 1); six in Baker County and 17 in Columbia County, Florida. A total of 46 species of butterflies and 30 species of moths were found by SLS in Osceola National Forest in 2006 (Table 2 and 3).

Table 1. Osceola National Forest Lepidoptera survey sites in 2006.

Baker County:

- 1. Ocean Pond Campground, March 25, 26, April 2, Sept 23, 24, 2006.
- 2. East end of FR 232, Sept 23, 2006.
- 3. FR-235 north of junction with FR232, Sept 23, 2006.
- 4. FR-200 about 1 mile west of FR-235, March 26, Sept 23, 2006.
- 5. FR-200 at Gum Swamp Creek, Sept 23, 2006.
- 6. Olustee Battlefield Historic State Park, April 2, 2006.

Columbia County:

- 7. FR-215 at Railroad Tracks, March 25, April 23, Sept 24 2006.
- 8. FR-215 about 1 mile north of US-90, March 25, 2006.
- 9. FR-215 at FR-278, March 25, 2006.
- 10. FR-215 about 1/4 mile north of FSR-216 at small stream, March 25, 2006.
- 11. FR-215 at FR-250, March 25, 2006.
- 12. FR-215 at Florida Trail Crossing, March 25, 2006.
- 13. FR-234 at FR-233, March 25, 2006.
- 14. FR-234 at Deep Creek, March 25, 2006.

- 15. FR-272 at Sandhill Campground, March 25, 2006.
- 16. FR-232 just south of FR-214, March 25, 2006.
- 17. FR-262 about 1 mile west of FR-232.
- 18. FR-232 at stream crossing, Sept 23, 2006.
- 19. FR-232 north of junction with FR-233, Sept 23, 2006.
- 20. FR-234 near junction with FR-262, Sept 23, 2006.
- 21. FR-215 at FR-216, April 29, 2006.
- 22. FR-215 between US-90 and FR-216, April 29, 2006.
- 23. SR-250 1/4 mile west of FR-233, Sept 23, 2006.

Table 2. Butterflies found in Osceola National Forest during 2006. Dates observed are in parentheses (monthday).

Hesperiidae: Pyrginae

Epargyreus clarus (Cramer) Site 1 (4-2, 9-24) Erynnis horatius (Scudder & Burgess) Site 1 (9-23, 24), 15 (3-25) Erynnis juvenalis (Fabricius) Site 14 (3-25) Erynnis zarucco (Lucas) Site 1 (9-23, 24), 7 (3-25), 19 (9-23) Pyrgus oileus (Linnaeus) Site 1 (9-24) Thorybes confusis Bell Site 1 (9-23) Urbanus proteus (Linnaeus) Site 1 (9-23, 24), 2 (9-23), 3 (9-23), 7 (4-23, 9-24)

Hesperiidae: Hesperiinae

Anatrytone logan (W. H. Edwards) Site 1 (9-24), 3 (9-23), 21 (4-29) Ancyloxypha numitor (Fabricius) Site 18 (9-23) Euphyes arpa (Boisduval & Le Conte) Site 3 (9-23) Euphyes dion (W. H. Edwards) Site 2, (9-23), 18 (9-23) Hylephila phyleus (Drury) Site 1 (9-23, 24), 2 (9-23), 7 (3-25, 9-24) Lerema accius (J. E. Smith) Site 1 (9-23, 24), 3 (9-23), 7 (9-24) Lerodea eufala (W. H. Edwards) Site 1 (9-24), 2 (9-23), 3 (9-23), 18 (9-23) Oligoria maculata (W. H. Edwards) Site 1 (9-23), 7 (4-23, 9-24), 20 (9-23) Panoquina ocola (W. H. Edwards) Site 1 (9-23, 24), 2 (9-23), 5 (9-23), 7 (9-24) Poanes aaroni (Skinner) Site 1 (9-23, 24) Polites themistocles (Latreille) Site 1 (9-24), 20 (9-23)

Polites vibex (Geyer) Site 1 (9-23, 24), 7 (3-25), 18 (9-23) Wallengrenia otho (J. E. Smith) Site 1 (9-23, 24), 2 (9-23), 3 (9-23), 7 (9-24), 18 (9-23), 19 (9-23), 20 (9-23)

Papilionidae

Eurytides marcellus floridensis (Holland) Site 1 (4-2), 4 (3-26), 6 (4-2), 7 (4-23), 12 (3-25), 13 (3-25), 15 (3-25), Papilio polyxenes asterius Stoll Site 1 (9-24), 2 (9-23-larva), 7 (3-25, 4-23) Pterourus glaucus australis (Maynard) Site 1 (4-2, 9-23, 24), 2 (9-23), 6 (4-2), 7 (4-23, 9-24), 8 (3-25), 14 (3-25), 15 (3-25) Pterourus palamedes (Drury) Site 1 (3-25, 4-2, 9-23), 2 (9-23), 3 (9-23), 4 (3-26), 6 (4-2), 7 (4-23), 9-24), 8 (3-25), 9 (3-25), 11 (3-25), 14 (3-25), 15 (3-25), 18 (9-23) Pterourus troilus (Linnaeus) Site 1 (3-26, 4-2), 2 (9-23), 6 (4-2), 7 (3-25, 4-23, 9-24), 8 (3-25), 9 (3-25), 10 (3-25), 14 (3-25), 15 (3-25)

Pieridae: Coeliadinae Eurema daira (Godart) Site FR-263 (4-2) Eurema lisa (Boisduval and Le Conte) Site 19 (9-23), 22 (4-29) Eurema nicippe (Cramer) Site 1 (9-23, 24), 4 (9-23), 5 (9-23), 7 (9-24), 17 (9-23), 18 (9-23), 19 (9-23) Phoebis sennae eubule (Linnaeus) Site 1 (4-2, 9-23, 24), 2 (9-23), 3 (9-23), 5 (9-23), 7 (9-24), 13 (3-25), 18 (9-23), 20 (9-23), FR-263 (4-2)

Atlides halesus (Cramer) Site 2 (9-23) Calycopis cecrops (Fabricius) Site 1 (4-2, 9-23, 24), 7 (3-25, 9-24), 13 (3-25), 14 (3-25) Incisalia henrici (Grote & Robinson) Site 10 (3-25) Parrhasius —album (Boisduval & Le Conte) Site 1 (9-23) Strymon melinus Hübner Site 3 (9-23), 4 (9-23), 18 (9-23), 22 (4-29)

Lycaenidae: Polyommatinae

Hemiargus ceraunus antibubastus Hübner Site 1 (9-24)

Nymphalidae: Danainae

Danaus plexippus (Linnaeus) Site 1 (4-2)

Nymphalidae: Heliconiinae

Agraulis vanillae nigrior Michener Site 1 (9-23, 24), 2 (9-23), 3 (9-23), 4 (9-23), 5 (9-23), 7 (4-23, 9-24), 17 (9-23), 18 (9-23), 19 (9-23), 20 (9-23) Heliconius charitonia tuckerorum Comstock & Brown Site 1 (4-2), 5 (9-23), 7 (9-24)

Nymphalidae: Limenitidinae

Basilarchia archippus floridensis (Strecker) Site 1 (9-24), 7 (4-23)

Nymphalidae: Nymphalinae

Junonia coenia (Hübner) Site 1 (4-2), 2 (9-23), 3 (9-23), 7 (3-25), 14 (3-25), 18 (9-23) Phyciodes phaon (W. H. Edwards) Sites1 (4-2), 7 (3-25), 10 (3-25), 16 (3-25) Phyciodes tharos (Drury) Site 1 (4-2), 8 (3-25), 16 (3-25), 17 (9-23) Vanessa atalanta rubria (Fruhstorfer) Site 1 (3-26), 16 (3-25), FR-263 (4-2) Vanessa virginiensis Drury Sites 1 (4-2), 7 (3-25)

Nymphalidae: Satyrinae

Hermeuptychia sosybius (Fabricius) Site 1 (3-25, 26, 4-2, 9-23), 7 (3-25), 13 (3-25), 14 (3-25), 15 (3-25), 16 (3-25), 17 (9-23) Megisto cymela viola (Maynard) Site 1 (4-2)

Table 3. Moths found in Osceola National Forest during 2006. All were attracted to lights except where noted.

