



# Southern Lepidopterists' NEWS

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THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY  
ORGANIZED TO PROMOTE SCIENTIFIC INTEREST AND KNOWLEDGE RELATED  
TO UNDERSTANDING THE LEPIDOPTERA FAUNA OF THE SOUTHERN REGION  
OF THE UNITED STATES (WEBSITE: [www.southernlepsoc.org/](http://www.southernlepsoc.org/))

J. BARRY LOMBARDINI: EDITOR

## A SPECIMEN OF *HYPOLIMNAS MISIPPUS* FOUND IN ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY  
MARC C. MINNO



Fig. 1. The male Mimic Butterfly found and photographed by Jackie Kern in St. Augustine, Florida, on August 20, 2008.

A few weeks ago Tropical Storm Fay passed over Cuba, then central and northern Florida. The storm closed schools, government offices, and businesses in northeastern Florida on August 21 and 22, 2008. On August 20<sup>th</sup>, the day before the storm hit St. Johns County, Jacqueline Kern checked her garden in St. Augustine and was thrilled to find a male Mimic Butterfly (*Hypolimnas misippus*) (Fig. 1).

There have been very few reports of this butterfly from Florida. Kimball (1965, *The Lepidoptera of Florida*, page 41) lists reports from 1888, 1895, 1902, 1904, 1916, 1934, 1937, 1951, and 1960. Glassberg,

Minno, and Calhoun (2000, *Butterflies Through Binoculars: Florida*, plate 43) illustrate a female found in Everglades National Park in November 1986. Robert Beiriger (2003, *Southern Lepidopterists' News*, page 97)

reported a male Mimic found near Belle Glade (Palm Beach County). That same year, a butterfly gardener in Brevard County reported finding a male *Hypolimnys* species in her garden. Also, a co-worker of mine at St. Johns River Water Management District in Palatka (Glenn Lowe) saw a female nectaring on Lantana on the District grounds. When he showed me the place, the butterfly was nowhere to be found, but he differentiated it from a monarch and noted the characteristic black spots on the underside of the hindwing. "Ya, it was here for hours", he said to me. Why didn't he tell me sooner or snap a photo? There have also been a few recent reports from the Florida Keys. Mark and Holly Salvato (2007, *News of the Lepidopterists' Society*, page 30) found a male on Big Pine Key that stayed in the same area of Long Beach for weeks and was observed and photographed by many people. Paula Cannon (per. comm., 2007) says that she saw a female on one of the tiny islands west of Key West.

While Tropical Storm Fay pounded northern Florida with rain, I searched for butterflies in Everglades National Park, southern Miami-Dade County, and from Key Largo to Key West from August 21 through 24, 2008. Although the weather was sunny and hot, I did not find any unusual butterflies. *Hypolimnys misippus* has been reported breeding in Florida in the past (Kimball 1965), but not recently. All of modern specimens are singletons, usually males that are most likely to have originated in Cuba. As I write, four other tropical storms or hurricanes are churning in the Atlantic Ocean. Perhaps more Mimics or other unusual butterflies will be blown into Florida and wind up in someone's garden.

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**DEFINITION: *Aposematic Coloration*** <sup>(1)</sup> - warning coloration; serves to warn off potential attackers by displaying a distinct coloration. Predators have learned (a lesson) from a previous bad experience when they ate a brightly colored animal and became sick. Because of this experience the predator avoids similarly colored prey. The predator does not eat the bad (poisonous) tasting animal and the prey escapes from being eaten. Thus the bright color is an advertising signal of warning and both beneficial to predator and prey.

This concept, *Aposematic Coloration*, was first proposed by Alfred Russel Wallace (1823-1913) when he was corresponding with Charles Darwin (1809-1882) about how certain insects might have evolved bright colors as a warning to predators. Darwin was attempting to explain this phenomenon of bright coloration through sexual selection but was aware of a problem, and thus a lack of explanation, that certain caterpillars were brightly colored and yet, obviously, were not sexually active. Wallace suggested that the bright colors of the caterpillars might warn a predator of its bad taste. While these discussions were carried out by both Wallace and Darwin, it was put to the proper test by John Jenner Weir (1822-1894) who was a British civil servant, but more important to this discussion an amateur entomologist and ornithologist. Weir had considerable correspondence concerning this subject of warning coloration with both Wallace and Darwin, and because of his input greatly helped Wallace develop his theory of "warning coloration".

Weir conducted the crucial experiments with birds and caterpillars, and much to his credit, Wallace gave Weir proper recognition in the following account <sup>(2)</sup>:

"Mr. Jenner Weir was the first to experiment with ten species of small birds in his aviary, and he found that none of them would eat the following smooth-skinned conspicuous caterpillars—*Abraxas grossulariata*, *Diloba caeruleocephala*, *Anthrocera filipendula*, and *Cucullia verbasci*. He also found that they would not touch any hairy or spiny larvae, and he was satisfied that it was not the hairs or the spines, but the unpleasant taste that caused them to be rejected, because in one case a young smooth larva of a hairy species, and in another case the pupa of a spiny larva, were equally rejected. On the other hand, all green or brown caterpillars as well as those that resemble twigs were greedily devoured."

#### Sources

1. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aposematism>
2. Chapter IX on warning coloration in Wallace's 1889 book on Darwinism.

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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/](http://www.southernlepsoc.org/)

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## NEW MEMBERS

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**SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY  
2008 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES  
BY  
DON STILLWAUGH**

We began the meeting with a moment of silence in honor of the passing of our esteemed colleague and long time member Dr. Lee D. Miller.

Chairman Joe Riddlebarger called the 2008 SLS Business Meeting to order at 4:22 p.m. on Thursday June 26th in the Auditorium of the Bost Extension Center at Mississippi State University in Starkville, Mississippi. Members who signed in at the Business Meeting were:

James & Eleanor Adams	Deborah Matthews Lott	Joe Riddlebarger
John Beck	Eric Metzler	Don Stillwaugh
Charlie Covell	Jacqueline Miller	J.D. Turner
Thomas C. Emmel	Bob & Beth Patterson	Reed A. Watkins
Jeffrey Marcus	Kelly Richers	

In Treasurer Jeff Slotten's absence, Joe referred members to Volume 29 No. 4 (2007) of the SL NEWS for the most recent Treasurer's Report. Production and mailing of NEWS, as usual, constitutes the bulk of the organization's expenses. The Minutes of the 2007 Annual Meeting also appear in this issue.

Under Old Business, Debbie Lott reported that Volumes 7 through 11 of NEWS have been scanned. The intention is to have them available as pdfs in an archive on the SLS Website with a running lag being kept from current issues. Debbie was commended for her efforts.

Under New Business, the 2009 SLS Annual Meeting was briefly discussed. It was mentioned that SLS usually holds a joint meeting with the Association of Tropical Lepidoptera, but the ATL meeting will be held in conjunction with the Lepidopterists' Society Meeting in Mexico in 2009. Chairman Joe deferred further discussion on this matter until the Board could meet.

Next, the Chairman reported on the status of the John Abbott Award. The SLS Board of Directors intended to submit a ballot of three eligible recipients prior to the Annual Meeting. Unfortunately, two of those nominees declined and others could not be found in a timely fashion. Since the SLS Constitution prohibits the granting of the Award without at least 3 nominees, no award was granted this year. A question arose as to the names of the previous award winners and it was stated that this information is available on the SLS Website.

The final item on the Meeting's Agenda was the election of new officers. The membership was first reminded that several officers are looking for others to take over their positions; in particular, the Treasurer and the NEWS Editor are seeking capable and willing replacements. That reminder notwithstanding, the following slate of seven officers which comprises the SLS Board of Directors was submitted to the attending membership:

Chairman – Joe Riddlebarger	Secretary – Don Stillwaugh
NEWS editor – J. Barry Lombardini	Treasurer – Jeff Slotten
Website Manager – Dave Morgan	Membership Coordinator – Marc Minno
Member-at-Large – Tom Neal	

A motion to approve the slate was quickly made and seconded. The motion passed with no descending votes.

Joe opened the floor for any final items. Jackie Miller requested authorization to share E-mail and postal addresses with ATL in order to cut down on redundant labor. No one seemed to object and without a formal motion and vote, Joe gave her permission to do so. Tom Emmel offered the facilities at the McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity in Gainesville as a location for the 2009 SLS Annual Meeting. Charlie Covell

motioned to have the Secretary compose a letter of appreciation to J. Barry Lombardini in praise of his efforts as Editor of SL NEWS. It was quickly seconded and passed unanimously.

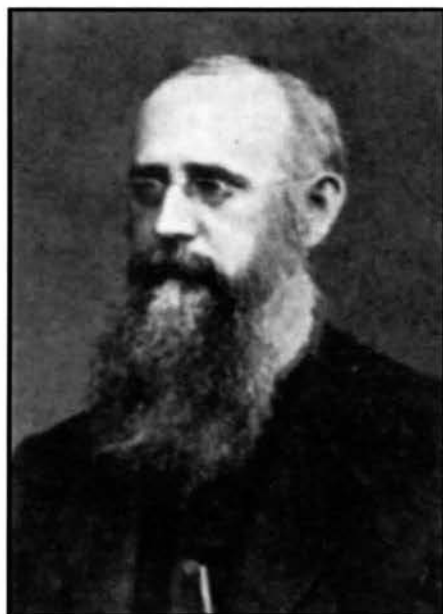
With no other items from the floor, Joe adjourned the Meeting at 4:32 p.m. and the attendees posed for a group photograph (page 101).

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## FERDINAND HEINRICH HERMANN STRECKER<sup>(1)</sup>

BY

J. BARRY LOMBARDINI



**Ferdinand Heinrich Hermann Strecker (1836-1901)<sup>(1)</sup>**

Ferdinand Heinrich Hermann Strecker was born on March 24, 1836, in Philadelphia to Ferdinand Strecker and Anna Kern who were immigrants from Germany. In his early years, Ferdinand Strecker (the son) was trained as a sculptor, his father's profession, but soon shied away from this line of work as it paid very little. Instead, he started to make tombstones. A more profitable trade, but still did not command his interest.

Ferdinand at an early age enjoyed natural history and in particular, butterflies. He attended the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. His interest in lepidoptera remained for the rest of his life and by the time he reached the age of 40 he had accumulated over 200,000 specimens of butterflies and moths from many distant parts of the world. He spoke numerous languages and traveled on collecting trips to the Caribbean, Mexico and Central America. His large collection of lepidoptera, one of the largest in the New World, included 300 new species and approximately 150 new subspecies.

Collecting was not only an interest but a love of Strecker's, but to make it profitable he published a great deal. His most important work was the *Lepidoptera Rhopaloceres and Heteroceres, Indigenous and Exotic, with Descriptions and Coloured Illustrations* published between 1871-1878.

This work is in 50 parts and he himself did the illustrations. Then in 1878 he published *Butterflies and Moths of North America* which was more than just a listing and drawings of the butterflies that he had collected in North America. This work also contained detailed methods for the preparation, breeding, collection, classification and the conservation of butterflies. A valuable set of methods to the naturalists of his time.

Publishing brought in money for his personal support, but it is also thought that he collected for commission and was a dealer in lepidoptera.

Ferdinand Strecker died November 30, 1901, and his vast collection of lepidoptera is currently housed in the Field Museum of Natural history in Chicago.

Of all the butterflies and moths that Strecker collected perhaps he is best known for his research on the *Catocala*. According to Bill Oehlke<sup>(2)</sup>: "Strecker...stated that once all the amatory terms and names relating to love and marriage had been exhausted, 'the most appropriate ones [names] for the purpose would be those of women famous in history for their lusts or talents, or both combined...., *Lepidoptera Rhopaloceres and Heteroceres, Indigenous and Exotic, with Descriptions and Coloured Illustrations* (page 77)' ". A few examples are listed here:

*C. faustina* Strecker, 1873: Faustina Minor (160-212 AD) was a daughter of Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius and Roman Empress Faustina the Younger.

- C. amestris* Strecker, 1874: Amestris was the queen of Xerxes (King of Persia from 485-465 BC).
- C. hippolyta* Strecker, 1874: in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Hippolyta, Queen of the Amazons, is the wife of Theseus, king of Athens. (Actually Shakespeare had his Greek mythology wrong and who married who is confusing - but does it make any difference?)
- C. agrippina* Strecker, 1874: Agrippina the Younger is the wife of Claudius and mother of Nero;
- C. cleopatra* Strecker, 1874: Cleopatra is Queen of Egypt;
- C. delilah* Strecker, 1874: Delilah deceives Samson and takes away his strength by cutting his hair;
- C. judith* Strecker, 1874: Judith, a Jewish widow, enters the camp of the Assyrians and by her beauty and guile conquers the drunk General Holofernes, decapitates him, and returns with the severed head to the Jewish city of Bethulia. After this incident the Jews defeat the Assyrians.
- C. joacsta* Strecker, 1875: Jocasta was a queen of Thebes, Greece. When she was widowed she married Oedipus not realizing that he was her son.
- C. ulalume* Strecker, 1878: Edgar Allen Poe focuses on the loss of a beautiful woman "*Ulalume*" due to her untimely death. *Ulalume* was probably not a real woman.

#### Sources

1. Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ferdinand\\_Heinrich\\_Hermann\\_Strecker](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ferdinand_Heinrich_Hermann_Strecker)
2. Bill Oehlke website: <http://www.silkmoths.bizland.com/commonnames.htm>
3. Colored plates of F. H. H. Strecker are from the website of Dr. Joe Kunkel, Biology Department, the University of Massachusetts: <http://bcrc.bio.umass.edu/Kunkel/Moths/strecker.html>

[Color plates that accompany this article are on page 104.]

