

Date and time: Tuesday November 01 2016 1:50 - 7:40 pm.

Weather: Pr 18 mm; RH 85%; BP 101.4 kPa; sun haze; S 10-30 kmh; T 24°C.

Contents: Winding up the ATBI season with a blitz and a camp dinner.



As the sun set, all was in readiness. The light trap had been set up and the UV lights turned on. But it would be a long wait for the first insect to show up.

We arrived in the early afternoon, determined to wring out all we could from what might be our last real opportunity to extend the list of the year's new species. The wind was up and the sky was filled with hazy contrails. But the temperature was a surprising 24°C and the rain gauge showed that some 18 mm of rain had recently fallen — good for the fungi, not to mention the upcoming fungus workshop. Registration for the workshop is **now closed**, with all places filled.

We set out to use a new technique of searching on our hands and knees. That didn't work very well, so I switched to sweeping with a net. I swept only vegetation that was still green, mostly trackside grasses, sedges and small herbaceous plants. In the Lower Meadow I picked up another Four-spotted Paria Beetle (new last month and here it was again), a small bug or two, a new species of Fungus Beetle, several damsel bugs, a new Lady Bug and the nymph of a Milkweed Bug.

We then extended our search into the Blind Creek Forest, marvelling at the many fungi as we went. One fungus that caught our eye is shown in the IMAGES section below. “A *Panellus*”, we thought. Toward the river I swept up our second record of the ‘Green Damsel’, shown just below, all tangled up in plant material from the bottom of my net. It’s not called “luridus” for nothing! And no, it’s not a nymph.



All things considered, our species haul for the day surprised me with the numbers, not to mention three new species, instead of the usual one or two — or none! The “one that got away” on this occasion was a small metallic moth that reflected high-lights in rainbow colours, perched on the quarter panel of our van. I dived for my camera, but too late to catch this wonder.

Around four pm our guests, Steve and Karen Logan, showed up for a dinner at five, a celebration of our warm seasons at Newport Forest and an opportunity to recap our haul for the year. (See Summary below.) Dishes for Pat’s “camp stew” were already laid out when I spotted a boldly-marked new fly crawling along the rim of a dish. I seemed to recognize the markings on its wings and wasted no time in getting some decent images. Our first Flutter Fly. I also captured two Syrphid flies on film in the Nook, the kind of find that has me wondering: if I just sat around all day, would the number of insects coming to us still be the same?

Over dinner Karen Logan told us of a recent trip she made along with the rest of the Moraviantown people to visit the Lenape (Delaware) homeland, now entirely covered by New York City and environs! She told us that in the early days of the city, Broadway was known as Lenape Avenue. She also passed along some amazing stories of an entire second city underneath the great metropolis. Partly the older subway system. partly heating tunnels and other infrastructure, the underground city has something like 30,000 street people living in it! “The police just

don't go there," she said. We include this little item as yet another hint at an increasingly relevant study: urban ecology.

Steve and Karen stayed on until sunset. It took a good half hour for the first insects to show up at the light trap. It consisted of half an old pillow case suspended at its corners in mid air in the middle of the Nook. Three small UV flashlights illuminated the sheet. Some midges flew in but we ignored them in favour of larger critters. Then came two Stink Bugs, but no moths, beetles, or any other insect. We all left together through the gathering darkness.

Phenology: Leaf-fall 90% complete; corn harvest underway.

New Species: (17% new)

'Scripted Lady Beetle'	<i>Cycloneda munda</i>	LM KD Nv01/16
Twenty-spotted Lady Beetle	<i>Psyllobora vigintimaculata</i>	BCF KD Nv01/16
Flutter Fly	<i>Toxonevra superba</i>	GF KD Nv01/16

(For "old" species see the end of this Bulletin.)

Species Notes:

The *Psyllobora* beetle can be seen in the IMAGES section below.

ATBI Summary:

We had hoped for something like 100 new species for the year, but we could only manage 87 to this point, thanks in part to the decline of insect life on site. Here is how the finds broke down into (informal) groups. However, we await a hundred or so species of Nematode from the Powers' survey last summer.

Springtails	1	Spiders	10
Mayflies	1	Dragonflies	1
Grasshoppers	1	Bugs	5
Plant Hoppers	2	Aphids	1
Beetles	14	Caddisflies	1
Moths	18	Flies	11
Wasps	3	Ants	3
Mussels	1	Birds	2
Fungi	3	Plants	9

IMAGES:



This Late Fall Oyster (*Panellus serotinus*) has fruited on a log by the trail since the last rain.



The Twenty-spotted Fungus Beetle (*Psyllobora vigintimaculata*) was captured in the Blind Creek Forest, where most of the fungal action was found today. *Psyllobora* is a genus of fungus-eating Lady Beetles (Coccinellidae), technically fungivores. Our image, although definitely of this species, is not presentable owing to poor focus. The beetle is no more than 3 mm in length. Source: Bug Guide — Fair Use provisions.

Reappearances:

Bowl-and Doily Spider (*Frontinella communis*); Shore Spider (*Pardosa [milvina]*); Mangora Orbweaver (*Mangora* sp.); Small Milkweed Bug (*Lygaeus kalmi*); 'Rose-winged Damsel' (*Nabis roseipennis*); 'Green Assassin Bug' (*Zelus luridus*); Eastern Boxelder Bug (*Boisea trivittata*); 'Two-tone Stink Bug' (*Banasa calva*); Tarnished Plant Bug (*Lygus lineolaris*); 'Four-spotted Paria Beetle' (*Paria quadrinotata*); Spotted Potato Beetle (*Diabrotica undecimpunctata*); Asian Lady Beetle (*Harmonia axydris*); Isabella Tiger Moth (*Pyrrharctia isabella*); Northern Paper Wasp (*Polistes fuscata*), American Hover Fly (*Eupeodes americanus*).

Holdovers: 'Indented Reduviid' bug, 3 mm brown spider with indistinct markings.