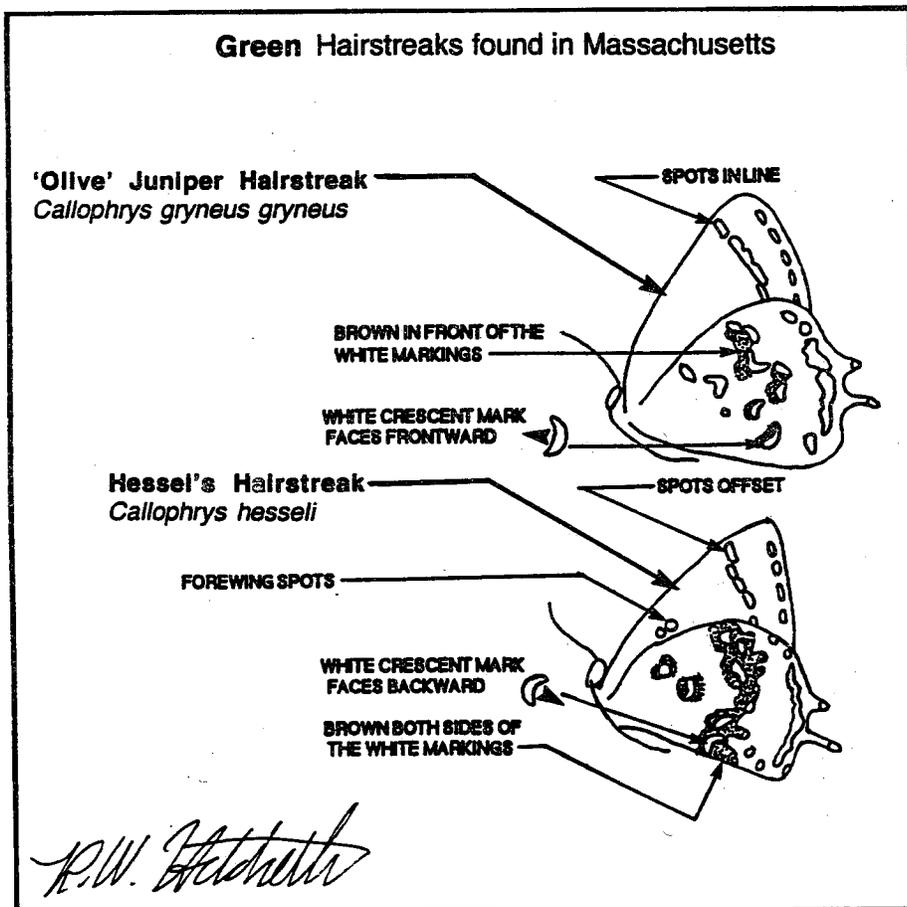


# MASSACHUSETTS BUTTERFLIES No. 7

February 1996



"MASSACHUSETTS BUTTERFLIES" is the semi-annual publication of the Massachusetts Butterfly Club, a chapter of the North American Butterfly Association. Membership in NABA-MBC brings you "American Butterflies," "Massachusetts Butterflies," "The Anglewing," and all of the benefits of the association and club, including field trips and meetings. Regular annual dues are \$25.00. National office : NABA 4 Delaware Road , Morristown, NJ 07960 [201-285-0907]. Local address : P.O.Box 211 Foxboro, MA 02035-0211. Separate subscription to "Massachusetts Butterflies" for non-members of NABA-MBC is \$6.00. "Massachusetts Butterflies" is published in February and August. Address subscription inquiries to Lyn Lovell, Treasurer, NABA-MBC, 198 Purchase St. Milford, MA 01757 [508-474-7327].

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Articles for Submission : We encourage our members to contribute to "MA Butterflies." Send your double-spaced notes, articles, or illustrations at least 4-6 weeks prior to publication. Thank you.

## 1995 Season Summary and Records

Our thanks, once again this year, to the Club members who sent in their records of Massachusetts butterfly sightings. As in the past, not all records received are published in "Massachusetts Butterflies." For each species, early and late flight dates, maximum high counts, and various other representative records are included. Note that data from the Fourth of July Butterfly Counts are published in the August issue of "Massachusetts Butterflies" and with few exceptions are not incorporated into the annual summary. One asterisk signifies a new "earliest flight date" and two asterisks signifies a new "latest flight date." Locality BMBS is Broad Meadow Brook Sanctuary in Worcester; WBWS is Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary. Those records of ovipositing, mating, and larvae received for 1995 are on file. Special thanks to Cathy Asselin, Tom Dodd, Richard Hildreth, and Roger Pease for supplying these.

OBSERVERS : C.Ackroyd [CAc], Amherst Butterfly Surveyors [ABS], K.Anderson [KA], S.Arena [SA], C.Asselin [CA], T.Aversa [TA], J.Berry [JB], S.Bolton [SB], A.Cassie [AC], B.Cassie [BC], J.Cassie [JCa], S.J.Cassie [SJC], J.Center [JC], M.Champagne [MC], G.Daniels [GD], M.Fairbrother [MF], R.Forster [RF], T.Fowler [TF], T.Gagnon [TG], T.Hansen [TH], R.Hildreth [RH], C.Kamp [CK], A.Keith [AK], W.Keith [WK], L.Lovell [LL], S.Mahler [SM], B.Malcolm [BM], P.Miliotis [PM], K.Parker [KP], R.Pease [RP], M.Pelikan [MP], C.Phillips [CP], D.Potter [DP], E.Raymond [ER], M.Rines [MR], D.Savich [DS], D.Small [DSm], J.Sones [JS], S.Stichter [SS], C.Tibbetts [CT], J.Trimble [JT], T.Tyning [TT], R.Walton [RW], T.Wright [TW].

1995 was another intriguing year for butterflies in Massachusetts. The spring season was quite normal, but was followed by a summer when few butterflies visited traditionally favorite nectaring sources, such as milkweed, Meadowsweet, and Yarrow. This phenomenon was noted in Worcester, Norfolk, and Bristol counties. Summer and fall brought uncommon and rare southern butterflies, more this season than any in recent memory. These included Pipevine Swallowtail, Cloudless Sulphur, Little Yellow, White M Hairstreak, American Snout, Fiery Skipper, Sachem, and Ocola Skipper. The four Sachems were the first records for Massachusetts, and the Ocola Skipper was only the third ever for the state. The luxurious fall of 1994 was not repeated in 1995, and the season was over by late October, with only one observer noting any butterflies into November.

Species flying at record early dates were American Copper, Bronze Copper, Southern Hairstreak, Frosted Elfin, Eastern Tailed-Blue, Silvery Blue, Painted Lady, Common Buckeye, Little Wood Satyr, Silver-spotted Skipper, Wild Indigo Duskywing, European Skipper, Tawny-edged Skipper, Sachem, and Ocola Skipper. Late-flying species were Cloudless Sulphur, Bog Copper, Eastern Pine Elfin, Silver-bordered Fritillary, Meadow Fritillary, Viceroy, Appalachian Brown, Common Ringlet, Common Wood Nymph, Fiery Skipper,

Cobweb Skipper, Peck's Skipper, Long Dash, Northern Broken Dash, Sachem, Mulberry Wing, and Dun Skipper.

New high, single-locality counts were set for Orange Sulphur, American Copper, Silvery Blue, Harris' Checkerspot, Eastern Comma, Red-spotted Purple, Northern Pearly Eye, Northern Cloudywing, Arctic Skipper, Least Skipper, Indian Skipper, Northern Broken Dash, Mulberry Wing, and Dun Skipper.

## SWALLOWTAILS

There is still a great deal of confusion concerning the sibling species Canadian Tiger Swallowtail and Eastern Tiger Swallowtail. It was the editor's understanding that the paler smaller individuals flying at Lilac-blooming time are Canadian Tiger Swallowtails and that the summer individuals are Eastern Tiger Swallowtails. Dr. Dave Winter measured and carefully examined all of the specimens collected during the Massachusetts Butterfly Atlas Project. He reports that there is a mix of characters exhibited in a great many of the specimens, making it difficult to assign them to one species or the other. There is also the question of how many broods each species has. That is why, at least for the time being, we lump them together in our summary. That said, there were very good numbers of Tiger Swallowtails seen in Hawley and Peru in June. Spicebush Swallowtails seemed to have had an off year, except as noted at one southern Plymouth site, where numerous Spicebush Swallowtails flew along sandy roads in Scrub Oak-Pitch Pine woodland. Sassafras saplings were common along the roadside, but no nectaring sources were observed. A single Pipevine Swallowtail was observed at the Middlesex Fells.

