



# *Southern* *Lepidopterists'* **NEWS**

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

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J. BARRY LOMBARDINI: EDITOR

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Geometridae: *Nemoria lixaria*  
Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge, Liberty County, Texas  
July 4, 2023

Has anybody seen this color *Nemoria* before: The caterpillar must have munched on carrots! I'm calling it a *N. lixaria* – Red-bordered Emerald, unless told otherwise.” Stuart Marcus

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**The Southern Lepidopterists' Society**

**Page**

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“Cover illustration: First known drawing of a North American butterfly from the Modern Age: Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (*Papilio glaucus*) by John White, North Carolina, 1587 (original design by J.V. Calhoun, 1996).”

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## THE LIFE - HISTORY OF *CHLOROSTRYMON MAESITES* "FROM UNICORN TO BACK - YARD BUG!"

BY  
DAVID FINE

In 1998, I had the privilege of visiting the late great Lepidopterist, Dr. Herman Flaschka at his home in Georgia. He showed me his expansive collection of Sessiid wasp moths and how he processed them. In our conversations, I kept asking him; "Is this one 'rare?'" "Is that one 'rare?'" As a 20-year-old aspiring Lepidopterist, I had 10 times the zeal that I have today and I probably started to annoy poor old Dr. Flaschka with my questioning and eventually, he told me something that I would never forget. He said to me in his thick German accent; "David. There is no such thing as a 'rare' insect!" He went on explaining that insects reproduce at very high levels and while they may be elusive to us, they may only come out at certain times of the year, we may rarely see them, but that does not mean that they are actually "RARE!" He said; "The word 'rare' is a relative term that we Lepidopterists' use often to describe our experience in relation to a butterfly or moth species. But because we rarely experience them, does not mean that they are rare in population numbers."

He then said; "Every insect is abundant at the right time and the right place." I thought he was kidding with me



*Chlorostrymon maesites* female resting



*Chlorostrymon maesites* female ovipositing in captivity

but at least part of his scientific mind truly believed his statement. So, I questioned him further. I actually remember asking him; "What about *Chlorostrymon maesites*?" Because obviously, this was one of the rarest butterflies in the United States. This species is certainly classifiable as 'RARE'! I had been hunting butterflies in South Florida for 12 years at that point and my favorite group to study were hairstreaks and I had yet to see one and NOBODY... AND I MEAN NOBODY could tell me where to go to find one. The Amethyst Hairstreak was a UNICORN to me. I will never forget his response. He said; "I've never experienced it David, but I am certain that even *Chlorostrymon maesites* is common at the right place at the right time and if you keep searching, I'm sure you will experience it."

A few years later, I remember attending a Southern Lepidopterists' Society meeting in 2003 (I believe) and being in a deep conversation with some of the most knowledgeable Lepidopterists alive regarding HOW TO FIND THE AMETHYST HAIRTREK IN SOUTH FLORIDA. I asked person after person about their experience with this species and found that helpful information was extremely limited. Andy Anderson was kind enough to send me a beautiful pair of mounted *Chlorostrymon maesites* that he collecting in the Florida Keys in the early 1970's (before I was born). These specimens remained the only specimens in my collection of this species until 2023. In the next 20 years, I would easily spend 1000 man hours in the field specifically searching for this tiny but mightily stunning emerald green and iridescent blue Lycaenid butterfly that supposedly lived in my region. I then spoke with Richard Boscoe. He told me that the larval host plant for *Chlorostrymon maesites* is the exotic tree; Albizia lebbek commonly known as "Woman's Tongue." He said that he had reared a few dozen larvae on the blossoms of this legumous tree. I will admit; I was seething with jealousy! Upon buying my first house in Coconut Creek, Florida back in 2009, one of the first things I did was plant a sapling Albizia lebbek tree in my front yard for the sole purpose of wishing to rear *Chlorostrymon maesites*. It was 3' tall when I planted it. This past April, a violent thunderstorm destroyed my tree which was now 35'. Ironically, this happened only 2 months before I would find more than 30 Amethyst Hairstreaks in 9 different locations in an eight-day period of time!

This past June (2023), Dr. Flaschka's prophecy came to pass in a very major way. While I have certainly not embraced Dr. Flaschka's philosophy in its totality that "there is no such thing as a 'rare' insect," it has proven true with the amethyst hairstreak in multiple ways. Before June 6th, 2023, I EXPECTED NOT to find this species even when searching for it. In my heart of hearts, I had emotionally given up on breeding this little butterfly. In 14 years of having its supposed host plant in my yard and nectar sources all over the place and spending lots of time in the Florida Keys, the butterfly was absent from all of my observations. Since the 1990's when I became aware of its existence, I had only ever seen 3 of them until present.

- One female on Bahia Honda Key resting on a sea grape leaf (2002)
- One male in Davie, western Broward County sipping on a *Bidens alba* flower (2004)
- One male specimen on the bloom of a buttonwood tree on the side of the road near Islamorada in the Florida Keys. (2017) – no photograph

AND THAT IS IT!! Even after returning to the same locations at the same dates and time of day looking on the same trees, these sightings were isolated individuals and the species remained as elusive as ever and I began to believe it would never happen. I EXPECTED NOT to see them. In a few short weeks, I now actually EXPECT to see them! The amethyst hairstreak switched categories in my mind from being a 'unicorn' species to one that is very much widespread and 'common' in southeast Florida – at the right place at the right time. This article will bring you on my journey as I came to this awesome realization.



*Chlorostrymon maesites* resting on leaves of host plant –Sea Grape *Coccoloba uvifera*

In the Fall of 2014, Paula Cannon published an article in Volume 22 #3 of American Butterfly some amazing findings on the amethyst hairstreak on Big Pine Key, Florida. Paula, along with Amy Grimm and Leigh Williams found a thriving colony of amethyst hairstreaks in the canopy of some treetops on that island. The residence where these butterflies were seen reportedly had a 2nd floor balcony with trees such as buttonwood *Conocarpus erectus* and Florida Fish-Poison tree - *Piscidia piscipula*. They reported being able to observe multiple individuals in the canopy of these trees each day from May-August (sometimes up to 30 individuals at a time!). Abundance of the butterflies peaked in late May through mid-June. They had the amazing luxury of watching these butterflies at eye level from their balcony

and mentioned that they rarely were seen lower than 15'. They reported that adults, when landed preferred to WALK from leaf to leaf and from flower to flower rather than fly, which would expose their flashy blue dorsal side. Their green ventral coloration gives them wonderful camouflage in that setting. They also described a courtship display that would take place from 7:45 – 8:15 PM when adults would congregate every evening at the top of the same tree and would engage in courtship activity. Males would perch with wings open and they were able to photograph paired, mating adults as well. Larvae were collected on the blooms of buttonwood trees and were reared through to adult and then released. They also reported that even though adults would be found less common as the summer progressed, that they would consistently be found in the evening roosting in their tree top every evening through the month of August. They witnessed this same pattern each year for the next several years. This was marvelous work by these ladies!



*Chlorostrymon maesites* egg wedged between flower stem and developing flower bud

In April 2023, Dennis Vollmar posted a photograph on iNaturalist website of a female Amethyst-Hairstreak on the developing blooms of a sea grape tree, *Coccoloba uvifera*. It wasn't taking nectar as the blooms were nowhere near opening yet and its abdomen was curiously curled as if it was ovipositing. My friend Michael Green gave me a shout to let me know

about this post and invited me to join him on a search for them that next day. I was at work however and couldn't make it however a few days later I visited the site and was able to see a single Amethyst Hairstreak specimen perched about 20' up on the leaf of the sea grape. Before I could get my camera focused, it decided to fly even higher and out of site. Feeling energized, yet discouraged, I did not see another specimen that day.

I was now very suspicious that the amethyst hairstreak is likely using sea grape as a larval host plant and I was determined to try and find my own colony and began looking at sea grape trees on the sides of the road while driving to and from work for the next few days looking for trees in bloom, wondering if any of these could be the tree where I would find *Chlorostrymon maesites*,

thus ending my 20+ year hunt for this elusive butterfly. On June 6th, 2023, at 6:00 PM, I walked up the staircase of an apartment complex in the town of Margate, Florida to pick up a friend to bring her to the airport. As I grabbed her suitcase to begin lugging it down stairs, I glanced over at the sea grape tree at eye level right next to the staircase... just in case! I almost lost my mind when I saw, about 5 feet from my face, a fresh female *Chlorostrymon maesites* resting on the leaf of the sea grape. I put the suitcase down and got my phone camera out and began recording a video to document the find. I was driving my wife's van and did not have a net or my camera with me, and on top of that we were late for the airport so once again, the hunt for this butterfly would need to wait yet one more day!



*Chlorostrymon maesites* egg in flower bud – forceps for scale



Hatched egg of *Chlorostrymon maesites* and larval burrow into flower bud of sea grape



Frass from *Chlorostrymon maesites* larva being pushed out of burrow hole of sea grape flower bud



Third instar *Chlorostrymon maesites* larvae burrowing into flower buds

The next day I returned with a net and to my absolute pleasure, I was able to capture my first ever female *Chlorostrymon maesites* and brought her home with me for egg laying. I actually caught three of them at that location, one after another. They were all females. The next day I returned and found three more females and the next day three more! I was now at a total of 9 female *Chlorostrymon maesites* in three days. I had 5 of them set up in cups for egg laying and kept a few specimens.

It would actually take a number of days of careful handling and feeding of these adults before I was able to confirm egg laying. (I'll get back to this part in a few minutes) The cool thing about this period of time was I had taken the week off from work to spend time with the family but it was more of a "staycation" so I had ample time on my hands to explore my city for more amethyst hairstreak colonies.



Third instar larva *Chlorostrymon maesites* traveling from flower bud to flower bud



Moth larva commonly found feeding on the blooms of sea grape tree



Two different color forms *Chlorostrymon maesites* larvae – final instar



Brown and green form *Chlorostrymon maesites* larvae – final instar

On June 9th, I drove around for three hours looking for blooming sea grape trees and wound up finding four more colonies that day. None of them were as easy as the apartment complex due to the staircase being right next to the tree but they were confirmed colonies none-the-less. I was able to capture specimens of *Chlorostrymon maesites* from the following locations that day:

- 14th street boat ramp park in Pompano Beach
- Wells Fargo parking lot Pompano Beach
- Beach parking lot at the Pompano Beach fishing pier
- Walgreens parking lot on Atlantic Blvd in Pompano Beach

I simply couldn't believe it! In a few short days, I had been able to locate 5 colonies of the amethyst hairstreak within a 4-mile radius of my home. I still had not confirmed however that the butterflies are on the sea grape trees because of a host plant relationship. One also has to sift through the myriad of Fulvous Hairstreaks, *Electrostrymon angelia* and *Atala*, *Eumaeus atala* butterflies that were visiting the sea grape blooms for nectar. We also saw lots of Ruddy Dagger Wing butterflies, *Marpesia petrius*, Zebras, *Heliconius charitonia*, Gulf Fritillaries, *Agraulis vanillae*, Gray Hairstreaks, *Strymon melinus*, Mallow Scrub Hairstreaks, *Strymon istapa*, and about a bazillion Cassius Blues, *Leptotes cassius*. It was still possible that the amethyst hairstreaks were just hanging out at their 'favorite bar' and that these trees were not necessarily a nursery! The interesting thing about all of these

specimens was that all of them were female so far! I also strongly desired to find a colony within the city limits of Coconut Creek which is nick-named the "BUTTERFLY CAPITAL OF THE WORLD."

June 10th, 2023 – I went to pick my son up from baseball camp which was located at Calvary Christian Academy baseball field in Fort Lauderdale. Of course, I saw a sea grape tree and busted out my extension net right in front of all of his 13-14-year-old friends! Sure enough! I caught, yet another female specimen at the church/school parking lot. Now this was ironic because I actually work at Calvary Chapel Church and have driven under that exact tree thousands of times over the last 14 years! All of those times traveling to the Keys looking for this thing and I could have found it on my lunch break! After baseball practice, Lorenzo and I

went on a *Chlorostrymon maesites* colony hunt and this dude got into it! We finally caught a male specimen in a beach parking lot in Pompano Beach (actually Lorenzo, my son caught it with a fully extended tropics extension net). We also caught a male in the 14th street boat ramp location. I traveled into the Broward College campus in Coconut Creek right by my house and found a large sea grape tree there in the parking lot. I was able to confirm



Mature larva *Chlorostrymon maesites*



Mature larva *Chlorostrymon maesites* feeding on flower buds of host plant *Cocoloba uvifera*



Final instar larva *Chlorostrymon maesites* found on black net bag after swinging on an adult on bloom of sea grape

We then visited the apartment complex in Margate again. We were able to swing a net on another female *Chlorostrymon maesites* on the blooms of the sea grape tree from the staircase but as I was getting the butterfly out of my net, I noticed a little green slug-like larva on my black net bag. It was a Lycaenid caterpillar! COULD IT BE?? It was on the blooms of the sea grape and when I swung at the butterfly, it must have fallen off the flower into my net. I started tapping branches with flowers over my net bag and in a few short minutes, I had 5 hairstreak caterpillars! I'm now feeling a range of emotions unlike any I have felt in regards to butterflies in a very, very long time! Could it be that this would be the day I would photograph a *Chlorostrymon maesites* larva? Would I finally be able to see reared specimens of this species? I still had work to do though. These could easily be *E. angelia*, *S. melinus* or *S. istapa* which are all

highly polyphagous and were not necessarily going to produce for me the amethyst gems I was hoping to see.

In the meantime, I checked the little cup where I had set up my female hairstreaks for egg laying. I pulled the females out of the container 1 by 1 and placed them on a sugar water solution on a napkin (which was a twice daily event). I used the video feature with the flash on my iPhone 13 and zoomed in to look at the sea grape flower buds to try and find eggs. I grew frustrated because I wasn't finding them but eventually I noticed a minute green speck lodged in between the node of a bloom and the stem of the plant. (I kind-of felt like 'Horton' the elephant - the main Character in the animated film; "Horton Hears a Who"- Only Dr. Seuss could come up with this stuff!) IT WAS JUST A TINY GREEN SPECK! At first I thought it was part of the



Bugs found resting on larva of *Chlorostrymon maesites* – They did not live long enough to discover what they were doing!



Chrysalis of *Chlorostrymon maesites*



*Chlorostrymon maesites* pupa - wing pads showing off blue scales

plant but then noticed that this was not present on all of the other flower buds and upon further investigation realized that it was in deed an egg! I searched over the blooms again and found that I had at least 18 eggs that I could find. I may have had more but just wasn't able to find them. They are as cryptic as they are tiny and boy oh boy those females are talented with that ovipositor because they wedge those little eggs so far in the crevasses of the plant that you can barely see them. It was confirmed however! I officially had *Chlorostrymon maesites* eggs!! If the larvae I found in the wild were not *Chlorostrymon maesites*, the larvae that would hatch from these eggs most certainly would be!!!

I found that the blooms of a sea grape tree serve as food for a variety of other insects including several different moth species. One moth is so small (3-4 mm) that I didn't even bother trying to identify it – but the larvae were everywhere! As the larvae grew I also found myself in a battle with a variety of spiders that would come in on the bloom cuttings as well as some tiny bugs that I found several times on top of the caterpillars. I still do not know what they were doing with the caterpillars. Could it be that they were taking honeydew from them

in similitude to many species of ants that attend blue caterpillars? Or were these little suckers sucking fluids from my caterpillar???? I did not care to find out for sure at this time. All of the bugs I found on my cuttings that were not Lepidoptera promptly were eliminated! I wound up with 15 pupae out of the eggs that were laid and all of them emerged into beautiful adult *Chlorostrymon maesites* specimens! I still had doubts though as to whether or not they are using sea grape as a larval host plant in the wild. You can rear Lycaenid caterpillars on many different things. Often times they are not picky so the true test would be if the caterpillars found in the wild turned out to be *Chlorostrymon maesites*, then we could 100% confirm that they are using sea grape as a larval host plant. As for the 5 larvae that were found on in the wild; one of them became deformed as it pupated but the other 4 all emerged *Chlorostrymon maesites*. I had 3 males and 1 female emerge from that group.

It is confirmed! Amethyst hairstreaks officially are using sea grape, *Coccoloba uvifera*, blooms as a larval host plant and I will submit that sea grape is likely their primary host plant throughout the range. Buttonwood is

a very common plant used as an ornamental in the same area and it seems to have a longer blooming cycle than the average sea grape tree. I have tapped hundreds of buttonwood trees that are in full bloom in the same parking lots as the sea grapes containing the hairstreaks and I have yet to see a *Chlorostrymon maesites* on a buttonwood tree in our area. One cool thing that I noticed about the sea grape trees is that large trees

bloom first on an easterly facing side and then the western side appears to bloom a few weeks or even a month later. So, the eastern side of the tree will be in full seed and the western side may often contain blooms. This could provide a potential of several broods of the hairstreaks to go through in a single season on a single tree. I witnessed this on multiple sea grape trees in 2023.



*Chlorostrymon maesites* male



Freshly emerged *Chlorostrymon maesites* male before wings have dried – (no color manipulation in this photo – just a flash!!)



Female *Chlorostrymon maesites* on Bahia Honda Key resting on a sea grape leaf (2002)



Male *Chlorostrymon maesites* in Davie, western Broward County sipping on a *Bidens alba* flower (2004)

The life cycle of *Chlorostrymon maesites* is fairly typical in description for Lycaenid butterflies. Eggs are green and flat topped and are deposited in crevasses of the plant on the developing flower buds. When eggs hatch, the larvae burrow into the flower buds and feed inside until contents are consumed. At this time, larvae will exit the flower bud and find another one to burrow into. Larvae remain inside the buds until 4th instar when they become too large and then feed externally on the buds and flowers. This practice protects them from predators and perhaps could be beneficial for surviving certain airborne pesticide applications. Larvae are predominantly light green in color but I did find a few

different color forms. Some larvae have brown spots near the thoracic region of the body and some larvae have more of a reddish-brown coloration. Most of the chrysalids that I had in captivity pupated in the folds of the paper towel on the bottom of the container which suggests that larvae will choose a place on the stem or bark of the tree with which the brown chrysalis will camouflage beautifully. I did have a few pupae on the older dead flower stalks and the camo was striking! Pupae take 12-14 days to emerge and males appear to emerge first. I had a number of males emerge and then later the females began to emerge.



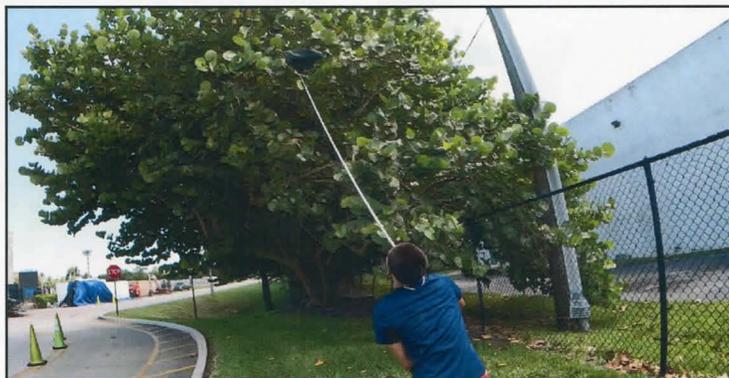
Sea grape tree at my friends apartment complex in Margate where we found the 1st *Chlorostyrymon maesites* colony



David Fine hunting *Chlorostyrymon maesites* with extension net



Lorenzo Fine (David's son) in pursuit of a *Chlorostyrymon maesites* adult on a blooming sea grape tree at the boat ramp on 14<sup>th</sup> street in Pompano Beach



*Chlorostyrymon maesites* colony found at Calvary Chapel church property in Fort Lauderdale

Even as I am writing this article, I am seeing a multitude of photographs of *Chlorostyrymon maesites* pop up on iNaturalist website – all of which are on sea grape trees. The word is out for sure that this is the way to find this butterfly. In an 8-day period, I was able to locate 9 colonies of amethyst hairstreaks. It was because I now knew what to look for. I have walked by sea grape trees in bloom countless of thousands of times and never took a close look. Shame on me! Dr. Flaschka was right! *Chlorostyrymon maesites* IS NOT a rare butterfly. It does not need extensive patches of tropical hammocks to survive. It thrives in urban environments like Pompano Beach, Coconut Creek, Margate and Fort Lauderdale.

What is the habitat of the amethyst hairstreak? The sea grape tree IS its habitat. The hairstreaks have everything they need in that tree. They have larval food, nectar, shelter and camouflage. I also saw hairstreaks remain active in heavy thunderstorms (while I was resting under the shelter on the staircase in the Margate apartment complex). I was stunned to see hairstreaks actively flying in the evening time at these locations. (6:00-8:00 PM) These facts turned my understanding of hairstreak behavior on its head. I do have more questions regarding the species that will need to be determined with further research. Do the butterflies have alternate host sources that are utilized in late summer throughout the fall and

winter? Is the species dormant during that time waiting for spring flowers of sea grape trees? Is this just a fluke year with a population explosion or have they been a common species in urban south Florida this entire time living in the canopies of their larval host plant? These questions will be answered in years to come as I will continue to study this 'back-yard-bug' of mine! I feel truly blessed and fortunate to be able to have had 8 days'

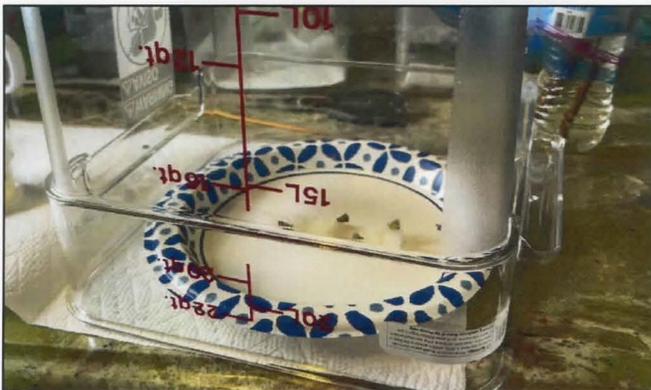
worth of time to focus on this project and to have grown so intimately familiar with this species that evaded me for a quarter of a century. While I have a lot to learn yet about this species, I can confidently say now that the amethyst hairstreak, *Chlorostrymon maesites*, is a butterfly that is THRIVING in south Florida and if you look in the right place at the right time, you can actually EXPECT to see one!



