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OF THE UNITED STATES (WEBSITE: [www.southernlepsoc.org/](http://www.southernlepsoc.org/))

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J. BARRY LOMBARDINI: EDITOR

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## EVIDENCE OF MOURNING CLOAK (*NYMPHALIS ANTIOPA*) BREEDING IN NORTHERN FLORIDA

BY

DEAN K. JUE <sup>1</sup> AND SALLY S. JUE <sup>2</sup>

The degree to which Mourning Cloak (*Nymphalis antiopa*) breeds in Florida is uncertain because of limited field data. Glassberg (2000) states that in Florida this species is primarily a transient visitor from farther north and only an occasional breeder within the state. Daniels (2004) notes the Mourning Cloak as an occasional visitor in extreme

southern Georgia and hence presumably Florida as well. More recently, Minno (2005) describes it as at least an occasional breeder in northern Florida based on abundance and condition of adults.



Mourning Cloak (*Nymphalis antiopa*) (photograph taken by Dean K. Jue on April 29, 2011, at Elinor Klapp-Phipps Park in Tallahassee).

Lepidopterists (e.g., Harris, 1972) used to believe that Mourning Cloaks were multi-brooded. Then researchers in Europe found that adult Mourning Cloaks aestivate during the summer, leading to two peaks of adult abundance, one in the spring and one in the fall, with the adults hibernating during the winter and mating in the spring after their emergence from hibernation (Scott, 1986). Recent U.S. butterfly guides now describe the Mourning Cloak as primarily single-brooded with an occasional second brood (e.g., Brock and Kaufman, 2005; Daniels, 2004; Opler, 1998).

We recently documented evidence of Mourning

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Cloak breeding in the central Florida Panhandle near Tallahassee. Because of the scarcity of published breeding records for this species in Florida, these observations are noteworthy and may provide new insights into the butterfly's status in Florida.

### Mourning Cloak Spring Emergence Sightings

Most of our searches for Mourning Cloaks have been conducted at Torreya State Park in Liberty County, Florida. The park is a reliable place to find this species in Florida (Glassberg, 2000). From 2004 through 2011, we recorded the adult butterfly at Torreya State Park during March in 2004, 2005, 2006, 2008, and 2009 on seven different dates, ranging from an early date of 7 March in 2009 to a late date of 17 March in 2006. The March 2005 record is from MaryAnn Friedman of Niceville, Florida. The highest number seen on any of those seven days was three individuals. In all cases, the individuals showed wear on their wings.

Other sightings of Mourning Cloak in the central Florida Panhandle include one adult seen 24 February 2007 by David Harder at Elinor Klapp-Phipps Park in Leon County on the north side of Tallahassee and another adult seen and photographed in the Apalachicola National Forest in Liberty County on 28 February 2011 by Linda and Buck Cooper.

Recent Mourning Cloak records in the western Florida Panhandle include sightings by MaryAnn Friedman from Blackwater River State Forest (12 February 2009), Eglin Air Force Base (26 February 2009), and on private property bordering the Blackwater River State Forest (13 March 2005, 7 March 2008 through 9 March 2008, 19 March 2010). All of these sightings were in Okaloosa County.

### Mourning Cloak Breeding in the Central Florida Panhandle

If Mourning Cloaks mate right after emergence from hibernation, shouldn't there be records of their eggs, caterpillars and pupae in northern Florida? In fact, such data are almost non-existent, which has contributed to the belief that most adult Mourning Cloaks in northern Florida are merely winter visitors that presumably fly back north to breed.



**Mourning Cloak mineralizing on the dirt road in Elinor Klapp-Phipps Park in Tallahassee (photograph taken by Dean K. Jue).**

Local evidence to contradict this conventional wisdom appeared when an adult Mourning Cloak was observed and photographed on 7 May 2005 in Elinor Klapp-Phipps Park by David Harder, George Fong, and others. The butterfly was in very fresh condition, making it highly improbable that this individual had traveled a long distance to the park after emerging from its chrysalis.

On 29 April 2011, we were doing a morning butterfly survey at Phipps Park when an adult Mourning Cloak was spotted by Sally. It flew off before any documentation could be obtained. After lunch, we were joined by Virginia Craig and began our afternoon butterfly survey in another part of the park. Within a few minutes, Virginia found a Mourning Cloak and then Sally saw a second one, and we had both individuals in view at the same time. (This location was about one-quarter mile straight line distance from where Sally had seen the Mourning Cloak two hours earlier.) We watched one Mourning Cloak mineralize on the dirt road for 15 to 20 minutes, and Dean recorded a video of its activity. The two butterflies were very fresh, and photographs were obtained of them both. It does not seem likely that two freshly-emerged Mourning Cloaks would arrive simultaneously at Phipps Park from a location outside of Florida.

The following day, 30 April, two Mourning Cloaks were sighted elsewhere in northern Florida. One was observed by Fran Rutkovsky on a fruit bag in her Tallahassee neighborhood about three miles south of Phipps Park. She did not get a picture, but her impression was that it was also a fresh individual. The other Mourning... [Cont. on pg. 121.]

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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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## EUPHYES BAYENSIS LOCATED IN LOUISIANA

BY

CRAIG W. MARKS

Prior to 2010, I had only seen two species of *Euphyes* in Louisiana, *E. vestris* and *E. dukesi*. I had seen *dukesi* on a regular basis at Thistlethwaite WMA in St. Landry Parish over the last five years, and always felt that with *dukesi* there in good numbers, *E. dion* should also be present as the necessary habitat appeared to be present. So, I was pleased this past August when I finally found a small colony of *dions* in a roadside ditch along the main road through the center of Thistlethwaite. While monitoring a colony of Queens, *Danaus gilippus berenice*, that had become established in that same roadside ditch (see ATL's December 2010 NOTES.), I found three *dion* males on August 22, and three more males with one female on August 29. Unfortunately, when I returned on September 6, much of the ditch had been mowed. While the Queens were still there along with a large flight of *dukesi*, I found no more *dions*.

Having finally found *dion* in Louisiana, I was motivated to seek other Louisiana *Euphyes* by making the trek to Cameron Parish, a trip I had avoided since Hurricanes Rita and Ike. Cameron Parish is Louisiana's southwestern-most parish, with Texas on its western border, Calcasieu Parish to the immediate north, Vermilion Parish on its eastern border and the Gulf of Mexico to the south.

According to the Cameron Parish Police Jury website, Cameron Parish is the county/parish with the most land area in Louisiana. The parish has a total area of 1,932 square miles, of which, 1,313 square miles are land and 619 square miles are water. It is also very sparsely populated with no incorporated towns or cities. It contains a wide array of habitat types, including prairie, gallery woods, hardwood swamps, freshwater and saltwater marshes, cheniers (oak woods on old ridges of the gulf beach), beach, and open gulf. Of note to birders and butterflyers, the Creole Nature Trail is a network of scenic highways and walking paths in the parish that wind through 180 miles of marsh, bayou and shoreline. Because of the remoteness of the Parish, it has advertised itself as "Louisiana's Outback."

My initial intended designation along that Creole Nature Trail was Peveto Woods, a bird sanctuary owned by the Baton Rouge Audubon Society off of Highway 82, 8.5 miles west of Holly Beach. Highway 82 runs parallel to the Gulf Coast. My route was to be south on Highway 27W from Sulphur, LA, until that highway intersected Highway 82 at Holly Beach. I chose this route as I also intended to stop along the way as I drove south on Highway 27W. My goals were several, *Poanes aaroni*, *Panoquina panoquin*, *P. panoquinoides*, *Nastra neamathla* and *E. pilatka*. All had been reported as present in Cameron Parish on the Butterflies and Moths of North America website (Opler *et al.*, 2010).

I made my first trip on October 17, 2010, and noted 23 species, including one or more possible *pilatka*, one *aaroni*, and numerous *panoquin*, all lifers for me. Ironically, none were seen at Peveto Woods; rather, they were along Highway 27W a few miles north of Holly Beach as they sought nectar at goldenrod. I also saw several other skippers that I initially identified as *P. aaroni*; however, on closer inspection, I noted the "rays" on the ventral hindwings lacked the two dots that should bracket the ray and would be diagnostic of *aaroni* (Fig. 1).

I next thought these bugs might be *dion*, but the coloring was off with much more golden orange dorsally (Fig. 2). Also, the habitat was different, salt/brackish marsh rather than fresh-water swamp. Whatever they were, I saw seven

(three males, four females), all on a subspecies of goldenrod, *Solidago sp.*



Fig. 1. *Euphyes bayensis* (ventral ♀) west Cameron Parish, 17-X-2010.



Fig. 2. *Euphyes bayensis* (dorsal ♂) west Cameron Parish, 17-X-2010.

Based upon several dorsal pictures in Scott (1986), I debated with myself whether these bugs might be *E. berryi*, but ventrally they didn't match, and while *berryi* has been reported from Mississippi (per Ricky Patterson), there is no record of it for Louisiana. As I was searching for more pictures of

*berrys*, I noticed both Glassberg (1999) and Brock & Kaufman (2003) spoke of a possible recently described new species, *E. bayensis*, with the common name of Bay Skipper. Unfortunately, neither had pictures of this bug, but did give enough information that I was able to identify and locate Shuey's article wherein he first proposed it as a new species from Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. That article contained numerous pictures which depicted the differences between it and *dion*. In addition, images of *bayensis* are provided by Warren *et al.* (2011) at: [http://www.butterfliesofamerica.com/t/Euphyes\\_bayensis\\_a.htm](http://www.butterfliesofamerica.com/t/Euphyes_bayensis_a.htm).

Suspecting the mystery bugs could be Bay Skippers, I expanded my research. Glassberg indicated the Bay Skipper had been found in Mississippi and Sabine Pass, Jefferson County, Texas (directly across the state-line from Cameron Parish). A check of the TLS online data base revealed reports from Chambers, Galveston, Harris and Jefferson Counties in Texas, but no records from Louisiana (or, to my surprise, from Mississippi). After speaking with Gary Ross about his records, I went to the BAMONA website. Although it did not list *bayensis* from Louisiana, that database did list *dion*, but only from Cameron Parish.

Shuey (1989) described *bayensis* as a new species "based on morphological and limited biological evidence." While acknowledging his designation was "open to alternative interpretations," he differentiated *bayensis* from *dion* based on color, pattern and habitat. Specifically, he described the former as having an expanded orange pattern, particularly on the male dorsally. As with my experience, he noted that southern *dion* were "consistently dark." He further noted that *bayensis* had been caught in brackish marsh where it flew with *pilatka* while *dion* normally occurred in fresh water wetlands where it flew with *dukesi*. Again, these comments applied equally to my experiences with these four closely related species.

I returned to western Cameron Parish on October 23, seeing many Salt Marsh Skippers, two more Palatka skippers and seven of the mystery skippers. All of the latter were males (Fig. 3). This time they were not just found on goldenrod, but also on Brazilian vervain, *Verbena brasiliensis*, and frog fruit, *Lippia* sp. I also noted they were docile while taking nectar and not nearly as wary as *dion* [e.g., Cech & Tudor (2005)].



Fig. 3. *Euphyes bayensis* (dorsal ♂) west Cameron Parish, 23-X-2010.



Fig. 4. *Euphyes bayensis* (dorsal ♀) west Cameron Parish, 17-X-2010.



Fig. 5. *Euphyes bayensis* (ventral ♂) west Cameron Parish, 17-X-2010.

At this point, I thought it time to see if I could get a definitive answer. I had corresponded with Andrew Warren on skipper issues in the past, so I took some dorsal and ventral pictures of both males and females (Figs. 4 and 5) and e-mailed them to Andy. Later that same day Andy responded, advising I was, in fact, the first to document that bug in Louisiana.

However, since *bayensis* was not described until 1989, I wondered if what had been reported as *dion* from Cameron Parish predated Shuey's designation and might have been *bayensis*. That then sent me to my Louisiana research materials where I found no record of *dion* until an unpublished manuscript by Gayle Strickland circa about 1971. Strickland reported *E. dion alabamiae* (as identified by H.A. Freeman) from Cameron Parish on two separate occasions, June 6, 1968 and September 13, 1969. The former was "collected near the edge of an extensive marsh," near the town of Creole. The latter was found near the town of Cameron, "near a small marsh in an extensive prairie." Both areas described by Strickland matched the habitat wherein I found my mystery skippers. I next spoke with Kil Roeber who advised he also caught *E. d. alabamiae* in Cameron Parish during that same time frame.

As was outlined in Shuey's article (1989), *alabamiae* was initially described by Lindsey in 1923, based on a single specimen from Mobile County, Alabama, as a race of *dion*. Clark and Clark (1951) elevated it to species status in 1951, citing differences in color patterns between it and "normal *dion*" alongside which it coexisted in the Dahl

Swamp in Virginia (classic *alabamae* was said to have greatly reduced orange pattern elements). After 1951, some authors followed the Clarks, while others followed Lindsey. After reviewing a "long series of southern 'E. alabamae,'" Shuey (1989) concluded *alabamae*, "should be relegated to a synonym of *E. dion*."

So, I'm not sure what was seen by Strickland in Cameron Parish in the late '60's. The description of the habitat suggests *bayensis*; however, if Freeman determined the specimens to be *alabamae*, that then implies to me they were dark like southern *dion*. Since *bayensis* has been described as indistinguishable in coloration from what Shuey described as "normal" or northern *dion* [see Gatrell (2000)], it would seem Strickland was not reporting what is now called *bayensis*; however, without inspection of the actual specimens, a definitive determination cannot be made.

Now that I knew what the mystery skippers were, and realizing there might be some interest in its presence in Louisiana, I returned to Cameron Parish on October 29. This time I visited the eastern end of the Parish, starting at Grand Chenier and drove east toward the Vermilion Parish line on Highway 82. Late in the afternoon, I found four (one male, three females; Fig. 6) flying in the ditch along the north side of that highway about three or four miles west of the parish line. There, along with *aaroni* and *viator*, I found them nectaring on a tall aster, *Aster sp.*



Fig. 6. *Euphyes bayensis* (dorsal ♀) east Cameron Parish, 30-X-2010.

Finally, on November 6, I visited the central portion of the Parish near Creole, finding *viator* but no *bayensis*. I decided to return home along Highway 82 and stopped in the same locations as I had visited the week before. As with the week before, I found *aaroni*, *viator* and *bayensis* (one male). This particular male, along with the *aaroni*, were on a low-growing, mat-like vine which I believe is a member of the pea family and which produces a small, multi-leaved yellow flower. This vine grows for several miles alongside the ditch referenced above.

As an aside, I have learned that the *aaroni* seen during these visits to Cameron Parish are the subspecies, *P. a. bordeloni* (Figs. 7 and 8). Described by Gatrell in 2000, it is sympatric with *bayensis* in all previously known locations for the latter species, including, as noted herein, both locations now reported in Cameron Parish. Thanks to Jeff Trahan and Charles Bordelon for advising of and confirming, respectively, this subspecies' identity.



Fig. 7. *Euphyes bayensis* (ventral ♂) east Cameron Parish, 30-X-2010.



Fig. 8. *Euphyes bayensis* (dorsal ♂) east Cameron Parish, 30-X-2010.

I fully expect to find *bayensis* in Vermilion Parish, and will start the process of identifying locations there, along Highway 82 and other spots, for further investigation in the spring. I would like to thank Andy for his enthusiastic help with identifying this skipper as well as his assistance with this article. I would also like to thank Jeff Trahan for his editing help.

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## NEW IRS REPORTING RULES AFFECT eBay AND PAYPAL IN THE US

BY

VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR.

Little guy's pennies or big corporation's billions, guess who they are going after now. Starting 2011, tax changes will affect many sellers of merchandise on eBay. PayPal will also start reporting to the IRS. The selling limits before they are required to report sales must exceed a maximum of 200 items or \$20,000.00 per year. Above these limits sellers will be required to provide tax identification information (SSN or EIN number) to payment processors like PayPal and others. This tax change was part of the 2008 stimulus package.

New Form 1099-K will debut for 2011 tax year. Some hobbyists currently using beginner eBay businesses have shut down because of this, stating its not worth the effort to establish a business, hire a book keeper, and pay state and federal taxes just to make a few hundred dollars per year. Many collectors of entomological specimens use eBay to buy and sell material to help pay for their collecting expenses.

Beginning 2011, sellers will be required to report credit card payments that coincide with reported 1099-K amounts, then to make adjustments to account for expenses, fees, refunds, charge backs, *etc.*

Foreign sellers will now have a huge advantage over U.S. citizens using eBay.

