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

J. BARRY LOMBARDINI: EDITOR

NERICE BIDENTATA WALKER 1855 (LEPIDOPTERA: NOTODONTIDAE) IN LOUISIANA

BY
VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR.



The notodontid moth *Nerice bidentata* Walker 1855 (Fig. 1), occurs across Louisiana.

Covell (1984) stated *bidentata* occurs throughout eastern North America from April through September. This same author lists the larval foodplant as elms *Ulmus* sp.

Fig. 1. *Nerice bidentata* Walker 1855 phenotypes: a. male, b. female.

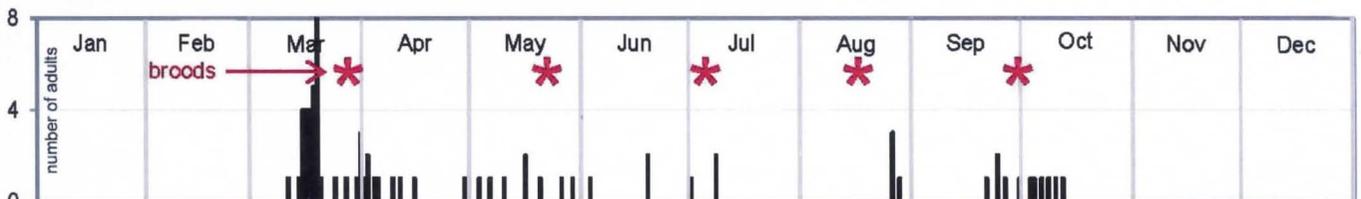


Fig. 2. Adult *Nerice bidentata* Walker 1855 captured in Louisiana. n = 72

Hepner (2003) listed the range of *bidentata* to include Nova Scotia to Florida and Minnesota to Texas during the months February to June.

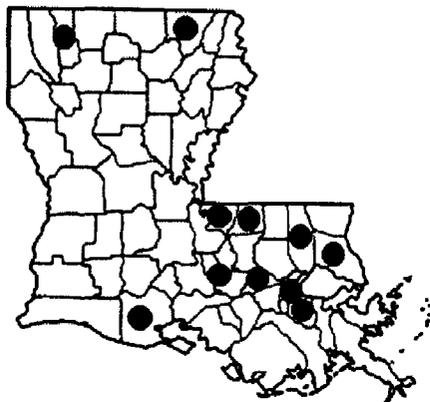


Fig. 3. Parish records for *N. bidentata*.

In Louisiana, *bidentata* has five annual broods, first brood peaking end of March, second brood peaking approximately mid-May with subsequent broods at approximate 44-day intervals into October (Fig. 2). The parish records are illustrated in Fig. 3.

Literature Cited

Covell, Jr., C.V., 1984. *A Field Guide to the Moths of Eastern North America*. The Peterson Field Guide Series No. 30. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston. xv + 496pp., 64 plates.
 Heppner, J.B., 2003. *Arthropods of Florida and neighboring land areas*, vol. 17: Lepidoptera of Florida, Div. Plant Industry, Fla. Dept. Agr. & Consum. Serv., Gainesville. x + 670 pp., 55 plates.

(Vernon Antoine Brou Jr., 74320 Jack Loyd Road, Abita Springs, Louisiana 70420 USA;
 E-Mail: yabrou@bellsouth.net)

**TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2014
 AS OF AUGUST 31, 2014**

There are 144 paid members and two complimentary issues sent out quarterly (Library of Congress and Library at Division of Plant Industry in Gainesville, Florida). Last year at this time there were 154 paid members.

Beginning Bank Balance with SunTrust of Gainesville as of 1/1/2014: **\$3,195.98** (\$3,191.74 last year).

Ending Balance as of 08/31/2013: **\$1,203.98** (\$3,003.13 last year).

Deposits and Credits: Includes member dues and donations, collections from meetings and sales of old newsletters: **\$4,898** (\$5,140.00 last year).

Withdrawals and Fees: **\$5,090.00** (\$5,012.65 last year).

Bank Fees: \$30.00:

- \$ 6.00 Deposit Correction Fee, 2/17/2014
- \$12.00 Maintenance Fee, 1/31/2014
- \$12.00 Maintenance Fee, 8/29/2014

Printing Newsletters: \$3,874.09:

- Vol. 35 #4 \$ 983.79
- Vol. 36 #1 \$1402.98
- Vol. 36 #2 \$1487.32

Postage for Newsletters: \$1,185.91:

- Vol. 35 #4 \$399.98
- Vol. 36 #1 \$393.13
- Vol. 36 #2 \$392.80

Respectively submitted,
 Jeffrey R. Slotten DDS
 Research Associate McGuire Center
 FSCA, SLS Treasurer 2014

The Southern Lepidopterists' Society

OFFICERS

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

Jeffrey R. Slotten: Treasurer
5421 NW 69th Lane
Gainesville, FL 32653
E-Mail: jslotten@bellsouth.net

Donald M. Stillwaugh: Secretary
604 Summerhill Ct Apt. D
Safety Harbor, FL 34695-4387
E-Mail: don.stillwaugh7@verizon.net

Marc Minno: Membership Coordinator
600 NW 34 Terrace
Gainesville, FL 32607
E-Mail: mminno@bellsouth.net

Rick Gillmore: Member-at-Large
1772 Willa Circle
Winter Park, FL 32792
E-Mail: rickgillmore@yahoo.com

Lary Reeves: Member-at-Large
515 NE Blvd.
Gainesville, FL 32601
E-Mail: LEREEVES@SYR.EDU

Dave Morgan: Website Manager
4355 Cobb Parkway
Suite J461
Atlanta, GA 30339
E-Mail: mrdavemorgan@hotmail.com

J. Barry Lombardini: Editor
3507 41st Street
Lubbock, Texas 79413
E-Mail: jbarry.lombardini@ttuhsc.edu

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

Regular	\$20.00
Student	\$15.00
Sustaining	\$30.00
Contributor	\$50.00
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A newsletter, The News of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society is published four times annually.

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

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Unusual Louisiana Iris from the Garden of Gary Noel Ross, Baton Rouge, LA.

SOUTHEASTERN SPHINGIDS

BY

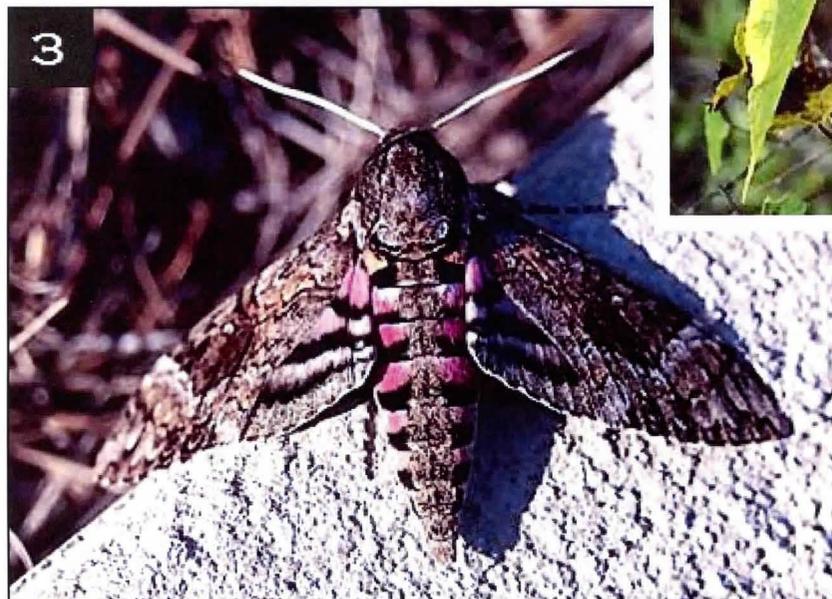
ROBERT DIRIG

It was thrilling to find these two sphinx moths (Figs. 1-4) in Florida and North Carolina. They only occur as rare strays in New York (Forbes 1928: 609).



1. **RUSTIC SPHINX** (*Manduca rustica*), a mature larva on American Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*), Paynes Prairie, Gainesville, Florida, 21 Sept. 2006. 2. American Beautyberry, Holly Shelter Game Lands near Wilmington, N.C., 27 Sept. 2003. 3. **PINK-SPOTTED HAWKMOTH** (*Agrius cingulatus*), Warsaw, N. C., at a gas station (several moths seen), 3 October 1997. 4. The same, showing its fine camouflage when resting among shaded pine needles.

Photos copyright © 2014 by Robert Dirig.



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Forbes, W.T.M., 1928. Family Shingidae, pp. 609-613. *In* Leonard, M.D., *A list of the insects of New York*, Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station Memoir 101, 1121 pp. + locality map.

(Robert Dirig, Plant Pathology Herbarium, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. 14853, USA; E-Mail: red2@cornell.edu)

A SURVEY OF MOTHS IN SOUTHERN GEORGIA

BY

PARKER BACKSTROM¹ AND MERRILL LYNCH²

A total of 339 moth taxa were recorded during a survey conducted from October 2-6, 2013, on private property in Thomas County, Georgia. Thomas County is located in the southwestern corner of the state, approximately 35 miles northeast of Tallahassee, Florida (Fig. 1). Taking part in this survey were: Parker Backstrom and Merrill Lynch, who drove down from North Carolina; David Beadle, who flew down from Toronto, Ontario; and Wilson Baker, who drove up from Tallahassee. Because access to this property is restricted, the owners have respectfully requested that the precise location not be

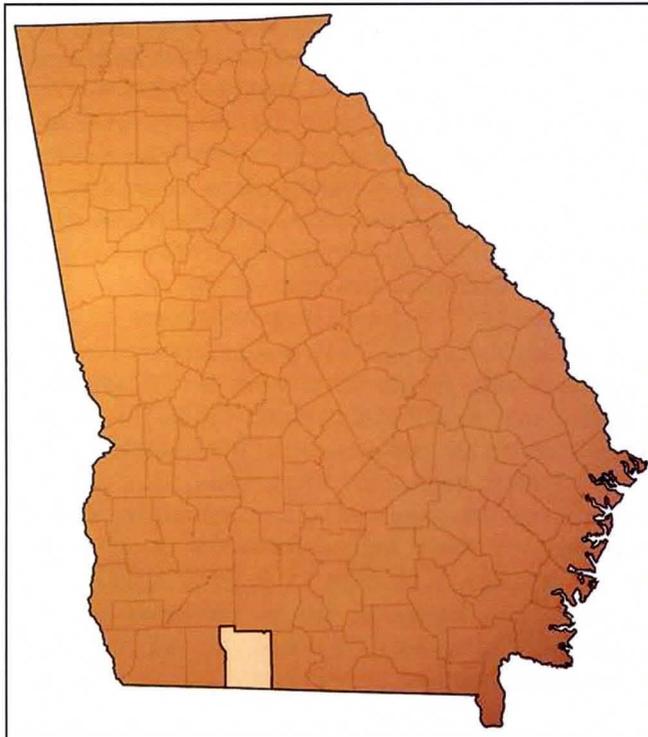


Fig. 1. Map of Georgia showing location of Thomas County

divulged. The purpose of the survey was to photo-document species diversity on the property using various combinations of ultraviolet (UV or “black”) lights, mercury vapor (MV) lights, and bucket traps. A total of about 120 man-hours were spent over the course of four nights and days.

The expansive property lies west of the town of Thomasville in a physiographic region that covers southwestern Georgia and north-central Florida that is known as the Red Hills. It consists of gently rolling, sandy uplands dominated by extensive stands of the longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*)/wiregrass (*Aristida* spp.) natural community, and includes other scattered features such as swamp blackgum (*Nyssa biflora*) ponds, wet seepages in poorly drained areas, and narrow strips of

swamp forests along small drainages. The property contains some of the most pristine and vast examples of longleaf pine/wiregrass savannah community left in the United States, including hundreds of acres of old-growth forest that contain longleafs in excess of 500 years in age. These stately old-growth pine stands are characterized by very open canopies over a dense ground cover of wiregrass and many other species of native grasses, sedges, and forbs. This community is maintained by way of prescribed ground fires that mimic the pre-settlement lightning fires that ensured the open character of the forest, a condition that promotes a high diversity of representative fire-dependent flora and fauna species. A portion of the property we visited includes forested wetlands (bottomland hardwood forest and cypress-gum swamp) along the floodplain of the Ochlocknee River. The property also contains various disturbed habitats such as “oldfield” loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*) stands, planted live oaks (*Quercus virginiana*), wildlife food plots, and some grassy fields. A full spectrum of plants and animals endemic to this natural community type can be found at the site, including the federally endangered red-cockaded woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*) and many species of rare and endangered plants. While a number of plant and vertebrate animal surveys have been conducted on the property over the years, we are not aware of any studies of invertebrates, and our survey was the first to specifically target moths.

Moths are traditionally surveyed using a combination of lights that attract them to sheets or traps that “hold” the moths so they can be collected. Typically, a killing agent is placed in the traps to rapidly dispatch whatever is caught for examination later. In this survey we used these same techniques, but instead of collecting specimens we merely photographed them in their live, free-flying state using digital cameras. Most of the moths were photographed *in situ* on the sheets, though a few dozen individuals were also captured in vials, which we transported back to our home base to be posed and photographed under natural light conditions during daylight hours, after which time they were released. With the advent of digital photography, even relatively simple cameras can obtain images that are of high enough quality to allow a large number of moth taxa to be reliably identified without the need for collecting. Although specimen collection is critical, particularly for those species that cannot be identified through external examination and require genitalic dissection or DNA barcoding to reach definitive conclusions about identity, we weren’t prepared for that option. For the purposes

of this kind of survey we think photographic documentation is adequate and is a relatively fast and reasonably accurate way of sampling moth diversity. Much of the photography was done at four fixed-light set-ups which were checked repeatedly at various times during the night and early morning hours. Those species with which we were unfamiliar were identified using on-line resources such as Moth Photographers Group and BugGuide, as well as a number of printed references. Our having access to electricity at these sites afforded us the ability to use 160 or 250 Watt (W) MV lamps in combination with white sheets that we hung vertically between trees or laid horizontally on the ground. The power that is required to illuminate powerful bulbs such as these precludes their use in remote locations where only battery power is available. The sites chosen for these MV lights offered long sight lines so as to accentuate their drawing power.

In addition to the fixed locations, each day we chose a different set of satellite locations on the property that when combined offered a wider array of habitats and micro-habitats. At these various remote sites we set up a combination of sheets and bucket traps made up of five-gallon plastic buckets topped by a funnel. In such traps a 15 W tubular black light bulb centered between four vertical vanes above the funnel draws in the moths (and other insects). They then drop into the bucket through the funnel — the narrow opening preventing escape — where inside they rest upon wadded pieces of newspaper, broken up egg cartons, or some similar type of substrate until such time the traps can be retrieved and examined. The UV lights used at these remote locations were powered through the night by 18 Amp-Hour 12 Volt batteries (Fig. 2). To further enhance moth-drawing power, we also employed bait — a concoction of fermented beer, sugar, bananas, and molasses — at some remote sites. Lastly, we set out several traps baited with pheromone lures attractive to various day-flying moths in the family Sesiidae. Only a small number of moths were seen during daylight hours, randomly encountered while butterflying or botanizing.



Fig. 2. Black light trap (Ph. Merrill Lynch)

Our plan originally had the four of us traveling to Thomas County in early September, but the challenges of coordinating schedules pushed the trip into early October. Because the fall in the southeastern U.S. had been mild to that point, we didn't foresee any particular weather problems associated with this adjusted time frame. The forecast for the period was generally favorable, with the likelihood of light winds only and just a low to moderate chance of precipitation each day. As luck would have it we managed to avoid any rainfall to speak of. We did time our visit to coincide with a new moon, raising our hopes that it would be a productive trip.

A vast majority of the species that we expected to encounter occur in North Carolina so would be familiar to Merrill and Parker. But because the survey site is just over 500 miles south of their home state they each expected to see a number of species that they hadn't seen before. Living in Canada, a far greater number would be new for David, helping raise the interest level up a couple of notches. Dave is the co-author of the *Peterson Field Guide to Moths of Northeastern North America*. His participation had the added benefit to him of the opportunity to obtain photographs for another field guide that is in preparation, this one on the moths of the southeastern U.S. Wilson's deep understanding of the flora and fauna of the Red Hills Region, coupled with his experience with conservation work in the southeast, promised an even richer experience for the three others of us. In return for sharing some of that knowledge with us we hoped to deepen his appreciation for a group of creatures with which he was largely unfamiliar. All told, each of us was greatly looking forward to the adventure, the first of many such trips we hope to embark upon together. I'm happy to say in retrospect that our respective experiences matched all of our high expectations, if not exceeded them.

The restriction on the number and weight of bags he was allowed during air travel essentially negated Dave's ability to supply any of the vast array of equipment that would be needed. More than happy to take on that responsibility, on the morning of October 2 Merrill and Parker piled the bed of Merrill's truck full of traps, sheets, lights, batteries, extension cords, cables, poles, nets, ropes, clamps, tape, and boxes full of jars, vials, and other sundry items, and turned toward the south. Merrill and Parker met up with Wilson and David in Thomasville that afternoon. When we arrived we found them already well into butterflying time. It had been a warm day with high temperatures in the upper 80s° F, so quite a number of things were active. While our game plan for the trip was to sample a variety of habitats each day, as stated, our relatively late arrival from North Carolina limited the options for that night. That afternoon we were relegated to setting up only the MV lights and sheets outside our base camp. We placed one

sheet along the edge of mixed hardwood forest and two others in areas away from the forest's edge. We set up a fourth MV light beside a small cypress swamp a few hundred meters away. The overnight low temperatures through the week were forecasted to be in the mid-60s. At this time of year in Thomas County the sun sets at around 7:20 P.M.

After settling in and unpacking, and following our return from dinner, we were, of course, anxious to see what might have come in to the lights in the interim. Under a waning crescent moon we were greeted by a number of species that would quickly become familiar to us over the course of the next several days. This included such things as the non-descript *Acrolophus heppneri*, *Olethreutes griseoalbana* (Putty-patched Moth), *Ancylis comptana* (Strawberry Leafroller Moth), the rather delicate *Idaea taturata* (Dot-lined Wave), and the stout, always impressive *Enyo lugubris* (Mournful Sphinx) (Fig. 3), which was the only Sphingid we would see with



Fig. 3. *Enyo lugubris* (Ph. Parker Backstrom)

regularity. Over the course of our visit both Pyraustids and Pyralids would make strong showings — *Chrysendeton imitabilis*, *Elophila oblitalis* (Waterlily Leafcutter Moth), *Parapoynx allionealis* (Watermilfoil Leafcutter Moth), *Samea ecclesialis* (Assembly Moth), *Samea baccatalis*, and *Condylorrhiza vestigialis* (The Alamo Moth), were among the first of those groups to greet us.