Apatelodidae:

Apatelodes torrefacta (J. E. Smith) Site 23 (9-23)

Arctiidae: Arctiinae

Grammia phyllira (Drury) Site 23 (9-23) Hypercompe scribonia (Stoll) Site 1 (3-25) Spilosoma virginica (Fabricius) Site 1 (3-25) Utetheisa bella (Linnaeus) Site 2 (9-23), 4 (9-23) - Day-flying

Arctiidae: Lithosiinae

Hypoprepia miniata mississippiensis Barnes & McDunnough Site 1 (3-25)

Geometridae: Ennominae

Cleora sublunaria (Guenée) Site 1 (3-25) Ectropis crepuscularia (Denis & Schiffermüller) Site 1 (3-25) Epimecis hortaria (Fabricius) Site 1 (3-25) Glenoides texanaria (Hulst) Site 1 (3-25) Metarranthis obfirmaria Hübner Site 7 (3-25) – Day-flying

Noctuidae: Acronictinae Polygrammate hebraeicum Hübner Site 1 (9-23)

Noctuidae: Catocalinae Anticarsia gemmatalis Hübner Site 23 (9-23)

Argyrostrotis quadrifilaris (Hübner) Site 12 (3-25) – Day-flying Euclidia cuspidea (Hübner) Site 1 (4-2)

Noctuidae: Heliothinae Heliothis virescens (Fabricius) Site 23 (9-23) Schinia trifascia Hübner Site 23 (9-23)

Noctuidae: Noctuinae Anicla infecta (Ochsenheimer) Site 1 (9-23)

Noctuidae: Plusiinae Argyrogramma verruca (Fabricius) Site 22 (9-23) Exyra species Site 15 (3-25 larvae in Sarracenia minor leaves) Pseudoplusia includens (Walker) Site 1 (9-23)

Saturniidae: Ceratocampinae Dryocampa rubicunda (Fabricius) Site 1(3-25), 23 (9-23) Eacles imperialis (Drury) Site 23 (9-23)

Saturniidae: Hemileucinae

Automeris io (Fabricius) Site 23 (9-23)

Saturniidae: Saturniinae

Actias luna (Linnaeus) Site 1 (3-25) Antheraea polyphemus (Cramer) Site 14 (3-25 cocoon on Acer rubrum), 15 (3-25 cocoon on Myrica cerifera)

Sphingidae: Macroglossinae

Amphion floridensis B. P. Clark Site 8 (3-25) - Day-flying Darapsa myron (Cramer) Site 22 (9-23) Deidamia inscripta (Harris) Site 1 (3-25)

Sphingidae: Sphinginae Dolba hyloeus (Drury) Site 23 (9-23)

(Marc C. Minno, 600 NW 35 Terrce, Gainesville, FL 32607; E-Mail: mminno@bellsouth.lnet)

(Please see page 9 for photographs that accompany this article by Marc Minno.)

NEW MEMBERS

The Southern Lepidopterists' Society extends a warm welcome to the following new members:

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ANSWER: CAN YOU NAME THE AUTHOR OF THIS SHORT STORY?

The story is "The Sphinx" by Edgar Allen Poe - written in 1850.



Fig. 1. People and butterflies at Osceola National Forest, September 2006. A) An Agaulis vanillae caught by a crab spider on Elephantopus nudatus. B) Euphyes arpa. C) Robert Beiriger ready for the field. D) Thorybes confusis. E) Amy Wright with pieces of her car that fell off. F) Tom, Ada, Sammy, and Megan Neal. G) Panoquina ocola killed by a crab spider on Redroot. H) Marc Minno looking for Poanes aaroni on the north shore of Ocean Pond.

(Photographs accompany article by Marc Minno starting on page 5.)

FEBRUARY IS TRANSITION TIME FOR SOUTH TEXAS BUTTERFLIES BY ROLAND WAUER

My Victoria, Texas, yard produced only 28 butterfly species in February 2007. Most of the days were cold and windy. Only Gray Hairstreak (*Strymon melinus*) and American Snout (*Libytheana carinenta*) were found with regularity, although by mid-month Pipevine Swallowtail (*Battus philenor*), Cloudless Sulphur (*Phoebis sennae*), Funereal Duskywing (*Erynnis funeralis*), and Common/White Checkered-Skipper (*Pyrgus communis/albescens*) were also recorded on most days.

The additional 22 February species, including Black Swallowtail (*Papilio polyxenes*), Orange Sulphur (*Colias eurytheme*), Southern Dogface (*Zerene cesonia*), Large Orange Sulphur (*Phoebis agarithe*), Lyside Sulphur (*Kricogonia lyside*), Little Yellow (*Pyrisitia lisa*), Sleepy Orange (*Abaeis nicippe*), Dainty Sulphur (*Nathalis iole*), Mallow Scrub-Hairstreak (*Strymon istapa*), Dusky-blue Groundstreak (*Calycopis isobeon*), Gulf Fritillary (*Agraulis vanillae*), Texan Crescent (*Anthanassa texana*), Vesta and Phoan crescents (*Phyciodes graphica & P. phaon*), American Lady (*Vanessa virginiensis*), Goatweed Leafwing (*Anaea andria*), Gemmed Satyr (*Cyllopsis gemma*), White-striped Longtail (*Chioides albofasciatus*), Horace's Duskywing (*Erynnis horatius*), Tropical Checkered-Skipper (*Pyrgus oileus*), Sachem (*Atalopedes campestris*), and Eufala Skipper (*Lerodea eufala*), were found only once or a few times and primarily after mid-month.

Although my yard contains a wide variety of plants that were planted to attract butterflies, only a few were flowering in February, and the three that provided the most numerous flowers – non-native Little-leaf Viburnum (*Viburnum obovatum*) and native Agarita (*Berberis trifoliolata*) and Boneset (*Eupatorium azureum*) – did not flower until mid-month. One- or two-night freezes had seriously impacted the other flowering shrubs, such as Mexican heather (*Cuphea hyssopifolia*) and lantanas (*Lantana* sp.), in January.

The 28 species found in February 2007 were only one-half of what I have recorded during the month of February since 1999, and assumedly because of the colder than normal conditions a few species usually commonplace at least by mid-February were missing all together. Examples include Red Admiral (*Vanessa atalanta*), Pearl Crescent (*Phyciodes tharos*), Carolina Satyr (*Hermeuptychia sosybius*), Clouded Skipper (*Lerema accius*), and Fiery Skipper (*Hylephila phyleus*). And the two early spring species – Falcate Orangetip (*Anthocharis midea*) and Henry's Elfin (*Callophyrys henrici*) – did not appear in 2007 until March 6.

Some species sometimes found in February are those that have managed to survive through mild days in December and January, such as Giant Swallowtail (*Papilio cresphontes*), Common Mestra (*Mestra amymone*), Turk's-cap White-Skipper (*Heliopetes macaira*), and Whirlabout (*Polites vibex*), but during colder periods do not appear until March. None of these lingerers were found in 2007.

So much of what occurs in my yard in February is directly related to temperatures in December and January. For instance, because of mild days in 2006, 2005, 2004, 2002, and 2000, February yard butterflies included 51 species in 2006, 28 in 2005, 24 in 2004, 33 in 2002, and 31 in 2000. The colder than normal December-January period in 2003 produced only 14 February species, 18 in 2001, and 17 in 1999.

In a sense, normal February days in South Texas are a transition period between the low butterfly numbers in January – a total of 50 yard species since 1999 – and an increase to 68 in March, 82 in April, 82 in May, 86 in June, 76 in July, 73 in August, 77 in September, 76 in October, 76 in November, and 66 in December.

However, the secret of finding a yard full of butterflies is to provide a reason for them to remain, whether that includes larval foodplants or nectar producing plants that attract the butterflies, including those that are simply passing through, and encourage them to stay a while.

(Photographs on next page.)

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Henry's Elfin

Pipevine Swallowtail, male



Cloudless Sulphur, female Gray Hairstreak Roland "Ro" Wauer, 315 Padre Lane, Victoria, TX 77905; E-Mail: lwauer@viptx.net)



Winter scenes from Lubbock, Texas (January 15, 2007). Certainly glad that Spring is fast approaching.

CATOCALA ORBA KUSNEZOV, 1903, IN LOUISIANA BY

VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR.

The moth (Fig. (200) US: and Sarge orba south Cath Edwa Sarge com (Cath

Fig. 2. Catocala orba: male.

The medium-sized underwing moth Catocala orba Kusnezov (Fig. 1) is listed by Heppner (2003) to occur in the southeast US: South Carolina to Florida and Arkansas to Texas. Sargent (1976) inferred that orba Kusnezov may represent a southwestern subspecies (of Catocala miranda Hy. Edwards). The inside cover of Sargent's book states it is a complete survey of the (Catocala) species of eastern North America, yet this is one of numerous species of Catocala

of the southern US not addressed or not fully understood by this author.



4.2 mi. NE of Abita Springs, Louisiana. n = 71.

with adults occurring over a six to seven week period (Fig. 3).

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DEFINITION: Chorion - In insects the chorion is the outer shell of the insect egg. In mammals the outermost of the two membranes that completely envelop a fetus. Also called serosa.



Fig. 2. Parish records by this author.

Regarding *orba*, it appears that Sargent simply restated what was assumed 58 years earlier by Barnes and McDunnough (1918) "closely allied to *miranda* Hy. Edwards and may prove ...to be merely a race of this species". Covell (1984) listed *orba* from S. Carolina to Florida to Texas.

In Louisiana, *orba* has been taken in two parishes (Fig. 2). As with many Louisiana species of *Catocala*, *orba's* flight period peaks in mid May

Knudson and Bordelon (1999) lists orba from

SPOTLIGHT ON REARING: *PAPILIO PALAMEDES* DRURY IN LOUISIANA BY VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR.



Fig. 1. Papilio palamedes Drury: a. male, b. female.