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## NABOKOV'S BUTTERFLIES - CAUSTIC REMARKS<sup>1</sup>

In a letter dated December 8, 1975, addressed to Pyke Johnson (Editor at Doubleday Publishing Co.), Vladimir Nabokov thanked Johnson for receiving a copy of *THE BUTTERFLIES OF NORTH AMERICA* by William Howe. In this letter, Nabokov praised Howe as an "admirable illustrator, combining the artistic and the scientific." This is in stark contrast to his comments directed at the "revised" 1932 edition of *THE BUTTERFLY BOOK* authored by William J. Holland. Very obviously, Nabokov did not like this edition, using words of description such as "...wretched and dishonest compilation...." However, one never escapes from criticism as Nabokov states, though gently, about Howe's book "I have two little scraps of criticism: one, concerning the nine quite unrepresentative tropical strays on the jacket (they occur only in the southernmost fringe of North America); and the other, the fact that the name *argyrognomon* as used here should be replaced everywhere by *idas*...."

1) *Nabokov's Butterflies (unpublished and uncollected writings)* edited and annotated by Brian Boyd and Robert Michael Pyle and new translations from the Russian by Dmitri Nabokov, Beacon Press, Boston, 2000. Page 717.

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**URESIPHITA REVERSALIS (CRAMBIDAE, PYRAUSTINAE) LARVAL  
HERBIVORY ON THE STATE AND FEDERALLY ENDANGERED HAIRY  
RATTLEWEED, *BAPTISIA ARACHNIFERA*, IN GEORGIA**

BY

LANCE A. DURDEN, TIMOTHY J. ESTEP, AND LISSA M. LEEGE

*Uresiphita reversalis* (Guenée), sometimes known as the Genista broom moth or Sophora worm moth, is widely distributed across continental North America with records ranging from Nova Scotia to northern Mexico and from Florida to California (Munroe, 1976; Leen, 1995). However, Powell and Opler (2009) state that this species is probably native to the southern United States and to Mexico and later expanded its range utilizing introduced European brooms (*Genista* spp.) as foodplants. Although adult coloration is slightly variable, this is the only native species of *Uresiphita* in mainland North America and it cannot easily be confused with any other nearctic crambid species (Munroe 1976). Across the wide range of this species, larvae of *U. reversalis* are reported to utilize a large variety of foodplants including Texas mountain laurel/mescal bean [(*Sophora secundiflora* (Ortega)], yellow necklace pod [*Sophora tomentosa* L.], broom [*Genista* spp.], yellow bush lupine [*Lupinus arboreus* Sims], crape myrtle [*Lagerstroemia* spp.], honeysuckle [*Lonicera* spp.], wild indigo/horseflyweed [(*Baptisia tinctoria* (L.)) and white wild indigo/prairie false indigo [*Baptisia leucantha* Torrey and Gray] (Munroe, 1976; Bernays and Montllor, 1989; Leen, 1995; Powell and Opler, 2009). Munroe (1976) stated that the larvae also will also feed on other plants and shrubs, especially legumes, and that they are sometimes pests of nursery stock and ornamentals. Powell and Opler (2009) state that expansive populations (particularly in California) depend on European brooms and that at least some of the wide array of unrelated reported foodplants may reflect last-instar larvae wandering onto other plants to seek pupation sites. Although indigos (*Baptisia* spp.) appear to be frequent native foodplants for this species, until recently, hairy rattleweed, *Baptisia arachnifera* Duncan, had not been recorded as a foodplant for larvae of *U. reversalis*.

*Baptisia arachnifera* is a federally and Georgia state-listed endangered perennial herb in the family Fabaceae. The remaining known natural population is limited to a 16 square kilometer area in Wayne and Brantley counties in southeastern Georgia, USA (Isely 1998) northeast of the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge. A monitoring report



**Fig. 1.** Larvae of *Uresiphita reversalis* on *Baptisia arachnifera*, Wayne county, Georgia, 2011; note frass and flimsy silken webs.

has shown that the population of this species declined by 89% from 1987-2007 in sites with actively managed timber plantations (Leege, 2007). This decline is linked to pine tree seedling bedding practices by the timber industry and to fire suppression (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 1978; Leege, 2007; Young *et al.*, 2007). Because of its rarity and vulnerability, other factors such as herbivorous insects that could negatively impact *B. arachnifera*, have potential significance with respect to the long-term survival of this plant. Little is known about the insects associated with *B. arachnifera* but Say's Weevil (*Apion rostrum* Say) appears to impact seed production (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 1984). Females of this weevil deposit eggs in young flowers (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 1984) and weevils can often be found inside the seed pods (Estep, personal observations). On other seed pods, a hole is often present where it appears a weevil has exited and *B. arachnifera* populations with high rates of weevil infestation display lower seed sets and lower rates of germination (Estep, unpublished data).

Another herbivore that has recently been noted consuming leaves of *B. arachnifera* is *U. reversalis*. Although there is an Internet record (<http://bugguide.net/node/view/240625/bgimage>) of *U. reversalis* larvae on *B. arachnifera* in the State Botanical Garden of Georgia in Athens (Clarke county), our records of this caterpillar/plant association appear to be the first from a natural population of this plant. The caterpillars can be fairly numerous on *B. arachnifera* where they typically form loose webs within the leaves and stems (Fig. 1). Caterpillars were collected from *B. arachnifera*



Fig. 2. Adult *Uresiphita reversalis* reared from *Baptisia arachnifera*, Wayne county, Georgia, 2008.

growing in a recently harvested slash pine (*Pinus elliottii* Engelman) plantation in Wayne County, Georgia, during 2008 and 2011. The 2008 larvae were full grown and pupated in mid-May with adult eclosion occurring in early-June (Fig. 2). Despite this phenology, based on light trap records (Durden, unpublished) and the presence of larvae on various hostplants, there appear to be multiple annual generations (probably three or four) of *U. reversalis* in southeastern Georgia. Powell and Opler (2009) report two annual generations at Berkeley, California (March to May and July to October), but further state that adults also occasionally come to lights through the winter.



Fig. 3. Larva of *Uresiphita reversalis* transferred from *Baptisia arachnifera* in Wayne county, Georgia to *Baptisia lanceolata* in captivity, 2011; note frass and flimsy silken webs.



Fig. 4. Pupa and late instar larva of *Uresiphita reversalis* reared on *Baptisia lanceolata* in captivity after transfer from *Baptisia arachnifera*, 2011.

The 2011 larvae were transported to Georgia Southern University where they were allowed to feed on leaves of the closely related and more common gopherweed [*Baptisia lanceolata* (Walter)] which was growing in the same vicinity as *B. arachnifera* in Wayne county (collecting *B. arachnifera* is illegal). The caterpillars readily accepted the new foodplant (Fig. 3) and most fed to repletion, pupated (Fig. 4), and produced adult moths. Pupation of captive larvae occurred inside a flimsy cocoon within the webs on the foodplant (Fig. 5) and the time from pupation to eclosion was 2-3 weeks. The larvae are aposematic (Figs. 1, 3, 4) and are distasteful due to alkaloid (baptitoxin) intake from their foodplants (Frost, 1945;



Fig. 5. Flimsy cocoon of *Uresiphita reversalis* on *Baptisia lanceolata* with pupa visible inside, 2011.

Bernays and Montllor, 1989; Powell and Opler, 2009). However, according to Bernays and Montllor (1989), alkaloids are not sequestered through the pupal stage to the adult moths which are palatable.

Although *U. reversalis* larvae can be common on *B. arachnifera* in nature, it is not known under what conditions they thrive or if they negatively impact this plant in a significant manner. They appear to reduce *B. arachnifera* reproduction, and to prefer sites experiencing prescribed burning, however. In a May 2008 census in three 20 m x 50 m paired prescribed burn and control plots, *U. reversalis* herbivory was twice as common in burn (52 +/- 8% of plants) than control plots (26 +/- 13%), and was responsible for eliminating all flowers from 50% (6/12) of reproductive plants in burn vs. 0% (0/9) in control plots (Leege, 2009).

The *U. reversalis* larvae from the 2011 collection all fed on the leaves of their hostplants but *U. reversalis* larvae will also feed on the bark and young shoots of some of their hostplants (Munroe, 1976; Leen, 1995). Unlike weevils (*A. rostrum*), *U. reversalis* larvae were not observed feeding on *B. arachnifera* seed pods in this study and would therefore be less likely to adversely affect seed viability. In a recent study (Young *et al.*, 2007), 52% of all *B. arachnifera* pods sampled showed evidence of damage by insects, presumably mainly from weevils. Nevertheless, because *U. reversalis* is polyphagous, common and widespread in North America, removal of caterpillars from

individual *B. arachnifera*, if deemed necessary, should not adversely affect the populations of this moth.

Larvae of other species of Lepidoptera have not yet been recorded on *B. arachnifera* in this survey. One species that might be expected to feed on this hostplant would be *Erynnis baptisiae* (Forbes) (wild indigo duskywing), the caterpillars of which often feed on various *Baptisia* spp. (Frost, 1945; Daniels, 2004; Cech and Tudor, 2005). Larvae of *Callophrys irus* (Godart) (frosted elfin) and *Achalarus lyciades* (Geyer) (hoary edge) also sometimes feed on *Baptisia* spp. (Cech and Tudor, 2005). Populations of all of these butterflies/skippers are known to occur in or close to Brantley and Wayne counties in Georgia (Durden, unpublished data) where the last known natural populations of *B. arachnifera* occur.

This work was supported by grants P07233 and P10227 from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources; caterpillars were collected under Georgia Department of Natural Resources Scientific Collecting Permit 29-WBH-10-174.

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Submitted by Vernon A. Brou Jr.



Flower in Gary Ross's Garden in Baton Rouge, LA (photo by Gary Ross)

## NOTES ON THE DIANA FRITILLARY

BY  
LARRY PRICE

*Speyeria diana*, or the Diana Fritillary, is identified in the female by its large size, and an upperside with a black base with the forewing having rows of white spots near the margin, and the hindwing with blue near the margin. The species exhibits sexual dimorphism, with the male also having a black base to the upperside, but a margin of orange on both forewing and hindwing. The underside of both sexes is fairly plain for a fritillary.

The larva feed on violets. They are nearly black, and their numerous spines are black with an orange base. Adults feed on dung, and a variety of nectar sources. In Arkansas, purple coneflower, milkweeds, *Monarda* species (beebalm, horsemint) and ironweeds are favored nectar sources. Favored habitat is openings in the forests of mountains and valleys. Adults usually appear in June in Arkansas. There is only one brood. Adults may live several months.

In addition to Arkansas, the Diana is found in Missouri, Eastern Oklahoma, and the Southern Appalachians. It is classified as NCGR:G3, threatened throughout its range.



Diana Fritillary (*Speyeria diana*) (♀)



Diana Fritillary (*Speyeria diana*) (♀)



Diana Fritillary (*Speyeria diana*) (♀)



Diana Fritillary (*Speyeria diana*) (♀)



Diana Fritillary (*Speyeria diana*) (♂)

[The genus of the Diana Fritillary, *Speyeria*, was named after Adolph Speyer, a German lepidopterist. The species' name, *diana*, was named after the Roman goddess, Diana, whose role is a bit confusing depending upon the source of your reading. Diana was considered the goddess of the moon and hunting, and of light and life. She was also worshiped as the goddess of childbirth <sup>(1)</sup>. Many thanks to Larry Price for sending his notes and the photographs of the Diana Fritillary to the SL Society NEWS.]

1) [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diana\\_\(mythology\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diana_(mythology))

RED RIM (*BIBLIS HYPERIA*) LIFE HISTORYBY  
BERRY NALL

This study began in late November, 2010, with the capture of a female Red Rim. She produced two eggs after two days in a cage with abundant food and hostplant (Noseburn, *Tragia glanduligera*). On the third day, with no more eggs being produced, she was released. One of the two resulting caterpillars was raised to maturity.



Fresh egg, 27-XI-2010

Just-emerged caterpillar,  
4-XII-2010

The egg eclosed after seven days, and the growing caterpillar changed almost daily for the first week to ten days. In contrast, there was little visible change through the last month of the larval stage. The mature caterpillar was fascinating to view, with intricate color patterns evident beneath all the spines and knobs that decorated its body.

A potted Noseburn was the initial source of fresh food for the caterpillar. Providentially, a Common Mestra caterpillar was also feeding on this plant, giving opportunity for the side-by-side comparison of the two species that can be seen in the 29-XII-2010 picture. On that date the two caterpillars were about the same size (although at different stages of development). Clearly, a casual glance could easily confuse the two species.



Day-old caterpillar is green, 5-XII-2010

The caterpillar was kept in an unheated room. In this environment, it experienced similar temperatures and lighting to natural conditions, but was spared exposure to extreme temperatures. In any event, it pupated before any significant freezing weather set in. During times of warmer weather, the caterpillar remained on the host plant. During colder spells, the caterpillar moved from the plant to the bottom of its container. Outdoors, one would expect this behavior to help protect a caterpillar from cold that might otherwise kill.



8-XII-2010



9-XII-2010

The caterpillar took 58 days to pupate. I feared I would have to care for the chrysalis until the following fall, but the adult emerged 21 days later, in the midst of a February heat wave (temperatures were regularly above 80 degrees Fahrenheit). The Red Rim's winter journey from egg to adult took a total of 87 days.

(The Editor thanks Mr. Berry Nall for permission to republish his butterfly life histories in the SLS NEWS. His website is located at <http://leps.the.nalls.net/index.php>)



14-XII-2010

Caterpillar background color is now black,  
16-XII-2010

20-XII-2010



Middle instar Red Rim (below) with late instar Common Mestra (above), 29-XII-2010



15-I-2011



10-I-2011



23-I-2011



Three days before pupating, 28-I-2011



Fresh adult Red Rim after release, ventral, 22-II-2011



Front view of chrysalis, 31-I-2011



Rear view of chrysalis, 31-I-2011



Fresh adult Red Rim, dorsal, 22-II-2011

(The Red Rim website is located at [http://the.nalls.net/content\\_2.php?ref=Species/Biblidinae/hyperia/life/hyperia\\_life.htm](http://the.nalls.net/content_2.php?ref=Species/Biblidinae/hyperia/life/hyperia_life.htm))

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***LEUCONYCTA DIPHTEROIDES* (GUENÉE, 1852)  
AND *LEUCONYCTA LEPIDULA* (GROTE, 1874) IN LOUISIANA**

BY  
VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR.



Fig. 1. *Leuconycta lepidula*: a. male, b. female, c. male, d. female, and *Leuconycta diptheroides*: e. male, *Leuconycta diptheroides oblitterata*: f. female, g. male, h. female.

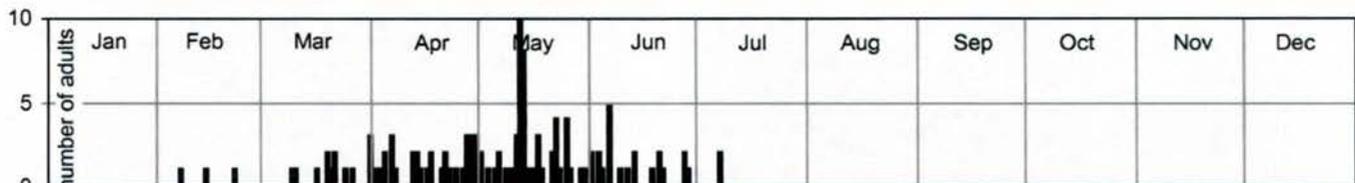


Fig. 2. Adult *Leuconycta lepidula* captured in Louisiana. n = 123

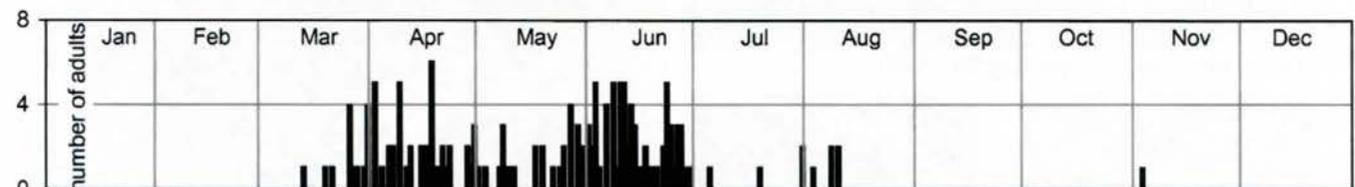


Fig. 3. Adult *Leuconycta diptheroides* captured in Louisiana. n = 160

Two species of *Leuconycta* Hampson are listed by both Hodges (1983) and Lafontaine and Schmidt (2010). Both of these medium size noctuid moths with delicately colored pale-green forewings, *Leuconycta lepidula* (Grote) (Fig. 1 a,b,c,d) and *Leuconycta diptheroides* (Guenée) (Fig. 1 e,f,g,h) are found across the state of Louisiana. Both species are rarely taken in great numbers at ultra-violet light on a single night, encountered more often as singletons. All specimens reported here in Figs. 2 and Fig. 3 were captured using ultraviolet light traps by this author over 41 years. Additional specimens of both species were captured but not recorded here. *L. diptheroides* was previously reported for Louisiana by Chapin and Callahan (1967) and by Landau and Prowell (1999). I can find no prior literature record for *L. lepidula* (Grote) reported in Louisiana.