Of those species present on this first night were several that were quite interesting to us, among them the diminutive *Afrida ydatodes* (Dyar's Lichen Moth), *Hormoschista latipalpis* (Double-lined Brown Moth), *Selenisa sueroides* (Pale-edged Selenisa), and *Elaphria nucicolora* (Sugarcane Midget) (Fig. 4). While new and interesting, none would show themselves to be



Fig. 4. *Elaphria nucicolora* (Ph. Parker Backstrom)

particularly uncommon. The *Afrida*, especially, was seen often over the course of our stay. *Hormoschista latipalpis* was vexing to us at the outset for the variability it showed over a relatively small sample size; some showed black orbicular spots, others dotted white antemedial and postmedial lines, some were uniformly brownish-gray in color, others more banded and reddish-tinged. The *Selenisa* was perhaps the most “tropical-looking” moth of the bunch. Its “exotic” appearance helped stoke the fires as to what might lie in store for us. Even though it had been a long day, it was hard to tear ourselves away from the lights. When we did, though, sleep came quickly.

We emerged en masse around 5:00 A.M. on October 3 — sunrise was about 7:30 — eager to make our initial sheet check of the day. It might be said that there are two schools of thought when it comes to attending lights. Some choose to concentrate on the hours after sunset to take advantage of the initial burst of moth activity. Others choose to set up their lights, go to bed, and devote their energy to the early morning hours, sorting through what might have come in over the course of the night. As most do, I suspect, we would incorporate some of each method to varying degrees that would become modified as the trip wore on. On the first couple of nights adrenaline kept us awake and alert (more or less) well past dark, but on the penultimate and ultimate nights, starting fresh after a night's sleep became the favored way to go. Different moths fly at different times of the night, of course, so there may have been a subset of beasties that appeared and disappeared in those intervening hours, but we were willing to accept that to avoid employing the third strategy, best reserved

for the young — staying up through the night entire. After a short cost/benefit analysis, we quickly concluded that this third option was not for us.

This first morning, as we moved between the sheets, we began tallying trip ticks quickly — *Mompha bottimeri* (Bottimer's Mompha), *Urodus parvula* (Bumelia Webworm), *Eumaroza malachitana* (Sculptured Moth), *Ancylis goodelliana*, *Elophila nebulosalis* (Nebulous Munroessa Moth), *Xanthophysa psychialis*, *Pyrausta signatalis* (Raspberry Pyrausta), *Syngamia florella* (Orange-spotted Flower Moth), *Dioryctria clarioralis* (Blister Coneworm), *Artace cribrarius* (Dot-lined White), *Dyspyralis nigellus* (Slaty Dyspyralis), *Bagisara repanda* (Wavy Lined Mallow Moth), and *Cucullia convexipennis* (Brown-hooded Owlet) were among them. Finding a lovely *Atlides halesus* (Great Blue Hairstreak) on a sheet that first morning was a nice little bonus. As the morning's mothing activity wound down, we struck out on foot for some butterfly watching. We tallied the species we expected to see, things like *Papilio palamedes* (Palamedes Swallowtail), *Agraulis vanilla* (Gulf Fritillary), and *Urbanus proteus* (Long-tailed Skipper). *Heliconius charithonia* (Zebra Heliconian) was certainly nice, but in the end our butterfly list would be more modest than we thought it might be (Appendix 2). While out and about we also found a few moths like *Lesmone hinna*, *Ptichodis vinculum* (Black-tipped Ptichodes), and *Argyrostromis deleta*. In addition to moths and butterflies, we made a superficial attempt to keep track of odenates throughout the trip, with *Gynacantha nervosa* (Twilight Darner) being our "best."

The afternoon hours were spent pouring through the hundreds of photographs already accumulated and looking up some identities. This being our first full day, we were afforded the chance to scout out satellite trapping sites in habitats that we hoped would produce different sub-sets of moths that we might not see otherwise. On this first afternoon we chose four sites in the pine-savannah for the bucket traps: one in an extensive area of *Sabal palmetto* (Sabal Palm); one in a low, wet area dominated by *Liatris* with abundant *Sarracenia*, or pitcher-plant; one adjacent to patches of cane (*Arundo donax*); and a fourth in more xeric upland habitat. All were in relatively close proximity to one another to make the circuit easier to complete. We added a couple of sheets at two of the sites as well to provide enhanced photographic opportunities (Fig. 5).

When we returned to check the traps a couple of hours after dark we were greeted by the prodigious presence of *Lethocerus americanus*, or Giant Water Bug, rather to our dismay and somewhat to the exclusion of our more desired quarry. In spite of these big, bombastic bugs buzzing around our heads and bouncing off the sheets, over the next hour or so we managed to sort out a number of scaly-winged critters, including the pretty little Erebid *Phytometra ernestinana* (Ernestine's Moth).



Fig. 5. Wilson Baker (background), David Beadle (photographer), Parker Backstrom (Ph. Merrill Lynch)

For those like us who love perusing images of moths, one of those species that just pops off the screen or page when you see it is the rainbow-hued *Thaumatographa jonesi* (Psychedelic Jones Moth), so the fresh one we found on the sheet quickly became one of the early front-runners for "moth of the trip." While its image suggests it would glow like a multi-colored neon bulb, absent a bright light, of course, it's dull and inconspicuous. It's also a small moth, with a forewing length of only about eight millimeters, so it can easily hide on a sheet covered with bugs. While this only sporadically-encountered beauty appears to be a species of pine habitats, very little is actually known about its life history. All we needed to know about it at that moment, though, was that it was gracing us with its presence and that we had the pleasure of photographing it.

The traps in the palmetto, cane, and upland habitats didn't prove terribly productive. We did find a Geometrid that we had a hard time identifying. It had the distinctive look of a *Cyclophora* but didn't quite match *C. packardi* or *C. myrtaria*, the two species more familiar to us. After some research we concluded that it was the uncommon and local *Cyclophora culicaria* (Fig. 6). According to Schweitzer, *et al.*, the preponderance of records of this moth has come from Liberty County,



Fig. 6. *Cyclophora culicaria* (Ph. Parker Backstrom)

Florida, southwest of Tallahassee, although he also lists records from southeastern Georgia. Although much about it remains a mystery, it appears to be a species of wet flatwood habitats. Our finding it near bog-savannah would seem to support our conclusion. In the absence of an understanding of its life history, Schweitzer weighs the possibility that the species might be univoltine, given the fact that a large majority of the adult specimens that he examined were collected in late April to late June. He goes on to say, however, that being univoltine would be unusual given the genus. In light of our experience it appears that *C. culicaria* has at least two broods. We would see several individuals over the course of one night and one morning of trapping at this site.

Back at camp, we had moved one MV light from beside the wood line, where it was drawing little of interest, to the spot beside the cypress swamp in order to double our efforts at this locale. Tonight this spot offered up, among other things, *Inga sparsiciliella* (Black-marked Inga), *Walshia miscecolorella* (Sweetclover Root Borer), *Olethreutes furfuratum* (Woolly-backed Moth), *Diasemiopsis leodocualis*, *Raphiptera argillaceellus* (Diminutive Grass-veneer Moth), and *Scopula lautaria* (Small Frosted Wave), as well as *Lophosis labeculata* (Stained Lophosis), *Virbia laeta* (Joyful Virbia), and the exquisitely-detailed *Abablemma brimleyana* (Brimley's Halfing). Of particular interest was the odd-looking little Pyralid named *Penthesilea sacculalis*, a species that was new for all of us. As things would have it we would see it each night of our visit. With night winding down, we enjoyed *un cerveza frio o dos* and recounted the day before turning in.

When we arose on October 4, partly cloudy skies somewhat obscured the sliver of moon that would turn new this night. It was another pleasant morning in the mid-60s, with light winds from the east giving a freshness to the air. The first order of the day was a check of the sheets near base camp. We added such new things as *Marasmia trapezalis* (Trapeze Moth), *Oligocentria semirufescens* (Red-washed Prominent), and *Condica mobilis* (Mobile Groundling), as well as saw many of the now familiar things. But since we were anxious to get out to our remote site we made this survey a brief one. Once back in the boggy pine-savannah we found, to our relief, that the *Lethocerus* had become largely moribund, leaving us feeling a little less under siege. Overnight the UV light had attracted a decent variety of species, including *Dichomeris costarufuella*, *Pyrausta phoenicealis* (Phoenicean Pyrausta), *Leptostales pannaria* (Pannaria Wave), *Phytometra rhodarialis* (Pink-bordered Yellow), *Phosphila turbulenta* (Turbulent Phosphila), *Crambodes talidiformis* (Verbena Moth), and *Schinia nubila* (Camphorweed Flower Moth), as well as more *Abablemma brimleyana*. Two moths putting in initial appearances were the delicately-bejeweled *Pelochrista*

scintillana and the sherbet-shaded *Leptostales laevitaria* (Raspberry Wave Moth). They were the only individuals of these species we'd see.

While we had been applying a largely "scatter gun" approach to our mothing, we did have a handful of target species in mind. By setting up in an area containing *Sarracenia minor* (exclusively), one species we hoped we might see was *Papaipema appassionata* (Pitcher-plant Borer Moth). It was not to be, however. If it was here, undoubtedly we were too late in the season. When we reached the nearby palmetto site, though, we were excited to find another *Sarracenia*-centric moth resting passively on the outside of one of the traps. We recognized it immediately as one of the pitcher-plant moths of the genus *Exyra*. While all three species of this genus occur in Georgia, the distinctly bicolored appearance — the basal half of the forewing was yellow, the distal half charcoal gray — made this *E. semicrocea* (Fig. 7). A moth with a most fascinating life history, it was interesting to note that when later placed gently



Fig. 7. *Exyra semicrocea* (Ph. Parker Backstrom)

upon a stick so that it might be photographed, it would scuttle backward as though seeking cover down inside the Calabash-pipe-like chamber of its food plant, where the adult continues to live after eclosion. Despite setting up one of the traps in favorable habitat, another hoped for species, *Litoprosopus futilis* (Palmetto Borer Moth), was "*lepsona non-grata*" — we seemed to have been too late for it as well.

The afternoon of October 4 became warm and rather sticky, with highs climbing into the upper 80s. Dave was like a kid in a candy store as he worked deliberately through a healthy collection of vials and jars to produce lovely portraits of tiny winged creatures (see photo gallery on pages 131-133). As he did so, the rest of us carefully excavated the contents of the traps collected that morning, gently peeling apart the cardboard egg cartons inside to see what treasures might be hiding amidst the nooks and crannies. We found another

Thaumato-grapha jonesi and a second *Exyra semicrocea*, but apart from that it was pretty slim pickings. Not even beetles were present in any numbers.

While we'd been out in the field over the previous couple of days, the pheromone traps we'd set out ended up attracting a number of *Synanthedon exitiosa* (Peachtree Borer), the humid conditions certainly helping carry the pheromone particles through the warm southern air. It would be the only clearwing moth we would record over the course of our stay, though. The effectiveness of these lures, purchased from Great Lakes IPM, can really be something to see. In our experience, once placed outside it may take just a minute or two before Sesiids begin appearing in search of their imagined "object of affection."

After treating ourselves to an afternoon of rest, we took to the field once more to scout out another different set of habitats in which to set up the bucket traps. This venture took us into xeric upland habitat dominated by oak (*Quercus* spp.), with scattered longleaf pine. We set up one trap along the edge of a dirt road inside mixed hardwood that skirted a tributary of the Ochlocknee River. One hundred meters further on we set up a second bucket trap along the edge of a small oxbow in the river that was lined with scattered cypress. On the road above that we placed a black light and sheet. To cover all our bases, we slathered some sugar bait on several nearby trees. [It should be noted here that throughout our trip, sugar baiting would prove largely ineffective; a few *Idia lubricalis* (Glossy Black Idia) were about the only things attracted by this method.] On our way back to camp we set up a third trap adjacent to a disturbed loblolly "oldfield."

After cleaning up and grabbing a relaxed dinner in the town of Thomasville, we headed back out to make a brief first check of the traps and sheet along the river. We were a little disappointed by the modest numbers and variety, but finding their way onto the list were *Argyrotaenia tabulana*, *Prolimacodes badia* (Skiff Moth), *Chloropteryx tepperaria* (Angle-winged Emerald), *Idia rotundalis* (Rotund Idia), *Zanclognatha theralis*, and a battered *Argyrostromis flavistriaria* (Yellow-lined Chocolate Moth). The MV lights back at camp produced a greater selection. We found the attractive little *Epicallima argenticinctella* (Orange-headed Epicallima), *Diploschizia impigritella* (Yellow Nutsedge Moth), *Corticivora parva*, *Parapoynx maculalis* (Dimorphic Pond Moth), *Hellula rogatalis* (Cabbage Webworm), *Pyrausta subsequalis*, and *Diatraea lisetta*, as well as more *Penthesilia sacculalis* and *Hormoschista latipalpis*. But these were also supplemented by *Crambus leachellus*, the sharp-looking *Anadelosemia texanella* (Fig. 8), and *Dasylophia thyatiroides* (Gray-patched Prominent).

October 5 would be the warmest day of our visit, with a high temperature topping out at around 90°. After another too-short night of sleep, we dragged our bodies from bed to begin the process all over again. Given the



Fig. 8. *Anadelosemia texanella* (Ph. Parker Backstrom)

law of diminishing return, there was just a slight bit less spring in our collective step. In the fresh, early morning air we worked to pull heretofore unrecorded things off the sheets. *Zomaria interruptolineana* (Broken-line Zomaria), *Sparganothis distincta* (Distinct Sparganothis), *Dioryctria amatella* (Southern Pineconeworm), *Enyo lugubris*, *Macaria distribuaria* (Southern Chocolate Angle), and *Utetheisa ornatrix* (Ornate Bella Moth), had by now become expected. We did, however, add several new things to the trip list such as *Drymoana blanchardi*, *Dasychira tephra* (Tephra Tussock Moth), and *Schinia trifascia* (Three-lined Flower Moth). We also found a rather delicate, satiny white moth with long legs whose identity baffled us for a time (Fig. 9). David's suspicion that it was the rather elegant *Rupela tinctella* seemed likely. That said, telling it from the similar-looking *R. segregata* by appearance alone is difficult (according to James Adams' *Georgia*

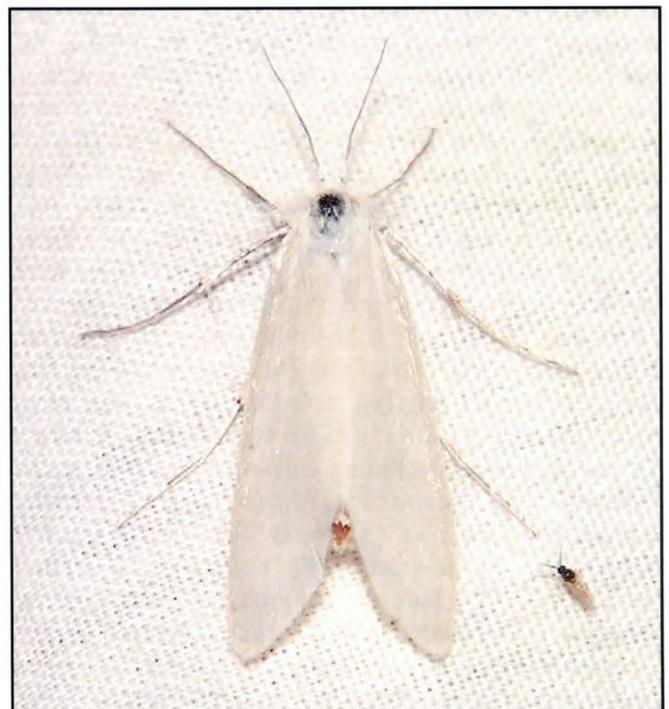


Fig. 9. *Rupela tinctella* (Ph. Parker Backstrom)

Lepidoptera website, both have been recorded in the state).

An hour or so before the sun would rise we struck out to check the bucket traps and the sheet set out the afternoon before. It was hoped that we might secure photos of some cypress-feeding moths, but apart from *Nemoria elfa* (Cypress Emerald) we came up empty in this regard. Nothing of particular note was seen so the sheet was packed up and the traps gathered, a rather anticlimactic end to our remote field work.

Because of the time it would have taken to pull our gear together prior to departure the following morning, for this last night we pared things down to three sheets, and packed up the rest of our stuff in preparation for our trip home. Just after dark, David and Parker struck out in search of a large fig tree (*Ficus* sp.) that was said to be growing on the edge of an open grassy field on the property. It was hoped that by setting up a black light and sheet there we might be lucky enough to lure in one of our few real hoped-for target species, *Xanthopastis regnatrix* (Spanish Moth), for which *Ficus* is reported to



Fig. 10. *Terastia meticulosalis* (Ph. Parker Backstrom)

be a food plant. The visual impact of a black-and-yellow moth bearing a bubblegum-pink cape has to be something to behold firsthand. Our having the chance to see and photograph this beauty would be a great way to put a cap on a fine trip. Search as we might through the dark, though, no fig tree could we locate. Undaunted, we selected a site against a line of hardwoods along the edge of the field and set up a sheet there before meeting back up with Merrill and Wilson for a few cold ones and a last night of camaraderie. Back at camp, *Moodna pallidostrinella* (Paler Moodna), *Hypena degesalis*, *Spodoptera dolichos* (Dolichos Armyworm), and *Schinia lynx* (Lynx Flower Moth) were among the final new volunteers to step forward.

Despite the long travel day facing three of us on October 6, we puttered around a bit more that early morning than we should have, somewhat reluctant for the venture to end. We made a leisurely circuit of the MV sheets with



Fig. 11. *Condica cupentia* (Ph. Parker Backstrom)

precious little new to add, save for an alien-looking *Terastia meticulosalis* (Erythrina Borer) (Fig. 10), one of our favorite moths of the trip, and a fresh and attractive *Condica cupentia* (Spotted Groundling) (Fig. 11) near the cypress swamp. Against the faint glow of the dawn's burgeoning light, at the sheet beside the field, we padded our list with a final few species: *Ymeldia janae* (Jane's Ymelda Moth); *Cryptasasma bipenicilla*, a range-limited Tortricid whose subtly-detailed blend of rufous, brown, and black would not be fully appreciated until enlarged on the cameras' view screens; and the always cool *Callopietria floridensis* (Florida Fern Moth). A fresh *Pyrausta laticlavata* (Southern Purple Mint Moth) was the last of the veritable plethora of Pyraustids tallied.