## WHITES AND SULPHURS

Roger Pease found both Mustard White and West Virginia White at October Mountain on April 30. The fields at Katama, Martha's Vineyard are most definitely the place to undertake your advanced field studies of Orange Sulphurs; Allan Keith noted 1500+ there in the fall. One can easily find historical accounts of vast numbers of sulphurs in meadows and at roadside mud puddles, but the reality is that we have no such reports in Massachusetts in recent years, and 100 or more sulphurs of one species at one locale is very seldom reported (or seen?). This makes the Martha's Vineyard count all the more noteworthy. While we are speaking of sulphurs, please exercise caution in reporting white, or "alba" forms of Clouded and Orange Sulphurs. It is easy to separate them from Cabbage Whites but separating them from one another is another matter. Cloudless Sulphurs were observed at Wellfleet, Eastham, Chatham, three localities on Martha's Vineyard, and two in South Dartmouth. The duration of the flight was at least forty-four days [sixty-four days in 1993], with one as late as October 23 at South Dartmouth. A single Little Yellow was found in a South Dartmouth garden in late September.

## GOSSAMER WINGS

Harvesters are known to be generally quite ephemeral; finding them from year to year can be a task. Tim Fowler is blessed with a colony in South Hadley that has persisted for years. An American Copper put in a very early appearance at Wellfleet. Several good counts were made, highlighted by 177 at Mansfield. The rare Bronze Copper was an early show at Charlemont, and Bog Copper was observed at the Wachusett Reservoir into early August. The summer of 1995 was exceptionally poor for all of the commoner hairstreaks. A Southern Hairstreak in Wellesley was the earliest on record and the White M Hairstreak in Sharon was a rare find. Elfin reports indicate a typical year, though Eastern Pine Elfin was apparently less common than usual. The Frosted Elfin colony at Turners Falls is healthy, as is seemingly the population of Henry's Elfins at Ponkapoag Bog in Canton. Eastern Tailed-Blue was early at Sudbury and the ever-expanding Silvery Blue populations showed themselves first on May 20. Eighty-five at Stow, as seen by Stan Bolton on May 31, was an extraordinary count, but was eclipsed by the hundreds in Adams.

## BRUSH-FOOTED BUTTERFLIES

The American Snout is a heart-stopper this far north. It is unlikely that it occurs annually, but one was seen in late July at North Gloucester. None of the fritillaries had above-average years, though the lesser fritillaries were both recorded flying later than ever. We have had no reports of Gray Comma for several years. Eastern Commas appeared in fairly good numbers across the state. Of particular interest was Richard Hildreth's discovery of seven on the roots of a Swamp Oak in Northbridge. Question Marks were seen about as frequently as Eastern Commas. Painted Ladies were a rather rare commodity during the butterfly Atlas years [1986-1990]. In fact, if the years 1991 and 1992 are added to the equation, Painted Ladies were noted in only forty-two towns in seven years of intensive searching. By comparison, Painted Ladies were reported from forty-two towns this year alone, making 1995 one of the best flight years on record. For six months and three days, Massachusetts was a pretty good place to look for Painted Ladies! A Common Buckeye flight never materialized; though there was an earliest-ever individual on June 4, only one other was noted all year. Diane Potter observed enviable numbers of both forms of the Red-spotted Purple in western Massachusetts in June and July. Tom Dodd found a strikingly late Viceroy. The late August Hackberry Emperor in Springfield provided the first evidence of a second brood there. Outstanding numbers of Northern Pearly Eyes were found on the western Massachusetts Fourth of July Butterfly Counts; eight were seen at Savoy on July 12. Most Eyed Brown records are of small numbers, so fourteen at Sudbury was a good counting effort by Brian Malcolm. Common Ringlets are abundant at many Massachusetts sites; the 1000+ recorded at Easton and Hingham are certainly numbers that are reproducible in many meadows in the state. To show that butterflies are where you find them, note the October 3 Common Wood Nymph [and October 19 Variegated Fritillary] from Norwood. Both butterflies were seen on the playground

of a suburban schoolyard - the fritillary was the only one seen by the compiler all year and the nymph was the latest ever recorded in the state. Don't give up on your little patch; it is bound to produce something interesting. The Monarch flight was under-sized, with a maximum fall count of 250+ at Eastern Point, Gloucester.

## SKIPPERS

Wellesley was a good place to hunt for skippers in 1995. For example, Richard Forster found twenty-five Northern Cloudywing on June 10 and as many Wild Indigo Duskywing on June 1. The cloudywing count was the highest on record for the species, as were the records of twenty-six Arctic Skippers at Windsor and 170 Least Skippers at Easton. The September NABA-MBC meeting at Cape Ann visited the site where Chris Leahy found several Fiery Skippers in the fall of 1991. The area has an abundant growth of Peppermint, a fine butterfly nectaring source, so the club members were hopeful of good butterflies - still, no one really expected to find another Fiery Skipper. Yet, there it was, a fine male, well observed at close range by all present. Thanks to Matt Pelikan and Sharon Stichter for their diligence in staying with the "different-looking" skipper. Another Fiery Skipper was found, in late October, by Tom Dodd at that butterfly mecca, Feely Park in Sudbury. Leonard's Skippers put on a good show on Cape Cod and elsewhere. This handsome skipper is usually observed in very small numbers at any one locality, so twenty at Truro, twelve at WBWS, and eleven at Easton were unexpectedly high totals. The Middlesex Fells Reservation, which has been shown to be a first-class butterfly spot, has a first-class butterfly watcher in Brian Malcolm. Among his outstanding finds for 1995 were eighty-two Indian Skippers at the Fells on June 4. Tawny-edged Skipper was seen in larger numbers than in most recent years. All of the June individuals were found nectaring at Ox-eye Daisies. There is a very small, almost unnoticed second brood of Long Dash in August. This year, bright males were seen until the end of the month at Easton and Hanover. The 30+ Northern Broken Dashes at Sudbury was the best total on record for this somber skipper. Four Sachems, again the first ever in Massachusetts, were the northern extension of an overwhelming flight in the mid-Atlantic states. The Massachusetts butterflies were all females and were observed over a three-month span. Doubtless, there were many more. If you have an opening on your July 24 calendar and you like skippers, maybe Richard Forster will take you along to his Dover skipper spot. On this date in 1995, Richard saw 45+ Mulberry Wings and 100+ Dun Skippers, both counts of which are record highs for these species. Richard Walton, in the course of producing his video on skippers, followed up on an Atlas period record for Two-spotted Skipper in Millis and saw three to four of these very scarce and elusive butterflies. Dusted Skipper was noticeably uncommon this year. Not a single one was seen at the Foxboro site that normally has at least twenty to thirty in June. Finally, and remarkably, another Ocola Skipper was found in Massachusetts this fall - same observer and same area as last year's!