*L. diptheroides* was reported by Heitzman and Heitzman (1987) as never very common, but found across Missouri, and the foodplant is Goldenrod (*Solidago sp.*). Covell (2005) pictured *diptheroides* stating this species occurs Nova Scotia to Florida to Manitoba to north Arkansas. *L. lepidula* is not mentioned in Covell's field guide. Heppner (2003) lists only *diptheroides* for Florida, and includes Texas in the range for this species. Knudson and Bordelon (1999) list only *L. lepidula* in their checklist for Texas. In Louisiana, both species have flight periods ranging over approximately five months which appear to represent two or three annual broods for both, peaking spring and about two months later in early summer. The parish records by this author are illustrated in Figs. 4 and 5. In Fig. 1, images

a,b,e, and f depict specimens with typical color and maculation while c,d, g and h illustrate variants.

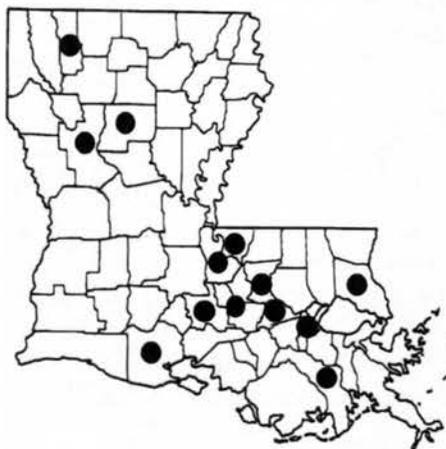


Fig. 4. *Leuconycta lepidula*  
parish records.

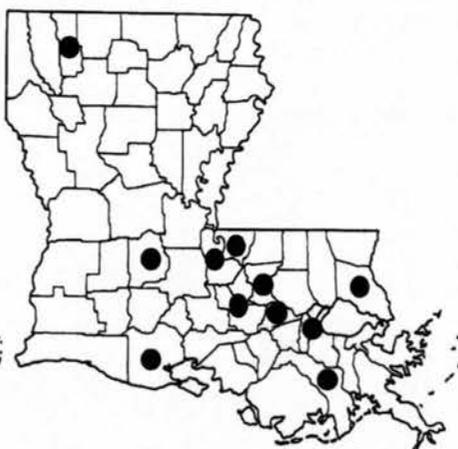


Fig. 5. *Leuconycta diptheroides*  
Parish records.

NY, MD, WV, VA, KY, TN, NC, SC, GA, FL, AL, LA, AR, MO, IL, WI, and *L. lepidula* from NS, NH, LA, TN, NC, MS, MO, TX, (J. Heppner, per. comm.) The subspecies, *Leuconycta lepidula avirida* (Sm., 1906) is the prairie form of *lepidula* and the green shading tends to be replaced by pale brown (D. Lafontaine, per. comm.). Tim McCabe, (per. comm) indicates *avirida* may be a distinct valid species and also that *Leuconycta diptheroides obliterata* (Grote, 1864) and *L. diptheroides* are distinct valid species.

The fleeting green colors of these species is best illustrated by the image of a freshly captured specimen of *lepidula* in Fig. 1a compared to those in Figs. 1b,c and d, typical of aged specimens found in collections. E. C. Knudson (per. comm.) indicates it is unclear whether the *lepidula* occurring in eastern Texas is that species or a closely allied undescribed species.

The Florida State Collection of Arthropods has *L. diptheroides* from NS, Que, NH, MA, CT,

#### Acknowledgments

I thank Edward C. Knudson and Charles Bordelon for providing the Texas information stated here. I thank John B. Heppner for locating and providing label data for numerous specimens of these two species in the Florida State Collection of Arthropods which I had previously donated over a period of 35 years. I thank both Don Lafontaine and Tim McCabe for their most helpful information and critique of this article.

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## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER

**Richard Brown**  
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**OBSERVATIONS OF THE MOURNING CLOAK BUTTERFLY  
(*NYMPHALIS ANTIOPA*) (NYMPHALIDAE: NYMPHALINAE)  
IN ALACHUA COUNTY, NORTH - CENTRAL FLORIDA**

BY

**MARC C. MINNO AND AMANDA C. POWELL**

The Mourning Cloak is usually a rare butterfly in Florida (Minno in Deyrup and Franz, 1994). Grossbeck (1917) mentions two adults seen in St. Johns County (St. Augustine) in 1887. Watson (1918) saw three individuals near Gainesville in February 1917. Bratley (1931) reported finding a Mourning Cloak in Gainesville on February 1, 1931. Based on these publications and specimens known to him, Kimball (1965, 1980) listed records from Escambia County (Warrington), Liberty County (Torreya State Park), and Okaloosa County (Shalimar) in the Panhandle; Duval County (Jacksonville) and Alachua County (Gainesville) in northern Florida; and Manatee County (Oneco) and Sarasota County (Siesta Key) in central Florida. Kimball (1980) noted a specimen from Alachua County taken by Frank Mead on May 8, 1978, in the Florida State Collection of Arthropods.

Heppner (2003) listed occurrences of the Mourning Cloak in Feb-Mar and Jun-Aug in Florida. However, there were several reports of Mourning Cloaks in Alachua County during April 2000. Donald W. Hall, then a professor of Entomology at the University of Florida, found an adult Mourning Cloak at San Felasco State Preserve northwest of Gainesville in April 2000. Marc Minno and Jeff Sloten also observed an adult in the Woodland Terrace neighborhood of western Gainesville near NW 36<sup>th</sup> Street and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue that same month and year. On April 25, 2000, Jeff Sloten found two adults at San Felasco Hammock State Preserve and one in a bait trap in his backyard in the Blues Creek Development, in northwestern Gainesville.

We have not seen nor heard of any other reports of the Mourning Cloak in north-central Florida until this year. Kay Eoff observed one on his property on the western side of Newnan's Lake, north of Palm Point Conservation Area. On March 1, 2011, Barbara Woodmanse observed and photographed this individual (email to Marc Minno), which was seen every day at the same location for about a week.

On March 29, 2011, Amanda Powell, a student in the Wildlife Ecology program at the University of Florida, found approximately 50 mature Mourning Cloak caterpillars climbing *en mass* down a large sugarberry tree (*Celtis laevigata*) behind her apartment building at The Estates apartments on SW 20th Avenue just west of 34<sup>th</sup> Street in southwestern Gainesville (Fig. 1).

To our knowledge, this appears to be the first report of *Nymphalis antiopa* feeding on *Celtis laevigata* (Tietz, 1972; Scott, 1986), and is the first host record for the Mourning Cloak in Florida (Minno *et al.*, 2004). Although Kimball (1965) cited a report of Mourning Cloak "*larvae abundant on Rumex acetocella, Mar. 23, Ins. Pest Surv. Bull. 18:56*", Don Hall pointed out to us that Kimball made a mistake. This report actually reads "*Florida. J. R. Watson (March 23): Woolly bears are out in force in some sections, feeding mostly on Rumex acetocella and other plants and occasionally doing much damage to melons and young corn*". Further on the same page is "*Colorado. C. R. Jones (March 26): Mourning-cloak butterflies are emerging regularly.*" Apparently Kimball mixed up these two accounts and some authors such as Scott (1986) and Heppner (2003) have unknowingly repeated the error.

A few days after her initial discovery, Amanda tallied 39 caterpillars hanging upside in preparation for pupation on walkway ceilings and doorways, window sills, and various ledges of her apartment building. Marc and Amanda looked for larvae on April 7, 2011, but all had pupated by that day.

Amanda had put eight of the Mourning Cloak caterpillars in a cage with some sugarberry leaves to more closely observe their activity. These caterpillars all pupated within a few days and the adults began emerging on April 11, 2011. Don Hall reported to us that he saw an adult in perfect condition in his yard south of Royal Park Plaza on April 20, 2011. Marc Minno informed Jeff Sloten about the Mourning Cloaks in Gainesville and Jeff found three individuals on April 16, April 24, and May 24, 2011, in a bait trap in his backyard located about 6 miles to the northwest of The Estates apartments. He also found an adult in his backyard bait trap on July 2, 2011. This individual was missing a small part of the tail area of the hindwing, but otherwise was in good condition. Dozens of adults had emerged from the brood that Amanda discovered, based on the eclosed pupal cases, but apparently did not stay in the area. One wonders where they could have gone and why?

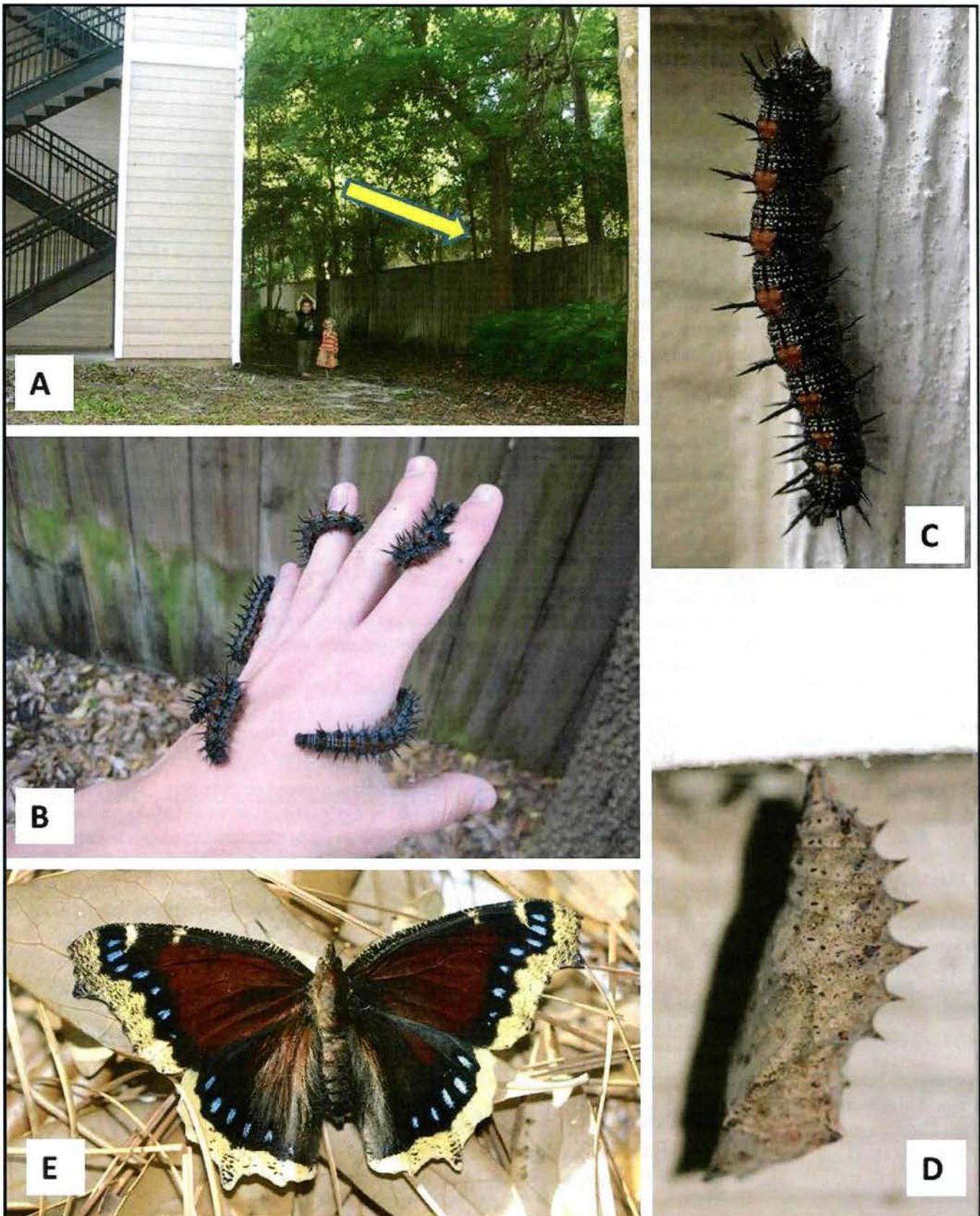


Fig. 1. Various stages of the Mourning Cloak observed in Gainesville, Florida in March and April 2011. A) Suburban habitat at The Estates apartments. Marc's grandchildren, Mirin (age 6.5) and Rose (age 3.5) are included for scale. The yellow arrow points to the sugarberry tree where the caterpillars were first discovered. B) Mature caterpillars collected as they descended the sugarberry tree with Amanda's hand for scale. C) A wandering larva seeking a sheltered place on the apartment building to pupate. D) A pupa under a window ledge. E) The adult female that emerged from the pupa shown in D.

Some of the adults that Jeff Slotten collected in Alachua County are relatively large. A male collected in his yard on April 30, 2011, had a forewing length of 4.2 cm. Opler and Krizek (1984) reported the forewing length of male Mourning Cloaks to range from 3.6 to 4.1 cm with an average of 3.9 cm. Four female specimens in Jeff's collection from Alachua County had forewing lengths of 4.0, 4.0, 4.1, and 4.4 cm. Opler and Krizek (1984) reported the forewing length of female Mourning Cloaks to range from 3.9 to 4.6 cm with an average of 4.3 cm

It does not seem likely that the Mourning Cloak is a resident butterfly in Alachua County because years go by without any sightings and adults have been reported only in the months of February through August. Opler and Krizek (1984) state "In Florida and the Gulf states, the majority of records represent overwintering individuals". Jeff Slotten has intermittently operated a bait trap in his yard for years and has only found a few adults in Alachua County. However, it is quite remarkable, that the sightings by Watson in 1917 are from the same general area of Gainesville near Hogtown Creek where Amanda found the Mourning Cloak caterpillars and Bratley's specimen was taken in 1931 near where Kay Eoff observed an adult Mourning Cloak this year. Perhaps the habitat is of a certain quality favored by Mourning Cloaks, although the suburban areas in Gainesville where caterpillars (Fig. 1) and adults have been found appear to be unremarkable.

Are summer specimens from Alachua County individuals that emerged in the spring, or do they represent a partial second brood? Opler and Krizek (1984) note that the Mourning Cloak is normally univoltine, with adults emerging in June and July most places, but also state that some authors report two or three generations per year. There are many questions about the status of the Mourning Cloak in north-central Florida that need to be investigated.

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### MANY THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WHO DONATED TO THE SL SOCIETY

(June - September, 2011)

Sara Bright (Sustaining)  
 Paulette Haywood Ogard (Sustaining)

Bruce Dixon (Contributor)

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**CADDY SHACK FOR MOTHS - DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME!**

BY  
KELLY RICHERS

Since I am in public education, students often ask me what led to my collecting moths and butterflies. And, since I appear older than dirt to most of the young people asking, I find I am expected to refer to some eye-opening incident of bursting scientific knowledge back when horses pulled carriages through the idyllic countryside. The truth is far more peculiar and smacks more of Tom Sawyer than Currier and Ives.

When I attended junior high school in central Pennsylvania, I was not the most studious student in the school, but I did ok. The availability of the woods and fields around the community pulled irresistibly at me far too often, and I hunted and fished in season, and played baseball, softball, went skiing and in general enjoyed being outside more than inside. However, discovering girls, so to speak, and being unbearably shy, having just transferred in from Embassy schools in Germany, put a completely different focus on the time I actually spent in school, where I wandered around in love pretty much all the time. In love with girls to whom I rarely actually ever spoke, of course, this being junior high in the sixties.