Although hardly owed to us, given the good time had by all, the mothing gods did impart upon us one last surprise. Although the hoped-for, eleventh-hour



Fig. 12. *Diphthera festivoides* (Ph. Parker Backstrom)

Xanthopastis never did materialize, upon approach we caught a flash of scintillant blue and gold as the beam of the flashlight passed over the white of the sheet. Quite unexpected, but deeply appreciated, was a pristine *Diphthera festivoides* (Hieroglyphic Moth) (Fig. 12)

resting there quietly, another of those "OH-WOW!" moths to be sure. What a wonderful way to wind things down! After taking our fill of pictures, we folded up the sheet for the last time, gathered up the battery and light, and headed back to stash the last of the equipment in the truck. Bidding an "until next time" to our fellow mothmen (Fig. 13), Merrill and Parker began the long trek back to North Carolina.

We hadn't been sure quite what to expect in terms of moth diversity and numbers, since none of us had done a survey of this type in this particular region of the country. We suspected, given the amount and quality of natural, native habitats and the high overall plant diversity, that the moth diversity should be equally impressive. We consider our total tally of 339 taxa (Appendix 1) to be fairly impressive, particularly for a single visit fairly late in the season. Even though we were comfortably able to narrow identities down to at least genus or species complex level, because no moths were collected, specific identifications simply were not possible on a number of individuals. Opting to err on the side of caution, for a few taxa we also qualified as tentative the assignment of names due either to significant wear, which made the removal of all doubt about identity impossible, or due to the difficulty of using external - only or non - magnified physical characteristics in the identification process.

Our survey was just a snapshot view of the total moth diversity in prime native southeastern old growth forest and associated woodlands, waterways, and open spaces, reflecting mostly those species that fly throughout much of the year or during the early fall months. Based upon our general knowledge of the moths of the southeastern United States, additional surveys at the Thomas County site throughout the year would result in total species diversity almost certainly exceeding, perhaps greatly, 1,400 species.

Acknowledgements: The authors are indebted to the property owners and caretakers for granting us access to this pristine location. David, Merrill, and Parker would also like to thank Wilson Baker for his tremendous help in arranging the visit and for sharing his southern

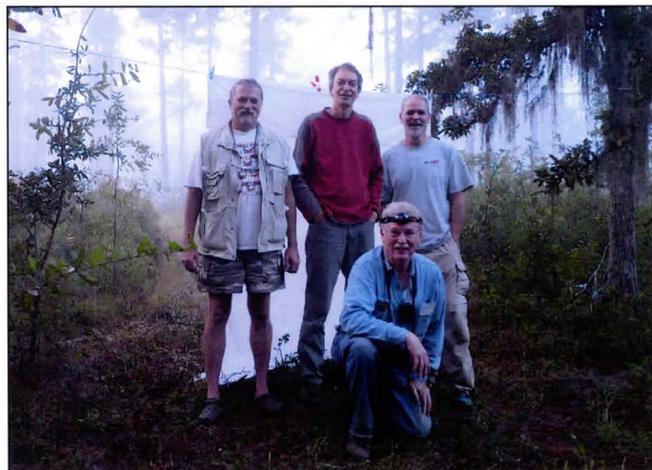


Fig. 13. Left to right: Merrill Lynch, David Beadle, Wilson Baker (kneeling), and Parker Backstrom (Ph. Merrill Lynch)

hospitality with us. Thanks to Bo Sullivan and Steve Hall for offering comments on images. Finally, the authors would like to thank Anthony X. Hertzler for preparing the map. Any inaccuracies or errors that remain are the authors' alone.

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Appendix 1. Moths:

[T] = Tentative identification

(I) = Non-native taxa

<u>Hodges No.</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>ID Status</u>
301	Homostinea curviliniella		
317.96	Xylestia n. sp.		
355.1	Acrolophus heppneri		
373	Acrolophus popeanella	Eastern Grass Tubeworm	
386.97	Acrolophus sp.		
400	Tinea mandarinella	Mandarin Tinea	[T]

<u>Hodges No.</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>ID Status</u>
415	<i>Monopis</i> sp. poss. <i>crocicapitella</i>		
441/442	<i>Cryptothelea nigrita/gloverii</i>		
559	<i>Bucculatrix</i> sp. poss. <i>coronotella</i>		
633	<i>Caloptilia sassafrasella</i>		
781.97	<i>Phyllonorycter</i> sp.		
835	<i>Cameraria</i> sp. poss. <i>quercivorella</i>		
841.97	<i>Cameraria</i> sp.		
898.97	<i>Agonopterix</i> sp.		
1010.1	<i>Autosticha kyotensis</i>	Kyoto Moth	(I)
1024	<i>Antaeotricha vestalis</i>	Vestal Moth	
1034	<i>Inga sparsiciliella</i>	Black-marked Inga	
1046	<i>Epicallima argenticinctella</i>	Orange-headed Epicallima	
1143.97	<i>Glyphidocera</i> sp.		
1162	<i>Blastobasis glandulella</i>	Acorn Moth	
1398.97	<i>Coleophora</i> sp.		
1429	<i>Mompha bottimeri</i>	Bottimer's Mompha	
1498.97	<i>Cosmopterix</i> sp.		
1609	<i>Stilbosis tesquella</i>		
1615	<i>Walshia miscecolorella</i>	Sweetclover Root Borer	
1702	<i>Isophrictis similiella</i>		[T]
1725	<i>Stereomita andropogonis</i>		
1744	<i>Aristotelia lespedezae</i>		[T]
1762	<i>Aristotelia rubidella</i>		
1808	<i>Coleotechnites eryngiella</i>		
1928	<i>Deltophora sella</i>		
2072	<i>Chionodes discoocellella</i>	Eyeringed Chionodes	
2209	<i>Stegasta bosqueella</i>	Red-necked Peanutworm	
2216	<i>Ymeldia janae</i>	Jane's Ymeldia Moth	
2223	<i>Untomia albistrigella</i>		[T]
2233	<i>Anacampsis conclusella</i>		
2270	<i>Helcystogramma melantherella</i>		[T]
2293	<i>Dichomeris costarufuella</i>		
2298	<i>Dichomeris juncidella</i>		
2317.97	<i>Carposina</i> sp.		
2336.2	<i>Drymoana blanchardi</i>		
2346	<i>Diploeschizia impigritella</i>	Yellow Nutsedge Moth	
2366	<i>Plutella xylostella</i>	Diamondback Moth	
2401	<i>Atteva aurea</i>	Ailanthus Webworm	
2415	<i>Urodus parvula</i>	Bumelia Webworm	
2509.97	<i>Schreckensteinia</i> sp.		
2583	<i>Synanthedon exitiosa</i>	Peachtree Borer	
2704.1	<i>Cryptasasma bipenicilla</i>		
2710.97	<i>Bactra</i> sp.		
2711	<i>Paralobesia liriodendrana</i>	Tulip-tree Leaf-tier	
2738	<i>Endothenia hebesana</i>	Verbena Bud Moth	
2749	<i>Eumarozia malachitana</i>	Sculptured Moth	
2750	<i>Zomaria interruptolineana</i>	Broken-line Zomaria	
2752	<i>Zomaria andromedana</i>		
2776	<i>Olethreutes furfuranum</i>	Wooly-backed Moth	
2828	<i>Olethreutes griseoalbana</i>	Putty-patched Moth	
2937	<i>Phaneta parmatana</i>		
3120	<i>Eucosma derelicta</i>	Derelict Eucosma	
3142	<i>Eucosma cataclystiana</i>	Solidago Eucosma	
3151	<i>Pelochrista scintillana</i>		
3173	<i>Epiblema abruptana</i>		
3218	<i>Sonia constrictana</i>	Constricted Sonia	
3277	<i>Rhopobota dietziana</i>		
3374	<i>Ancylis comptana</i>	Strawberry Leafroller	
3375	<i>Ancylis divisana</i>	Two-toned Ancylis	
3380	<i>Ancylis goodelliana</i>		
3446.2	<i>Corticivora parva</i>		
3471	<i>Cydia caryana</i>	Hickory Shuckworm	
3494	<i>Cydia latiferreana</i>	Filbertworm Moth	

<u>Hodges No.</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>ID Status</u>
3495	<i>Gymnandrosoma punctidiscanum</i>	Dotted Ecdytolopha	
3599	<i>Argyrotaenia floridana</i>		[T]
3603	<i>Argyrotaenia tabulana</i>	Jack Pine Tube Moth	
3631	<i>Choristoneura obsoletana</i>		
3635	<i>Choristoneura rosaceana</i>	Oblique-banded Leafroller	
3688	<i>Clepsis peritana</i>	Garden Tortrix	
3695	<i>Sparganothis sulfureana</i>		
3704	<i>Sparganothis distincta</i>	Distinct Sparganothis	
3732	<i>Platynota flavedana</i>	Black-shaded Platynota	
3736	<i>Platynota stultana</i>	Omnivorous Platynota	[T]
3741	<i>Platynota semiustana</i>		
3747	<i>Coelostathma discopunctana</i>	Batman Moth	
3751	<i>Thaumatographa jonesi</i>	Psychedelic Jones Moth	
3764	<i>Eugnosta sartana</i>		
4671	<i>Prolimacodes badia</i>	Skiff Moth	
4744	<i>Chrysendeton medicinalis</i>	Bold Medicine Moth	
4746	<i>Chrysendeton imitabilis</i>		
4748	<i>Elophila icciusalis</i>	Pondside Pyralid	
4750	<i>Elophila nebulosalis</i>	Nebulous Munroessa Moth	
4753	<i>Nymphuliella daeckalis</i>	China Mark Moth	
4754	<i>Elophila tinealis</i>		
4755	<i>Elophila oblitalis</i>	Waterlily Leafcutter	
4759	<i>Paraponyx maculalis</i>	Dimorphic Pond Moth	
4764	<i>Paraponyx allionealis</i>	Watermilfoil Leafcutter	
4765	<i>Paraponyx diminutalis</i>		
4785	<i>Eoparargyraetis irroratalis</i>		
4846	<i>Hellula rogatalis</i>	Cabbage Webworm	
4870	<i>Glaphyria sequistrialis</i>	White-roped Glaphyria	
4879	<i>Xanthophysa psychialis</i>		
4889	<i>Dicymolomia julianalis</i>	Julia's Dicymolomia	
4950	<i>Fumibotys fumalis</i>	Mint Root Borer	
4951	<i>Perispasta caeculalis</i>	Titian Peale's Pyralid	
5034	<i>Pyrausta signatalis</i>	Raspberry Pyrausta	
5040	<i>Pyrausta bicoloralis</i>	Bicolored Pyrausta	
5049	<i>Pyrausta phoenicealis</i>	Phoenician Pyrausta	
5060	<i>Pyrausta subsequalis</i>		
5069	<i>Pyrausta tyralis</i>	Coffee-loving Pyrausta	
5070	<i>Pyrausta laticlavata</i>	Southern Purple Mint Moth	
5079	<i>Udea rubigalis</i>	Celery Leaf-tier	
5107	<i>Lineodes integra</i>	Eggplant Leafroller	
5142	<i>Diacme elealis</i>	Paler Diacme	
5150	<i>Samea ecclesialis</i>	Assembly Moth	
5151	<i>Samea multiplicalis</i>	Salvinia Stem-borer	
5152	<i>Samea baccatalis</i>		
5156.5	<i>Duponchelia fovealis</i>		(I)
5157	<i>Rhectocraspeda periusalis</i>	Eggplant Webworm	
5158	<i>Ategumia ebulealis</i>		
5169	<i>Hymenia perspectalis</i>	Spotted Beet Webworm	
5170	<i>Spoladea recurvalis</i>	Hawaiian Beet Webworm	
5171	<i>Diasemiopsis leodocusalis</i>		
5172	<i>Diasemiodes janassialis</i>		
5176	<i>Anageshna primordialis</i>	Yellow-spotted Webworm	
5215	<i>Condylorrhiza vestigialis</i>	The Alamo Moth	
5239	<i>Terastia meticulosalis</i>	Erythrina Borer	
5272	<i>Herpetogramma bipunctalis</i>	Two-spotted Herpetogramma	
5274	<i>Herpetogramma phaeopteralis</i>	Dusky Herpetogramma	
5284	<i>Syngamia florella</i>	Orange-spotted Flower Moth	
5288	<i>Marasmia trapezalis</i>	Trapeze Moth	
5289	<i>Marasmia cochrusalis</i>		
5311	<i>Rupela</i> sp. poss. <i>tinctella</i>		
5314	<i>Donacaula unipunctellus</i>		[T]
5321	<i>Donacaula roscidellus</i>	Brown Donacaula	[T]

<u>Hodges No.</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>ID Status</u>
5323	<i>Donacaula uxorialis</i>		[T]
5357	<i>Crambus leachellus</i>		
5369	<i>Crambus quinquareatus</i>	Large-striped Grass-veneer	
5372	<i>Crambus satrapellus</i>		
5393	<i>Raphiptera argillaceellus</i>	Diminutive Grass-veneer	
5413	<i>Pediasia trisecta</i>	Sod Webworm	
5419	<i>Microcrambus bigutellus</i>	Gold-stripe Grass-veneer	
5420	<i>Microcrambus elegans</i>	Elegant Grass-veneer	
5431	<i>Fissicrambus profanellus</i>		[T]
5433	<i>Fissicrambus haytiellus</i>		[T]
5435	<i>Fissicrambus mutabilis</i>	Changeable Grass-veneer	
5451	<i>Parapediasia teterrella</i>	Bluegrass Webworm	
5463	<i>Argyria lacteella</i>	Milky Urola	
5464	<i>Urola nivalis</i>	Snowy Urola	
5481	<i>Diatraea lisetta</i>		
5492	<i>Eoreuma densella</i>	Wainscot Grass-veneer	[T]
5500	<i>Xubida panalope</i>		
5530	<i>Hypsopygia binodulalis</i>	Pink-fringed Dolichomia	
5533	<i>Hypsopygia olinalis</i>	Yellow-fringed Dolichomia	
5555	<i>Penthesilea sacculalis</i>		
5568	<i>Arta olivalis</i>	Olive Arta	
5620.97	<i>Pococera</i> sp.		
5728	<i>Anadelosemia texanella</i>		
5734	<i>Atheloca subrufella</i>		
5789	<i>Sciota subfuscella</i>		[T]
5802	<i>Sciota uvinella</i>		
5853	<i>Dioryctria amatella</i>	Southern Pineconeworm	
5863.1	<i>Dioryctria clarioralis</i>	Blister Coneworm	
5896	<i>Elasmopalpus lignosellus</i>		
5913	<i>Macrorrhinia endonephele</i>		
5925.97	<i>Honora</i> sp.		
5936	<i>Homocosoma stypticella</i>		[T]
5946.2	<i>Phycitodes reliquella</i>		[T]
5995	<i>Euzophera semifuneralis</i>	American Plum Borer	
5999	<i>Eulogia ochrifrontella</i>	Broad-banded Eulogia	
6001	<i>Ephestiodes infimella</i>		
6005.1	<i>Moodna pallidostrinella</i>	Paler Moodna	
6007	<i>Vitula edmandsii</i>	Dried-fruit Moth	
6020	<i>Ephestia kuehniella</i>	Mediterranean Flour Moth	(I)
6028	<i>Tampa dimediatella</i>	Tampa Moth	
6049	<i>Peoria roseotinctella</i>		
6067	<i>Atascosa glareosella</i>		
6068	<i>Homosassa ella</i>		
6121.1/6122	<i>Stenoptilodes taprobanes/brevipennis</i>		[T]
6154	<i>Pselnophorus belfragei</i>	Belfrage's Plume Moth	[T]
6255	<i>Oreta rosea</i>	Rose Hooktip	
6336	<i>Macaria distribuaria</i>	Southern Chocolate Angle	
6341	<i>Macaria bicolorata</i>		[T]
6405	<i>Digrammia gnophosaria</i>	Hollow-spotted Angle	
6443	<i>Glenoides texanaria</i>	Texas Gray	
6586	<i>Iridopsis defectaria</i>	Brown-shaded Gray	
6590	<i>Anavitrinella pampinaria</i>	Common Gray	
6599	<i>Epimecis hortaria</i>	Tulip-tree Beauty	
6620	<i>Melanolophia canadaria</i>	Canadian Melanolophia	
6654/6655	<i>Hypagyrtis unipunctata/esther</i>	One-spotted Variant/Esther Moth	
6711	<i>Ilexia intractata</i>	Black-dotted Ruddy Moth	
6885	<i>Besma quercivoraria</i>	Oak Besma	
6941	<i>Eusarca confusaria</i>	Confused Eusarca	
7029	<i>Nemoria elfa</i>	Cypress Emerald	
7031	<i>Nemoria catachloa</i>		
7033	<i>Nemoria lixaria</i>	Red-bordered Emerald	
7034	<i>Nemoria saturiba</i>		