**BLACK SWALLOWTAIL**

MAY	9	Deerfield	1	DP
	14	Hingham	3	BC+co.
	31	Amherst	4	DC
JUN	22	Framingham	5	RF
JUL	30	Concord	5	RW
	31	North Truro	4-6	TH
SEP	3	Windsor	1	DP
	4	Leicester	1	CK
	16	Martha's Vineyard;S.Monomoy	1;1	AK;JS

**CANADIAN TIGER SWALLOWTAIL  
EASTERN TIGER SWALLOWTAIL**

MAY	6	Plymouth	1	CA,TD
	9	Tolland;Canton;Hanover	1;1-2;1	TF;RF;SM
JUN	5	Hawley	75	DP
	17	Prescott	15	DS
	21	Peru	70	DP
	24	Mt.Greylock	44	TD
JUL	12	Savoy	30	DP
SEP	10	Wellesley	1	RF

**SPICEBUSH SWALLOWTAIL**

MAY	12	South Hadley	1	TF
	23	BMBS	1	CP
JUN	1-30	Cape Ann [max. 3 on 6-15 and 6-19]		CT,DS
JUL	8	Leyden	4	DP
	19	Marstons Mills Airport	6-10	TH
	20	Plymouth	11-12	BC
SEP	10	Martha's Vineyard	1	AK
	12	South Dartmouth; Cape Ann	1;1	BC;CT,DS

**PIPEVINE SWALLOWTAIL**

JUL	4	Middlesex Fells	1	BM
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**MUSTARD WHITE**

APR	30	October Mountain	2	RP
JUN	3	Windsor	3	MF

**WEST VIRGINIA WHITE**

APR	30	October Mountain	6	RP
MAY	6-24	Ashfield	2	DP
	7	Amherst	1	MF

	9	Deerfield	2	DP
	16	Heath	4	DP
	23	Charlemont	1	DP
	28	Windsor	1	DSm

### CABBAGE WHITE

APR	9	Cambridge;Wellesley	1;1	BM;RF
	18	Truro	10	JS
MAY	28	Northampton	54	DSm
JUN	26	World's End,Hingham	80-100	BC
JUL	3	Ipswich	40	JB
	23	Plum Island	30	BM
AUG	12	Eastham	80+	BC
	20	Northbridge	40	RH
SEP	12	Gooseberry Neck,Westport	127	BC
OCT	23	So.Dartmouth;Westport	4;3	BC
	27	Sudbury	1	TD
	29	West Newbury;Cape Ann	1	RF;CT,DS

### CLOUDED SULPHUR

APR	17	Greenfield	1	DP
	18	Northampton	1	TF
	22	Newbury	3	SS
MAY	28	Northampton	18	DSm
SEP	4	Leicester	20	CK
	11	Deerfield	25	DSm
OCT	14	Milford;Rowley	11;3	RH;JB
	23	S.Dartmouth;Sunderland	10;7	BC;DC
	24	Cape Ann	2	CT,DS
	30	Sudbury	1	TD

### ORANGE SULPHUR

APR	23	Katama;Chilmark,MV	1;2	AK
	29	Milford	1	RH
MAY	27	West Boylston	5	TD
JUL	8	Leyden	10	DP
SEP	1-30	Cape Ann	[max. 16 on 9-27]	CT,DS
	2	Katama,MV	1500+	AK
OCT	14	7 Gates Field,MV	150-200	AK
	23	So.Dartmouth;New Salem;Pittsfield	64,1;1	BC;DSm;DP
	1-29	Cape Ann	[max.16 on 10-1]	CT,DS
NOV	11	7 Gates Field,MV	30+	AK
	22	7 Gates Field,MV	2	AK

**CLOUDLESS SULPHUR**

SEP	10	Gay Head, MV	2	AK
	11	Chatham	6	JS
	14	Eastham	1	JS
	28	South Dartmouth	2	BC, SJC
	29	Squibnocket, MV	2	GD
OCT	1	Chilmark	2	AK
	3	WBWS	2	JS
	6,9	Chatham	2,1	JS
	23**	South Dartmouth	1	BC

**LITTLE YELLOW**

SEP	23	South Dartmouth	1	CAC
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**HARVESTER**

MAY	14	Northbridge	1	RH
	27	South Hadley	1	TF
JUN	3	Weston	1	BM
	16	Ashburnham	1	RW
JUL	12	Savoy	2	DP
	16	Sudbury	1	BM, RW
	22	Petersham; Easthampton	1;1	BM; TD+co.
	26	Holliston	1	RF
SEP	12	Holliston	1	RF

**AMERICAN COPPER**

APR	23*	Wellfleet [WBWS]	1	JS
MAY	4	WBWS; World's End, Hingham	6;3	JS; BC, SJC
	16	East Longmeadow	50+	KP
	21	Truro	85	BM
JUN	3	Weston	58	BM
	4	Mansfield	177	BC
JUL	10	Newbury	25+	SS
OCT	8	East Longmeadow	1	KP
	9	South Monomoy Island	1	JS
	12	Sudbury	1	TD
	14	Chilmark, MV	2	AK

**BRONZE COPPER**

JUN	9*	Charlemont	1	DP
JUL	5	Sudbury	1	RW

### BOG COPPER

JUN	21-27	Sudbury	[max.17 on 6-27]	TD
	28	Provincetown	20-30	TH
JUL	2	Warwick	15	DSm
	3	Mansfield	25	BC
	3-12	Acton	[max.7 on 7-3]	SB
	22	Petersham	2	BM+co.
AUG	5**	Sterling/Clinton	1	TD

### CORAL HAIRSTREAK

JUL	8	Deerfield	1	DP
	12	Savoy	4	DP
	12-30	Cape Ann	[max.1]	CT,DS
	15	Middlesex Fells	7	BM
	19	Marstons Mills Airport	4-6	TH
	22	Petersham	1	BM+co.
	30	Eastham,WBWS;Athol	3,8;1	TD,CA;DSm
	31	Nantucket	6	TD,CA
AUG	19	Holden	1	TD,CA

### ACADIAN HAIRSTREAK

JUN	30	Sherborn	1	TD
JUL	15	Northboro;W.Boylston	2;2	TD,CA
	27	Savoy	2	DP

### EDWARDS' HAIRSTREAK

JUN	25	Acton	1	RW
JUL	1,16	Sudbury	4,2	BM
	4,13	Cape Ann	1,1	CT,DS
	10,15	Middlesex Fells	1,2	BM
	15	W.Boylston;Northboro	1;1	TD,CA
	25	Framingham	1	RF

### BANDED HAIRSTREAK

JUN	26	World's End,Hingham	1	BC
	27	Hardwick	1	DSm
JUL	4	Middlesex Fells;Turners Falls	2;1	BM;DSm
	10,15	Cape Ann	1,5	CT,DS
	10-20	Foxboro	2	MC
	12	Newbury	1	SS
	16	Sudbury;Foxboro	1;1	BM,BC

**STRIPED HAIRSTREAK**

JUN	26	Granby	1	TF
JUL	1	Wayland	1	RW
	4	Middlesex Fells	1	BM
	6	Wellesley	1	RF
	16	Sudbury;Heath	3;1	BM;DP
	19	Hingham;Cape Ann	1;3	BC;CT,DS
	30	Wellfleet	1	TD,CA

**SOUTHERN HAIRSTREAK**

JUN	22*	Wellesley	1	RW
JUL	4	Middlesex Fells	1	BM

**JUNIPER HAIRSTREAK**

MAY	14	Foxboro	8-10	BC+co.
JUN	4-17	North Truro	2-6	TH
	20	Foxboro	1	BC

**BROWN ELFIN**

APR	17	Hopedale	1	TD
	23	WBWS	10-12	JS
	27	Truro	40	JS
MAY	4	WBWS;Montague	30+;4-6	JS;MF
	6	Erving;Plymouth	3;5	DP;TD,CA
	7	Amherst	4	ABS
	8	BMBS	13	CP+co.
	14	Cape Ann;Rutland	6;1	CT,DS;DSm
JUN	4	Middlesex Fells	1	BM

**HOARY ELFIN**

APR	27	Truro	2	JS
MAY	4,7	WBWS	3,6	JS
	6	Plymouth	2	BC
	26	Truro	1	TH

**FROSTED ELFIN**

MAY	3*	Sudbury	1	TD
	14	Turners Falls	20+	MF

### HENRY'S ELFIN

APR	22-24	Plum Island	1	DSm+v.o.
	23	MV State Forest	1	AK
	26	Canton	1	RF
MAY	3-8	Sudbury	1	TD
	6	Canton	8	RF
	21	Truro;Ipswich	2;1	BM;JB
	23	Acton	1	RF
	26	BMBS	1	CP+co.
	28	Holliston	1	RF

### EASTERN PINE ELFIN

APR	18	Middleboro	1	KA
MAY	4	Montague	1	MF
	7	Ipswich	1	JB
	9	Tolland;Concord	1;1	TF;SB
	31	Rowe	2	DP
JUN	6	Heath	2	DP
	16	Ashburnham;Baldwinville	1;1	RW;DSm
JUL	2**	Orange	1	DSm