The large swallowtail butterfly Papilio palamedes Drury (Fig. 1, 4) was first reported in Louisiana by von Reizenstein (1863), and subsequently by Rothschild & Jordan (1906). More recently, Jung (1950), Lambremont (1954) and Ross & Lambremont (1963) reported it. Lambremont (1954) stated palamedes "is a rather rare insect in Louisiana". Despite this statement, it is the most common Papilio at the Abita Springs, St. Tammany Parish study site. Nearly all of the specimens recorded here (Fig. 2) were captured by hand net with the exception of 40-50 specimens captured in ultraviolet light traps. Though a significant number of specimens are recorded here, I have found it exceedingly difficult to find sufficient time to consistently and accurately survey the adult flight periods throughout the years. Despite this, it is apparent that *palamedes* has three annual broods. The parish records are illustrated in Fig. 3.



Fig. 2. Papillio palamedes captured at sec. 24T6SR12E, 4.2 mi NE of Abita Springs, Louisiana. n = 1045.



Fig. 3. Parish records for P. palamedes.

No specimens of *palamedes* were reported by Brou (1974) among 607 butterflies taken in light traps at St John the Baptist Parish, though *palamedes* were occasional visitors there.

I have successfully reared *palamedes* numerous times over the years by enclosing wild captured females within a polyester fabric bag tied over a branch of the food plant *Persea palustris* (Raf.) commonly known as Swampbay, a small tree, quite abundant at the Abita Springs site. Brown (1945) reported *palustris* to be abundant in the swamps of eastern Louisiana. Within a few weeks larvae can be found in the bag feeding voraciously. The various stages of the maturing larvae are illustrated in Fig. 4. Unprotected larvae at this location are quite susceptible to infestation by a tiny metallic blue parasitic wasp, with as many as 20 wasp emerging from a single infested pupae. Heppner (2003) lists the range of *palamedes* to be Southeast US: Delaware to Florida and Missouri to Texas in all 12 months.



Fig. 4. *Papilio palamedes* larvae: a, b, c, early instar; d, e. mid instar; f. mature larvae; g. color change in preparation for pupal state; h. prepupal state; j, k, m. Green and brown pupae.

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THE BEAN LEAF ROLLER, URBANUS PROTEUS (LINN.) (LEPIDOPTERA: HESPERIIDAE) ON EDIBLE LEGUMES IN SOUTH FLORIDA BY

ROBERT BEIRIGER



Fig. 1. Urbanus proteus.

Abstract: Urbanus proteus is a minor pest of edible Legumes in South Florida where it causes light foliar damage to Vigna sp., Phaseolus sp. and Cajanus sp. Damage is most often seen in the late spring, summer and early fall and is confined mainly to field edges. Larvae feed only on the leaves and pesticide treatments rarely are necessary.

Urbanus proteus, the long tailed skipper, is easily identified by it large size, prominent tails and bright, bluish green basal wing color (Fig. 1). This skipper is also known as the Bean Leaf Roller in Florida. It has been given this name due to its habit of feeding on edible legumes in production fields and in home gardens. It is found throughout Florida, the Southern U.S. and Central and South America. Known hosts include *Desmodium* sp., *Galactia* sp. (Minno and Emmel, 1993), various cultivated and native legumes including Vigna sp., and *Phaseolus semierectus* (Smith *et al.*, 1994), *Clitoria* sp., *Bauhinia* sp., *Ampicarpa bracteata*, *Glycine max*, *Phaseolus* sp., *Prosopis juliflora* var. *torreyana*, *Pisum sativum*, and

Wisteria frutescens (Scott 1986). Phaseolus semierectus listed in Smith et al., is not a valid species name and they probably meant Phaseolus vulgar, the common snap or bush bean.

In South Florida, the Bean Leaf Roller will feed on a number of annual and perennial, warm season legumes including *Vigna unguiculat* var. *sesquipedalis*, the yard-long bean or asparagus bean, *Vigna unguiculata*, blackeyed peas and crowder peas, *Phaseolus vulgaris* common beans or green snap beans and *Cajanus cajan*, pigeon pea. Several other species of edible legumes could serve as host including Scarlet runner beans *Phaseolus coccineus* and Mung bean *Vigna radiata*, but I have yet to see this skipper feeding on them probably due to the limited production of these beans in Florida. Even though the Bean Leaf Roller has a large host range, and is reported to feed on various edible annual legumes, namely the genera *Phaseolus* and *Vigna*, little is reported on its damage to perennial edible legumes, mainly *Cajanus* sp. in South Florida. This article is an attempt to report my observations on the Bean Leaf Roller's life-cycle and damage to annual and perennial edible legumes in South Florida.

The life cycle starts when the female lays three to seven eggs singly about 1/3 to $\frac{1}{2}$ inches apart near the leaf edge. Usually, *Phaseolus* sp. and *Vigna* sp. are in the 3 to 5 trifoliate leaf stage before eggs are laid on them, while *Cajanus* sp. tend to have eggs laid on them anytime they are actively growing. In large bean fields, egg laying is mainly confined within 20 to 30 feet of the field edges and adults seem to lay eggs at the first opportunity and do not attempt to lay eggs throughout the field. The eggs hatch in 5 to 7 days depending on temperature and the larvae start feeding on the edge of the leaf by cutting a small area of the leaf almost free and folding it over. This forms a protective *"shell"* or *"nest"* for the larva (Fig. 2). Due to the difference in color between the upper and lower bean leaf surfaces

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of most legumes, folding over the leaf can make the young larvae very conspicuous. Larvae hide in the leaf "nest" during daylight hours and feed on leaves around the "nest" at night. The small larvae are light yellow-green with a very large brownish-black head capsule.



Fig. 2. Protective "shells" or "nests" for the larvae.



Fig. 3. Protective cover increases in size with age of the larva.



Fig. 4. Urbanus proteus, larva.

As the larvae increase in size, so does the size of the leaf section they need for cover (Fig. 3). Medium sized larvae usually roll one leaf partially over themselves on a larger leafed legume, but on small leafed species, may need two leaves to make a nest. Larger larvae will attach two leaves and some times three leaves together depending on leaf size. The larger larvae are much harder to find due to this behavior. The leaf "nests" are held in place by silken threads spun by the larvae and are quickly repaired when damaged. Medium and large larvae are a light, molted olive green with two yellow strips running down their sides that turns to orange on the last two abdominal segments. The head capsule is black with a red spot along the lower edge and the prothoracic plate or shield is orange-red with a dark line posterior (Fig. 4).

Rarely are high numbers of large, Bean Leaf Roller larvae seen. Larvae seem to be very susceptible to natural occurring viruses, bacteria and wasp predation. In feeding studies with my chickens, Bean Leaf Roller larvae were picked at but not eaten. They apparently have a bad taste and bird predation appears not be a problem. This may explain why some Bean Leaf Roller larvae can be found exposed on bean leaves during the day.

Pupation occurs in the leaf nest. The pupa is brown with white covering of scales. These scales also cover the inside of the leaf nest. Most adults emerge in 10 to 21 days depending on the temperature in South Florida. All larvae of this skipper that I have reared, even late in the fall, emerged and did not diapause. Adults are on the wing all year long in South Florida; however, I have only seen damage to legumes from March to November. Whether the Bean Leaf Roller continues to feed on edible legumes in very low levels and is not detected, switches to an alternate host during the winter, or has part of the population in diapause, has yet to be determined.

Damage caused by the Bean Leaf Roller is limited to the leaves of the bean plant and pod feeding was never seen. Legumes are able to withstand a great deal of foliar feeding before yield is affected. In many back-yard gardens and production fields, this level is never reached, even on the field edges and no yield effects were seen. Once the legume plants are established, they appear to grow faster than the Bean Leaf Roller's ability to eat them. Due to the short cropping cycle of annual beans in Florida, there usually is only time for one generation per crop. On perennial legumes, multiple generations can occur per season, but damage is restricted to the new growth and older leaves were not affected. This allows the plant to continue

producing new leaves and outgrow the damage.

This fast growth habit of the legumes during the warm part of the year combined with the Bean Leaf Roller disease susceptibility and heavy wasp predation seem to prevent this skipper from becoming a major pest in South Florida.

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FIXSENIA ONTARIO (W. H. EDWARDS) IN LOUISIANA BY VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR.



Fig. 1. Fixsenia ontario, males (a-d): dorsal, a, b, ventral: c, d; females (e-h): dorsal, e, f, ventral, g, h.

The Lycaenid butterfly *Fixsenia ontario* (W.H. Edwards) (Fig. 1) was first reported in Louisiana by Lambremont (1954) who reported a single female captured in Orleans Parish in 1951. A second specimen was reported by Lambremont and Ross 1965 captured in East Baton Rouge Parish during 1964. *F. ontario* was not reported by Jung (1950) nor Brou (1974).

Howe (1975) states of *F. o. ontario* (W.H. Edwards) "There is no trace of the fulvous orange patch on the uppersides of this subspecies". This author also states regarding *Fixsenia ontario autolycus* (W.H. Edwards) "In its typical form this subspecies has large orange patches on the uppersides".