<u>Hodges No.</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>ID Status</u>
7059	<i>Synchlora frondaria</i>	Southern Emerald	
7071	<i>Chlorochlamys chloroleucaria</i>	Blackberry Looper	
7075	<i>Chloropteryx tepperaria</i>	Angle-winged Emerald	
7114	<i>Idaea demissaria</i>	Red-bordered Wave	
7120	<i>Idaea violacearia</i>		
7122	<i>Idaea tacturata</i>	Dot-lined Wave	
7132	<i>Pleuroprucha insulsaria</i>	Common Tan Wave	
7134	<i>Cyclophora culicaria</i>		
7136	<i>Cyclophora packardi</i>	Packard's Wave	[T]
7149	<i>Scopula lautaria</i>	Small Frosted Wave	
7159	<i>Scopula limboundata</i>	Large Lace-border Wave	
7173	<i>Leptostales pannaria</i>	Pannaria Wave	
7177	<i>Leptostales laevitaria</i>	Raspberry Wave	
7181	<i>Lophosis labeculata</i>	Stained Lophosis	
7416	<i>Costaconvexa centrostrigaria</i>	Bent-line Carpet	
7417	<i>Disclisioprocta stellata</i>	Somber Carpet	
7474	<i>Eupithecia miserulata</i>	Common Pug	
7653	<i>Calledapteryx dryopterata</i>	Brown Scoopwing	
7663	<i>Apatelodes torrefacta</i>	Spotted Apatelodes	
7674	<i>Tolype notialis</i>	Small Tolype	
7683	<i>Artace cribrarius</i>	Dot-lined White	
7758	<i>Actias luna</i>	Luna Moth	
7825	<i>Paonias myops</i>	Small-eyed Sphinx	
7851	<i>Enyo lugubris</i>	Mournful Sphinx	
7890	<i>Xylophanes tersa</i>	Tersa Sphinx	
7909.97	<i>Datana</i> sp.		
7920	<i>Peridea angulosa</i>	Angulose Prominent	
7958	<i>Dasylophia thyatiroides</i>	Gray-patched Prominent	
7983	<i>Heterocampa obliqua</i>	Oblique Heterocampa	
7990	<i>Heterocampa umbrata</i>	White-blotched Heterocampa	
7995	<i>Heterocampa biundata</i>	Wavy-lined Heterocampa	
7998	<i>Lochmaeus manteo</i>	Variable Oakleaf Caterpillar	
7999	<i>Lochmaeus bilineata</i>	Double-lined Prominent	
8012	<i>Oligocentria semirufescens</i>	Red-washed Prominent	
8017	<i>Oligocentria lignicolor</i>	White-streaked Prominent	
8045.1/8046	<i>Crambidia pallida/uniformis</i>	Pale/Uniform Lichen Moth	
8053.97	<i>Crambidia</i> sp.		
8067	<i>Cisthene plumbea</i>	Lead-colored Lichen Moth	
8098	<i>Clemensia albata</i>	Little White Lichen Moth	
8102	<i>Afrida ydatodes</i>	Dyar's Lichen Moth	
8105	<i>Utetheisa ornatrix</i>	Ornate Bella Moth	
8114	<i>Virbia laeta</i>	Joyful Virbia	
8129	<i>Pyrrharctia isabella</i>	Isabella Tiger Moth	
8146	<i>Hypercompe scribonia</i>	Giant Leopard Moth	
8203	<i>Halysidota tessellaris</i>	Banded Tussock Moth	
8267	<i>Ciseps fulvicollis</i>	Yellow-collared Scape Moth	
8292	<i>Dasychira tephra</i>	Tephra Tussock Moth	
8296	<i>Dasychira basiflava</i>	Yellow-based Tussock Moth	
8307	<i>Dasychira manto</i>	Manto Tussock Moth	
8316	<i>Orgyia leucostigma</i>	White-marked Tussock Moth	
8322	<i>Idia americalis</i>	American Idia	
8323	<i>Idia aemula</i>	Common Idia	
8326	<i>Idia rotundalis</i>	Rotund Idia	
8334	<i>Idia lubricalis</i>	Glossy Black Idia	
8340	<i>Zanclognatha lituralis</i>		
8341	<i>Zanclognatha theralis</i>		
8354.97	<i>Zanclognatha</i> sp.		
8366	<i>Tetanolita mynesalis</i>	Smoky Tetanolita	
8368	<i>Tetanolita floridana</i>	Florida Tetanolita	
8375.97	<i>Bleptina</i> sp.		
8381.96	<i>Renia</i> n.sp. near <i>discoloralis</i>		
8385	<i>Renia fraternalis</i>		

<u>Hodges No.</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>ID Status</u>
8397	<i>Palthis angulalis</i>	Dark-spotted Palthis	
8398	<i>Palthis asopialis</i>	Faint-spotted Palthis	
8401	<i>Redectis vitrea</i>	White-spotted Redectis	
8404	<i>Rivula propinqualis</i>	Spotted Grass Moth	
8421	<i>Hypenodes fractilinea</i>	Broken-line Hypenodes	
8428	<i>Dyspyralis nigellus</i>	Slaty Dyspyralis	
8431	<i>Schrankia macula</i>	Black-spotted Schrankia	
8437	<i>Abablemma brimleyana</i>	Brimley's Halfling	
8440	<i>Nigetia formosa</i>	Thin-winged Owlet	
8441	<i>Hypena manalis</i>	Flowing-line Snout	
8459	<i>Hypena degesalis</i>		
8480	<i>Phytometra ernestinana</i>	Ernestine's Moth	
8481	<i>Phytometra rhodarialis</i>	Pink-bordered Yellow Moth	
8488	<i>Hormoschista latipalpis</i>	Double-lined Brown	
8490	<i>Pangrapta decoralis</i>	Decorated Owlet	
8509	<i>Arugisa lutea</i>	Common Arugisa	[T]
8560	<i>Diphthera festiva</i>	Hieroglyphic Moth	
8574	<i>Anticarsia gemmatalis</i>	Velvetbean Caterpillar Moth	
8653	<i>Lesmone hinna</i>		
8658	<i>Selenisa sueroides</i>	Pale-edged Selenisa	
8689	<i>Zale lunata</i>	Lunate Zale	
8733	<i>Caenurgia chloropha</i>	Vetch Looper	
8743	<i>Mocis latipes</i>	Small Mocis	
8744	<i>Mocis marcida</i>	Withered Mocis	
8745	<i>Mocis texana</i>	Texas Mocis	
8749	<i>Ptichodis vinculum</i>	Black-tipped Ptichodes	
8750	<i>Ptichodis herbarum</i>	Common Ptichodes	
8759	<i>Argyrostromis flavistriaria</i>	Yellow-lined Chocolate Moth	
8760	<i>Argyrostromis sylvarum</i>	Woodland Chocolate Moth	
8763	<i>Argyrostromis deleta</i>		
8889	<i>Ctenoplusia oxygramma</i>	Sharp-stigma Looper	
8890	<i>Chrysodeixis includens</i>	Soybean Looper	
8962	<i>Paectes abrostoloides</i>	Large Paectes	
8983.1	<i>Meganola phylla</i>	Coastal Plain Meganola	[T]
8991	<i>Nola cereella</i>	Sorghum Webworm	
9024	<i>Exyra semicrocea</i>	Pitcher Plant Mining Moth	
9037	<i>Hyperstrotia pervertens</i>	Dotted Graylet	
9047	<i>Protodeltote muscosula</i>	Large Mossy Lithacodia	
9057	<i>Homophoberia apicosa</i>	Black Wedge-spot	
9070	<i>Amyna axis</i>	Eight-spot	
9076	<i>Eublemma minima</i>	Everlasting Bud Moth	
9168	<i>Bagisara repanda</i>	Wavy Lined Mallow Moth	
9189	<i>Charadra deridens</i>	The Laugher	
9208	<i>Acronicta betulae</i>	Birch Dagger	
9238	<i>Acronicta lobeliae</i>	Greater Oak Dagger	
9243	<i>Acronicta ovata</i>	Ovate Dagger Moth	
9254	<i>Acronicta afflicta</i>	Afflicted Dagger	
9255	<i>Acronicta brumosa</i>	Charred Dagger	
9272	<i>Acronicta oblongata</i>	Smeared Dagger	
9285	<i>Polygrammate hebraicum</i>	The Hebrew	
9522	<i>Iodopepla u-album</i>	White-eyed Borer	
9556	<i>Chytonix palliatricula</i>	Cloaked Marvel	
9618	<i>Phosphila turbulenta</i>	Turbulent Phosphila	
9630	<i>Callopietria floridensis</i>	Florida Fern Moth	
9650	<i>Athetis tarda</i>	The Slow Poke	
9661	<i>Crambodes talidiformis</i>	Verbena Moth	
9666	<i>Spodoptera frugiperda</i>	Fall Armyworm	
9669	<i>Spodoptera ornithogalli</i>	Yellow-striped Armyworm	
9671	<i>Spodoptera dolichos</i>	Dolichos Armyworm	
9676	<i>Elaphria nucicolora</i>	Sugarcane Midget	
9678	<i>Elaphria versicolor</i>	Variegated Midget	

<u>Hodges No.</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>ID Status</u>
9688	<i>Galgula partita</i>	The Wedgling	
9690	<i>Condica videns</i>	White-dotted Groundling	
9693	<i>Condica mobilis</i>	Mobile Groundling	
9699	<i>Condica sutor</i>	The Cobbler	
9713	<i>Condica cupentia</i>	Spotted Groundling	
9818	<i>Amolita fessa</i>	Feeble Grass Moth	
9819	<i>Amolita obliqua</i>	Oblique Grass Moth	
10202	<i>Cucullia convexipennis</i>	Brown-hooded Owlet	
10411	<i>Lacinipolia laudabilis</i>	Laudable Arches	
10438	<i>Mythimna unipuncta</i>	Armyworm	
10455	<i>Leucania scirpicola</i>	Scirpus Wainscot	
10663	<i>Agrotis ipsilon</i>	Ipsilon Dart	
10901.97	<i>Anicla</i> sp.		
10911	<i>Anicla infecta</i>	Green Cutworm	
11073.1	<i>Heliocheilus lupatus</i>	Lupatus Straw Moth	[T]
11112	<i>Schinia sordidus</i>	Sordid Flower Moth	
11115	<i>Schinia siren</i>	Alluring Flower Moth	
11116	<i>Schinia tuberculum</i>	Golden Aster Flower Moth	[T]
11117	<i>Schinia lynx</i>	Lynx Flower Moth	
11128	<i>Schinia argicera</i>	Argicera Flower Moth	
11137	<i>Schinia nubila</i>	Camphorweed Flower Moth	
11140	<i>Schinia saturata</i>	Brown Flower Moth	
11149	<i>Schinia trifascia</i>	Three-lined Flower Moth	

Appendix 2. Butterflies:

Papilio troilus	Spicebush Swallowtail	Lethe portlandia	Southern Pearly-eye
Papilio palamedes	Palamedes Swallowtail	Hermeuptychia sosybius	Carolina Satyr
Phoebis sennae	Cloudless Sulphur	Neonympha areolatus	Georgia Satyr
Pyrisitia lisa	Little Yellow	Danaus plexippus	Monarch
Abaeis nicippe	Sleepy Orange	Urbanus proteus	Long-tailed Skipper
Atlides halesus	Great Blue Hairstreak	Erynnis horatius	Horace's Duskywing
Strymon melinus	Gray Hairstreak	Pyrgus communis	Common Checkered-Skipper
Calycopis cecrops	Red-banded Hairstreak	Pyrgus oileus	Tropical Checkered-Skipper
Agraulis vanilla	Gulf Fritillary	Lerema accius	Clouded Skipper
Heliconius charithonia	Zebra Heliconian	Hylephila phyleus	Fiery Skipper
Phyciodes tharos	Pearl Crescent	Wallengrenia otho	Southern Broken-dash
Junonia coenia	Common Buckeye	Pompeius verna	Little Glassywing
Limenitis arthemis	Red-spotted Purple	Euphyes vestris	Dun Skipper
Limenitis archippus	Viceroy	Panoquina ocola	Ocola Skipper

¹ Parker Backstrom, P.O. Box 31, Bear Creek, NC 27207; E-mail: dpbackstrom@embarqmail.com

² Merrill Lynch, P.O. Box 58, Trade, TN, 37691; E-mail: jmerrilllynch@gmail.com

A gallery of photographs accompanying this article appears beginning on page 131

(all photographs by David Beadle).



Ptichodis vinculum



Penthesilea sacculalis



Zomaria andromedana



Pyrausta phoenicealis



Afrida ydatodes



Thaumato-grapha jonesi



Elophila nebulosalis



Cryptaspasma bipenicilla



Dyspyralis nigellus



Utetheisa ornatrix



Dioryctria clarioralis



Crambus satrapellus



Marasmia trapezalis



Phyrometra ernestinana



Nemoria elfa



Eugnosta sartana



Condylorrhiza vestigialis



Schinia trifascia



Leptostales laevitaria



Lineodes integra



Diphthera festiva



Idaea tacturata



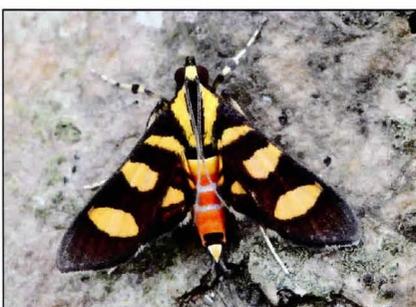
Tampa dimediatella



Exyra semicrocea



Macrorrhinia endonephele



Syngamia florella



Terastia meticulosalis



Selenisa sueroides



Virbia laeta



Eublemma minima



Diasemlopsi leodocusalis



Dioryctria amatella



Pyrausta tyralis



Synanthedon exitiosa



Lochmaeus bilineata



Arta olivalis



Diasemiodes janassialis



Xestia n. sp.



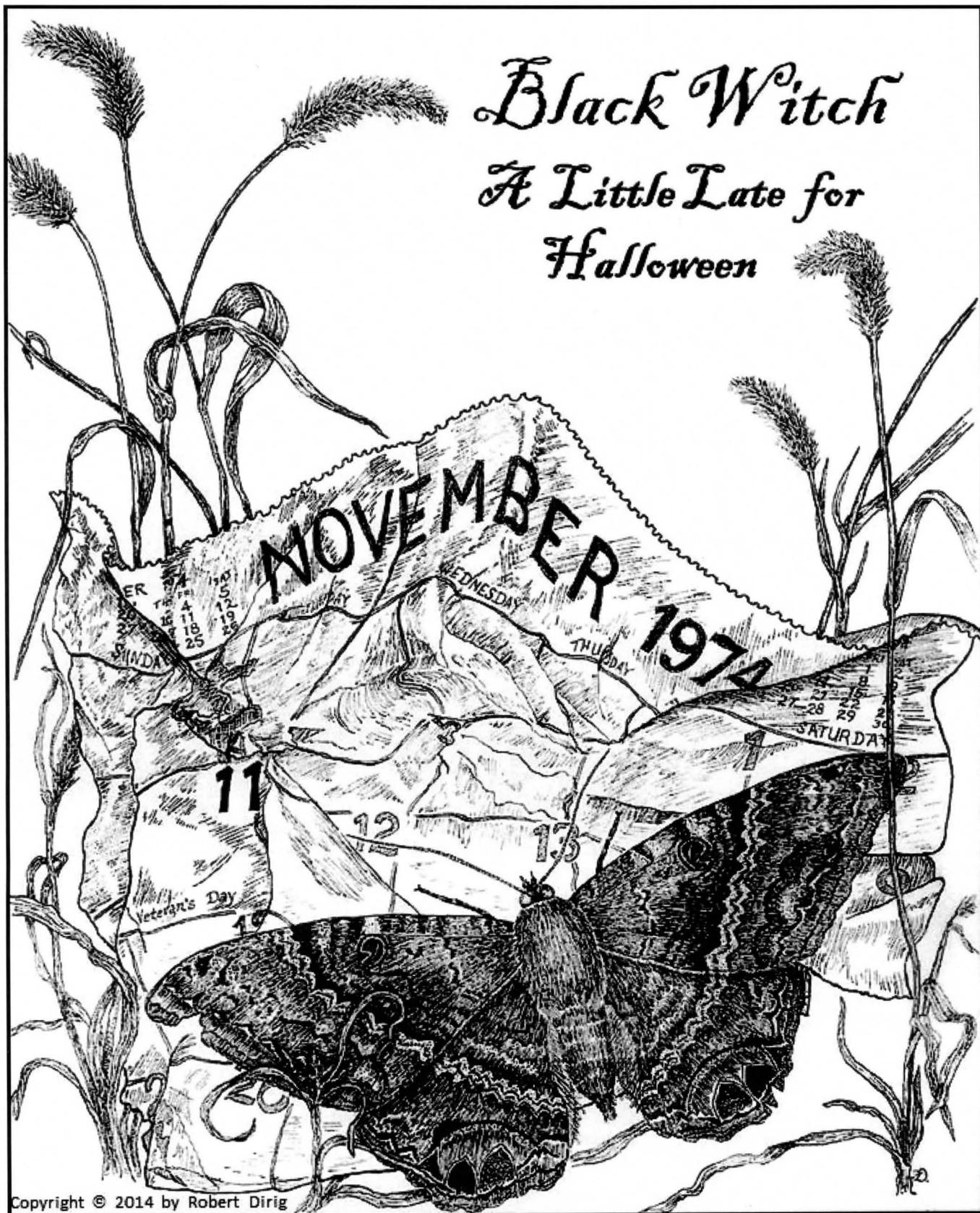
Macaria distribuaria



Ablemma brimleyana

Black Witch

A Little Late for Halloween



Copyright © 2014 by Robert Dirig

“This was drawn life-size as a birthday card for a lepidopterists colleague, who was born on Veteran’s Day. He hoped someday to find a Black Witch (*Ascalapha odorata*) on Long Island, N.Y., on his birthday, but never did. So I drew one for him.” Robert Dirig

UTAH, 2014
BY
KELLY RICHERS

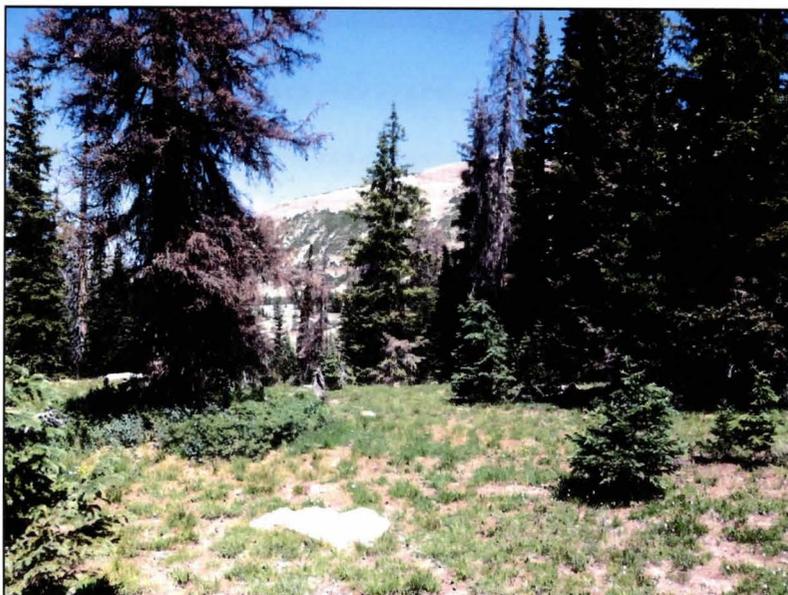
The Lepidopterists' Society held its annual meeting at Park City, Utah from July 15 to July 20, 2014. This is not a report of that meeting. It could not be much of a report of that meeting as the author attended very little of the presentations, being totally absorbed with some of the great collecting and observing available at the meeting. This is more a report on what a collector or observer could expect if he or she went to the area.

Park City is set in a bowl, with the open end to the north facing the interstate. This interstate, I-80, goes directly to Salt Lake City, to the west some 30 miles after a ten mile jaunt to the north from Park City to the Interstate. To the east lie the Uinta Mountains, and to the south there is a high ring of mountains that form the ski areas of Park City. There is interesting collecting for the butterfly or moth enthusiast in virtually all directions.