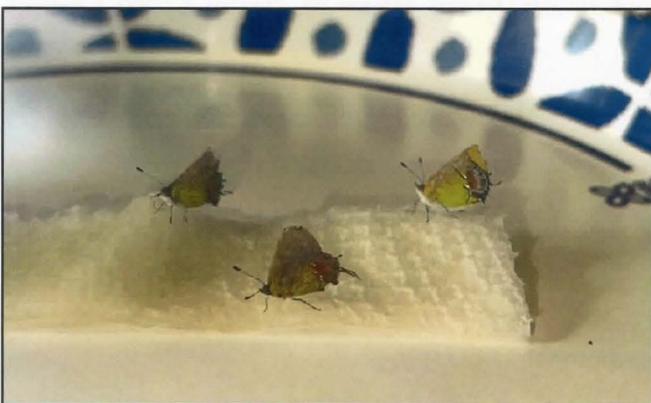
Sea grape, *Coccoloba uvifera* seed pod



Sea grape, *Coccoloba uvifera* flower buds



Feeding the egg laying captive females (*Chlorostrymon maesites*) a sugar water solution on a napkin



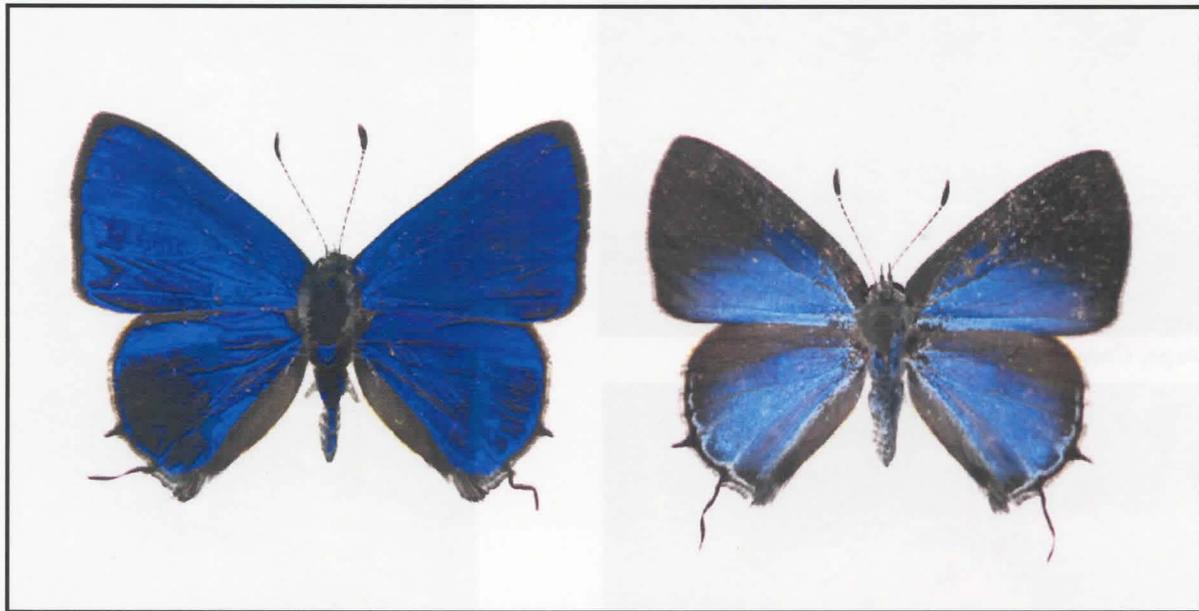
Feeding the egg laying captive females (*Chlorostrymon maesites*) a sugar water solution on a napkin



Egg laying setup in 16 oz cup with screen top for female *Chlorostrymon maesites*



*Maesites neighbors* – Moth larvae eat sea grape blossoms. ID: Unconfirmed



Mounted reared pair *Chlorostrymon maesites* (Male – Left)(Female –Right)

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## BUTTERFLIES OF THE LEXINGTON WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA , PART 2 – THE SKIPPERS

BY  
BRYAN E. REYNOLDS

Since moving to central Oklahoma in the fall of 2005, I've had a desire to photograph all the butterfly species that have been documented within the state. Back then, the total count was around 190 and today, it's now 202 (roughly 80% of these are resident and the rest are strays). Because of geography, with Oklahoma located in the south-central U.S., there is an influx of species from all cardinal points. Western U.S. species show up in the panhandle, some of those hitting the far eastern limit of their range. The same thing is true along the eastern edge of Oklahoma, where some Atlantic species reach their western limits.

The panhandle is made up of mesas and volcanic soils while down in the southeast corner of the state, there are cane-filled swamps where butterflies fly alongside native American alligators. In between, there are various prairie habitats, cross timbers, even pine forest in the Ouachita Mountains. All of these distinctive habitats have their unique cadre of butterflies. Luckily, I live in central Oklahoma (Cleveland County) so I can fan out in all directions easily enough to work these places and hopefully, I'll someday fill my photographic species quota.

However, one of my favorite spots to work, which is less than a mile away from my front door, is the Lexington Wildlife Management Area. I've spent countless days on this preserve chasing all the species of butterflies I can find and trying to get photographs of them. I've accumulated quite a list of species, and I want to share them with the SLS members. The list is not all inclusive. I've spotted several species on this preserve that I haven't gotten photos of (although I probably have coverage of those species from other areas of the state). So far, I've photographed 90 species on the Lexington WMA. (A note: I have yet to update the scientific names with the recent nomenclature changes. This is being saved for a winter project).

Lets continue with the Skippers:

Common Checkered-Skipper, *Pyrgus communis*. Fairly common in open habitats. Likes nectar and is often spotted basking and mud-puddling.



Common Checkered-Skipper, *Pyrgus communis*, on  
Purple Coneflower, *Echinacea angustifolia*,  
2 June 2013



Common Checkered-Skipper, *Pyrgus communis*, male,  
2 May 2017

Silver-spotted Skipper, *Epargyreus clarus*. A common skipper spotted on a regular basis, especially at nectar sources such as various milkweeds, thistle, buttonbush, and primrose.



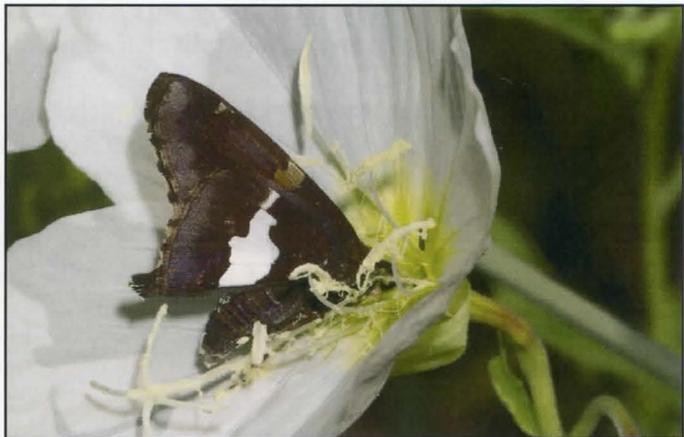
Silver-spotted Skipper, *Epargyreus clarus*, male on Green Milkweed, *Asclepias viridis*, 5 May 2017



Silver-spotted Skipper, *Epargyreus clarus*, on Tall Thistle, *Cirsium altissimum*, 17 August 2017



Silver-spotted Skipper, *Epargyreus clarus*, 24 May 2019



Silver-spotted Skipper, *Epargyreus clarus*, probing Showy Evening Primrose, *Oenothera speciosa*, for nectar, 18 May 2020

Hoary Edge, *Achalarus lyciades*. Another commonly spotted skipper that can be found nectaring at many various flowers.



Hoary Edge, *Achalarus lyciades*, on Green Milkweed, *Asclepias viridis*, 5 May 2017



Hoary Edge, *Achalarus lyciades*, 3 September 2013



Hoary Edge, *Achalarus lyciades*, male, 7 July 2019

Confused Cloudywing, *Thorybes confusus*. Not as common as its two cousins, the Northern Cloudywing, *Thorybes pylades*, and Southern Cloudywing, *Thorybes bathyllus*, but can be found if searched for among them.



Confused Cloudywing, *Thorybes confusus*, nectaring from Green Milkweed, *Asclepias viridis*, 11 May 2019



*Thorybes confusus*, nectaring on Green Milkweed, *Asclepias viridis*, 9 May 2020

Southern Cloudywing, *Thorybes bathyllus*. Abundantly flies with its other two cousins, the Northern Cloudywing, *Thorybes pylades*, and Confused Cloudywing, *Thorybes confusus*. Avidly nectars from many flowers and enjoys mud-puddling.



Southern Cloudywing, *Thorybes bathyllus*, on Showy Evening Primrose, *Oenothera speciosa*, 17 May 2014



Southern Cloudywing, *Thorybes bathyllus*, nectaring from Diamondflowers, *Stenaria nigricans*, 6 June 2018



Southern Cloudywing, *Thorybes bathyllus*, nectaring from Vervain, *Glandularia* sp.,  
13 May 2019



Southern Cloudywing, *Thorybes bathyllus*, nectaring on Entireleaf Indian Paintbrush, *Castilleja indivisa*,  
9 May 2020

Northern Cloudywing, *Thorybes pylades*. Very common and flies alongside its two cousins, the Southern Cloudywing, *Thorybes bathyllus*, and Confused Cloudywing, *Thorybes confusus*. Seen more often on nectar than on mud.



Northern Cloudywing, *Thorybes pylades*, male on Green Milkweed, *Asclepias viridis*, 13 May 2017



Northern Cloudywing, *Thorybes pylades*, female,  
21 May 2017



Northern Cloudywing, *Thorybes pylades*, female probing Showy Evening Primrose, *Oenothera speciosa*,  
24 May 2020



Northern Cloudywings, *Thorybes pylades*, females nectaring from Green Milkweed, *Asclepias viridis*,  
28 May 2021

Outis Skipper, *Cogia outis*. Regular, but hard to ID due to its similar look to the abundant cloudywings, *Thorybes* sp. Must look at all of them to eventually find an Outis. Mostly found on nectar sources, but will also mud-puddle.



Outis Skipper, *Cogia outis*, nectaring from Winecup, *Callirhoe involucrata*, 11 May 2017



Outis Skipper, *Cogia outis*, nectaring from Meadow Garlic, *Allium canadense*, 23 May 2019



Outis Skipper, *Cogia outis*, nectaring on Green Milkweed, *Asclepias viridis*, 7 May 2020

Hayhurst's Scallopwing, *Staphylus hayhurstii*. Fairly common in the right areas. Generally prefers shady areas along wood-lines. Will come to nectar such as blackberry.



Hayhurst's Scallopwing, *Staphylus hayhurstii*, male, 26 June 2019



Hayhurst's Scallopwing, *Staphylus hayhurstii*, female on Blackberry, *Rubus* sp., blossom, 1 May 2020

Common Sootywing, *Pholisora catullus*. Not very common even though it seems they should be. Singletons found sparingly through the warm season.



Common Sootywing, *Pholisora catullus*,  
mud-puddling,  
12 May 2019

Sleepy Duskywing, *Erynnis brizo*. Rarely seen, but present. Must search through the other more common species, Juvenal's Duskywing, *Erynnis juvenalis*, and Horace's Duskywing, *Erynnis horatius*, to eventually find one.



Sleepy Duskywing, *Erynnis brizo*, male worn  
and tattered nectaring on  
False Garlic, *Nothoscordum bivalve*,  
15 April 2020

Juvenal's Duskywing, *Erynnis juvenalis*. Very common, but must be separated from the also common Horace's Duskywing, *Erynnis horatius*. Only a good look at the ventral side will tell. Avidly nectars and mud-puddles.



Juvenal's Duskywing, *Erynnis juvenalis*,  
female nectaring on Blackberry, *Rubus* sp.,  
24 April 2020

Horace's Duskywing, *Erynnis horatius*. Very common, but must be separated from the also common Juvenal's Duskywing, *Erynnis juvenalis*. Only a good look at the ventral side will tell. Avidly nectars and mud-puddles.



Horace's Duskywing,  
*Erynnis horatius*, male,  
7 June 2019

Funereal Duskywing, *Erynnis funeralis*. Not common, but regularly sighted, mostly on nectar flowers. Will occasionally join in a puddle party with other species.



Funereal Duskywing, *Erynnis funeralis*, male nectaring  
from Meadow Garlic, *Allium canadense*,  
23 May 2019



Funereal Duskywing, *Erynnis funeralis*, male nectaring on  
Black-eyed Susan, *Rudbeckia hirta*,  
26 June 2019



Funereal Duskywing, *Erynnis funeralis*,  
male mud-puddling,  
29 June 2019

Least Skipper, *Ancyloxypha numitor*. Always seen in nice numbers around any water sources. Always seems to be on the move, but will sometimes stop for nectar or to bask.



Least Skipper, *Ancyloxypha numitor*,  
12 May 2019



Least Skipper, *Ancyloxypha numitor*, nectaring from  
Carolina Geranium, *Geranium caroliniana*,  
12 May 2019



Least Skipper, *Ancyloxypha numitor*,  
18 August 2020

Common Roadside-Skipper, *Amblyscirtes vialis*. Fairly common, but often overlooked because of their small size. Look along wood-lines and on nectar sources such as blackberry. Similar in habits to its cousin, the Bell's Roadside-Skipper, *Amblyscirtes belli*.



Common Roadside-Skipper, *Amblyscirtes vialis*,  
4 August 2014



Common Roadside-Skipper, *Amblyscirtes vialis*,  
6 October 2017



Common Roadside-Skipper, *Amblyscirtes vialis*,  
20 April 2020



Common Roadside-Skipper, *Amblyscirtes vialis*,  
20 April 2020



Common Roadside-Skipper, *Amblyscirtes vialis*,  
on Blackberry, *Rubus* sp., blossom,  
28 April 2020

Bell's Roadside-Skipper, *Amblyscirtes belli*. Fairly common, but often overlooked because of their small size. Look along wood-lines and on nectar sources such as blackberry. Similar in habits to its cousin, the Common Roadside-Skipper, *Amblyscirtes vialis*.



Bell's Roadside-Skipper, *Amblyscirtes belli*,  
3 September 2013



Bell's Roadside-Skipper, *Amblyscirtes belli*,  
26 April 2020



Bell's Roadside-Skipper, *Amblyscirtes belli*,  
7 May 2020



Bell's Roadside-Skipper, *Amblyscirtes belli*,  
18 August 2020

Swarthy Skipper, *Nastra lherminier*. Some years these are barely found, then other years they are common. Look on nectar, especially thistle.



Swarthy Skipper, *Nastra lherminier*, nectaring on Hairy  
Vetch, *Vicia villosa*, 9 May 2020



Swarthy Skipper, *Nastra lherminier*, nectaring on Hairy  
Vetch, *Vicia villosa*, 9 May 2020



Swarthy Skipper, *Nastra lherminier*, 9 May 2020

Eufala Skipper, *Lerodea eufala*. Fairly common, but late in the season. Usually in more open areas along woods and normally found on nectar such as mist flower and verbena.



Eufala Skipper, *Lerodea eufala*,  
30 September 2017



Eufala Skipper, *Lerodea eufala*,  
30 September 2017



Eufala Skipper, *Lerodea eufala*,  
30 September 2017



Eufala Skipper, *Lerodea eufala*, nectaring from Vervain,  
*Glandularia* sp., 6 October 2017



Eufala Skipper, *Lerodea eufala*, nectaring from Vervain,  
*Glandularia* sp., 6 October 2017



Eufala Skipper, *Lerodea eufala*,  
6 October 2017

Fiery Skipper, *Hylephila phyleus*. Can be abundant, especially in more waste areas and along parking lots and buildings. Avidly nectars on many flowers.



Fiery Skipper, *Hylephila phyleus*, male,  
21 September 2005



Fiery Skipper, *Hylephila phyleus*, male,  
27 October 2005

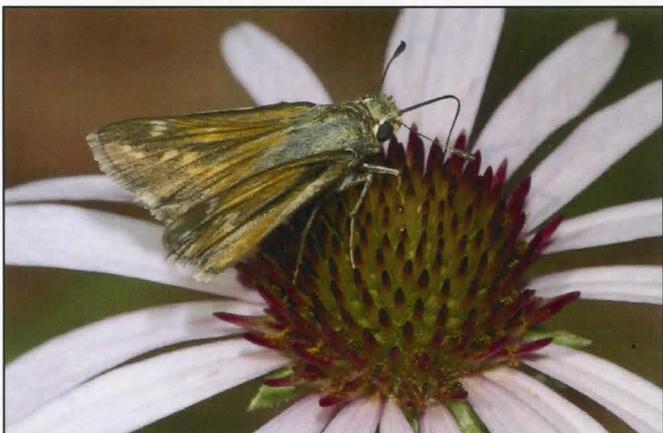


Fiery Skipper, *Hylephila phyleus*, female nectaring  
from Meadow Garlic, *Allium canadense*,  
23 May 2019



Fiery Skipper, *Hylephila phyleus*, male nectaring from  
Meadow Garlic, *Allium canadense*,  
23 May 2019

Green Skipper, *Hesperia viridis*. Rarely spotted, but noticed a couple times since 2005.



Green Skipper, *Hesperia viridis*, female on Purple  
Coneflower, *Echinacea angustifolia*, 2 June 2013

Green Skipper,  
*Hesperia viridis*, female on  
Purple Coneflower,  
*Echinacea angustifolia*,  
2 June 2013



Dotted Skipper, *Hesperia attalus*. A nice butterfly to find and fairly common during its two brood emergences. Easier to find during the spring brood on purple coneflower, *Echinacea angustifolia*, but will also use thistle and blazing star in the second brood.



Dotted Skipper, *Hesperia attalus*, female on Purple Coneflower, *Echinacea angustifolia*, 2 June 2013



Dotted Skipper, *Hesperia attalus*, on Blazing Star, *Liatris* sp., 10 September 2017



Dotted Skipper, *Hesperia attalus*, male on Purple Coneflower, *Echinacea angustifolia*, 26 May 2018



Dotted Skipper, *Hesperia attalus*, male on Purple Coneflower, *Echinacea angustifolia*, 26 May 2018

Tawny-edged Skipper, *Polites themistocles*. Regular, but not as common as the Crossline Skipper, *Polites origenes*. Avidly nectars from coneflower and thistle.



Tawny-edged Skipper, *Polites themistocles*, male, 9 September 2017



Tawny-edged Skipper, *Polites themistocles*, on Purple Coneflower, *Echinacea angustifolia*, 26 May 2018



Tawny-edged Skipper, *Polites themistocles*, on Purple  
Coneflower, *Echinacea angustifolia*,  
26 May 2018



Tawny-edged Skipper, *Polites themistocles*, nectaring  
from Green Milkweed, *Asclepias viridis*,  
13 May 2019

Crossline Skipper, *Polites origenes*. Much more common than the Tawny-edged Skipper, *Polites themistocles*, but can be found flying with it. Loves nectar, especially coneflowers and thistle.



Crossline Skipper, *Polites origenes*, on Purple Coneflower,  
*Echinacea angustifolia*,  
2 June 2018



Crossline Skipper, *Polites origenes*, male nectaring from  
Meadow Garlic, *Allium canadense*,  
23 May 2019



Crossline Skipper, *Polites origenes*, female,  
7 June 2019



Crossline Skipper, *Polites origenes*, female,  
7 June 2019



Crossline Skipper, *Polites origenes*, male probing Showy Evening Primrose, *Oenothera speciosa*,  
24 May 2020



Crossline Skipper, *Polites origenes*, nectaring from  
Beggarticks, *Bidens* sp.,  
7 September 2020

Northern Broken-dash, *Wallengrenia egeremet*. Regular, but not as common as the abundant Southern Broken-dash, *Wallengrenia otho*.



Northern Broken-dash, *Wallengrenia egeremet*, female on  
Diamond flowers, *Stenaria nigricans*, 8 June 2015



Northern Broken-dash, *Wallengrenia egeremet*,  
3 September 2019



Northern Broken-dash, *Wallengrenia egeremet*, female,  
1 June 2020



Northern Broken-dash, *Wallengrenia egeremet*, female,  
3 June 2020

Southern Broken-dash, *Wallengrenia otho*. Very common, especially nectaring from purple coneflower, *Echinacea angustifolia*, and black-eyed Susan, *Rudbeckia hirta*.



Southern Broken-dash, *Wallengrenia otho*, on Purple Coneflower, *Echinacea angustifolia*,  
1 June 2018



Southern Broken-dash, *Wallengrenia otho*, female nectaring from Meadow Garlic, *Allium canadense*,  
24 May 2019



Southern Broken-dash, *Wallengrenia otho*, male perched on Fleabane, *Erigeron* sp.,  
18 May 2020



Southern Broken-dash, *Wallengrenia otho*, nectaring from False Dandelion, *Pyrrhopappus grandiflorus*,  
18 May 2020



Southern Broken-dash, *Wallengrenia otho*, male perched on Vervain, *Glandularia* sp.,  
24 May 2020



Southern Broken-dash, *Wallengrenia otho*, male perched on Spiderwort, *Tradescantia* sp.,  
24 May 2020



Southern Broken-dash, *Wallengrenia otho*, nectaring from Purple Coneflower, *Echinacea angustifolia*, 27 May 2020



Southern Broken-dash, *Wallengrenia otho*, male nectaring from Purple Coneflower, *Echinacea angustifolia*, 27 May 2020

Little Glassywing, *Pompeius verna*. Rare, only a couple have been spotted in a decade.



Little Glassywing, *Pompeius verna*, female on Toothed Evening Primrose, *Calylophus serrulatus*, 23 May 2017

Sachem, *Atalopedes campestris*. Common, and can be found in many open areas from prairie to parking lots. Avidly comes to many flowers.



Sachem, *Atalopedes campestris*, male, 12 June 2017



*Atalopedes campestris*, female nectaring from Blazing Star, *Liatris* sp., 13 September 2017



Sachem, *Atalopedes campestris*, female on Purple Coneflower, *Echinacea angustifolia*,  
2 June 2018



Sachem, *Atalopedes campestris*, male nectaring on Blue Mist Flower, *Conoclinium coelestinum*,  
28 September 2018



Sachem, *Atalopedes campestris*, female nectaring from Common Sunflower, *Helianthus annuus*,  
11 August 2020



Sachem, *Atalopedes campestris*, male perched on Ashy Sunflower, *Helianthus mollis*,  
11 August 2020



Sachem, *Atalopedes campestris*, female perched on Hairy Vetch, *Vicia villosa*,  
9 May 2020



Sachem, *Atalopedes campestris*, male,  
3 July 2020

Arogos Skipper, *Atrytone arogos*. A nice skipper that's common and easy to find. This species has two broods and the butterflies can be easily located on nectar such as coneflowers and thistle. Very tolerant of a close approach for tons of photography.