I n Fig. 2. *Fixsenia ontario* captured at sec. 24T6SR12E, 4.2 mi NE of Abita Springs, Louisiana. N = 309. sout

heast Louisiana the dorsal wing surfaces are mostly devoid of any orange patches as seen in (Fig. 1a and e). Less than 10% of my study site sample from the Abita Springs population had any dorsal orange coloring. Most of

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Fig. 3. All Known parish records.

these that do, exhibit very small to tiny patches of orange or reddish scales. Figs. (1b and f) are examples of the greatest amount of orange coloring on the dorsal wing surfaces and this pair were the only ones of the 309 specimens (Fig. 2), all captured at uv light traps, which exhibited these extremely large patches.

Heppner (2003) states the range of *ontario* to be New Jersey to Florida and Missouri to Texas. Harris (1972) discusses the presence of the dorsal orange patches in Georgia among the populations in that state. A single annual brood occurs in southeast Louisiana (Fig. 2). The old parish records and new ones by this author are shown in Fig. 3.

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VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!!!

The SLS Society is looking to fill several position including NEWSLETTER, ASSISTANT EDITOR, and TREASURER. Please let me know A.S.A.P if you can help!

Marc Minno, Chairman

SATYRIUM LIPAROPS (LECONTE, 1833) IN LOUISIANA BY VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR.



Fig. 1. Satyrium liparops (LeConte), dorsal view: a. male, c. female; ventral view: b. male, d. female.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
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Fig. 2. Satyrium liparops (LeConte) captured at sec. 24T6SR12E, 4.2 mi NE of Louisiana. n = 76.



Fig. 3. Parish records for S. liparops.

The Lycaenid butterfly *Satyrium liparops* (LeConte) (Fig. 1) was first reported for Louisiana by Lambremont (1954) who listed a single specimen of *liparops* from LaSalle Parish and subsequently by Ross & Lambremont (1963) who reported a second specimen from Desoto Parish, and by Lambremont & Ross (1965) who reported a third individual from Grant Parish. Lambremont and Ross considered *liparops* to be rare in the state and their three records were all listed as *liparops* with no mention of *Satyrium liparops strigosum* (Harris) or other subspecies.

Howe (1975) states regarding *strigosum*: "The orange-brown patches on the forewing upper side of liparops liparops are absent or nearly so on liparops strigosum and liparops liparops occurs in northern Florida and southern Georgia." Heppner (2003) states the range of *strigosum* to be eastern North America: Nova Scotia to Florida and Alberta to Texas.

I have captured 76 adult *liparops* at the Abita Springs study site in uv light traps (Fig. 2), and numerous others were observed at this location over the past 25 years. No specimens of *liparops* were previously reported by Brou (1973) in a listing of 28 species of butterflies taken in light traps in St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana, nor was *liparops* observed at that location. The new and old parish locations for *liparops* in Louisiana are illustrated in Fig. 3. Heitzman & Heitzman (1987) reported *strigosum* to be "*extremely rare and local*" in Missouri. Further discussion about *l. liparops* and *l. strigosum* is given by Harris (1972) who stated there is one brood occurring May-July in Georgia. Harris stated *strigosum* occurs widely over the state of Georgia and larval food plants to include: apple, azalea, blueberry, plum, shadbush and willow. He also briefly discusses the report by Knudson (1955) who reported

two final instar larvae found on wild azalea and that the larvae fed only on the flowers and not on the leaves. Several species of wild azalea (*Rhododendron*) are listed for Louisiana by Brown (1972).

Draudt (1920) states "Thecla liparops Bsd. (= strigosa Harr.) ... occurs in the North Atlantic States and the Rocky Mountains but no wheres common". The figure, accompanying Draudt's text in vol. 5 plate 154 of liparops is almost useless in determining the identity of this species.

Klots (1951) lists *l. liparops* as excessively rare and *l. strigosum* from Arkansas and Tennessee north to central Canada and *Satyrium liparops fletcheri* (Michener & dos Passos) (TL Manitoba).

A much more thorough and persuasive investigation of *liparops* was published by Gatrelle (2001). In this informative investigation, Gatrelle discusses the nominate *liparops*, the subspecies: *Satyrium liparops aliparops* (Michener and dos Passos), *fletcheri* and *strigosum*, and in the process gives rise to a fourth new subspecies *Satyrium liparops floridensis* Gatrelle. There is much discussion and supposition by all previous authors regarding the amount of orange, orange-brown, rust, fulvous and red occurring on the forewings and hindwings of the various subspecies (populations). Gatrelle discusses these in detail also, but includes other attributes in the big picture for *liparops*. What this means for Louisiana is that the *liparops* occurring here would be the nominate *l. liparops*, exhibiting "occasional to frequent fulvous forewing patch" as defined by Gatrelle (2001).

Of the 76 Louisiana specimens in my possession all are devoid of dorsal mid-forewing patches of any color except for two males, the most intense is illustrated in Fig. 1a, and no mid-hindwing patches were evident at all, though barely discernable scales of a reddish color are around the distal dark spot along the outer margin near the anal angle. Females had no forewing or hindwing patches of any significance, but in Fig. 1c, insignificant rusty scales are barely evident in the area of what would be a reniform spot and the same barely discernable scales of a redish color are around the distal dark spot and the same barely discernable scales of a redish color are around the distal dark spot on the hindwing along the outer margin near the anal angle. *Satyrium liparops* appears to have only one brood in southeast Louisiana with adults on the wing from late April to late June, flight period peaking in May.

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IMMEDIATE EFFECTS OF HURRICANE WILMA ON BUTTERFLIES OF BROWARD CO., FLORIDA BY DAVID FINE

For those of you who have had a direct hit by a hurricane, some of the things I am about to talk about will hit close to your heart. The 2004 Hurricane season was a very busy one with 4 Hurricanes effecting South Florida. My Parents house in Delray Beach, Palm Beach County, lost power for 9 days when Hurricane Frances hit on September 5th and for 7 days only a week and a half later with Hurricane Jeanne starting September 26th. These two storms were the 4th and 6th most costly hurricanes in US history causing 6.9 billion dollars with Jeanne and 8.9 billion dollars with Frances (www.usatoday.com/ weather/hurricane/history/hurricanescostliest.htm). Fortunately, we never lost our water as some did. We had terrible weather following the hurricanes, with 94 degree heat and 90+ percent humidity. This made not having electricity for air conditioning very difficult. After having very few hurricanes to seriously worry about for the last several years, it has become so that South Floridians have become hurricane "experts" in the last 15 months, if there is such a The 2005 season was no thing. different. It was a record breaking year with 28 named storms in the Atlantic Ocean alone. South Florida got nailed twice. Once by Katrina as only a category 1 storm and then again by Wilma which made land fall around Naples as a category 3 storm and blew straight across the state exiting into the Atlantic as a weak category 3 storm.

Floridians had lots of time to prepare for Wilma. You would never know it if you saw how many people were in the dark without flashlights or generators and were without food and water after only 2 days or hadn't taken the time to fill up their gas tanks for their cars and generators in the days preceding the storm. Many people neglected to put up hurricane shutters on their homes despite all of the hype the media had made before Wilma's landfall, despite all of the storms that we have been through in the past year. People simply don't learn and then, sadly have the gall to complain about the government's lack of aid only hours after Wilma's departure. Six million people were left without power in Collier, Monroe, Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, and Martin Counties, most of them without water and phones. These types of conditions make for unhappy days if you were not ready. Luckily, we had beautiful weather for the following 4 days with high temps in the mid 70's and lows at night in the mid 50's. Not having power was a "breeze" (literally and metaphorically) for a few days.

Although all gas stations were filled hours before the hurricane's landfall, very few had electricity to pump it. It was only select few stations that were set up with generators to pump gas that could offer it to the public. Those left without gas waited in lines stretching up to 3 miles long which took hours and hours to reach. Many people ran out of gas waiting in line long before reaching a pump. Butterfly World with its 40 some employees had a great turn out for those willing to help with cleanup the next day after the storm, but fewer and fewer were able to make it in as days went by because gas was simply not available. Many people drove as far as Ft. Pierce, Vero and even Orlando to find a decent gas line and some food to put in their coolers.

Seeing the damage done to trees, houses, cars, and other structures is quite a spectacle. While my family and that of my fiancé (presently my wife) faired well with minimal damage, a tree limb from an oak landed on her front windshield putting a good size crack in it and simply removing the driver's side rear-view mirror. Other than that, we really did pretty well. I had some trouble getting an asthma prescription that I was beginning to need days after the storm had left. All Walgreens were totally shut down until 3 days later and I couldn't get a hold of my Doctor. Thankfully, my boss, Ron Boender got on the phone and in 20 short minutes had located a Walgreens only a few miles from Butterfly World that would, with a little coaxing, fill my prescription even though they didn't have me in the system. To Ron, I give a huge THANK YOU!

Seeing about 50 percent of the trees in an area destroyed and an additional 45 percent beat up badly and all vegetation completely defoliated truly changes the way a place looks. The already tree-barren concrete jungle that we live in seemed all the more depressing while driving around the next few days, although after only 4 or 5 days most of these trees began pushing new growth. I stayed with my fiancé and her mother during the storm. She happens to live right down the street from Butterfly World. We left a small upstairs window un-boarded and while watching huge mahogany, oak and palm trees bend, break, and beat up as though they were little twigs, I couldn't help but wonder what the heck happens to the butterflies!