The first night there I set traps south of Park City, on what is called Guardsman Pass Road. Many undisturbed fields were evident with flowers in full bloom, and patches of birch and other high altitude trees gave cover from the road for traps. There were numerous moths in the traps in the morning.



Murdock Mountain at almost 11,000' elevation.



Murdock Mountain with pine, near 11,000' elevation.

The next morning several of us drove to the east. Taking Route 248 to Route 150, almost a direct line east, the road rose into the Uinta Mountains and conifer forests lined the road, beside which a trout stream tumbled down—just like in the tourist pictures. Almost immediately *Speyeria* appeared. There were at least four or five species along this road, which we followed for some twenty five miles to where it climbed up next to Murdock Mountain. Murdock Mountain rose to above treeline to the south of us, and a relatively short 30 minute hike put us in range of several high altitude species of butterflies and day flying moths. This provided several hours of exciting collecting.

After this we drove another ten miles or so to a meadow area with bogs and trees. The collecting was great again, for *Pieris napi*, *Speyeria* species (at least two), day flying moths and other meadow and woods loving butterflies. This trip was designed to catch the general selection of butterflies and moths that flew in the area.

A group moth collecting trip to Payson Canyon proved to be a less successful black lighting experience, probably due to the fact that we were too low in elevation. Not much appeared, although we lit up the night sky pretty well, with two mercury vapor lights and three blacklights in close but hidden from each other locations.

The next day involved a trip to Bountiful, which was for a more specialized attempt. East of Bountiful, which is some 20 miles north of Salt Lake City, lies Skyline Drive, which



Looking down on Salt Lake City from Bountiful Mountain, 8,500' elevation.



Bountiful Mountain meadow at near 9,000' elevation.

climbs Bountiful Mountain, providing collecting spots along the way for Colorado Hairstreaks. After reaching the top, again alpine meadows provided numerous butterflies and day flying moths. A short trip to the north on one of the well maintained dirt roads led us to where *Hemiluca hera* and *eglanterina* were flying, and several hours were spent trying to catch these fast moving day moths, somewhat rare in most collections. A little further along one of the *Papilio indra* subspecies was also seen, but not caught by any in our party.

Evening trips to both areas, Rt 150 and Bountiful, were used to set moth traps at both areas. The next morning of both trips all traps were still there and full of moths.

Daytime shorter jaunts to Lamb's Canyon along I-80 northwest of Park City turned into longer visits than expected because of yet another species of *Speyeria*, more *napi* and some smaller blues which were not at the higher elevations.

Somewhere in there the banquet and barbeque were attended, and old friends seen and visited. Altogether, however, four full days of collecting and twelve traps of moths, there is a lot of spreading and identifying to do. I highly recommend you come to the east side of the Great Basin for a pleasant and rewarding experience. In mid to late July the higher elevations here have a plethora of Lepidoptera which vary greatly over relatively short distances. Identifications will follow in a future article.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBER

Sara Bolds
18155 Hilda Dr.
Ft. Myers, FL 33967

TREES AS HOSTS FOR BUTTERFLIES IN LOUISIANA

BY

GARY NOEL ROSS

Gardeners who plan a landscape to attract butterflies and other pollinators often consider only annuals and perennials with showy, nectar-rich flowers. While it is true that such plants do serve up feasts for many butterflies, the gardens still lack a key component: BUTTERFLY HOSTS. Defined as a specific plant on which a female butterfly lays her eggs, a host supplies food—usually leaves—for the butterfly's offspring, aka larvae or caterpillars. Because feeding and reproducing are both biological imperatives, an ideal butterfly habitat should address a butterfly's metamorphic life cycle. Put simply, landscapes should contain BOTH food for butterflies and food for caterpillars.

Complicating matters is the fact that most butterflies have specific hosts. Moreover, the host is usually either a single species or a number of closely related species (a single genus or a single family, for examples). While many of these hosts are small annuals and perennials, many are actually trees and tall shrubs (TABLE 1). To date, Louisiana has recorded 140 species of butterflies within its borders. Of these, 125 are considered breeding residents (the remaining 15 are presumed to be strays/vagrants, *i.e.*, only occasional/temporary visitors). Of these 125 residents, 40 (32 percent) are reported at least once to reproduce on no fewer than 72 local tree species (TABLE 2). (Oaks, *Quercus* spp., host the largest number of butterfly species.) The butterfly taxon that is most associated with trees is the Papilionidae. In fact, of the state's seven resident swallowtail species, all but 2—pipevine swallowtail (*Battus philenor*) and black swallowtail (*Papilio polyxenes*)—reproduce on trees. Furthermore, many butterfly species oviposit on a number of different trees, many of which are related. (The eastern tiger swallowtail, for instance, is reported to reproduce on at least 22 species of trees.) However, in a given locality, one species is often preferred over all others.

Butterfly stewards, therefore, should include host trees in their personal and commercial landscapes to augment flower gardens. Bear in mind that many trees attain considerable height. This results in lots of shaded ground. Since both butterflies and nectar plants require sun, the placement of trees in the landscape is critical. As a general rule, host trees should be positioned some distance from the butterfly garden, say along the property line. If the tree, however, is a low-growing species it could be positioned within the actual garden, but restricted to a peripheral location. Following these simple rules will facilitate the garden to remain bright—a must for high nectar flowering plants and daytime pollinators. And serendipitously, trees can serve as nocturnal resting places for your garden's daytime visitors.



eastern tiger swallowtail
(*Papilio glaucus*), male, on liatris



eastern tiger swallowtail
(*Papilio glaucus*), dark phase female,
on swamp sunflower



palamedes swallowtail
(*Papilio palamedes*), on liatris

[NOTE: Although I have addressed only the interplay between gardens and butterflies, I need to mention that night pollinators such as moths and bats benefit, too. Consider: The number of species of moths outnumbers that of butterflies by about ten-to-one. And while most moths are relatively small, there are some sizable, striking, and popular examples in the Saturniidae—giant silkworm moths and Sphingidae—sphinx or hawk moths. Within these two families, several Louisiana species oviposit on large hardwood trees. Examples from the Saturniidae include buck moth (*Hemileuca maia*), cecropia moth (*Hyalophora cecropia*), imperial moth (*Eacles imperialis*) io moth (*Automeris io*), luna moth (*Actias luna*), polyphemus moth (*Antheraea polyphemus*), and regal moth (*Citheronia regalis*). In the Sphingidae, the catalpa sphinx (*Ceratomia catalpae*) is well-known. Now, because caterpillars are prime food for many predators, the inclusion of host species in a butterfly garden benefits not only butterflies but others such as birds, frogs/toads, lizards, geckos, skinks, ants, wasps, various bugs, and spiders, *etc.* And because the caterpillars of these large moth species are relatively massive, these species constitute important sources of food. Understandably, we may not wish to think that our lepidopteran “guests” might become food for others. Nevertheless, it is important to remember that predators require food for themselves and their offspring (think food webs and “circle of life”).]

TABLE 1. TREES/TALL SHRUBS WITH ASSOCIATED LOUISIANA BUTTERFLIES

(LETTER CODES: N = native, E = exotic, Z = escaped, naturalized exotic. Numbers following tree name refer to species of butterflies from TABLE 2.)

1. acacia (sweet), acacia catclaw, huisache (*Acacia farnesiana*), N: 35
2. alder (hazel, common) (*Alnus serrulata*), N: 3, 11, 28
3. althea, rose-of-Sharon, rose mallow (*Hibiscus syriacus*), E: 21
4. ash (Carolina, green, white) (*Fraxinus* spp.), N: 3, 11 (feeds on parasitic aphids), 13, 15, 28
5. basswood, linden, lime tree (*Tilia americana*), N: 3, 20, 28, 30
6. bay (red, swamp red, sweet bay) (*Persea borbonia*, *P. palustris*), N: 4, 5
7. bay (white, sweet), swamp laurel (*Magnolia virginiana*), N: 3, 4, 5
8. beech (American) beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), N: 11 (feeds on parasitic aphids)
9. birch (river, water) (*Betula nigra*), N: 3, 15, 28
10. bladder nut (American) (*Staphylea trifolia*, N: 2
11. blueberry (high bush) (*Vaccinium corymbosum*), N: 15, 17, 24
12. boxelder, black maple, water ash, sugar ash, three leaved maple (*Acer negundo*), N: 13
13. buckeye (red, scarlet), firecracker plant (*Aesculus pavia*), N: 24
14. camphor tree (*Cinnamomum camphora*), Z: 3, 4
15. cassia, senna, golden shower tree (*Cassia* spp.), E: 7, 8, 9, 10, 21
16. catalpa, catawba (*Catalpa bignonioides*, *C. speciosa*), N: 3
17. cedar (red) (*Juniperus virginiana*), N: 19
18. cherry (black) (*Prunus serotina*), N: 3, 15, 17, 24, 31, 32
19. chestnut (American, Chinese) (*Castanea dentate*, *C. mollissima*), N, E: 13, 15
20. choke berry, red choke berry (*Photinia pyrifolia* = *Pyrus arbutifolia*, *Sorbus arbutifolia*, *Aronia artutifolia*), N: 3, 15, 28
21. citrus (orange, satsuma, grapefruit, etc.) (*Citrus* spp.), E: 2, 21, 30
22. coral bean, mamou, cardinal spear, Cherokee bean (*Erythrina herbacea*), N: 24
23. cottonwood (eastern, swamp), poplar (*Populus deltoides*, *P. heterophylla*), N: 3, 28, 30, 31
24. crab apple (*Malus* spp.), N: 3, 13, 15, 21, 24, 30, 31
25. cucumber tree, cucumber magnolia (*Magnolia acuminata*): N: 3
26. Devil's walkingstick, Hercules club, shot bush, spikenard tree (*Aralia spinosa*), N: 24
27. doghobble (swamp) (*Leucothoe racemosa*), N: 17
28. dogwood (*Cornus* spp.), N: 24
29. elm (*Ulmus* spp.), N, E: 26, 27, 28, 29
30. gopher apple, ground oak/plum (*Licania michauxii*), N: 31
31. hackberry (*Celtis laevigata*), N: 25, 26, 28, 32, 33
32. hawthorn (*Crataegus* spp.), N: 3, 15, 21, 30, 31
33. hazel nut, American filbert (*Corylus americana*), N: 3
34. hickory (*Carya* spp.), N: 3, 13, 15
35. holly (*Ilex* spp.), N, E: 17, 24
36. hop hornbeam (eastern, American), eastern iron wood, deer wood (*Ostrya virginiana*) N: 28, 30
37. hop tree (common), hop wafer tree, wafer ash, quanine tree, potatochip tree (*Ptelea trifoliata*), N: 2, 3
38. ironwood, American hornbeam, water beech (*Carpinus caroliniana*), N: 2, 15, 30
39. locust (black, honey, water) (*Robinia/Gleditsia* spp.), N: 6, 25, 34, 35, 38
40. maple (red, Drummond red, swamp red, silver) (*Acer* spp.), N: 28
41. mesquite (honey) (*Prosopis glandulosa*), N: 23, 35
42. mimosa, silk tree, pink mimosa (*Albizia julibrissin*), E: 23
43. mulberry (red) (*Morus rubra*), N: 28
44. oak (*Quercus* spp.), N: 12, 13, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 24, 30, 36, 37, 40
45. pawpaw (common, dwarf), custard apple/banana (*Asimina triloba*, *A. parviflora*), N: 1
46. peach/plum/cherry laurel (*Prunus* spp.), N, E: 3, 15, 17, 24, 29
47. pear, Bradford pear (*Pyrus* spp.), E: 15, 30, 31
48. pecan (sweet), nogal morado, nuez encarcelada (*Carya illinoensis*), N: 15, 21
49. persimmon, date plum, Jove's fruit, possum wood (*Diospyros virginiana*), N: 17, 21

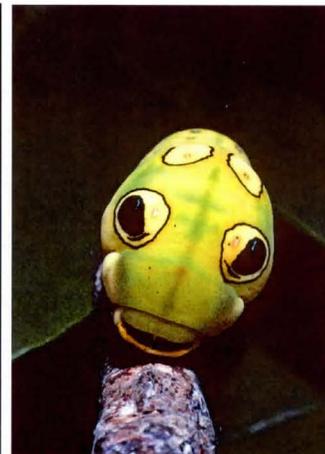
50. pine (*Pinus* spp.), N: 18, 21
 51. poplar (white), abele (*Populus alba*), Z: 28, 30, 31
 52. prickly ash (northern, common), toothache tree, angelica tree, suter berry, pepper wood (*Zanthoxylum americanum*), N: 2, 3
 53. privet, ligustrum, hedge privet (*Ligustrum* spp.), Z: 24
 54. rattlebox, poison bean, coffee bean (*Sesbania=Daubentonia drummondii*), N: 21, 38, 39
 55. redbud (eastern), Judas tree (*Cercis canadensis*), N: 17
 56. sassafras, gumbo file, ague tree (*Sassafras albidum*), N: 3, 4, 5
 57. service berry, bilberry (*Amelanchier arborea*), N: 15, 31
 58. snowbell (small, large), mock orange, storax (*Styrax* spp.), N: 3
 59. spice bush (common) (*Lindera benzoin*), N: 3, 4
 60. sumac (aromatic, winged, smooth) (*Rhus* spp.), N: 22
 61. sweetgum, red gum, gum-ball tree, alligator wood (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), N: 14
 62. sweetleaf, horse sugar (*Symplocos tinctoria*), N: 14
 63. titi, American cyrilla, leather wood (*Cyrilla racemiflora*), N: 17
 64. toothache tree, southern prickly ash, Hercules club, tongue bush (*Zanthoxylum clava-herculis*), N: 2
 65. trifoliolate orange, mock orange, bitter orange, limoncito (*Poncirus trifoliata*), Z: 2
 66. tulip poplar, yellow poplar, tulip tree, canoe wood, saddle tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), N: 3, 4
 67. viburnum, haw (*Viburnum* spp.), N, E: 17, 24
 68. walnut (black) (*Juglans nigra*), N: 13
 69. wax myrtle, candle berry (*Myrica=Morella cerifera*, *M. carolinensis*), N: 22
 70. willow (*Salix* spp.;), N, E: 13, 28, 30, 31
 71. winter berry (rough), black alder, false alder (*Ilex verticillata*), N: 11 (on parasitic aphids)
 72. witch hazel, hazel nut, witch elm (*Hamamelis virginiana*), N: 11 (on parasitic aphids), 24



zebra swallowtail
(*Eurytides marcellus*),
last instar larva



giant swallowtail
(*Papilio cresphontes*)
last instar larva



spicebush swallowtail
(*Papilio troilus*),
last instar larva



red-spotted purple
(*Limnitis arthemis astyanax*)
on swamp sunflower



eastern comma (*Polygonia comma*)
on verbena



question mark
(*Polygonia interrogationis*)



painted lady (*Vanessa cardui*),
on verbena



spring azure (*Celastrina ladon*),
on pink dogwood



hackberry emperor
(*Asterocampa celtis*)

TABLE 2: LOUISIANA RESIDENT BUTTERFLIES WITH ASSOCIATED HOST TREES

(Numbers following species refer to tree species in TABLE 1.)

Family Papilionidae (Swallowtails)

1. zebra swallowtail (*Eurytides marcellus*): 45
2. giant swallowtail (*Papilio cresphontes*): 2, 10, 21, 37, 38, 52, 64, 65
3. eastern tiger swallowtail (*Papilio glaucus*): 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 14, 16, 18, 20, 23, 24, 25, 32, 33, 34, 37, 46, 52, 56, 58, 59, 66
4. spicebush swallowtail (*Papilio troilus*): 6, 7, 14, 56, 59, 66
5. palamedes swallowtail (*Papilio palamedes*): 6, 7, 56

Family Pieridae (Sulphurs)

6. clouded sulphur (*Colias philodice*): 39
7. orange sulphur (*Colias eurytheme*): 15
8. cloudless sulphur (*Phoebis sennae*): 15
9. little yellow (*Eurema lisa*): 15
10. sleepy orange (*Eurema nicippe*): 15

Family Lycaenidae (Gossamer-wing Butterflies)

11. harvester (*Feniseca tarquinius* (larvae feed on host's parasitic aphids): 2, 4, 7, 71, 72
12. great purple hairstreak (*Atlides halesus*) (larvae feed on host's parasitic mistletoe (*Phoradendron* sp.): 44
13. banded hairstreak (*Satyrium calanus*): 4, 12, 19, 24, 34, 44, 68, 70
14. king's hairstreak (*Satyrium kingi*): 61, 62
15. striped hairstreak (*Satyrium liparops*): 4, 9, 11, 18, 19, 20, 24, 32, 34, 35, 38, 44, 46, 47, 48, 57, 70
16. 'southern' oak hairstreak (*Satyrium f. favonius*): 44
17. Henry's elfin (*Callophrys henrici*): 11, 18, 27, 35, 46, 49, 55, 63, 67
18. eastern pine elfin (*Callophrys niphon*): 50
19. 'olive' juniper hairstreak (*Callophrys g. gryneus*): 17
20. white m hairstreak (*Parrhasius m-album*): 5, 44
21. gray hairstreak (*Strymon melinus*): 15, 21, 24, 32, 44, 48, 49, 50, 54
22. red-banded hairstreak (*Calycopis cecrops*): 44, 60, 69
23. Reakirt's blue (*Hemiargus isola*): 41, 42
24. spring/summer azure (*Celastrina ladon*): 11, 13, 18, 22, 24, 26, 28, 35, 44, 46, 53, 67, 72

Family Nymphalidae (Brushfooted Butterflies)

25. American snout (*Libytheana carinenta*): 31, 39
26. question mark (*Polygonia interrogationis*): 29, 31
27. eastern comma (*Polygonia comma*): 29

28. mourning cloak (*Nymphalis antiopa*): 2, 4, 5, 9, 20, 23, 29, 31, 36, 40, 43, 51, 70
 29. painted lady (*Vanessa cardui*): 21, 29, 46
 30. red-spotted purple (*Limenitis arthemis astyanax*): 5, 18, 23, 24, 32, 36, 38, 44, 47, 51, 70
 31. viceroy (*Limenitis archippus*): 18, 23, 24, 30, 32, 47, 51, 57, 70
 32. hackberry emperor (*Asterocampa celtis*): 31
 33. tawny emperor (*Asterocampa clyton*): 31

Family HesperIIDae (Skippers)

34. silver-spotted skipper (*Epargyreus clarus*): 1, 39
 35. long-tailed skipper (*Urbanus proteus*): 41
 36. Juvenal's duskywing (*Erynnis juvenalis*): 44
 37. Horace's duskywing (*Erynnis horatus*): 44
 38. zarucco duskywing (*Erynnis zrucco*): 39, 54
 39. funereal duskywing (*Erynnis funeralis*): 54
 40. sleepy duskywing (*Erynnis brizo*): 44



zebra swallowtail
(*Eurytides marcellus*),
on butterfly weed



mourning cloak
(*Nymphalis antiopa*)



mourning cloak
(*Nymphalis antiopa*),
newly eclosed



silver-spotted skipper
(*Epargyreus clarus*), on zinnia



Silver-spotted skipper
(*Epargyreus clarus*), last instar larva



American snout
(*Libytheana carinenta*)

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viceroy (*Limenitis archippus*)
on black willow



'olive' juniper hairstreak
(*Callophrys gryneus gryneus*),
on American plum



eastern pine elfin
(*Callophrys niphon*),
on American plum

DONORS – MANY THANKS

John Douglass (Sustaining)
Dave Iftner (Contributor)
Jeff Belth (Contributor)

Reed Watkins (Contributor)
Leroy Koehn (Benefactor)
Mack Shotts (Benefactor)

**CITHERONIA SEPULCHRALIS GROTE AND ROBINSON, 1865
(LEPIDOPTERA: SATURNIDAE) IN LOUISIANA****BY
VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR.**

Fig. 1. *Citheronia sepulchralis*: a-c males, d, e. females
captured at the *Abita Entomological Study Site.