At any rate, one day late in the fall the science teacher - it may have been tenth grade introductory biology or even ninth grade biology - assigned us to a huge project that would be literally half of our grade for the spring quarter. We were to each gather fifty different insects and spread and identify them, turning in the assignment in late April. Late April being an eon away, and with many dozens of girls to gaze at all fall and winter, I of course relegated that assignment to never-never land until, of course, the middle of April.

Now, the middle of April in Pennsylvania frequently means freezing nights, and the actual warm days are rare indeed. I knew this, because I got a part time job as a golf caddy at the local Elks Club in March. This meant my long suffering family had to deliver me to the Elks Club (it was too far to bicycle) before first light, then pick me up in the afternoon on certain weekend days. Yes, it was very similar to what you see in Caddyshack, without the fun parts.

One day I arrived after sunup after a warm night in mid April, with zero insects for my collection and the deadline two weeks away, and someone had left the pro shop lights on. A pro shop light was one of the few fluorescent lights around, and the pro shop was about a hundred yards from the Elks Lodge, located at the top of the hill on opposite sides of the parking lot. The pro shop was a small square building with windows on two sides and heavy duty screens over the windows, probably to prevent errant golf balls from breaking the windows. On these screens were several moths, in fact, probably more than twenty or so. I grabbed them, and stuck them in a freezer, inadvertently doing the one thing that would preserve them properly.

When I got home I put pins in them and read how to spread them, and lo! I had the beginnings of my assignment. With fifteen or so species already, I had a prayer of accomplishing the assignment.

A couple of weeks later, it was another warm night and the deadline was but days away for the insect assignment. I got my parents to drop me off at the golf course parking lot very early, when it was still dark out, thinking I might do even better before the sun came up. Perhaps I might have thought this out a little better had I known what had been happening at the Elks Club.

Two nights before there had been a break in at the Elks Club, and the caretaker, a heavy drinking wizened old codger, had received a royal dressing down for allowing it to happen. This did not cut into his drinking, however, but he did stay up all night, and when I skulked around the pro shop window, he saw me from the Elks Club, where he had been tipping his bottle, so he came staggering out, grabbing his shotgun as he cleared the door. Yes, his shotgun. A real one. He let off a blast, fortunately from about twice the range that would have had any effect, and besides he was so drunk he couldn't have hit the broad side of a barn.

I, however, didn't know any of that. If I didn't poop my proverbial pants, I certainly lost at least a year of my short life skedaddling down the hill onto the course and out of his sight. I hid on the course, but the blast of the shotgun had brought the few early golfers in the parking lot running, and it was very shortly safe to return. I identified myself, he apologized, and the incident passed with no further horrible consequences.

The result? I got about twenty five species, which, since they were all moths, impressed the teacher. I gained an interest in moths, learned to check where I was going collecting, and started a pursuit that has lasted for some forty five years. But I do not recommend starting out exactly that way...with a real danger of lepping...

(Kelly Richers, E-Mail: [keraichers@wuesd.org](mailto:keraichers@wuesd.org))

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**HOWARD V. WEEMS**  
**April 11, 1922 - June 18, 2011**



**Dr. Howard V. Weems**

Dr. Howard V. Weems, formerly of Sebring, Florida, passed away on Saturday, June 18, 2011, at his Hawthorne, Florida home. He was 89 years old. He was born in Rome, Georgia, on 11 April 1922. He received a BA in 1945 from Emory University, an MS in 1948 from the University of Florida and a Ph.D. from Ohio State University in 1953. He married Camilla Beth Bartley and they had five children.

Howard joined the Division of Plant Industry, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in July of 1953 as a Taxonomic Entomologist and Curator of the Florida State Collection of Arthropods. He retired after nearly 38 years of service as Head Curator. The Research Associate Program was one of his innovations. He encouraged many of us to continue our research of all arthropods including collecting, rearing, photographing and dissecting with enthusiasm. He was a member of the Lepidopterists' Society since the 1940's and a charter member of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society. He received the 1991 Abbott Award from the Southern Lepidopterists' Society and participated in most meetings while he was healthy. He has been the author and co-author of numerous articles and publications.

Howard is survived by his wife of 61 years, Camilla Bartley Weems; his daughter, Pamela Siwy and husband, Jim; his son, Howard Weems III and his wife, Jeanne; daughter, Deborah Grant; four grandchildren, Tiffany and Ashley Grant, Christa and husband, Craig Sollenberger, and Skyler Weems; his great-grand-son, Austin Sollenberer; and his sister, Verna Macbeth-Hall of Sebring.

Howard will be missed by those who knew him. He was witty, fun and supportive. He is survived by a wonderful family who will cherish his memory.

Submitted by,  
Jeffrey R. Slotten

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## NABOKOV'S BUTTERFLIES - CAUSTIC COMMENTS (PART 2)<sup>1</sup>

One could conclude that Vladimir Nabokov did not suffer fools (in his opinion) lightly by the use of his extremely vitriolic language towards authors of the contemporary books on butterflies of his time. W. J. Holland was not only lepidopterist to have born the brunt of Nabokov's criticism. His use of phrases such as "*Blunderfly Book*", "*hopelessly unreliable*", "*farcical nomenclatorial methods*", "*full of the most preposterous blunders*", "*as incompetent as he was prolific*", "*incredibly naive paper*" to quote but a few of his caustic comments were quite common in his correspondence. However, once again it must be pointed out that he did give praise when he thought due. Although sometimes it was a mixed love/hate remark "*one of the best butterfly books ever*" and then "*very poor description*" of a particular species.

1) *Nabokov's Butterflies (unpublished and uncollected writings)* edited and annotated by Brian Boyd and Robert Michael Pyle and new translations from the Russian by Dmitri Nabokov, Beacon Press, Boston, 2000. Page 56.

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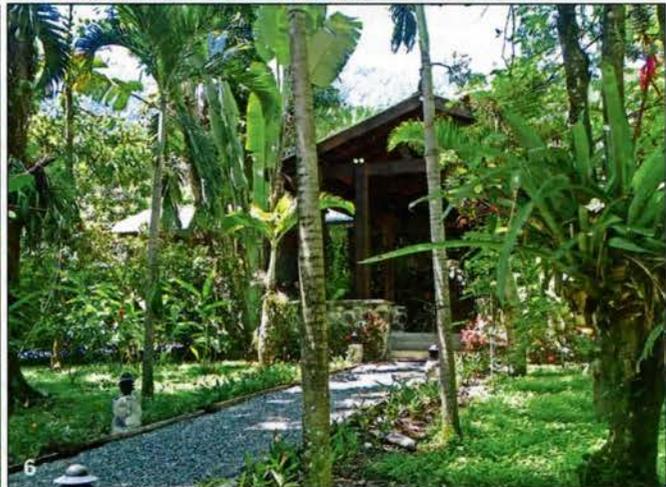
### PICO BONITO, HONDURAS: A PHOTO - ESSAY BY GARY NOEL ROSS

Whereas Costa Rica has long been a premier destination for eco-travelers, Honduras has retained a low profile. Except for snorkelers and divers working the coral reefs surrounding Roatan (one of three Bay Islands) and archeological buffs probing the Maya ruins of Copan, Honduras has remained a road-less-traveled. That is, until now. The change has occurred primarily due to the development of THE LODGE AT PICO BONITO, a premier four-star eco-resort bordering the country's pristine PICO BONITO NATIONAL PARK. The park lies within the Cordillera Nombre de Dios, a mountain range that rises from the narrow Caribbean coastal plain of northern Honduras. Pico Bonito is the second highest peak in Honduras and boasts the largest tract of uncut primary rainforest in all of Central America. The park and Lodge are located just minutes from the Caribbean port city of La Ceiba, the country's third largest metropolis and historically important because of the United Fruit Company and Standard Fruit Company—now Chiquita Brands International and Dole Food Company, respectively. Because the national park is undeveloped, the adjacent eco-resort serves as the *de facto* entrance to the park. The Lodge is privately owned but affiliated with conservation arms of the national government and university. Because of growing international interest, Pico Bonito and its namesake resort are propelling Honduras into becoming a prime destination for international eco-travelers.

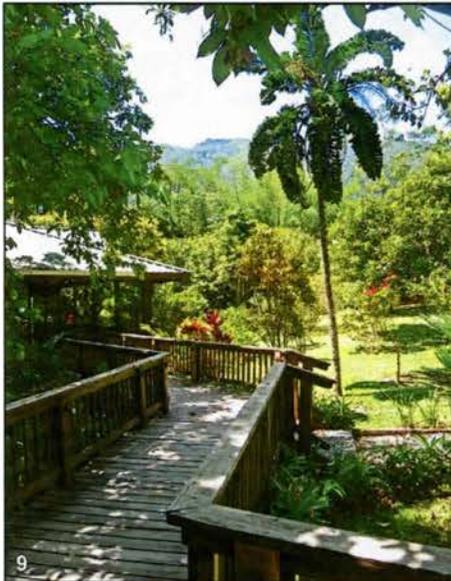
Between June 24 and July 3, 2011, I participated in "A Lepidopterist's Expedition to Pico Bonito National Park in Honduras, Central America" organized by the popular eco-tour company known as EXPEDITION TRAVEL (Gainesville, FL). Our base was The Lodge at Pico Bonito. The Lodge, which serves as the *de facto* entranceway to the undeveloped park, is listed in *Small Luxury Hotels of the World—2011*. In addition, the Lodge has been described in *National Geographic Adventure* as one of the "Top 10 Eco-Jungle Lodges of the World" and featured in several top magazines such as *Audubon*, *Natural History*, *Outside Magazine*, and *Wildlife Conservation*. The focus for visitation usually has been the extraordinarily rich bird fauna (of the nation's 700-plus bird species, over 400 have been recorded at Pico Bonito, including several species that are difficult to observe elsewhere). However, large mammals (including jaguar, puma, ocelot, margay, tapir, deer, peccary, tamandua, and coati mundi), and reptiles (including boa constrictor, fer-de-lance, eye-lash viper, jumping viper, and basilisk lizards) are well represented, too. On site are a butterfly farm (netted flight house and rearing facility), a serpentarium with sample snakes housed in aquaria, and a netted, walk-in iguana cage.

Although I wasn't collecting, several members of the group were collecting butterflies, moths, and beetles. Appropriate governmental permits had been secured in advance.

The following is a selection of my photos.



1. Pico Bonito (7,989 feet) dominates the southern skyline from an estuary along the Caribbean coast of Honduras.
2. Pico Bonito cloaked in pristine forests looms above The Lodge at Pico Bonito. Mountain is within the Pico Bonito National Park, a preserve of 265,000 acres.
3. Pico Bonito cloaked in pristine forests looms above The Lodge at Pico Bonito. Mountain is within the Pico Bonito National Park, a preserve of 265,000 acres.
4. Ground marker at entrance to the private The Lodge at Pico Bonito.
5. Landscaped grounds behind the restaurant and reception center. Hummingbird feeder hangs on veranda in foreground.
6. Reception center.



7. Restaurant. A wide veranda provides a comfortable setting for viewing wildlife.

8. Restaurant at dusk. Guests have a choice of indoor or outdoor dining.

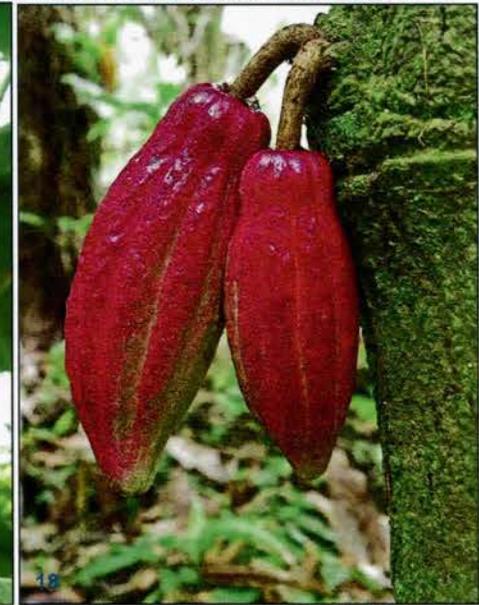
9. Elevated board walkway connecting reception center, restaurant and conference center.

10. Red-stalked bamboo palm near restaurant.

11. Waxy inflorescence of torch ginger (*Etlingera elatior*).

12. Landscaped walkway to secluded guest cabins.

13. Landscaped walkway to secluded guest cabins. Landscape plants are a variety of natives and exotics.



14. Torch ginger (*Etilingera elatior*) (Zingiberaceae) on grounds.
15. Landscaped walkway to secluded guest cabins.
16. Pendulous inflorescence of *Heliconia pendula*, a host for *Caligo* butterflies.
17. Inflorescence of a large cane-type torch ginger (*Alpinia* sp.). Resilient flowers are used extensively in bouquets throughout buildings.
18. The ripe fruit of the native cacao tree (*Theobroma cacao*) (Sterculiaceae = Malvaceae), source of commercial chocolate. Trees are common on grounds, once a cacao plantation. Flowers and fruit arise from trunk (cauliflory).
19. Swimming pool and bar area behind the registration building and restaurant.
20. Trail-side trash container featuring a painting of a yellow eye-lash pit viper.



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21. Walking canes to assist visitors on trails.
22. Guest cabin #18, one of twenty-two luxury cabins nestled within what was once a cacao plantation; each cabin features double beds and a fan-cooled veranda.
23. *Passiflora miniata*, a native passionflower in the butterfly garden.
24. Wooden switchbacks of 162 steps provide access to the Rio Coloradito, one of two rivers on property.
25. Mercury vapor lamp on grounds behind restaurant to attract nocturnal insects for guests to observe. Teen-age group participant, Noah Johnson (California), inspects the backdrop sheet.
26. Black light set-up atop observation tower in secondary forest behind buildings and adjacent to Pico Bonito National Park. Group participants, Noah Johnson (foreground, teenager) and Dyan Johnson (background, mother) (California), check out insect visitors from the previous night.
27. Sphinx or hawk moth attracted to black light.