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## MAESITES HAIRSTEAK IN MIAMI

BY

J.B. HEPPNER

*Chlorostymon maesites* (Herrich-Schäffer), the maesites hairstreak, has long been considered extirpated from the mainland of Florida in the Miami area and now restricted to the Florida Keys (see Minno and Emmel, 1993. *Butterflies of the Florida Keys*).

Recent collecting near Coral Gables, Miami, at the USDA Cutler Road facility by Julieta Brambila, resulted in finding the butterfly. One freshly emerged male was taken on 16-17 July 2008, and this at a light sheet rather than during the day.

The Coral Gables capture shows that collectors are not searching enough to find populations of this species that actually still exist in the Miami area. The species clearly is thriving even in cut-over areas like the USDA facility.

(J.B. Heppner, Florida State Collection of Arthropods, FDACS, DPI, P. O. Box 147100, Gainesville, Florida 32614, USA)

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## MANY THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WHO DONATED TO THE SL SOCIETY SINCE MARCH 2008:

Tom Stelnicki  
Buck and Linda Cooper (Contributor)

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**UNIQUE ONLINE RESOURCE DEVOTED TO AMERICAN BUTTERFLIES:****ButterfliesofAmerica.com****BY****ANDREW D. WARREN\*, KIM DAVIS, MIKE STANGELAND, AND  
JONATHAN P. PELHAM**

We have a hard time finding a few spare moments to browse new websites, even those recommended to us by friends, and devoted to our favorite subjects, the Lepidoptera. But we do have a few websites bookmarked, that we return to time after time for different types of information, and continue to seek those all-in-one websites on topics we frequently search online. If you have ten minutes on your hands, and access to an internet connection, please go to your computer, Blackberry, iPhone, or whatever device you use to access the internet, and direct your browser to:

<http://butterfliesofamerica.com/>

As noted there, ButterfliesofAmerica.com and the Interactive Listing of American Butterflies (Warren *et al.*, 2008) represent a centralized resource for the study and enjoyment of American butterflies. Our authors and advisors (see the following link):

<http://butterfliesofamerica.com/intro.htm>

represent a broad range of professional and amateur Lepidopterists, various members of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society, general naturalists, authors, photographers, gardeners, artists, musicians and doctors, who are all fascinated with butterflies. Our aim is to develop a comprehensive online resource devoted to American butterflies that will include information on the geographic distribution, geographic variation, taxonomy, systematics, identification, ecology (including larval foodplants and immature biology) and bibliography for all butterfly taxa in the region, including all species, subspecies and undescribed geographic segregates. At this time, the Interactive Listing of American Butterflies includes all taxa occurring from Alaska and arctic Canada through Panama, Hawaii, and on the Caribbean Islands (excluding Trinidad, Tobago, and islands off the Venezuelan coast).

The Interactive Listing of American Butterflies is probably the page many of you will want to bookmark, as this is the complete taxon list and main access point to thousands of images:

<http://butterfliesofamerica.com/list.htm>

This list includes all 5000+ species, subspecies and undescribed geographic segregates of American butterflies, giving full authorship details for each, as well as abbreviated distributional information (soon to be completed for entries still lacking this information). In time, this list will be a comprehensive photographic resource to all American butterfly taxa, but currently (we are still within our first 9 months "live"), only those names appearing on the list which are underlined (hyperlinks) are linked to additional information for that taxon.

For the most part, the list follows the taxonomic arrangements of Pelham (2008- available from BioQuip.com), Lamas (2004) and Smith *et al.* (1994), or recently published studies. The Interactive List is updated daily, and new images are continuously being added. Over 100 skilled and generous photographers have donated excellent images to the site, and we are continuously seeking additional quality images. As of today (10 Sept. 2008), approximately 20,000 images have been posted to the site, and another 90,000 or so images are waiting to be processed and posted, for coverage of over 95% of listed taxa.

We eventually aim to provide "complete coverage" for all listed taxa. This includes presentations such as the following, which contain images of pinned and live adults of both sexes, immature stages, larval foodplants and habitats, and a taxon-specific synonymy (from Pelham 2008 for taxa occurring north of Mexico) and bibliography. Some examples include:

[http://butterfliesofamerica.com/asterocampa\\_leilia.htm](http://butterfliesofamerica.com/asterocampa_leilia.htm)

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[http://butterfliesofamerica.com/brephidium\\_e\\_exilis.htm](http://butterfliesofamerica.com/brephidium_e_exilis.htm)

[http://butterfliesofamerica.com/anthanassa\\_tulcis.htm](http://butterfliesofamerica.com/anthanassa_tulcis.htm)

We are including as many images of Holotype and Paratype specimens as possible, and currently have hundreds of images of types posted. We are also trying to show geographic and individual variation whenever possible, and will post as many images as needed to display patterns of variation.

In addition, we have started an online reference library, where you can download .pdf files (provided by our authors and advisors) of papers related to butterfly taxonomy and systematics:

[http://butterfliesofamerica.com/ref\\_library.htm](http://butterfliesofamerica.com/ref_library.htm)

This is a long-term project that depends largely on users for feedback and growth; we are always seeking to add images to our photo collections, even for taxa already well documented. If you have excellent photos of pinned or live adults, immature stages of any species, or larval foodplants and habitats, we encourage you to submit them! All contributions are greatly appreciated! Please see the following link for guidelines on photo submissions (note that all photographers retain copyrights to their images):

[http://butterfliesofamerica.com/photo\\_contributions.htm](http://butterfliesofamerica.com/photo_contributions.htm)

We offer a sincere thanks to those of you who are already contributing to ButterfliesofAmerica, and encourage the rest of you to share what you can to make the site comprehensive!

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- Smith, D. S., L. D. Miller & J. Y. Miller. 1994. *Butterflies of the West Indies and south Florida*. Oxford, Oxford University Press. x + 264pp., 33pls., 2 figs.
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**MEMBERS** - Always in need of articles, photographs, field reports, almost anything to publish in the SLS newsletter. Please take a few minutes and send me something that you think might be of interest to the membership. Also, please start thinking about the December newsletter issue as I need material for publication in this upcoming issue of the NEWS. [The Editor]

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## DISAPPOINTMENTS

BY

J. BARRY LOMBARDINI

Looking forward to a couple of weekends of getting away and doing some collecting in late May and early June. The first trip was to go to Ruidoso, New Mexico (May 30, 2008). This is approximately 270 miles west of Lubbock, Texas, in the mountains. Ruidoso has been for over a hundred years the playground of West Texans as it is usually cooler in the summer when Lubbock can be a 100 degrees or better. Traveling with my wife on this first trip to the mountains, we leave relatively early on Friday morning and arrive at the motel (wife will not camp anymore) and are told that the *entire* Lincoln forest is closed due to extreme fire danger and obviously due to the lack of rains for the last 6 months. This means that Bonito Lake and all hiking trails (some of which follow a very scenic creek) are off limits. I am ready to go home. This immediately means no butterfly collecting during the day and no blacklighting or trapping of moths at night. What a bummer!!!



Warning signs in the Lincoln National Forest.



Warning signs in the Lincoln National Forest.

After kicking a few rocks around the parking lot for about 10 minutes we head off for a late lunch and for a drive in the area. However, in our travels I do notice that a private campground in the forest is still open, "*Bonito Hollow R.V. Park and Campground.*" So, bashful I am not, we stop and I ask the owners if there is any possibility of putting a blacklight trap out by the creek on their property. To my surprise the answer is "*No problem.*" This invitation, in hindsight is probably better than putting a trap out in the federally owned Lincoln forest as I will not have to worry about somebody stealing or damaging my trap.



Creek in Bonito Hollow RV Park and Campground near Ruidoso/Alto, New Mexico.

The creek, not much water because of the drought in the area, has seen better times. It is about 6 inches deep, not really flowing, just stagnant pools here and there, but there is quite a bit of vegetation. In normal times the owners said that the creek can be 10 feet wide and 4 feet deep in certain areas. The creek is usually stocked with trout but obviously not this year (or at least there ain't any fish in the creek this year).

Moth collecting was not great, but the trap did contain a pair of very nice Zephyr eyed silkmoths (*Automeris zephyria* Grote, 1882).

On the way back to Lubbock we stopped for lunch in the historic town of Lincoln (still in New Mexico) where again the countryside was parched for lack of rain and this part of the Lincoln National Forest was also closed. (When the Forest Service said that they closed the *entire* forest they meant it.)





*Automeris zephyria*, male.



*Automeris zephyria*, female.

Lincoln is an interesting town as Billy the Kid (b. November 23, 1859 - d. July 14, 1881) was arrested here and held in the courthouse for a few days before he escaped and killed two deputies in the process (April 28, 1881). Pat Garrett, Sheriff of Lincoln County, caught up to him a few months later in Fort Sumner, NM, and ended his career.



Marker outside the courthouse in Lincoln, NM. (The other guard that was killed was James Bell.)

While my wife and I were having lunch in a small diner which was initially built in about 1870 and used as a saloon and gambling casino, the owner who said that she was an amateur historian told me her version about Billy the Kid who lived in this area for a year or so. The town of Lincoln is famous for the Lincoln County War between the ranchers and merchants, and Billy the Kid was right there siding with the ranchers. It all started, that is the Lincoln County War, on February 18, 1878, when John Tunstall, an English cattle rancher was murdered. Billy the Kid and some of the other ranch hands formed a group called the "Regulators" and hunted down those who they believed killed John Tunstall. And the killings continued.



Henry McCarty, a.k.a. William H. Bonney, a.k.a. Billy the Kid (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image: Billykid.jpg>).



Sheriff Patrick "Pat" Garrett (b. June 5, 1850 - d. February 29, 1908) ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Pat\\_Garrett2.jpg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Pat_Garrett2.jpg)).

Some facts about Billy the Kid. He was born in New York City. His father is not known for certain but was possibly Patrick Henry McCarty, Michael McCarty or William Bonney; his stepfather was William Antrim. Thus, Billy was known by a variety of surnames. His mother was Catherine McCarty or Katherine McCarty Bonney. The occupation of Billy the Kid is listed as ranch hand, gambler, cattle rustler, and outlaw.

Some (more) trivia about Billy the Kid. The replica of a wanted poster in the Lincoln diner said that there was a \$5,000 reward for his capture and his description stated that he was 5 foot 3 inches tall and 125 pounds. The historian in the diner said that the actual reward was \$500 and that he was at least 5 foot 7 inches.

Many writings say that Billy the Kid was mean spirited, however, the local historian said this was probably not true as his contemporaries reported that he was well liked, friendly and personable.



The story that Billy the Kid killed 21 men before he was 21 years old - also not true. Probably killed 4 or 5 men.



**Juniper Hairstreak**  
(*Callophrys gryneus siva*), dorsal.

**Juniper Hairstreak**  
(*Callophrys gryneus siva*), ventral.

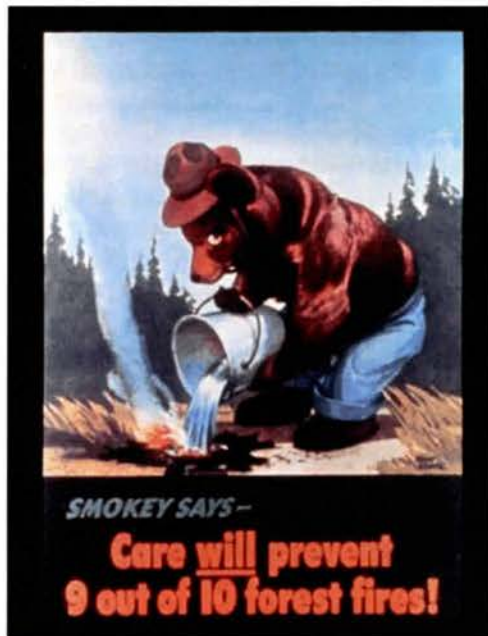
Billy was right-handed, not left-handed, and it is only because an undated ferrotype showed him with gun belt and holster on his left side and a Model 1873 Winchester rifle on his right side. In fact the ferrotype was a reverse image. [A ferrotype is a positive photograph taken directly on a thin plate of iron coated with a sensitized film. Also referred to as a tintype. This photographic process was first described

in France in 1853 by Adolphe-Alexandre Martin. It was patented in the United States in 1856 by Hamilton Smith and also in the United Kingdom by William Kloe.]

To further promote the error as to whether Billy the Kid was left-handed or right-handed, the 1958 movie starring Paul Newman was titled *The Left Handed Gun*.

Billy petitioned Governor Wallace of the New Mexico territory for amnesty after the Lincoln County War, but was turned down, and his sentence to hang remained.

Did Billy the Kid die on July 14, 1881? Various individuals have claimed to have been Billy the Kid and to have lived beyond the meeting with Sheriff Pat Garrett on that fateful day. Most historians say that he died as reported, but without exhumation and DNA evidence the mystery continues.



Smokey Bear's debut poster released August 9, 1944. Poster was illustrated by Albert Staehle.  
([http://smokeybear.com/vault/museum\\_main.asp](http://smokeybear.com/vault/museum_main.asp))

Henry McCarty with aliases of Henry Antrim, William H. Bonney and Billy the Kid was buried in the military cemetery in Fort Sumner next to two of his buddies, Tom O'Foliard and Charlie Bowdre. Carved into the single tombstone for all three is the word "*Pals*". Whether Billy is truly buried here is debatable but nobody in the town of Fort Sumner will allow the body to be exhumed.