The large moth *Citheronia sepulchralis* Grote and Robinson (Fig. 1) was first reported to occur in Louisiana by Brou (1997). Ferguson (1971) stated that *sepulchralis* has two broods in the south, and speculated there are more than two broods in Florida, specimens appearing there March through October. Covell (1984) stated *sepulchralis* has only one brood. Tuskes *et al.*, (1996), stated *sepulchralis* is bivoltine in the south.

Brou (1997) reported taking 1295 specimens over 25 years in what appeared to be five annual broods. After that publication, I decided to attempt collecting a larger sample size to obtain a clearer picture regarding the third brood.

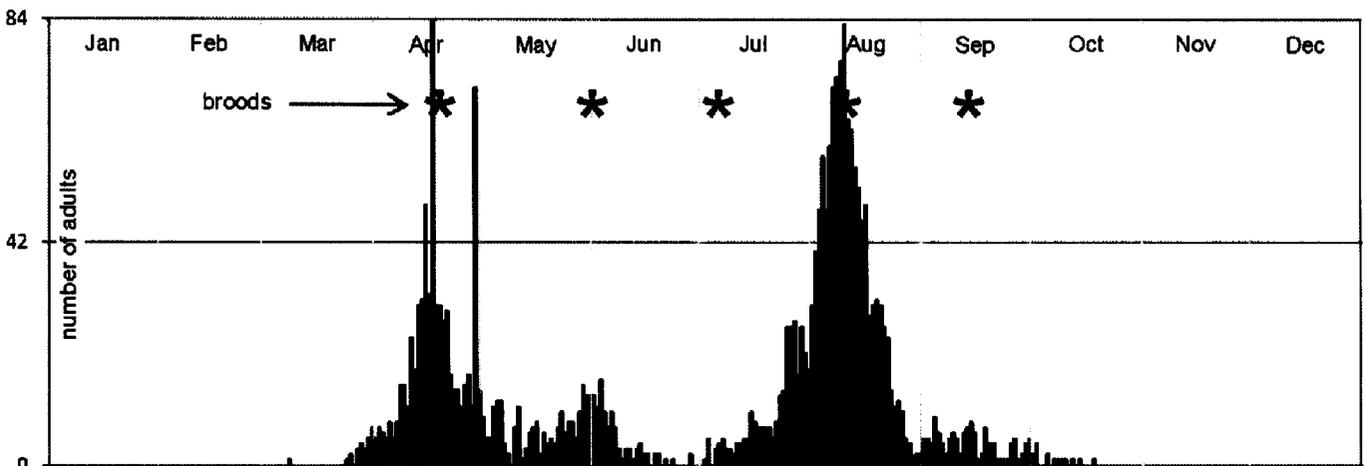


Fig. 2. Adult *C. sepulchralis* captured at the *Abita Entomological Study Site in Louisiana. n = 2588

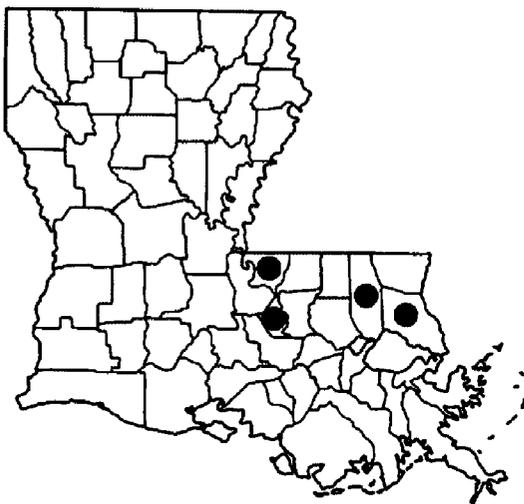


Fig. 3. Parish records for *C. sepulchralis*.

Now having collected adults for 41 years, and doubling the total sample size, nearly the same phenogram appeared again (Fig. 2) as in 1997. At the *Abita Entomological Study Site, the initial brood peaks near mid-April, the second brood peaks at the end of May with subsequent broods peaking at 35-day intervals. Doubling both the sample size and length of the study did nothing to reveal additional specimens or reasons for the peculiar lack of specimens where the third brood interval should occur, producing less than 20 specimens in 41 years and illustrating an obvious naturally skipped brood.

In this current study sample, the first brood accounts for 28%, and the fourth brood accounts for about 51% of the total annual populations. *C. sepulchralis* has been captured in four parishes: St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, West Baton Rouge, and West Feliciana (Fig. 3). I have reared *sepulchralis* numerous times on longleaf pine, *Pinus palustris* Mill.

*Abita Entomological Study Site: sec.24,T6,SR12E, 4.2 miles NE of Abita Springs, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana, USA

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(Vernon Antoine Brou Jr., 74320 Jack Loyd Road, Abita Springs Louisiana 70420; E-Mail: yabrou@bellsouth.net)

NOTE: It is with sad news to announce that Ron Leuschner passed away on Thursday, September 4th. A memorial service will be held in Gardena, California, on either the second or third Saturday in October. Please contact Kelly Richers for more information. The members of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society send their condolences to the family of Ron.

SOMETIMES IT'S HEAVEN, SOMETIMES IT'S HELL, SOMETIMES I DON'T EVEN KNOW

BY

CRAIG W. MARKS

Last year I reported on finding a colony of Arogos Skippers (*Atrytone arogos*) in St. Tammany Parish in southeastern Louisiana (Marks, 2013). On August 17, 2014, Dave Patton and I traveled to St. Tammany Parish to look further for Arogos Skippers. Our plan was to visit three locations, Lake Ramsey Savannah, Abita Creek and Northshore Nature Area.

We started at Lake Ramsey Savannah, walking the open field (which contains numerous pitcher plants) through which the Nature Conservancy trail runs. Within 10 minutes of arriving, we found a male Arogos Skipper perched on a tall yellow flower exhibiting similar behavior as those I have seen exhibit the last two years. In fact, most of the day we simply walked around inspecting the tops of those yellow flowers (see Dave's picture). Per Jeff Trahan, the flower is Oneflower



**Arogos Skipper (August 17, 2014),
Lake Ramsey Savannah
(photo by D. Patton)**

Honeycombhead (*Balduina uniflora*). We saw 15 butterfly species at Lake Ramsey, over about 1.5 hrs, including nine Arogos Skippers. This was a new location for Arogos Skippers. I also counted ten Georgia Satyrs (*Neonympha areolatus*), as well as a large Common Wood Nymph

(*Cercyonis pegala*). I have no doubt we could have added to this total, but we had other places to visit.

We moved to Abita Creek and were there about 1 hr. It was at this location that I had found last year's colony; however, the unit had been partially burned over the winter and I wanted to check to see how that burn had impacted the colony. Within 5 minutes of walking into the pitcher plant bog, we were seeing Arogos Skippers, again, perched on the yellow flowers. Despite a brief rain shower, we saw 16 butterfly species, including 16 Arogos Skippers. We easily could have doubled that number but it was time to move on. We saw 21 butterfly species, but no Arogos Skippers at Northshore Nature Area. The habitat there is different, so while I had been hopeful, I was not surprised that this open prairie skipper was not there. The Arogos Skippers all were very fresh and almost exclusively males, suggesting it was still early in this brood's flight, and I had thoughts of continuing my effort to expand the discovered range of this unique skipper.

Specifically, I had noted some common elements that might help find other colonies. For example, the general habitat was open, wet/moist pine forests with a grassy understory that included the presence of pitcher plants. Other butterfly species that used the same habitat included Whirlabouts (*Polites vibex*), Southern Brokensdashes (*Wallengrenia otho*), Georgia Satyrs and Common Wood Nymphs. With these factors in mind, I decided to visit Cooter's Bog in Vernon Parish. Although on the other side of the state from

St. Tammany, the habitat was similar, open pine woods with a heavy grass understory.

Cooter's Bog is actually a complex of several hillside pitcher-plant bogs in Vernon Parish, Louisiana, covering approximately 130 acres in Kisatchie National Forest. Sections of upland Longleaf Pine habitat separate and surround the sections of bog. The bog is kept open from the encroachment of trees and shrubs by prescribed fires, roughly every one to three years. The bogs include several species of pitcher plants, such as winged pitcher plants (*Sarracenia alata*), sundews (*Drosera* spp.) and butterworts (*Pinguicula* spp.). Another endemic bog plant species is toothache grass (*Ctenium aromaticum*). There are a couple of permanent streams that provide moisture in the environment even when the actual bogs are dry.

Over the last two years, Little Metalmarks (*Calephelis virginianensis*) have regularly been seen at Cooter's Bog from as early as May and then into September. Other regulars have included Palamedes Swallowtails (*Papilio palamedes*), Georgia Satyrs, and Common Wood Nymphs. On one occasion, a Gorgone Checkerspot (*Chlosyne gorgone*) was seen there (confirmed by a picture submitted to and accepted by BAMONA). There is a colony of Wild Indigo Duskywings (*Erynnis baptisiae*) present. On July 6, 2013, a male Wild Indigo Duskywing was perched right out in the middle of the bog [a couple of Buckeyes (*Junonia coenia*) and some Georgia Satyrs were the only other denizens of the actual bog, the other butterflies tended to fly around the edges of the bog].



Gorgone Checkerspot
(June 1, 2013), Cooter's Bog
(photo by R. Seidler)



Wild Indigo Duskywing
(June 14, 2014), Cooter's Bog
(photo by D. Patton)

The only indigo plant that I was able to identify at the location was *B. bracteata*, and this past June I watched as a female oviposited on two separate *B. bracteata* plants.

I had not seen any Little Metalmarks at Cooter's Bog while visiting there earlier this year. The area immediately surrounding the bog had been burned over the winter. In March there was nothing flying. By June, there were butterflies in the area, but no metalmarks. Against that backdrop, I drove to Cooter's Bog on Sunday, August 24, to see if I could find Arogos Skippers within one of the two larger bogs and/or Little Metalmarks outside of the bogs.

I arrived that morning at about 9:30. It was warming but the air was dry. There were four or five

Cloudless Sulphurs (*Phoebis sennae*) coursing up and down the gravel road that leads from the main road into the bog area. I could see several large swallowtails gliding in the shadows of the open pine woods east of the first large bog so I walked in to investigate before changing from moccasins into my boots. There were two subspecies of *liatris* blooming and the woods were full of Eastern Tiger (*Papilio glaucus*) (including five large black females), Palamedes, Spicebush (*Papilio troilus*), Pipevine (*Battus philenor*) and Black Swallowtails (*Papilio polyxenes*).

After walking back to my car to change into my boots, I started back into the open pine woods. I was going to a large, open bog east of the gravel road. This bog is on a hillside and seemed, in my mind, to better suit the habitat needs of the Arogos Skipper. I walked slowly through the open woods toward the bog, enjoying all of the swallowtails. The blooming pitcher plants were in sight down a slight incline toward one of the permanent streams in the area. I had already seen eleven species of butterflies, including a male Georgia Satyr. Everything was so peaceful, and then suddenly, in an instant, I was in trouble.

I had stepped with my right foot into a hole obscured by the tall grass growing beneath the pine trees and unseen by me. I lurched forward until I felt a sharp, piercing stab in the bottom of my foot. I rolled sideways to the ground, while jerking my foot out of the hole. The pain was severe, and it took a moment before I had gathered enough composure to pull my high water boot off of my foot. My thick boot sock was already red with blood. There was about a one inch piece of what looked like a pine stick projecting through the sock from the bottom of my foot.

As I sat there, I struggled to understand what had happened. It appeared the momentum of stepping into the hole had generated enough force to cause the stick to go through the bottom of my rubber boot and stab more than an inch into the arch of my foot. I wondered how I was going to get to my car, but eventually the pain subsided enough to allow me to stand, and, using my net pole as a crutch, slowly retraced my steps back to the car. I had not moved more than ten feet when a small orange butterfly moved at my feet, settling close enough to ascertain that it was a Little Metalmark, the first one I had seen this year.

It took at least fifteen minutes to limp to my car. I changed socks and put back on my moccasins, then started the two hour drive home. Most of the drive was on back roads with little traffic and the interstate so I could use the cruise control. When I got into town, the pain and swelling in my right foot made driving in traffic an excruciating experience. I stopped briefly at the house, thinking I would clean up and inspect the wound and then decide my next step, but by that time I could not place any weight on the foot. I literally crawled into the house on hands and knees. With the help of my wife and daughter, we headed to a local "walk-in" clinic.

The clinic doctor shipped me directly to the ER, indicating antibiotics and debridement were required. By the time I got to the ER the pain was "12" on a scale of 1 to 10. After receiving a tetanus shot and receiving antibiotics and pain medication through an IV, the pain subsided enough that I was able to relax. The ER doctor then numbed up my foot, and washed the wound with about two quarts of saline solution. I was surprised at how much bark washed out of the wound. The doctor then sent



Little Metalmark (August 24, 2014), Cooter's Bog (photo by D. Patton)

me home around 7:00 pm with a caution to watch for infection.

Oddly, about two hours after I had driven away from Cooter's Bog that Sunday, Dave Patton also visited the site. He walked the bog west of the road and saw, among others things, nine Little Metalmarks, eleven Georgia Satyrs and three Common Wood Nymphs. He also saw Palamedes Swallowtails and Whirlabouts, but no Arogos Skippers.

By Wednesday, I was back in the hospital. The puncture wound had become badly infected despite the use of two oral antibiotics. I was placed on several antibiotics by IV, and a consult was requested with an infectious disease specialist as there were concerns of deep tissue and/or bone infection. The antibiotics produced immediate results, but I still was required to have surgery on Friday. I ended up with a 2" vertical incision that included the removal of



Georgia Satyr (August 24, 2014), Cooter's Bog (photo by D. Patton)

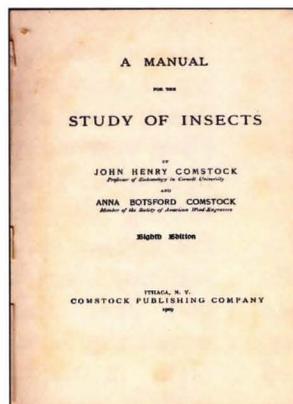
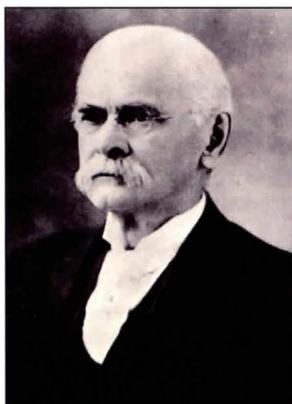
infected/dying tissue. The surgeon's decision was to leave the wound open, to be cleaned and repacked with medicated dressings each day. I can't begin to describe

how painful that first session of cleaning the wound was.

So, I am two weeks post injury. The wound is still open and cleaned each day. I can bear no weight and am required to ambulate by crutches. I still can't drive, so my Dad has had to serve as my chauffeur. I have struggled with this injury. I keep returning to the fact that I was not some place I should not have been, nor was I doing anything I should not have been doing; yet, I could have lost my foot. Despite that, I can't wait to get back into the field. My brother and son have already gone online and determined what proper protective boots I will be wearing when I return to the field. My goal is the end of September. Wish me luck.

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www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/regions/southern/CootersBog



John Henry Comstock (1849 - 1931), an American entomologist, and his wife Anna Botsford Comstock (1854 - 1930), a wood engraver and illustrator, published "A Manual for the Study of Insects" in 1930. Because of this work and his many other contributions to education in his tenure at Cornell, Vassar, and the USDA, John H. Comstock was highly regarded as an educator and to this day the Entomological Society of America annually awards outstanding graduate students with an award in his honor.

LOST IN THE WOODS AT MEEMAN - SHELBY FOREST,
MILLINGTON, TENNESSEE

BY

JEFF SLOTTEN

In Volume 36 No. 2(2014) pages 59-63 of the Southern Lepidopterists' News, Craig W. Marks presented an excellent article concerning his experiences in the Meeman-Shelby State Park region in Millington, Tennessee. Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park is a 13,476 acre hardwood bottomland area bordering the Mississippi River. It is 13 miles north of Memphis, Tennessee. There are more than 20 miles of hiking trails through out the park. On July 9th, 1992, I drove to Meeman Shelby Forest on the recommendation of former Southern Lepidopterists' Society Member Mecky Furr. I had spoken with her about her reporting *Catocala atocala* from the forest. She was very helpful in directing me to a road that ran down to the Mississippi River that was popular with fishermen. It took me 11 ½ hours to drive there from Gainesville, Florida, and my intent was to look for *Catocala atocala* on July 10th and then drive to visit my parents and brothers in the Chicago area. July 10th was hot and sticky with some clouds in the sky. It was around 11:00 a.m. when I decided to look in the woods for my target insect. Both sides of the road were thick with deciduous trees. I saw several butterfly species on the road or just inside the forest. These butterflies included *Asterocampa celtis*, *Fenesea tarquinius*, *Papilio troilus*, *Papilio glaucus*, *Papilio marcellus*, *Hermeuptychia sosybius*, and *Vanessa atalanta*. The *A. celtis* were observed feeding on a dead animal carcass in the middle of the road. The adults also liked landing on my skin and clothing and licking off the salt from my sweat.

