

Newport Forest

June 25 2002

1:55 - 7:15 pm

Weather: prec. 0 mm; sunny/hazy; SW 5-10 kmh; LM 32; FCF 29

Purpose: maintenance and biosurvey work

Participants: Kee, Nic

It took nearly 3 hours in the boiling sun to finish the roof (2nd sun screen), fencing, and gate for the tree station. We stayed well-watered until about 4:30 when we drove on down to the trailer. The new weather station seems to be intact and working well. We added a side brace to get the main post vertical.

We had a short lunch during which we noticed that the Chipmunks have had at least one baby, with a half-sized little charmer running around looking for scraps and bird seed.

We prepared for a foray into the RSF, noting en route that the Thames is once more up over Nina's rock. The bluffs trail, especially the lower portions, have become somewhat overgrown and will need regular maintenance soon. In fact, throughout the portions that receive more light, the trail is becoming obscured by over-arching veg.

At Plot #8 we completed the survey as follows:

species	dbh	angle	distance	condition
HT	6 cm	200	6.0 m	double (both 6) alive
HT	5 cm	210	7.3 m	alive
HB	10 cm	220	5.7 m	alive
HT	2 cm	265	5.5 m	double (both 2) alive
BE	2 cm 3 cm	275	7.3 m	double - alive
BE	10 cm 13 cm	280	8.0 m	double - alive from log
BE	67 cm	315	9.7 m	alive
HT	1 cm	325	9.0 m	alive

Continuing along the RSf trail, Nic spotted several mushrooms, including two that I collected (S) (which turned out to be Psathyrellas) and one that we did not collect, the largest we'd seen so far (see end for description). (P)

New mushroom: cap 10 cm dia.; deeply everted, streaky brown/grey; gills white, distant; stem 8 cm x 2 cm, dull white, fibrous.

We stopped for a break on the HB, noting that the nest was still abandoned, with no raccoons about. We left DBs.

Walking through the BCF, we heard a crashing noise and saw two deer running along the old creek bed about 600 m away. then they stopped. I took this as a good sign, since they don't seem to regard us as quite the threat that they used to (when they would keep on running). Something similar happened about 20 minutes later, as we walked across the LM. We spotted five tom Turkeys walking across Harvey's Bean field, walking (not running) away from us.

At the end of the day, I had found just one wood tick on me, Nic none.

New species:

Platterful Mushroom *Tricholomopsis platyphylla* RSF/upland

(needs confirmation - check spores)