Anyway, before leaving Lincoln I did manage to catch two green hairstreaks, *Callophrys gryneus siva*. (W. H. Edwards, 1874).

Thirty miles northeast of Ruidoso as the crow flies is the quaint little town of Capitan where Smokey Bear Historical Park is located. While I was not too pleased with the Lincoln Forest being closed, I had to admit that forest fires are an important hazard to consider and historically during World War II forest fires were considered detrimental to the country's war effort. The armed forces needed lumber which was considered a critical natural resource. Because of the need for prevention of fires the U.S. government made a concerted effort to advise the public of the problem and in an attempt to educate the public came up with a number of posters calling attention to the problem.

The real live Smokey Bear (please note: it is not "*Smokey the Bear*") was a black bear cub caught in a fire in 1950 in the Capitan





Smokey Bear.

Mountains of New Mexico. The cub had climbed a tree to escape the fire but was seriously burned. After his burns healed Smokey Bear lived at the National Zoo in Washington DC until his death 26 years later whereupon his remains were returned to Capitan and buried at the Smokey Bear Historical Park.

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The next weekend (June 6, 2008), Chuck Garner and I planned to go camping in the Fort Davis, Texas, area. Our plans were to camp at the "Crow's Nest Campground" which is about 18 miles southeast of Fort Davis on highway 118 towards Alpine, Texas. Just past

Fort Davis on the way to the campground we notice that major areas on the left side of highway 118 had been burnt by a fire that had recently gone through the area. When we get to the campground our first impression is that this is terrible. It is hot and dry and all the trees in the area look dead. Nothing green in the campground - not a blade of grass anywhere!!! No decent areas for a tent, only hard dirt and rock. We talk to the couple that are running the camp (only ones there) and they tell us that they were evacuated the night before as the fire was close and the smoke was extremely dense in the campground. The fire was presently about 2 miles away but close to being under control by the fire department which was using 4 helicopters to drop water on the blaze. All told about 40,000 acres were burned. Well, this is another disappointment. So, we backtracked a bit to the Davis Mountains State Park which was also very dry but at least we could find a relatively green tree and put up our tent in some shade.

Collecting for butterflies or moths was not very good in the State Park (I do have a State collecting permit). Hot and dry, no rain for about 4 months or longer. All creeks completely dried up - very little vegetation. The Park Hosts told us that the animals in the area - deer, javelina, fox - were all having both food and water problems.

Black Witch (*Ascalapha odorata*).

While in the campground we came across a new born javelina who was lost. He/she was probably about 2 days old (still had part of the umbilical cord) and was looking for mom. We also looked for mom as she is probably ill-tempered. It was quite sad to watch this little javelina as he/she would run up to us squeaking and grunting upon which we would stand on a picnic table so as to prevent the javelina from coming too close to us. Two vultures were perched in a tree close to the javelina just watching. Nothing we could do. The ranger said that it would die and that this was nature. It was probably a runt of the litter and either the mother had insufficient milk to nurse this baby and she abandoned him/her or that a sibling ran him/her off.

I did collect a Black Witch (*Ascalapha odorata* L., 1758) which was perched on our tent early Sunday morning and 2 skippers (not yet identified) in the Chihuahuan Desert Nature Center (with permission) which is ~3 miles from the town of Fort Davis.

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**DEFINITION: XERIC** - pertaining to, or having dry or desert-like conditions.

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ALTERNATE HOSTS OF *ASCIA MONUSTE PHILETA*,  
GREAT SOUTHERN WHITE (LEPIDOPTERA: PIERIDAE),  
IN SOUTH FLORIDA

BY  
ROBERT BEIRIGER

The Great Southern White (GSW), *Ascia monuste phileta* is a very common species in Southern Florida. It is a large, white Pierid with a 2-2 ½ inch wingspread and has a brown to black triangular border on its upper wings. It feeds on wild mustards, (*Brassica* sp.), pepper grass (*Lepidium virginicum*), arugula (*Eruca vesicaria* var. *sativa*), sea rocket (*Cakile lanceolata*), nasturtium (*Tropaeolum majus*), and salt wort (*Batis maritima*). (Minno and Minno 1999) (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1. Great Southern White (*Ascia monuste phileta*) larvae.

increase in population. They can be seen in large numbers in mid to late spring and sometimes are the only butterfly to be found in and near the agricultural areas.

During 2007 and 2008, a drought has affected most of South Florida and I suspect that the dry weather has reduced the numbers and size of the pepper grass plants forcing the GSW to seek alternate hosts. Apparently, other species of *Brassica*, i.e., broccoli, head cabbage and chinese broccoli, also known as rapa, can be used as larval host but are not preferred. Listed below are some of my observations on GSW alternate hosts.



Fig. 2. Eggs of the Great Southern White (*Ascia monuste phileta*) on Nasturtium.

During 2007 and early 2008, GSW larvae were found feeding on several plants which usually do not serve as hosts in South Florida, including broccoli (*Brassica oleracea* var. *italica*), nasturtium (*Tropaeolum majus*), and mizuna. Mizuna has many common names and scientific names including *Brassica rape* var. *nipponinica*, *Brassica rape* var. *japonica* or *Brassica juncea* var. *japonica*. It is not surprising that they use these plants, as they are listed as host plants (Minno and Minno 1999). In past years, even though these plants were readily available as host, most were not used. I have grown Nasturtiums and Broccoli for several years in my yard without seeing any signs of egg lay or leaf feeding. Great Southern Whites have always preferred pepper grass, *Lepidium virginicum*, as a host plant. This plant is a weed in South Florida agricultural areas, yards, and road wayside and is a winter annual which grows best October through April. This time frame usually corresponds to Great Southern Whites large

Great Southern White oviposition on mizuna is quite heavy when it is the only host available. Larval develop normally and complete their life cycle on this plant. Mizuna is used in traditional Japanese dishes like soup and stir-fry and is more common around the New Years. It is only grown on a small acreage in South Florida mainly for its tender young leaves to add to bags of mesclun salad mix or spring mix. There is the potential that it could become a pest of this crop in the future. Over the last few years these salad mixes have become more popular and acreage of mizuna has increased. Like pepper grass, mizuna is grown as a winter annual and this greatly increases its chances of being used as a host by the Great Southern White.

Nasturtiums are used mainly as an ornamental in coastal areas of South Florida where they are grown as a winter annual and in a limited amount grown for its edible flower. Great Southern White oviposition was medium to heavy on young plants that were less than 6 inches tall (Fig. 2), but as plants grew, they appeared to be less desirable. As they reach maturity and started flowering oviposition stopped. Nasturtium appears to be a poor larval host for the GSW as most larvae died before reaching the 3<sup>rd</sup> instar. I never saw one mature larvae feeding on any of my Nasturtiums or saw more than slight damage to any leaves and am doubtful of this being a viable host plant for the GSW in Florida.

Broccoli is a vegetable that is grown on a limited commercial acreage mainly for its immature flower stalk. It is more commonly grown in gardens in South Florida. Great Southern Whites lay eggs on broccoli and their larvae develop quite rapidly and complete development on this crop. Larval feeding is restricted to the older leaves and they do not appear to feed on the immature flowering stalk. This feeding is different than other pests of broccoli like armyworms which prefer the younger leaves first. This past season they were a minor pest in some plantings of broccoli and required spraying.

The Great Southern White prefers feeding on pepper grass in most areas of South Florida but if this plant is not available or is of poor quality, alternate hosts are chosen. These alternate hosts are frequently *Brassica sp.* where they can cause minor damage to these crops.

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(Robert Beiriger, 16356 Trafalgar Dr. E., Loxahatchee, FL 33470)

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#### DEFINITIONS:

**AEROPYLE** - the anatomical structure (microscopic holes) in the egg that allows respiration to occur; oxygen exchange occurs through these air passages (the *aeropyles*).

**CHITIN** - A hard tough polysaccharide (N-acetylglucosamine) secreted by the epidermis which forms the outer covering of insects and other arthropods [also present in the beaks of the squid and octopus (cephapods)]; component of the exoskeleton.

**CRYPTIC COLORATION** - Camouflage; a type of coloration in which the individual (species) resembles its background for the purpose of avoiding detection from predators or from prey which is an advantage.

**CUTICLE** - polysaccharide (chitin) outer layer (plus protein and lipid) which forms part of the exoskeleton in arthropods

**HIBERNACULUM** - any case or covering for protecting an organism during the winter; a structure in which a dormant animal passes the winter. Some caterpillars which hibernate through the winter will fold a leaf and fasten the two sides with silk and make a tent-like structure.

**OBTECT PUPA** - A type of pupa in which the appendages and wings of the insect are glued down against the body by a secretion. An example of the *obtect pupa* is the butterfly chrysalis.

#### Sources

wikipedia

Butterfly glossary: <http://www.google.com/search?source=ig&hl=en&rlz=&q=butterfly+glossary>





Vern's clearwing moth pheromone trap.

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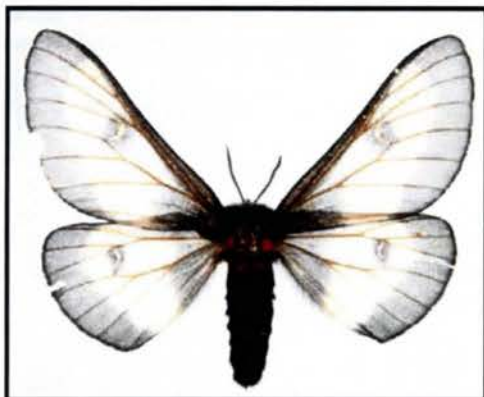
## ANOTHER \$20 FROM JAMES

James Adams sent our Treasurer another \$20 for the two articles in the last issue of the Newsletter which met his challenge to the SL Society membership: "*Megathymus cofaqui - Costly First Encounter*" by Harry E. LeGrand Jr. and "*A tale of Two Zebras*" by David Rupe. I believe that these are the third and fourth articles which means that James has contributed \$40 thus far. James has promised a total of \$100 (\$10 per article) so Members let's take up the challenge and make him pay. The subject matter of this challenge is "*First Encounter*" or "*Dangers of Lepping*". Many thanks to those who have written these articles and to James who has generously donated to the Society. [The Editor]

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## SLOSSER'S BUCKMOTH



A Slosser's Buckmoth (*Hemileuca slosseri* Peigler & Stone, 1989) was captured on November 3, 2006, on the front lawn of my house within the City of Lubbock. My thanks to Charles Bordelon for the identification. [The Editor]

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**Trivia:** Skippers which are usually considered the fastest flying of the butterflies can attain a speed of 30 miles per hour.



## ANARTIA JATROPHAE GUANTANAMO MUNROE IN LOUISIANA

BY

VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR., MICHAEL T. LEFORT, AND KEVIN J. CUNNINGHAM



Fig. 1. *A. j. guantanamo*: a. male, b. female.

The tropical butterfly species, *Anartia jatrophae* (Johansson) was originally described in 1763 from northern South America. *Anartia jatrophae guantanamo* Munroe (Fig. 1. ) was described in 1942, (type locality, Guantanamo, Cuba), and from Florida.

On November 15, 1999, a single male *guantanamo* was first captured in Louisiana by Mike Lefort in the town of Golden

Meadow, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana. Lefort also observed additional specimens each of the subsequent days, November 16-19.

Following these sightings, on November 21 the authors surveyed the area near the town of Golden Meadow. We captured approximately 50 good quality specimens of *guantanamo*. We determined the specimens we observed were mostly flying in wet areas containing the reported foodplant, round leaf bacopa (*Bacopa rotundifolia*), a low groundcover type of plant which has very small white flowers. Several female *guantanamo* were observed ovipositing on this plant. Seitz (1924) states the larvae was reported to feed on *Jatropha manihot*.

Lefort observed additional specimens on the wing in Golden Meadow that same year on November 23, 27, and December 2, 11, and 17. In the following year 2000, adults were observed by Lefort and Michael Lockwood in Grand Isle, Jefferson Parish, on August 28 near an area having *Bacopa* plants. Two additional specimens were observed by Cunningham during October 2000 in Lafourche Parish, near Pointe-aux-Chenes. Five years later, in 2005, one female was taken October 22 and one male on November 12, both in Golden Meadow. On October 14 and 15, 2006, a few specimens were observed by Lefort and Cunningham near Grand Isle State Park, Jefferson Parish, in an area with abundant *Bacopa* plants, with one male netted on October 14.

Klots (1951) listed the range of *jatrophae* from the tropics, in the US, South Texas and South Florida, straying north to Kansas and Massachusetts, the same wording later used by Pyle (1981). Harris (1972) lists *jatrophae* as occasionally straying into Georgia. Klots (1951) listed *Anartia jatrophae luteipicta* Fruhstorfer (type locality, Honduras) to be the subspecies occurring into Texas and occasionally northward to Kansas, and *A. j. guantanamo* to be the subspecies occurring in Florida and northward occasionally to Massachusetts. Howe (1975) gives a more detailed explanation of these same range issues. Seitz (1924) states *luteipicta* exhibits the yellow of the distal margin sometimes covering the entire upper surface of the hindwing.