The hostplant of *Catocala atocala* is *Carya myristiciformis* (Nutmeg

Hickory). Although I did not know that this particular hickory was the hostplant at the time, I did know that the larvae of this moth fed on some kind of hickory and there were lots of hickories in the woods. Tapping tree trunks was fairly productive for several species of *Catocala* present that day. The species encountered included *Catocala ilia*, *Catocala innubens*, *Catocala amica*, *Catocala agrippina*, and *Catocala lachrymosa*. I did not find *Catocala atocala* so I moved further in to the forest. I had a backpack with water, insect repellent, a jar and a beating stick. I did not carry a GPS unit or any firearms, nor did I bother to mark where I had entered the woods. This was a big mistake. After about 30 minutes of looking and beating big tree trunks, I realized that I could no longer see the road and could not hear any cars driving through. The sky was getting fairly cloudy, but temperatures remained hot. *Catocala* were flying off tree trunks but I soon began panicking. It was around 2:00 in the afternoon. I used my instincts and headed in the direction I thought was correct. After 30 minutes I realized that this was not the way out. I decided to go in another direction and at one point I thought I was near the road since I saw an open area. This turned out to be nothing more than a bare area in the forest. After another hour of walking I began to pout, scream and feel sorry for myself, wondering how I could spend a night in the forest alone and without a way to get out. The feeling of helplessness is very disturbing. I did not have a cell phone at that time so there was no way of calling for help. It was starting to get late in the afternoon. Around 7:00 p.m. I decided to sit down against a tree and sulk. I

knew it was stupid to think I could wander around in the dark and try to find my way out. I did not carry a flashlight or matches since I had not planned on getting lost.

I made one last attempt to walk and for some reason I found a road and a way out before the sun set. This was just dumb luck. I had found my way back on to the same road that I had parked but I was a few miles from the river. I decided after this that I would never find myself in this predicament again. If I had been bitten by a snake, been attacked by hornets or bees or fractured a leg or hip, I might not have been able to walk out. I learned that when traveling in habitats that are not clearly marked, it is best to be very prepared for any circumstance and even better to travel with another person. A friend of mine became lost in the woods in Florida a few years after my incident. He was collecting moths at bait at night and needed to retrieve something from his vehicle. Though it was dark he thought he knew where his car was parked but became disoriented. He wound up crawling on all fours at night trying to find his way out and wound up at someone's fenced in yard late at night. Dogs began barking and the owner came out of his house with the intent on confronting the intruder. My friend had to explain what had happened and the owner of the property called the local police. He was driven back to his vehicle and survived this very disturbing ordeal. We can only laugh about our near tragic endings.

I am sure some of you readers have faced even more scary circumstances while pursuing lepidoptera. I am glad I am here to tell my story.

WHITE PEACOCK (*ANARTIA JATROPHAE*) LIFE HISTORY

BY

BERRY NALL

White Peacocks are almost always flying beside the Rio Grande River in Salineño, TX. One day I noticed a female ovipositing on a low-growing plant that proved to be Coastal Water Hyssop, *Bacopa monnieri*. She appeared to be depositing single eggs as she moved around. I captured her and put her in a jar with some of the Hyssop. An hour or so passed while I tried to locate the eggs which she had just left, and while I looked around some more. It was my thought to keep the female for a day or two if my search failed. However, I found two eggs, so I decided to release the female. To my pleasant surprise, when I arrived at the house I discovered that she had left me 7 additional eggs, all placed together on the stem of the host plant.

The caterpillars emerged 3 days after the eggs were deposited. The caterpillars were dark, almost black, with few markings. They changed little as they grew.

Frogfruit (*Phyla nodiflora*) and Runyon's Violet Wild Petunia (*Ruellia nudiflora*) are reported hosts for White Peacocks. Both plants grow in my butterfly garden, but I had never seen any signs of use. I was curious to know if the caterpillars would eat these plants, so I offered them while not replenishing the Hyssop. The caterpillars readily accepted the Petunia, but only nibbled at the Frogfruit. Perhaps my plants were a bit tough or bitter from lack of adequate water.

One curiosity I found was that this species has a very dark form of the chrysalis. Six caterpillars were raised; four formed a chrysalis that was green with black spots. The other two formed a chrysalis that was black with white spots. The dark chrysalis remained blackish even after the adult emerged.

The first caterpillar pupated on XI-4; the last on XI-6. The adults emerged from XI-11 and XI-14. Thus, it took 27-30 days from the time the eggs were deposited to the time when the adults flew.



Recently deposited eggs,
15-X-2011



Eggs about to eclose,
18-X-2011



Recently emerged caterpillars, 19-X-2011



22-X-2011



24-X-2011



This caterpillar has white dots, 27-X-2011



A different caterpillar than 27-X-2011, has more red,
28-X-2011



31-X-2011



Fully-grown caterpillar, 4-XI-2011



About to pupate
5-XI-2011



Dark-form chrysalis,
6-XI-2011



Green-form chrysalis,
6-XI-2011



Adult about to emerge
from green chrysalis
8:06 a.m. on 13-XI-2011

The SL Society and the Editor thank Mr Berry Nall for allowing us to reprint his life history of the White Peacock (*Aarattia jatrophae*). The original publication on the internet is listed: http://leps.thenalls.net/content2.php?ref=Species/Nymphalidae/jatrophae/life/jatrophae_life.htm



Butterfly has emerged: wings are still wet,
9:30 a.m. on 13-XI-2011



Fresh adult White Peacock ready to
fly, 12:23 p.m. on 13-XI-2011



Dorsal 12-X-2008.
Falcon Heights, TX

Mr. Nall's website "Berry's Butterfly Photos" can be viewed at <http://leps.thenalls.net/> His contact E-mail is lb@the.nall.net



Ventral, 12-X-2008

REPORTS OF STATE COORDINATORS

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

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

Mack forwards this comment from David Rupe: "Was surprised to see *Danaus gilippus* in West Fork, Washington County, Arkansas, on 23-VIII-2014."

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

Charlie sends in the following Florida report, June- Aug. 2014:

In North Florida butterfly diversity and numbers began to pick up after a very slow spring and early summer. As of this writing (Sept. 1) I have recorded only 18 species at my Gainesville home. Weather has been hot, muggy and characterized by frequent heavy rains. Species recorded by me in Gainesville and vicinity, Alachua County, from June 1 through the end of August include the following:

Epargyreus clarus, June 26, July 22, 23, Aug. 11
Urbanus proteus, July 7, 22, 23, 29, 30, Aug. 1, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 25
Urbanus dorantes, July 23, 29, Aug. 8, 11, 12, 14
Erynnis horatius, June 26, 28, July 7, 8, 30, Aug. 1, 13
Pyrgus oileus, Aug. 16
Lerema accius, Aug. 11
Ancyloxipha numitor, July 8, 27, 29, Aug. 5
Hylephila phyleus, June 3, 18, 25, 28, July 5, 22, 27, 29, Aug. 1, 6, 12, 14, 29
Panoquina ocola, July 23, 29, Aug. 1, 8, 11
Battus philenor, July 27, Aug. 16, 29
Battus polydamas, July 28, Aug. 10, 11
Papilio polyxenes asterius, July 5
Papilio troilus, June 19, 25, 27, Aug. 9, 25
Papilio palamedes, Aug. 25
Papilio glaucus, June 19
Heraclides cresphontes, July 22, Aug. 2, 9, 25
Phoebis sennae, July 6, 22, 26, 27, 29, Aug. 2, 5, 9, 14, 25, 29
Abaeis nicippe, July 22, 29, Aug. 14, 25, 29
Eurema daira, Aug. 29
Calycopis cecrops, July 6
Libytheana carinenta, Aug. 9
Limenitis archippus, Aug. 9, 29
Vanessa atalanta, Aug. 2
Junonia coenia, Aug. 27
Agraulus vanillae, June 15, 16, 19, 25, 26, July 7, 8, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30, Aug. 6, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 25
Heliconius charithonia, June 2, 16, 18, 19, 25, 26, July 7, 22, 23, 26, 29, 30, Aug. 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 25
Danaus plexippus, June 3, 17, 18, 19, July 4, 8, 22, Aug. 8, 29

Moths: Sphingidae: Aug. 26, Gainesville: 1 *Xylophanes pluto*

Aug. 9 in Casselberry (near Winter Springs and Oviedo), Seminole Co., Rick Gillmore found six fifth instar larvae of *Protambulyx strigilis* on Brazilian Peppertree near my house. Five larvae were green, while one was yellow (that one died but the others pupated). Also, I saw lots of *Eumaeus atala* in Davie and Ft. Lauderdale three weekends ago (July 19-20)

Barbara Woodmansee reported the following sightings during on Aug. 9 at Hickory Mount Wildlife Management Area, Taylor Co., 20 miles west of Perry. She mentioned spotting fairly rare *Celastrina neglecta*, and *D. plexippus* ("the most common butterflies"). At nearby Aucilla Wildlife Management Area, she recorded more monarchs, plus *Problema byssus*, *Amblyscirtes aesculapius*. She remarks that skippers "have been scarce everywhere I go this

spring/summer...it makes me sad."

On July 5 she visited Seahorse Key, Levy Co., which is off limits to visitors except on two special "open house" days a year. It is loaded with cottonmouth moccasins that feast on regurgitated fish below the bird rookeries there. Butterflies she listed included only *A. vanillae*, *H. charithonia*, *Pyrgus* sp., and a "duskywing."

Eric Anderson was in the Homestead, FL (Dade County) area July 3-5, and reported the following: *Urbanus dorantes*, *Pyrgus oileus*, *Polites baracoa*, *Ascia monuste*, *Electrostrymon angelia*, many *Strymon istapa*, *Leptotes ceraunus*, *Junonia coenia*, *J. evarete*, *Anartia jatrophae* ("too many to count") and *Drya julia*. In an avocado orchard he found nectaring butterflies on *Bidens alba* (Spanish Needle) and *Sphagneticola trilobata* (Creeping Oxeye).

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

The contributors include James Adams (JKA or no notation) and Irving Finkelstein (ILF). 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 known new STATE and COUNTY records are indicated, and all dates listed below are 2014 unless otherwise specified. Sorry for the relatively short entry – I took a three and a half week trip out west associated with the Lepidopterists' Society Meeting in Park City, Utah in July and early August, and so caught a lot of moths elsewhere, and not so much in Georgia!

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

SATURNIIDAE: *Citheronia sepulcralis*, Aug. 22. **LASIOCAMPIDAE:** *Heteropacha rileyana* (surprisingly scarce), Aug. 18. **SPHINGIDAE:** *Manduca jasmineearum*, June 16, Aug. 18; *Sphinx kalmiae*, June 16; *Paratreia plebeja*, Aug. 23. **EREBIDAE:** *Dinumma deponens*, June 17 (COUNTY, fourth in STATE).

Rocky Face Ridgeline, Just SW of Dalton, Whitfield Co.:

Aug. 16-17:

NOCTUIDAE: *Heliocheilus lupatus*, *Schinia lynx*, *S. nundina*. **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Tornos scolopacinarius*.

Aug. 29-30:

SPHINGIDAE: *Paonias astylus*.

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

Aug. 9-10:

NOCTUIDAE: *Resapamea trigona*.

Aug. 23-24:

NOCTUIDAE: *Harrismemna trisignata*, *Stiria rugifrons*, *Basilodes pepita*. **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Cepphis decoloraria*.

Taylor's Ridge, 5 mi. W of Villanow, Walker Co., Aug. 31-Sept. 1:

SPHINGIDAE: *Sphinx kalmiae*. **EREBIDAE:** *Catocala luctuosa*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Heliocheilus lupatus*, *Schinia nundina*, *Plagiomimicus pityochromus*.

Gates Chapel Road, 8 mi. WNW of Ellijay, Gilmer Co., Aug. 23, ILF:

NOCTUIDAE: *Acronicta clarescens*.

Peachtree City, Aug. 8, Leigh Anne Harvey:

SPHINGIDAE: *Manduca rustica*.

Sapelo Island, McIntosh Co.:

March 28-29:

TORTRICIDAE: *Eugnosta sartana*. **CRAMBIDAE:** *Palpita illibalis*, *Thaumatopsis floridella*. **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Melanolophia canadaria*, *Phigalia titea*, *Phigalia strigataria*, *Euchlaena amoenaria*, *Euchlaena pectinaria*, *Eusarca fundaria*. **NOTODONTIDAE:** *Oligocentria lignicolor*. **EREBIDAE:** *Renia salusalis*, *Palthis asopialis*, *Pangrapta decoralis*, *Ledaea perditalis*, *Zale calycanthata*. **NOLIDAE:** *Meganola phylla*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Psaphida resumens*.

June 24, JH:

SESSIIDAE: *Carmenta pyralidiformis*. **CRAMBIDAE:** *Donacaula linealis*. **PYRALIDAE:** *Dioryctria clarioralis*. **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Synchlora frondaria*. **SPHINGIDAE:** *Amphion floridensis*. **EREBIDAE:** *Virbia laeta*, *Catocala muliercula*. **EUTELIIDAE:** *Paectes nubifera*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Acherdoa ferraria*, *Amphipoea americana*.

July 23-24, JH:

TORTRICIDAE: *Epiblema otiosana*. **CRAMBIDAE:** *Conchylodes ovulalis*. **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Scopula purata* (STATE?). **SPHINGIDAE:** *Erinnyis obscura*. **EREBIDAE:** *Estigmene acraea*, *Hypena manalis*.

John Hyatt sends in the following short report for Georgia:

Problema byssus was flying on July 26, 2014, at Bulltown Swamp, Libert Co., GA. Not much else out save the common, ubiquitous things.

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

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

North Carolina: Steve Hall, North Carolina Natural Heritage Program, Div. of Parks & Recreation, 1615 MSC, Raleigh, NC 27699-1615, E-Mail: stephenphall@outlook.com

Steve sends in the following butterfly records for North Carolina which were submitted to him by Harry LeGrand. Records are from June through August 2014, except where indicated.

Summer 2014 was cooler and wetter than normal over much of the state, with relatively few days in August reaching above 90 degrees F. However, the story of summer 2014 was the continuation of low to very low adult butterfly numbers and diversity in the eastern half of the state. Observers from Winston-Salem and Charlotte westward often had good results, but farther toward the coast, results were abysmal. Some observers, including the author, have come to the same conclusion that Charles Covell has in Florida – the severely cold late February and March – for the second year in a row – with several hard freezes, snow, and ice events, decimated the life stages of most species in the eastern half of the state. It is presumed that the western half of the state, which certainly received just as severe weather, still had life stages in relative dormancy. Despite this poor season for many observers, there was some movement of immigrants into the state, such as *Vanessa cardui*, *Pyrisitia lisa*, and even *Calpododes ethlius*.

PAPILIONIDAE:

Papilio cresphontes, Brian Bockhahn observed one in Haywood (COUNTY) on July 18; the species presumably has some small resident populations in the mountains, but its status is still poorly known in that province.

PIERIDAE:

Pontia protodice, there were three reports during the summer season, about normal for this declining species; records came from Forsyth (Gene Schepker, Jim Nottke), Mecklenburg (Taylor Piephoff), and Wake (Bud Webster).

LYCAENIDAE:

Satyrium titus, always a good find in the mountains, two were seen by Doug Johnston on June 20 at Sandy Mush Game Land in Buncombe.

Satyrium kingi, at long last the species was found in the northeastern corner of the state (i.e., north of Albemarle Sound). Jeff Pippen photographed one in Currituck (COUNTY) near the Virginia line, on June 18. One seen by Salman Abdulali in Pitt (COUNTY) on June 15 was also a good find. Nearly all state records in recent years had been limited to the southern half of the state's Coastal Plain.

Satyrium liparops, a very good find was one photographed by Jeff Pippen in Currituck on June 18. The only other report for the season was one found by Doug Johnston at Sandy Mush Game Land (Buncombe) on June 26.

Parrhasius m-album, one at a very high elevation at Mount Mitchell State Park in Yancey on June 26 (Will Cook) was most surprising, though there are previous records for the county.

Erora laeta, one of the most difficult species to find, Doug Allen stumbled onto single individuals at two sites along the Blue Ridge Parkway, in a single day. He documented these with photographs from both Haywood and Jackson on July 2.

NYMPHALIDAE:

- Boloria bellona*, this species seems to be slowly expanding its range in the state into the northwestern Piedmont. Sven Halling had an excellent count of ten in northwestern Surry on June 7, and Lois Schneider saw one in her yard in Winston-Salem in Forsyth (COUNTY) on July 25.
- Polygonia faunus smythii*, many people made the "pilgrimage" to Mount Mitchell State Park in Yancey to look for the species, and essentially all were successful, highlighted by a remarkable state record count of 62 there on August 25 (Brian Bockhahn et al.).
- Vanessa cardui*, a modest incursion into the state was noted starting in June. The first report came from Pitt on June 20 (Salman Abdulali), and there were over ten reports nearly statewide through the end of the period, though usually of just one or two individuals at a time.
- Lethe creola*, one photographed in northern Washington (COUNTY) on August 31 by Signa Williams was perhaps surprisingly the first ever recorded on the Pettigrew State Park butterfly count.