**Arogos Skipper, *Atrytone arogos*, female,  
8 June 2015**



**Arogos Skipper, *Atrytone arogos*, female on Purple  
Coneflower, *Echinacea angustifolia*, 11 June 2015**



**Arogos Skipper, *Atrytone arogos*, male on Purple  
Coneflower, *Echinacea angustifolia*,  
28 May 2017**

**Arogos Skipper,  
*Atrytone arogos*,  
female,  
26 May 2018  
→**



**Arogos Skippers, *Atrytone arogos*, nectaring from False  
Dandelion, *Pyrrhopappus* sp.,  
1 June 2020**



**Arogos Skippers, *Atrytone arogos*, nectaring from Purple  
Coneflower, *Echinacea angustifolia*,  
4 June 2021**

Zabulon Skipper, *Poanes zabulon*. Found regularly along wooded areas. Males stake out territories along sun-dappled woodland trails and will come back to their favorite perch after chasing other insects.



**Zabulon Skipper, *Poanes zabulon*, male,  
3 September 2013**



**Zabulon Skipper, *Poanes zabulon*, male,  
3 September 2013**



**Zabulon Skipper, *Poanes zabulon*, male,  
9 September 2017**

Broad-winged Skipper, *Poanes viator*. A surprise when found back in 2005, this species is regularly seen flitting around Lake Dahlgren on the preserve. It also loves to nectar from buttonbush.



**Broad-winged Skipper, *Poanes viator*,  
23 September 2005**



**Broad-winged Skipper, *Poanes viator*, male,  
23 September 2005**



**Broad-winged Skipper, *Poanes viator*, female,  
23 September 2005**



**Broad-winged Skipper, *Poanes viator*, female nectaring  
from Buttonbush, *Cephalanthus occidentalis*,  
26 June 2019**

Delaware Skipper, *Anatrytone logan*. Similar in appearance to the Arogos Skipper, *Atrytone arogos*, and flies with it. Likes the same nectar sources, but a little larger, more orange and much more jumpy.



**Delaware Skipper, *Anatrytone logan*, female,  
28 May 2017**



**Delaware Skipper, *Anatrytone logan*, on Purple  
Coneflower, *Echinacea angustifolia*,  
1 June 2018**



**Delaware Skipper, *Anatrytone logan*, male nectaring from  
Purple Coneflower, *Echinacea angustifolia*,  
4 June 2021**

Dun Skipper, *Euphyes vestris*. Regularly spotted along wet areas, perched along trails and basking in sunspots. Will come to nectar.



**Dun Skipper, *Euphyes vestris*,  
3 September 2013**



**Dun Skipper, *Euphyes vestris*,  
26 June 2019**



**Dun Skipper, *Euphyes vestris*, male nectaring from  
Yarrow, *Achillea millefolium*,  
22 May 2020**



**Dun Skipper, *Euphyes vestris*, worn and tattered,  
8 July 2020**



**Dun Skipper, *Euphyes vestris*,  
18 August 2020**

Dusted Skipper, *Atrytonopsis hianna*. Regular spring butterfly that can be found on nectar such as Blue Wild Indigo, *Baptisia australis*, and Cream Wild Indigo, *B. bracteata*.



Dusted Skipper, *Atrytonopsis hianna*, female,  
24 April 2020



Dusted Skipper, *Atrytonopsis hianna*,  
3 May 2020



Dusted Skipper, *Atrytonopsis hianna*, probing Showy  
Evening Primrose, *Oenothera speciosa*, for nectar,  
18 May 2020

Yucca Giant-Skipper, *Megathymus yuccae*. A couple nice colonies are on the refuge and many photos of behavior and life stages have been photographed here.



Yucca Giant-Skipper, *Megathymus yuccae*,  
6 April 2020



Yucca Giant-Skipper, *Megathymus yuccae*,  
6 April 2020



Yucca Giant-Skipper, *Megathymus yuccae*,  
6 April 2020



Yucca Giant-Skipper, *Megathymus yuccae*,  
7 April 2020

Yucca Giant-Skipper, *Megathymus yuccae*, 6 April 2020

(Bryan Reynolds, E-Mail: nature\_photo\_man@hotmail.com)

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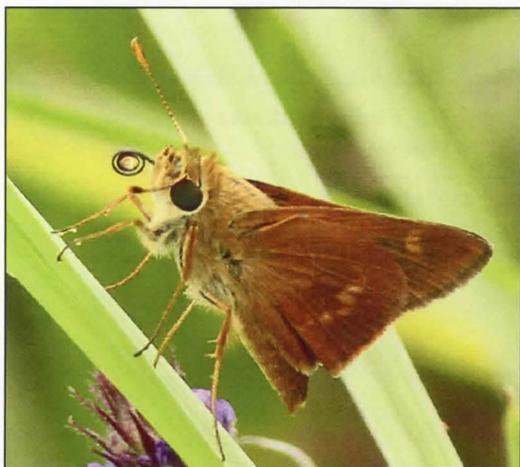
Lubbock, Texas (June 16, 2023)

## THE DISTRIBUTION OF SOUTHERN AND NORTHERN BROKEN-DASH SKIPPERS IN LOUISIANA

BY  
CRAIG MARKS

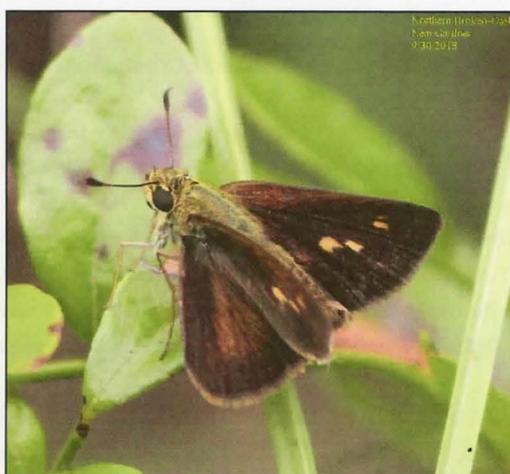
Southern (*Wallengrenia otho*) and Northern (*W. egeremet*) Broken-dashes were included within the category of skippers that my Dad described as, “those damn little brown skippers.” To him, Clouded Skippers (*Lerema accius*), Dun Skippers (*Euphyes vestris*), Little Glassywings (*Pompeius verna*) and the Broken-dashes all looked the same. In actuality, although often very subtle, they can all be distinguished.

The Southern Broken-dash (hereinafter, Southern B-D) is lighter colored (more tan than dark brown) than its cousin, the Northern Broken-Dash (hereinafter, Northern B-D). Both possess a reverse “3” design on the ventral hindwing, but it typically is easier to see on the Southern B-D than the Northern B-D. The Southern has multiple, light yellow spots or patches on both the dorsal and ventral forewings which are a bit larger and a brighter yellow than those found on the Northern. When either species has become worn, with the reverse “3” smudged or missing, they can be difficult to identify.



Left: Southern Broken-dash (ventral), Vernon Parish (by Dave Patton)

Right: Southern Broken-dash (dorsal), Natchitoches Parish (by Phillip Wallace)



Left: Northern Broken-dash (ventral), Lafayette Parish (by Dave Patton)

Right: Northern Broken-dash (dorsal), Rapides Parish (by Phillip Wallace)

Northern B-Ds can be very dark in LA and possess light markings toward the middle of the dorsal forewing, but those spots are typically smaller and lesser in number than are found on the Little Glassywing and none of the spots are glassine. Male Duns have a gold-colored head. Female Duns have fewer and smaller white spots on the dorsal forewing and do not have distinctive reverse “3” (see pictures) in the center of the ventral hindwing. The Clouded Skipper is typically larger (particularly the females) and has white “clouding” along the outer edge of the ventral hindwing.



**Left: Little Glassywing (ventral), Natchitoches Parish (by Phillip Wallace)  
Right: Little Glassywing (dorsal), Rapides Parish (by Phillip Wallace)**



**Dun Skipper (ventral), St. Landry Parish (by Phillip Wallace)  
Dun Skipper (dorsal), Cameron Parish (by Phillip Wallace)**

Both Broken-dashes are similar in the size and shape of a Whirlabout (*Polites vibex*). Contrary to suggestions in some references, here in Louisiana I have not found the Northern B-D to be larger than the Southern B-D; rather, I consider both species to be essentially the same size. Further, I have not noticed any difference in behavior between the two. I typically find both in open areas like pipelines, powerlines, roadsides, fields and open areas adjacent to woods.

Both Broken-dashes are avid flower visitors, taking nectar while posed in the classic grass skipper “jet-fighter” posture. While nectaring, they can be approached/photographed but will disappear in a flash if disturbed. Per Allen (2022), the two Broken-dashes use members of the grass family, Poaceae, as their larval foodplant. For the Southern, Allen lists crabgrass, paspalum, plume grass and St. Augustine. He listed rosette grass and panic grass for the Northern B-D.

The Southern B-D can be seen throughout all regions of the state from mid-spring (late March) into the fall over multiple broods (at least three, late spring, summer, and fall, and probably a fourth in October). It was initially reported in 1954 by Lambremont from the Florida Parishes, with records in March and April. Records from Caddo Parish, by Trahan (2009), suggest it to be uncommon to common from early May to early July and then late August into early October. One location within Caddo where it has been recorded is Walter Jacobs Park. Trahan also reported it from the Kisatchie NF in Winn (September and October) and Rapides (September) Parishes, Roy Quad in Bienville Parish (June), Corney Lake in Claiborne Parish (late May) and Bodcau WMA in Bossier Parish (May-September). Trahan and I found it to be abundant at Sisily Island Hills WMA in Catahoula Parish in early June. Dave Patton (reported by e-mail) found it at Acadiana Park in Lafayette Parish in late April, and he also reported it from Chicot State Park (Evangeline Parish) in September.

I've found it to be common at Thistlethwaite WMA and the Kisatchie Unit in Natchitoches Parish from April to early September. It was also present in the Kisatchie Unit in Rapides Parish (Evangeline Primitive Campground, June), the Vernon Parish Unit (including Cooter's Bog, May and October; Blue Hole Rec Area, May; Fullerton Lake, June and Dove Field, June) and the Grant Parish Unit (16 at the Catahoula Butterfly Garden in June, 17 at Catahoula NWP in May and more than 5 at Stuart Lake in May). It was common at Tickfaw State Park in October.

I found it flying in good numbers at Copenhagen Hills in mid-June; 15 at Lake Ramsey Savannah in St. Tammany Parish in September; in lesser numbers at Bayou Teche NWR in early July; at Sandy Hollow in Tangipahoa Parish in April; in a power-line right-of-way near Enon in Washington Parish in August and at CC Road Savannah in Allen Parish in May and June. I've also found it in St. Tammany Parish at Big Branch NWR in August. Surprisingly, I only find it occasionally at Indian Bayou WMA in St. Martin Parish (March) and Sherburne WMA in Pointe Coupee Parish in June and September).

TLS reports include Claiborne Parish (May) and Terrebonne Parish (September). The Southern B-D has shown up during numerous NABA Counts including Metro New Orleans (eight counts, all in June), Barateria (two counts in June), Shreveport (ten counts, June, July, September and October, 13 recorded on one occasion), Kisatchie Longleaf Trail (three counts in June and October, 13 recorded on one occasion), Catahoula NWR (two counts in June and September), Indian Bayou (three counts in June, September and October), Allen Acres (four counts in July, September and October), Lower Pearl River (one count in August), Thistlethwaite (one count in July), Catahoula Butterfly Garden (six counts in September and October), Copenhagen Hills (one count in June) and Alexandria (five counts in September and October, with 22 recorded on one occasion).

Although initially described as two separate species, in 1877, *egeremet* was listed as a variety of *otho* (one reference attributed this action to Edwards). Subsequently, by mid-twentieth century, *egeremet* was generally called a subspecies of *otho*. Some references went so far as to call *egeremet* a "form" of *otho* in areas of geographic overlap. *Egeremet* was not recognized as a full species until the mid-1980s (Burns 1985) who described their distribution as follows:

"Common in the Gulf States (including the Florida Keys), *otho* ranges westward to about 99° and northward to (rarely) the Baltimore-Washington area and the vicinity of Chicago; more common to the north, *egeremet* ranges from the Gulf States (excluding southern Florida) to southern Canada and westward to about 96°–97°."

Lambremont (1954) and Ross and Lambremont (1963) mention only *W. otho otho* which I interrupt as a reference to the Southern B-D only. Neither Lambremont and Ross (1965) nor Strickland (in his unpublished 1971 manuscript) mentioned either species or a subspecies thereof. Strickland's early set of "field notes" forms included reference to "*W. o. otho*," while his later "check-list" only listed "*W. otho*." He had notes on the older field list forms (from 10/1967 to 07/1968) of sightings and captures of *W. o. otho* in E. Baton Rouge, W. Feliciana and St. Helena Parishes. On the newer check-lists (08/1968-08/1969), Strickland had notes reflecting sightings of *W. otho* in only E. Baton Rouge Parish. He made no mention of *egeremet* as a species or subspecies.

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Israel (1981) described "*W. otho*" as present in West Feliciana from early April to mid-October, and described it as uncommon, found at flowers in old fields. Israel's thesis made no reference to *egeremet* as a species or subspecies; however, in his 2007 "Butterfly Garden Guide" for Asphodel Plantation in E. Feliciana Parish, he listed both *W. otho* and *W. egeremet*, the latter which he described as common from April to October, most common in July and August.

Brou (2015) reported that in 1974 he collected *W. otho* in the Edgard area of St. John the Baptist Parish. The pictures included as part of that article appear to be the Southern B-D, and I have included in my data base his report of that species for that parish.

I have not found any Louisiana references specific to Northern B-Ds before June 1992, when one was reported as seen during the Lower East Pearl River NABA Count. Subsequently, other single sightings were reported during that count, twice more in June and once in August. It has been reported on eight other NABA Counts: St. Tammany/Global (one count in July), Allen Acres (four counts in July), Indian Bayou (one count in August), Thistlethwaite (two counts, June and July), Catahoula Butterfly Garden (once in October), Kisatchie Longleaf Trail (twice, in June and October), Alexandria (four counts in September and October) and Shreveport (four counts in September and October).

It is possible that since 1985 the fewer Louisiana sightings of the Northern B-D might be a result of confusion in trying to distinguish between the two. The primary distinction, as previously noted, is that this skipper is much darker brown while the Southern B-D shows more tannish colored with more distinctive spotting. Those spots are a brighter tan/yellowish color on the latter skipper. Another implication of the reduced sightings within this State is that the Northern B-D is less common. My records support this possibility.

Specifically, I have only seen the Northern B-D in St. Landry (Thistlethwaite), St. Mary (Bayou Teche NWR, April), Pointe Coupee (Sherburne WMA, September), Natchitoches (Longleaf Trail, June), Evangeline (Louisiana Arboretum), Grant, Caldwell, Vernon (Cooter's Bog, October; Fullerton Lake, May and September), St. Tammany (Lake Ramsey Savannah, September) and West Feliciana Parishes, with composite records during late March to June and again in September and October. The latest date on which I have recorded it was October 19. It is most reliably seen at Thistlethwaite; however, it is never as common as its cousin. I've found both Broken-dashes in my yard in Lafayette Parish (August).

Other Northern B-D sightings include Trahan (2009) who described it as uncommon with sightings from early May to early July and early September to early October at his home in Broadmoor Terrace in Shreveport. He also recorded it at Bodcau WMA (September) and Cane's Landing (October) in Bossier Parish and within the Kisatchie NF in Winn Parish (same months). Kraig Ellzey reported it (in a "life list" he posted online) in Sabine Parish in June. Israel (2007) listed it as present at his home plantation in E. Feliciana, common and flying from April to October. Dave Patton posted pictures on the LA listserv in early August of this species, found near the community of Pine in Washington Parish. In the southern portions of the State, Kevin Cunningham reported it in Terrebonne Parish. These sightings suggest three, possibly four broods, occurring approximately with its cousin.

Since the 2018 publication of my book about Louisiana's Butterflies, I have recorded myself or learned from others of ten additional parish or new month records for the Southern B-D, but only four similar new records for the Northern B-D. The new Southern B-D records include Lafourche (reported by Brou without specific data), Iberville (Aug), Lincoln (Aug), Vermilion (Palmetto SP, March, August and November), Cameron (Lacassine NWR, October), E. Baton Rouge (June), Lafayette (Acadiana Nature Center, Feb), Ouachita (Bayou Black Lake NWR, September) and Tensas (Big Lake WMA and Tensas River NWR, September) Parishes. The additional Northern B-D records are Catahoula (Sicily Island Hills WMA, June), Jeff Davis (June), Lincoln (August) and Tensas (Big Lake WMA and Tensas River NWR, September) Parishes.

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The range map provided by Opler/Malikul (1992) suggested the Southern B-D was a resident in southern Louisiana, but only a stray or temporary resident in northern Louisiana. The records I have gathered clearly reflect that this species is an established resident throughout Louisiana.

As noted previously, references since 1985 show the Northern B-D's range as extending much further north (into Minn., Wisc., Mich., NY) than the Southern B-D; however, the range map in two references do not show the Northern B-D as present in extreme southern Louisiana (Glassberg, 1999 & 2012). In fact, Brock & Kaufman (2003) exclude Louisiana completely. I believe the records I have gathered establish that the Northern B-D is present throughout Louisiana, also as an established resident.

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PHOTOS OF NEW MOTHS SEEN AT TRINITY RIVER REFUGE  
(MAY – AUGUST, 2023)

BY  
STUART MARCUS



COLEOPHORIDAE: *Coleophora mayrella* –  
Metallic Coleophora Moth



DEPRESSARIIDAE:  
*Menesta melanella* –  
Black Menesta



GELECHIIDAE: *Polyhymno* (undescribed)



EREBIDAE: *Virbia aurantiaca* – Orange Virbia



DEPRESSARIIDAE: *Ethmia delliella* –  
Ladder-backed Ethnia Moth



TORTRICIDAE: *Cydia gallaesaticiana* –  
Willow Gall Moth



SATURNIIDAE: *Dryocampa ruubicunda* –  
Rosy Maple Moth



TORTRICIDAE: *Pseudexentera knudsoni*



LECITHOCERIDAE:  
*Martyringa xeraula* –  
Himalayan Grain Moth

(Stuart Marcus, E-Mail: [Stuart.marcus13@gmail.com](mailto:Stuart.marcus13@gmail.com))

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**FREEZING TEMPERATURE EFFECTS ON  
MONARCH (*DANAUS P. PLEXIPPUS* L., 1785)  
LARVAE IN A NORTH FLORIDA GARDEN**

BY

MARC C. MINNO

## INTRODUCTION

Florida is one of the few places in the United States with a resident population of Monarchs. Residency is related to the presence of non-deciduous, perennial species of milkweeds (*Asclepias* spp.) such as the exotic Scarlet Milkweed (*Asclepias curassavica* L., 1753). This plant is well liked by ovipositing females and larvae. Scarlet Milkweed is often used in gardens throughout the state to attract Monarchs. It is now widely sold throughout the United States and wherever it grows throughout the year, such as along the Gulf Coast and areas of coastal California, Monarchs tend to stay and form resident colonies. In Florida, Scarlet Milkweed has escaped and become naturalized, especially in pastures, in central and southern regions.

But even before Scarlet Milkweed was introduced, Monarchs were resident at least in central Florida due to the presence of a native non-deciduous, perennial host, Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias perennis* Walter, 1788). As the common name suggests, this plant is usually found in forested wetlands. Such places are shady and not much used by Monarchs in summer. But in fall and winter, many of the dominate trees in Florida swamps, such as cypress (*Taxodium* spp.) and Red Maple (*Acer rubrum* L., 1753) lose their leaves, and these areas are often sunny during the daytime. The flowers of Swamp Milkweed provide food for adult Monarchs and the leaves are eaten by their larvae. Swamps are usually warmer in winter than uplands because of the trees and higher humidity.

In north Florida, adult monarchs are often present in gardens with Scarlet Milkweed until the first frost. As Scarlet Milkweed plants recover in the spring resident Monarchs recolonized north Florida from areas further south.

In December 2022 north Florida experienced five consecutive nights with below freezing air temperatures for a total of about 45 hours of damaging cold. The winter solstice (shortest day of the year) occurred on Wednesday December 21, 2022. Here I present observations of some Monarch larvae exposed to the cold. For this paper, I reviewed past weather data

for Gainesville, Florida at <https://www.timeanddate.com/weather/usa/gainesville/historic>. Table 1 shows the low temperatures for December 20 – 28, 2022.

## OBSERVATIONS

On Friday December 23, 2022 I happened to find two Monarch caterpillars on a clump of Scarlet Milkweed at my son Ivan's house in northwestern Gainesville (Latitude 29.69° N, Longitude 82.38° W). A last instar Monarch was among the upper leaves on a stem about 45 inches (114 cm) tall. A fourth instar preparing to moult was on the same stem about 20 inches (51 cm) above the ground. The daytime high was a cool 64°F. That night the lowest temperature recorded at the official National Weather Service station located at the Gainesville Regional Airport (Latitude 29.69° N, Longitude 82.28° W, about six miles due east of the monarch site) was 25°F. Air temperatures at the weather station were below 32°F for about 8 hours.

On Saturday (December 24, 2022) I checked the monarch larvae around midday. The milkweed leaves were limp and damaged by the previous night's cold. The last instar caterpillar was lying on its side on limestone gravel (mostly about one inch or less in size) below the plant. I carefully picked it up. It was limp and did not move. I placed it on freeze damaged leaves on a shoot at the base of the plant near the ground in the sun. It still did not move. The fourth instar was clinging to the milkweed stem but appeared to be limp (possibly killed) and did not move. The daytime high temperature was only 43°F. That night the lowest temperature recorded at the weather station was 23°F. Air temperatures were below 32°F for about 11 hours.

On Sunday (December 25, 2022) I found the last instar alive. This caterpillar had revived and crawled about half way up the tallest milkweed stem. I could not find the fourth instar larva. The daytime high temperature was 46°F. That night the lowest temperature recorded at the weather station was 27°F. Air temperatures were below 32°F for about 12 hours.

