

Newport Forest

October 28 2004

2:00 - 6:15 pm

Weather: prec. 4 mm; clear; calm; LM 18 C; FCF 17 C

Purpose: to collect lichen, fungi & mosses

Participants: Kee

At the farm gate, I took a picture of Nina's sharecropper harvesting the beans in the field next to the HP. (P, changed film) At the trailer I filled both feeders and took a picture of the old field plants in senescence. (P) I then took the swede saw to the new trail and cut through the 18-inch log that was previously blocking the trail. I walked the new trail to the end, carving a bit as I went, before continuing out into the open FC bluffs. I jumped across the "pinch" in the creek, getting a soaker in the process. The Green Frog that was still there (seemingly the same individual). I measured the minimum bridge length at eight feet.

I returned by the old FCT, which isn't in bad shape. (Lots of raccoon scat on the bridge.) I then took a break in the nook, enjoying the sight of birds coming and going, not to mention one of this year's chipmunks stuffing his cheeks so full of birdseed, I thought he would explode.

I walked the TRT to gather my samples, finding very little along the "insect pueblos" except one non-fruiting moss with almost microscopic shoots. (S) On the bluffs part of the trail, I found a "recumbent moss" on several logs and branches (S), as well as a new Cladonia on another log. (S) In the RSF I found a stick with Little Nest Polypores on it, but nothing new in any of the three departments. (I should go off-trail more.) On the HB I found what looked like a Tinder Polypore (S). On the return trail through the BCF, I found a minute creeping moss on an ash (S), and then two little LBMs in the meadow which (at home) I determined to be most like *Conocybe tenera*, but I am not certain enough of the ID to log it.

Birds: (8)

American Crow (HB/W); American Robin (RSF); Black-capped Chickadee (Tr); Blue Jay (Tr); Downy Woodpecker (Tr); Mourning Dove (Tr); Red-bellied Woodpecker (Tr); White-breasted Nuthatch (Tr)

New species:

Tinder Polypore
Trumpet Lichen

Fomes fomentarius
Cladonia fimbriata

HB KD
TR Bluffs KD