Pyle, (1981) lists the typical habitat of *jatrophae* to be swampy places, watersides, shorelines, and disturbed ground. He further lists the range to include much of the American tropics, in the US, South Texas and South Florida, straying north to Kansas and Massachusetts. Heitzman & Heitzman (1987) states *jatrophae* strays rarely into Missouri. Brock (2003) lists the range of *jatrophae* to be Florida and Texas, north to Nebraska, New Mexico, and North Carolina. Heppner (2003) listed the range of *guantanamo* in the US to be Georgia to Florida and Missouri to Texas. The senior author is also in possession of 10 specimens of *guantanamo* captured in October 1969 on Cat Island, Mississippi, nearby to the southeast Louisiana coast line.

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### **GROUP PHOTOGRAPH FROM THE ANNUAL SLS MEETING IN STARKSVILLE, MISSISSIPPI (JUNE 24 - 27, 2008)**



**Bottom Row, Left to right:** Bob Patterson, Beth Patterson, Eleanor Adams, Debroah Matthews Lott.  
**Middle Row, Left to Right:** Joe Riddlebarger, J. D. Turner, Unknown (in tan), Charlie Covell, Thomas C. Emmel, Reed Watkins, Unknown (in yellow), Eric Metzler, Terry Lott.  
**Top Row, Left to Right:** James Adams, Jacqueline Miller, Don Stillwaugh.

Photograph was taken by Jeffrey Marcus.



## BLEEDING SYNDROME IN A TRAVELER TO NORTHEASTERN PERU DUE TO CATERPILLARS

BY

J. BARRY LOMBARDINI

If this unfortunate traveler had been a collector of lepidoptera we could receive \$10.00 from James Adams for a story about "*Dangers of Lepping*". However, this unlucky young lady just happened to come in contact with poisonous caterpillars of the Genus *Lonomia* while visiting Peru and was not collecting, photographing, or

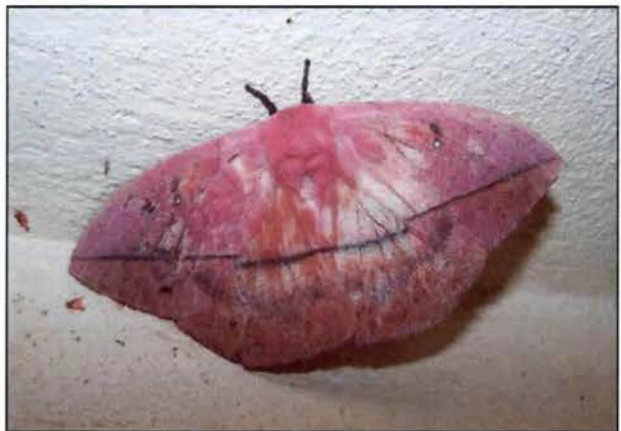


*Lonomia obliqua* (tentative identification); photograph taken on 22 April 2008 [Jeni Oborn/ [www.faunaparaguay.com/ECOSARA](http://www.faunaparaguay.com/ECOSARA) Biodiversity Database]

watching butterflies to my knowledge. Her case was written up in the *Canadian Medical Association Journal* [July 15, 2008: 179 (2)]. The sad story goes as follows: A 22-year-old woman presented to the doctors at the Medical School of the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada, with extensive ecchymoses [purplish patches caused by extravasation (act of escaping) of blood into the skin; black-and-blue spots] on both legs. She appeared to have no other medical problems.

She had recently returned from northeastern Peru where she experienced a burning pain in her foot and had difficulty walking due to the pain. She also complained of a headache. These symptoms started after she stepped barefoot on 5 caterpillars. However, the symptoms abated within 12 hours and it is assumed that she believed that her problems resolved and consequently did not go to a doctor.

After returning home to Canada she started to experience medical problems (ecchymoses on both legs) and sought medical help at the Medical School in Edmonton. The diagnoses after physical examination and laboratory tests



*Lonomia obliqua* (male); photograph taken March 2008 [Paul Smith/[www.faunaparaguay.com/ECOSARA](http://www.faunaparaguay.com/ECOSARA) Biodiversity Database]

was "*an atypical presentation of disseminated intravascular coagulation of primary fibrinolysis triggered by an unknown process.*" Treatment was initiated and a search for the cause of her medical problem was begun.

Contact was made with Brazilian clinicians who had experience with caterpillar envenomation and they suggested that she be treated with a locally produced antivenin to the caterpillar toxin. Again, unfortunately, the possible medical help came too late. The antivenin should be administered with 12-24 hours after envenomation. In this young lady's case it was at least 9 days.

medical problems: "...alveolar hemorrhage, anuric acute kidney injury and hemodynamic instability developed.....Her hematologic and coagulation abnormalities worsened, and there was evidence of progressive microangiopathic hemolytic anemia, consumptive thrombocytopenia and disseminated intravascular coagulation." (The quoted statement is medical jargon for serious blood pathology.) This young women died of multiorgan failure later that day.

The situation did not improve and her condition deteriorated. On the 10<sup>th</sup> day after her mishap with the caterpillars, she experienced a whole series of serious

A sad ending to an interesting story.





*Lonomia oblique* (female); photograph taken September 2007 [Paul Smith/www.fauna.paraguay.com/ECOSARA Biodiversity Database] (cm marks are not in the original photograph, but added by the Editor)

thinking that the SLS membership might find it to be of interest. The Editor also thanks Mr. Paul Smith who gave permission for the SL Society to use photographs of the male, female and larva (tentative identification) of *Lonomia oblique*. Mr. Paul Smith is associated with FAUNA Paraguay, an informational archive on Paraguayan Natural History that is located on the web at: <http://www.faunaparaguay.com/>



According to the research done by the authors of the article in the Canadian Journal there are 12 families of caterpillars that potentially may cause medical problems in humans. Bleeding problems are associated with specific caterpillars that are in the Genus *Lonomia* which is a moth found in South America. Their search revealed that there were 688 cases of caterpillar envenomation in one state of Brazil in a 5-year period.

What usually happens to the victims is that they without realization rub against the caterpillars which are located on the trunk of a tree. The toxin is highly potent and considered to be more toxic than a rattlesnake bite. After envenomation has occurred the reaction can be quite dramatic and includes massive internal hemorrhaging, kidney failure and hemolysis of red blood cells.

The caterpillars that are known to cause these bleeding problems belong to two species of the Genus *Lonomia* in the family Saturniidae. *L. oblique* is found in Brazil and Uruguay, and *L. achelous* is found in northern Brazil and Venezuela. Because of the number of cases that the clinicians in Brazil have observed in recent years, an antivenin has been produced to the toxins of *L. oblique* which has been demonstrated to be effective if administered with 12-24 hours after contact with the caterpillar. The antivenin has not been proven to be effective against *L. achelous* thus far.

[The Editor - Thanks to Larry Hribar who sent me the link (<http://www.cmag.ca/cgi/content/full/179/2/158>) to this article

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The following photograph sent in by Ro Wauer accompanies his Big Bend National Park (Texas) report on page 122.

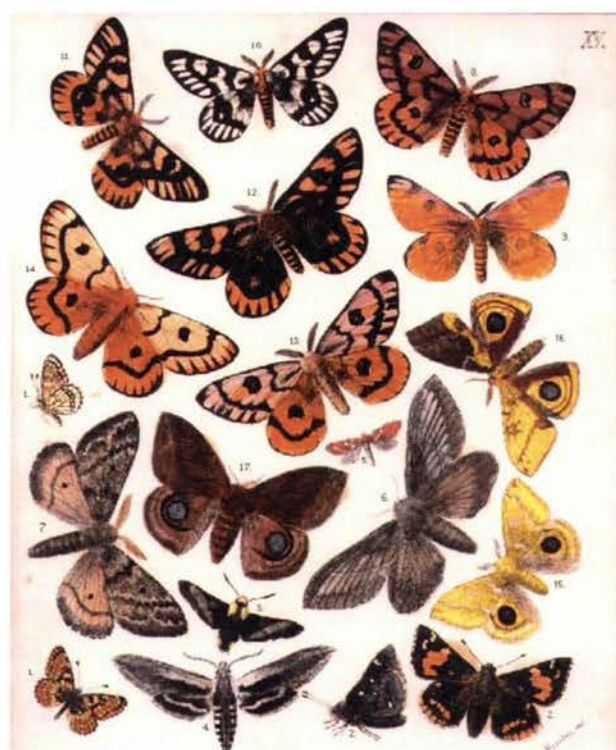
Ruddy Daggerwing photographed near Santa Elena Canyon on September 4, representing the first verified park record.

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[Color plates from the article on F. H. H. Strecker, page 89.]



Ferdinand Heinrich Hermann Strecker *Lepidoptera Rhopaloceres and Heteroceres, Indigenous and Exotic, with Descriptions and Colored Illustrations* - plates VII, XI, XIV and XV (published between 1872-1878), from the website of Dr. Joe Kunkel [<http://bcrc.bio.umass.edu/Kunkel/Moths/strecker.html>] <sup>(3)</sup>.



## STATUS OF HURRICANE GUSTAV (2008) UPON COLLECTING IN SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA

BY

VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR & CHARLOTTE DOZAR BROU

Apparently, there was an unforeseen and more long term reason we ended up purchasing eight chainsaws, 20 five-gallon gasoline cans and two 6000 watt generators after **Hurricane Katrina** which hit southeast Louisiana August 29, 2005, in what was the biggest hurricane related disaster in the recorded history of North America. Now three years later, on August 29, 2008, we found ourselves preparing to be hit again in nearly the same general area of southeast Louisiana by another devastating hurricane. On August 31, we began to feel the first significant effects of wind and rain from the outer bands of **Gustav** entering the coastal areas of Louisiana as a category 3 hurricane, dropping to category 2 with 110 mile per hour winds as it went ashore. As this event was unfurling, in the largest evacuation ever to occur in North America, 1.9 million people fled in the few days prior to the hurricane **Gustav's** advance onto the coast near central coastal Louisiana.

As the edge of the eye of the storm passed by our rural home location near Abita Springs, in about the center of St. Tammany Parish, we chose not to evacuate. We experienced the negative effects of **Gustav**, lots of tree damage, severe wind and rain for many days prior to, during, and especially after the landfall event. Still, the most dangerous issues we dealt with were a seemingly continual training parade of tornadoes within the torrential trailing rain bands which were unrelenting occurring all around our home location for four subsequent days, and throughout Louisiana as well. Most notable (or some would say most importantly) was extensive tornado damage to the local Abita Beer brewery. We personally lost all electrical power, land based phones, cell phones, 911 emergency systems were non-operative in many communities, and small cities and towns were warning residents not to flush toilets because municipal sewerage systems were non-functioning due to lack of electrical power. Gasoline stations, food stores, and other businesses, as well as regional traffic light systems throughout the area were nonfunctioning because of lack of electrical power due to the loss of hundreds of major transmission lines, hundreds of power substations and countless downed power lines. The roads and highways are filled with downed trees, debris, and downed power lines. Communities near water were the most devastated by the flooding associated with the ten foot surges of water pushed onto the low lying land areas of coastal Louisiana by the hurricane. Rainfall associated with **Gustav** appear to be limited to 19 inches or less and was most severe upon the inland areas of the state, while coastal areas were most affected by winds and storm surge waters. Louisiana has a 1700 mile coast line and 6.4 % of it's total area (3100 sq. miles) is actually water. The highest location in Louisiana (a little over 400 feet) is located at the extreme northernmost, Louisiana - Arkansas border. Interestingly, 22% of the population of Louisiana experienced hurricane force winds in **Gustav**, the same percentage as in Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

One million, four hundred thousand households were without electrical power in Louisiana on day two, affecting 54% of all households statewide on day four, and as occurred previously during hurricane Katrina, some areas not expecting to receive power for another two to five weeks. Residents of entire parishes, cities, towns and villages are not being allowed to re-enter various affected areas to return to their homes for days to weeks. Paramount in the devastation caused by **Gustav** is the destruction of the entire main electrical transportation lines of some of the big electrical generating companies (e.g., 14 of 14 main lines supplying the greater New Orleans area, including a significant portion of southeast Louisiana). Regarding FEMA -- Useless Buffoons, even more so than during Katrina, though I would have thought that to be impossible !!

In the devastation caused by hurricane Katrina in 2005, we personally lost by total or partial destruction all six light traps with associated collection chambers and 54 bucket pheromone traps and eight fermenting fruit bait traps and other quantities and types of insect traps. We just this year finished redesigning and fabricating six new light traps with improved collection chambers and most importantly, a newly designed light trap and collection chamber support stand for each location. We also added two additional light traps with collection chambers for a total of eight operating continually during 2008. We are most pleased to say, that this effort at design improvements with the support stand resulted in no damage to any of the eight newly designed and improved light traps (Fig. 1).

We also redesigned and fabricated two fiberglass screen hanging type bait traps eliminating the need for any type





Fig. 1. Light trap with collection chamber.



Fig. 2. Bait trap with collection chamber.