On Monday (December 26, 2022) the last instar was on its back on the rocks below the milkweed, but was alive and it moved a bit. I replaced it on the freeze damaged leaves at the tip of the tallest shoot where I first found it. I still could not find the fourth instar larva. The daytime high temperature was 52°F. That night the lowest temperature recorded at the weather station was 27°F. Air temperatures were below 32°F for about 10 hours.

On Tuesday (December 27, 2022) the last instar Monarch was still on the freeze damaged leaves. I collected it in a plastic container with some of the leaves to try to rear it to the adult. I could not find the fourth instar. The daytime high temperature was 61°F. That night the lowest temperature recorded at the weather station was 30°F. Air temperatures were below 32°F for about 4 hours. Afterward temperatures warmed and were not freezing at night on the following days.

The last instar caterpillar pupated normally on January 3, 2023. However, after about a week the pupa died and turned black.

On December 28, 2022 I relocated the smaller larva. It was clinging to a chunk of gravel under the milkweed plant. It had molted to fifth instar! It moved when I picked it up. I placed the caterpillar on some freeze damaged leaves and it began to eat a bit.

On December 30, 2022 I collected the smaller larva and tried to rear it in a plastic container but all of the

milkweed plants I could find were cold damaged and the leaves were beginning to rot. On January 3, 2023 I obtained some undamaged fresh leaves of Scarlet milkweed from central Florida. The caterpillar eventually completed feeding and pupated. A smaller than typical adult emerged on January 24, 2023. The left forewing length was 35.5 mm while the right was 37 mm. It was not able to fly. I fed the adult diluted honey, but it only lived for a few days.

**DISCUSSION**

It is likely that air temperatures at the weather station were a few degrees colder than at the garden because the station is located outside of the city. However, the cold damaged milkweed stems and leaves in the garden indicate that air temperatures actually did get below freezing there. The larvae were definitely exposed to below freezing air temperatures when they were on the plant. While the larvae were on the ground, they may not have been exposed to freezing temperatures or were exposed for shorter durations. The milkweed plants grew again from undamaged stems near ground surface.

Monarch larvae in north Florida appear to have some tolerance to freezing temperatures. However, even if they survive freezing nights, they likely face starvation due to damaged host plants, weakened health, and early mortality.

**Table 1. Low temperature (°F) data for December 2022 at Gainesville, Florida (<https://www.timeanddate.com/weather/usa/gainesville/historic>).**

Day	Date	12 am-6 am	6 am-12 pm	12 pm-6 pm	6 pm-12 am
Tues	12/20/2022	50	52	61	54
Wed	12/21/2022	52	52	55	54
Thurs	12/22/2022	50	50	55	54
Fri	12/23/2022	63	57	43	32
Sat	12/24/2022	27	25	36	28
Sun	12/25/2022	25	23	41	30
Mon	12/26/2022	27	28	41	30
Tues	12/27/2022	27	27	50	36
Wed	12/28/2022	30	30	59	46

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## A NEW MOTH AT MY BAITED TRAPS

BY

CRAIG W. MARKS

Several years ago, I purchased from Bio-quip two hanging insect traps (see photo). Occasionally (when I remember to prepare bait), I use those traps as part of the NABA 4<sup>th</sup> of July counts that I coordinate. My bait typically consists of mashed up bananas and mangos, brown sugar, yeast and dark beer. I don't use a precise recipe with measured amounts, but usually prepare the bait based on consistency and smell.



Insect bait trap

I don't profess to be an expert on baiting for butterflies, in fact, far from it. My results have been varied. Over the years I've found Snouts, Red Admirals, Question Marks, Hackberry Emperors, Tawny Emperors, Southern Pearly-eyes, Carolina Satyrs, Little Wood Satyrs, Common Wood Nymphs in my traps. I recall once at the Stone Road count in Arkansas finding over 30 Hackberry Emperors plus a couple of Red Admirals and Tawny Emperors in my traps.

On other occasions, all I found were a few very angry wasps and some flies (my recipe is great for attracting angry wasps). I'm not sure if those occasions without any butterflies in the traps were a result of poorly prepared bait or poorly chosen locations, but it is always fun to see what has found its way into those traps.

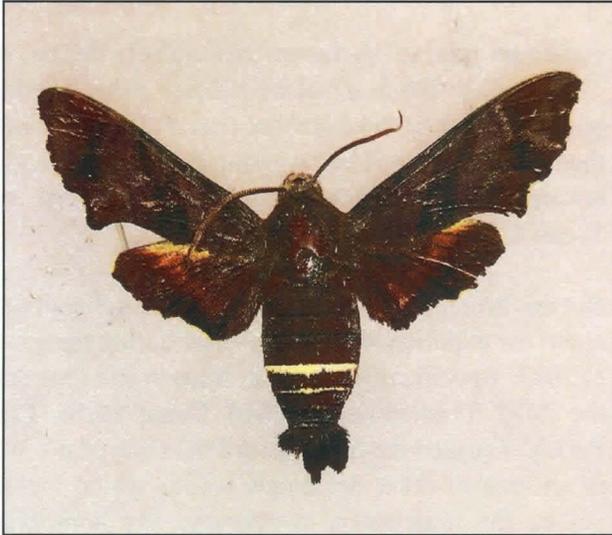
My best bait effort was in the Rio Grande Valley. The traps will collapse flat and fit nicely in the bottom of a travel suitcase. The bait was stored in flat tupperware

containers placed inside of two ziplock freezer bags. This worked fine as I had no leakage either coming or going. On one of the days that I used the traps, I placed them in a dried creek bed with thick underbrush and was rewarded with a couple of Mexican Bluewings and a Tropical Leafwing.

But this article isn't about bait or traps in general; rather, about my experiences with my traps during the summer of 2023. Specifically, I used my traps in late June during the 2023 Thistlethwaite WMA Count in St. Landry Parish. I placed the traps toward the back of the WMA in an area of thick deciduous woods which included, among the understory, switchcane. My hope was to attract Southern Pearly-eyes. At the end of the day, one trap contained only wasps and flies, but the other included a beautiful moth with which I was not familiar. I tried to grab it by hand for a picture, all the while avoiding several wasps also in that trap. I got it in my hand, but its scales made it particularly slippery, and it got away.

In July, using a fresh batch of bait, I set the traps out at the Fullerton Lake Rec Area section to be covered during the 2023 Allen Acres Count in Vernon Parish. The traps were again placed in areas of heavy deciduous woods with cane close by (but not as close as at Thistlethwaite). When checked, there were several wasps and flies but, again, no butterflies; however, there were three of the same moth seen at Thistlethwaite, two in one trap, one in the other.

This time, despite the wasps, I was able to collect two of the moths. With Annette Parker's help, the moths were identified as Nessus Sphinx Moths (*Amphion floridensis*). Despite spending over 30 years hiking around Louisiana, I don't recall ever seeing that particular moth. Having now found it in my traps on two consecutive counts, I thought I would do some research because, other than one or two Snowberry Clearwings (*Hemaris diffinis*), I had not had any moths attracted to my bait in the past. I ended up finding two articles by Vernon Brou, no real surprise as Vernon is Louisiana's preeminent moth expert.



**Nessus Sphinx Moth (dorsal)**  
*(Amphion floridensis)*,  
 7/27/23, Vernon Parish



**Nessus Sphinx Moth (ventral),**  
*(Amphion floridensis)*  
 7/27/23, Vernon Parish

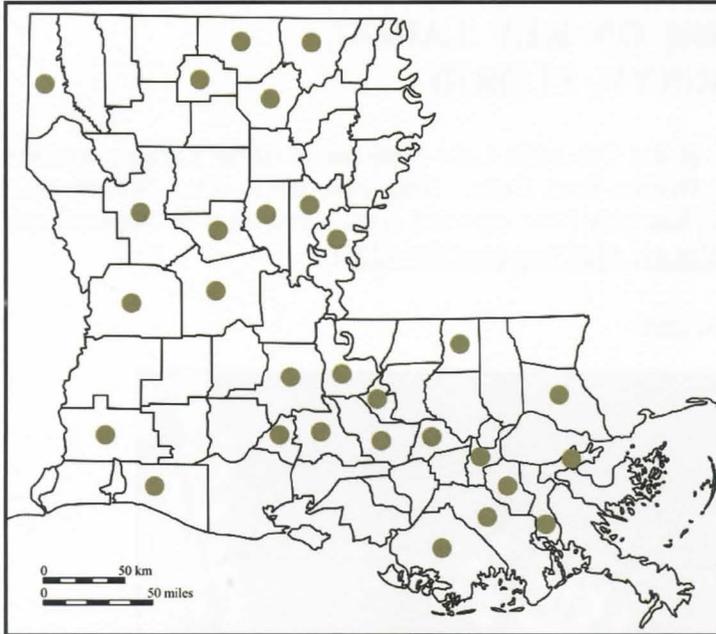
Brou considered the Nessus Sphinx Moth to be a common diurnal moth in LA. He identified the more common larval foodplants to be grape and virginia creeper. Back in 1997, he and his wife generated an article entitled, "DISTRIBUTION AND PHENOLOGIES OF LOUISIANA SPHINGIDAE," which described the "abundance, distribution, and flight periods for 55 species of Louisiana Sphingidae." Included within this article was data related to the Nessus Sphinx Moth.

This article covered a period of research by the Brou's from 1970 through 1995, conducted primarily, but not exclusively, at their home near Abita Springs in St. Tammany LA. Other locations included St. John the Baptist Parish, Iberville Parish, Lafourche Parish, West Feliciana Parish, Ascension Parish, Tangipahoa Parish, Natchitoches Parish and Orleans Parish. The research primarily involved the use of ultraviolet light traps and fermenting bait traps conducted during the period March to September.

As a result of these efforts, the Brou's sampled 8666 specimens of *Amphion floridensis* with the highest numbers in March (902), April (823), May (1590), June (1906), July (2055) and August (1332). Their research indicated this moth had as many as six broods, "first peaking end of March, and at approximately 25-day intervals." While they indicated that this species was attracted to their ultraviolet lights, they also found it was one of the, "species more often taken in fermenting bait traps," Further, "several" were also captured in pitfall traps.

At that time, the Brou's had records for 13 parishes. Sightings reported on iNaturalist, and supported by photographs, add another 16 parishes. BAMONA had another sighting (supported by a picture) in an additional parish. As is reflected by the attached range map (next page), these records cover the entire state.

So, despite my unfamiliarity with this diurnal moth, it is both common and widespread in Louisiana. Further, its presence in my baited traps was neither unusual nor unexpected.



Nessus Sphinx Moth  
LA range map

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Brou Jr. Vernon A., 2005. Spotlight on Rearing. *Amphion Floridensis* B.P. Clark. *South. Lepid. News* Vol. 27, No. 3: PLATE 1.

<http://www.butterfliesandmoths.org/species/Amphion-floridensis>.

[http://www.inaturalist.org/guide\\_taxa/1137074](http://www.inaturalist.org/guide_taxa/1137074)

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Four related cats: grandmother, two daughters and one grandchild. All eat from one bowl and all 4 chase butterflies.

Lubbock, Texas (July 24, 2023)

**CARIBBEAN CRACKER [*HAMADRYAS FEBRUA FEROX*  
(STAUDINGER, 1886)] ON KEY LARGO,  
MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

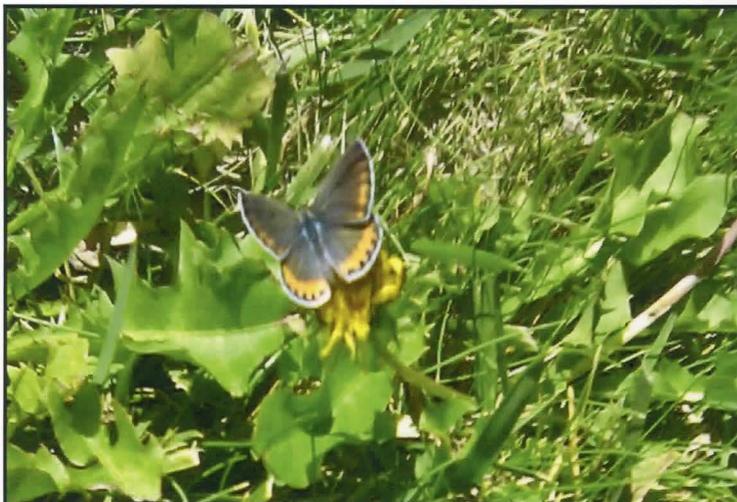
Susan Kolterman photographed this worn individual at the Crocodile Lake National Wildlife Refuge, northern Key Largo on August 28, 2023. It's most likely a flyover from Cuba. The main larval plant *Dalechampia scandens* L., 1753, or Spurgecreeper (Euphorbiaceae) has only been reported from a few sites in Broward and Hillsborough counties in Florida (<https://florida.plantatlas.usf.edu/Plant.aspx?id=4204>).

Submitted by Marc C. Minno, E-mail: [marccminno@gmail.com](mailto:marccminno@gmail.com)



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**Melissa blue (*Lycaeides melissa*) on dandelion  
flower in the backyard of Hank Leibee who took  
the photo (San Leandro, California)  
(July 2023)**

## CHORISTONEURA ROSACEANA (HARRIS, 1841) – OBLIQUE - BANDED LEAFROLLER IN NW LOUISIANA

BY  
ROYAL TYLER

This paper is to document the occurrence and life cycle of this Tortricid moth in Northwest Louisiana. The host plants have been widely reported previously (this species is polyphagous) and a couple were found in this location and the adults successfully reared.

The primary study site is The Royal Hills farm, a 153 acre tree farm located in Caddo Parish, Louisiana. This is the NW corner of the state, not far south of Texarkana, AR. It is approximately 120 acres of upland shortleaf pine (*Pinus echinata*) and loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*) ecosystems, with about 25 acres of creek bottoms of various hardwoods and baldcypress (*Taxodium distichum*), and 2-3 miles of pipelines and woods roads providing good access and openings. Soils are predominately deep, sandy to sandy loam soils. A few individuals were also confirmed by examination from neighboring Bossier Parish in a subdivision near Haughton, La.



Fig. 1. *Choristoneura rosaceana* - male (August 25, 2020)



Fig. 2. *Choristoneura rosaceana* - female, reared on Mexican plum (June 28, 2020)

*Choristoneura rosaceana* (Fig. 1, 2) — Oblique-banded Leafroller was first described in 1841 by T.W. Harris. Synonyms are listed by Gilligan and Epstein (2014) as *gossypiana* (Lozotaenia), *vicariana* (Teras). *Choristoneura rosaceana* is widely distributed throughout the continental United States and southern Canada (Gilligan and Epstein 2014, iNaturalist, BugGuide, and North American Moth Photographers Group 2023). The wingspan is 7.5–11 mm for males and 11.5–14 mm for females (Gilligan and Epstein 2014). According to iNaturalist and BugGuide data, adults have been recorded on wing from February thru December, with most records from April to October. The few outliers are on the warm Gulf Coastal states. Aaron Hunt reports late May to early October on Block Island Moths website. BugGuide reports adults are present in late June - July and again in late August - September.

### Taxonomy/Identification

Tortricidae, subfamily Tortricinae, Tribe Archipini, Genus *Choristoneura* Lederer (1859) includes 17 species in the USA according to the Genus page at BugGuide. They do a good job of explaining why it's not clear exactly how many we have and I won't go into it here and just refer people there. *Choristoneura rosaceana* is by far the most common member of the Genus in NW Louisiana. *Choristoneura parallela* has been confirmed once in May of 2019 as occurring on the Caddo parish study site (Fig. 3). *Choristoneura fractivittana* was observed and photographed once back in 2018 (Fig. 4).



Fig. 3. *Choristoneura parallela* - female  
(May 29, 2019)



Fig. 4. *Choristoneura fractivittana* -  
(April 13, 2018)



### Adult identification

*C. rosaceana* forewing pattern is variable, but most have three dark transverse bands (fasciae) on the forewing. There is also a strong sexual dimorphism, exhibited where males have a costal fold from base to top of AM, where dark scale tufts lie flat, forming a dark spot, which is absent in similar species (See Fig. 1). HW pale orange-yellow in male; deep-yellow in female, but may have gray shading in the lower third (BugGuide species page). See Figs. 5 and 6.



Fig. 5.  
*Choristoneura  
rosaceana*  
(Photo by Michael  
Sabourin)



Fig. 6.  
*Choristoneura  
rosaceana*  
(Photo by Michael  
Sabourin)



### Occurrences

In NW Louisiana this species is occurring primarily from middle of April continuously thru the end of September, and one occurrence was recorded on October 21 in 2020. This is much longer than reported by most sources found. We have at least three generations, the first emergence being in April, second most likely in end of June/early July, and another late season in September/October that's much smaller. Larvae were collected and reared in June of 2020. In 2020 an attempt was made to record every species of Tortricid occurring on the primary study site and 59 individuals of this species were collected from April 18 thru October 21 at a light setup consisting of a large Mercury Vapor light and 1-2 blacklights on a porch to allow for collection in all weather conditions (Fig. 7.). Forty-six males and 11 females were attracted to the lights, as well as two females were reared from nearby shrubs.



Fig. 7. Light setup, Mercury Vapor light and black light under shelter

**Life cycle and larval descriptions**

Larvae of *Choristoneura rosaceana* were discovered to be feeding on Red Buckeye (*Aesculus pavia*) and Mexican Plum (*Prunus mexicana*). This individual was on Red Buckeye.



**Fig. 8A.** Leaf shelter on Red Buckeye (June 7, 2020)



**Fig. 8B.** Larva on Red Buckeye (June 7, 2020)



**Fig. 8C.** Larva (head photo) (June 7, 2020)



**Fig. 8D.** Leaf shelter opened up (June 13, 2020)



**Fig. 8E.** Larva in leaf shelter beginning to pupate (June 16, 2020)



**Fig. 8F.** Pupal case (June 29, 2020)



Fig. 8G. Female (June 29, 2020)

Larvae are light green in color in later larval stages, with only the head being brown (Figs. 8B and 8C). I suspect this larva was collected in the penultimate instar phase with the final instar documented nine days later (Fig. 8E). Pupation to adult emergence was approximately 2 weeks.

Special Thanks to Michael Sabourin for numerous conversations and his dissection and study of specimens to confirm the species of numerous individuals.

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Species Page at Moth Photographers Group

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Species Page at BugGuide

<https://bugguide.net/node/view/12088>

Species page at Block Island Moths

<https://blockislandmoths.org/moths/hodges/3635>

Species page at iNaturalist

<https://www.inaturalist.org/taxa/143728-Choristoneura-rosaceana>

Genus page at BugGuide

<https://bugguide.net/node/view/12084>

Personal communication with Michael Sabourin

## HOST PLANT REPORTED FOR *OLETHREUTES GRISEOALBANA* – PUTTY – PATCHED MOTH (WALSINGHAM 1879) IN NW LOUISIANA

BY

ROYAL TYLER AND MICHAEL SABOURIN



Fig. 1. *Olethreutes griseoalbana*  
(October 14, 2020)



Fig. 2. *Olethreutes griseoalbana*  
(October 14, 2020)

This paper is to document the occurrence and life cycle of this Tortricid moth in Northwest Louisiana. The host plants have not been reported previously and a couple of larvae were found in this location and one successfully reared.

The primary study site is The Royal Hills farm, a 153 acre tree farm located in Caddo Parish, Louisiana. This is the NW corner of the state, not far south of Texarkana, AR. It is approximately 120 acres of upland shortleaf pine (*Pinus echinata*) and loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*) ecosystems, with about 25 acres of creek bottoms of various hardwoods and baldcypress (*Taxodium distichum*), and 2-3 miles of pipelines and woods roads providing good access and openings. Soils are predominately deep, sandy to sandy loam soils.

*Olethreutes griseoalbana* - Putty-patched Moth was described in 1879 by Lord Walsingham. The wingspan is 12-15mm. This moth is widely distributed throughout the eastern United States occurring from East Texas north to Missouri and eastward to Florida and the lower New England states (BugGuide, iNaturalist (iNat.), Moth Photographers Group (MPG), Butterflies and Moths of North America (BAMONA), and Mass Moths. According to iNat., BugGuide, and Block Island Moths data, adults have been recorded on wing from April through October with the peak of a curve being July. Activity in Northwest Louisiana has been June through October with August being the peak. Six individuals were collected from 2018 through 2023 in the study area. This sample may be too small to determine number of broods; but we assume with adults occurring from April to October that the moth is at least bi-voltine.

### Adult identification

*Olethreutes griseoalbana* have fairly distinctive *Exartema* like markings. We believe identification from photos can be fairly accurate to species especially when presented with both a ventral and dorsal view. Specimens when fairly fresh have distinctive yellow/brown patches on a grey/white background. Gilligan et al. (2008) compared *griseoalbana* to *Olethreutes malana* (Fernald). Wasingham originally described *griseoalbana* as an *Exartema* and Barcode of Life (BOLD) gives the nearest neighbor of *griseoalbana* as *Olethreutes appalachiana* (Braun) a member of the *Exartema* group of *Olethreutes*.

The genitalia of *griseoalbana* have been previously illustrated by Heinrich (1926) and Gilligan et al. (2008). They differ from the *Exartema* genotype, *Exartema permundana* Clemens, in the male genitalia by lacking a digitus

protruding from the valva neck and the aedeagus containing a cornutus. The female differs in lacking the posterior lobes of the sterigma typical of the *Exartema* group.

### Life cycle and larval descriptions

Larvae were discovered feeding on Blackgum, *Nyssa sylvatica* Marsh, during the last week of August in 2020 during intensive searches for Tortricids on the study site. Leaf rollers and leaf folders were being searched for and collected across all species. When two sets of folded leaves were found on blackgum, an attempt was made to rear them. One of the two was successfully reared. See Fig. 1 through Fig. 5 for photos of the individual which was successfully reared.



Fig. 3. *Olethreutes griseoalbana* larva on Black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*) (August 3, 2020)



Fig. 4. *Olethreutes griseoalbana* larva feeding pattern inside leaf fold (August 3, 2020)



Fig. 5. *Olethreutes griseoalbana* pupa (October 4, 2020)

Larvae are light green in color in early larval stages, with only the head being light brown. Middle phases were not documented since so few individuals were observed and collected and we were concerned about disturbance affecting proper development. Pupation to adult emergence was approximately 10 days to 2 weeks. Larvae exhibited what we would describe as a skeletonizing feeding pattern inside the leaf shelter, as exhibited in Fig. 4 above.