### EARLY HAIRSTREAK

MAY	31	Rowe	1	DP
JUN	1	Heath	1	DP

### GRAY HAIRSTREAK

MAY	4	Wellesley	1	RF
	5	Cape Ann	1	CT,DS
JUL	19	Newbury;Marstons Mills	2;2	SS;TH
	25	Framingham	2	RF
AUG	25	Chatham	6-8	TH
	26	Sterling/Clinton	3	TD,CA
SEP	16	Cape Ann;Plum Island	1;1	CT,DS;JC
OCT	9	Newbury	1	SS

### WHITE M HAIRSTREAK

JUL	9	Sharon	1	TD,CA
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### EASTERN TAILED-BLUE

APR	27*	Sudbury	1	TD
	29	Milford	1	RF
MAY	6	Plymouth	1	BC

	8	Wellesley	1	RF
	14	Cape Ann	25	CT,DS
SEP	24	Cape Ann	1	CT,DS
OCT	3	Chilmark,MV	1	AK
	10	Foxboro	5	BC,AC,JCa
	13	Newton	2	RH
	14	Truro	1	JS

#### SPRING AZURE and other azure species

APR	17	Hopedale;Rockport	17;1	TD;BM
	18	Belchertown;Petersham	1;1	DSm
MAY	6	Canton;Plymouth	37;40	RF;TD,CA
JUN	25	Mount Greylock	25	TD,CA
JUL	27	Savoy	20	DP
AUG	12	Cape Ann	1	CT,DS
	21	South Hadley	1	TF

#### SILVERY BLUE

MAY	20*	Easton	2	BC,LL
	22-30	Cape Ann	1	CT,DS
	23	Stow	1	JC
	30-6/17	Prescott,Gate 20	[max.14 on 5-30]	DSm
	31	Stow	85	SB
	31-6/2	Prescott,Gate 17	[max.3 on 6-2]	DSm
JUN	3	Windsor	3	MF
	3-17	Cape Ann	[max.5 on 6-11]	CT,DS
	4	Heath;Northboro	1;1	DP;TD
	5	Concord	1	RW
	9	Ashburnham	2	RW
	18	Montague	1	MF
	[nd]	Adams	hundreds	fide TT

#### AMERICAN SNOUT

JUL	31	North Gloucester	1	CT,DS
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#### VARIEGATED FRITILLARY

JUN	4	Plymouth	1	RW
	16	Wellesley	1	RF
	20	Sudbury	1	TD
JUL	15	Sterling/Clinton;W.Boylston	4;3	TD,CA
	19	Newbury	1	SS
AUG	13	Charlemont	1	JT
	19	Sterling/Clinton	6	TD,CA
SEP	3	Boylston	1	CK

	10	Petersham	1	DSm
OCT	14	Sterling/Clinton	1	TD,CA
	19	Norwood	1	BC+co.

#### GREAT SPANGLED FRITILLARY

JUN	16	Charlemont	3	DP
	27	Sudbury	1	TD
JUL	8	Leyden	12	DP
	27	Savoy	23	DP
SEP	24	Heath	1	DP
OCT	8	Newbury	1	SS

#### APHRODITE FRITILLARY

JUN	30	Holliston	1	RF
JUL	1	East Longmeadow	1	KP
	22	Petersham	5	BM+co.
SEP	3	Boylston;Orange	1;2	CK;DSm
	4	Northbridge	1	RH
	6	Foxboro	1	BC

#### ATLANTIS FRITILLARY

JUN	21	Worthington;Peru	1;1	DP
	24	Mount Greylock	3	TD,CA
JUL	12	Savoy	35	DP
AUG	5	Athol	1	DSm
	7	Becket	15	DP
	22	Ashburnham	1	RF
SEP	5	Charlemont	2	DP

#### SILVER-BORDERED FRITILLARY

MAY	21	Milford	1	RH
	24	Sudbury	1	TD
JUN	16	Easton	13	BC
	23	Charlemont	3	DP
	29	Millis	5	RW
JUL	12-21	Acton	4-5	SB
AUG	1-21	Athol	[max.5 on 8-18]	DSm
SEP	2	Newburyport	1	RF
	3	Royalston,Ashburnham;Easton	1,2;4	RF;BC
	18	Provincetown	1	TH
OCT	8**	Milford	1	RH

**MEADOW FRITILLARY**

MAY	14	Montague	1	MF
JUN	21	Peru	4	DP
	27	Heath	2	DP
JUL	8	Greenfield	5	DP
SEP	24**	Hadley	1	JC,DSm

**HARRIS' CHECKERSPOT**

JUN	5-16	Easton	[max.50 on 6-16]	BC
	16	Amherst	2	DC
	17	Prescott	7	DSm
	18	Rutland;Rowe;Holden	6;2;200	DSm;DP;TD
	24	Milford	10	RH
	30	Monroe	4	DP
JUL	4-12	Savoy	2	DP

**PEARL CRESCENT**

MAY	9	Deerfield	1	DP
	20	Northampton;Acton		
		Easton;Petersham	1;1;1;1	TF;RF;BC;DSm
	28	Holliston	60	RF
	30	Marstons Mills Airport	40-50	TH
JUN	10	Northbridge	61	RH
JUL	15	West Boylston	55	TD
	25	Sudbury	67	TD
AUG	9	Amherst	50	ABS
	10	Heath	50	DP
	12	Barnstable;Northboro	100;45	BC;TD
SEP	30	Newbury;Truro	1;1	SS;DSm
OCT	4	Chilmark	2	AK
	10	Newton;Wellesley;Truro	1;1;2	RH;RF;JS
	13	Sudbury	3	TD

**BALTIMORE CHECKERSPOT**

JUN	16-7/3	Easton	[max.100 on 7-3]	BC
JUL	4	Martha's Vineyard	7	AK
	8	Gill	1	DSm
	9	North Truro	10	TH
	15	Middlesex Fells;Northboro	1;1	BM;TD
	16	Sudbury	1	BM

**QUESTION MARK**

MAY	21	Truro	3	BM
	23	West Bridgewater	2	BC
JUN	1	Wellesley	3	RF
	17	Northboro	2	TD
JUL	10	Middlesex Fells	2	BM
	16	Sudbury	2	BM
	31	Nantucket	2	TD,CA
SEP	16	Plum Island	1	JC
OCT	22	Wakefield	1	RF

**EASTERN COMMA**

MAR	25	Middlesex Fells	1	BM
	26	South Hadley	1	TF
JUN	3	Ashfield	3	DP
	20-30	Wellesley	2	RF
JUL	4	Middlesex Fells	2	BM
	8	Deerfield	2	DP
	12	Savoy	2	DP
	16	Sudbury	2	BM
AUG	20	Northbridge	11	RH
SEP	23	Northampton	1	DSm

**COMPTON TORTOISESHELL**

MAR	19	Middlesex Fells	1	MR
	26	South Hadley	1	TF
APR	1	Belmont	2	BM
MAY	8	Ipswich	1	JB
	12	Concord	2	FW
JUL	15	Newton	1	MM
SEP	24	Rowe	1	DP
	28	Sunderland	1	DC
OCT	2	Heath	1	DP
	10	Newton	1	RH

**MOURNING CLOAK**

MAR	13-28	Sudbury	[max.3 on 3-28]	TD
	19	Wellesley;Hanover	1;1	RF;SM
	26	Chilmark,MV	2	WK
	27	Sunderland	2	DC
APR	13	Boston-downtown,10 stories up!	1	JB
	17	Middlesex Fells	12	MR
	23	Cape Ann	5	CT,DS
MAY	16	Pittsfield	5	DP
JUN	4	Heath	5	DP
SEP	16	Cuttyhunk Island	3	ER+co.