Damage in parent's backyard in Delray Beach.



Kenya having a blast with hurricane debris.



Mile long gas lines after storm.



Murray Morris chopping up a sweat treat.



My wife's cracked windshield.

We began to feel hurricane force winds on Monday, October 24th at about 8:30 a.m. The storm was traveling quite rapidly, and by 1:30 or so people begun to venture outside. Completely disregarding typical post-hurricane safety protocol, Noemi (my fiancé) and I hopped in the car and started driving to check on her family business, Butterfly World, and then up to Delray to see how my folks did. We arrived at La Bamba 2, the Molina family-owned Mexican restaurant at 2:30 to see how the restaurant did. There was little damage structurally and the entire un-boarded glass store front sustained no damage. She was concerned about the thousands of dollars of meat in the freezers but in the next few days they managed to sell off most of it by boiling thawed out chicken breasts, steaks, rice, and beans on gas stoves and selling generous portions of "take-out" for 5 dollars. A hot meal is invaluable when you have no power to cook.

While walking through the parking lot of the restaurant, the winds were still 35 miles per hour sustained with occasional gusts up near 60 or 70 mph. The skies were dreary and a light rain was still pelting you while walking down the street. At that time, the last thing that was on my mind was looking for butterflies, however, once a Lepidopterists, always a Lepidopterist! Even in hurricanes. While walking to the car, a familiar sight caught my eye. A small white butterfly battled the winds and crossed the parking lot right in front of me. It was Anartia jatrophae. I couldn't believe it! I, all of a sudden, felt a tug on my right arm. We were holding hands as we were walking and I apparently just stopped in awe. I think she was more interested in the restaurant and relaying the message of its condition to her Uncles.

It was now about 3:30 and we arrived at Trade Winds Park where

very large fallen trees were blocking the gates so we had to hop the fence and walk the half mile to Butterfly World premises. As I approached, I hardly recognized the place. A large white fence on the right hand side of the property that concealed Ron's rare plant collection and all of the Passiflora plants for the Heliconius cultures in the Butterfly World breeding facility were simply gone! The nursery was a disaster, as was the rest of the property. Although, amazingly, the structure of the aviaries and the breeding facility were not damaged at all!

We had to collect all of the butterflies and place them in containers inside the building on Sunday. It is an all day event involving all Butterfly World employees. Luckily, the facility retained its structural integrity and we were able to release the estimated 6,000 butterflies back into the flight aviaries on Tuesday. Much work had to be done for the following few days to ensure there survival. We brought 150 potted nectar plants inside before the storm so that the hungry adults would have something to eat when released. None of the planted nectar plants in the display had flowers after the 110+ mph winds came through so the potted plants were scattered throughout the aviaries on Tuesday.

We spent about an hour at Butterfly World assessing the damage done before leaving for my parents place in Delray. In that time, the weather improved considerably and actually gave surviving butterflies a chance to fly before the sun set. More Anartia jatrophae were observed along with Agraulis vanillae. The most impressive numbers of any species was surly Phoebis sennae. Seven adults were seen in this short time in the late afternoon. Two Phoebis philea showed up as well. The Anartia jatrophae and Agraulis vanillae were in somewhat decent

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condition with wings seemingly intact. Both Phoebis species appeared as though they had been through a hurricane having, in some cases, less than half of their original wing area. These individuals were able to fly remarkably well We saw Urbanus considering. proteus, Urbanus dorantes and Lerema accius as well. As we were leaving, I noticed a large black silhouette in the shadows on a wall in the front entrance of Butterfly World. It was an enormous Ascalapha odorata ("Black Witch") male. It apparently found its way under the awning to escape the winds.

From Butterfly World, we braved the already dangerous I-95 with danger now amplified by road debris, and journeyed the 22 miles to our house in Delray. I spoke with my father via cell phone an hour before and he had told me that I wouldn't even recognize the neighborhood. He was right. The amount of downed trees, torn roofs, and various forms of debris made for a very different "Bass Creek" than I had left Sunday afternoon. By 5:00 p.m., my father had already cranked up the generator and had brewed a third pot of coffee and had whipped up a batch of his world famous pancakes with the electric stove. Although I initially doubted that it was worth risking dangerous roads with no traffic lights and wasting 44 miles worth of gasoline, I suddenly felt assured that we had made the right choice! It was certainly worth the trip. After being fed pancakes and coffee, we felt much better about the journey! We lost a few of our very large trees and my sister got a decent scratch on her Pick-up truck, but other than that, no harm was done. My next door neighbor lost her entire screened in pool fixture as did many of our neighbors. I think the one creature that truly enjoys hurricanes is my German Shepard "Kenva". She loves playing with the downed tree limbs and other debris that has blown



Neighbor - Norma Katz's destroyed pool screen.



Specimens collected the day of Hurricane Wilma after the storm.



Noemi Fine taking in damage in front of Butterfly world in Florida.



Tattered *Phoebis philea* male seen at Butterfly world house after storm.

into the yard. In times of hurricanes, once ignored food sources become important, especially if they are not perishable. Murray Morris, my sister's boyfriend, found some ripe coconuts that had fallen from a neighbor's palm. He pealed away the fleshy covering and cracked open the hard shell inside and we had a pleasant treat that most South Floridians sadly never experience.

From there it was back to the town house in Coral Springs for a candle lit evening. I think one of the most incredible things I witnessed was the amount of stars you can see once all of South East Florida's electricity has been taken out. Growing up down here, a starry sky is something that we appreciate greatly when encountered. The hot water heater quickly ran out of hot water and a cold shower was next on my agenda. The worst problem I faced was keeping my frozen specimens fresh while the "cold" of the freezer quickly began to dissipate. After the first day, I transferred them to a cooler with ice but after the third day, the ice had melted and there was no more ice to be had within a 60 mile drive. At this point, my specimens began to rot so I took them out to allow them to dry out which was the last thing I wanted to do. It was only hours later that our power came on to our shock. Florida Power and Lights gave a report that in all of Palm Beach, Broward and Dade counties, there were a total of 6 traffic lights that were still operational after the storm! It took weeks before all the street lights and traffic lights were back up and running and many people went almost two weeks without power. We feel that because we are located next to a Publix and a school, our city block was some sort of priority which explains why we got power so quickly.

I made it a point to really keep an

eye out to see what the immediate effects of the Lepidoptera populations would be. Many species like Phoebis sennae and Phoebis philea seemed to not be phased at all. Anartia jatrophae populations remained strong as well as Leptotes cassius and Hemiargus ceraunus. Papilio cresphontes populations have struggled in recent years due to the eradication of virtually all citrus in our area because of the citrus canker scare so noticing hurricane effects on them was difficult. Skippers seem to do well. Cymaenes tripunctus, Lerema accius, Urbanus proteus, Urbanus dorantes, and Pyrgus oileus didn't loose a step in their stride. The one group that seemed to struggle for the next few months were the Heliconians. Heliconius charitonius populations plummeted and Dryas julia were almost impossible to find for a few months. Agraulis vanillae remained present but not in the numbers that they typically can be observed in.

This lack of zebra adults began to frighten various butterfly gardening groups. A few months after the storm there was a rather lengthy article in the newspaper implying that the zebra butterfly was in serious trouble. While adults could still be seen occasionally, the over all population clearly was suffering. It wasn't until I spoke with Steve O'Neil, a local butterfly breeder, that I understood the reason for the zebra's downward spiral. Steve spends a few hours every single day in various areas catering both to his wild egg laying stock as well as collecting food for his larvae. In many areas in the western parts of Broward County, there are hidden areas where Passiflora suberosa literally has infested an entire hammock covering the ground, and all of the bushes and trees as well. These local patches of vines hold an absolutely fantastic amount of Heliconius butterflies. You could stand in one place, never moving

your feet, and swing your net for hours and never even begin to put a dent in the number of butterflies that are present in such a small area. It is really impressive to visit these areas in the late afternoon to witness the zebras begin to roost for the evening. I have seen upwards of 1000 individuals roosting in an area about 1 square vard in size. Apparently, individuals return to the same roosting place each night. I was not aware that such places existed in nature until Steve was good enough to show me some of his secret spots one day.

Steve had grim news for me a month or so after the storm. He told me that his Heliconius stock had suffered dramatically as well as wild Danaus gilippus and Danaus eresimus. Ι asked him how the "honey hole" was. He told me that the high winds of the storm raked the plants completely clean of leaves, killing much of the large "mega-plants". These hammocks of Heliconius were reduced to a huge pile of twigs. Many plants quickly begin pushing out new growth only a few days after the storm, however, Passiflora suberosa apparently isn't as tolerant to that degree of shock. Ninety-nine percent of the organism dies leaving a skeleton hanging over the trees and bushes. This definitely would be devastating to larvae that feed upon the larger, more "meaty" leaves. While zebra larvae begin feeding on new meristem growth, by the third instar, they are able to consume just about any portion of a plant as long as it contains chlorophyll. They also feed gregariously in numbers up to twenty or thirty. These numbers of hungry larvae competing for the shreds of viable foliage makes survival for the zebra larva very I venture to say that difficult. probably the first of the larvae to hatch in an egg clutch would survive due to the fact that they may eat their younger siblings.