Fig. 3. Captures in bait trap collection chamber during one overnight as eye wall of Gustav passed nearby the Abita Springs study site.

nights of the hurricane. An image of the captures representative in these bait trap collection chambers which actually occurred during the night of the hurricane **Gustav** passing is shown in Fig. 3. What is evident about the successfully designed bait trap shown in Figs. 2 & 3, is that it has numerous advantages which are a light year improvement in the method of surveying and collecting many varied insects. Lepidoptera and some coleoptera species never seen in significant quantities utilizing light trap methods or by standard type bait traps without a collection chamber are captured in very good to excellent condition. For example, the very small noctuid species

of zipper and this feature was an overwhelming success and improvement in trap operation. Though both of these hanging traps were blown down and damaged during hurricane **Gustav**. A series of redesigned bait traps with associated collection chambers were fabricated without using flexible fiberglass screening and placed upon a rigid stationary stand (Fig. 2). These redesigned bait traps with collection chambers were an overwhelming success in quantity and quality of captured insects, and were undamaged during hurricane **Gustav**. The functioning of these traps were seemingly unaffected by the severe weather and traps captured significantly greater amounts of all types of insects during the worst days and



*Dyspyralis atrinacula* Ferg., is only occasionally (none to two individuals/night) seen in light trap captures throughout the year over the past 26 years here at our study site near Abita Springs, even though it occurs in numerous annual broods. It is possible to capture hundreds of individuals in a single night using a few bait traps with collection chambers. The array of species and quantities captured is so radically different from those captured in light traps in the same locations, that it amazes us each day when we open the collection chambers of the light traps and bait traps. What is not readily evident to the user of standard bait traps that capture only live specimens is that the majority of those live-captured specimens are quickly battered to the point of being unrecognizable and totally useless when the trap volume contains more than a very small handful of specimens. Some of many positive advantages of utilizing a collecting chamber with the bait trap are that negative aspects: wasp stings, assassin bug stings, and biting fly attacks on the researcher as well as predation and destruction upon the captured lepidoptera by hymenoptera and hemiptera are eliminated completely.

In the one night, one trap example (Fig. 3), many hundreds of **Noctuidae** were taken in the collection chamber overnight from August 31 to September 1, during the severe hurricane **Gustav** weather, included individuals of the genera: *Acronicta*, *Acontia*, *Agriopodes*, *Agrotis*, *Allotria*, *Amphipyra*, *Anicla*, *Argyrostromis*, *Arugisa*, *Bagasara*, *Bendis*, *Callopietria*, *Condica*, *Dyspyralis*, *Homophoberia*, *Hypsoropha*, *Idia*, *Elaphria*, *Epidroma*, *Leucania*, *Lithacodia*, *Magusa*, *Melipotis*, *Metalectra*, *Mocis*, *Nola*, *Paectes*, *Panopoda*, *Parallelia*, *Phosphila*, *Phyprosopus*, *Platysenta*, *Polygrammate*, *Pseudaletia*, *Scolecocampa*, *Spodoptera*, *Thioptera*, and *Zale*. Species of **Geometridae**, **Lycaenidae**, **Nymphalidae**, **Pyalidae**, **Satyridae**, **Sesiidae**, **Sphingidae**, **Cerambycidae**, **Diptera**, and **Hymenoptera** were also taken. This listing is by no means comprehensive of what can be expected, because a particular date in another month would yield a considerably diverse listing of other genera than those listed here for this particular night. Within Louisiana, we have used collection chambers with light traps almost exclusively and continually since 1970 at various long term survey sites and with bait traps also since 1984, allowing us to accomplish an enormity of research and collecting activities that would otherwise have required the assistance of a considerable bevy of assistants.

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The following two photographs sent in by Ro Wauer accompany his Big Bend National Park (Texas) report on page 122.



Warn Potrillo Skipper photographed at the Sam Nail Ranch on September 3, representing the first park and Brewster County record.



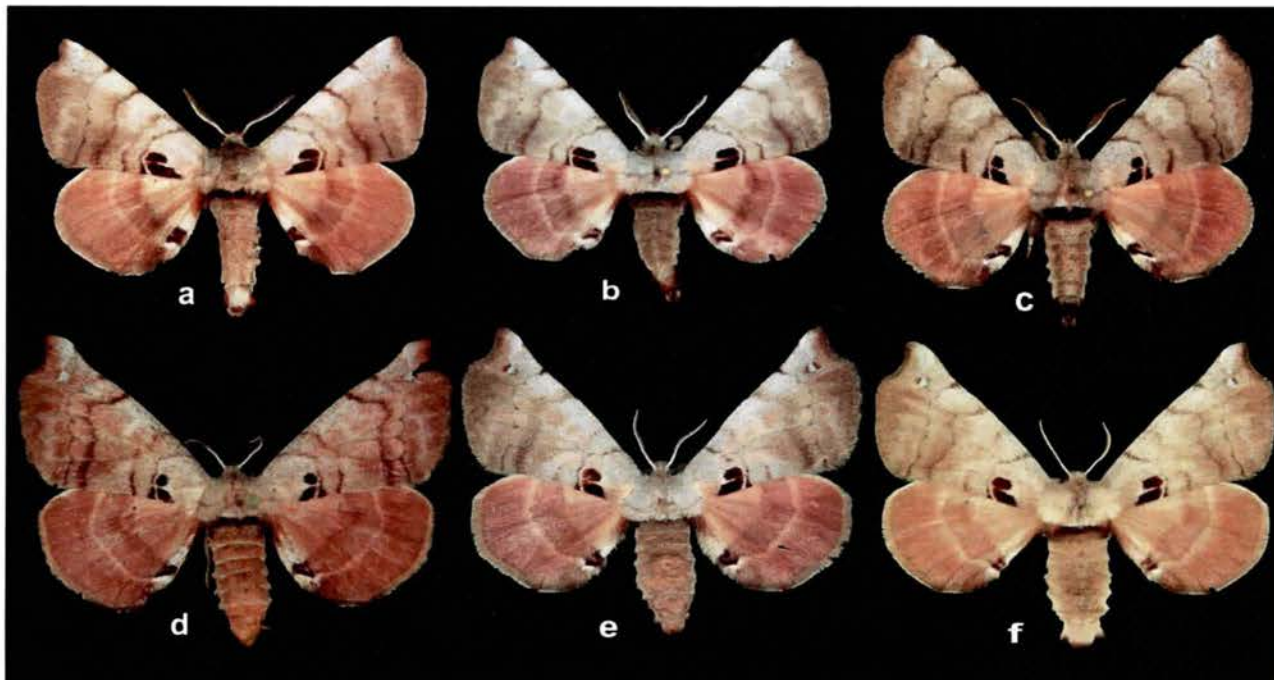
A tailless Zilpa Longtail photographed near Santa Elena Canyon on September 6.

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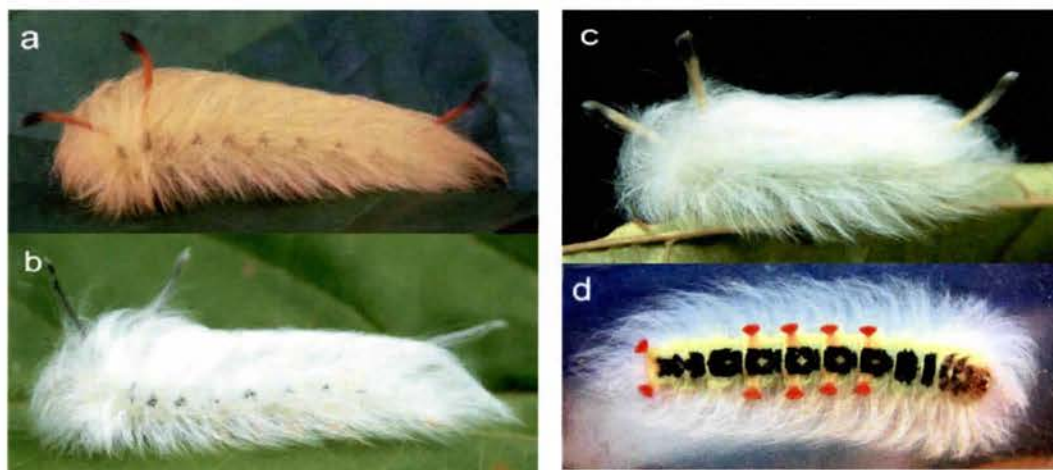
***APATELODES TORREFACTA* (J. E. SMITH, 1797)  
(LEPIDOPTERA: APATELODIDAE) IN LOUISIANA**

BY  
VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR.



**Fig. 1.** *A. torrefacta* pairs of phenotypes representing some brood variations: (a-c) males, (d-f) females.

The fairly common moth *Apatelodes torrefacta* (J. E. Smith) (Fig. 1) occurs across Louisiana, though I have only ten parishes listed in my records (Fig. 5). Franclemont (1973) reported on two species of the genus *Apatelodes* known to occur north of Mexico; with *torrefacta* occurring from Ontario and New England to Florida and west to the Plains and eastern Texas. Franclemont also reported that *torrefacta* is double brooded in the south. In Louisiana, *torrefacta* appears to have five annual broods, the first peaking third week of April, the second about June 1, and subsequent broods at approximate 30-day intervals (Fig. 3). The unique larvae are illustrated in Fig. 2 & 4. Larvae can be bright white, off white or dull yellow with all variations occurring within the same batch of ova. I have found larvae numerous times feeding upon leaves of *Asimina triloba* (L.) (paw paw) at the Abita Springs study site. Soule (1889) reported rearing *torrefacta* on Sassafras, *Fraxinus* and *Prunus* (beach plum and cherry) with reports of larval colors similar to that I have outlined here.



**Fig. 2.** Late instar larvae of *A. torrefacta* on *Asimina triloba* (L.); a, b, c. side view, d. ventral view.



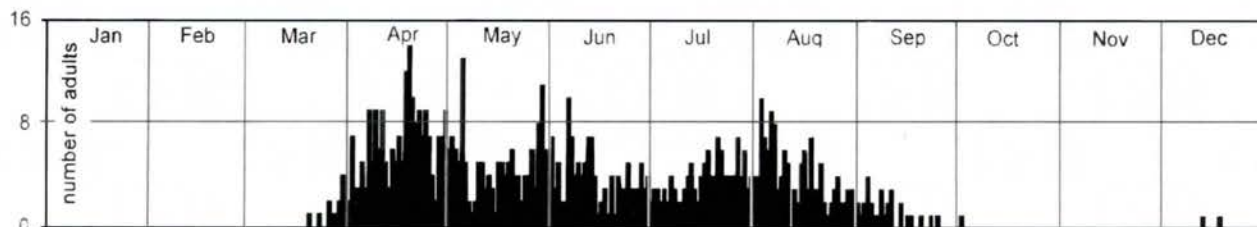
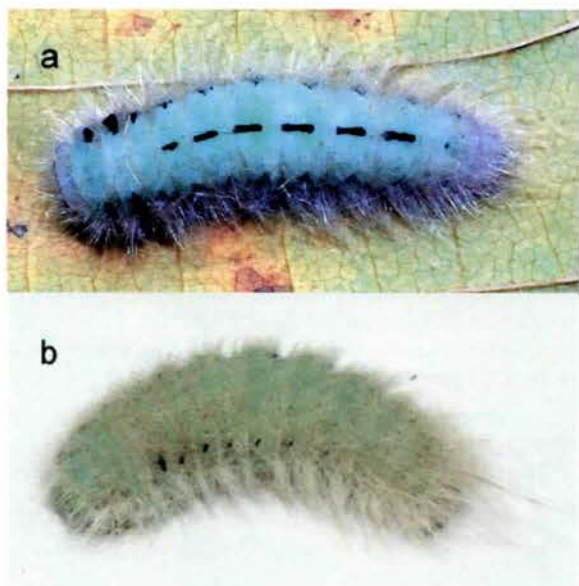


Fig. 3. *A. torrefacta* adults captured at sec.24T6SR12E, 4.2 mi NE of Abita Springs, Louisiana. n = 755.



Figs. 4a, b. Dorsal views, prepupal stage.

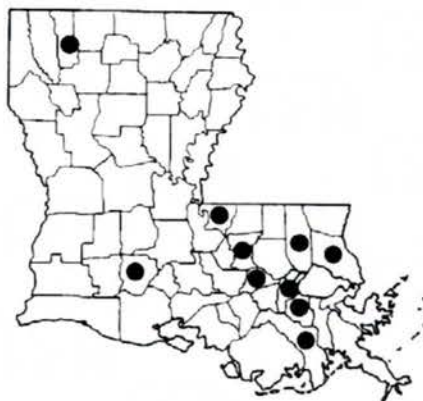


Fig. 5. Parish records.

#### Literature Cited

- Franclemont, J.G. in Dominick, R.B., et al., 1973. *The Moths of America North of Mexico*, Fasc. 20.1 Mimallonioidea; Bombycoidea (part).
- Soule, C. G. 1889. Description of Eggs and Larva of *Apatelodes torrefacta*, *Psyche*, 5, no. 153, pp. 148-149.

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### ***NYMPHALIS MILBERTI* (GODART) (LEPIDOPTERA: NYMPHALIDAE) CAPTURED IN LOUISIANA BY VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR.**



Fig. 1. *Nymphalis milberti* male: a. dorsal, b. ventral.

In November 1969, I captured by hand netting a lone specimen of the nymphalid butterfly *Nymphalis milberti* (Godart) at Edgard, St. John the Baptist Parish as it was nectaring at clover on the batture of the Mississippi River. This first and only known Louisiana record for *milberti* was informally

reported in an invited paper at an annual meeting of the Lepidopterists Society in the early 1970's, but otherwise

has remained squirreled away all these years. I illustrate the specimen for the first time in Fig. 1. This digital image was taken now 39 years later after its capture.

The type locality for *milberti* is listed as "United States" and fixed as "vicinity of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania" by dos Passos (1938). Klots (1951) listed the range for *milberti* to include Newfoundland, and central and southern Canada, south chiefly in mountains and piedmont to West Virginia.

The most southerly published records for *milberti* appear to be those several specimens reported from northeastern Missouri by Heitzman and Heitzman (1987). Glassberg (1999) illustrates the range for *milberti* from the New England states and surrounding Great Lakes states portions of Canada and further states it occurs westward to Alaska and California. Glassberg ignored the Missouri records, though he lists that publication in his bibliography.