OCT	8	Newbury	1	SS
	9	Northboro;Hingham;Cape Ann	1;1;1	TD;BC;DS

**MILBERT'S TORTOISESHELL**

APR	18	Northampton	1	TF
JUN	17	Bolton	1	JC
	18	Amherst	1	MF
JUL	25	Heath	1	DP

**RED ADMIRAL**

APR	17	Montague	1	DP
	20	Off Chatham;Middleboro	1;1	JS;KA
MAY	31	Wellesley;Stow	2;2	RF;SB
JUN	10	Northbridge	3	RH
JUL	10	Middlesex Fells	3	BM
	19	Marstons Mills Airport	10-12	TH
SEP	27	Cape Ann;South Dartmouth	4;9	CT,DS;BC
OCT	12	Wellesley	1	RF
	14	Milford	1	RH

**AMERICAN LADY**

APR	25	WBWS	2	JS
MAY	4	Heath;World's End,Hingham	1;5	DP;BC,SJC
	21	Truro	8	BM
	22	Cape Ann	10	CT,DS
JUN	20	N.Uxbridge	2	JS+co.
JUL	31	Nantucket	3	TD,CA
SEP	6-30	Cape Ann	[max.5 on 9-27]	CT,DS
	12,17	South Dartmouth	9,5	BC
OCT	13	Cape Ann	1	CT,DS
	14	Chilmark	1	AK

**PAINTED LADY**

APR	20*	Freetown;Middleboro;Canton; Foxboro;Cape Ann	5-10;1;1;1;1	TA;KA;RF;BC;CT,DS
	22-23	Martha's Vineyard	15	AK
	22-23	South Dartmouth	5	ER
	23	Northbridge;Hanover	3;1	RH;SM
	24	Belchertown	2	DSm
MAY	6	Plymouth	5	BC
JUL	19	Marstons Mills Airport	20-30	TH
AUG	8	World's End,Hingham	4	BC
	31-9/4	Martha's Vineyard	15+	AK

SEP	5-30	Cape Ann	[max.15 on 9-27]	CT,DS
	9-10	Chilmark,MV	8+	AK
	12,27	South Dartmouth	6,5	BC
OCT	14	Chilmark,MV	1	AK
	23	South Dartmouth;Cape Ann	3;1	BC;CT,DS

#### COMMON BUCKEYE

JUN	4*	Middlesex Fells	1	BM
	24	Milford	1	RH
JUL	6	Lovell's Island	1	BC
	8	East Longmeadow	1	KP

#### RED-SPOTTED PURPLE

[unbanded form; aka Red-Spotted Purple]

JUN	4	Mid.Fells;Northboro;S.Hadley	1;1;1	BM;TD;TF
	9	Hanover	1	SM
	10	Middlesex Fells	5	BM
	18	Rutland	21	DSm
	20	Heath	35	DP
	21	Plainfield;Worthington;Peru	25;22;57	DP
	30	Monroe	73	DP
JUL	12	Savoy	55	DP
AUG	11-13	Martha's Vineyard	5	AK
SEP	10	Chilmark,MV	1	AK

[banded form; aka White Admiral]

JUN	3	Easthampton	1	TF
	20	Heath	43	DP
	21	Plainfield;Worthington;Peru	10;12;23	DP
	29	Norton	1	DL
	30	Monroe	83	DP
JUL	12	Savoy	35	DP
SEP	5	Heath	1	DP

#### VICEROY

MAY	31	Stow	1	SB
JUN	20	Heath	7	DP
AUG	4	Orange Airport	7	DSm
	20	Northbridge	12	RH
	21	Easton	26	BC
SEP	10	Grafton	1	CK
OCT	23**	Sudbury	1	TD

**HACKBERRY EMPEROR**

AUG	20	Springfield	1	RP
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**NORTHERN PEARLY EYE**

JUN	30-7/26	Holliston	3	RF
JUL	1	Middlesex Fells	1	BM
	10	Tolland	1	TF
	12	Savoy	8	DP
	31	Heath;Ashfield	1;1	DP
AUG	7	Canton;Becket	3;2	RF;DP

**EYED BROWN**

JUL	1	Millis	1	BC
	3	Foxboro	1	BC
	4	Granby;Ashburnham	1;5	TF;RF
	8	Greenfield;Gill	1;1	DP;DSm
	10	Middlesex Fells	1	BM
	16	Sudbury	14	BM
	22	Petersham	4	BM+co.

**APPALACHIAN BROWN**

JUN	24	Milford	1	RH
	25	Harvard	1	JC
JUL	2	Orange	2	DSm
	12-30	Cape Ann	[max.3 on 7-12]	CT,DS
	22	Petersham	1	BM+co.
	30	Wellfleet	3	TD,CA
AUG	1-30	Holliston	1	RF
	3	Sudbury	1	TD
	16	Cape Ann	2	CT,DS
SEP	3**	Milford	1	RH

**LITTLE WOOD SATYR**

MAY	22*	Amherst	1	MF
	25	Wellesley	1	RF
JUN	1	Wellesley	300	RF
	4	Middlesex Fells;Amherst	95;50	BM;MF,DC
JUL	1-28	Cape Ann	[max.26 on 7-12]	CT,DS

**COMMON RINGLET**

MAY	21	Montague;E.Longmeadow	1;1	MF;KP
	23	Cape Ann;Deerfield;W.Bridgew.	1;1;2	DS;DP;BC
JUN	5	Easton	1000+	BC

JUL	24	Montague;Wellesley;Dover;Sudbury	1;3;1;2	MF;RF;RF;TD
AUG	8	World's End,Hingham	1000+	BC
SEP	24	Heath;Hadley	1;3	DP;DSm
OCT	3	Sudbury	1	TD
	12	Wellesley	1	RF
	19**	Amherst	1	DC

#### COMMON WOOD NYMPH

JUL	2	Sudbury	1	RW
	3	Foxboro	1	BC
	3-31	Cape Ann	[max.14 on 7-29]	CT,DS
	31	Nantucket	139	TD,CA
AUG	20	Nelson's Island,Rowley	108	JB
	30	Heath	12	DP
SEP	1	Newbury	20+	SS
	9	Cape Ann	1	CT,DS
OCT	3**	Norwood	1	BC+co.

#### MONARCH

MAY	14	World's End,Hingham	1	BC+co.
	16	Northampton	1	TG
JUL	12,27	Savoy	20	DP
	30	Heath	30	DP
SEP	1-30	Cape Ann	[max.250+ on 9-11]	CT,DS
	12	Gooseberry Neck,Westport	74	BC
	16	Gay Head,MV;Cuttyhunk	150+;100+	AK;ER+co.
OCT	8	Newbury;Cape Ann	12+;72	SS;CT,DS
	23	S.Dartmouth;Sunderland	12;4	BC;DC
	24	Wellesley;Rutland	1;1	RF;DSm
	29	Gay Head,M.V.	1	AK

#### SILVER-SPOTTED SKIPPER

MAY	16*	Northampton	1	TG
	20	Easton	1	BC
JUL	2	Charlton	7	RH
	15	Mid.Fells;Sterling/Clinton	16;29	BM;TD
	16	Sudbury	10	BM
	19	Marstons Mills Airport	10	TH
	24	North Truro	12-14	TH
AUG	20	Cape Ann	2	CT,DS
	21	Leyden	2	DP

### HOARY EDGE

JUN	16-18	Wellesley [max.4 on 6-18]		RF
	18	Norfolk	1	BC
JUL	1-4	Middlesex Fells	1-2	BM
	2	Chariton	5	RF
	3	Greenfield	2	MF
	22	Laughing Brook WLS	1	TD+co.