While the plant appears to be dead, the enormous root system lying beneath the ground remains alive and after a few weeks begins pushing out thousands of tiny shoots. This type of growth is perfect for Dryas julia and Agraulis vanillae. Larvae of both these species feed singly on a shoot, not competing with over a dozen siblings for food. The plant probably is able to grow fast enough that a single larva on a shoot will not eat itself "out of house and home". Coincidently, both of these species seemed to make a come-back before the zebra. Thousands of tiny shoots is the perfect situation for both the Julia and the Gulf Fritillary since their larvae do not eat older growth and while typically, these species do not compare by a long shot in numbers to the zebra, the following months after the storm showed about an equal number of all three species with the Gulf Fritillary edging the other two out by a small amount.

The good news is that a year or so after the storm had passed, the *Passiflora suberosa* plants have grown large enough to support zebras in the way they like to breed. We are now seeing a fairly healthy zebra population in South Florida. It is still not up to what it was before the storm but if it continues to grow at its current rate, the zebra will be in full swing again within a year's time. All other species do not seem to have suffered any long term population decline in Broward County.

The Keys were affected far less in recent storms than was the mainland although there was a strong tropical storm that crossed North Key Largo two years ago and I was curious to see what kind of damage would be done to the Lepidoptera populations on this small sliver of a piece of land. I have been conducting a moth survey in Crocodile Lake National Wildlife Refuge for the last three years, and although I have been spending less time there since getting married and I am certain even less time in the near future due to us finding out we are going to have a baby, my wife and I have managed to sneak down for some moth surveying recently. We have seen little to no affects on the moth and butterfly populations in North Key Largo.

I spent a day there in late December hoping to see Chlorostrymon maesites on the Eupitorium blooms. I did not see the little gem but was amazed at the number of other butterflies present. Chlorostrymon simaethis was common as well as dozens and dozens of Mangrove Skippers, Phocides pigmalion and an equal number of Hammock Skippers, Polygonus leo. Dryas julia was everywhere and Heliconius charitonia was also common. Papilio cresphontes, Leptotes cassius, Hemiargus ceraunus, Electrostrymon angelia, Phoebis agarithe, Phoebis sennae, Phoebis philea, Ascia monuste, Marpesia petreus, and Cymaenes tripunctus also made guest appearances. Another nice treat was to see Aellopos tantalus buzzing about the blooms sipping nectar. There are lots of downed tree limbs in the hammocks making maneuvering more difficult than normal and also made for a change of scenery. I have spent enough time in those hammocks that various trees were landmarks telling me where I was in the hammock, but after the little storm had broken up much of the vegetation, nothing looked the same any more. I didn't see any Eunica tatila on that trip as I have in recent others but it could be a seasonal lull.

I have witnessed some temporary setbacks in populations of South Florida's butterflies but am not convinced that these recent storms have been in any way detrimental to any particular species. In fact I have seen the contrary! It has been well documented that natural "disasters" like fires and hurricanes are

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absolutely crucial to the survival of not only various species of plants and animals in South Florida, but also to entire habitats. I am sure that the great immediately apparent devastation of the large patches of Passiflora suberosa in the Florida everglades is not devastating at all. I would imagine that this type of storm is God's way of "pruning". Now we see tons of young, healthy growth that is beneficial to all the Lepidopterans that feed upon it rather than a new shoot here and there and a mountain of tangled stems with old, unpalatable vegetation.

While South Florida has not seen a storm like the Hurricane Katrina that devastated the Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi coasts, these smaller storms serve a large role in the preservation of our South Floridian eco-systems. Even the great Hurricane Andrew, while considerably smaller in area it affected but about equal to Katrina in wind strength, blew through and devastated Southern Dade County, didn't get rid of many (if any) of our unique butterfly species. In fact, after these recent storms some new comers have appeared in Dade and Monroe Counties like Hamadryas amphichloe, Marpesia eleuchea, and Historis odius. Who knows what else has blown over from the Caribbean and is now colonized in South Florida waiting for someone to discover it! Coincidently enough, it was a few years after the eye of Hurricane Georges blasted Bahia Honda Key that the Miami Blue all of a sudden was discovered.

While some of South Florida's species did seemingly disappear after Hurricane Andrew and certainly some after the big freeze of 1988, these species that were knocked back are species that were migrants to Florida to begin with. South Florida certainly experiences a repeating scenario. A species will show up

from the Caribbean and establish, often thriving on a certain host plant that has been growing in prosperity due to there not being any Lepidopteran larva to defoliate it. They thrive for a while and then disappear just as quickly as they showed up in the first place. I have experienced this first hand. When I began seriously collecting Leps in 1997, I asked everybody where to get this and where to get that. The answer was the same. "We used to get them abundantly in this area or that but nobody has seen them in a few years." So I would scour South Florida hoping to see little gems like either of the Chlorostrymon species, Cyclargus thomasi, Epargyreus zestos, Papilio androgeus, Papilio andraemon, Kricogonia lyside, Eurema nise, Tmolus azia, Eresia frisia, Junonia genoveva, Eunica tatila and Eunica monima visiting all of the sites that had been suggested to me by my predecessors. The truth is that not one of these species showed up in the places where I was sent. It is now well documented that some of these beasts like Cyclargus thomasi and Chlorostrymon maesites have gone years without anyone catching a glimpse of one, let alone a specimen. Then, like the story goes, they show up suddenly in areas that I had scoured dozens and dozens of times. Did I simply miss seeing them for years and years? I do not think so. Especially because, many of the times I was in these places, I had veteran eyes along side me like Leroy Koehn and Jeff Slotten.

Now, both *Chlorostrymon* species have been spotted in numerous different sites. *Both Eunica* species have thriving colonies. *Eresia frisia* is spreading like wildfire in the Keys and of course the Miami Blue is present again in the Florida Keys. These species disappeared and then reappeared again all in locations that I had previously visited without a trace of their existence. Certain species like *Kricogonia lyside*, Junonia genoveva, Eurema nise and Epargyreus zestos remain elusive to me in South Florida. That's not to say that they do not exist in a hidden micro habitat somewhere in this concrete jungle and we just haven't re-found them yet.

I strongly suggest that the greatest enemies to South Florida's butterflies are all from our own doing, not that of nature. The big three in my opinion are:

Habitat Fragmentation
 Pesticides
 Invasive Exotics

They go in that order as well. Perhaps in the Keys, pesticides are probably the number one hindrance to the spread of these rare or local species for the habitats are naturally fragmented being islands of course. On the mainland however, invasive exotics like Melaleuca and Brazilian Pepper certainly dominate major portions of land choking out any host plant that might have been growing there, pesticides certainly kill every Lep in its path where sprayed, but neither of these monsters I believe have the ability to wipe out species across the entire state of Florida. Habitat fragmentation is the biggest killer in my opinion. The other two, as well as natural disasters, certainly knock down populations and may even eliminate a once thriving species from a particular land area or habitat. However, the reintroduction of a given species would naturally take place in this area if it were surrounded with similar habitats containing the same species.

I couldn't help but look out of my window while flying over the Keys and south Florida while returning from a summer trip to El Salvador. I began to look at the "green" areas in comparison to how many "grey" areas there were. Throughout the entire coast line one can see extremely scattered areas that have a

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significant stands of trees. You don't really notice how extensive the destruction of the habitat has been while driving because you can't see over the surrounding buildings to get a panoramic view of your area. In many cases there is a gap of miles in between one small spec of habitat and another that might be similar to Let's take a species like the it. Bartram's Hairstreak (Strymon acis bartrami). A colony is able to live in a spec-habitat like this having all the host plant and nectar sources it needs to survive and was doing fine, then one day the habitat was given a dose of mosquito spray eliminating the colony from that area. Given the habitual nature of this species never venturing very far from its host plant, if the nearest habitat that contained this butterfly were more than a few miles away, the chances of an individual female making its way from the surviving colony through miles of busy streets and finding the once sprayed habitat and laying eggs is very unlikely.

Many species of Nymphalids, larger Pierids, and Papilionids do have migratory tendencies and would probably show up after a while. The greater majority of butterflies, however, are not seen more than a few feet from their host plant. I'm sure most of those reading this article will agree that if you are looking for a hairstreak species and you are more than 100 feet from a host plant, you will almost certainly not see what you are looking for. Almost every experience I have ever had with the Martial's Scrub Hairstreak (Strymon martialis) is virtually right on top of a host plant. Not only is this plant their larval host but the blooms serve as a sufficient nectar source giving them absolutely no reason to leave a plant or group of plants. This is almost always the case. I don't see this species traveling miles to visit another host plant. Not to say that it couldn't happen, but the reason south Florida has so many "dead" micro-

habitats is because of this very reason. We have put parking lots, buildings, golf courses, super highways, housing developments, more housing developments, condominiums, strip malls, and oh yes, more housing developments in between such habitats making it very unlikely for a localized species like *Strymon martialis* or *Chlorostrymon* *simaethis* to find new breeding grounds. Hurricanes are, in my opinion, the least of our butterfly faunas worries!

