

Newport Forest

July 6 2003

12:40 - 6:45 pm

Weather: prec. 10 mm; sun/cloud; SW < 10 km/h; LM 30 C; FCF 26 C

Purpose: Annual Butterfly Count, RSF tree mapping project

Participants: Pat, Kee, Nic (plus Bill, Marjorie, George, Mac and Osa)

The first thing I noticed coming in was a new species of horsefly perched on the van. It had a gold stripe down its abdomen and fine, twin purple bands across its otherwise green eyes. The fly was about 1.5 cm long.

The butterfly people included the Preiksaitis family (Bill, George and Marjorie, as well as two others, whose last names I didn't catch. (Mac and Osa - from Sweden) It was a particularly good time to survey butterflies and the atlassers made three good finds at Newport forest. (See the list below.) The three new butterflies are the Baltimore Checkerspot, the Hickory Hairstreak, and the Banded Hairstreak.

After the butterfly people left, Nic and I set out for the RSF to complete Plot # 5. This is hot and very busy work, with mosquitoes plaguing us, rose bushes grabbing at our clothes, and uneven ground underfoot, including hidden deadfall. It took us nearly two hours to finish the remaining third of the plot. Mapping dozens and dozens of White Ash saplings (99% of which never get to the canopy) consumes the most time.

Results of the mapping are listed below. Coming up the RSf side of the HB, I found a new Russula, the Blackish-red Russula. (See new species.)

RSF survey: Plot # 5 from 210 to 360 degrees:

angle	species	distance	ht./diam/circ.	condition
210	White Elm	1.7	2 m	good
215	Box Elder	7.7	15 cm	good
222	Hawthorn	5.6	8 cm	dead
225	Box Elder	5.2	15 cm	good
230	Hawthorn	2.2	1 m	good
235	Hawthorn	8.8	2 m	poor
240	White Elm	6.6	2 m	good
245	Hawthorn	6.0	3 m	fair
250	Hawthorn	7.2	2 m	fair
255	White Ash	8.8	4 m	fair
272	White Ash	9.4	2m	fair

275	Hawthorn	1.1	2 m	fair
285	Hawthorn	8.8	2.5 cm	good
285	Box Elder	6.7	96 cm circ.	good
285	White Ash	8.5	3 m	fair
312	Hawthorn	1.1	3m	fair
313	White Ash	8.8	2 cm	fair
315	White Ash	7.2	2 cm	good
315	Multiflora Rose	4.4	2 m	fair
322	Multiflora Rose	6.7	3 m	good
325	White Ash	7.6	3 m	fair
327	White Ash	6.6	3 m	fair
330	White Ash	8.1	2 cm	fair
335	White Ash	3.6	3 m	fair
335	White Ash	4.9	2 m	fair
338	Hawthorn	7.6	3 m	good
340	White Ash	5.3	2 m	fair
340	Hawthorn	6.2	2 m	good
342	White Ash	4.7	2 m	good
342	White Ash	5.3	2 m	fair
342	White Ash	4.7	3 m	fair
343	Hackberry	9.1	2 m	good
343	Hackberry	4.5	2 m	good
345	White Ash	8.6	1 cm	fair
347	Hawthorn	7.6	3 m	good
348	White Ash	8.1	1 cm	fair
350	Box Elder	9.9	94 cm circ.	good
353	White Ash	8.2	2 m	fair
348	White Ash	7.7	1 m	fair
348	Hawthorn	3.6	2 cm	good
348	Hawthorn	5.1	1 cm	fair
350	White Ash	6.9	3 m	fair
353	Box Elder	5.5	32 cm circ.	good
357	White Ash	9.6	3 m	good
000	White Ash	9.1	2 m	fair
002	White Ash	5.7	2m	good
005	Box Elder	6.8 (data check)		

Butterflies:

Baltimore Checkerspot (LM); Banded Hairstreak (OH); Cabbage White (RL); European Skipper (LM); Eyed Brown (GF); Great Spangled Fritillary (LM/HBF); Hickory Hairstreak (GF); Little Wood Satyr (GF); Meadow Fritillary (LM); Monarch (GF); Northern Crescent (ET); Pearl Crescent (ET); Question Mark (LM/BCF); Silvery Checkerspot (LM); Silver-spotted Skipper (Tr); Tiger Swallowtail (RL); Wood Nymph (GF)

New Species:

Blackish-red Russula	<i>Russula Kromholtzii</i>	HB/RSF
Baltimore Checkerspot	<i>Euphydryas phaeton</i>	LM
Banded Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium calanus</i>	OH
Hickory Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium caryaevorum</i>	GF
Greenheaded Horse Fly	<i>Hybomytra lasiophalma</i>	Tr

Phenology:

Swamp milkweed and Moneywort in bloom, a distinct lack of Monarch butterflies