### SOUTHERN CLOUDYWING

JUN	9-24	Middlesex Fells	1	BM
	17	Mansfield	1	BC
	20	Foxboro	1	BC
	22	Falmouth	6-8	TH
	27	North Andover	3	RF
JUL	4	Turners Falls;Greenfield	3;1	MF;DSm
	8	Gill	1	DSm

### NORTHERN CLOUDYWING

MAY	28	BMBS	3	CP+co.
	31	Concord	1	RF
JUN	4	Mansfield	7	BC
	6	Heath	9	DP
	10	Middlesex Fells;Wellesley	7;25	BM;RF
	23	Cape Ann	1	CT,DS

### DREAMY DUSKYWING

MAY	4	Plymouth	1	BC
	14	BMBS;Rutland	1;1	CP;DSm
	24	Eastham	8-10	TH
JUN	4	Cape Ann;Mansfield;Amherst	7;5;1	DS;BC;DC
	10	Middlesex Fells	7	BM
	17	Eastham	8	TH
	22	Framingham	1	RF

### SLEEPY DUSKYWING

MAY	6	Middlesex Fells;Plymouth	2;4	BM;BC
	20	Easton	1	BC

### JUVENAL'S DUSKYWING

APR	26	Foxboro	1	BC
MAY	3	Easton	6	BC
	4	WBWS;Montague;Wellesley	4;1;2	JS;MF;RF

	6	Middlesex Fells	12	BM
	14	Cape Ann	9	CT,DS
	24	Eastham	10	TH
JUN	4	Cape Ann;Middlesex Fells	5;3	CT,DS;BM
	10	Northbridge	1	RH
	22	Hardwick	2	DSm

#### HORACE'S DUSKYWING

MAY	23	West Bridgewater	1	BC
JUL	16	Sudbury	1	BM
	30-8/4	Grafton	[max.4 on 7-30]	CK

#### WILD INDIGO DUSKYWING

APR	26*	Foxboro	1	BC
MAY	3	Easton	2	BC
	8	Wellesley	1	RF
	27	Deerfield	4	MF
	31	Stow	12	SB
JUN	1	Wellesley	25	RF
	12	Marstons Mills Airport	20	TH
	25	Framingham	10	RF
JUL	19	Marstons Mills Airport	20-30	TH
AUG	8	Deerfield	15	DP
	20	Sharon	1	BC
SEP	29	Sudbury	1	TD

#### COMMON SOOTYWING

MAY	22	South Hadley	1	TF
	24	Concord	1	RW
	28	Middlesex Fells;Holliston	1;1	BM;RF
JUN	4	Mansfield	3	BC
	10	Northbridge	1	RH
JUL	8	Gill	1	DSm
	16	Sudbury	3	BM
	21-24	Sharon	1	MC

#### ARCTIC SKIPPER

JUN	3	Windsor	1	MF
	5	Acton	4	SB
	9	Ashburnham	3	RW
	10	Concord;Windsor	1;26	RW;DSm
	18	Rowe	1	DP
	19	Savoy	4	DP
	21	Peru	1	DP

### LEAST SKIPPER

JUN	3	Easthampton	1	TF
	6	Northfield	8	RW
	16	Easton	170	BC
	16-17	Amherst	36	MF,DC
	28	Leyden	6	DP
JUL	2	Lincoln	5	BM
AUG	3-31	Cape Ann	[max.8 on 8-9]	CT,DS
	12	Northboro	13	TD
OCT	2	Wellesley	1	RF
	14	Chilmark,MV	2	AK

### EUROPEAN SKIPPER

JUN	*1-23	Charlemont	[max.1000 on 6-23]	DP
	10	Wellesley	100	RF
	18	Hopedale	300	TD
	30	Cape Ann	2000+	CT,DS
JUL	21	Heath;Acton;Cape Ann	1;1;1	DP;SB;CT,DS

### FIERY SKIPPER

SEP	16	Rockport	1	MP,SS,+co.
OCT	25**	Sudbury	1	TD

### LEONARD'S SKIPPER

AUG	16	Warwick	1	DSm
	18-21	Athol	1	DSm
	19	W,Boylston;Clinton	2;1	TD
	20	Northbridge	1	RH
	21	Cape Ann;Amherst	1;2	CT,DS;ABS
	23-31	Easton	[max.11 on 8-31]	BC
	31	Leyden;Sudbury	1;1	DP;TD
SEP	3	Milford;Sherborn	1;1	RH
	4,10	Cape Ann	1,1	CT,DS
	4	Chilmark,MV;Northbridge	1;3	AK;RH
	9	North Truro	10-11	TH
	12	Truro;WBWS	20;12	JS
	30	WBWS	6	DSm
OCT	3-10	WBWS	[max.6 on 10-3]	JS

### COBWEB SKIPPER

MAY	16-27	Turners Falls		MF
	20	Easton	20+	LL,BC
	22	Orange Airport	8	DSm
	21	Truro	4	BM
	28	BMBS	7	CP

JUN	30 4-10**	Upton Middlesex Fells	3 [max.4 on 6-4]	CK BM
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#### INDIAN SKIPPER

MAY	27	Montague;Easton	1;1	MF;BC+co.
	31	Gill	2	DP
JUN	4,10,17	Middlesex Fells	8 2;6 5;6	BM
	27	North Andover	1	RW

#### PECK'S SKIPPER

MAY	27	Northboro;Northampton	1;1	TD;TF
	28	BMBS	1	CP+co.
JUN	4	Northboro	30	TD
	5	Easton	30	BC
	6	Heath	30	DP
	18	Amherst	30+	MF,DC
JUL	24-30	Wellesley	[max.25 on 7-30]	RF
	30	East Longmeadow	30	KP
AUG	9	Sudbury;Amherst	64;30+	RW;ABS
SEP	16	Cape Ann	3	CT,DS
OCT	1	Chilmark,MV	2	AK
	14	Milford	2	RH
	19	Wellesley	1	RF
	26**	Sudbury	1	TD

#### TAWNY-EDGED SKIPPER

MAY	23*	West Bridgewater	1	BC
	27	Easthampton	1	TF
JUN	4	Mansfield	13	BC
	5	Easton	23	BC
JUL	21	Heath	2	DP
AUG	15	Amherst	15	ABS
	21	Leyden	6	DP
SEP	10	Chilmark,MV	2	AK

#### CROSSLINE SKIPPER

JUL	1,15	Middlesex Fell	2,2	BM
	2	Sudbury	1	RW
	4	Turners Falls	1	DSm
	5	Acton	2	RW
	21,30	Heath	5,4	DP

**LONG DASH**

JUN	2	Prescott	2	DSm
	3	Granby	1	TF
	10,16	Wellesley	15,25	RF
	22	Cape Ann;Falmouth	14;20	CT,DS;TH
AUG	23-31**	Easton	1male	BC
	31**	Hanover	1male	SM

**NORTHERN BROKEN DASH**

JUL	1	Foxboro;Chilmark,MV	1;1	BC;AK
	2	Lincoln;Charlton	1;4	BM;RH
	16	Sudbury	30+	BM
	24	North Truro	15	TH
	27	Savoy	2	DP
AUG	28	Easton	10	BC
SEP	12**	South Dartmouth	1	BC

**LITTLE GLASSYWING**

JUL	2	Lincoln;Charlton	1;1	BM;RH
	8	Greenfield	2	DP
	10	Amherst	3	ABS
	16	Sudbury	6	BM
	23	Cape Ann	3	CT,DS
AUG	4	Cape Ann	1	CT,DS

**SACHEM**

JUL	1*	West Tisbury,MV	1	PM
	4	Chilmark	1	AK
AUG	8	World's End,Hingham	1	TW,BC
SEP	27-28**	Sudbury	1	TD

**DELAWARE SKIPPER**

JUN	24;25	Martha's Vineyard	1;1	AK;PM
JUL	1	Wayland;Millis;Northboro	3;1;1	RW;BC;TD
	2	Lincoln	6	BM
	3	Ipswich	2	JB
	8	Leyden	20	DP
	15	Sterling/Clinton;Athol	6;7	TD;DSm
	19	Marstons Mills Airport	15-20	TH
	30	Cape Ann;Athol	4;1	CT,DS;DS

### MULBERRY WING

JUL	16	Sudbury	8	BM
	19-30	Cape Ann	[max.19 on 7-23]	CT,DS
	24	Dover	45+	RF
AUG	2-15**	Cape Ann	[max.12 on 8-2]	CT,DS

### HOBOMOK SKIPPER

MAY	24	BMBS	1	CP
	27	Montague;Northboro	1;1	MF;TD
JUN	4	Amherst;E.Longmeadow	30;10+	MF,DC;KP
	5	Plainfield	20	DP
	10	Brewster	5-6	TH
	17	Prescott;Northbridge	17;6	DSm;RH
JUL	12	Savoy	6	DP

### BROAD-WINGED SKIPPER

JUL	17	Sudbury	1	TD
	23	Plum Island	4	BM
	24	Dover	5	RF
	28	Brewster	1	TH
	30	Wellfleet	1	TD,CA
AUG	12	Eastham	3	BC,LL

