Insect Report

at left; NewRove Beetles are rather dull-coloured insects for the most part, usually black or brown. But this species is marked with bright yellow, making it an easy ID. Rove beetles have only vestigial wings and are therefore essentially ground dwellers — unless they climb a plant, as here.

Yellow-bellied Rove Beetle Trypherus frison NF SM Jl30/09
photo courtesy Steve Marshall

at left; Hover Flies, which belong to the family Syrphidae (the Flower Fly Family), frequently resemble wasps or bees, what some biologists call "protective mimicry." They hang out with bees, as they have the same diet. It is worthwhile, with some of these images to drag them onto your desktop to enjoy the detail, as in the specimen below.

Hover Fly Taxomerus germinatus NF SM Jl30/09
photo courtesy Steve Marshall

at left; Fireflies of the genus Photinus all look pretty much alike. Both larvae and adults are bioluminescent. All species are also predacious on other insects. There are several species from Photinus and other genera, such as Pyralis, in our area. Firefly Photinus sp. NF SM Jl30/09
photo courtesy Steve Marshall

at left; Here is a picture of a Photinus firefly (different sp? ) from below, showing the bioluminescent organ at the end of its abdomen.

Firefly Photinus sp. NF SM Jl30/09
photo courtesy John Pearson (BugGuide.net)

at left; The picture-winged flies (otitidae) are all small flies that are easy to miss, yet worth a close look for the interesting patterns, a variety of speckles and bands to be found on the wings of these critters. This one has three incurved (hence the scientific name) white bands on its wings.

"Three-banded Otitid" Tritoxera incurvata NF SM Jl30/09
photo courtesy Steve Marshall