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(David Fine, 2924 Dunlin Rd., Delray Beach, FL 33444)

NOTE

Lepidoptera of Florida (by J. B. Heppner. 2003. 670pp, 55 plates)

The new catalog and Lepidoptera faunal summary, originally printed in 2003, is again available in a new printing (with better plate images). Cost remains \$55, plus shipping.

To order copies, contact: Publication Sales, TA Div., DPI, FDACS, P.O. Box 147100, Gainesville, FL 32614.

Also available (a few copies left): the 1965 Kimball catalog of Florida Lepidoptera, and still only \$5 (plus shipping: the shipping actually now costs more than the book!), with some color plates.

Dr. John B. Heppner, Curator of Lepidoptera Florida State Collection of Arthropods, DPI, FDACS P. O. Box 147100 Gainesville, FL 32614-7100 DPI: (352) 372-3505 X139 Fax: (352) 334-0737 McGuire Center: (352) 846-2000 x243 E-Mail: heppnej@doacs.state.fl.us

NORM PETERSON QUOTES FROM CHEERS

"What'd you like, Normie?" "A reason to live. Give me another beer."

What'll you have, Normie?" Well, I'm in a gambling mood Sammy. I'll take a glass of whatever comes out of the tap" "Looks like beer, Norm." "Call me Mister lucky."

"How's it going, Mr. Peterson?" "Poor." "I'm sorry to hear that." "No, I mean pour."

"Can I pour you a beer, Mr. Peterson?" "A little early, isn't it, Woody?" "For a beer?" "No, for stupid questions."

"Whatcha up to, Norm?" "My ideal weight if I were eleven feet tall."

REPORTS OF STATE COORDINATORS

Alabama: C. Howard Grisham, 573 Ohatchee Road, Huntsville, AL 35811, E-Mail: chgrisham@Comcast.net

Arkansas: Mack Shotts, 514 W. Main Street, Paragould, AR 72450, E-Mail: cshotts@grnco.net

Florida: Charles V. Covell Jr., 207 NE 9th Ave, Gainesville, FL 32601, E-Mail: covell@louisville.edu

Charlie Covell sends the following report from Gainesville, Alachua Co.:

Butterflies:

Urbanus proteus: Jan. 10	Vanessa atalanta: Jan. 13, Feb. 21, 24, 27, 28			
Pyrgus communis: Feb. 9	March 7			
Hylephila phyleus: Jan. 6, 20	Junonia coenia: Jan. 6, Feb. 13			
Phoebus sennae: Jan. 5, 12, 13, Feb. 9, 13, 21, 25, 26,	Agraulis vanillae: Jan. 12			
27, 28	Danaus plexippus: Jan. 5, 21, Feb. 26			
Phoebus philea: Feb. 26				
Eurema nicippe: Jan. 6	Moth:			
Leptotes ceraunus: Jan. 12				
Polygonia interrogationis: Feb. 26	Galgula partita (Noctuidae): March 4			

<u>Georgia:</u> James K. Adams, 346 Sunset Drive SE, Calhoun, GA 30701, E-Mail: <u>jadams@em.daltonstate.edu</u> (Please check out the GA leps website at: http://www.daltonstate.edu/galeps/).

It has been a remarkably bad year for winter moths. Most winter moths likely need a cold snap to emerge, and our first really cold snap didn't come until mid-January. As such, numbers for a large percentage of the winter flying species were way down. On the other hand, the warm conditions well into January allowed both fall flying butterflies to continue flying very late, and some likely record early emergences of some spring butterflies (and moths). Abbreviations are as follows: James Adams (JA or no notation), Irving Finkelstein (IF). Other contributors names spelled out with the appropriate records. Most records presented here represent new or interesting records (range extensions, unusual dates, uncommon species, county records, *etc.*) or records for newly investigated areas. Known County and State records are indicated. All dates listed below are 2007 unless otherwise specified.

<u>Calhoun, Gordon Co.</u>: <u>NOCTUIDAE</u>: Feralia major, Jan. 12; Lithophane viridipallens, Mar. 1. <u>GEOMETRIDAE</u>: Euchlaena amoenaria, Jan. 5, 2007 (EARLY!).

Carbondale, Whitfield Co.: LASIOCAMPIDAE: Tolype notialis, Jan. 12. NOCTUIDAE: Feralia major, Feb. 28, Mar. 14; Psaphida styracis, Feb. 28, Mar. 14.

Waycross, Ware Co., Mar. 6-8, 2007, with IF: SATURNIIDAE: Antheraea polyphemus.

Dixon Memorial Forest WMA, Ware Co., Swampy habitat, 3 mi. W of Laura Walker SP, Mar 6-8, 2007, with IF: <u>SATURNIIDAE</u>: Actias luna. <u>NOCTUIDAE</u>: Hysoropha monilis, Argyrostrotis flavistriaria, Zale aeruginosa, Acronicta longa, Iodopepla u-album, Egira alternans. <u>GEOMETRIDAE</u>: Iridopsis vellivolata, Cleora sublunaria, Glena cribrataria, G. cognataria, Glenoides texanaria, Melanolophia signataria, Euchlaena deductaria, Pero ancetaria, Metarranthis obfirmaria, Caripeta aretaria.

Dixon Memorial Forest WMA, Brantley Co., drier habitat, just E. of Laura Walker SP, Mar. 6-8. 2007, with IF:

SATURNIIDAE: Antheraea polyphemus. **SPHINGIDAE**: Deidamia inscripta, Darapsa pholus. **LASIOCAMPIDAE**: Phyllodesma americana. **ARCTIIDAE**: Spilosoma congrua. **NOTODONTIDAE**: Heterocampa biundata, H. gutivitta, Symmerista albifrons. **NOCTUIDAE**: Tetanolita floridana, Hypsoropha monilis, Argyrostrotis flavistriaria, Phoberia atomaris, Mocis marcida, Zale galbanata, Z. squamularis, Z. calycanthata, Z. declarans, Metria amella, Acronicta tritona, Condica sutor, Morrisonia confusa, Egira alternans, Iodopepla u-album, Lithophane patefacta (LATE and far south), Metaxaglaea viatica, Xystopeplus rufago, Ulolonche culea, Leucania scirpicola, Leucania incognita, Mythimna unipuncta, Anicla infecta, Agrotis sp., Agrotis ipsilon. **GEOMETRIDAE**: Anavitrinella pampinaria, Iridopsis defectaria, I. vellivolata, Cleora sublunaria, Glena cognataria, Melanolophia signataria, Epimecis hortaria, Episemasia solitaria, Thysanopyga intractata, Caripeta aretaria, Euchlaena deductaria, Pero ancetaria, Pero morrisonaria, Stenaspilatodes antidiscaria, Petrophora divisata, Besma quercivoraria, Eutrapela clemataria, Nemoria bifilata, Eupithecia miserulata. **TORTRICIDAE**: Acleris maculidorsana.

Griffin Ridge WMA, Long Co., 3 mi. SW of Ludowici, March 8-9, 2007, with IF:

Griffin Ridge, wooded area behind cane stands

SATURNIIDAE: Antheraea polyphemus. **NOTODONTIDAE**: Nadata gibbosa, Heterocampa biundata, H. gutivitta. **ARCTIIDAE**: Hyphantria cunea, Spilosoma virginica. **NOCTUIDAE**: Hypenodes fractilinea, Schrankia macula, Dyspyralis illocata, Hypena (formerly Bomolocha) manalis, Renia flavipunctalis, Phoberia atomaris, Cissusa spadix, Melipotis jucunda, Argyrostrotis flavistriaria (includes carolina), A. sylvarum, Lesmone hinna, Metria amella, Z. obliqua, Zale calycanthata, Allotria elonympha, Marathyssa basalis, Paectes abrostoloides, Acronicta tritona, Psaphida rolandi, Condica vecors, Elaphria georgei, E. exesa, Elaphria versicolor, Metaxaglaea viatica, Morrisonia confusa, M. mucens, Leucania phragmatidicola, Anicla infecta, Feltia (formerly Trichosilia) manifesta. **GEOMETRIDAE**: Macaria distribuaria, Glena cribrataria, Cleora sublunaria, Phigalia titea, Melanolophia signataria, Lycia ypsilon, Ceratonyx satanaria, Pero ancectaria, P. morrisonaria, Eutrapela clemataria, Prochoerodes transversata, Nemoria bifilata, N. bistriaria, Eupithecia miserulata. **PYRALIDAE**: Crocidophora pustuliferalis. **URODIDAE**: Urodus parvula. **TORTRICIDAE**: Amorbia humerosana. **OECOPHORIDAE**: Machimia sp. (not tentoriferella).