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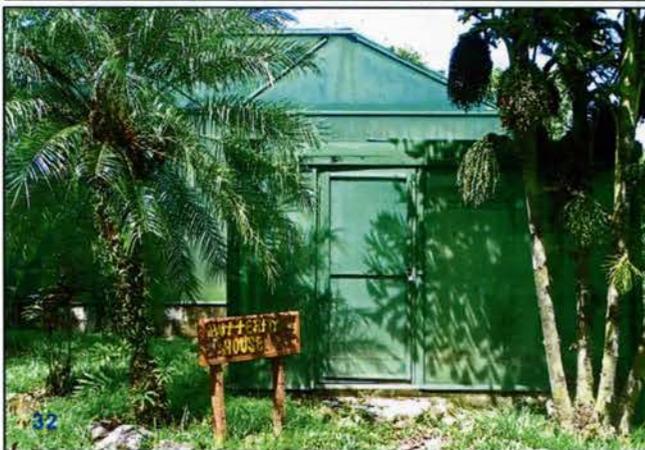
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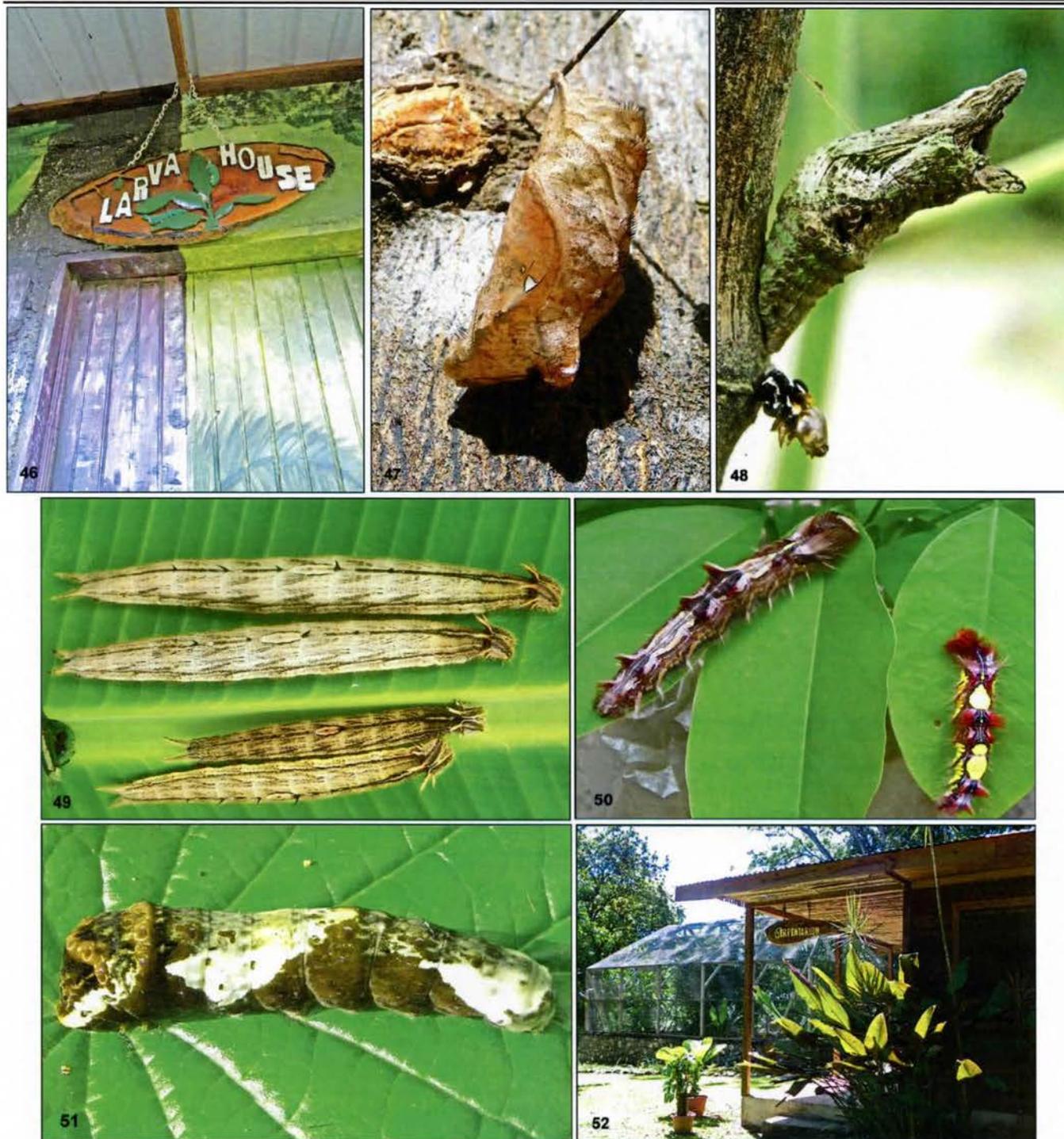
28. Harlequin beetle (*Acrocinus longimanus*), male, attracted to mercury vapor lamp. Species was relatively common.
29. Lantern fly (*Phrictus tripartitus*), Homoptera: Fulgoridae, attracted to mercury vapor lamp.
30. Sign identifying tourist-friendly venue to observe common butterflies.
31. Courting pair of *Dione juno huascuma* (Nymphalidae: Heliconiinae) on *Passiflora miniata*.
32. Butterfly Flight House with examples of common native species and butterfly-friendly flowering plants.
33. *Dryas iulia moderata* (Nymphalidae: Heliconiinae) feeding on "beso de nova" or "hot lips" (*Psychotria elata*) (Rubiaceae), a native shrub in the Butterfly Flight House.



34. *Heraclides thoas autocles* (Papilionidae) feeding on red pentas (*Pentas lanceolata*), Rubiaceae, a cultivated herbaceous plant, in the Butterfly Flight House.
35. Pair of *Heliconius hecabe zuleika* (Nymphalidae: Heliconiinae) feeding on a native vine, *Psiguria triphylla* (Cucurbitaceae), in the Butterfly Flight House.
36. Tattered male *Parides eurimedes mylotea* (Papilionidae) feeding on *Psychotria elata* (Rubiaceae) in the Butterfly Flight House.
37. *Heliconius erato petiveranus* (Nymphalidae: Heliconiinae) feeding on *Psiguria triphylla* (Cucurbitaceae) in the Butterfly Flight House.
38. *Heliconius charithonia vazquezae* (Nymphalidae: Heliconiinae) feeding on *Psiguria triphylla* (Cucurbitaceae) in the Butterfly Flight House.
39. *Heliconius ismenius telchinia* (Nymphalidae: Heliconiinae) feeding on *Psiguria triphylla* (Cucurbitaceae) in the Butterfly Flight House. Notice pollen pack on proboscis.



40. Pair of *Heliconius hecale zuleika* (Nymphalidae: Heliconiinae) courting in the Butterfly Flight House.
41. *Caligo telamonius memnon* feeding on fermenting fruit in the Butterfly Flight House.
42. *Caligo telamonius memnon* feeding on fermenting fruit in the Butterfly Flight House.
43. Eye-spot on the ventral hind wing of *Caligo telamonius memnon*.
44. The Larva House used for rearing *Caligo telamonius memnon* adult butterflies for release in the Butterfly Flight House and to demonstrate metamorphosis to visitors.
45. Eggs of *Caligo telamonius memnon* on a host *Heliconia* sp. in the Larva House.



46. Entrance sign to the Larva House.

47. Pupa of *Caligo telamonius memnon* in the Larva House.

48. Pupa of *Heraclides thoas autocles* (Papilionidae) on a citrus tree in the Butterfly Flight House.

49. Late instar larvae of *Caligo telamonius memnon* on a host *Heliconia* sp. in the Larva House.

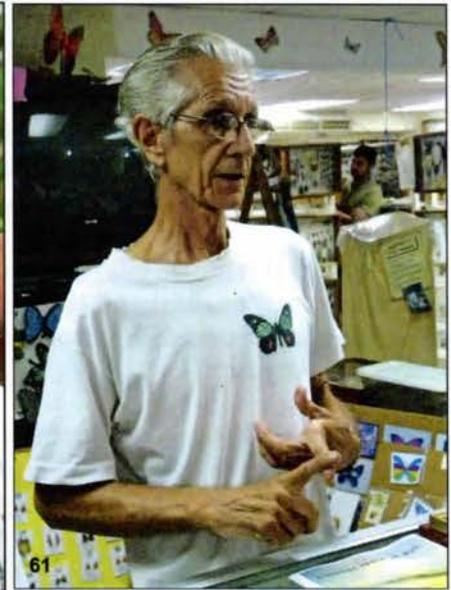
50. Larvae of *Morpho helenor montezuma*: upper left, late instar; lower right, early instar.

51. Late instar larva of *Heraclides thoas autocles* (Papilionidae) on a citrus tree in the Butterfly Flight House.

52. Indoor Serpentarium and netted Iguana Farm near the Butterfly Garden.



53. Juvenile green or common iguana (*Iguana iguana*) in the tourist-friendly netted Iguana Farm.
54. Group participant, Krisimir Lackovic (Ontario, Canada) baits the ground with fermenting fruit.
55. *Agrias amydon lacandonia* (Nymphalidae: Charaxinae), male, collected in an aerial trap net.
56. *Morpho clypris aphrodite* (Nymphalidae: Morphinae), male, collected along Rio Corinto below the Lodge.
57. Wing detail of *Morpho p. polyphemus* (Nymphalidae: Morphinae), female, collected along Rio Corinto below the Lodge. Individual was released in the Butterfly Flight House but she died after two days.
58. Inside the Butterfly and Insect Museum in La Ceiba. Group participant, Gerald M. McWilliams (Pennsylvania), in foreground.



- 59. Group participant, Krisimir Lackovic (Ontario, Canada) inspects his aerial trap net.
- 60. *Caligo uranus* (Nymphalidae: Morphinae), male, collected on ground bait.
- 61. Robert Lehman, founder and manager of the Butterfly and Insect Museum in the nearby coastal city of La Ceiba, speaks to our group of 10 with EXPEDITION TRAVEL.
- 62. Male rhinoceros beetle (*Megasoma elephas*) collected on Pico Bonito. Specimen was mounted and purchased from the Butterfly and Insect Museum. Permits for export of Coleoptera and Lepidoptera had been previously secured.
- 63. Inside the Butterfly and Insect Museum in La Ceiba. Robert Lehman, founder and manager, is in middle.

[All photographs by Gary Noel Ross, 6095 Stratford Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808;  
E-Mail: [gnross40@yahoo.com](mailto:gnross40@yahoo.com); Camera: PENTAX X70, 12 megapixels. ]

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### SMALL MOTH ATTACKS LARGE MAN

Monday, August 22, 2011, St. Louis Cardinal baseball player, Matt Holliday, suffered the wrath of a small moth that attacked and lodged in his ear thus forcing him to leave the game against the Dodgers. St. Louis personnel attempted to dislodge the moth by placing a light next to his ear with no success. Finally, the moth was removed by utilizing an unnamed utensil. All's well that ends well!

[Story sent in by Vernon A. Brou.]

## ADDENDUM TO THE ARTICLE: "EUPHYES BAYENSIS LOCATED IN LOUISIANA"

BY  
CRAIG W. MARKS

[See page 92 in this issue for original article.]

Since writing this article this past spring, I have returned to Cameron Parish three times, finding *bayensis* on two of those trips. In May, I found it in the ditch that runs along the highway in front of the Cameron Prairie NWR (Gayle Strickland reported seeing it around the small pond at the headquarters 5 or 6 years ago). I also found two at Grand Chenier in August.



*Euphyes bayensis*, dorsal, male, September 13, 1969,  
Cameron Parish, ventral, same male



*Euphyes bayensis*, dorsal, female, June 8, 1968,  
Cameron Parish, ventral, same female

As noted above, I have questioned whether I actually was the first to find this bug within the State. Specifically, I felt there was a good chance Gayle Strickland may have also found the bug in Cameron Parish way back in 1968 and 1969. Described at the time as *E. dion alabamiae*, Gayle could not have identified it as *bayensis* since that bug had not yet been scientifically described.

With the help of Kil Roeber, I was able to make contact with Gayle who was kind enough to not only review my article and meet with me, but to also allow me to study his specimens. He had two, a male and a female, pictured to the left.

I now believe that Gayle was the first to catch and report this particular skipper within the boundaries of Louisiana. His specimens are virtually identical to those that I caught a little more than 40 years later. They also match completely with those shown in Shuey's 1989 article. Specifically, the amount of orange shown dorsally in Strickland's specimens match the

dorsal wing pattern for *bayensis* reflected in Fig. 8 of that article.

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(Craig W. Marks, E-Mail: [cmarks@landcoast.com](mailto:cmarks@landcoast.com))

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[Cont. from page 90: "Evidence of Mourning Cloak (*Nymphalis antiopa*) Breeding in Northern Florida"]

...Cloak was a quick fly-by on a North American Butterfly Association (NABA) field trip to the Big Bend Wildlife Management Area (WMA) in Taylor County. The identification was made by Ronda Spinks of Gainesville, Florida, who is competent at identifying butterflies on the wing and has lived in the northern U.S. where Mourning Cloaks are common. Other field trip participants who glimpsed the butterfly said they were not able to reconcile identification with a more common species and agreed that what they saw was consistent with a Mourning Cloak. The condition of this individual was not determined.

While on the Big Bend WMA field trip, NABA members Jim and Marty Quinn told us they had also seen a Mourning Cloak on 23 April at their cabin on Lake Seminole in Decatur County, Georgia (just a few miles north of the Florida state line).

On 1 May, Wilson Baker returned to Phipps Parks to look for Mourning Cloaks based on directions to the locations where we had seen the butterflies two days earlier. He found one adult about halfway between the two locations where we had initially seen the butterflies on 29 April.

Assuming the Taylor County sighting was also a fresh adult, there were at least three emergences of Mourning Cloak in north Florida and extreme southern Georgia during April 2011, with a minimum of four individuals and perhaps as many as seven if all of the butterflies seen in or near Phipps Park were unique individuals.

### Discussion

Because of the scarcity of documentation for breeding Mourning Cloaks in Florida, we looked for more local records. We found two. One is Harris' (1967) report of a freshly-emerged adult on 27 April 1967 at Beachton in Grady County, Georgia, just north of the Florida state line. The second is the photographic documentation of a Mourning Cloak chrysalis at Birdsong Nature Center in Grady County on 23 April 2009 and the adult's subsequent emergence on 30 April 2009 (Bittle, personal Communication).

Thus, based on records from 1967 through 2011, fresh adult Mourning Cloak butterflies appear in north Florida and southern Georgia in late April or early May. Because our own sighting on 29 April was the day after a rainstorm, we examined the other sighting dates relative to recorded rainfall. Table 1 provides a summary of the amount of rainfall at the weather station closest to the location where the Mourning Cloak was seen for each of the observations discussed in this report.

**Table 1.**  
**Rainfall Relative to Mourning Cloak Sightings**

Rainfall Station Location	Last Rainfall Date Prior to Sighting	Rainfall Amount (inches)	Observation Date	Location of Sighting
Cairo, Georgia	April 13, 1967	0.49	April 27, 1967	Beachton, Grady County, GA
Forest Meadows (Phipps Park)	May 5, 2007	2	May 7, 2007	Phipps Park, Leon County, FL
Cairo, Georgia	April 3, 2009	0.48	April 20, 2009	Birdsong Nature Center, Grady County, GA
Woodruff Dam	April 18, 2011	0.01	April 23, 2011	Lake Seminole, Decatur County, GA
Forest Meadows (Phipps Park)	April 28, 2011	1	April 29 through May 1, 2011	Phipps Park, Leon County, FL
Perry, Florida	April 28, 2011	1.8	April 30, 2011	Big Bend WMA, Taylor County, FL

The Woodruff Dam weather station is the closest one to the Mourning Cloak sighting in Decatur County on 23 April, while the Cairo weather station is the closest to the Beachton and Birdsong Nature Center butterfly sightings.

All three of the Mourning Cloak sightings in Florida occurred one or two days after a rainstorm, while none of the three sightings just north of the Florida state line in Georgia coincided with a recorded rainstorm event. This may be because rainfall does not play a significant role in the exact timing of eclosion of the adult butterflies. Alternatively, it may be because the Cairo and Woodruff Dam weather stations are not close enough to accurately measure precipitation at the actual butterfly sites given the spotty and isolated nature of many southeastern thunderstorms. In contrast, precipitation data for Phipps Park are recorded by a rain gauge located within the park itself.

If Mourning Cloaks are truly transient or occasional visitors to Florida, why are there locations such as Torreya State Park where Mourning Cloaks can be found fairly reliably year after year? If the species is transient, wouldn't it be more likely that sightings would be unpredictable and sporadic, with no reliable place to find them, since these butterflies would enter the state from random dispersal directions and locations? We postulate that a more accurate Florida status for Mourning Cloak may be rare permanent resident in north Florida. The rationale for this is as follows:

- 1) Resident status would explain why Mourning Cloaks are regularly observed in the same locations where they have been found in previous years, such as Phipps Park and Torreya State Park.
- 2) The sightings of fresh Mourning Cloak adults in 2011 are consistent with a phenology of adults emerging from hibernation, mating and laying eggs in February, the caterpillars taking six to eight weeks to progress through all life stages, and adults eclosing in late April.
- 3) If Mourning Cloaks aestivate in Europe, this species could be expected to do so in Florida as well, where the climate in May is already much warmer and more humid than what the species would encounter in its range at more northern latitudes. This would explain both the lack of Florida summer records after the adults emerge in late April or early May, and the re-appearance of adult butterflies in February in areas where they have been previously recorded.

### Summary

Regardless of how often the species breeds in northern Florida, April 2011 produced a number of fresh Mourning Cloak adults within the region. Additional field research is needed to confirm the status of this rare butterfly in north Florida and determine whether there is a small resident breeding population within the state.

Existing records suggest that late April through early May is an opportune time in north Florida to look for fresh adult Mourning Cloaks in areas with appropriate habitat, perhaps especially a day or two after significant rainfall.

<sup>1</sup> Dean K. Jue, Florida Natural Areas Inventory, 1018 Thomasville Rd., Suite 200-C, Tallahassee, FL 32303

<sup>2</sup> Sally S. Jue, Florida Natural Areas Inventory, 1018 Thomasville Rd., Suite 200-C, Tallahassee, FL 32303

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UNUSUAL NYMPHALID NECTARING

BY  
MIKE RICKARD

The principle food substances sought by Lepidoptera are water, sugars, salts, and amino acids. Flower nectar is of course, a major source for these substances. However, a wide range of other nutritional sources have been observed and documented, such as mud puddles, tree sap, rotting fruit and other decaying plant matter, and many others too numerous to list here. It is a foregone conclusion that certain amounts of the aforementioned compounds are contained within these sources. Many Nymphalidae (e.g., some Biblidinae and Charaxinae) seem to derive all their sustenance from non-floral sources. *Hamadryas* (Hübner, 1806) and *Eunica* (Hübner, 1819) are two genera not known to visit flowers, in general. Thus, it was interesting that we were able to photograph members of these genera apparently nectaring at Lantana blossoms in our Mission, TX yard.