### Notes on higher classification:

The purpose of this paper is not to revise the status of *griseoalbana* or resurrect a genus, but the authors would like to note:

*Exartema* was treated as a good genus in the 1926 Heinrich revision with non *Exartema* species treated as *Olethreutes*. That practice followed suit until *Exartema* was synonymized with *Olethreutes* by Diakonoff (1973). The genus *Olethreutes* listed ca 86 species in the Powell (1983) checklist. A current checklist (Pohl and Nanz, 2023) lists several additional genera since the 1983 list. These added genera were essentially adopting the European names of Holarctic species without taken into account the other nearctic species.

Nearctic *Olethreutes* is not considered monophyletic and is in need of revision which the junior author is currently undertaking. In NW Louisiana the senior author has collected approximately 10 species with quite a few others being lumped into species groups that cannot be further delineated yet. Many of them being very similar in appearance and requiring dissection and/or analysis of barcoding to begin to separate them.

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**PHOTOS FROM LAUREL DELAWARE  
BY  
F. MATTHEW BLAINE**



All photos taken on August 1, 2023, in Matt's garden.

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**HOST PLANT AND SEASONALITY DOCUMENTED FOR  
*PYGARCTIA ABDOMINALIS* GROTE, 1871 (NOCTUOIDEA,  
EREBIDAE, ARCTIINAE, ARCTIINI, PHAEGOPTERINA)  
IN NW LOUISIANA**

**BY  
ROYAL TYLER**

### Introduction

This paper is documentation of the occurrence and host plant of *Pygarctia abdominalis* Grote in Northwest Louisiana. Previous sources have been vague on hosts, but one good source I found listed that *P. abdominalis* is “probably stenophagous, feeding solely on members of the Euphorbiaceae (Schweitzer et al., 2011). Ipecac (*Euphorbia ipecacuanhae*), other Spurges (*Euphorbia* sp.), and Tread-softly (*Cnidoscolus stimulosus*) are all possible hosts in its sandhill habitats” This quote is from the Moths of North Carolina website (Hall, et al., 2023). This paper establishes Texas Bullnettle, *Cnidoscolus texanus* (Müll. Arg.) Small as a verified host.

### Materials and Methods

The author has collected and/or photographed 42 specimens between 2013 and 2023 near UV and Mercury vapor lights. All specimens were recorded on iNaturalist with GPS location data, digital photographs, and time and date stamps taken from photographs. During 2020 the lights were monitored daily to make sure all adult activity during the year could be captured, no dates missed.

The primary study site is The Royal Hills farm, a 153 acre tree farm located in Caddo Parish, Louisiana. This is the NW corner of the state, not far south of Texarkana, AR. It is approximately 120 acres of upland shortleaf pine (*Pinus echinata*) and loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*) ecosystems, with about 25 acres of creek bottoms of hardwoods and cypress. Soils are predominantly sandy to sandy loam. There is an approximately 5 acre homesite which contains upland hardwood species and native prairie-like understory in addition to the native pines.

### Description of Adults

*Pygarctia abdominalis* is described by BugGuide.net as follows: “Forewing is slate grey with pale yellow along the costa to almost the apex and also along inner margin. The thorax has two orange-yellow strips. Abdomen is orange-yellow above with a row of black dots along the length.”

They are average sized moths, with the wingspan of females being approximately 45mm and males slightly smaller at approximately 35mm. The hindwings are not usually visible at rest (see Fig. 1), but one photo was taken (Fig. 2) of an adult at rest that shows the rather nondescript hindwings. They are usually gray to almost white, depending on level of wear and age. They are similar in color to the forewings, but lack the orange-yellow edging. Figure 3h shows the reared adult born slightly deformed, probably due to excessive handling during pupation. These are representative of coloration when fresh.



**Fig. 1. *Pygarctia abdominalis*,  
adult at rest (June 1, 2023),  
Caddo Parish, LA.**



**Fig. 2. *Pygarctia abdominalis*,  
adult at rest (July, 2022),  
Caddo Parish, La.**



**Description of Larvae**

Late instar larvae are approximately 18mm-20mm in length. They are very hairy, light yellow in color, with a brownish tinge visible in certain lighting, especially across the dorsal region (see Fig. 3b, photographed on a 5mm grid). The head is also yellow, and features are barely distinguishable inside all the yellow hairs (Fig. 3c).



**Fig. 3a. July 4, 2023**



**Fig. 3b. July 4, 2023**



**Fig. 3c. July 4, 2023**



**Fig. 3d. July 7, 2023**



**Fig. 3e. July 7, 2023**



**Fig. 3f. July 7, 2023**



**Fig. 3g. July 10, 2023**



**Fig. 3h. July 21, 2023**

Biology

The host plants for this species in NW Louisiana is established as including Texas bullnettle, *Cnidoscolus texanus* (Müll. Arg.) Small. Heppner (2003) described the range as including Atlantic and Gulf Coasts; New Jersey to Florida to Texas. I can safely assume that a different species is host further east than here since the range of this plant is much smaller. USDA plants database indicates that Texas Bullnettle is occurring in only 5 states: Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas on primarily sandy, droughty sites.

On the study site, adults have been observed from end of May through middle of August, with very little variation from those dates on any given year. As an example, two years which included very diligent collecting were 2019 and 2020. In 2019 adults were observed from May 28 through August 13th, and in 2020 from June 7 thru August 16. The only time larvae were spotted and collected was this summer, on July 4, 2023. Larvae were very mature at time of collection, and began the metamorphosis almost immediately. Note the timeline of the photos included, which has a pupa already formed by July 10, and the first adult noticed by July 21. This was two weeks from collection of the mature larvae to adult emergence.

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PHOTOS FROM LAUREL DELAWARE  
BY  
F. MATTHEW BLAINE



Photos taken on August 1, 2023, in Matt's garden

BUTTERFLY EGGS: ALL PHOTOS ARE BY STEVE KROTZER AND DESIGN IS BY MARY JANE KROTZER



**THE RESILIENCY OF BUTTERFLIES AFTER A HURRICANE AND  
FLOODING  
SLEEPING TURTLES NORTH, SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA  
PART 3  
BY  
SCOTT D. ANDERSON**

It's almost a year now since Hurricane Ian tore through southwest Florida including my local butterfly habitat Sleeping Turtles North. I continue to monitor the preserve and after 8 months in 2023 (January - August), the number of butterflies is still significantly lower than in the past. I'm using 2020 count data as my baseline. Results are similarly lower when I look at data for the last 3 months (June -August), so it's not like there has been a recent resurgence of activity hidden by year-to-date results. Species overall continue to be down although the telling statistic is in the overall individual butterflies counted. To refresh your memory, I am trying to determine the impact Hurricane Ian had on Sleeping Turtles North as a butterfly habitat after it suffered significant wind and water damage in September and October, 2022. See Part 1 of this report in SLN Volume 45, Number 1 (2023) for more background information.

The Data

Total butterfly species January-August, 2020:	46
Total butterfly species January-August, 2023:	38
Total butterfly individuals January-August, 2020:	3,941
Total butterfly individuals January-August, 2023:	2,356

As mentioned above, the reduction of species is not so significant but the number of individuals is drastically reduced to only 60% when compared with 2020.

For the Top 10 most common butterflies found in 2020, here are full year-to-date and last 3 months results:

Species - January thru August	2020	2023	Result
Dainty Sulphur	1356	983	Down
Ceraunus Blue	879	326	Down
Phaon Crescent	262	111	Down
Barred Yellow	225	84	Down
Little Yellow	152	25	Down
Tropical Checkered-Skipper	133	39	Down
Horace's Duskywing	126	167	Up
Fiery Skipper	117	136	Up
White Peacock	102	68	Down
Common Buckeye	96	18	Down

Species - June thru August	2020	2023	Result
Ceraunus Blue	381	69	Down
Dainty Sulphur	279	160	Down
Barred Yellow	61	8	Down
Little Yellow	61	15	Down
Tropical Checkered-Skipper	56	29	Down
Fiery Skipper	55	31	Down
Phaon Crescent	50	5	Down
Common Buckeye	34	3	Down
Horace's Duskywing	34	121	Up
White Checkered-Skipper	33	61	Up

Besides the hurricane, other factors are at play, 2 in particular, but their degree of impact is difficult to determine. The weather has been unusually hot and dry. Our wet season which usually begins in May or early June, has not fully materialized. We've had some rain but it has been sporadic, not the usual daily afternoon showers we expect. The lack of daily rainfall contributes to the heat.



Despite all of the damage to the preserve and the significantly reduced number of butterflies, some butterflies rarely seen here have appeared such as this Red Admiral. It is a common butterfly in so many places but rarely found here.



A very common butterfly yet this was only the second American Lady I have ever found in Sleeping Turtles North.

Also, the high winds from Hurricane Ian blew debris all over the preserve. Much of the debris was removed late last year but a great deal remains depending on the area. This has greatly impeded the normal mowing that takes place, and in fact, there hasn't been any mowing within the preserve itself since the hurricane. This has caused the vegetation to grow unchecked and even walking my normal routes within the preserve can be a challenge. Given the hurricane last year, and the other factors just mentioned, it's evident that it may be a long time before butterfly populations return to normal. But, that of course, gives rise to other study opportunities such as, will the missing butterflies return and when?

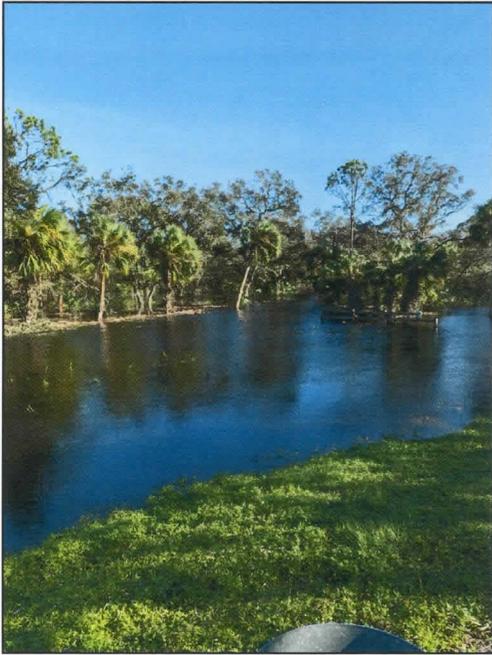
My work continues and my field data will be complete by the end of December. More information about full year results will be found here in Southern Lepidopterist News.



Since the mowers have not touched the preserve since late last year, the preserve has been filled with wild flowers. Even if the number of butterflies has been reduced, there is always something to enjoy.



This service road within the preserve is just north of Border Road and is part of every walk I take. It was used by maintenance trucks to remove debris after the hurricane. Now, it's overgrown and thick with vegetation making it hard to navigate. Phaon Crescents, Tropical Checkered-Skippers and Dainty Sulphurs used to be found in numbers here but now are absent.



These two photos show the same area just south of Border Road. The first shows how water inundated the area after the hurricane; the second shows how overgrown this area has become. Normally, this little meadow is rich with butterflies but today it only has small numbers.

(Scott Anderson: E-Mail: [scottdanderson53@gmail.com](mailto:scottdanderson53@gmail.com))

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Lubbock, Texas (June 14 – 16, 2023)

## RETURN TO BOUNTIFUL

BY

KELLY RICHERS

Several years ago, in 2014, the Lepidopterists' Society held the annual meeting at Park City, Utah. Some of the members of the Southern Lepidopterists Society might have attended, as I did. The meeting was outstanding, and the butterfly and moth collecting and photographing excellent. Side trips were made to the Uinta Range to the east, and one day there was a trip to the mountains above Bountiful. This mountain ridge is locally known as Farmington Ridge.



Skyline Drive at Farmington Ridge

Bountiful is located just north of Salt Lake City, so the trip there from Park City was less than an hour. Turning east from Bountiful, the challenge is to find Skyline Drive, the one road that climbs through the front side of the range to the top of the hill, so to speak. Once found, Skyline Drive itself is a challenge for a two wheel drive vehicle. My Silverado truck bounced its way up the mountain on the not-well-maintained dirt road, through the very dry bottom lands up to the much greener ridge itself. It is not a short trip. The drive is 30 to 45 minutes up the winding road, avoiding ruts and rocks all the way, never going more than 15 miles an hour, while looking out for charging ATV and 4 wheel drive vehicles speeding down the other way.

Back in 2014, I collected butterflies during the day at the highest elevation, over 9,000 feet, and set moth traps for the night, either two or four. I cannot recall how many exactly, but when I went back the next morning there were many moths in the traps. Because, for some

reason, I was rushed for time, (possibly I had to present at the meeting or have a beer with someone) I put all the moths together in a single container and sped down the road back to Bountiful.

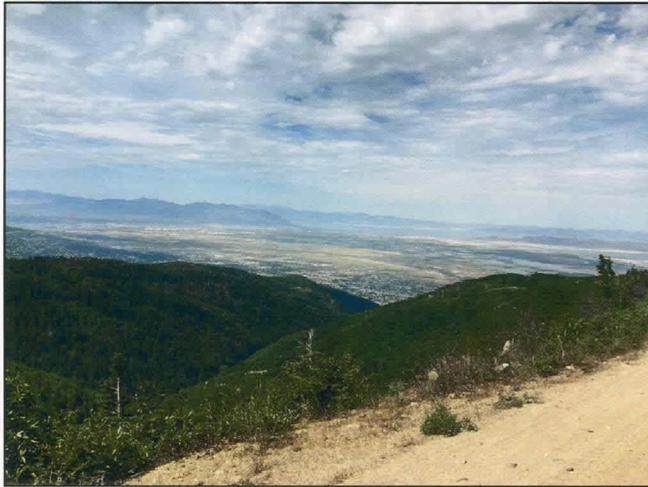
Yes, I should have known better. When I took the moths out in my hotel room to sort, there was nothing but a mass of dust and ruined moths to see. Hundreds of moths ruined, hours of time wasted.

Well, this year I went to Billings, Montana for the annual Lepidopterists' Society meeting, and if I timed it right I would be at Bountiful by ten in the morning if I left at nine at night. So, doing that, I arrived at Bountiful nine years and one day (on July 17<sup>th</sup>) after the first disastrous trip, determined to rectify my mistakes if possible.

The road up, Skyline Drive, has not improved. The area above, however, was just as lush and beautiful as could be. Stopping along the way, where swallowtails and Colorado Hairstreaks were supposed to fly, was not greatly productive, but I did take a couple of swallowtails and one hairstreak, at about the 7,000 foot level. Above, at the 9,000 foot level as in the first visit, the Parnassians were flying, so I went chasing them and got a few. There were not as many butterflies or day flying moths as I remembered from 2014, but the day was beautiful and there were very few people around, so it was extremely enjoyable.



Parnassian habitat on Skyline Drive



Bountiful and Great Salt Lake from Skyline Drive

The afternoon got hot. Flies were present and that became irritating, as I waited for the sun to move down in the west to enable traps to be set. I scouted out locations where people weren't camping, as there were several vehicles in places where I had set traps before, and eventually set four traps, two at the top of Farmington Ridge and two part way down the front range where the elevation was lower and the vegetation slightly different at 7420'. The traps on top were about 8160'.

I decided to sleep in the truck as the trip up and down the road was still very rough and I had not scheduled a motel room, but I found the heat lasted longer than I had wished. It was necessary to keep the truck windows rolled up due to the flies. After it finally cooled down the night allowed a few hours of sleep and it was more bearable. Good heat for moths, not so good for sleeping in a closed truck.



Contents of two traps set partway up Skyline Drive

In the morning I collected the traps on top, drove to the lower traps, and carefully packed everything in envelopes for the trip to Billings. When I arrived, I sorted them and they were in much better condition than the first trip I had made to Bountiful. But it did take nine years to finally get moth specimens from that area.



Left three, top to bottom:  
 7803 *Sphinx vashti*  
 7806 *Sphinx asellus*  
 7822.2 *Sphinx astarte*

Right, top to bottom  
 7805 *Paonis myops*  
 7828 *Pachysphinx modesta*



4154.i *Parnassius clodius menetriesii*  
4178 *Papilio multicaudatus*



Top to bottom, left to right:  
3910 *Thorybes pylades*  
4193 *Pontia protodice*  
4197 *Artogeia rapae*  
4209 *Colias philodice philodice*  
4266.a *Hypaurotis coryphata citima*  
4362 *Everes amyntula*  
4431 *Nymphalis californica californica*  
4457.l *Speyeria callippe harmonia*  
4493 *Charidryas acastus*  
4524.d *Basilarchia weidemeyerii latifascia*



7698 *Malacosoma disstria* (female)  
 7757 *Aheraea polyphemus polyphemus*  
 7769 *Hyalophora gloveri*



Left down, middle down, right down:  
 7275.a *Hydriomena similaris terminipunctata*  
 7290 *Coryphista meadii meadii*  
 7291 *Rheumaptera undulata*  
 7384 *Xanthorhoe decoloraria (munitata)*  
 7533 *Eupithecia cretacea*  
 7613 *Prorella leucata*  
 6819 *Metanema inatomaria*



Top to bottom, left to right:

7899	<i>Clostera</i>	<i>paraphora</i>
7924	<i>Odontesia</i>	<i>elegans</i>
7931.b	<i>Gluphisia</i>	<i>septentrionis ridenda</i>
7940	<i>Furcula</i>	<i>scolopendrina</i>
8007	<i>Coelodasys</i>	<i>unicornis unicornis</i>
8014	<i>Ianassa</i>	<i>pallida</i> (male)
8014	<i>Ianassa</i>	<i>pallida</i> (female)
8016	<i>Ianassa</i>	<i>perangulata</i>
8186	<i>Grammia</i>	<i>williamsii williamsii</i>
8214	<i>Lophocampa</i>	<i>maculata</i>
8322	<i>Idia</i>	<i>americalis</i>
8626	<i>Drasteria</i>	<i>ochracea</i>
8914	<i>Autographa</i>	<i>californica</i>
8932	<i>Syngrapha</i>	<i>sackenii</i>
9111	<i>Tarache</i>	<i>augustipennis</i>
9193	<i>Raphia</i>	<i>frater</i>



Left column down, then middle, then right:

6326	<i>Macaria</i>	<i>aemulataria</i>	
6590	<i>Anavitrinella</i>	<i>pampinaria</i>	
6737	<i>Euchlaena</i>	<i>tigrinaria</i>	<i>tigrinaria</i>
6760.e	<i>Pero</i>	<i>behrensaria</i>	<i>sperryi</i>
6761.d	<i>Pero</i>	<i>occidentalis</i>	<i>peplarioides</i>
6860	<i>Neoterpes</i>	<i>trianguliferata</i>	
6926	<i>Plataea</i>	<i>trilineararia</i>	
6981	<i>Prochoerodes</i>	<i>forficaria</i>	<i>forficaria</i>
7006	<i>Enypia</i>	<i>griseata</i>	
7035	<i>Nemoria</i>	<i>darwiniata</i>	<i>darwiniata</i>
7065	<i>Synchlora</i>	<i>bistriaria</i>	
7186	<i>Dysstroma</i>	<i>ochrofuscaria</i>	



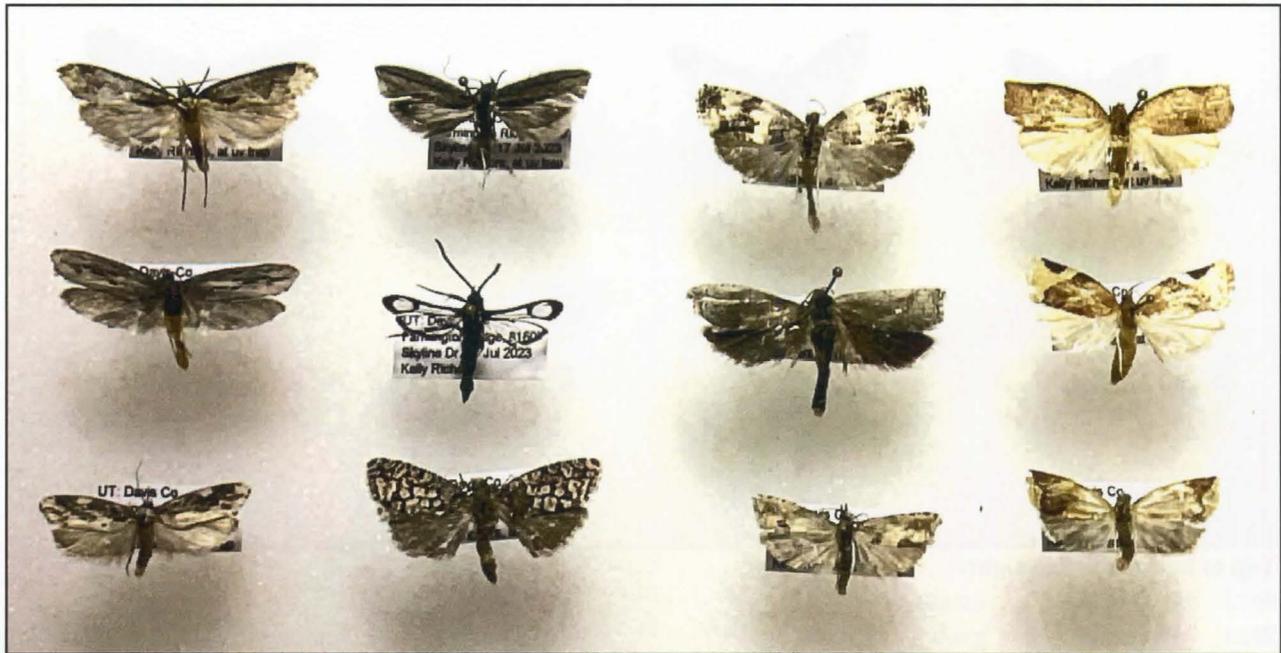
Top to bottom, left to right:

- |         |                   |                              |
|---------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| 9206    | <i>Acronicta</i>  | <i>vulpina</i>               |
| 9205.1  | <i>Acronicta</i>  | <i>cyanescens</i>            |
| 9209    | <i>Acronicta</i>  | <i>radcliffei radcliffei</i> |
| 9231    | <i>Acronicta</i>  | <i>strigulata</i>            |
| 9232    | <i>Acronicta</i>  | <i>atristrigatus</i>         |
| 9339    | <i>Apamea</i>     | <i>auranticolor</i>          |
| 9346    | <i>Apamea</i>     | <i>occidens</i>              |
| 9365    | <i>Apamea</i>     | <i>scoparia scoparia</i>     |
| 9578    | <i>Hyppa</i>      | <i>xylinoides</i>            |
| 9669    | <i>Spodoptera</i> | <i>ornithogalli</i>          |
| 10130   | <i>Sympistis</i>  | <i>figurata</i>              |
| 10130.2 | <i>Sympistis</i>  | <i>pallidior</i>             |