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Glassberg, J. 1999. *Butterflies through Binoculars The East*. Oxford Univ. Press, New York, 242 pp., 71 plates.

Heitzman, J. R. & J. E. Heitzman 1987. *Butterflies and Moths of Missouri*. Missouri Dept. of Conservation, 385 pp.

Klots, A.B. 1951. *A Field Guide to the Butterflies of North America East of the Great Plains*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin. 349 pp. 40 pl.

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**VLADIMIR NABOKOV'S COMMENTS** - From an interview with Alfred Appel, Jr. (literary and cultural critic and professor at Stanford University, a student of Nabokov's at Cornell, and future editor of the *Annotated Lolita*), September 25-29, 1966:

*"My passion for lepidopterological research, in the field, in the laboratory, in the library, is even more pleasurable than the study and practice of literature, which is saying a good deal. Lepidopterists are obscure scientists. Not one is mentioned in Webster ...The tactile delights of precise delineation, the silent paradise of the camera lucida, and the precision of poetry in taxonomic description represent the artistic side of the thrill which accumulation of new knowledge, absolutely useless to the layman, gives its first begetter. Science means to me above all natural science."*

From Nabokov's diary, June 25, 1966:

*"In catching butterflies, we distinguish the forehand stroke; the backhand; and the lowly 'pudder' - popping the net over the butterfly settled on the damp ground."*

Nabokov always had a say in the design of the jacket for his books and he was very adamant that his view be taken seriously and he demanded the last word. In a letter to Bud McLennan (of Weidenfeld and Nicolson), February 8, 1966, the following comments by Vera Nabokov:

*"This is one of the things on which my husband makes his own decisions... 'The design for the jacket seems to me tasteless in the extreme. The entire conception is artistically preposterous, wrong and crude, and I cannot understand why they are not using the subtle and intelligent sketch I sent them....'"*

**Source:** *Nabokov's Butterflies*, New Translations from the Russian by Dmitri Nabokov; Edited and Annotated by Brian Boyd and Robert Michael Pyle, Beacon Press, Boston, 2000.

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**CHLOSYNE DEFINITA AT TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY**



*Chlosyne definita* - October 30, 2006. Specimen captured in the Horticulture Gardens on Texas Tech University campus within the City of Lubbock, TX. Underside of hindwing has an orange submarginal band with one white spot. [The Editor]

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**DOODLING SPACE**

**NOTE TAKING**



## REPORTS OF STATE COORDINATORS

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**Arkansas:** Mack Shotts, 514 W. Main Street, Paragould, AR 72450, E-Mail: [cshotts@grnco.net](mailto:cshotts@grnco.net)

**Florida:** Charles V. Covell Jr., w07 NE 9<sup>th</sup> Ave, Gainesville, FL 32601, E-Mail: [covell@louisville.edu](mailto:covell@louisville.edu)

Charlie Covell's records from Gainesville, Alachua County:

**BUTTERFLIES:**

*Epargyreus clarus*: July 14,15, 18, 20, 21, 23, August 3,4, 26, 28

*Urbanus proteus*: July 17, 23, 24, 30, August 9, 11, 12, 28, 29, September 1, 34, 6, 7.

*Urbanus Dorantes*: August 28, September 4.

*Erynnis horatius*: May 25, June 5,8, 15, 30, July 1,2, 12, 14, 15, 16, 20 26, September 4,6.

*Asboli capucinus*: August 2.

*Hylephila phyleus*: may 24, 31, June 11, 14, July 9, 11, 16, 23, 24, August 9, 15, 27, 28, 29, 31, September 4,6,7, 10.

*Wallengrenia otho*: September 8.

*Polites vibex*: July 11, September 6.

*Panoquina ocola*: August 28, September 4, 7

*Battus philenor*: July 11, 17, 23, August 23, 28.

*Battus polydamas*: May 25, June 2, :July 9,10, September 6.

*Heraclides crespontes*: May 24, 31, June 17, 30, July 17, 23, August 17, 19, September 1,6,7,8,9.

*Papilio polyxenes asterius*: May 24, June 30, July 30, August 2.

*Papilio glaucus*: May 24, 27, 31, June 17, 20, July 9, 11, 14, 26, 27, August 13, 15, 17, September 1, 7.

*Papilio troilus*: May 24, June 1, July 20, August 9, 10, 16, 17, 19, 23, 25, 26, 28, September 2, 7.

*Papilio palamedes*: May 27, June 2, 6, 7, 14, 17, 18, 20, 28, July 2, 9, 11, 12, 19, 24, August 15, 26, 28, 29, September 1.

*Eurytides marcellus*: May 24.

*Pontia protodice*: May 26, June 30, August 25.

*Phoebis sennae*: May 24, July 16, 26, August 9, 15.

*Phoebis philea*: August 30, September 17.

*Eurema nicippe*: May 31, July 18, 26, August 9, 26, 28, 29, September 1,6,7.

*Eurema daira*: August 9, 19, 28, September 6,7.

*Parhassius M-album*: June 30.

*Calcopis cecrops*: July 27, August 13.

*Leptotes ceraunus*: June 14, 19, 29, 30, July 14, 24, 29.

*Libytheana carinenta*: August 17.

*Phyciodes phaon*: August 28.

*Vanessa cardui*: July 29.

*Vanessa virginiensis*: May 24.

*Junonia coenia*: June 14, July 231, August 27.

*Limenitis archippus* form "Floridensis": June 4, July 19, 29, August 9, 19, September 7, 10.

*Agraulis vanillae*: May 24, 28, June 2,4, 11, 14, 18, 28, July 2, 11, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19, 23, 24, August 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, September 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 10

*Heliconius charithonia*: May 24, 28, June 2, 4, 14, 18, 28, July 2, 8, 13, 14, 23, 24, 27, 30, August 9, 10 11, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, September, 1,2, 4, 6, 7, 10.

*Danaus plexippus*: June 14, July 23, 30, August 9, 12, 15, 20, 22, 23, 28, 29, 31, September 4, 6, 7, 10.

*Danaus gilippus berenice*: June 4, August 9, 30, September 6, 7.

### MOTHS:

Arctiidae: *Syntomeida epilaus*: May 22, on Lantana.

*Dahana atripennis*: June 13.

Sphingidae: *Eumorpha pandorus*: August 24 nectaring after dark.

Report from Jeff Slotten:

Dan Hyman reports 1 adult *Xylophanes pluto* collected at lights in 2003 in Seminole County (good northern record). Recently mature larvae of *Xylophanes pluto* were found on *Hamelia patens* (Firebush) in July, 2008, in Seminole County, and identified by Rick Gillmore.

Dan Hyman reports *Didasys belae* (1 male) collected at lights in May, 2008, in Chuluota, Seminole County, and 1 *Eumorpha labruscae* collected at lights on December 25, 2007, in Seminole County. There were two other reports, one by Bob Belmont, during December 2007 in Seminole County.

Rick Gillmore reported as his wife was working in her butterfly garden in Winter Park, Seminole County, a large female *Pachylia ficus* climbed off of a garden plant up her pants. This happened October 2007. In 2008 a *P. ficus* larva was found on a Ficus tree in a butterfly garden in Seminole County. We believe these northern records are occurring because of the lack of hard freezes in the central Florida area in the past five years.

Rick Gillmore reports an inland population of *Brephidium pseudofea* found by his friend Gerry Moore, at Mullett Park, Seminole County, Florida, in May 2008. Jeff Slotten and Rick Gillmore visited the site of this inland record and through local, the butterfly is well established. Terry Moore has recently become interested in blues and hairstreaks and photographed *Mitoura gryneus sweadneri* in late August, 2008, near Crystal River, Florida.

Another report of *Brephidium pseudofea* has also been found in Volusia County, Florida, along the St Johns River.

Jeff Slotten found larvae of *Omphalocera munroei* on *Asimina* (Papaw) in May of 2008 at Williston Highlands, Levy County, Florida. Adults emerged July 2008.

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

This summary includes reports for several outings with outstanding results, and is therefore one of the longest for Georgia in years. The contributors include James Adams (JA or no notation), Irving Finkelstein (IF), Eleanor Adams (ERA), Jeff Slotten (JS), Matt Lehnert (ML). Other contributors are 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 more complete lists for new locations/new times of year. All dates listed below are 2008 unless otherwise specified.

Pigeon Mtn. WMA, Walker Co., JA with ERA, Dave Lawrie, Jason Dombroskie, June 30:

**LYCAENIDAE:** *Feniseca tarquinius* (25+ encountered). **ARCTIIDAE:** *Lycomorpha pholus*.

Calhoun, Gordon Co. (JA residence):

**NOCTUIDAE:** *Metria amella*, June 22 (second for COUNTY and quite far north); *Catocala pretiosa*, June 22.

Calhoun, Gordon Co., cattail habitat, southeast side of I-75 at exit 315:

**NOCTUIDAE:** *Bellura densa* (many, June 22 and June 30).

(Georgia report continued on page 117.)



Figures 1-6 are photographs of specimens that James Adams sent to the SLS NEWS and were captured at the Dixon Memorial Forest WMA. (Month of capture is in parentheses.)



Fig. 1. *Drasteria graphica* (March).



Fig. 2. *Callopistria granitosa* (May).



Fig. 3. *Dysgonia similis?* (May). Strange form if not a new species?



Fig. 4. *Fagitana littera* (May).



Fig. 5. *Ptichodis pacalis* (May).



Fig. 6. *Pseudanthracia coracias*:  
top = male; bottom = female (May).



More photographs and commentary from James Adams.

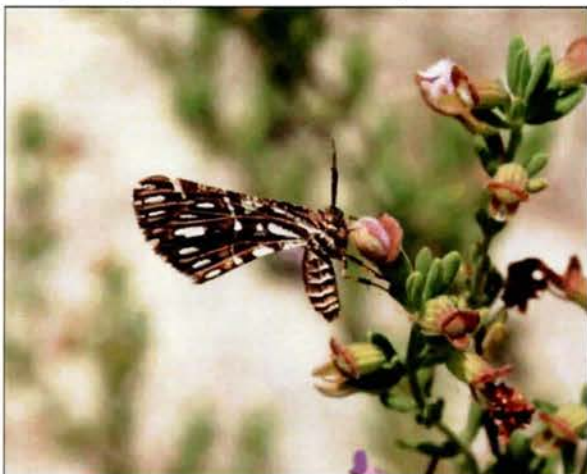


Fig. 7. *Narraga georgina*: Tattnall Co., Ochopee Dunes habitat (May).



Fig. 8. *Pimaphera sparsaria*: Tattnall Co., Ochopee Dunes habitat (May).



Fig. 9. *Macaria inextricata*: Tattnall Co., Ochopee Dunes habitat (May). This is the first and only specimen known from GA.



Fig. 10. *Prochoerodes transversata*: And, although this is a very common moth (to probably just about everyone), this white spotted variant was found among many other variably patterned individuals at Dixon in May.



Fig. 11. *Spartiniphaga carterae*: This moth has only been found at the Doerun Pitcherplant Bog Natural Area in SW GA (NW of Moultrie), in October and November. It is 500+ miles from the nearest other known population, and led to the discovery of a new plant in GA (the moth's foodplant) – the Pine Barrens Reed Grass, *Calamovilfa brevipillis*.



Fig. 12. *Prosoparia perfuscaria*: This moth has been taken in GA [though not by me (James)]; this specimen was taken in sand dune habitat near the coastline in Mexico Beach, FL, in July last year. It looks like a geometrid but is a noctuid.



(Continued from page 114.)

Cane habitat, NW end of Tate Bend Rd., along Oostanaula River, Gordon Co.:

**NOCTUIDAE:** *Bellura densa*, June 22.

Salacoa Road at Salacoa Creek, 4 mi SE of Fairmount, Bartow Co (NE corner of county):

June 29-30, with David Lawrie and Jason Dombroskie:

**NOCTUIDAE:** *Catocala alabamiae* (COUNTY). **NOTODONTIDAE:** *Peridea ferruginea*. **PYRALIDAE:** *Omphalocera munroe* (many).

Sept. 1:

**NOCTUIDAE:** *Basilodes pepita*, *Stiria rugifrons* (COUNTY), *Abagrotis magnicupida*. **PYRALIDAE:** *Omphalocera munroe* (LATE?).

Carbondale, Whitfield Co.:

**SPHINGIDAE:** *Eumorphia pandora*, Aug. 27. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Catocala maestosa*, Sept. 10; *Catocala luctuosa*, Sept. 15.

Gates Chapel Rd., 8 miles WNW of Ellijay, Gilmer Co., IF:

June 20-22, 2008:

**SPHINGIDAE:** *Paonias astylus* (female), *Lapara* nr. *bombycoides*. **ARCTIIDAE** (actually Arctiinae in the Noctuidae): the following were all VERY common -- *Cisthene plumbea*, *Hypoprepia fucosa*, *Haploa clymene*, *H. contigua*, *H. lecontei*. **NOTODONTIDAE:** *Clostera inclusa* (several specimens). **NOCTUIDAE:** *Catocala grynea*, *C. micronympha*, *C. blandula*, *Amphipoea americana* (common) & *A. velata* (COUNTY). **PYRALIDAE:** *Acrobasis kearfottella*. **OECOPHORIDAE:** *Psilocorsis reflexella*.

