

Newport Forest Saturday September 20 2008 2:25 - 7:10 pm

**Weather:** prec. 0 mm; RH 53 %; BP 100.0 kPa; hz/sn; calm; T 34° C

**Purpose:** to collect plants

**Participants:** Pat, Kee

We examined the roadwork and condition of fences before entering the property. The only missing fencing is adjacent to the East Ravine (ER).

We walked the TRT, noting that the river was up over Mussel Beach (MB) once again. We picked up a couple of fungi on the way to the Sand Bar (SB), where Pat got to work examining the unusual mix of plants colonizing the sand bar that has formed over the last 5-6 years. In the process, she found the other American Hazel I had planted several years ago. It has not grown as much as I had hoped, but looked healthy. Now it remains only to find the pawpaws.

We saw an enormous black Ichneumon wasp crawling beside a liner log. It's ovipositor measured nearly two inches! The riot of vegetation that Pat had to deal with included Moonseed vines with leaves up to 10" across, 10-foot cup plants, Wingstem, Giant Ragweed, Climbing Buckwheat and other Polygonum spp., Wild Cucumber vines, not to mention various wild sunflowers and the ubiquitous Stinging Nettles (still armed & dangerous).

We lugged our armload of specimens back to the trailer, birding somewhat futilely along the way. We both spotted the same species of (new) stink bug while organizing the camp. (See below.) Pat also found a new moth, small and black, with the arrangement of white spots and other marks characteristic of the common Grape Leafroller Moth.

**Birds:** (12)

American Crow (EW); American Goldfinch (WM); American Robin (BCF); Blue Jay (GF); Canada Goose (TR); Common Flicker (BCF); Common Grackle (RB); Gray Catbird (BCF); Kildeer (TR); Mourning Dove (GF); Northern Cardinal (TR); White-breasted Nuthatch (GF)

**New species:**

Tumbleweed	<i>Amaranthus albus</i>	Nk PD Sp20/08
Nodding Smartweed	<i>Polygonum lapathifolium</i>	SB PD Sp20/08

(already on list: found by Jane Bowles in '02)

Two-spotted Stink Bug *Perillus bioculatus* Tr kd/PD Sp20/08

Grape Leaffolder Moth *Desmia funeralis* Tr pd/KD Sp20/08