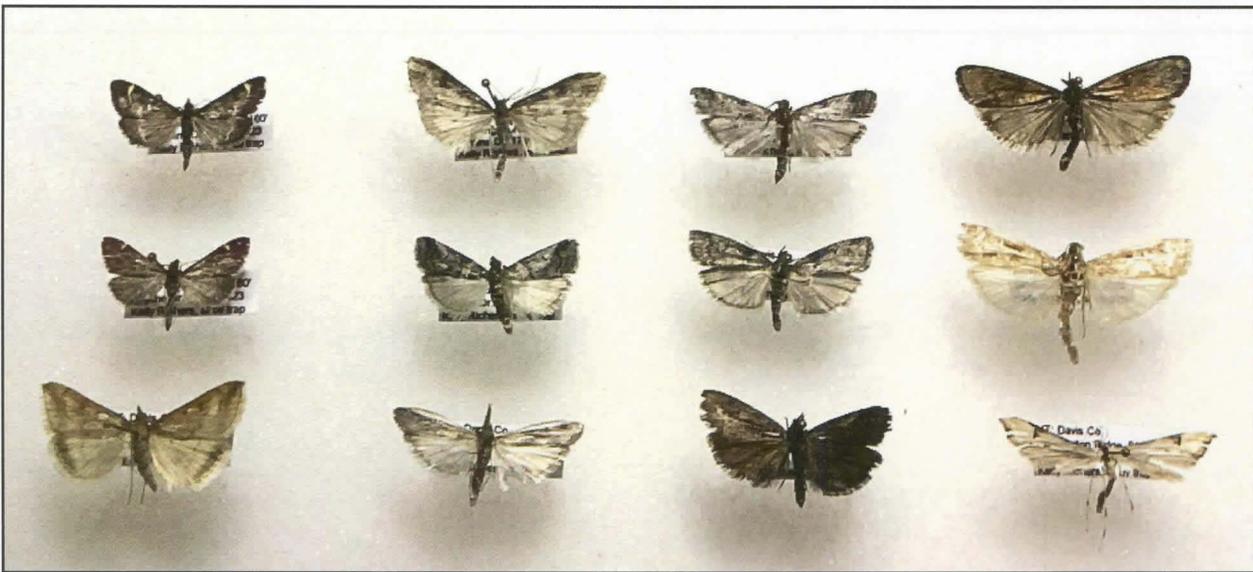
Top to bottom, left to right:

- |         |             |                             |
|---------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| 10146   | Sympistis   | utahensis                   |
| 10206   | Cucullia    | antipoda                    |
| 10209   | Cucullia    | eulepis                     |
| 10269   | Admetovis   | oxymorus                    |
| 10277.1 | Polia       | propodea                    |
| 10344   | Lasionycta  | promulsa                    |
| 10415   | Lacinipolia | strigicollis (illaudabilis) |
| 10660.1 | Agrotis     | antica                      |
| 10926.2 | Spaelotis   | unicava                     |
| 10947   | Xestia      | oblata                      |
| 11035   | Abagrotis   | discoidalis                 |
| 11072   | Heliothis   | phloxiphaga                 |



Top to bottom, left to right:

- |        |                       |                               |
|--------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 312    | <i>Daviscardia</i>    | <i>coloradella</i>            |
| 987    | <i>Ethmia</i>         | <i>monticola</i>              |
| 1004   | <i>Ethmia</i>         | <i>marmorea</i>               |
| 2381   | <i>Ypsolopha</i>      | <i>flavistrigella</i>         |
| 2533   | <i>Albuna</i>         | <i>pyramidalis</i>            |
| 3075   | <i>Eucopina</i>       | <i>siskiyouana</i>            |
| 3091   | <i>Pelochrista</i>    | <i>matutina (grotiana)</i>    |
| 3132.7 | <i>Pelochrista</i>    | <i>costastriata</i>           |
| 3391   | <i>Hystrichophora</i> | <i>stygiana (asphodelana)</i> |
| 3596   | <i>Pandemis</i>       | <i>pyrusana</i>               |
| 3608   | <i>Argyrotaenia</i>   | <i>coloradanus</i>            |
| 3682   | <i>Clepsis</i>        | <i>persicana</i>              |



Top to bottom, left to right:

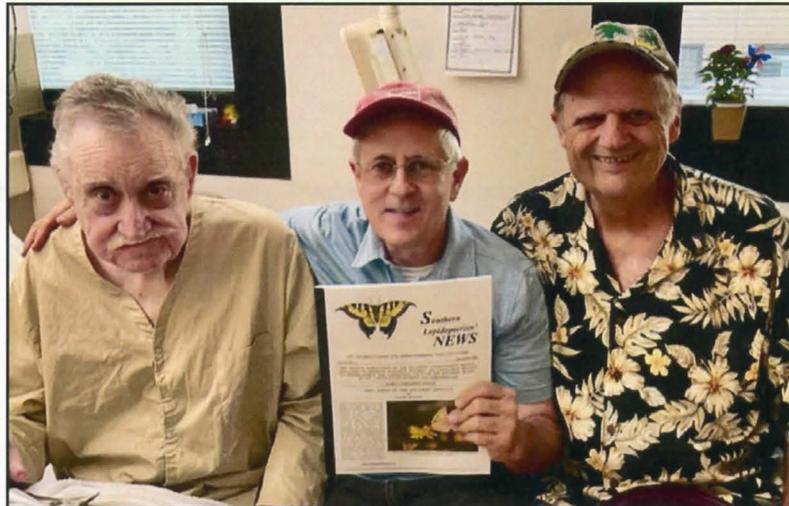
- |        |                 |                            |
|--------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| 5032   | Pyrausta        | nicalis                    |
| 5033   | Pyrausta        | grotei                     |
| 5074.b | Pyrausta        | fodinalis septentrionicola |
| 5101   | Udea            | radiosalis                 |
| 5655   | Acrobasis       | tricolorella               |
| 5744   | Etiella         | zinckenella                |
| 5801   | Scotia          | bifasciella                |
| 5829   | Pyla            | fusca                      |
| 5832   | Pyla            | scintillans                |
| 5836   | Pyla            | metallicella               |
| 5845   | Dioryctria      | rossi                      |
| 6136   | Paraplatyptilia | fragilis                   |

(Kelly Richers, E-Mail: [kerichers74@gmail.com](mailto:kerichers74@gmail.com))

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### **VISITING THE FOUNDING FATHER OF THE SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY**

On Saturday August 26<sup>th</sup>, Southern Lepidopterists' Society members Tom Neal and Jeff Slotten made a visit to Dave Baggett, the founder of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society. It all began on November 18<sup>th</sup>, 1978, when the Charter Meeting was held at the Division of Plant Industry in Gainesville, Florida. It was attended by 20 persons. Dave was elected Chairman-Editor and maintained this position for several years. He was instrumental in organizing the newsletter content and encouraging others interested in lepidoptera to participate.



**Dave Baggett, Jeff Slotten, Tom Neal. Photo was taken at Lake City, Florida Hospice Unit at the Veterans Administration Hospital (August 26, 2023).**

Dave became ill and left his interest in participating in the society a number of years ago. We owe him a lot of thanks for all the initial work he did. He was extremely generous with information and a true leader. Dave's enthusiasm was infectious and he helped motivate many lepidopterists in their endeavors. As a result, many new discoveries were made during this time.

Dave is currently in the hospice unit of Lake City Veterans Administration Hospital in Florida. Tom and Jeff had not seen Dave for over 20 years. Charles Stevens and Rick Gillmore who were charter members and are still members of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society have kept in touch with Dave over the years and have visited him while he was living in Jacksonville and Keystone Heights, Florida. We decided to make a surprise visit and Dave did recognize us despite our more aged appearance. We had a good time reminiscing about the old days and Dave's memory was quite sharp. He had some drawings of butterflies on one of his doors in the room so we believe there is still that fascination with butterflies and moths.

It was difficult to leave him since we are unsure how long he will be alive as he is in poor health. We are thankful that we were able to visit with an old friend who did so much for us back in the initial stages of the formation of the society

MANY THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING DONORS  
WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE  
SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY

Sustaining

*Steve Johnson*

Contributor

*Sara Bright*

Benefactor

*John Hyatt*  
(Through 2024)  
*Gary Noel Ross*

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER

*Rachel Wright*  
5225 Marietta Drive North  
Mobile, Alabama 36618 - 2341

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REPORTS OF STATE COORDINATORS

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

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

**Florida:**

Jeff Slotten sends in the following report for Florida:

I found a bunch of larvae of The Milkweed Tussock Moth, *Euchaetes egle*, on my backyard *Asclepias curassavica* in late August, 2023. They pupated September 8th-10th. They have yet to emerge.

My backyard live cage trap continues to run. I use a mercury vapor bulb above the opening in the cage top and a blacklight mounted in vanes over the entrance hole on the roof. This is Alachua County, Florida, Gainesville, Blues Creek.

Attracted to these lights during the months of July and August, 2023 were the following moths: All Alachua County, Florida in Blues Creek: *Eacles imperialis*, *Enyo lugubris*, *Lapara coniferarum*, *Actias luna*, *Telea polyphemus*, *Dryocampa rubicunda*, *Paonias excaecatus*, *Anisota virginiensis*, *Syntomeida epilais jucundissima*, *Dahana atripennis*, *Ecpantheria scribonia*, *Panthea furcilla*, *Acronicta americana*, *Acronicta vinnula*, *Acronicta impleta*, *Harrisimemna trisignata*, *Parapema buffaloensis* to name a few.



Bob Belmont sends in the following report for Florida:

A few of the moth species all caught at the North end of the Split Rock Conservation Area, Gainesville, Alachua Co., Florida, during the summer of 2023.

373	<i>Acrolophus popeanella</i>	7108	<i>Idaea furciferata</i>
953	<i>Eupragia hospita</i>	7119	<i>Idaea micropterata</i>
957	<i>Psilocorsis reflexella</i>	7137	<i>Cyclophora myrtaria</i>
2554	<i>Synanthedon acerni</i>	7174	<i>Leptostales crossii</i>
2659	<i>Inguromorpha basalis</i>	7704	<i>Eacles imperialis</i>
3495	<i>Gymnandrosoma punctidiscanum</i>	7715	<i>Dryocampa rubicunda</i>
3701	<i>Sparganothis pulcherrimana</i>	7723.1	<i>Anisota pellucida</i>
4650	<i>Norape cretata</i>	7746	<i>Automeris io</i>
4679	<i>Natada nasoni</i>	7757	<i>Antheraea polyphemus</i>
4742	<i>Undulambia rarissima</i>	7758	<i>Actias luna</i>
5198	<i>Glyphodes sibillalis</i>	7784	<i>Dolba hyloeus</i>
5239	<i>Terastia meticulosalis</i>	7994	<i>Cecrita guttivitta</i>
5419	<i>Microcrambus biguttellus</i>	8090	<i>Hypoprepia fucosa</i>
5420	<i>Microcrambus elegans</i>	8105	<i>Utetheisa ornatrix</i>
5465	<i>Vaxi auratellus</i>	8146	<i>Hypercompe scribonia</i>
5591	<i>Tallula atrifascialis</i>	8170	<i>Apantesis vittata</i>
5657	<i>Acrobasis minimella</i>	8203	<i>Halysidota tessellaris</i>
5775.3	<i>Salebriaria squamopalpiella</i>	8266	<i>Dahana atripennis</i>
6028	<i>Tampa dimediatella</i>	8284	<i>Syntomeida epilais</i>
6340	<i>Macaria minorata</i>	8322	<i>Idia americalis</i>
6667	<i>Lomographa vestaliata</i>	8346	<i>Zanclognatha atrilineella</i>
6711	<i>lexia intractata</i>	8499	<i>Metalectra discalis</i>
6800	<i>Sphacelodes vulneraria</i>	8500	<i>Metalectra quadrisignata</i>

8510	Arugisa latiorella	9085	Ponometia semiflava
8554.5	Dinumma deponens * State Record = first specimen collected in Florida	9281	Acronicta fallax
8556	Litoprosopus futilis	9522	Iodopepla u-album
8721	Allotria elonympha	9631	Callopietria mollissima
8786	Catocala sappho	9632	Callopietria granitosa
9025	"Oruza" albocostaliata	9714	Condica confederata
9044	Marimatha nigrofimbria	9718	Emarginea percara

**GEORGIA** — James K. Adams, 346 Sunset Drive SE, Calhoun, GA 30701; [jadams@daltonstate.edu](mailto:jadams@daltonstate.edu)

Check out the GA leps website at: <http://www.galeps.org/>

Most records are from James Adams (JA or no notation) and Lance Durden (LD). Other contributors are spelled out with the records. Most records are of first of the year specimens, uncommon species, county records, and records for new locations. Records are from 2023 unless otherwise indicated.

Cooper's Creek WMA, Sea Creek Falls area and Mulky Gap Rd., Fannin Co.:

June 10 (LD):

**CRAMBIDAE:** *Pyrausta generosa* (COUNTY).

Brasstown Bald, JA, LD and Jeff Slotten:

June 9-11:

At top, areas around parking lot, 4350':

**HEPIALIDAE:** *Gazoryctra sciophanes*. **LIMACODIDAE:** *Packardia elegans*. **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Dysstroma truncata*, *Xanthorhoe lacustrata*, *Hydrelia inornata*, *Heterophleps refusaria*. **EREBIDAE:** *Redectis vitrea*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Malliatha concinnimacula*, *Acronicta cryptica*, *A. innotata*, *Hyppa contrasta*, *Lacinipolia lorea*,

Forest at pull off, hairpin turn just below top parking lot, 4200':

**HEPIALIDAE:** *Gazoryctra sciophanes*. **TINEIDAE:** *Scardia anatomella*. **DREPANIDAE:** *Habrosyne scripta*. **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Eufidonia convergaria*, *Lytrosis permagnaria*, *Biston betularia*, *Hydrelia inornata*. **NOTODONTIDAE:** *Peridea ferruginea*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Acronicta innotata*, *A. fragilis*, *Hyppa contrasta*, *Phlogophora iris*, *Lacinipolia lorea*.

Powerline cut, 1 rd. mile up Hwy. 180 spur, 3600':

**LIMACODIDAE:** *Packardia geminata*. **EREBIDAE:** *Catocala blandula*.

June 29-30, Lukas Keras, at parking lot area:

**EREBIDAE:** *Catocala marmorata*.

July 18-19, LD:

Forest at pull off, hairpin turn just below top parking lot, 4200':

**GEOMETRIDAE:** *Macaria notata*, *Homochlodes fritillaria*, *Hydrelia inornata*. **NOTODONTIDAE:** *Peridea ferruginea*. **EREBIDAE:** *Catocala marmorata*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Chrysanympa formosa*, *Acronicta innotata*, *Amphipoea americana*, *Polia nimbosea*.

Powerline cut, 1 rd. mile up Hwy. 180 spur, 3600':

**GEOMETRIDAE:** *Euchlaena muzaria*, *Nepytia canosaria*, *Homochlodes fritillaria*, *Hydrelia inornata*. **NOTODONTIDAE:** *Peridea ferruginea*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Amphipoea americana*, *Polia nimbosea*,

346 Sunset Drive SE (James Adams residence), Calhoun, Gordon Co.:

**GEOMETRIDAE:** *Idaea taturata*, June 5. **EREBIDAE:** *Melipotis indomita*, June 20; *Catocala innubens*, June 20; *Metria amella*, June 20.

Rocky Face Ridgeline, just SW of Dalton, Powerline cut, Lukas Keras and JA:

June 28-29:

**SPHINGIDAE:** *Manduca rustica*, *Sphecodina abbotti*. **EREBIDAE:** *Catocala sappho*.

August 24-25:

**EREBIDAE:** *Catocala nebulosa*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Tripudia rectangula*.

Taylor's Ridge, 5 miles W Villanow, north of Hwy 136, Walker Co.:

June 6-7:

**GEOMETRIDAE:** *Phaeoura quernaria*. **SATURNIIDAE:** *Anisota peigleri*. **EREBIDAE:** *Catocala mira*.  
**NOCTUIDAE:** *Apamea cariosa*, *Oligia chlorostigma*.

June 18-19:

**LIMACODIDAE:** *Monoleuca semifascia*, *Phobetron pithecium*. **EREBIDAE:** *Dinumma deponens*, *Catocala dejecta*, *C. judith*, *C. miranda*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Apamea cariosa*, *A. vulgaris*, *Oligia chlorostigma*, *Euplexia benesimilis*.

June 24-25:

**EREBIDAE:** *Catocala insolabilis*, *C. judith*, *C. miranda*, *D. deponens*.

June 27-28, Lukas Keras and JA:

**EREBIDAE:** *Cisthene kentuckiensis*, *Catocala serena*, *C. judith*, *C. miranda*, *Dinumma deponens*.

August 20-21:

**SESSIIDAE:** *Synanthedon exitiosa* (female; I have taken very few females in my lifetime and this was in a light trap). **THYRIDIDAE:** *Dysodia oclatana* (COUNTY; few records in STATE). **SPHINGIDAE:** *Sphinx frankii*.  
**EREBIDAE:** *Dinumma deponens*, *Catocala luctuosa*.

Sept. 6-7:

**GEOMETRIDAE:** *Idaea taturata*. **EREBIDAE:** *Haploa clymene* (LATE), *Catocala luctuosa*, *C. nebulosa*, *C. serena* (VERY late), *C. robinsonii*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Crambodes talidiformis*, *Cirrhophanus triangulifer*, *Basilodes pepita*, *Stiria rugifrons*, *Papaipema arctivorens*,

Brunswick, Glynn Co., Mike Chapman:

**GEOMETRIDAE:** *Scopula compensata*, August 12 (see image); *Synchlora cupedinaria*, August 17 (see image).



*Scopula compensata*  
(photo by Michael Chapman)



*Synchlora cupedinaria*  
(photo by Michael Chapman)

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

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

Ricky sends in the following report:

- 12 August 2023, Grand Bay WMA, Jackson county, MS: *Euphyes berryi* (early record for MS) collected by Ricky Patterson.
- 12 August 2023, Sandhill Crane WMA, near Fountainebleau, Jackson county, MS: *Atrytone arogos*, *Polites themistocles*, collected by Ricky Patterson and Drew Hildebrandt.
- 22 June 2023, Long Beach, Harrison county, MS: *Leptotes marina*, collected by Rick Kergosein.
- 9 December 2013, Long Beach, Harrison county, MS: *Anartia jatrophae guantanamo*, collected by Rick Kergosein.

North Carolina: Harry LeGrand, 1109 Nichols Drive, Raleigh, NC 27605, E-Mail: [hlegrandjr@gmail.com](mailto:hlegrandjr@gmail.com)

## SUMMER BUTTERFLY RECORDS FOR NORTH CAROLINA – 2023

Harry LeGrand

Records are from June through August 2023, except as noted. Names in parentheses are counties; when in bold, a first county record.

The summer was one of the hottest on record in the state, and July was the hottest ever in many cities. Rainfall was generally close to normal, but a few areas were quite dry in August, though no one commented on a scarcity of butterflies owing to drought. Again, however, it was obvious that the sharp cold spells in late March affected numbers of numerous species, including many skippers and brushfoots. Vanessa atalanta continued in much greater numbers than usual, whereas the usual immigrant species such as Vanessa cardui, Pyrisitia lisa, Urbanus proteus, and a few others were once again in low numbers. Nonetheless, the good weather for butterflying, other than enduring the extreme heat, yielded a nice flurry of rare or uncommon records of resident species.

### PAPILIONIDAE:

Heraclides cresphontes, just the third record for Orange County was one photographed by April Shaw Fort on July 12 as it oviposited on a Common Rue plant in her yard. There are no consistent breeding sites in the central and eastern Piedmont, though it will be of interest to see if a new progeny ecloses in fall. Otherwise, nearly all summer reports were made in a small region of northern coastal Dare County, from Duck to Kill Devil Hills.

### PIERIDAE:

Pyrisitia lisa, this immigrant appeared in low numbers again this year, with just as many records from low elevations in the southern mountains as in most places downstate. Hopefully, the fall season will see a moderate push into at least the southern half of the state, as often happens.

Pontia protodice, as expected, there were a handful of reports, scattered over the Piedmont, all of singletons and most simply serendipitous encounters. Somehow and some way, the species still clings to an existence in the state, without any known regular breeding locales.

### LYCAENIDAE:

Feniseca tarquinius, a state record one-day tally was 30 made by John Hendrix on a dirt road at Horton Grove Preserve (Durham) on August 11. The previous state high count was 25, in a neighboring county. For most observers, seeing just one every three to five years is a big deal!

Erora laeta, Will Stuart stumbled onto a fresh individual nectaring at well-covered Doughton Park along the Blue Ridge Parkway (Alleghany), on July 6. This was the only second-brood report for the state and likely was the first report ever from that locale.

Satyrium titus, the first record ever for the southwestern mountain counties was one photographed in **Cherokee** on June 8, by “pgthompson”, in an iNaturalist submission. Another seen by Doug Allen on June 12 at South Mountains Game Land (**Rutherford**) was perhaps an overdue record for that region.

Satyrium kingi, after an apparent two-year absence from former hotspot Weymouth Woods park (Moore), owing to over-burning, a handful were again seen in June. The most notable report was two near Wagram (Scotland), as seen by Jacki St. John on June 11.

Satyrium liparops, the only summer reports were of one seen by Gail Lankford in northeastern Buncombe County on July 2, and one photographed by Jason Love and others at the Needmore Game Land (Swain) on July 7. The latter is the first record for that county in dozens of years.

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Satyrium caryaevorum, one was photographed (as posted in a Facebook group) in Buncombe County, by Sue Norton, on June 13; this ties the state early date. Another was observed carefully at Wet Camp Gap (**Jackson**) on July 25, by Gail Whitehurst. Usually, a handful of years passes without a record for this very rare species.

Satyrium edwardsii, there were a gratifying five reports this season, all from the Sandhills region, as usual. The most notable was a nice tally of five at Carvers Creek State Park (Cumberland) on June 13, made by Ed Corey and others.