HESPERIIDAE:

- Urbanus dorantes*, the most surprising stray of the season was one seen by Richard Stickney at the N.C. Museum of Life and Science garden (Durham) on July 29. As there is a previous county record, from this same area, and several records for an arboretum in nearby Raleigh, he perhaps correctly suggested that the adult likely eclosed from plant material brought into the garden. This represents just the eighth state record.
- Autochton cellus*, one was collected in the foothills of Caldwell (COUNTY) by Bret Boyd on July 15, 2001. This is one of the relatively few state records for the second brood.
- Erynnis martialis*, the only seasonal report of this rarity again came from the Sandy Mush Game Land, where Salman Abdulali photographed one in Madison on August 4.
- Thymelicus lineola*, Brian Bockhahn, working on a butterfly big year in the state, took LeGrand's suggestion to try for this exotic species at Pond Mountain in Ashe, as the habitat – a man-made "grassy bald" – seemed perfect. Sure enough, Bockhahn tallied 36 adults on July 1, by far a record state count.
- Polites peckius*, Gene Schepker photographed two adults in his yard in Winston-Salem on August 25. The species is rare in the Piedmont, and this county (Forsyth) lies at the southeastern edge of the range.
- Polites mystic*, singles were seen on June 20 (Brian Bockhahn) and June 26 (Gene Schepker and Sven Halling) at a known site in Alleghany, along the southern edge of the species' range.
- Wallengrenia otho*, rather rare in the mountains, there were several records during the summer from Buncombe (COUNTY), documented by photos by Allen Ratzlaff on June 14 and by Doug Johnston on August 16. One photographed by Gene Schepker and Sven Halling in Alleghany (COUNTY) on June 26 filled in another hole in the mountain range.
- Problema byssus*, records from near the northern edge of the species' range were made by Paul Hart, who photographed one at Anderson Creek County Park (Harnett) on August 30; and by John Connors, who observed one at the same site he saw one last year in Raleigh (Wake) on August 15.
- Poanes viator*, Bret Boyd collected individuals along the Pee Dee River in western Richmond (COUNTY) on May 13 and 19, 2001. This locale lies in the eastern Piedmont and fills in a major hole in the western edge of the species' range. Also along the edge of the range, Richard Stickney saw two at a known site in Wake, on July 28; this date falls in the gap between broods, though this might represent a late date in the first brood.
- Amblyscirtes reversa*, as with King's Hairstreak, this species is known from the Virginia side of the Dismal Swamp area, but it had been lacking of records in North Carolina from north of Albemarle Sound. Finally, filling that gap was one seen by Nick Flanders in Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge in Camden (COUNTY) on July 18.
- Calpododes ethlius*, this erratic migrant was gratifyingly reported several times so early in the year; most sightings occur in fall. Tom Stock saw five in the Duck area of Dare on July 20; Bob Cavanaugh saw individuals in his Newport yard in Carteret in mid-July and on August 21; Salman Abdulali saw one in Pitt on August 13; and Harry LeGrand saw one in Wake on August 15.
- Panoquina ocola*, this species was much more numerous in early and mid-summer than usual, despite most other skipper species being depressed in numbers. Such numbers seem too early to be migrants from farther south, but could this species' life stages have survived severe March weather when most others didn't?

The following selected moth records were submitted by Parker Backstrom.

SATURNIIDAE:

- Citheronia regalis* – July 20, 26 (3), 28, 31 (2), August 5 (Chatham Co.); July 22, 26 (Lee Co.) – A bumper year for the species.

Sphingicampa bicolor – Jul y26 (Chatham); August 6 (Lee)

NOTODONTIDAE:

Cerura scitiscrita – July 21 (Lee) – Uncommon

EREBIDAE:

Euparthenos nubilis – July 30 (Lee) – Only my second record in Chatham/Lee in seven years

The following list was submitted by Brian Bockhahn from a Moth Night Workshop held at Haw River State Park in Rockingham County, July 22, 23. Observations were made at building lights and at sheets with mercury vapor lighting.

ACROLOPHIDAE: *Acrolophus panama*, *Acrolophus plumifrontella*, *Acrolophus popeanella*

TINEIDAE: *Trichophaga tapetzella*, *Monopis dorsistrigella*, *Monopis pavlovski*

BUCCULATRICIDAE: *Bucculatrix angustata*

GRACILLARIIDAE: *Caloptilia belfragella*, *Caloptilia bimaculatella*, *Caloptilia blandella*, *Caloptilia negundella*, *Caloptilia stigmatella*, *Parornix geminatella*, *Leucospilapteryx venustella*

AMPHISBATIDAE: *Machimia tentoriferella*, *Psilocorsis reflexella*

ELACHISTIDAE: *Antaeotricha schlaegeri*, *Antaeotricha humilis*, *Rectiostoma xanthobasis*

OECOPHORIDAE: *Inga sparsiciliella*, *Epicallima argenticinctella*

AUTOSTICHIDAE: *Spinitibia hodgesi*

COLEOPHORIDAE: *Blastobasis glandulella*, *Blastobasis pulchella*, *Holcocera immaculella*, *Coleophora limosipennella*, *Coleophora octagonella*

COSMOPTERIGIDAE: *Euclementia bassettella*, *Stilbosis tesquella*

GELECHIIDAE: *Aristotelia lepedezae*, *Aristotelia roseosuffusella*, *Aristotelia sp 1*, *Aristotelia sp 2*, *Coleotechnites albicostata*, *Arogalea cristifasciella*, *Pseudotelphusa quericinigracella*, *Chionodes bicostomaculella*, *Chionodes mediofuscella*, *Aroga epigaeella*, *Battaristis vittella*, *Anacamptis coverdalella*, *Anacamptis n. sp.*, *Strobisia iridipennella*, *Dichomeris offula*, *Dichomeris inversella*

PLUTELLIDAE: *Plutella xylostella*

YPONOMEUTIDAE: *Atteva aurea*, *Zelleria retiniella*

SESIIDAE: *Podosesia syringae*

TORTRICIDAE: *Episimus argutana*, *Endothenia hebesana*, *Eumaroza malachitana*, *Zomaria interruptolineana*, *Olethreutes atrodentana*, *Rhyacionia rigidana*, *Rhyacionia frustrana*, *Retinia wenzeli*, *Phaneta radiatana*, *Rhopobota finitimana*, *Ancylis divisana*, *Acleris ptychogrammos*, *Argyrotaenia velutinana*, *Argyrotaenia floridana*, *Argyrotaenia tabulana*, *Clepsis peritana*, *Sparganothis sulfureana*, *Platynota semiustana*, *Platynota exasperatana*, *Aethes argentilimitana*

MEGALOPYGIDAE: *Norape ovina*

LIMACODIDAE: *Tortricidia pallida*, *Tortricidia flexuosa*, *Lithacodes fasciola*, *Apoda y-inversum*, *Apoda biguttata*, *Prolimacodes badia*, *Isochaetes beutenmuelleri*, *Phobetrion pitheciun*, *Isa textula*, *Euclea delphinii*, *Parasa chloris*, *Acharia stimulea*

CRAMBIDAE: *Scoparia biplagialis*, *Lipocosma septa*, *Crocidophora serratissimalis*, *Crocidophora tubercularis*, *Achyra rantalis*, *Pyrausta bicoloralis*, *Pyrausta acronialis*, *Nomophila nearctica*, *Desmia funeralis*, *Desmia maculalis*, *Diasemiodes janassialis*, *Anageshna primordialis*, *Blepharomastix ranalis*, *Palpita magniferalis*, *Herpetogramma pertextalis*, *Herpetogramma thestealis*, *Crambus praefectellus*, *Crambus agitatellus*, *Crambus laqueatellus*, *Pediasia trisecta*, *Microcrambus elegans*, *Parapediasia teterrella*, *Argyria lacteella*, *Haimbachia squamulella*, *Haimbachia placidella*

PYRALIDAE: *Aglossa disciferalis*, *Aglossa cuprina*, *Hypsopygia olinalis*, *Galasa nigrinodis*, *Tosale oviplagalis*, *Arta statalis*, *Epipaschia superatalis*, *Macalla zelleri*, *Pococera robustella*, *Pococera scortcalis*, *Pococera militella*, *Pococera asperatella*, *Pococera expandens*, *Acrobasis rubrifasciella*, *Acrobasis sp 1*, *Euzophera semifuneralis*, *Eulogia ochrifrontella*, *Varneria postremella*, *Peoria approximella*

GEOMETRIDAE: *Mellila xanthometata*, *Macaria transitaria*, *Digrammia gnophosaria*, *Glena cribrataria*, *Glena plumosaria*, *Iridopsis vellivolata*, *Iridopsis larvaria*, *Ectropis crepuscularia*, *Protoarmia porcelaria*, *Epimecis hortaria*, *Melanolophia canadaria*, *Hypagyrtis esther*, *Euchlaena amoenaria*, *Pero morrisonaria*, *Probole amicaria*, *Plagodis alcoolaria*, *Lambdina fiscellaria*, *Lambdina fervidaria*, *Tetracis crocallata*, *Patalene olyzonaria*, *Prochoerodes lineola*, *Nemoria bistriaria*, *Idaea scintillularia*, *Pleuroprucha insulsaria*, *Cyclophora packardii*, *Eulithis diversilineata*, *Orthonama obstipata*, *Costaconvexa centrostrigaria*, *Eubaphe mendica*

MIMALLONIDAE: *Lacosoma chiridota*

BOMBYCIDAE: *Apatelodes torrefacta*, *Olceclostera angelica*

SATURNIDAE: *Eacles imperialis*, *Citheronia regalis*, *Dryocampa rubicunda*, *Anisota stigma*, *Anisota virginensis*, *Automeris io*, *Antheraea polyphemus*, *Callosamia angulifera*

SPHINGIDAE: *Manduca jasminearum*, *Paratrea plebeja*, *Lapara coniferarum*, *Paonias excaecata*, *Amorpha juglandis*, *Darapsa myron*

NOTODONTIDAE: *Datana angusii*, *Datana drexelii*, *Datana perspicua*, *Dasychira thyatiroides*, *Macrurocampa marthesia*, *Heterocampa obliqua*, *Heterocampa guttivitta*, *Heterocampa biundata*, *Lochmaeus biundata*, *Lochmaeus bilineata*, *Schizura ipomoeae*, *Schizura unicornis*, *Schizura leptinoides*, *Oligocentria semirufescens*, *Oligocentria lignicolor*

EREBIDAE: *Haploa clymene*, *Virbia aurantiaca*, *Spilosoma virginica*, *Hyphantria cunea*, *Hypercompe scribonia*, *Halysidota tessellaris*, *Halysidota harrisii*, *Cynia tenera*, *Dasychira basiflava*, *Idia aemula*, *Zanclognatha laevigata*, *Zanclognatha pedipilalis*, *Zanclognatha cruralis*, *Palthis asopialis*, *Sigela brauneata*, *Hypena manalis*, *Hypena baltimoralis*, *Hypena madefactalis*, *Hypena scabra*, *Spargaloma sexpunctata*, *Pangrapta decoralis*, *Metalectra discalis*, *Scolecocampa liburna*, *Hypsoropha hormos*, *Panopoda rufimargo*, *Panopoda carneicosta*, *Zale lunata*, *Zale phaeocapna*, *Allotria elonympha*, *Mocis texana*, *Oruza albocostaliata*, *Hyperstrotia pervertens*, *Hyperstrotia secta*

EUTELIIDAE: *Marathyssa inficita*, *Paectes oculatrix*, *Paectes abrostoloides*

NOLIDAE: *Baileya ophthalmica*, *Meganola minuscula*, *Nola cereella*, *Nola triquetrana*

NOCTUIDAE: *Marimatha nigrofimbria*, *Protodeltote muscosa*, *Lithacodia musta*, *Homophoberia apicosa*, *Cerma cerintha*, *Leuconycta diptheroides*, *Bagisara repanda*, *Panthea furcilla*, *Colocasia flavicornis*, *Acrionicta americana*, *Acrionicta vinnula*, *Acrionicta laetifica*, *Acrionicta modica*, *Acrionicta clarescens*, *Acrionicta lithospila*, *Polygrammate hebraicum*, *Eudryas unio*, *Chytonix palliatricula*, *Phosphila miselioides*, *Spodoptera frugiperda*, *Spodoptera ornithogalli*, *Elaphria versicolor*, *Galgula partita*, *Mythimna unipuncta*, *Leucania adjuta*, *Helicoverpa zea*, *Schinia arcigera*

The following list was submitted by Brian Bockhahn and Paul Scharf from a trip to Mount Mitchell State Park, Avery County, on August 25.

TORTRICIDAE: *Aethes argentiimitana*, *Aethes mymara*

CRAMBIDAE: *Scoparia basalis*, *Agriphila ruricolellus*

THYATIRIDAE: *Habrosyne scripta*

GEOMETRIDAE: *Macaria transitaria*, *Macaria signaria*, *Iridopsis larvaria*, *Caripeta aretaria*, *Dysstroma citrate*

SPHINGIDAE: *Xylophanes tersa*

EREBIDAE: *Hypena abalienalis*, *Catocala lacrymosa*, *Catocala ilia*

EUTELIIDAE: *Paectes abrostoloides*

NOCTUIDAE: *Chrysodeixis includens*, *Acronicta lobeliae*, *Amphipoea americana*, *Phlogophora periculosa*, *Spodoptera frugiperda*, *Lacinipolia olivacea*, *Mythimna unipuncta*, *Agrotis ipsilon*, *Feltia jaculifera*, *Ochropleura implecta*, *Anicla infecta*, *Xestia dolosa*, *Pseudohermonassa bicarnea*, *Xestia badicollis*

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Great Tiger Moth
(*Arctia caja*)

Kevin Bischoff sends in the following photograph of a Great Tiger Moth (*Arctia caja*) from Mount Mitchell State Park, Yancey County, North Carolina. It was photographed on August 2, 2014, at the park office.

Steve adds the following comment: "So far, we only have records from just two high elevation sites in North Carolina although it's been known from Mt. Mitchell since at least the 1960s"

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

Tennessee: John Hyatt, 233 Park Ridge Court, Kingsport, TN 37664, E-Mail: jkshyatt@aol.com

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

Ed Knudson & Charles Bordelon send in the following Texas report:

TX, Uvalde Co., Concan, 30 April, 1 June. No interesting butterflies, although Orange tips were having a good flight. Many of the usual moth species, but with a few good ones. *Dichrorampha simulata*, a tiny gem; *Aethes bomonana*, (New State Records) Tortricidae; *Elasmia mandela santaaana*, Notodontidae.

TX, Kerr Co., MO Ranch (10 west of Hunt), 2-4 June. Many common moths and a few special ones. *Eupithecia cocoata*, a rare species we had not seen before, but not new for TX; *Stenoporpia graciella*, one female, a huge surprise, hitherto known only from southeastern AZ (Geometridae); *Ponomotia pulchra*, *Acronicta tota*, not new, but nice.

Ed Knudson, Charles Bordelon & Mark Walker:

TX, Jefferson Co., Sabine Pass, We went for skippers and we got them. *Euphyes bayensis*, 2; *Poanes aaroni bordeloni*, 18; and *Panoquina panoquin*, collected a few (Hesperiidae); *Brephidium pseudofea*, a few (Lycaenidae).

Another new state record we noted was *Acrionicta perblanda* from Harrison Co., TX, Karnak, 22-IV-14, a nice live photo by George Smiley (Thanks for Maury Heiman for tipping us off).

UPDATE: Sept 12, 2014

The report continues with a visit to the Davis Mts., August 18-21, 2014. Ed Knudson & Charles Bordelon. We spent almost the entire time at Ft. Davis at the Fort Davis Inn (formerly Fort Davis Motor Inn).

The following interesting moths were found: Tortricidae: *Cydia nigricana*, a new TX record; Crambidae: *Noctueliopsis puertalis*, new state record; Geometridae: *Digrammia decorata arubrescens*, not new but uncommon in TX; *Mericsca scobina*, new for Texas; Sphingidae: *Ceratomia amyntor*, rare in west TX and AZ; *Proserpinus vega*, a female at light shortly after dusk. Others were seen, but they are difficult to capture, as they do not land around lights. This acts much the same as in AZ; Erebidae: *Pygarctia neomexicana*, uncommon in TX, as well as *Euchaetes polingi*, which is more common; Noctuidae: *Tripudia chihuahua*, the first one from the Davis Mts, we have seen; *Emarginea pallida*, very common at the same location during an earlier visit in June and several more collected in August; *Plagiomimicus astigmatosum*, an interesting new state record, rarely collected in southeastern AZ; Other stiriines and their relatives were about, but just the usual suspects well known from this locality. Some of these included: *Plagiomimicus spumosum*, *Chrysoecia atrolinea*, *Chalcopasta howardi*, *Eulithsia papago*, *Stiria blanchardi*, *Stiria intermixta*, *Oslaria viridifera*, *Nocloa nanata*, *Lythodes tripuncta*, *Lythodes radiatus*, *Redingtonia alba* (1st from Davis Mts), and *Paramiana endopolia*. *Schinia mortua* was also new for the Davis Mts., but a common species in the TX panhandle.

Two more new TX records were found by others including Gelechiidae: *Monochroa quinquepunctella*, by Stuart Marcus at the headquarters of the Trinity River NWR in Liberty Co., on Sept. 9, 2014, and Thyrididae: *Banisia myrsusalis* (The Sapodilla Borer), photographed in Midland TX in early September and submitted to Bug Guide. This was a fresh specimen that must have recently emerged. It is known from Florida, but one must speculate about how such a moth got to Midland, TX. Infested fruit? Who knows?

Virginia: Harry Pavulaan, P.O. Box 1124, Herndon VA 20172, E-Mail: pavulaan@aol.com

Mississippi: Almost overlooked report (my mistake - JBL) from Ricky Patterson:

Lawrence Gall visited the Mississippi Entomological Museum August 12-14, 2014, to review the specimens and curate them. While in Mississippi he found the undescribed species near *Catocala robinsonii* on Nutmeg Hickory collecting with MSU staff members Joe McGowan and JoVon Hill in Oktibbeha County. Other records of note are as follow (*Catocala* determined by Larry Gall):

25 May 1998, 3 mile north of Chester, Choctaw county, *Catocala lincolnana*

23 June 2014, Calhoun County Wildlife Mgmt Area, Calhoun county, *Catocala andromedae*, *Catocala micronympha*, *Catocala lineella*, *Catocala amica*, *Catocala* new species near *amica*

4 June 2006, Cumberland, Webster county, *Catocala mira*

25 June 2004, 2.2 miles west of Magna Vista, Issaquena county, *Catocala mira*

26 May 2009, Tupelo, Lee county, *Catocala similis*

14 August 2008, Blue Springs, Union county, *Catocala robinsonii*

13 and 15 August 2008, Natchez Trace Parkway mile 251.5, Lee county, *Catocala robinsonii*, *Catocala angusi*

26 July 2008, Natchez Trace Parkway mile 122, Madison county, *Catocala* new species near *robinsonii*

15 August 2008, Natchez Trace Parkway mile 251.5, Lee county, *Catocala robinsonii*

23 and 30 June 2014, Vicksburg, Warren county, *Catocala* new species near *amica*

19 May 2011, 5 June 2013, 30 June 2014, Vicksburg, Warren county, *Catocala lineella*

9 September 2014, Natchez Trace Parkway mile 246.5, Pontotoc county, *Cercyonis pegala (alope?)*

16 September 2014, Calhoun County Wildlife Mgmt Area, Yalobusha county, *Cercyonis pegala (alope?)*

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, and dues may be sent to Jeffrey R. Sloten, Treasurer, 5421 NW 69th Lane, Gainesville, FL 32653.

SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY

c/o J. BARRY LOMBARDINI, THE EDITOR

3507 41st Street

Lubbock, Texas 79413