

Newport Forest

July 23 2003

1:55 - 7:15 pm

Weather: prec. 26 mm; sun/cloud; N < 10 km/h; LM 26 C; FCF 24 C

Purpose: finish tree-mapping in RSf, fix tree station

Participants: Kee, Nic

As we approached the property along the Fleming line, we could see no less than eight TVs circling the Upper Meadow. Even if something had died, we wouldn't have the time to investigate.

While Nic prepared his homemade theodolite for the tree-mapping project, I toured the two cores, noting that some TTs had UV damage, with some leaves yellowed, others browning at the edges. The TTs in the N Core are generally less affected than those in the S Core. The rain has been a Godsend!

As we walked to the RSF, I tried to catch mosquitoes along the way. This is harder than it looks. In the net, they proved very difficult to trap in the killing jar. In the end, I simply took them off my skin and plopped them directly into the jar.

After the recent rains, new fungi were up everywhere, including several new species. Along the Thames River Trail over the bluffs, Nic found a zoned-cap mushroom which I thought might be a Zoned-cap Milky. (S) Further on, he found an orange mushroom growing on a log. (S) Just before we entered the RSf, Nic spied the skull of large fish (possibly a catfish) which had been presumably dragged up from the river bank by some scavenger. The head lay just a metre from the trail, on the river side of it.

Beset by mosquitoes, hidden deadfall, stinging nettles, and a staggering number of ash saplings, we finished the RSf tree project by completing Plot #4. Strolling to the bench in the RSF, we took a small break during which Nic went on a small wander, only to find a large area with literally hundreds of chanterelles coming up. (S) Then, as we ascended the HB, we found a new, orangy-brown Russula (S) and a Fibre-head right on the path. I sent Nic down the HB to check the Gauthier posts (as I had done in the RSF), with the same negative result. As I waited for Nic to return, I strolled around, checking the trees. I was surprised to discover that there were a lot more Ironwoods and Bluebeeches than I had thought - all just east of the benches. Nic returned with another Russula, very reddish (S).

I decided that it would be better if he attempted the IDs of this latest batch of specimens, as I would have my hands full with the mosquitoes.

Around supper time we headed up to the tree station to remove the wooden lattice screens from the roof, replacing them by foot-wide strips of translucent canvas.

New species:

Chanterelle	<i>Cantherellus cibarius</i>	RSF/HB
Zoned-cap Milky	<i>Lactarius zonarius</i>	RB/trail
Fibre-head	<i>Inocybe [fastigiata]</i>	HB/RSF/trail
“Forest Russula”	<i>Russula silvicola</i>	HB
“Rusty Bracket”	<i>Haplophilus nidulans</i>	BCF

RSF Tree-mapping project: Plot #4

angle	species	distance	diam/ht	condition
130	Multiflora Rose	9.5	3 m	good
135	Box Elder	6.9	16 cm	good
135	trail edges @ 7.5 and 8.2			
137	White Ash	9.1	2 m	fair
140	2 White Ashes	8.8	2 m	fair
142	White Ash	8.8	1 cm	fair
142	White Ash	9.5	2 m	fair
145	White Ash	4.5	3 m	fair
145	White Ash	6.2	1 cm	good
145	White Ash	7.7	3 m	fair
145	Box Elder	7.2	2 m	good
145	White Ash	6.3	1.5 cm	good
145	White Ash	4.5	1 cm	fair
152	White Ash	8.0	2 m	good
152	trail edges @ 9.5 and 12.0			
155	Multiflora Rose	4.5	2 m	good
155	White Ash	5.1	2 cm	fair
155	White Ash	9.1	1 cm	fair
157	White Ash	9.3	3 m	fair
158	White Ash	9.2	2 m	fair
161	Box Elder	7.5	26 cm	good
161	White Ash	9.1	2 m	fair
163	White Ash	9.5	1.5 cm	fair
166	White Ash	7.8	3 m	fair