Fig. 1. Gray Cracker (*Hamadryas februa ferentina*)



Dingy Purplewing (*Eunica monima*)

Fig. 1. is a photograph of *Hamadryas februa ferentina* (Godart, 1824), an influx species, that suddenly appeared in our yard one morning and proceeded to visit flowers of an exotic Lantana. Note from the photo that the proboscis is not actually inserted into a flower, but rather into the flower head near the base of the corolla. This flower head, and the others it visited, were essentially spent. Flower heads in full bloom were ignored. Fig. 2. is a photograph of a female *Eunica monima* (Stoll, 1782), another influx species, visiting flowers of *Lantana urticoides* A. von Hayek. This individual is also inserting its proboscis, not into the corolla of a mature blossom, but into the flower head itself. In this case, the head is not spent, but contains numerous unopened flowers.

It appears that in these examples, the butterflies were not actually seeking flower nectar in the true lepidopteran tradition, but rather nutritional substances found within the flower head itself. Lantana blossoms are known to have high levels of amino acids and related alkaloids, and this is the probable attractant for these two butterflies. Ingestion of alkaloids is a common practice in some Lepidoptera, and thought to be crucial in aiding them to be distasteful to predators.

Thanks to Charles Bordelon and Ed Knudson for their input and suggestions regarding butterflies and nutritional substances.

(Mike Rickard, Texas Lepidoptera Survey; E-Mail: [folksinger4@yahoo.com](mailto:folksinger4@yahoo.com))

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CORRIGENDA

In the article by Paulette Haywood Ogard and Sara Bright entitled "*Gorgone Checkerspots in Georgia*" which appeared in the June issue (2011) of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society NEWS (Vol. 33 NO. 2, pg. 41) there were two mistakes that the authors wish to correct: 1) the name of the dam referred to in the article is "*Allatoona*" and not "*Altoona*" and, 2) the nearby city is "*Cartersville*" rather than "*Clarksdale*".

## FÜR ELYSE: IT IS NOT ALWAYS ABOUT BUTTERFLIES

BY

CRAIG W. MARKS

Back in the mid-1990's, in NABA's *American Butterflies*, there were a couple of articles wherein members shared the top ten butterflies each most wanted to see. The lists were interesting, mostly reflecting butterflies that were found beyond the immediate area of where each member lived.

At the time I put together my own wish list which has evolved over the years. Most recently, in 2008 I checked the Olympic Marble off my list, and then in 2009, the Swamp Metalmark. However, since 2009, the list has remained static, to include the Harris' Checkerspot, Early Hairstreak, Nokomis Fritillary, Pine Satyr, Gillette's Checkerspot, Short-tailed Swallowtail, Pink-edged Sulphur, Hayden's Ringlet, Purplish Copper, and Sonoran Blue. Easy targets, to be seen in any backyard or city park here in southwest Louisiana, right?

Originally, the Baltimore Checkerspot was on my list, but was replaced by the Harris' Checkerspot after I found a colony of the former bug in northern Mississippi. Described by Glassberg as, "*one of our most striking butterflies*," I included it for several reasons, including (1) its reported mimicry of the Baltimore, (2) its remoteness from Louisiana, and (3) its patchy distribution across its range in the Northeast and Midwest. Hey, shouldn't a "grail" list present a challenge?

And a challenge this one has been. I missed it in July of 2000 on a trip to the Toledo, Ohio/Ann Arbor, Michigan area when I was probably there after its flight period had run. I tried again in early July, 2003, during a trip to Itasca and Bemidji State Parks in upper Minnesota. On that trip I saw many Silvery Checkerspots, its close cousin that also can be found here in Louisiana, but drew a blank on my target bug. To be fair, I had three target bugs on that trip, the others being the Compton Tortoiseshell and the White Admiral, both of which I saw.

Anyway, back to my story. My oldest daughter, Elyse, is currently attending grad school at Columbia in New York City. When she announced she was going to remain in NYC over this summer to work as an intern, the thought struck me that I could visit her (I had not yet ventured up to see her since she started there last August), and maybe actually see some new butterflies. Specifically, the opportunity seemed to exist to see the number one butterfly on my list, the Harris' Checkerspot.

My first step was to post an e-mail on the NABA chat-page, asking where I might see that bug in the NYC area. Within twenty-four hours, Jeff Glassberg responded, suggesting Ward Pound Ridge Reservation in Cross River, NY. After a couple of follow-up exchanges I was able to identify the time frame during the summer when my "target" would be flying.

With the location identified and a weekend then picked, I asked Elyse to figure out how we could get there without renting a car (which I did NOT want to do in NYC). Now, my family is well aware of my proclivity to mix travel with butterflies, so not only did I not get any flack about having to make these kinds of arrangements for me, she volunteered to take a day off from work and go with me. It had been many years since she and I had been in the field together (like, the waterfalls at Pond, Mississippi, ten years ago when we not only got lost but

also drenched in an intense summer storm), and I was looking forward to spending the day together with her "*in the field*."



WPRR, June 24, 2011 at end of Michigan Road



Common Wood Nymph

Seven o'clock am, Friday morning, June 24, broke early as I hadn't gotten to her apartment off of Broadway until midnight. The weather was cool, cloudy and actually "*spitting*" as I so eloquently like to describe such conditions. Using Elyse's well-



Red Admiral



European Skipper

organized travel plan, we stopped at a neighborhood grocery store on Broadway, bought lunch, and then headed to the subway. Four trains later, we were heading out of town through Fordham, White Plains, Westchester and, finally, Cross River. This last train ride was elevated so we could monitor the weather which continued as previously described.

After a short cab ride from the station to the preserve, we arrived at about 9:30. I will not use up a lot of space to describe Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, but will refer the reader to an excellent article by Mr. Glassberg in the November 1993 edition of the *American Butterfly*. Within that article, Jeff indicated 84 species of butterflies had been recorded there, including my target. He also has a description of that location in his first BTB Field Guide covering the Boston, New York, Washington Region. Using the map from the article and suggestions from both, we had the cab driver deliver us to the small parking lot at the end of Michigan Road within the park.

The area was fantastic, clearly a great spot to see a bunch of cool butterflies, with open meadows, open marshes, wooded trails and numerous nectar sources like swamp milkweed, IF the weather would have cooperated. Unfortunately, it was still very cool, overcast to the point of being foggy, and still "spitting."



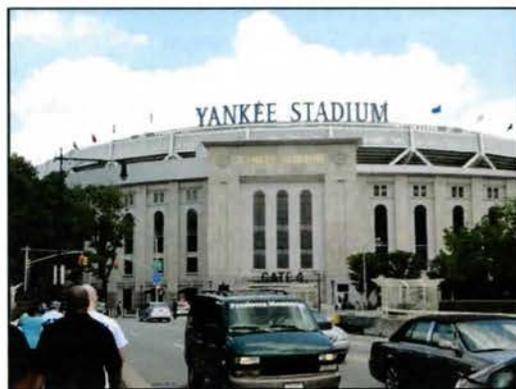
Great Spangled Fritillary



Little Glassywing

To my surprise, shortly after we arrived we saw our first butterfly, a wet Common Wood Nymph (the northeastern subspecies), but then it was probably another hour before we saw anything else. The morning was spent walking that road. While we saw four other species in that area, the weather continued to preclude much butterfly activities. It was not until after lunch, when the skies cleared somewhat and we

moved to an area known as the Meadow, that we really began to experience any real activity, including more Common Wood Nymphs, Appalachian Browns, Great Spangled Fritillaries, Summer Azures and lots of Little Glassywings.



Yankee Stadium



Elyse

We had to leave at around 2:30 to make the trip back into the City as we had tickets to see a show at 8:00. By the time we left, we had seen 17 species, including three "lifers" for me, a worn Peck's Skipper, and equally worn Long Dash, and numerous fresh European Skippers. The pictures below reflect some of the bugs seen. But, alas, no Harris' Checkerspots made an appearance.

Of course, Saturday just had to dawn bright, with blue skies and warmer temperatures. Elyse worried that we should have reversed our plans and gone looking for my target on

Saturday, but tickets had already been purchased so we did not have that flexibility of schedule. I repeatedly reassured not to worry, such was the nature of chasing butterflies in far-off places.

The remainder of the weekend passed swiftly. Again, relying on my daughter exclusively to get us around, we rode the subway to Time Square and saw, "The Jersey Boys," a play about Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons (great music). Saturday, we traveled to the Bronx and saw the Yankees beat the Rockies, 8-3, at new Yankee Stadium. Finally, Saturday night, we ate just down the street from where she lives, at the restaurant made famous on the Seinfeld TV Show.

After I got back to Louisiana, I got a short e-mail from her,

"Hey Dad--

Miss you already. It was really nice having some time with you, just the two of us -- felt like old times again, hunting butterflies and talking about random stuff. I miss that."

Yeah, me too, 'Lyse. I wouldn't trade that trip for every target on my list, and I can't wait to do it again.

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(Craig W. Marks, E-Mail: cmarks@landcost.com)

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MEMO:

Charlie Covell sends in the following memo from Stephanie Sanchez with the comment: "If I caught a Cassius Blue in my back yard now, I would be in violation of the Endangered Species Act!"

Stephanie Sanchez
Program Coordinator
BFCI/Butterfly Conservation Initiative
McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity
Florida Museum of Natural History
P.O. Box 112710
Gainesville, FL 32611-2710
Phone: (352) 273-2010
www.butterflyrecovery.org

Dear BFCI Community,

Attached please find the Department of the Interior's official Miami blue emergency listing document as per the Federal Register.

This emergency rule becomes effective on August 10, 2011, and expires April 6, 2012.

PLEASE NOTE: "Under the emergency provisions of the ESA, the Service is also listing the cassius blue butterfly, ceraunus blue butterfly, and nickerbean blue butterfly as threatened throughout their natural ranges due to their similarity of appearance to the Miami blue. These three butterflies overlap in range with the Miami blue in south Florida, but their entire natural ranges include the Cayman Islands, Bahamas, Cuba and Greater Antilles." This portion will be problematic as the natural U.S. range of cassius blue and ceraunus blue extends into many other southern states.

According to the official press release, "The Service is inviting public comment on the proposed rule to permanently list the

Miami blue. The Service is seeking all available scientific or commercial information concerning existing threats, including collection and trade of the Miami blue butterfly. Other information, such as locations of any additional populations or habitat, as well as biological data, is also being sought. The finding will publish in the *Federal Register* on August 10, 2011.

Written comments and information concerning the proposed rule can be submitted by one of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments to Docket No. [FWS-R4-ES-2011-0043].
- U.S. mail or hand-delivery: Public Comments Processing, Attn: Docket No. [FWS-R4-ES-2011-0043]; Division of Policy and Directives Management; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, MS 2042-PDM; Arlington, VA 22203.

Comments must be received within 60 days, on or before October 11, 2011. The Service will post all comments on <http://www.regulations.gov>. This generally means the agency will post any personal information provided through the process. The Service is not able to accept email or faxes. Following the public comment period, the Service will decide if the proposed rule should be approved, revised, or withdrawn."

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Paula Halupa, Fish and Wildlife  
Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
Service, South Florida Ecological  
Services Office, 1339 20th Street,  
Vero Beach, Florida 32960-3559 by  
Phone: (772) 562-3909, ext. 257 or by  
electronic mail: [miamiblueinfo@fws.gov](mailto:miamiblueinfo@fws.gov).

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## REPORTS OF STATE COORDINATORS

**Alabama:** C. Howard Grisham, 573 Ohatchee Road, Huntsville, AL 35811, E-Mail: [chgrisham@Comcast.net](mailto:chgrisham@Comcast.net)

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

**Florida:** Charles V. Covell Jr., 207 NE 9<sup>th</sup> Ave, Gainesville, FL 32601, E-Mail: [covell@louisville.edu](mailto:covell@louisville.edu)

Charlie sends in the following two reports:

#### Covell's butterfly records, Gainesville, Alachua Co., and vicinity:

*Epargyreus clarus*, July 27, Aug. 16, 17,  
*Urbanus proteus*, July 12, 27, Aug. 4, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 19, 26, 29, 31  
*Erynnis horatius*, July 17, 19, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, Aug. 2, 3, 10, 28  
*Ancyloxipha numitor*, July 2, Aug. 20,  
*Hylephila phyleus*, June 21, 29, July 2, 4, 22, 23, 26, 27, Aug. 16, 24, 27  
*Atalopedes campestris*, Aug. 12  
*Euphyes vestris*, Aug. 19  
*Panoquina ocola*, Aug. 3, 19, 31  
*Papilio polyxenes asterius*, July 12, 21, Aug. 10, 26  
*Papilio glaucus*, Aug. 16, 26, 29, 31  
*Papilio troilus*, Aug. 4, 6, 19,  
*Papilio palamedes*, Aug. 17  
*Heraclides crespontes*, June 18, July 27, Aug. 24,  
*Pieris rapae* (?), Aug. 10 (rare here)  
*Pontia protodice*, July 16, 19, 20  
*Colias eurytheme*, July 19 (rare!)

*Phoebis sennae*, July 23, 26, Aug. 2, 4, 10, 11, 12, 16, 19, 20, 24, 26, 27, 31  
*Eurema lisa*, Aug. 24, 26  
*Eurema दौरa*, Aug. 11  
*Eurema nicippe*, July 23, 26, Aug. 3, 4, 19, 20, 24, 26,  
*Strymon melinus*, July 27, Aug. 19, 31  
*Calycopis cecrops*, July 12, 19, 23  
*Leptotes cassius*, July 14, Aug. 6  
*Vanessa virginiensis*, June 30  
*Phyciodes phaon*, July 23  
*Junonia coenia*, Aug. 19, 20, 24, 27,  
*Limenitis archippus*, July 23, Aug. 31  
*Limenitis arthemis astyanax*, June 21  
*Anartia jatrophae*, July 27  
*Agraulis vanillae*, June 18, 28, 30, July 2, 4, 14, 16, 19, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, Aug. 2, 3, 4, 6, 10, 12, 16, 19, 20, 24,  
 26, 27, 28, 31  
*Asterocampa clyton*, July 12  
*Danaus plexippus*, Aug. 4, 6, 31  
*Danaus gilippus berenice*, Aug. 24

#### And a report from Marc Minno:

All butterflies are much reduced this year with the spring freezes and prolonged summer drought. I have not seen any Zebra Heliconians, Dorantes, Polydamas, or *P. philea* this year, but I do have lots of Cassius Blues in our garden. I have not seen any Zebra Heliconians in my yard for 2 years. I do not have any Cassia or much *Aristolochia* in my yard to attract *P. philea* or *B. polydamas*. I just checked our cannas and no Brazilian Skippers yet. The only butterflies that I have seen a lot of in the last few weeks are Gulf fritillaries and Cloudless Sulphurs heading south.

Lyside sulphurs (*Kricogonia lyside*) are back in the Keys (Monroe County) and southeastern Florida. On July 22, 2011 I saw one in the City of Key Largo and one on Plantation Key. On July 23, 2011, I saw one in Key West. Beryn Harty photographed an adult perching on *Lignumvitae* at the Key West Tropical Forest and Botanical Garden on Stock Island on August 29, 2011. Hank Poor and Linda Evans have been finding adults as well as eggs and caterpillars on Lignum Vitae at Fairchild Tropical Garden in Miami in August. Sandy Koi also reported Lyside Sulphurs in Broward County in July.

I found a single adult of *Eunica tatila tatilista* in a hammock with lots of crabwood (the larval host plant) in the City of Key Largo on July 22, 2011. I have looked for butterflies at this site on 32 days from October 2006 to July 2011 and this is the first and only Florida Purplewing that I have observed there. I have only seen one other individual in southern Florida since August 2006 (found September 13, 2008 on Elliott Key in Biscayne National Park, Miami-Dade County).