Celastrina neglectamajor, considerable confusion “erupted” over a few reports, with photos, of large male azures at the South Mountains Game Land (Rutherford) and near Hot Springs (Madison) well into June and into July. This is a known single-brooded species, emerging in the mountains in very late April and into about mid-May, and flying for a few weeks. Thus, photos of fresh males, obtaining moisture and minerals at dirt roads, at elevations from about 1300-2500 feet, even with stands of the sole known hostplant – *Actaea racemosa* -- in the immediate area, are baffling. Harry Pavulaan, an expert on the genus Celastrina, believes these are large C. neglecta from very rich habitats, as he is aware that individual azures from more lush sites can and do grow larger than those from poor habitats.

#### NYMPHALIDAE:

Danaus gilippus, presumably locally established colonies in the southeastern corner of the state are still active. Susan Andrews saw adults often in August, with a peak of six on Bald Head Island (Brunswick) on August 26; and just to the north John Taggart noted them at the state’s best site at Fort Fisher State Recreation Area (New Hanover) at the end of the month.

Phyciodes incognitus, the season’s only documented record for this poorly known and recently described species came from the Pink Beds (Transylvania), where one was photographed on July 15 by Marty and Dave Kastner. Most photo records are for the spring brood, and the second brood is not well known or understood. In fact, the taxonomy of Phyciodes species in the southern Appalachians is still confusing and unsettled.

Polygonia faunus, as usual, this rarity was searched for, and at times found, at Mount Mitchell State Park (Yancey) – three on August 23 (Heather Rayburn) and two on August 26 (Lori Arent).

Vanessa cardui, though there were a few dozen records from across the state, essentially all were of just one or two individuals. As expected, more reports came from the mountains than far downstate, as the flight normally arrives from the west and southwest of the state.

Vanessa atalanta, this calendar year might be the best in several decades for this often infrequently seen species; one of the highest one-day tallies by a solo observer was the 48 counted by Heather Rayburn at Mount Mitchell State Park (Yancey) on August 23.

Chlosyne nycteis, a photo from extreme northern **Moore** on July 15, as posted on iNaturalist, extends the range southward by a few miles, though still in the Piedmont. The only known colonies in the Coastal Plain are along the Roanoke River, and possibly a site or two along the Cape Fear River. In the Piedmont, an excellent single party tally of 82 was made by Jeff Pippen and Ellen Brown at Mason Farm (Orange) on August 29. This third brood seemed a week or two late in 2023, for some odd reason.

Hermeuptychia intricata, Tom Austin confirmed a photo from **Montgomery** taken by Zane Fish on July 5, and another from Craven, taken by J.V. Kopple on August 2. He also confirmed a first mountain photo, taken by Allen Ratzlaff, from **Buncombe** on July 31, 2015. Needless to say, we know little about the overall range of this cryptic species, which now extends north into Virginia, according to Austin. However, its primary range seems limited to the Coastal Plain.

**HESPERIIDAE:**

Euphyes bimacula, seldom reported in recent years, one was photographed in **Beaufort** by Miles Buddy on July 26. This is presumably near the beginning of the second brood.

Problema byssus, rather late in the first brood was a notable count of four at Umstead State Park (Wake) on July 2, as found by Lori Arent. This site is near the inward edge of the state range. An older record of interest was one photographed in Lucama (**Wilson**) by Mark Basinger on July 9, 2020. This locale becomes the northwesternmost Coastal Plain occurrence in the state, though it does occur in the adjacent Piedmont to the west.

Problema bulenta, an exciting report from a coastal newsletter showed photos of several individuals taken by Kay Lynn Hernandez in a kayak survey of the tidal freshwater marshes around Eagles Island (Brunswick), a known locale. The photos were taken on at least two dates in summer 2021 and are the first confirmation of this species there and in the state in roughly ten years. However, reaching suitable nectar sources by walking or wading is difficult, the primary reason for the lack of recent reports.

Hesperia attalus, few people searched for skippers in June in the Sandhills Game Land, and thus one seen there by Brian Bockhahn in the Scotland County portion on June 8 was the only seasonal report.

Hesperia meskei, hard to find in the first brood, one was seen by Brian Bockhahn in the Sandhills Game Land (Scotland) on June 8.

Poanes aaroni, Audrey Whitlock photographed a quite fresh individual at Bodie Island (Dare) on August 22. This appears to be the first ever record of this rarity on the Outer Banks, though it does occur on nearby Roanoke Island and on the mainland of that county.

Poanes viator, Matt Spangler had an excellent Piedmont tally of nine, from his kayak, along the Haw River above Bynum (Chatham) on June 2.

Atrytonopsis quinteri, most people visit Fort Macon State Park (Carteret) for this state endemic species in April, when more individuals are flying. However, Audrey Whitlock and Al Hooks visited the park on July 21, near the start of the second brood, and had a good tally of 11 individuals.

Amblyscirtes carolina, Nick Flanders saw one in Bertie County on August 19, and Mark Basinger photographed another in Lucama (**Wilson**) on June 10, 2022. For some unknown reason, there have been few reports of this "semi-endemic" species in recent years, quite globally concerning. Most other cane-feeding species – Lethe portlandia, L. creola, and A. aesculapius – appear to be doing fairly well. Are people simply not searching low-blooming species, such as Prunella vulgaris, that occur adjacent to cane stands?

Amblyscirtes reversa, tough to find north of Croatan National Forest, singles were photographed by Miles Buddy in northwestern Beaufort County on June 23 and June 28, during its second brood.

Amblyscirtes hegon, a good tally of six was noted by Will Stuart on June 10 at South Mountains Game Land (Rutherford). The individuals were fresh and likely represent the beginning of a poorly clarified second brood.

Copaeodes minima, the farthest northwest record for the state was one photographed in **Durham** on August 27, by Julie Pearce. The record should be considered as a stray report, though occasional colonies do appear in adjacent Wake County.

Calpodus ethlius, nary a report of an adult has been made in the state, as of the end of August. It has been several years since there was a significant "outbreak" of this impressive skipper, though we often receive a few records of adults in September and October.

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

Brian sends in the following South Carolina records for SLS Summary, Aug 2023

**Dennis Forsythe, Alison Smith, John Demko – Sumter NF, Laurens and  
Newberry Cos., 7 May 2023 Garlington School Road, Laurens County**

**Papilionidae:**

*Pterourus glaucus*

**Pieridae:**

*Phoebis sennae*

**Lycaenidae:**

*Celastrina neglecta*

*Celastrina ladon*

**Nymphalidae:**

*Limetitis arthemis astyanax*

*Polygonia interrogationis*

*Polygonia comma*

*Vanessa virginiensis*

*Phyciodes tharos*

*Megisto cymela*

**Hesperiidae:**

*Epargyreus clarus*

*Lon zabulon*

*Ancyloxypha numitor*

**Cromer Road and Cromer G, Newberry County**

**Papilionidae:**

*Pterourus glaucus*

*Pterourus troilus*

**Nymphalidae:**

*Vanessa virginiensis*

*Vanessa atalanta*

*Junonia coenia*

*Megisto cymela*

**Hesperiidae:**

*Thorybes bathyllus*

*Thorybes pylades*

*Lerema accius*

**Alison Smith, John Demko – Francis Marion NF, Berkeley Co., 12 May 2023  
Dog Swamp Road (FS265) to Dog Swamp Road A to Eccles Church Road**

**Papilionidae:**

*Pterourus palamedes*

**Pieridae:**

*Pyrisitia lisa*

**Nymphalidae:**

*Euptoieta claudia*

*Phyciodes tharos*

*Lethe appalachia*

*Megisto cymela*

*Neonympha areolata*

**Hesperiidae:**

*Erynnis horatius*  
*Euphyes vestris*  
*Anatrytone logan*  
*Problema byssus*

**Stationary Lunch observations at corner Farewell Corner Road (FS161)  
and Yellow Jacket Road (FS159)**

**Papilionidae:**

*Pterourus palamedes*

**Nymphalidae:**

*Euptoieta claudia*  
*Phyciodes tharos*

**Hesperiidae:**

*Erynnis horatius*  
*Poanes yehl*  
*Euphyes vestris*  
*Polites vibex*

**First mile of Yellow Jacket Road from Farewell Corner Road intersection**

**Papilionidae:**

*Pterourus palamedes*

**Pieridae:**

*Abaeis nicippe*

**Nymphalidae:**

*Danaus plexippus*  
*Euptoieta claudia*  
*Phyciodes tharos*  
*Megisto cymela*  
*Neonympha areolata*

**Hesperiidae:**

*Poanes yehl*

**Forest Service Road 212 to 212 A as well as 100 yards of 212A.**

**Papilionidae:**

*Pterourus palamedes*  
*Battus philenor*

**Riodinidae:**

*Calephelis virginianensis*

**Nymphalidae:**

*Danaus plexippus*  
*Phyciodes tharos*  
*Lethe portlandia*  
*Hermeuptychia sosybius*  
*Neonympha areolata*

**Hesperiidae:**

*Burnsius albezens*  
*Erynnis horatius*  
*Oligoria maculata*

**Dennis and Donna Forsythe – Hyde Park Rd, Charleston Co., 20 May 2023**

**Papilionidae:**

*Pterourus troilus*  
*Pterourus glaucus*

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**Pieridae:**

*Pieris rapae*

**Lycaenidae:**

*Calycopis cecrops*

*Strymon melinus*

*Satyrium favonius*

*Satyrium calanus*

**Nymphalidae:**

*Libytheana carinenta*

*Danaus plexippus*

*Vanessa virginiensis*

*Junonia coenia*

*Phyciodes tharos*

**Hesperiidae:**

*Erynnis horatius*

*Euphyes dion*

*Hylephila phyleus*

*Wallengrenia egeremet*

*Pompeius verna*

*Oligoria maculata*

Dennis Forsythe – Halfway Creek Rd, Francis Marion NF, Charleston Co., 25 May 2023

**Papilionidae:**

*Pterourus glaucus*

**Lycaenidae:**

*Atlides halesus*

*Calycopis cecrops*

**Hesperiidae:**

*Amblyscirtes alternata*

Dennis and Donna Forsythe – Conifer Rd., Francis Marion NF, Berkeley Co., 10 Jun 2023

**Papilionidae:**

*Papilio polyxenes*

*Pterourus palamedes*

*Pterourus glaucus*

**Pieridae:**

*Abaeis nicippe*

*Phoebis sennae*

**Nymphalidae:**

*Libytheana carinenta*

*Danaus plexippus*

*Limenitis arthemis astyanax*

*Phyciodes tharos*

*Hermeuptychia intricata*

**Hesperiidae:**

*Erynnis horatius*

*Erynnis baptisiae*

*Euphyes vestris*

*Problema byssus*

*Polites themistocles*

*Wallengrenia otho*

*Amblyscirtes aesculapius*

*Nastra lherminier*

*Lerema accius*

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Dave and Marty Kastner - Wateree River Heritage Preserve and  
Wildlife Management Area Eastover, Richland County, 25 Jun 2023

**Papilionidae:**

*Pterourus troilus*  
*Eurytides marcellus*  
*Papilio polyxenes*

**Pieridae:**

*Pieris rapae*  
*Phoebis sennae*  
*Zerene cesonia*  
*Abaeis nicippe*

**Lycaenidae:**

*Feniseca tarquinius*  
*Cupido comyntas*

**Nymphalidae:**

*Euptoieta claudia*  
*Phyciodes tharos*  
*Polygonia comma*  
*Polygonia interrogationis*  
*Vanessa virginiensis*  
*Vanessa atalanta*  
*Libytheana carinenta*  
*Junonia coenia*  
*Limenitis arthemis astyanax*  
*Limenitis archippus*  
*Asterocampa celtis*  
*Lethe appalachia*  
*Hermeuptychia sp.*

**Hesperiidae:**

*Thorybes bathyllus*  
*Erynnis horatius*  
*Burnsius albezens*  
*Hylephila phyleus*  
*Polites vibex*  
*Euphyes vestris*  
*Lon zabulon*  
*Lerema accius*

Dennis and Donna Forsythe – Pinckney Park, James Island, Charleston Co., 1 Jul 2023

**Pieridae:**

*Phoebis sennae*

**Lycaenidae:**

*Leptotes cassius*

**Nymphalidae:**

*Dione incarnata*  
*Junonia coenia*

**Hesperiidae:**

*Urbanus proteus*  
*Epargyreus clarus*  
*Burnsius albezens*  
*Erynnis zarucco*  
*Hylephila phyleus*  
*Polites vibex*

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**Dennis and Donna Forsythe – Hampton Park, Charleston Co., 2 Jul 2023**

**Pieridae:**

*Ascia monuste*

**Nymphalidae:**

*Dione incarnata*

*Junonia coenia*

**Hesperiidae:**

*Epargyreus clarus*

*Erynnis horatius*

*Hylephila phyleus*

**Alison Smith, Dave and Marty Kastner - Wateree River Heritage Preserve  
and Wildlife Management Area, Eastover, Richland Co., 7 Jul 2023**

**Papilionidae:**

*Pterourus palamedes*

*Pterourus troilus*

*Eurytides marcellus*

*Papilio polyxenes*

**Pieridae:**

*Pieris rapae*

*Abaeis nicippe*

**Lycaenidae:**

*Strymon melinus*

*Feniseca tarquinius*

**Nymphalidae:**

*Euptoieta claudia*

*Phyciodes tharos*

*Vanessa atalanta*

*Libytheana carinenta*

*Junonia coenia*

*Limenitis arthemis astyanax*

*Limenitis archippus*

*Hermeuptychia sosybius*

**Hesperiidae:**

*Epargyreus clarus*

*Urbanus proteus*

*Erynnis horatius*

*Hylephila phyleus*

*Polites vibex*

*Euphyes vestris*

*Lon zabulon*

*Lerema accius*

**Dennis and Donna Forsythe – Hyde Park Rd., Charleston Co., 22 Jul 2023**

**Papilionidae:**

*Pterourus palamedes*

*Pterourus glaucus*

**Pieridae:**

*Abaeis nicippe*

*Phoebis sennae*

**Lycaenidae:**

*Calycopis cecrops*

**Nymphalidae:**

*Dione incarnata*  
*Polygonia interrogationis*  
*Phyciodes tharos*

**Hesperiidae:**

*Thorybes confusus*  
*Urbanus proteus*  
*Epargyreus clarus*  
*Hylephila phyleus*  
*Polites themistocles*

**Dennis and Donna Forsythe – Hampton Park, Charleston Co., 7 Aug 2023**

**Lycaenidae:**

*Strymon melinus*

**Nymphalidae:**

*Danaus plexippus*  
*Dione incarnata*  
*Junonia coenia*  
*Vanessa cardui*

**Hesperiidae:**

*Epargyreus clarus*  
*Burnsius oileus*  
*Burnsius albezens*  
*Erynnis zarucco*  
*Hylephila phyleus*  
*Calpodus ethlius*

**John Demko, Tom Austin, Alison Smith, Ron Ahle, Angela Valvasori,  
Dave and Marty Kastner - Gum Swamp Road, Jackson, Aiken Co., 5 Aug 2023**

**Papilionidae:**

*Eurytides marcellus*  
*Papilio polyxenes*  
*Pterourus troilus*  
*Pterourus glaucus*

**Pieridae:**

*Pieris rapae*  
*Pontia protodice*  
*Abaeis nicippe*  
*Phoebis sennae*  
*Colias eurytheme*  
*Pyrisitia lisa*

**Lycaenidae:**

*Calycopis cecrops*  
*Strymon melinus*

**Nymphalidae:**

*Euptoieta claudia*  
*Chlosyne nycteis*  
*Phyciodes tharos*  
*Anthanassa texana*  
*Polygonia comma*  
*Polygonia interrogationis*  
*Vanessa cardui*  
*Vanessa atalanta*

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*Libytheana carinenta*  
*Junonia coenia*  
*Limnitis arthemis astyanax*  
*Asterocampa celtis*  
*Asterocampa clyton*  
*Lethe portlandia*  
*Hermeuptychia sosybius*  
*Hermeuptychia intricata*  
*Danaus plexippus*

**Hesperiidae:**

*Epargyreus clarus*  
*Urbanus proteus*  
*Erynnis horatius*  
*Erynnis zarucco*  
*Burnsius albezens*  
*Lerodea eufala*  
*Ancyloxypha numitor*  
*Hylephila phyleus*  
*Pompeius verna*  
*Euphyes vestris*  
*Lon zabulon*  
*Lerema accius*  
*Amblyscirtes aesculapius*  
*Panoquina ocola*

**John Demko, Tom Austin, Mary Pallon, and Eric Monaco –  
Silver Bluff Audubon Sanctuary, Aiken Co., 6 Aug 2023**

**Papilionidae:**

*Pterourus glaucus*  
*Pterourus palamedes*  
*Pterourus troilus*  
*Papilio polyxenes*

**Pieridae:**

*Pyrisitia lisa*  
*Abaeis nicippe*  
*Phoebis sennae*

**Lycaenidae:**

*Cupido comyntas*  
*Strymon melinus*

**Nymphalidae:**

*Hermeuptychia intricata*  
*Hermeuptychia sosybius*  
*Libytheana carinenta*  
*Junonia coenia*  
*Vanessa atalanta*  
*Phyciodes tharos*  
*Euptoeita claudia*  
*Dione incarnata*  
*Limnitis arthemis astyanax*  
*Limnitis archippus*

**Hesperiidae:**

*Epargyreus clarus*  
*Cecropterus lyciades*  
*Urbanus proteus*  
*Thorybes pylades*

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*Thorybes bathyllus*  
*Erynnis horatius*  
*Polites vibex*  
*Hylephila phyleus*

**Dave and Marty Kastner - Wateree River Heritage Preserve and  
Wildlife Management Area Eastover, Richland Co., 9 Aug 2023**

**Papilionidae:**

*Pterourus troilus*  
*Pterourus palamedes*  
*Pterourus glaucus*  
*Eurytides marcellus*

**Pieridae:**

*Pieris rapae*  
*Phoebis sennae*  
*Abaeis nicippe*  
*Zerene cesonia*  
*Pyrisitia lisa*

**Lycaenidae:**

*Celastrina neglecta*  
*Cupido comyntas*  
*Strymon melinus*

**Nymphalidae:**

*Dione incarnata*  
*Euptoieta claudia*  
*Phyciodes tharos*  
*Vanessa virginiensis*  
*Vanessa atalanta*  
*Libytheana carinenta*  
*Junonia coenia*  
*Limenitis arthemis astyanax*  
*Hermeuptychia sp.*

**Hesperiidae:**

*Epargyreus clarus*  
*Thorbyes sp.*  
*Erynnis horatius*  
*Erynnis zarucco*  
*Burnsius albezens*  
*Hylephila phyleus*  
*Euphyes vestris*  
*Lerema accius*

**Doug Allen – home garden, Spartanburg Co., 12 Aug 2023**

**Papilionidae:**

*Heraclides crespontes* – County Record

**Moth records from Brian Scholtens:**

**Meesiidae:**

*Bathroxena heteropalpella*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

**Tineidae:**

*Nemapogon acapnopennella*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021  
*Tinea pelliionella*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021  
*Diachorisia velatella*, Charleston Co., Santee Coastal Reserve, 31 Mar 2023

**Bucculatricidae:**

*Bucculatrix* ca. *staintonella*, Charleston Co., Santee Coastal Reserve, 31 Mar 2023, STATE RECORD

**Gracillariidae:**

*Parectopa robiniella*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

*Phyllocnistis ampelopsiella*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

**Cosmopterigidae:**

*Perimede erransella*, Charleston Co., Santee Coastal Reserve, 31 Mar 2023

*Cosmopterix sinelinea*, Charleston Co., Santee Coastal Reserve, 31 Mar 2023

*Cosmopterix bendida*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

*Cosmopterix abdita*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

*Anatrachyntis badia*, Charleston Co., Santee Coastal Reserve, 31 Mar 2023

**Gelechiidae:**

*Battaristis nigratomella*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

*Dichomeris isa*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

*Aristotelia ivae*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

*Aristotelia pudibundella*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

*Coleotechnites albicostatus*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 14 May 2021

*Coleotechnites variella*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

*Sinoe kwakae*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 14 May 2021

*Neotelphusa querciella*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 14 May 2021

*Chionodes cacula*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

*Chionodes sevir*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 15 May 2021

**Batrachedridae:**

*Homaledra sabalella*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

**Blastobasidae (all checked by dissection):**

*Calosima lucidella*, Berkeley Co., Halfway Creek Rd, 17 May 2020, STATE RECORD

*Calosima lucidella*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 14 Aug 2021

*Calosima melanostriatella*, Charleston Co., Halfway Creek Rd, 17 May 2020, STATE RECORD

*Calosima melanostriatella*, Berkeley Co., Halfway Creek Rd, 17 May 2020

*Calosima melanostriatella*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 26 Sep 2021

*Blastobasis pulchella*, Charleston Co., 24 Apr 2015, STATE RECORD

*Blastobasis pulchella*, Berkeley Co., Halfway Creek Rd, 17 May 2020

*Blastobasis pulchella*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 16 Oct 2021

**Pterophoridae:**

*Exelastis pumilio*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

**Tortricidae:**

*Acleris maculidorsana*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 14 May 2021

*Cochyliis caulocatax*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

*Coelostathma placidana*, Charleston Co., Santee Coastal Reserve, 31 Mar 2023

*Olethreutes osmundana*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

*Epiblema minutana*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

*Epiblema praesumptiosa*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

*Gretchena deludana*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 14 May 2021

*Larisa subsolana*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

**Cossidae:**

*Givira francesca*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

**Pyralidae:**

*Basacallis tarachodes*, Charleston Co., Santee Coastal Reserve, 31 Mar 2023

*Atheloca subrufella*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

*Laetilia coccidivora*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 14 May 2021

*Peoria insularis*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

*Goya stictella*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

**Crambidae:**

*Elophila tinealis*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

*Haimbachia albescens*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021, STATE RECORD

*Chilo erianthalis*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021  
*Glaphyria cappsii*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021  
*Apogeshna stenialis*, Charleston Co., Santee Coastal Reserve, 31 Mar 2023

**Geometridae:**

*Scopula timandrata*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 14 May 2021

**Notodontidae:**

*Datana modesta*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021

**Erebidae:**

*Estigmene acrea*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021  
*Sigela rosea*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 13-14 Aug 2021, STATE RECORD

**Noctuidae:**

*Tripudia rectangula*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 14 May 2021  
*Capsula oblonga*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 14 May 2021  
*Cosmia calami*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 14 May 2021  
*Leucania subpunctata*, Beaufort Co., Spring Island, 15 May 2021

**Tennessee:** John Hyatt, 233 Park Ridge Court, Kingsport, TN 37664, E-Mail: [jkshyatt@centurylink.net](mailto:jkshyatt@centurylink.net)

John sends in the following Tennessee report:

TN, Unicoi Co., Unaka Mtn., ca. 4900', 30-VI-23, leg. G. Kotas :

*Acrionicta superans*  
*Acrionicta fragilis*  
*Acrionicta innotata*  
*Acrionicta morula*  
*Catocala sordida*  
*Sthenopsis argenteomaculatus* (county, apparent state)  
*Dysstroma truncata*  
*Clepsis persicana*  
*Euchalea serrata*  
*Autographa ampla*  
*Chrysanympa formosa*

TN., Sullivan Co., Kingsport, 2 August 2023 leg. J. Hyatt:

*Atlides halesus* (county) (Very rare in the mountains of East Tennessee.)

