Newport Forest   July 13 2002   2:00 - 7:00 pm

Weather: prec. 0 mm; sunny/clear; calm; LM 33 C; FCF 26 C
Purpose: maintenance, birdwatching
Participants: Pat, Kee, Nic, Pete Reed

We invited Pete Reed, one of the best birdwatchers around, to look for Acadian Flycatchers as part of a survey that he and dave Martin are conducting for the MNR.

Coming in, we watered the trees at the station, then went down to the trailer, where we released Junior. While Nic took Pete around the FCT, i watered the trees in the island. While Pat and Nic took Pete on his second walk, I began to water the trees in the triangle. After Pete left, Nic and I finished watering the trees in the triangle. In the course of this, Nic discovered a dragonfly perched on a goldenrod stem and i took some nice close-up pictures. It turned out to be a Widow Skimmer, which is a new species for us. During a lunch break, Nic also found a what we all thought was a small beetle with a peculiar integument. Later, at home, i discovered that it wasn't a beetle at all but the larva of a case-bearing moth. It inhabits a little conical or fusiform house made of tiny pellets of dead leaf and excrement.

We went back to the station to complete another round of painting. The overall structure is now about half painted. While checking the intake pipe on the tank, I encountered a small bees nest and got stung on the forehead for my trouble.

Pete's Birds: (no Acadian Flycatchers)

FCT: 2 Green Heron fledglings; 3 American Robins; 2 Blue Jays; 1 Song Sparrow; 3 Baltimore Orioles; 1 White-breasted Nuthatch; 1 Hairy Woodpecker; 1 Northern Flicker; 1 Common Yellowthroat; 1 Red-eyed Vireo. (When he returned from this walk, he spotted a Veery trying to chase a Blue Jay away from the trailer feeder.

BCF & RL: 1 Yellow Warbler with fledged young (ET/BC); 1 Red-eyed Vireo with 3 eggs in nest (ET/BC); 1 Ruffed Grouse (BCF); 1 Common Yellowthroat (BCF); 1 Song Sparrow (BCF); 1 Spotted Sandpiper (RL); several Cedar Waxwings (RL)

new species:

Widow Skimmer	*Libellula luctuosa*	LM
Case-bearing Moth	fam. Coleophoridae	LM