Paula Cannon had a female Florida White (*Glutophrissa drusilla neumogenii*) ovipositing on Limber Caper (*Capparis flexuosa*) in her garden on Big Pine Key on September 1, 2011. She also reported the following odd behavior:

"I was sitting in the garden watching all the butterflies and a beautiful very light but fresh Orange Barred Sulphur [*Phoebis philea*] flew in and went to the top of my Cassia fistula. She flew all around and then suddenly and extremely fast she flew straight down to the ground full speed into the dirt! Just Bam, right into the dirt head first! She just was laying there flat on her side legs out to the side like she was dead with wings closed. I couldn't believe it! I waited but she was motionless on her side not moving at all. I got up and walked over to her and when I went to touch her she bolted so fast I didn't see her again!"

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

The contributors include James Adams (JA or no notation) and Irving Finkelstein (IF). 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 2011 unless otherwise specified.

Lookout Mountain, GA. June 25. Bill Haley, Susan Schott and Nancy Williams:

**LYCAENIDAE:** *Mitoura gryneus* (Juniper Hairstreak; rarely seen second brood). **NYMPHALIDAE:** *Enodia portlandia* (Southern Pearly-Eye; uncommon in N GA); *Satyrodes appalachia*, (Appalachian Brown). **HESPERIIDAE:** *Lerodea eufala* (Eufala Skipper).

Rocky Face Ridgeline, crest along Dug Gap Battle Rd at Pinhoti Trailhead, just SW of Dalton:

June 30 – July 1:

**EREBIDAE:** *Catocala nebulosa*, *C. residua*, *C. judith*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Harrismemna trisignata*, *Callopietria cordata*, *Abagrotis magnicipida* (common).

August 19-20:

**EREBIDAE:** *Grammia figurata* (including 2 black HW males). **NOCTUIDAE:** *Heliocheilus lupatus*, *Schinia nundina*.

Carbondale, I-75 exit 326, Whitfield Co.:

**SPHINGIDAE:** *Manduca jasminearum*, July 7 & August 22. **EREBIDAE:** *Catocala angusi*, August 30; *Catocala miranda* (COUNTY), June 29, *Catocala judith*, June 30. **COSSIDAE:** *Givira anna*, July 7; *Givira francesca*, Aug. 15.

Taylor's Ridge, 5 mi. W of Villanow, Walker Co.:

July 3-4:

**EREBIDAE:** *Catocala dejecta*, *Catocala miranda* (COUNTY), *Catocala judith*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Callopietria cordata*. **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Iridopsis vellivolata*. **LIMACODIDAE:** *Monoleuca semifascia*. **SESSIIDAE:** *Synanthedon sp.*, common in light traps.

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

June 24-26:

**SESSIIDAE:** *Synanthedon kathya*, female. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Oligia fractilinea* (COUNTY).

July 22-23:

**EREBIDAE:** *Catocala ulalume*, *Gabara subnivosella* (?)

August 18-20:

**PSYCHIDAE:** *Thyridopteryx ephemeraeformis*. **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Cepphis decoloraria* (COUNTY). **EREBIDAE:** *Gabara subnivosella* (?). **EUTELIIDAE:** *Marathyssa inficita* (COUNTY). **NOCTUIDAE:** *Acrionicta laetifica* (COUNTY), *Heliocheilus lupatus* (COUNTY), *Perigea xanthioides* (COUNTY), *Leucania inermis* (COUNTY).

5 mi. ESE of Fairmount, Bartow Co., Salacoa Rd @ Salacoa Creek:

June 3-4:

**EREBIDAE:** *Euchaetes egle*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Protapamea danieli* (an excellent place for this moth; cane feeder), *Oligia chlorostigma* (only place in Georgia where I've taken more than one specimen of this species), *Abagrotis magnicipida*. **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Cepphis decoloraria* (one of two places where I have taken multiples of this species), *Metarranthis angulararia*. **LIMACODIDAE:** *Euclea nanina*.

August 27-28:

**NOCTUIDAE:** *Basilodes pepita*, *Papaipema polymniae* (10!; very early for this abundance, some even quite worn).

Atlanta, Fulton Co., IF:

**NOCTUIDAE:** *Acrionicta betulae*, Aug. 28 (second Atlanta record). **GELECHIIDAE:** *Dichomeris ligulella*, Aug. 28 (COUNTY).

Forsyth, Monroe Co., Kenneth Waldrep:

**EREBIDAE:** *Catocala innubens* (COUNTY), June 29.

A fantastic Labor Day weekend trip to Chickasawhatchee Wildlife Management Area (WA) in Dougherty Co.

(SW of Albany) yielded some great diversity (see below) that included a couple of State records (*Phytometra ernestinana* and *Ponometia tortricina*) and a number of second and third locations for the state and many uncommon species that were new to me and or my illustrious colleague Irving Finkelstein. Conditions the second night (cloudy and humid and just before Tropical Storm Lee) yielded a ridiculous volume as well as diversity of moths. Many, many of the records are undoubtedly County records, but those of special interest are indicated with an "\*" We encountered approximately 20 *Lesmone hinna*, considered a real prize catch previously. *Schinia gracilentia* (formerly *bifascia*) was found in abundance for the first time in the state. The small yet very pretty *Lactura pupula* was incredibly abundant in this WMA.

Chickasawhatchee WMA, Mud Creek Road, 0.6 mi. S of hwy. 62, 13 mi SW of Albany, Dougherty Co., JA & IF, Sept. 2-4, 2011, open habitat:

**SATURNIIDAE:** *Anisota stigma*, *A. virginensis*, *Eacles imperialis*. **LASIOCAMPIDAE:** *Tolyte notialis*, *T. minta* (COUNTY, third location in STATE)\*. **SPHINGIDAE:** *Atreides plebeja*, *Paonias excaecatus*, *Darapsa myron*, *Xylophanes tersa*. **NOTODONTIDAE:** *Nadata gibbosa*, *Datana perspicua*, *Datana sp.*, *Heterocampa obliqua*, *H. gutivitta*, *Peridea angulosa*, *Symmerista albifrons*, *Schizura ipomoeae*, *S. badia*. **EREBIDAE:** *Dasychira meridionalis*, *D. tephra*, *Hypoprepia fucosa*, *Cisthene plumbea*, *Virbia laeta*, *Idia americana*, *I. rotundalis*, *Renia fraternalis*, *Bleptina caradrinalis*, *Tetanolita mynesalis*, *Melanolomma auricinctaria*\*, *Redectis vitrea*, *Metalectra richardsi*, *Hypena scabra*, *Hemeroplanis scopulepes*, *Phytometra ernestinana* (STATE)\*, *P. rhodarialis*, *Hyperstrotia flaviguttata*, *Cutina distincta*, *Ledaea perditalis*, *Nigetia formosalis*, *Argyrostrotis anilis*, *A. carolina*, *Ptichodis herbarum*, *Lesmone detrahens*, *L. hinna*, *Panopoda rufimargo*, *P. repanda*, *Neadysgonia smithii/telma*\*, *Pseudanthracia coracias* (fourth location for STATE)\*, *Zale lunata*, *Pangrapta decoralis*, *Plusiodonta compressipalpis*, *Hypsoropha hormos*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Amolita fessa*, *Bagisara brouana* (COUNTY, second and third records for STATE)\*, *Marimatha nigrofimbria*, *Homophoberia apicosa*, *Ponometia candefacta*, *P. semiflava*, *P. parvula* (second location in STATE; first for me)\*, *Acrionicta afflicta*, *Acrionicta sp.*, *A. longa*, *Polygrammate hebraeicum*, *Callopietria granitosa*, *Eudryas unio*, *E. grata*, *Helicoverpa zea*, *Schinia rivulosa*, *S. trifascia*, *S. gracilentia* (formerly *bifascia*)\*, *S. saturata*\*, *S. lynx*, *Crambodes tallidiformis*, *Ogdoconta cinereola*, *Iodopepla u-album*, *Condica sutor*, *C. videns*, *Dipterygia patina* (second location in STATE, first for me)\*, *Spodoptera ornithogalli*, *Azenia obtusa*, *Elaphria fuscimacula*\*, *Leucania scirpicola*, *L. adjuta*, *Anicla infecta*. **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Macaria aemulataria*, *M. transitaria*, *M. distribuaria*, *Glenoides texanaria*, *Iridopsis defectaria*, *I. vellivolata*, *Anavitrinella pampinaria*, *Hypagyrtis unipunctata*, *H. esther*, *Tornos scolopacinaris*, *Patalene olyzonaria*, *Euchlaena amoenaria*, *E. muzaria*, *Eusarca confusaria*, *Leptostales pannaria*, *Idaea violacearia*, *Idaea taturata*, *Scopula umbilicata* (third location in STATE)\*. **CRAMBIDAE:** *Lygropia tripunctata* (COUNTY, second in STATE)\*, *Uresephita reversalis*, *Pyrausta sp.*, *Diacme elealis*, *Ategumia ebulealis*, *Palpita magniferalis*, *Apogshena stenialis*, *Desmia maculalis*, *Urola nivalis*, *Argyria lacteala*. **PYRALIDAE:** *Dolichomia olinalis*, *Tallula atrifascialis*, *Dioryctria sp.* **LIMACODIDAE:** *Prolimacodes badia*, *Heterogenea shurtleffi* (both orange and black HW forms), *Isochaetes beutenmuelleri*. **MEGALOPYGIDAE:** *Megalopyge operculalis*. **ATTEVIDAE:** *Atteva aurea*. **PSYCHIDAE:** *Basicladus tracyi*, *Cryptothelia gloveri* (numerous). **COSMOPTERIGIDAE:** *Euclementia bassetella*.

Chickasawhatchee WMA, Along Pine Island Road (two spots) 1-2 mi. S of hwy. 62, 17-18 mi. SW of Albany, Dougherty Co., Sept. 2-4, 2011, open habitat:

**PAPILIONIDAE:** *Papilio glaucus* (female in light trap). **SPHINGIDAE:** *Atreides plebeja*, *Dolba hyloeus*\*, *Ceratomia undulosa*, *Eumorpha achemon* (COUNTY, very few in STATE)\*, *Darapsa myron*, *Xylophanes tersa*. **SATURNIIDAE:** *Anisota stigma*. **LASIOCAMPIDAE:** *Tolyte notialis*. **NOTODONTIDAE:** *Datana sp.*, *Symmerista albifrons*, *Schizura undescribed sp.* **EREBIDAE:** *Crambidia pallida*, *Virbia laeta*, *Apantesis phalerata*, *Haploa clymene*, *Hemeroplanis scopulepes*, *Lesmone hinna*, *L. detrahens*, *Ptichodis herbarum*, *Mocis marcida*, *Plusipodonta compressipalpis*, *Hypsoropha hormos*, *Phyprosopus callitrichoides*. **NOLIDAE:** *Nycteola frigidana*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Rachiplusia ou*, *Autographa precatationis*, *Marimatha nigrofimbria*, *Ponometia tortricina* (STATE)\*, *Ponometia aprica*, *P. candefacta*, *Spragueia leo*, *Charadra deridens*, *Acrionicta afflicta*, *A. ovata*, *Heliothis virescens*, *Helicoverpa zea*, *Schinia rivulosa*, *S. lynx*, *Schinia trifascia*, *S. gracilentia*\*, *S. nudina*, *Condica confederata*, *C. videns*, *C. sutor*, *Condica mobilis*, *Galgula partita*, *Spodoptera latifascia*, *Agrotis ipsilon*. **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Macaria promiscuata*, *Probole amicaria*, *Eumacaria madopata*, *Euchlaena amoenaria*, *Prochoerodes lineola*, *Dichorda iridaria*, *Nemoria bistraria*, *Leptostales pannaria*. **PYRALIDAE:** *Rupela segregata* (second location in STATE)\*. **LIMACODIDAE:** *Isochaetes beutenmuelleri*, *Isa textula*, *Apoda biguttata*, *Apoda y-inversum*, *Prolimacodes badia*, *Euclenia nanina*\*. **ZYGAENIDAE:** *Harrisina americana*.

Chickasawhatchee WMA, Seven Bridges Road, 0.5 mi. WSW of intersection with Pine Island Road., 2.5 mi. S of Hwy. 62, 18.5 mi. SW of Albany, Dougherty Co., JA & IF, Sept. 2-3, 2011, open cypress swamp:

**SATURNIIDAE:** *Automeris io*, *Anisota stigma*. **BOMBYCIDAE:** *Apatelodes torrefacta*. **SPHINGIDAE:** *Lapara coniferarum*, *Darapsa myron*. **NOTODONTIDAE:** *Nadata gibbosa*, *Datana ministra*, *Heterocampa obliqua*, *H. gutivitta*, *Peridea angulosa*, *Lochmaeus manteo*, *Symmerista albifrons*, *Schizura ipomoeae*. **EREBIDAE:** *Dasychira manto*, *Orgyria definita*, *Hypoprepia fucosa*, *H. miniata*, *Cisthene plumbea*, *Virbia opella*, *Virbia laeta*, *Spilosoma congrua*, *Halysidota tessellaris*, *Idia americalis*, *I. rotundalis*, *Palthis angulalis*, *Metalectra tantillus\**, *Rivula propinqualis*, *Hypena scabra*, *Dyspyralis sp.*, *Hemeroplanis scopulepes*, *Scolecocampa liburna*, *Cutina distincta*, *Cutina arcuata*, *Hyperstrotia villificans*, *Ledaea perditalis*, *Argyrostromis anilis*, *A. carolina*, *A. erasa*, *Ptichodis herbarum*, *Lesmone detrahens*, *L. hinna*, *Caenurgia chloropha*, *Panopoda rufimargo*, *P. repanda*, *Zale lunata*, *Zale confusa*, *Allotria elonympha*, *Catocala vidua*, *Spiloloma lunilinea*, *Pangrapta decoralis*, *Plusiodonta compressipalpis*, *Hypsoropha hormos*. **NOLIDAE:** *Nola cilicoides*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Marimatha nigrofimbria*, *Lithacodia muscosula*, *Homophoberia apicosa*, *Spragueia leo*, *A. hasta*, *Acronicta tritona*, *A. afflicta*, *Acronicta vinnula*, *Agriopodes fallax*, *Polygrammate hebraeicum*, *Balsa tristrigella*, *Helicoverpa zea*, *Schinia trifascia*, *Pseudeustrotia carneola*, *Ogdoconta cinereola*, *Iodopepla u-album*, *Condica sutor*, *C. videns*, *Phosphila miseloides*, *Spodoptera ornithogalli*, *Perigea xanthoides*, *Mythimna unipuncta*, *Leucania adjuta*, *Anicla infecta*. **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Macaria aemulataria*, *M. minorata*, *M. bicolorata*, *Glenoides texanaria*, *Iridopsis defectaria*, *Protoboarmia porcellaria*, *Hypomecis sp.*, *Anavitrinella pampinaria*, *Melanophia signataria*, *Hypagyrtis unipunctata*, *H. esther*, *Euchlaena amoenaria*, *E. pectinaria*, *Ilexia intractata*, *Metarranthis homuraria*, *Eutrapela clemataria*, *Dichorda iridaria*, *Leptostales laevitaria* (COUNTY, second location in STATE)\*, *Idaea taturata*, *Idaea demissaria*, *Scopula limboundata*. **CRAMBIDAE:** *Palpita magniferalis*, *Apogshena stenialis*, *Desmia funeralis*, *Urola nivalis*, *Argyria sp.*, *Pyrausta bicoloralis*. **PYRALIDAE:** *Dolichomia olinalis*, *Tallula atrifascialis*, *Dioryctria clarioralis*. **ZYGAENIDAE:** *Harrisina americana*. **LIMACODIDAE:** *Euclea delphinii*, *Apoda y-inversum*, *Isa textula*, *Isochaetes beutenmuelleri*. **MEGALOPYGIDAE:** *Megalopyge operculalis*. **LACTURIDAE:** *Lactura pupula*. **OECOPHORIDAE:** *Inga cretacea*.

