

**Newport Forest**

Wednesday June 8 2005

1:55 - 7:25 pm

**Weather:** prec. 2 mm; haze/sun;  $S \leq 20$  kmh; RH 71%; LM 32 C; FCF 29 C

**Purpose:** to water and mulch trees in regen zone

**Participants:** Kee

I made my first relative humidity (“RH” above) measurement today using two thermometers, some wet kleenex and a table of temperatures. I propose something a little more sophisticated on the next occasion, but I am satisfied that the measurement is reasonably accurate, owing to the extra time I gave the wet bulb to cool.

With 2 1/2 loads of water, I watered the gate trees, the GF trees, and the two cores in the LM. There was time to mulch another 8 trees, only. I was pleased to see the rapid growth of some of the newly planted trees, especially the KCs (20 cm!) and the BCs. The ashes look particularly strong, as well. I noted that about 1000 gal. of water have been used so far this season. I also took several photos of young trees in the field (contrasting shield vs no shield), as well as two vues generales from the middle of the track right opposite the old BW, with the right side of the frame aligned with the left side of the track. (10P)

I took several breaks in the nook, almost every time spotting a wood tick either on me or near by. The sound of churring from the box led me to think that Momma has moved the kits back where they were born. There were no kits in the bottom portion of the BM snag, either. There seem to be two species of wood tick around, one with an orange band or marking on its abdomen. A chipmunk showed up at the Hickory feeder. While watering a tall ash tree in the NC, I spotted a large female spider with an egg case under her and the beginnings of a web inside the water can for that tree. Since the web sac was carried under the abdomen (rearward) I knew it to be a Lycosid spider and not a Pisaurid. Since Lycosids do not spin webs, except when about to release the spiderlings from the sac, I judged that the blessed event was at hand - but I couldn't wait around.

**Birds:** (14)

Blue Jay (GF); American Crow (EW); American Robin (FCF); Common Grackle (Tr); Common Yellowthroat (BCF); Field Sparrow (UM); Great Crested Flycatcher (GF); Mourning Dove (Tr); Northern Cardinal (GF); Red-bellied Woodpecker (Tr); Rose-breasted Grosbeak (BCF); Song Sparrow (LM); Turkey Vulture (LM); Wood Thrush (FCF)