Griffin Ridge, wooded and swampy areas behind gate

LASIOCAMPIDAE: Tolype notialis. SPHINGIDAE: Deidamia inscripta. NOTODONTIDAE: Nadata gibbosa, Symmerista albifrons, Schizura sp. nov. ARCTIIDAE: Clemensia albata, Cisthene striata, Hyphantria cunea, Spilosoma congrua, S. virginica, Halysidota tesselaris. NOCTUIDAE: Dyspyralis illocata, Sigela sp. nov. (gray), Idia aemula, I. americalis, Tetanolita mynesalis, T. floridana, Renia flavipunctalis, Bleptina caradrinalis, Lascoria ambigualis, Hypsoropha monilis, Phoberia atomaris, Cissusa spadix, Melipotis jucunda, Drasteria graphica, Mocis marcida, Argyrostrotis flavistriaria (includes carolina), A. sylvarum, A. deleta,, Metria amella, Zale lunata, Z. declarans, Z. galbanata, Z. minerea, Z. obliqua, Z. confusa, Z. metatoides, Z. calycanthata, Zale near lunifera, Marathyssa basalis, Meganola spodia, M. minuscula, Panthea near furcilla, Acronicta vinnula, A. afflicta, A. brumosa, A. impleta, A. longa, Psaphida resumens, P. rolandi, P. styracis, Condica vecors, C. videns, Phosphila turbulenta, Elaphria georgei, E. exesa, E. grata, Nedra ramulosa, Iodopepla u-album, Xystopeplus rufago, Metaxaglaea viatica (LATE!), Chaetaglaea tremula (LATE!), Himella fidelis, Morrisonia mucens, M. confusa, Sideridis vindemialis (COUNTY), Leucania multilinea, L. scirpicola, Ulolonche culea, Orthodes majuscula (formerly crenulata), Feltia (formerly Trichosilia) manifesta. GEOMETRIDAE: Macaria distribuaria, M. aequiferaria (?), Digrammia gnophosaria, Glena plumosaria, Anavitrinella pampinaria, Protoboarmia porcellaria, Iridopsis defectaria, Cleora sublunaria, Epimecis hortaria, Phigalia denticulata, P. titea, Melanolophia candaria, Lycia ypsilon, Lomographa glomeraria, Phaeoura quernaria, Euchlaena deductaria, Plagodis fervidaria, Besma quercivoraria, Nemoria bistriaria, Cyclophora packardi, Hydriomena sp., Costaconvexa centrostrigaria, Eupithecia miserulata. OECOPHORIDAE: Antaeotricha schlageri.

Brunswick area, Glynn Co., Mike & Kathy Chapman:

January 7, 2007:

<u>**HESPERIIDAE**</u>: Urbanus proteus. <u>**PIERIDAE**</u>: Several cloudless sulphurs (*Phoebis sennae*). <u>**NYMPHALIDAE**</u>: Zebra heliconian (*Heliconius charitonius*).

December 31, 2006 (Andrews Island causeway):

NYMPHALIDAE: Several monarchs (Danaus plexippus), Gulf Fritillaries (Agraulis vanillae), and Buckeyes

(Junonia coenia) feeding on lantana.

Hwy. 42, Forsyth, Monroe Co., Jan. 4, 2007, Terry Johnson: LYCAENIDAE: Spring Azure (*Celastrina ladon*) – EARLY!

Skidaway Island, Chatham Co., Jan. 5, 2007, Russ Wigh: LYCAENIDAE: Spring Azure (*Celastrina ladon*) – EARLY!

Louisiana: Michael Lockwood, 215 Hialeah Avenue, Houma, LA 70363, E-Mail: mikelock34@hotmail.com

Mississippi: Rick Patterson, 400 Winona Rd., Vicksburg, MS 39180, E-Mail: rpatte42@aol.com

North Carolina: Steve Hall, North Carolina Natural Heritage Program, Div. of Parks & Recreation, 1615 MSC, Raleigh, NC 27699-1615, E-Mail: <u>Stephen.Hall@ncmail.net</u>

South Carolina: Brian Scholtens, College of Charleston, Charleston, SC 29424, E-Mail: scholtensb@cofc.edu

Brian Scholtens sends in the following report from South Carolina (Counties that are all capitalized are County Records; BS = Brian Scholtens, DF = Dennis Forsythe, JP = Jack Peachey, RC = Robin Carter, RW = Russ Wigh, TM = Tom Smith)

HESPERIIDAE: *Amblyscirtes belli*, NEWBERRY Co., SSR 356, N. of Cromer Crossroads, 15-May-2006, BS, nectaring on *Prunella vulgaris; Amblyscirtes hegon*, NEWBERRY Co., SSR 356, N. of Cromer Crossroads, 15-May-2006, BS, nectaring on *Prunella vulgaris; Hesperia meskei*, Putman Co., Ordway/Swisher Preserve, 15-June - 2006, BS; *Amblyscirtes vialis*, GREENWOOD Co., S. of Cedar Springs, 21-May-2006, BS, *Problema byssus*, BAMBERG Co., Edisto River, 24-August-2006, DF, sight record; *Thorybes confusis*, WILLIAMSBURG Co., Hemingway, 22 August-2006, DF, sight record; *Atrytonopsis hianna*, LAURENS Co., Sumter NF, 4-May-2006, DF, sight record; *Atrytonopsis hianna*, NEWBERRY Co., Sumter NF, 4-May-2006, DF, sight record; *Atrytonopsis hianna*, NEWBERRY Co., Sumter NF, 4-May-2006, DF, sight record; *Pyrgus oileus*, Charleston Co., James Island, 30-September 2006, DF, sight record; *Pyrgus oileus*, JASPER Co, Tillman Sand Ridge Heritage Preserve, 3-September-2006, DF, sight record; *Euphyes vestris*, JASPER Co., Tillman Sand Ridge Heritage Preserve, 3-September-2006, DF, sight record; *Euphyes pilatka*, Horry Co., Myrtle Beach State Park, 9-September-2006, JP, sight record; *Euphyes pilatka*, Horry Co., Myrtle Beach State Park, 9-September-2006, JP, sight record; *Euphyes pilatka*, Horry Co., Myrtle Beach State Park, 9-September-2006, JP, sight record; *Euphyes pilatka*, Horry Co., Myrtle Beach State Park, 9-September-2006, JP, sight record; *Euphyes pilatka*, Horry Co., Myrtle Beach State Park, 9-September-2006, JP, sight record; *Euphyes pilatka*, Horry Co., Myrtle Beach State Park, 9-September-2006, JP, sight record; *Euphyes pilatka*, Horry Co., Myrtle Beach State Park, 9-September-2006, JP, sight record; *Euphyes pilatka*, Horry Co., Myrtle Beach State Park, 9-September-2006, JP, sight record; *Euphyes pilatka*, Horry Co., Myrtle Beach State Park, 9-September-2006, JP, sight record; *Euphyes Pilatka*, Horry Co., Myrtle Beach State Park, 9-September-2006, JP, sight record; *Euphyes Pilatka*, Horry Co., Myrtle Beach

LYCAENIDAE: *Hemiargus ceraunus*, JASPER Co., Tillman Sand Ridge Heritage Preserve, 15-October-2006, DF, sight record; *Atlides halesus*, JASPER Co., Tillman Sand Ridge Heritage Preserve, 19-March 2006, DF, sight record; *Atlides halesus*, Richland Co., Congaree National Park, 22-October-2006, RC, sight record;

PIERIDAE: Zerene cesonia, Jasper Co., Tillman Sand Ridge Heritage Preserve, 3-September 2006, DF, sight record; *Pyrisitia lisa*, BAMBERG Co., Edisto River, 24-August-2006, DF, sight record;

<u>NYMPHALIDAE</u>: *Phyciodes phaon*, Jasper Co., Tillman Sand Ridge Heritage Preserve, 3-September-2006, DF, sight record; *Anthanassa texana*, Richland Co., Congaree National Park, 22-October-2006, RC, sight record; *Anthanassa texana*, Jasper Co., Savannah NWR, Laurel Hill Wildlife Dr., 23-September-2006, RW, sight record.

DANAIDAE: Danaus plexippus, WILLIAMSBURG Co., Hemingway, 22-August-2006, DF, sight record.

SATURNIIDAE: Callosamia securifera, Charleston Co., Steed Creek Rd., S. of Halfway Creek Rd., 19-January-2006, BS & TS, cocoons on *Magnolia virginiana*, brought inside, female emerged 26-March-2006, male emerged 2-May-2006.

Tennessee: John Hyatt, 5336 Foxfire Place, Kingsport, TN 37664, E-Mail: jkshyatt@aol.com

Texas: Ed Knudson, 8517 Burkhart Road, Houston, TX 77055, E-Mail: eknudson@earthlink.net

Terry Doyle sends in the following report:

Melanchroia cephise (Arctiidae), 15 March 2007, (1) one female, 13310 Bar C Dr., San Antonio, Bexar Co., TX, 1500 DST.

Chlosyne janais, (1) one 3rd instar larva, on *Anisacantha wrightii*, 5598 Mt. McKinley, San Antonio, TX (R.O. Kendall home). Earliest known record to author.

Virginia: Harry Pavulaan, 494 Fillmore Street, Herndon, VA 22070, E-Mail: pavulaan@aol.com



Hopefully, no winter storms in April!!!

The Southern Lepidopterists' News is published four times annually. Membership dues are \$20.00 annually. The organization is open to anyone, especially those with an interest in the Lepidoptera of the southern United States. Information about the Society may be obtained from Paul Milner, Membership Coordinator, 272 Skye Drive, Pisgah Forest, NC 28768, and dues may be sent to Jeffrey R. Slotten, Treasurer, 5421 NW 69th Lane, Gainesville, FL 32653.

SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY

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