### BLACK DASH

JUL	2;16	Sudbury	2;5	RW;BM
	9	Orange	2	DSm
	19-30	Cape Ann	[max.12 on 7-19]	CT,DS
	22	Petersham;Plainville	3;2	BM;BC+co.
AUG	2	Cape Ann	6	CT;DS

### TWO-SPOTTED SKIPPER

JUN	29	Millis	3-4	RW
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### DUN SKIPPER

JUL	8	Leyden;Gill	4;1	DP;DSm
	15	Athol	11	DSm
	16	Sudbury	30+	BM
	24	Dover	100+	RF

	27	Savoy	15	DP
AUG	16	Cape Ann	1	CT,DS
	21	Leyden	1	DP
SEP	4**	Chilmark,MV	3-5	AK

#### DUSTED SKIPPER

MAY	28	BMBS	1	CP+co.
	31	Concord	1	RW
JUN	4	Montague;Amherst	1;5	MF;MF,DC
	4-17	Middlesex Fells	[max.2]	BM
	18	Holden	1	TD
	25	Truro	2	DSm
	29	Wellesley	1	RF

#### PEPPER AND SALT SKIPPER

MAY	24,31	Wellesley	1,2	RF
	25-28	BMBS	3	CP+co.
	31	Rowe;Concord	1;1	DP;RW
JUN	5	Plainfield;Savoy;Acton	3;2;2	DP;DP;SB
	16	Heath;Charlemont	4;3	DP;DP
	21	Worthington	1	DP
JUL	3	Hawley	1	DP

#### ROADSIDE SKIPPER

JUN	9	Ashburnham	2	RW
	16	Charlemont	1	DP

#### OCOLA SKIPPER

SEP	11*	Wellesley	1	RF
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## BUTTERFLY GARDENING IN NEWBURY by Sharon Stichter

My cultivated garden in Newbury is in a sunny, dry, often sandy area near the coast. I try to use mostly native plants, and some of the best sources for these have been the Midwest nurseries specializing in prairie plants, such as Prairie Nursery, Prairie Moon Nursery, and Milaegers. For example, I have had several hatch-outs of American Ladies on native pussytoes (*Antennaria plantaginifolia*) over the past two years, and the patch is thriving and spreading nicely despite caterpillar depredations. This is in contrast to raising "ladies" on Pearly Everlasting (*Anaphalis triplinervis*), which the caterpillars, beautiful though they are, completely destroyed! In my conditions, pussytoes seems to be a tougher plant yet still as productive of "ladies."

The well-known, mid-to-late season nectar plants - Butterfly Bush, Purple Coneflower, New England Aster, zinnias, and liatrus - all work well for me, attracting Eastern Tiger Swallowtails, Great Spangled Fritillaries, American and Painted Ladies, and Monarchs. But many other plants, less often mentioned, also give great results. New Jersey Tea (*Ceanothus americanus*) bloomed for me the first time this year and, like magic, attracted a Gray Hairstreak, American Ladies, and European Skippers. The striking *Verbena bonariensis*, blooming from August into September, was tremendously popular with Monarchs and skippers. Meadow Blazing Star (*Liatrus ligulistylus*) began blooming in late July, just the right time for Monarchs, which hung around the blossoms for weeks, often for hours at a time. All the milkweeds, of course, are marvelous nectar sources and Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) produced my first Variegated Fritillary this year. Sweet Alyssum and garden thyme were very popular with American Coppers and skippers, and Sweet William attracted Eastern Tiger Swallowtails, Painted Ladies, Monarchs, and Silver-spotted Skippers. And finally, as a last offering to the butterfly gods, I put a big pot of lantana on the deck. The Cabbage Whites, American Coppers, and Monarchs were absolutely delighted.

## The BUTTERFLY BAR AT TOWER HILL BOTANICAL GARDENS, BOYLSTON by Carl Kamp

With its beautiful floral displays and acres of natural fields, Tower Hill Botanical Gardens is a butterfly watcher's dream. On September 3, 1995, with a few hours to spare before an appointment, I walked through the gate at Tower Hill. I immediately realized I did not have my camera. I guessed then that I would be sure to see something I wanted to photograph. From the parking lot, I watched the usual Clouded Sulphurs, Cabbage Whites, and Orange Sulphurs quartering the fields and occasionally chasing each other in upward spirals. As I followed a sulphur in my binoculars, a large brownish butterfly appeared. I switched focus and began following it instead. It looked like a smallish faded fritillary as I got closer. Fortunately I had a field guide with me and soon identified my first

Variegated Fritillary. It was perfectly content in this field, flying low and occasionally nectaring on hawkweed. Of course, the photo opportunities were endless as I watched camera less.

I resolved to get my camera, hoping the fritillary would not wander far. On my return, forty-five minutes later, I was amazed to find the butterfly in practically the same spot. It was very cooperative for the camera, several times landing next to my feet - too close to focus upon! A Monarch floated by and I decided to check the more formal gardens, though still a bit reluctant to leave my new acquaintance.

Even though it was September, the gardens were in full bloom with a spectacular variety of flowers. On the garden's second level there was a bush with very long stems and racemes of purple flowers on the end of each stem. Another first for me - my first look at a Butterfly Bush. This was the Butterfly Bar of the gardens. Several Great Spangled Fritillaries, an Aphrodite Fritillary, a Question Mark, and a Monarch were all at the flowers at the same time.

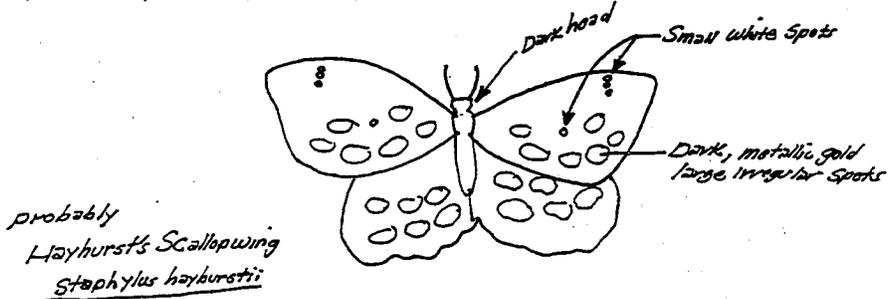
Returning to the fields again, I saw a Gray Hairstreak and Common Wood Nymph, capping my best butterfly day of the season.

## ENIGMATIC BUTTERFLY AT NORTHBRIDGE

Richard Hildreth, one of the best field observers in Massachusetts, observed a butterfly at the Larkin Recreation Area in Northbridge on Aug 20, 1995. Mr. Hildreth had neither camera nor net at his disposal, but carefully noted vital field marks and composed a fascinating sketch of the creature. The drawing bears a striking resemblance to a Hayhurst's Scallopwing, an eastern butterfly normally found no further north than Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey. It is unknown in the New York City area and has never been photographed or captured in New England. Certainly 1995 was a banner year for southern strays, yet all of the other species have a tendency to wander northward in late summer and fall. The Hayhurst's Scallopwing has no such history. In the absence of more compelling documentation, it is prudent to assign this sighting to hypothetical status. Nevertheless, we are left with two questions : If not a scallopwing, then what? and If a scallopwing, how did it happen to get to Massachusetts?

*NORTHBRIDGE, MASS LARKIN RECREATION AREA - SOOTLI*

*1 Small (Scotlywing-sized), very dark "duskywing" nectaring on Joe-pye-weed*



## BUTTERFLY GARDEN INVITATION

MBC member Suzanne Mahler of Hanover is one of the country's top gardeners. Both her garden and that of her neighbor, Joan Chrusciel, are designated as National Display Gardens for the American Daylily Society. They are open to the public during July and visitors are welcome at any time, even when no one is there. Between the two gardens, you will have the opportunity to see more than 900 varieties of daylilies. Suzanne also welcomes all NABA-MBC members at other times, as she grows hundreds of other perennials, many of which are excellent for attracting butterflies. When she was not otherwise engaged, Suzanne found time to identify thirty-four species of butterflies in her garden in 1995. Our thanks to Suzanne for this special invitation.