Chickasawhatchee WMA, Seven Bridges Road, 0.75 m E of intersection with E Pine Island Road., 17 mi. SW of Albany, Dougherty Co., JA & IF, Sept. 3-4, 2011, cypress/cane swamp:

**SATURNIIDAE:** *Eacles imperialis*. **LASIOCAMPIDAE:** *Tolyte notialis*. **BOMBYCIDAE:** *Apatelodes torrefacta*. **SPHINGIDAE:** *Dolba hyloeus\**, *Paratraea plebja*, *Lapara coniferarum*, *Enyo lugubris*, *Paonias excaecatus*, *Smerinthus jamaicensis*, *Eumorpha pandorus*, *Xylophanes tersa*. **NOTODONTIDAE:** *Nadata gibbosa*, *Datana perspicua*, *D. drexelli*, *Heterocampa obliqua*, *H. gutivitta*, *Peridea angulosa*, *Macrurocampa marthesia*, *Lochmaeus manteo*, *L. bilineata*, *Symmerista albifrons*, *Oligocentria semirufescens*, *Schizura ipomoeae*. **EREBIDAE:** *Cisthene plumbea*, *C. subjecta*, *Hypoprepia miniata*, *Spilosoma congrua*, *Apantesis phalerata*, *Halysidota tessellaris*, *Idia americalis*, *I. rotundalis*, *I. julia*, *Zanclognatha minualis*, *Z. marcidilinea*, *Chytolita petrealis*, *Lascoria ambigualis*, *Redectis pygmaea*, *Hypena scabra*, *H. palparia*, *H. bijugalis*, *Scolecocampa liburna*, *Hemeroplanis obliqua*, *H. scopulepes*, *Ledaea perditalis*, *Lesmone detrahens*, *L. hinna*, *Ptichodis herbarum*, *Cutina distincta*, *C. arcuata*, *C. aluticolor*, *Panopoda repanda*, *P. carneicosta*, *P. rufimargo*, *Anticarsia gemmatilis*, *Parallelia bistriaris*, *Zale lunata*, *Allotria elonympha*, *Catocala vidua*, *C. lacrymosa*, *Plusiodonta compressipalpis*, *Pangrapta decoralis*, *Hypsoropha hormos*, *Phyprosopus callitrichoides*. **EUTELLIIDAE:** *Marathyssa inficita*, *Paectes abrostoloides*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Autographa precatationis*, *Marimatha nigrofimbria*, *Homophoberia apicosa*, *Argillophora furcilla*, *Spragueia leo*, *S. dama*, *S. onagrus*, *Acronicta Americana*, *Polygrammate hebraeicum*, *Heliothis virescens*, *Schinia rivulosa*, *S. siren*, *S. trifascia*, *Condica videns*, *C. confederata*, *C. vecors*, *C. sutor*, *Ogdonconta cinereola*, *Phosphila miseloides*, *P. turbulenta*, *Spodoptera latifascia* (few in state)\*, *S. frugiperda*, *Mythimna unipuncta*, *Leucania adjuta*, *Orhodes majuscula*, *Anicla infecta*, *Agrotis ipsilon*. **DREPANIDAE:** *Eudeilina herminiata*. **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Macaria promiscuata*, *M. aemulataria*, *M. aequiferaria*, *M. bicolorata*, *Pimaphera sparsaria* (second location in STATE)\*, *Iridopsis pergracilis\**, *I. defectaria*, *Melanolopia signataria*, *Hypagyrtis unipunctata*, *H. esther*, *Ilexia intractata*, *Euchlaena amoenaria*, *E. deductaria*, *Metarranthis homuraria*, *Eutrapela clemataria*, *Eusarca confusaria*, *Nemoria lixaria*, *Synchlora frondaria*, *Lophosis labeculata*, *Scopula compensata* (second location in STATE)\*, *Scopula umbilicata* (see Mud Creek, above), *Cyclophora sp.*, *Eulithis diversilineata*, *Calothysanis amaturaria* (few in STATE), *Eubaphe mendica*, *Dyspteris abortivaria*. **CRAMBIDAE:** *Crocidophora pustulifera*, *Palpita magniferalis*, *Diacme elealis*, *Pyrausta bicoloralis*. **PYRALIDAE:** *Clydonepteron tecomae*, *Tosale oviplagalalis*. **LIMACODIDAE:** *Adoneta spinuloides*, *Lithacodia fasciola*, *Isochaetes beutenmuelleri*, *Natada nasoni*. **ZYGAENIDAE:** *Harrisina Americana*. **LACTURIDAE:** *Lactura pupula*. **ATTEVIDAE:** *Atteva aurea*. **URODIDAE:** *Urodus parvula*. **SESSIIDAE:** *Synanthedon acerni* "tepperi".

Augusta Levee, Richmond Co., Late June, Lois Stacey:

**NYMPHALIDAE:** Silvery Checkerspot (*Chlosyne nycteis*); "Late in the afternoon on some Heliotrope we found a Silvery Checkerspot and about 20 minutes later at the other end of the levee we found another! This is the first time any of us have seen this species in Richmond County."

Port Wentworth, Chatham Co., swampy area, on Pickerel weed, Sept. 5, Lance Durden:

**HESPERIIDAE:** *Problema bulenta* (Rare Skipper), 13 in about an hour.

"The Landings", Skidaway Island Sparrow Field, "Pollinator Friendly Area", Chatham Co., Sept. 7, 2011, Fitz Clarke and Carol Warner:

**NYMPHALIDAE:** White Peacock (*Anartia jatrophae*), nectaring on Lantana; Fitz indicates that the butterfly's host-plants, Fogfruit, *Phyla nodiflora*, and Water Hyssop, *Bacopa monnieri*, are both in bloom around various island lagoon edges, but frequent weedwhacking keeps them minimally available to the butterfly for oviposition. A White Peacock was located here on Skidaway Island by Russ Wigh, November 23, 2004. "I followed multiple members of the species from 28 June - late October, 2008 in the area of lagoon #3 where the two host-plants were then relatively safe from the weed whackers. I digitally documented copulation and fresh adults, yet never located larvae or chrysalis. This is my first sighting here on Skidaway Island, Chatham Co, Ga since 2008."

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John Hyatt sends in a "notable capture" *Problema bulenta*, July 22-24, McIntosh Co., Georgia.

**Louisiana:** Michael Lockwood, 215 Hialeah Avenue, Houma, LA 70363, E-Mail: [mikelock34@hotmail.com](mailto:mikelock34@hotmail.com)

Michael sends in the following report of a STATE record. HesperIIDae: *Problema byssus*; Collector: Kevin Cunningham, June 8, 2005; 1/4 mile W of LA 425 off of LA 142, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana.

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

**North Carolina:** Steve Hall, North Carolina Natural Heritage Program, Division of Parks & Recreation, 1615 MSC, Raleigh, NC 27699-1615, E-Mail: [Stephen.Hall@ncmail.net](mailto:Stephen.Hall@ncmail.net)

The following selected records from March through June 2011 were submitted by Harry LeGrand. Place names refer to counties unless otherwise stated, and records are not new county reports unless indicated.

#### **PAPILIONIDAE:**

*Papilio cresphontes*, always a good find away from the coast; one was photographed by Ali Iyooob in Madison (COUNTY) on May 6. This is likely a breeding locale. On the other hand, one seen in a Greensboro yard in Guilford (COUNTY) on May 28 by Charlie Cameron was likely a migrant/stray.

#### **PIERIDAE:**

*Pontia protodice*, so rare that all reports are notable; one was seen at Haw River State Park in Guilford on April 7 by Greg Morris; and another was seen in Mecklenburg on April 30 by Taylor Piephoff.



**Olympia marble (*Euchloe olympia*) (recorded by Kevin Caldwell)**

*Euchloe olympia*, the first ever record of a presumed breeding colony in the state was found on April 17 by Merrill Lynch and Kevin Caldwell. After visiting a known colony site in Tennessee that morning, they traveled into North Carolina to search for the species in similar habitat in Madison (COUNTY). Four were seen that day, and Caldwell netted and photographed one on April 19. Harry LeGrand, Derb Carter, and Gail Lankford joined Lynch on April 23, and again saw four, somewhat worn. The only previous state record was one collected in a Malaise trap in Swain, in 2001; that individual was out of normal habitat and probably represents a stray.

*Phoebis agarithe*, only the second state report ever was one seen well – perched and in flight – by Greg Morris on April 4 at Haw River State Park in

Rockingham (COUNTY). The observer is quite familiar with *Phoebis sennae* and *Abaeis nicippe*. This is surprisingly early for a southern stray. The only other state report was a sighting also, near the coast in 2005. Needless to say, a specimen or photos are highly desired for confirmation.

#### LYCAENIDAE:

*Atlides halesus*, one photographed by S. Puckett on March 13 at Daniel Stowe Botanical Gardens in Gaston (COUNTY) was a rare find for the western Piedmont. Another was found dead in Asheboro (Randolph) on April 10 by Loretta Lutman.

*Satyrium favonius*, Taylor Piephoff found a new and sizable site for *S. favonius favonius* on the Brunswick mainland near Ocean Isle Beach, where he saw and photographed about 11 individuals on May 21. This subspecies reaches its northern extremity in Brunswick and southern New Hanover, though there is some mixing of characters with *S. favonius ontario*; the latter subspecies is the one found elsewhere in the state, and one was seen by Bob Cavanaugh much farther up the coast in Carteret on May 15.

*Callophrys henrici*, one seen at Morrow Mountain State Park in Stanly (COUNTY) on March 21 by Kevin Metcalf was a good find. For some odd reason, this species seems quite scarce in the western half of the state.

*Erora laeta*, always noteworthy, one was seen by David Campbell near Jonas Ridge in the montane portion of Burke (COUNTY) on April 30.



**Tawny Crescent**  
(*Phyciodes batesii maconensis*)  
(recorded by Parker Backstrom)

*Glaucopsyche lygdamus*, an excellent state count of eight was made by Gail Lankford at Sandy Mush Game Land in Buncombe on April 10. In adjacent Madison (COUNTY), one was seen by Harry LeGrand and Derb Carter on April 23, and five were seen there on April 24 by Lankford.

#### NYMPHALIDAE:

*Phyciodes batesii maconensis*, by far a record state count of this rare subspecies was made by Kevin Caldwell at a private tract in Jackson, where he saw 50 (and photographed a few for documentation) on May 20. At a known site in Graham, two were seen on May 28 by Parker Backstrom.

*Euphydryas phaeton*, always notable in the state were reports from four sites in the mountains. Two new sites were found in Buncombe (in upland habitats) on May 29 and June 8; whereas individuals were seen at known sites in Graham on May 28 and Haywood on June 11.

*Polygonia faunus smythi*, though regularly seen in August and September at Mount Mitchell State Park in Yancey, one seen there on May 28 by Gail Lankford was a rare sighting for that time of year.

#### HESPERIIDAE:

*Urbanus proteus*, seldom reported in the state before late July, one was quite surprising in the mountains on June 23, where seen by Doug Johnston in the Leicester area of Buncombe.

*Autochton cellus*, this rarity was reported once during the period – one seen on May 1 in South Mountains State Park in Burke by David Campbell.

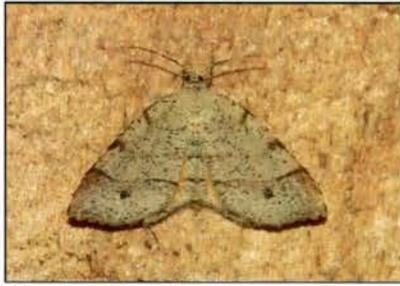
*Erynnis martialis*, always of note were two fresh individuals seen in Madison on April 23 by Harry LeGrand and Derb Carter.

*Euphyes dukesi dukesi*, John Fussell had a good count of 20 at known sites in Craven on June 9; there are records for only five counties in the state.

*Amblyscirtes vialis*, a record state count of 10 adults was made at Pilot Mountain State Park in Surry on May 8, by Gene Schepker and party.

The following selected moth records were submitted by Parker Backstrom and Merrill Lynch. Parker has previously submitted records for *Sphingicampa bisecta* and *S. bicolor* from sites located near the Deep River

along the border between Chatham and Lee Counties. This year he has contributed records for four more *Gleditsia*-feeding species and states that he has also seen *Catocala minuta* in the same area and possibly also *C. innubens*. This appears to be an amazing concentration of these species, not only for North Carolina generally – Parker's records for *S. bisecta* and for *Catocala illecta* are both firsts for the state – but particularly for the extreme eastern edge of the Piedmont, an area where *Gleditsia* (honeylocust) may not even be a native species. While Parker has noted that *Gleditsia* is a frequently planted species near his sites, the source of the moths still needs to be investigated.



Orange-wing  
(*Mellilla xanthometata*)  
(recorded by Parker Backstrom)

#### **GEOMETRIDAE:**

*Mellilla xanthometata*, *Gleditsia*-feeding species recorded by Parker Backstrom on May 10 in Chatham County.

#### **SATURNIIDAE:**

*Sphingicamap bicolor*, *Gleditsia*-feeding species recorded by Parker Backstrom on April 19, April 25, and August 19, all from previous observation sites in Chatham County.



*Schizura n sp.* (recorded by  
Parker Backstrom)

#### **LASIOCAMPIDAE:**

*Heteropacha rileyana*, *Gleditsia*-feeding species recorded by Parker Backstrom on March 24 in Lee County and on April 7, April 30, and June 4 in Chatham County.

#### **NOTODONTIDAE:**

*Schizura n sp.*, previously recorded in Chatham County by Parker Backstrom and observed there again on July 26 and August 2. Host plants are not known (?), but state records for this species show a concentration (4 records) in the same area of the Deep River Triassic Basin as the *Gleditsia*-feeders.



Magdalen Underwing  
(*Catocala illecta*) (recorded by  
Parker Backstrom)



*Niphonyx segregata*  
(recorded by  
Parker Backstrom)

#### **NOCTUIDAE:**

*Ascalapha odorata*, observed by Parker Backstrom on August 22 in Chatham County.

*Catocala illecta*, *Gleditsia*-feeding species recorded by Parker Backstrom on June 8 in Chatham County (STATE).



Sensitive Fern  
Borer (*Papaipema  
inquaesita*)  
(recorded by  
J. Merrill Lynch)

*Niphonyx segregata*, exotic species recorded by Parker Backstrom on August 2 in Chatham County and on August 26 in Lee County (STATE).

*Papaipema inquaesita*, recorded by Merrill Lynch on his front porch in Watauga County. This species has previously been reported in the state in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park but may be widespread, at least at high elevations, given the distribution of its host plant, sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*).

*Spiloloma lunilinea*, *Gleditsia*-feeding species recorded by Parker Backstrom on June 5 in Chatham County. This appears to be the most widespread *Gleditsia*-feeder in the state, although records are highly scattered. Additional records were made this year by Steve Hall on June 1 and August 2 at two widely separated sites in Randolph County.

**South Carolina:** Brian Scholtens, College of Charleston, Charleston, SC 29424, E-Mail: [scholtensb@cofc.edu](mailto:scholtensb@cofc.edu)

**Tennessee:** John Hyatt, 5336 Foxfire Place, Kingsport, TN 37664, E-Mail: [jkshyatt@aol.com](mailto:jkshyatt@aol.com)

John reports the following from Tennessee:

*Sphinx franckii*, Tennessee, Marion Co., vic. Jasper, 29-VI-11 leg. J. Hyatt. Not a great rarity nowadays, but probably still a county record.

General notes on the NE Tennessee section of the southern Appalachians for June-July 2011: Despite a strong spring flight of most species and continued good rains, most summer butterflies are decidedly "down" in the mountains, as was the case in 2010. *Speyeria diana* is about as common as usual, but such things as *P. glaucus*, *P. troilus*, *L. astyanax*, *Polygonias*, and *S. cybele* and *aphrodite* are decidedly uncommon in Sullivan, Washington, and surrounding counties. *S. calanus falacer* had a good late June flight, but *liparops* and *titus mopsus* failed to put in an appearance.

John further reports that most butterflies (Papilios, Nymphalids, skippers) have shown incredibly low populations in the southern Appalachians this summer (as opposed to the spring flight, which looked normal); the same is true on costal Georgia.

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

Ed reports two records: *Problema byssus*, New Boston, Bowie Co., TX., 28-VI-2911, Bordelon and Knudson; and *Poanes zabulon*, Scatter Creek, Red River Co., TX, 26-VI-2011.

**Virginia:** Harry Pavulaan, 494 Fillmore Street, Herndon, VA 22070, E-Mail: [pavulaan@aol.com](mailto:pavulaan@aol.com)

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The Southern Lepidopterists' News is published four times annually. Membership dues are \$20.00 annually. The organization is open to anyone, especially those with an interest in the Lepidoptera of the southern United States. Information about the Society may be obtained from Marc Minno, Membership Coordinator, 600 NW 34 Terrace, Gainesville, FL 32607, E-Mail: [mminno@bellsouth.net](mailto:mminno@bellsouth.net), and dues may be sent to Jeffrey R. Slotten, Treasurer, 5421 NW 69th Lane, Gainesville, FL 32653.  
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