**TEXAS:** Terry Doyle, 13310 Bar C Drive, San Antonio, TX 782253, E-Mail: [tdoyle335@yahoo.com](mailto:tdoyle335@yahoo.com)  
Stuart Marcus, P.O. Box 463 Liberty, TX 77575, E-Mail: [stuartmarcus13@gmail.com](mailto:stuartmarcus13@gmail.com)

Stuart Marcus sends in the following report:

**Moths for Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge  
Liberty County, TX  
May 1, 2023 through July 31, 2023**

The following moths were seen at least once during the month indicated on sheets using black and mercury vapor lights at Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge. If you would like any photographs or phenology data dating back to 2012, please let me know at [stuart.marcus13@gmail.com](mailto:stuart.marcus13@gmail.com)

**ATTEVIDAE**

*Atteva aurea* June

**AUTOSTICHIDAE**

*Glyphidocera lactiflosella* May

**BLASTOBASIDAE**

*Hypatopa punctiferella* May, June, July  
*Pigritia* sp. July

**CHOREUTIDAE**

*Pseudotebenna carduiella* May

**COLEOPHORIDAE**

*Coleophora mayrella* May  
*Coleophora* sp. May

**COSMOPTERIGIDAE**

*Cosmopterix* sp. May  
*Euclomensia bassettella* June, July  
*Triclonella bicoloripennis* May, June, July

**COSSIDAE**

*Cossula magnifica* May  
*Givira anna* May, June, July  
*Prionoxystus robiniae* May

**CRAMBIDAE**

*Achyra rantalis* May, June, July  
*Aethiophysa invisalis* May, June, July  
*Anageshna primordialis* June  
*Argyria gonogramma* June, July  
*Carectocultus perstitialis* May  
*Chrysendeton medicinalis* May  
*Conchylodes ovulalis* July  
*Crambus agitatellus* July  
*Desmia maculalis* May  
*Desmia* sp. June, July  
*Desmia subdivisalis* July  
*Diastictis fracturalis* May, June, July  
*Diatraea* sp. May, July  
*Dicymolomia julianalis* May  
*Donacaula* sp. June  
*Elophila gyralis* May, June, July  
*Elophila icciusalis* July  
*Elophila oblitalis* May, June, July  
*Elophila tinealis* May, June, July  
*Eoreuma densellus* July  
*Epipagis fenestralis* June  
*Euchromius ocella* May  
*Eudonia heterosalis* June  
*Fissicrambus* sp. May, July  
*Glaphyria glaphyralis* May  
*Glaphyria sesquialis* May, July  
*Hellula rogatalis* June  
*Hileithia magualis* June, July  
*Hymenia perspectalis* June, July  
*Lamprosema victoriae* July  
*Leptosteges parthenialis* June  
*Lineodes integra* July  
*Microcrambus elegans* May, June, July

*Microcrambus kimballi* May, July  
*Nascia acutella* July  
*Niphograptia albiguttalis* July  
*Nomophila nearctica* May, June, July  
*Ostrinia penitalis* July  
*Palpita atrisquamalis* May, July  
*Palpita freemanalis* May, June, July  
*Palpita magniferalis* May, June, July  
*Palpita quadristigmalis* May, June, July  
*Parapediasia teterrellus* May, June, July  
*Parapoinx allionealis* May, June, July  
*Parapoinx obscuralis* May, June  
*Polygrammodes flavidalis* June  
*Pyrausta acronialis* May, July  
*Pyrausta laticlavia* May, June, July  
*Pyrausta tyralis* June  
*Samea castellalis* July  
*Samea multiplicalis* May, June  
*Spoladea recurvalis* July  
*Uresiphita reversalis* May, June, July  
*Urola nivalis* May, June, July

**DEPRESSARIIDAE**

*Antaeotricha albulella* June  
*Antaeotricha humilis* July  
*Antaeotricha leucillana* May, June, July  
*Antaeotricha schlaegeri* May  
*Ethmia delliella* June  
*Psilocorsis* sp. May

**EREBIDAE**

*Abablemma brimleyana* July  
*Amolita fessa* June  
*Apantesis phalerata* May  
*Bulia deducta* June, July  
*Bleptina caradrinalis* June  
*Caenurgia chloropha* May, June, July  
*Caenurgina erechtea* June  
*Catocala agrippina* May, June, July  
*Catocala alabamae* May  
*Catocala amica* June  
*Catocala connubialis* May  
*Catocala lineella* May, June  
*Catocala minuta* May  
*Catocala pretiosa* May  
*Catocala ultronia* June  
*Cisseps fulvicollis* May, June, July  
*Cisthene plumbea* May, June, July  
*Cisthene unifascia* May, June, July  
*Clemensia ochreatea* July  
*Crambidia pallida* May, June, July  
*Cutina albopunctella* June, July  
*Cutina distincta* May  
*Dasychira atrivenosa* May, July  
*Dasychira meridionalis* May, June, July

*Dasychira tephra* July  
*Estigmene acrea* May  
*Euerythra phasma* May  
*Halysidota* sp. May, June, July  
*Haploa clymene* June, July  
*Hemeroplanis scopulepes* June, July  
*Hypena abalienalis* May  
*Hypena palparia* May  
*Hypena scabra* June  
*Hypercompe scribonia* May, June, July  
*Hyperstrotia flaviguttata* July  
*Hyperstrotia nana* May, July  
*Hyphantria cunea* May, July  
*Hypoprepia fucosa* May, June, July  
*Hypsoropha hormos* May, June, July  
*Idia americalis* May, June, July  
*Isogona tenuis* May, June, July  
*Lascoria ambigualis* May  
*Lesmone detrahens* May  
*Macrochilo hypocritalis* June  
*Melipotis cellaris* June  
*Melipotis indomita* May, June, July  
*Melipotis jucunda* June  
*Metria amella* May  
*Mocis marcida* July  
*Nigetia formosalis* May  
*Orgyia detrita* May  
*Orgyia leucostigma* May, June, July  
*Palthis asopialis* May, June  
*Panopoda carneicosta* May, June, July  
*Panopoda rufimargo* June, July  
*Plusiodonta compressipalpis* May, June  
*Ptichodis vinculum* May, June, July  
*Pyrrharctia isabella* May, June  
*Renia adspersgillus* May, June  
*Rivula propinqualis* June  
*Spiloloma lunilinea* May, June, July  
*Spilosoma virginica* June, July  
*Tetanolita mynesalis* May  
*Virbia aurantiaca* May  
*Virbia laeta* May, June, July  
*Virbia* sp. May  
*Zale lunata* May

**EUTELIIDAE**

*Paectes abrostoloides* May, June  
*Paectes* sp. May

**GELECHIIDAE**

*Anacamptis fullonella* June  
*Aristotelia corallina* complex July  
*Dichomeris kimballi* July  
*Monochroa* sp. May, July  
*Numata bipunctella* June  
*Polyhymno luteostrigella* July  
*Polyhymno* n. sp. 2 - 420594.82 - 2211.82 June

*Stegasta bosqueella* May, June  
*Untomia albistrigella* May

**GEOMETRIDAE**

*Anavitrinella pampinaria* May, July  
*Chlorochlamys chloroleucaria* May, June  
*Chloropteryx tepperaria* June  
*Costaconvexa centrostrigaria* May, June  
*Cyclophora packardi* May  
*Digrammia continuata* May  
*Digrammia gnophosaria* May, June  
*Dyspteris abortivaria* June  
*Ectropis crepuscularia* June  
*Eulithis diversilineata* Complex May, June, July  
*Eumacrodes yponomeutaria* July  
*Eupithecia* sp. June  
*Eusarca confusaria* June  
*Eutrapela clemataria* May, July  
*Glena cribrataria* July  
*Hypagyrtis esther* May, June, July  
*Hypagyrtis unipunctata* May, June, July  
*Idaea demissaria* May, June  
*Idaea takturata* June, July  
*Ilexia intractata* May, June, July  
*Iridopsis defectaria* May, June, July  
*Leptostales laevitaria* June  
*Leptostales pannaria* May, June, July  
*Lobocleta ossularia* May, June, July  
*Lychnosea intermicata* June  
*Macaria aequiferaria* May, June  
*Macaria transitaria* May  
*Mellilla xanthometata* May, June, July  
*Metarranthis homuraria* May, June  
*Nematocampa resistaria* May  
*Nemoria lixaria* May, June, July  
*Nepytia semiclusaria* May  
*Orthonama obstipata* June  
*Patalene olyzonaria* May  
*Pero ancetaria* May  
*Plagodis fervidaria* July  
*Pleuroprucha insulsaria* June  
*Prochoerodes lineola* June  
*Scopula lautaria* May  
*Synchlora frondaria* May, June, July  
*Timandra amaturaria* June, July  
*Tornos* sp. May, June, July

**GLYPHIPTERIGIDAE**

*Diploschizia impigritella* May, June

**GRACILLARIIDAE**

*Caloptilia triadicae* May, June, July

**LACTURIDAE**

*Enaemia subfervens* May, June

**LASIOCAMPIDAE**

*Artace cribrarius* May, June, July  
*Heteropacha rileyana* May, June, July  
*Malacosoma disstria* May  
*Tolype* sp. May

**LIMACODIDAE**

*Adoneta spinuloides* May  
*Apoda biguttata* July  
*Apoda y-inversa* May, June, July  
*Euclea delphinii* June, July  
*Isa textula* May  
*Isochaetes beutenmuelleri* May, July  
*Monoleuca semifascia* May, June  
*Phobetron* sp. July  
*Prolimacodes badia* June, July

**MEGALOPYGIDAE**

*Megalopyge opercularis* May, June

**MIMALLONIDAE**

*Lacosoma chiridota* July

**MOMPHIDAE**

*Mompha murtfeldtella* June  
*Mompha* sp. May

**NEPTICULIDAE**

*Stigmella* sp. July

**NOCTUIDAE**

*Acronicta afflicta* May, July  
*Acronicta connecta* May, June  
*Acronicta impleta* May  
*Acronicta insularis* May, June  
*Acronicta lobeliae* May  
*Acronicta morula* May, July  
*Acronicta obliterata* May  
*Acronicta rubricoma* May, June  
*Acronicta vinnula* May, June, July  
*Anicla infecta* June, July  
*Cerma cerintha* May  
*Charadra deridens* May, June, July  
*Chrysodeixis includens* June  
*Condica confederate* June  
*Condica sutor* June  
*Condica vecors* May  
*Condica videns* May, June, July  
*Crambodes talidiformis* May  
*Ctenoplusia oxygramma* June  
*Cydosia aurivitta* May, June, July  
*Elaphria chalcedonia* June, July  
*Elaphria cyanympha* May  
*Elaphria versicolor* June  
*Elaphria* sp. May  
*Enigmogramma basigera* June  
*Eudryas grata* May, June, July  
*Eudryas unio* May, June

*Feltia subterranean* June, July  
*Galgula partita* May, June, July  
*Harrisimemna trisignata* May  
*Helicoverpa zea* June, July  
*Homophoberia apicosa* May, June  
*Leucania adjuta* July  
*Leucania incognita* June, July  
*Leuconycta lepidula* May, June  
*Marimatha nigrofimbria* May, June, July  
*Ogdoconta cinereola* May, July  
*Orthodes majuscula* May  
*Ozarba nebula* May  
*Peridroma saucia* May, June  
*Perigea xanthioides* June, July  
*Phosphila miselioides* May  
*Ponometia candefacta* May, June  
*Ponometia erastrionides* June, July  
*Protodeltote muscosa* July  
*Pseudeustrotia indeterminata* June, July  
*Raphia frater* May, June, July  
*Spodoptera frugiperda* May, July  
*Spodoptera ornithogalli* May, June, July  
*Spragueia apicalis* July  
*Spragueia leo* June, July  
*Tarache aprica* May, June, July  
*Tripudia quadrifera* July  
*Tripudia rectangular* June, July  
*Xanthopastis regnatrix* May

**NOLIDAE**

*Afrida ydatodes* May, June, July  
*Baileya acadiana* May, June, July  
*Baileya ophthalmica* May  
*Diphthera festiva* May  
*Garella nilotica* May, June  
*Meganola minuscula* June, July  
*Meganola phylla* July  
*Nola cereella* May, June, July

**NOTODONTIDAE**

*Cecrita guttivitta* May, June, July  
*Clostera inclusa* July  
*Coelodasys unicornis* May  
*Datana contracta* May, July  
*Datana integerrima* May, June, July  
*Furcula cinerea* May, June, July  
*Lochmaeus bilineata* May, June, July  
*Macrurocampa marthesia* July  
*Misogada unicolor* May, July  
*Oedemasia leptinoides* May, June, July  
*Paraeschra georgica* May, June, July  
*Peridea angulosa* May, June  
*Rifargia subrotata* May, June, July  
*Symmerista* sp. May, June, July

**OECOPHORIDAE**

*Inga sparsiciliella* May, June

**PSYCHIDAE***Cryptothelea gloverii* May, June, July**PTEROPHORIDAE***Adaina ambrosiae* May, June, July*Hellinsia* sp. May, July*Lioptilodes albistriolatus* May*Pselnophorus belfragei* May, June, July**PYRALIDAE***Acrobasis caryae* May*Acrobasis exsulella* July*Acrobasis juglandis* May*Acrobasis texana* May, July*Adelphia petrella* July*Cacotherapia flexilinealis* June, July*Canarsia ulmiarrosorella* June*Clydonopteron sacculana* July*Dioryctria pygmaeella* May, June, July*Ephesiodes* sp. May, June*Epipaschia superatalis* May, July*Homoeosoma electella* May, June, July*Hypsopygia binodulalis* July*Hypsopygia olinalis* May, June*Macrorrhinia endonephele* May, June, July*Moodna ostrinella* May*Phycitodes reliquellum* May*Pococera asperatella* July*Pococera expandens* July*Pococera* sp. May, June, July*Salebriaria annulosella* May*Salebriaria engeli* May*Sciota celtidella* May, June, July*Sciota uvinella* June, July*Tallula atrifascialis* July*Tampa dimediatella* May*Tlascala reductella* May, June, July**SATURNIIDAE***Actias luna* May, June, July*Anisota virginiana* May, June, July*Antheraea polyphemus* May, July*Dryocampa rubicunda* June*Eacles imperialis* May, June*Syssphinx bicolor* May, July**SPHINGIDAE***Agrius cingulata* May*Amorpha juglandis* May, June, July*Ceratonia undulosa* July*Darapsa myron* May, June, July*Dolba hyloeus* June, July*Enyo lugubris* May, June*Eumorpha pandorus* July*Eumorpha fasciatus* July*Hyles lineata* May, June*Isoparce cupressi* June, July*Manduca quinquemaculatus* May, June, July*Smerinthus jamaicensis* May*Sphecodina abbottii* June*Xylophanes tersa* July**TINEIDAE***Acrolophus heppneri* June, July*Acrolophus mycetophagus* June*Acrolophus piger* May*Acrolophus popeanella* June, July*Acrolophus texanella* May, July*Homostinea curviliniella* June*Phaeoses sabinella* June*Tiquadra inscitella* June*Xylesthia pruniramiella* June**TORTRICIDAE***Aethes* sp. May, June, July*Ancylicomptana* May, June*Ancylicomptana* July*Ancylicomptana* May, June*Argyrotaenia quercifolia* May, June*Argyrotaenia tabulana* May, June*Bactra furfurana* May, June*Bactra verutana* May, July*Cenopsis cana* May*Cenopsis ferreana* May*Cenopsis reticulatana* May*Cenopsis vabroui* May*Choristoneura argentifasciata* May*Choristoneura rosaceana* May, June, July*Clepsis peritana* May, June, July*Coelostathma discopunctana* May*Cydia caryana* May*Cydia gallaesaliciana* July*Cydia ingens* May*Cydia latiferreana* July*Ecdytolopha mana* May, June, July*Endothenia hebesana* May, June, July*Epiblema abruptana* May*Epiblema boxcana* July*Epiblema otiosana* May*Epiblema scudderiana* May*Epiblema strenuana* May, June, July*Epiblema undescribed* sp. July*Episimus argutana* June, July*Episimus tyrius* May*Eugnosta bimaculana* May, June, July*Eugnosta erigeronana* May*Eumaroza malachitana* May, June, July*Gypsonoma salicicolana* May*Larisa subsolana* May, June, July*Olethreutes* sp. June*Paralobesia viteana* May, June, July*Platphalonidia magdalenae* May, June, July*Platynota flavedana* May, June, July*Platynota rostrana* May, June, July

*Platynota semiustana* May  
*Pseudexentera knudsoni* May  
*Rhopobota dietziana* May, June, July  
*Rhyacionia rigidana* May  
*Rudenia leguminana* May  
*Sonia constrictana* July  
*Sparganothis distincta* May, June

*Sparganothis sulfureana* May, June, July  
*Sparganothoides lentiginosana* July  
*Strepsicrates smithiana* May  
*Suleima helianthana* June

**URODIDAE**  
*Urodus parvula* June



Montana Moths  
 From LepSoc Annual Meeting  
 Stuart J. Marcus  
[Stuart.marcus13@gmail.com](mailto:Stuart.marcus13@gmail.com)

The following moths were photographed during the 2023 LepSoc Annual Meeting in Billings, MT. Most were seen in Montana with a few in Wyoming when we were on a day trip. Over 30 of the species listed were NOT shown on either the BG or MPG website for Montana. They were all added to those websites plus iNat, including about a dozen that I was unable to get an ID below Family level.



*Chrysoteuchia topiarius* (Cranberry Girdler)



*Agapeta zoegana* (Sulphur Knapweed Moth)



*Lacinipolia renigera* (Bristly Cutworm)



*Digrammia neptaria* (Dark-bordered Granite)



*Pelochrista albiguttana* Group



*Walshia* sp.



*Tarache augustipennis* (Narrow-winged Midget)



*Acrolophus* sp. (No *Acrolophus* species are reported in BG or MPG for Montana)



*Gillmeria pallidactyla*



*Amphipyra glabella*  
(Smooth *Amphipyra*)



*Oegoconia* sp.



*Petrophila kearfottalis* (Kearott's *Petrophila*)



*Furcula wileyi*  
(This is the first photo for BG and  
MPG of this species).

**ALUCITIDAE**

*Alucita montana*

**AUTOSTICHIDAE**

*Oegoconia* sp.

**COSMOPTERIGIDAE**

*Limnaecia phragmitella*

*Walshia* sp.

**CRAMBIDAE**

*Chrysoteuchia topiaries*

*Crambus whitmerellus*

*Euchromius* sp.

*Loxostege cereralis*

*Perispasta caeculalis*

*Petrophila kearfottalis*

*Stegia* sp.

*Thaumatopsis* sp.

**DEPRESSARIIDAE**

*Agonopterix alstroemeriana*

**EREBIDAE**

*Apantesis blakei*

*Bleptina caradrinalis*

*Caenurgina crassiuscula*

*Caenurgina erechtea*

*Crambidia* sp.

*Hypoprepia miniate*

*Idia aemula*

*Idia americalis*

*Idia lubricalis*

*Vibia aurantiaca*

**GELECHIIDAE**

*Gelechia lynceella*

*Metzneria lappella*

*Recurvaria nanella*

**GEOMETRIDAE**

*Chlorochlamys chloroleucaria*

*Digrammia neptaria*

*Euchlaena tigrinaria*

*Eupithecia* sp.

*Fernaldella fimetaria*

*Haematopis grataria*

*Idaea demissaria*

*Iridopsis ephyraria*

*Leptostales ferruminaria*

*Protitame virginalis*

*Scopula limboundata*

*Tetracis cervinaria*

**LASIOCAMPIDAE**

*Malacosoma californica*

*Malacosoma disstria*

**LYONETIIDAE**

*Leucoptera* sp.

**NOCTUIDAE**

*Acronicta lepusculina*  
*Amphipyra glabella*  
*Anagrapha falcifera*  
*Apamea amputatrix*  
*Autographa californica*  
*Autographa californica*  
*Caradrina morpheus*  
*Cerma cerintha*  
*Crambodes talidiformis*  
*Dargida diffusa*  
*Euxoas* sp.  
*Lacinipolia renigera*  
*Laterologia ophiogramma*  
*Noctua pronuba*  
*Raphia frater*  
*Schinia jaguarina*  
*Tarache augustipennis*

**NOTODONTIDAE**

*Clostera* sp.  
*Furcula scolopendrina*  
*Furcula wileyi*  
*Gluphisia septentrionis*

**PTEROPHORIDAE**

*Gillmeria pallidactyla*

**PYRALIDAE**

*Aglossa cuprina*  
*Dioryctria auranticella*  
*Phycitodes mucidella*  
*Pococera provoella* (tentative)

**SPHINGIDAE**

*Hyles euphorbiae*

**TINEIDAE**

*Acrolophus* sp.  
*Tinea apicimaculella*

**TORTRICIDAE**

*Agapeta zoegana*  
*Ancylis diminuatana*  
*Argyrotaenia velutinana*  
*Choristoneura rosaceana*  
*Clepsis clemensiana*  
*Cydia populana*  
*Gypsonoma* sp.  
*Olethreutes* sp.  
*Pelochrista albiguttana* group  
*Pelochrista matutina*  
*Platynota idaeusalis*

**Virginia:** Harry Pavulaan, 606 Hunton Place, Leesburg, VA. 20176, E-Mail: [Pavulaan@aol.com](mailto:Pavulaan@aol.com)

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**c/o J. BARRY LOMBARDINI, THE EDITOR**  
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