August 27-29, 2008:

**NOCTUIDAE:** *Lomanaltes eductalis*, *Catocala amica*, *C. lineella*, *C. flebilis*, *C. vidua*, *C. resecta*, *C. obscura*, *C. ulalume*, *C. paleogama*, *Schinia trifascia*, *S. rivulosa*, *Leucania callidior*, *Noctua pronuba* (COUNTY).

Cooper's Creek WMA in Fannin/Union County, GA:

June 16:

**LYCAENIDAE:** *Satyrrium calanus* (not much else).

July 1, Pierre Howard, Dave Lawrie, Jason Dombroskie, JA, ERA, and IF:

**NYMPHALIDAE:** *Diana fritillaria* (*Speyeria diana*), Meadow Fritillary (*Boloria bellona*; COUNTY), *Satyrodes appalachia*. **LYCAENIDAE:** Harvester (*Feniseca tarquinius*).

July 11, JA, IF, ML:

**PAPILIONIDAE:** many *Papilio glaucus*. **NYMPHALIDAE:** *Speyeria diana*, *Satyrodes appalachia*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Zanclognatha* nr. *littoralis* (COUNTY), *Zanclognatha* sp. nov. (dark brown, COUNTY; very uncommon in state), *Dyspyralis nigella* (COUNTY, many specimens of a very uncommon moth), *Macrochilo lithophora* (COUNTY), *Baileya doubledayi*, *Eosophoropteryx thyatiroides* (COUNTY; second location in STATE), *Papaipema nelita* (COUNTY; second location in STATE, pretty EARLY). **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Macaria subcessaria* (COUNTY; third location in STATE), *Macaria pinistrobata*, *Digrammia ocellinata*, *Cabera erythemaria*, *Cepphis decoloraria* (COUNTY, several specimens of this very uncommon moth), *Heterophleps refusaria* (COUNTY). **PYRALIDAE:** *Palpita illibalis*.

Rabun County, Pierre Howard and Dan Vickers, June 28 – 29:

**LYCAENIDAE:** American Coppers (*Lycaena phlaes americana*; 6+). **NYMPHALIDAE:** Meadow Fritillaries (*Boloria bellona*).

Atlanta, Fulton Co., Irving Finkelstein's house:

**HEPERIIDAE:** *Euphyes dion alabamiae*, June 16. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Melipotis jucunda*, Sept. 3 (COUNTY); *Plagiomimicus pityochromus*, Sept. 9 (COUNTY). **PYRALIDAE:** *Diaphania nitidalis*, Sept. 3; *Pococera expandens* (COUNTY), May 30; *Salebraria fasciata* (COUNTY), May 30.

Upson Co., Flint River at Pasley Shoals (750'), 12 mi. S.W. Thomaston, Aug. 16/17, 2008, IF:

**SPHINGIDAE:** *Paonias astylus*. **ARCTIIDAE** (in the NOCTUIDAE): *Virbia laeta*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Acronicta betulae*, *Noctua pronuba* (COUNTY). **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Macaria bicolorata* (common), *Idaea taturata*.

Lyons, Toombs Co., at lights, Sept. 13:

**NOCTUIDAE:** *Schinia siren*, *S. nubila*.

Ohoopsee Dunes habitat, Tattnall Co., Handy Kennedy Road, 0.8 mi N of GA Hwy 152, 10 mi NE Lyons, Sept. 13-14, 2008:

**ARCTIIDAE:** *Cisthene plumbea*, *C. Subjecta*, *Virbia laeta*, *Grammia placencia*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Hormoschista latipalpis*, *Dysgonia similis*, *Mocis disseverans* (COUNTY), *Panopoda repanda*, *Acronicta brumosa*, *Schinia fulleri* (COUNTY), *S. arefacta* (COUNTY), *S. nundina* (COUNTY), *S. trifascia*, *S. scissoides*, *S. siren*, *S. nubila*, *S. turberculum*, *S. lynx*, *Schinia* sp. nov. near *saturata* (abundant here last October), *Sideridis* (formerly *Trichoclea*) *ruisa* (COUNTY, second in STATE), *Spodoptera latifascia* (COUNTY). **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Narraga georgiana* (abundant!), *Euchlaena deplanaria* (COUNTY).

Dougherty Co., Riverwalk along the Flint River, Albany, September 11<sup>th</sup>, Saunders Pinckard:

**HESPERIIDAE:** *Urbanus proteus*. **PAPILIONIDAE:** *Battus philenor* (abundant), *Papilio palamedes*.

**NYMPHALIDAE:** Gulf Fritillary (*Agraulis vanillae*; abundant), Viceroy (*Limenitis archippus*), Texan Crescent (*Anthanassa texana seminole*; abundant!).

Glynn Co., Clayhole WMA, August 16, 2008, Mike Chapman:

**HESPERIIDAE:** "I . . . was surprised to see an exceptional number of *Byssus* skippers (*Problema byssus*). They were feeding primarily on bitterweed and there were easily 40+ seen at 2 locations." A clear second brood!

Jones Co., Piedmont NWR and the Round Oak Ancestors Memory Garden, July 26, 2008, Jerry and Rose Payne, Michael Stiteler:

**HESPERIIDAE:** *Urbanus proteus*, *Achalarus lyciades*, *Thorybes confuses*, *Nastra lhermenieri*, *Pompeius verna*, *Problema byssus*, *Lerodea eufala*. **PAPILIONIDAE:** *Battus philenor*, *Papilio polyxenes*, *P. glaucus*, *P. Troilus*, *P. cresphontes*. **PIERIDAE:** *Eurema daira*, *E. lisa*. **LYCAENIDAE:** *Celastrina neglecta*. **NYMPHALIDAE:** *Asterocampa celtis*, *Enodia portlandia*.

Grady Co., Birdsong Nature Center, 4 mi. N of GA/FL border, early August, Chris Bittle:

**SATURNIIDAE:** *Anisota consularis* larva (COUNTY; very few confirmed records from GA).

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**Mississippi:** Rick Patterson, 400 Winona Rd., Vicksburg, MS 39180, E-Mail: [rpatte42@aol.com](mailto:rpatte42@aol.com)

The following Mississippi records are reported by Ricky Patterson:

18 May 2008, Natchez Trace Parkway, mile marker 170.5, Attala County, *Parrhasius* —*album* (County).

4 June 2008, Chickasaw County Wildlife Management Area, Chickasaw County, *Pterourus glaucus glaucus*, *Speyeria cybele cybele*, *Satyrrium titus campus*.

1 July 2008, Natchez Trace Parkway, mile marker 252, Lee County, *Erynnis martialis*, *Callophrys gryneus gryneus*, *Zerene cesonia cesonia*.

26 July 2008, Natchez Trace Parkway, mile marker 122, Cypress Swamp, Madison County, *Satyrodes appalachia appalachia*, *Catocala robinsoni*, *Catocala resecta*, *Catocala nebulosa*, *Catocala carissima*, *Catocala lacrymosa*.

13 and 16 August 2008, Natchez Trace Parkway, mile marker 178, Attala County, 3 specimens of *Oligoria maculata* (County, normally from coastal counties), *Problema byssus* (County), *Mitoura gryneus gryneus* (County).

13 August 2008, Natchez Trace Parkway, mile marker 193, Jeff Busby Park, Choctaw County, *Catocala vidua*, *Catocala maestosa*, *Catocala robinsoni*, *Catocala lacrymosa*, *Catocala residua*, *Catocala obscura*, *Catocala carissima*.

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14 August 2008, Blue Springs, Union County, *Chlosyne nycteis nycteis*, *Catocala obscura*, *Catocala robinsoni*, *Catocala vidua*.

15 August 2008, Natchez Trace Parkway, mile marker 251, Lee County, *Catocala vidua*, *Catocala maestosa*, *Catocala robinsoni*, *Catocala lacrymosa*, *Catocala obscura*, (common).

20 August 2008, Ocean Springs, Jackson County, *Cercyonis pegala abbotti*.

**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](mailto:Stephen.Hall@ncmail.net)

The following selected moth records were obtained by Steve Hall and Jamie Cromartie on a sampling trip to Bladen and Cumberland Counties on June 27. The main goal of this trip was to obtain more specimens of *Catocala grisatra*, which Jamie had first collected in this area on June 25-26, 1993 (see *Ent. News* 108:389-390). Unfortunately, the original trap site has been completely destroyed by both clear-cutting and application of herbicides that killed off all of the hardwood trees and shrubs, including the hawthorns that were the apparent host plant of the *grisatra*. We had previously been unsuccessful in re-locating *grisatra* on a trip we made in June, 2004, but since several areas in the vicinity still support patches of hawthorns, we decided another trip would be worth the effort. Although we once again failed to find *grisatra*, several other species of interest were obtained.

#### **GEOMETRIDAE:**

*Cyclophora pendulinaria*. This species is common in the mountains but has only been collected a few times in the Coastal Plain, always in extremely xeric habitats with extensive areas of bare, white sand. The collection site for this species was in Cumberland (COUNTY), one of the few places where sweetfern (*Comptonia peregrina*) -- one of the favored host plants for this species in the North -- has been recorded in the North Carolina Coastal Plain. While no sweetfern was discovered at the collection site, it also apparently favors dry sandy sites in this area.

*Digrammia ordinata*. This species was collected at the same site as the *Cyclophora*, also representing a new COUNTY record. Unlike the *Cyclophora*, however, its host plant -- *Amorpha herbacea* -- was definitely present, although we only saw a few scattered plants.

#### **LASIOCAMPIDAE:**

*Tolype minta*. This species was also collected at the same Cumberland County site as the two species mentioned above (COUNTY). In the North Carolina Coastal Plain at least, this species appears to be closely associated with pond cypress (*Taxodium ascendens*) -- which was growing close by in an old mill pond -- but has yet to turn up at sites dominated by bald cypress (*T. distichum*).

#### **NOCTUIDAE:**

*Catocala alabamiae*. We had previously collected this species near the Bladen County site where the *grisatra* was last seen (STATE), although the specimens had gone unidentified until this spring when Jeff Slotten collected several larvae at the same site (all of which emerged as adults, confirming the identification; J. Slotten, pers. comm.). Although we failed to capture any adults at that site on this trip, we did collect one at the Cumberland (COUNTY) site. Jeff also collected a larva in Moore COUNTY, bringing the total known sites in North Carolina up to three. Unfortunately, Jeff failed to find any *grisatra* larvae, which was also the the main target of his trip.

*Pangrapta* new species. This whitish, mottled species was extremely common at the Bladen County site we sampled in 2004 but we obtained only a single specimen this year. Although the habitat at the trap site itself is extremely xeric, it is located close to a Carolina bay possessing dense thickets of peatland shrubs, including the wetland heaths that are likely to be the host plant of this species.

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The following selected butterfly records were submitted by Harry LeGrand. Place names refer to counties unless otherwise stated, and records are not new county reports unless indicated. Rainfall has been near normal in the eastern half of the state in summer 2008, but the western half returned to moderate to severe drought. Even so, butterfly numbers were close to normal for most species, and it was a respectable season for southern migrants. Records are nearly all from June - August 2008.

### **PAPILIONIDAE:**

*Papilio cresphontes*. Always rare in the mountains, the species was found along the Virginia border on several occasions. Ted Wilcox had repeated sightings at a locale in Ashe between August 10 and 31; *Ptelea* is present as a hostplant in the area. A possible local stray was one seen near Piney Creek in Alleghany on August 9 by James Coman, though one would think that *Ptelea* is present within a few miles, such as along the New River. In the tidewater zone, one seen near Bath in Beaufort (COUNTY) on August 23 by S. Young was a good find; most reports from the eastern counties are along the immediate coast.

### **PIERIDAE:**

*Pontia protodice*. Seldom reported in recent years from the mountains, one was photographed in Avery (COUNTY) on August 15 by Lillian McElrath; and Simon Thompson observed one on the following day at "out-of-range" Mount Mitchell State Park in Yancey. As there have been no repeated reports from any location in the province over the years, it may be only a stray in the mountains. In the Piedmont foothills, Ted Wilcox had an excellent count of four, noted on August 30 in Wilkes. This species continues to lose habitat to development in the state and is one of our most threatened resident species.

*Ascia monuste*. Prior to 2008, there were only 3-4 state records. After a probable report in the mountains this spring, there were two additional sightings: singles seen near Charlotte in Mecklenburg (COUNTY) on May 6 by Kevin Metcalf and in northern Durham (COUNTY) on August 10 by Will Cook. Oddly, none of these three records is from the coast or even the Coastal Plain.

### **LYCAENIDAE:**

*Feniseca tarquinius*. Normally a rather rare species, there were observations from a remarkable 17 counties this summer. New records came from Guilford (COUNTY) and Surry (COUNTY).

*Atlides halesus*. One of the very few mountain records for the species was one seen by Ralph Preston in his yard north of Franklin in Macon County on July 20.

*Satyrrium kingi*. Arguably the most stunning record of the season, for a resident, was one individual photographed (photo confirmed by Harry LeGrand) along the Blue Ridge Parkway, north of Blowing Rock, in Watauga (COUNTY), on July 8 by Lillian McElrath. This is the first record for the northern mountains of the state, and only the third county record outside the state's Coastal Plain! *Symplocos* is present in the general region. However, this shrub is present in practically all Piedmont and most mountain counties, and despite thorough coverage of the Piedmont province over the years by many people, there is only one Piedmont report, from Kings Mountain State Park. In the Coastal Plain, Steve Hall observed one near the South River in Bladen (COUNTY) on June 28.

