

Bulletin

Newport Forest Thursday August 26 2010 2:15 - 6:00 pm

weather: prec. 0 mm; RH 68%; BP 102.2 kPa; NE 0-15 kmh; sn/cld; T 24° C

purpose: maintenance & collecting

participants: Kee

Darren was supposed to show up with his chain saw to clear the Blind Creek trail of deadfall, but got sidelined by his duck-banding activities. The gravel truck from Johnston Bros, rolled in about 3:30 pm to dump two yards of b-gravel at the back end of the Upper Meadow near the track. We use this gravel to fill in the slough (aka "the mudhole") to keep the property accessible through the (wet) late winter.

Speaking of ducks, while waiting for Darren I wandered down to the creek where I started up five smallish, dark-looking ducks that I could not identify. They seem to have been dabbling near the Upper Rapids, about 150 m away. I found some interesting insects simply resting on the upper or lower surfaces of leaves along the creek, getting plenty of slightly out-of-focus shots of them. (&\$#@%&!) I did the same along the edge of the Gallery Forest by the trailer, finding the "Gold Assassin Bug" along the way. The Hedgehog Gall was on an oak leaf near the power lines.

I also rebuilt the deer feeder (which we use as a distraction from bud-nipping during the winter) and watered the five gate-trees very thoroughly.

Leps: (7)

Anglewing [Question Mark]; Cabbage White (LM); Great Spangled Fritillary (LM); Milbert's Tortoise-shell (LM); Monarch (LM); [Northern] Crescent (LM); Red-spotted Purple (LM)

New species:

Hedgehog Gall Wasp *Acraspis erinacei* GF KD Au26/10

'White-spotted Derbid' *Otiocerus degeeri* GF/FC Au26/10

'Gold Assassin Bug' *Zelus luridus* GF KD Au26/10

'Checkered Wolf Spider' *Pardosa [milvina]* Nk KD Au26/10

Notes: 1. The Hedgehog Gall Wasp is a Cynipid wasp that produces a spiny ovoid gall on the midvein of White Oak leaves. 2. I found the nymphal form of this assassin bug: bright green with a (distinctive) row of gold marks along the dorsum.

Bee protocol: (numbers for previous visit in parentheses below)

HB BB OB SF LF SW LW

34 27 0 4 1 1 0

(20 15 1 6 5 1 1)

Note: The honeybees have increased by 70%, even as the number of goldenrod plants in bloom has doubled. One may estimate the total number of honeybees in the Lower Meadow by multiplying the numbers above by the sampling ratio, about 50:1, yielding approximately 1700 honeybees in the (1 ha) Regen Zone.

IMAGES:

(click on image to enlarge)



Young catalpas (despite their unsuitability as a potential forest tree)

(click on image to enlarge)



The 'One-spotted Derbid Planthopper' has a pastel hue with a single white spot on the

(click on image to enlarge)



One of our resident raccoons leaves the water tub (which attracts game to the

Stealth Cam 08/26/2010 04:23:33 ● 57F

*make good drying stress indicators.
This one has just started to droop. Note
chlorotic (yellowing) leaves.*

*outer wing margins. Insect is about 1 cm
long. photo courtesy Tom Murray at pBase*

trail camera).