

Newport Forest

September 20 2001

1:00 - 6:30 pm

Weather: precip. 23 mm, LM 26 C, FCF 18 C, cloudy, light wind from E

Purpose: to survey Hawthorns

Participants: Jim and Sheila Phipps, Pat, Kee

Almost as soon as we arrived at the trailer, Jim began to identify Hawthorns. In order along the Creek gallery forest edge, Jim found *Crataegus compacta*, *C. crus-galli*, *C. mollis*, and *C. holmesiani* (he later changed his mind about that species). He also pointed out a Native Crabapple (*Malus coronaria*) which, he said, people often send in with hawthorn material, thinking it's a kind of hawthorn.

Along the way, he also pointed out many other plants, some new, some we already had. Along the creek bluffs he found some Bittersweet, suggesting that we check if this is the introduced species or the much rarer native one. By the Fleming Creek bridge, he pointed out the Calico Aster and (lots of) *C. mollis* along the beginning of the FCT. He also found Aster cordifolius. We discussed the large willows by the bank. Were they really *Salix nigra* or were they *Salix X rubra*? On Eva's property he found a woodland goldenrod (See notes). On Tower Hill he found more *C. compacta*, some Deptford Pink, a *Malus domestica* and, in some bushes right beside the tower, several Chickadees accompanied by an American Redstart! On the other side of the tower, he found a pear tree (*Pyrus communis*).

Down in Harvey's Woods, there were several *C. punctata* and in the New Creek Forest (NCF) he declared the hawthorn forest there to be "90% *C. mollis* with some *C. punctata*." Right in the middle of the hawthorn forest, at metre 558, he found another *M. coronaria*. Just past this tree his attention was caught by a member of the violet family that neither he nor Pat could identify (S). Then, just beyond that, near metre 530, we encountered a probable White Mulberry which Jim thought we should check -- just in case it turns out to be a Red or Black Mulberry.

We returned to the trailer for a light lunch, spotted a large fritillary in the LM, then went down to the river where Jim and Pat discussed "river daisies" among other things. He then joined me for a stroll along the RSf trail. Just where the river bluffs meet the forest proper, he found some *C. macracantha*, *Solidago giganticus* (with its reddish purple stem, it resembles *S. canadensis*, but is otherwise distinct). The RSF has a lot of *C. mollis*, particularly at the E end, where the canopy is most open.

On the slope of the HB, he pointed out *Actaea* sp. (Dolls Eyes?) and, up on the HB, some Helleborine. I asked him what species of *Lonicera* that might be with the rather large, fat leaves. He said we should check it, as the leaves may be distinctive (See notes). I showed him the Prickly Ash section and helped him dig up a young specimen for him to grow. The tree we thought was a giant old Black Maple, with all its apartments, is actually a Sugar Maple, according to Jim. For my part, I discovered another new tree at the east end of the HB, a Large-toothed Aspen (*Populus grandidentata*). On the HB, he found more *C. macracantha*, *C. succulenta*, *C. mollis*, and *C. crus-galli*. He also pointed out that some of my planted trees such as a Black Cherry, Sugar Maple, and Chinquapin Oak appear to have taken. At the extreme E end, site of a clear-cut some 30-plus years ago, there was much *C. mollis* and some *C. compacta*.

New Species: (some we already have, but may not yet have logged)

American Redstart	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>	TH JP
<i>Crategus compacta</i>	Creek Gallery, HB, TH, HB JP	
<i>C. crus-galli</i>	Creek Gallery, HB/E JP	
<i>C. macracantha</i>	RB JP	
<i>C. mollis</i>	Creek Gallery, FCT, NCF, HB/E JP	
<i>C. punctata</i>	HW, NCF JP	
<i>C. succulenta</i>	HB/E JP	
Native Crabapple	<i>Malus coronaria</i>	Creek Gallery, NCF JP
Domestic Apple	<i>M. domestica</i>	TH JP
Domestic Pear	<i>Pyrus communis</i>	TH JP
Large-toothed Aspen	<i>Populus grandidentata</i>	HB KD
“False Chokecherry”	<i>Eleagnus [commutatis]</i>	RL JP
“Fat-leaved Honeysuckle”	<i>Lonicera</i> sp.	HB
Calico Aster	<i>Aster lateriflorus</i>	FC/W
Heart-leaved Aster	<i>Aster cordatus</i>	NCF
“woodland goldenrod”	<i>Solidago</i> sp.*	NCF
Giant Goldenrod	<i>Solidago giganteus</i>	RB
<i>Actaea</i> sp. (not new - discard?)		
Deptford Pink	<i>Dianthus armeria</i>	TH

Notes:

C. mollis grows from s. Ontario down to Texas. It has been staging an invasion of S. Ontario in recent decades, taking over as the dominant hawthorn in many areas.

The “fat-leaved” Honeysuckle has large, rounded, blunt-tipped (“oblong”) leaves that most closely resemble those of the Trumpet Honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*) (Newcombe 326) which grows in “s. Me to Iowa south.”

Deptford Pink is an alien species.

*Jim suggested that we check this species. The leaves are interspersed with the flower panicles, almost to the top of the stem. Possibilities include *S. arguta*, *S. caesia*, *S. hispida*, *S. squarrosa*.