*Satyrrium liparops*. This rare species was found at Buxton Woods in Dare, where two were seen on June 7 by John Dole; and at the opposite end of the state in Ashe, where Ted Wilcox photographed individuals on July 6 and 13.

### **NYMPHALIDAE:**

*Heliconius charithonia*. Normally a very rare stray, a remarkable "explosion" of the species occurred over the entire length of Bogue Banks in Carteret this summer. Randy Newman observed a few at Fort Macon State Park in mid-June, and by July the species was common there, with 15-20 seen on July 13 by Will Cook, Harry

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LeGrand, and Ricky Davis. Cook and Davis hit two more maritime forest sites on the island farther west and added about 20 more on that date. Adults were seen ovipositing at the state park on both native *Passiflora* species, and larvae were also seen. By August, a few were reported as far west as Emerald Isle. Surprisingly, there were no reports of the species elsewhere in the state.

*Speyeria diana*. Good totals in the state were 10 in the foothills near Saluda in Polk on June 12 (Shay Garriock) and 15 near Hot Springs in Madison on July 2 (Gail Lankford).

*Euphydryas phaeton*. This rarity was found twice, one at a new site. Wayne Forsythe discovered a colony near the French Broad River in Henderson, observing one on June 3 and eight there on the following day. At a previously known site, Curtis Smalling saw one at a bog along the Ashe/Watauga line on June 13.

*Polygonia faunus smythi*. This rare and declining species/taxon was reported again only from Mount Mitchell State Park in Yancey, where Simon Thompson saw one on August 16.

*Vanessa cardui*. This migrant was uncommon during the summer, with mostly reports of single individuals, though Simon Thompson had an excellent count of 15 at Mount Mitchell State Park in Yancey on August 16.

*Enodia portlandia*. Very poorly known from the upper Piedmont, reports from Surry (COUNTY), Guilford (COUNTY), and Davidson (COUNTY) filled in gaps in the range.

*Enodia creola*. One was photographed along the Yadkin River in Pilot Mountain State Park, Surry (COUNTY), on June 1 by Beth Brinson. The species is poorly known in the upper Piedmont. Until a few years ago, we had little or no documentation of these two pearly-eye species from the upper Piedmont, where *Enodia anthedon* is the primary species in the genus; however, photographs have documented both *portlandia* and *creola* in this area of the northwestern Piedmont.

*Megisto cymela*. Observers were more vigilant in looking for the "Type II" form of the species, which flies in the state mainly in late June and July. Apparently, this form occurs primarily in the northern part of the Piedmont (and mountains?), as all reports were from this section, with the best total of six fresh individuals being seen by Harry LeGrand in Warren (which lies along the Virginia border) on July 8. Type I, which flies across the entire state, flies mainly from May 10 to mid-June.

#### **HESPERIIDAE:**

*Thymelicus lineola*. By far a record one-day state total was the 32 tallied in Ashe by Ted Wilcox. The species is known in North Carolina so far only from the northwesternmost three counties.

*Hesperia sassacus*. A good find was one photographed by Irvin Pitts in Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Swain (COUNTY) on June 13.

*Polites peckius*. Seldom reported from the central Piedmont, where it is at the southeastern edge of the range, one was seen in Forsyth on August 23 by Jim Nottke and party.

*Atrytone arogos arogos*. The species is still barely hanging on in the state. Despite a thorough search of its single current site in Carteret on August 31, just a single individual was seen (Jeff Pippen *et al.*).

*Problema byssus*. Easily overlooked in the brief and sparse first brood, a total of four was a good count made by Randy Emmitt in Bladen (COUNTY) on June 15. Interestingly, there are records for all surrounding counties.

*Euphyes dukesi*. The first new county record for the species in over a decade was made by Jeff Lewis this summer. He noted one, documented by photos, at Duck Community Park in Dare (COUNTY) on both June 29 and July 6. Tom Stock followed up on this report and found larger numbers there at the start of the second brood: 2 on August 7 and an outstanding 16 on August 14.

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*Euphyes berryi*. An outstanding count was nine seen and photographed at a known site in Craven on August 31 by Jeff Phippen, Will Cook, and others. The previous high count here was just two individuals. They watched a female ovipositing on a species of *Carex*.

*Amblyscirtes reversa*. One of the very few records west of the Coastal Plain was one found by Shay Garriock in the foothills in Polk (COUNTY) on June 15.

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John Hyatt reports: Biggest thing I've noted about the season here in the NE Tennessee mountains is that *Speyeria diana* is having a boom year. In 2007, they were more abundant than in the past several seasons, but this year has had a population the like of which I haven't seen since the late 1970's - early 1980's. In Washington Co. Near Johnson City on June 25 I counted, in one single patch of milkweed, no less than 35 males and a dozen females.

Sullivan Co., Kingsport, 10 August 2008: *Papilio cresphontes*. These are quite infrequent in the mountains here. I took my first one as a kid about 1962 in Lee Co., VA, and since have seen one about every 3-5 years since then while living in the area.

Only moderately interesting thing I've seen lately was a *Catocala nebulosa* at bait in Kingsport, Sullivan Co., TN, on September 2. Continues very dry in the mountains.

**Texas:** Ed Knudson, 8517 Burkhart Road, Houston, TX 77055, E-Mail: [eknudson@earthlink.net](mailto:eknudson@earthlink.net)

Ro Wauer sends in the following report:

The following report is self-explanatory, but it includes two species of special interest: Ruddy Daggerwing and Potrillo Skipper!

List of Butterflies Recorded in Big Bend Nat'l. Park, September 2-8, 2008. For six days, Betty and I surveyed an area along the Rio Grande near Santa Elena Canyon for butterflies, utilizing a road-transect and a two-acre plot. Two additional spring visits are planned. The purpose is to establish a baseline to compare what changes in the butterfly populations might occur following releases of a leafbeetle (*Diorhabda elongata*) by NPS to reduce/eliminate the evasive saltcedar trees so prevalent along the floodplain. By mid-afternoon, following the two surveys, we visited six (B-G) other sites within the park. All sites visited included:

- A. Dual survey sites near Santa Elena Canyon, daily;
- B. Chisos Basin on 2 September afternoon;
- C. Sam Nail Ranch on 3 September afternoon;
- D. Oak Creek Canyon on 4 September afternoon;
- E. Upper Green Gulch on 6 September afternoon;
- F. Government Spring on 6 September afternoon;
- G. Oak Creek Canyon on 7 September afternoon.

Three species were of special interest:

1. Ruddy Daggerwing photographed near Santa Elena Canyon on 4 September, representing the first verified park record (photograph on page 103);
2. a tailless Zilpa Longtail photographed near Santa Elena Canyon on 6 September (photograph on page 107);
3. a worn Potrillo Skipper photographed at the Sam Nail Ranch on 3 September, representing the first park and Brewster County record (photograph on page 107).

The following is a comprehensive list of species recorded:

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Pipevine Swallowtail (*Battus philenor*): A, B  
 Black Swallowtail (*Papilio polyxenes*): A  
 Giant Swallowtail (*P. cresphontes*): G  
 Two-tailed Swallowtail (*P. multicaudata*): D, E, G  
 Checkered White (*Pontia protodice*): A

Southern Dogface (*Zerene cesonia*): A, B, C, D, E, F, G  
 Cloudless Sulphur (*Phoebis sennae*): A, B, C, D, F  
 Large Orange Sulphur (*P. agarithe*): A, B  
 Lyside Sulphur (*Kricogonia lyside*): A, B, C, D, F, G  
 Mexican Yellow (*Eurema mexicana*): D, E, G

Sleepy Orange (*Abaeis nicippe*): A, B, C, D, E, F, G  
 Dainty Sulphur (*Nathalis iole*): A, B, D  
 Sandia Hairstreak (*Callophrys mcfarlandi*): B  
 Gray Hairstreak (*Strymon melinus*): A, B, D, E  
 Western Pygmy-Blue (*Brephidium exilis*): C

Marine Blue (*Leptotes marina*): A, B, D, G  
 Reakirt's Blue (*Echinargus isola*): A, C, D, E, F  
 Acmon Blue (*Plebjus acmon*): B  
 Fatal Metalmark (*Calephelis nemesis*): A, B, C, D, G  
 Palmer's Metalmark (*Apodemia palmeri*): A, F

American Snout (*Libytheana carinenta*): A, B, C, D, E, F, G  
 Zebra Heliconian (*Heliconius charithonia*): D  
 Variegated Fritillary (*Euptoieta claudia*): A, B, D, E  
 Bordered Patch (*Chlosyne lacinia*): A, D, G  
 Elada Checkerspot (*Texola elada*): D

Texan Crescent (*Anthanassa texana*): D  
 Pearl Crescent (*Phyciodes tharos*): G  
 Question Mark (*Polygonia interrogationis*): G  
 American Lady (*Vanessa virginiensis*): A  
 Painted Lady (*V. cardui*): A, B, D, E, F, G

West Coast Lady (*V. annabella*): B

Red Admiral (*V. atalanta*): A, C, G  
 Common Buckeye (*Junonia coenia*): C  
 Red-spotted Purple (*Limenitis arthemis*): D, E, G  
 Arizona Sister (*Adelpha eulalia*): D, G

Ruddy Daggerwing (*Marpesia petreus*): A  
 Tropical Leafwing (*Anaea andria*): A  
 Empress Leilia (*Asterocampa leilia*): A, C, D, F, G  
 Tawny Emperor (*A. cyton*): D  
 Red Satyr (*Megisto rubricata*): D, E, G

Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*): A, G  
 Queen (*D. gilippus*): A, B, C, D, E, F, G  
 Zilpa Longtail (*Chioides zilpa*): A  
 Potrillo Skipper (*Cabares potrillo*): C  
 Arizona Skipper (*Codatractus arizonensis*): D

Golden Banded-Skipper (*Autochton cellus*): E, G  
 Desert Cloudywing (*Achalarus casica*): F  
 Golden-headed Scallopwing (*Staphylus ceos*): C, F, G  
 Funereal Duskywing (*Erynnis funeralis*): A, G  
 Common Checkered-Skipper (*Pyrgus communis*): A

Streaky-Skipper (*Celotes sp.*): D, G  
 Saltbush Sootywing (*Hesperopsis alpheus*): A  
 Clouded Skipper (*Lerema accius*): A  
 Orange Skipperling (*Copaeodes aurantiaca*): A, C, D, G  
 Sachem (*Atalopedes campestris*): A

Dun Skipper (*Euphyes vestris*): A, D, G  
 Simius Roadside-Skipper (*Amblyscirtes simius*): D  
 Bronze Roadside-Skipper (*A. aenus*): A  
 Oslar's Roadside-Skipper (*A. oslari*): D, G  
 Texas Roadside-Skipper (*A. texanae*): A

Nysa Roadside-Skipper (*A. nysa*): A  
 Celia's Roadside-Skipper (*A. celia*): A  
 Eufala Skipper (*Lerodea eufala*): C

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# AGATHODES DESIGNALIS GUENÉE, 1854 (LEPIDOPTERA: PYRALIDAE) IN LOUISIANA

BY  
VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR



Fig. 1. *Agathodes designalis*: a. male, b female.

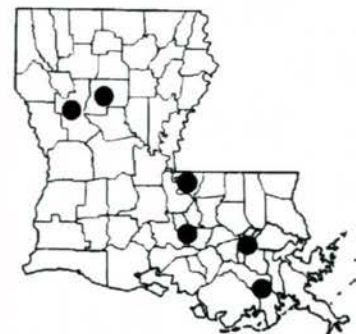


Fig. 2. Parish records.

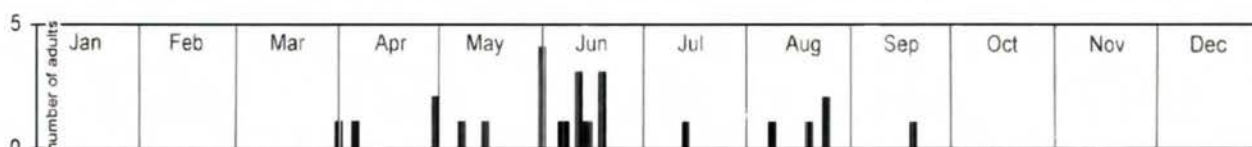


Fig. 3. Adult *Agathodes designalis* captured in Louisiana. n = 26.

The attractive and somewhat large pyralid moth *Agathodes designalis* Guenée (Fig. 1) is seldom encountered in Louisiana. This moth has a honey-gold ground color on forewings with a large broad transverse maroon colored band emanating from the inner margin of forewing and gently curving towards a point about one-third the length of the costal margin from the apex but not intersecting there, rather abruptly curving outwardly and upwardly, with the front edge of the maroon band intersecting the apex. The hindwings are a similar honey color as forewings, but duller and without maculation.

In Louisiana, I have captured *designalis* using uv light traps in six parishes across the state (Fig. 2), from the the end of March to mid-September (Fig. 3), indicating two or more broods.

This species was not addressed by Covell (1984). Heppner (2003) listed the range of *designalis* to include the Southern United States: Florida to Arizona, south to Argentina and the West Indies. Heppner listed the host plants to include *Erythrina* sp., *Cistharexylum* sp., *Inga vera*, *Kigelia pinnata*, and *Nerium oleander*.

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- Heppner, J.B. 2003. *Arthropods of Florida and Neighboring Land Areas*, vol. 17: Lepidoptera of Florida, Div. Plant Industry, Fla. Dept. Agr. & Consum. Serv., Gainesville. x + 670 pp., 55 plates.

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