

Newport Forest

August 24 2002

2:15 - 7:45 pm

Weather: mixed sun/cloud; calm; LM 24 C; FCF 22 C

Purpose: maintenance

Participants: Jonathan, Kee & Nic

With Jonathan's help, we watered all the trees, some of them extra-generously. The trees in the station, in particular, were flooded with water, thanks to the recent filling. We have lost no more trees to drought over the last month to six weeks, so a half-jug two or three times a week at least keeps the trees alive.

We brought Junior, who followed us around during the initial watering period but after our lunch break, he went up into his box, where he slept a good two hours while we finished up in the triangle.

While we watered in the triangle, Nic found a large caterpillar on one of our planted ashes. I made a careful note of the field marks and, on this basis, Jonathan was able to ID the caterpillar from our Peterson guide as a larva of the *Promethea* moth. Because the ash had been nearly stripped, we moved the caterpillar to another, much healthier tree (a volunteer ash) nearby. Hopefully, it will complete its life cycle. On nearby saplings we found two leaf-footed bugs of a species already recorded for the property (HB).

We took shovels, a brush-hook, a hoe and the clippers to the RL, where we groomed the trail from the landing out to the bluffs and more than halfway across, chipping as well. In the process, we broke both shovels, the short-handled chipping shovel and the new lady-spade. While Nic carried the tools back to the trailer by the short path, Jonathan and I walked the trail through the RSF, over the Hogsback, through the BCF, and out.

New species:

Promethea Moth

Calosamia promethea

LM nm/JD