**DIRECTIONS :** Take Route 3 south from Route 128 or the Southeast Expressway to Exit 13, Hanover / Norwell. Turn left on to Route 53 north. Go approximately .5 miles to the first set of lights. Turn left on to Route 123 west. Go 1 mile to the light. Turn right on to Main Street and almost immediately left on to Brookwood Road. Suzanne's house is the ninth on the left [#152], gray with stone and set back from the road. Her telephone # is 617-878-8039.

## SKIPPER VIDEO

Richard Walton, well-known MBC member, author, and audio tape master, has turned his talents to videography and has produced "Skippers of the Northeast, A Video Guide to Field Identification." The video covers virtually all resident and vagrant skippers occurring in the Northeast. Forty-five species are presented including the males and females of many species. While the video focuses on field identification, it also contains numerous examples of fascinating skipper behavior. Whether you consider yourself an old pro at skipper i.d. or you count yourself among the hopelessly confused, this video has a great deal to offer. We recommend it highly. To obtain your copy of this 48 minute video, send \$23.95 to Richard K. Walton, 7 Concord Greene #8, Concord, MA 01742. The price includes shipping, handling, and MA sales tax.

## THE MYSTERY OF BUTTERFLY MIGRATION by Richard Forster

In Massachusetts, we have a relatively stable butterfly population. That is to say that the majority of species are confined to rather well-defined habitats and the flight seasons are constant from year to year. The only obvious change on an annual basis is relative abundance, and even this may be to a degree that is barely perceptible some years. Subtle changes in chickadee or Cabbage White populations will not be obvious. These species will always seem to be common and widespread. However, other widespread and readily recognizable species, Eastern Tiger Swallowtail for instance, may be said to have good years

and bad years. The statement, "Gee, I didn't see many Eastern Tiger Swallowtails this year." is probably a reflection of a low point in some as yet poorly understood cycle. The fact remains that you will see at least some Viceroy's during a given year.

However, this cannot be said of all butterfly species. There are some species that can be common or abundant some years and virtually lacking the following year. For the most part these are species whose populations in some portion of their distribution undertake movements to a greater or lesser degree. Such movements have been termed immigration, emigration, dispersal, or just migration. For the sake of simplicity, this discussion will adopt the term migration for the movement of butterflies covering substantial distances.

Unquestionably, the most familiar butterfly migrant is the Monarch. Its fall migration from the United States and Canada to wintering quarters in Mexico is much chronicled. Its progression southward is eagerly anticipated and fairly predictable, beginning with the first migrants in August, reaching a peak in September or early October, then tapering off to a few stragglers in the latter half of October or sometimes later. The phenomenon is similar to bird migration and just as predictable. The return of Monarchs in spring is variable, less predictable, and less well documented. In this regard it is similar to the migration of other butterflies in that the movement is inconspicuous and often overlooked. This is understandable because observing butterfly migration usually requires intense awareness in the right place at the right time. The result is that butterfly migration is largely unobserved and the few records of migration are the result of incidental observations.

In the June 1993 issue of Natural History, Torben Larsen recounts several of his experiences with butterfly migrations. The article, entitled "Butterfly Mass Transit" details several migrations and presents information regarding various types of migration. One example of migration is altitudinal migration, movements from higher elevations in mountainous regions to lower elevations as the season dictates. Such a movement very likely does not take place anywhere in Massachusetts, since the higher elevations are not of sufficient height to cause appreciable climatic extremes. The more traditional north-in-spring, south-in-fall migration, best typified by the Monarch, is the commonest type of migration in Massachusetts. Again, it can be quite variable from year to year depending on the populations of the species involved. Species which routinely perform this kind of migration are American Lady, Painted Lady, and Red Admiral. Two additional species that perform a noticeable fall migration are the Question Mark and Mourning Cloak. Evidence of this migration is provided by an increase in observations of these species in coastal areas, where they are otherwise scarce, during September or even into early October. Just to our south, in the New York City area, these two species are considered scarce spring migrants although the evidence for such a movement in our area is scanty or nonexistent. The Eastern Comma is also considered to be somewhat migratory in the mid-Atlantic, but the evidence locally is lacking.

A point that Larsen emphasizes early on in his discussion of butterfly movements is that most migrations are low-key and pass unnoticed. Only the alert and patient observer is likely to be aware of a migration in progress since most migrations are "thin." This appears to be true in Massachusetts. If you observe a butterfly flying by rapidly and with purpose, remain in the location and be vigilant. A

few minutes or more later another will be seen flying by and equally as purposeful and in almost precisely the same direction. The key point to note here is that butterflies migrate singly rather than in the traditional flocking pattern that is typical of some birds. Even Monarchs tend to migrate as discrete individuals. It is only when they gather at favored migration bottlenecks, almost exclusively along the coast, at the end of the day or under adverse weather conditions, that they appear in any concentrations. Apparently, most other migratory butterflies seldom concentrate in such gatherings, at least not in our area. It is entirely possible that during a good migration an observer might encounter fewer than twenty migrating butterflies moving past a given locality in an hour. But each of these individuals will exhibit the same behavior - it will be flying fast, usually within six feet of the ground, and will be moving steadfastly in the same direction as its fellow migrants.

Larsen identifies another group of migrants as tropical species that, in good years, push their frontiers northward. This situation is what is commonly referred to as dispersal. He further points out that some of these species may establish brief breeding populations, if only for a year or two. In terms of the number of species of migrant butterflies in our area, this represents possibly the largest category, but in terms of total number of individuals it may be very small, at least according to the current state of our knowledge. Perhaps the two best examples in this category are Variegated Fritillary and common Buckeye. During the past decade, both of these species have established temporary breeding populations in Massachusetts. Variegated Fritillary seems to be most prevalent from mid-summer onward, while Common Buckeye seems to be most common in early fall, likely the result of immigration from farther south. At this time of year, Common Buckeyes may be noticeable flying along coastal beaches and marshes.

Several other butterflies with a more southerly distribution have received much attention lately as strays to Massachusetts. Their presence on our annual checklists may be related to heightened awareness of potential vagrants and greater vigilance on the part of observers. Included in this category are Cloudless Sulphur, Little Yellow, American Snout, Sachem, and Fiery, Ocola, and Long-tailed Skippers. All share a generally southern United States distribution. Almost without exception these species appear in our area in late summer or early fall. The preponderance of records for this group lies along the coast, but there have been significant sightings at inland locations as well. Those that have been actively migrating have done so during periods of unseasonably warm weather and moderate to strong southwest winds. Look for these species during or immediately following such conditions in late August or September.

What is the calendar for migrating butterflies in Massachusetts? I have noted movements of northbound butterflies in mid-April, throughout most of May but especially during the period spanning late May and early June, and in the first half of July. These encounters occur during warm weather with southwest winds. Beginning with the first Monarchs migrating in the latter part of August, continuing through September, and often into early October or later, southbound butterflies generally migrate after the passage of a cold front with winds from the north or northwest. Species typically encountered are Monarchs, the two ladies, Red Admiral, Question Mark, Mourning Cloak, and occasionally Common

Buckeye. Cloudless Sulphur and presumably other southern vagrants, dispersing northward during this period, move on very warm days with southwest winds.

Most of these butterflies are fairly easily recognized when they are perched or nectaring. However, migrant butterflies are deceptively difficult to identify in flight. Red Admirals can be as difficult to identify from the Painted Lady as the two ladies can be from each other. Even through binoculars they can be difficult to differentiate. Often they appear as fast-moving, medium-sized butterflies. Do not be deterred because some of the butterflies seem unidentifiable. If you encounter a movement of butterflies, take time to note the weather conditions, direction of flight, and total number of individuals over a period of time. Our knowledge of butterflies and their unpredictable nature has grown significantly over the past decade, but we still have a long way to go to attain even a modest understanding of the variables that determine the distribution and seasonal abundance of these magnificent winged creatures. A better understanding of when and where they migrate is just the beginning to a more complete understanding of their unpredictable but fascinating movements. So be alert, watch carefully, and let us know what you see.

## COASTAL MOVEMENTS OF THE BALTIMORE CHECKERSPOT IN SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND by Richard Forster

The appearance of a Black-tailed Gull in Middletown, RI in late June 1995 created a small tremor in the birding community. Several friends convinced me that I had to accompany them to Rhode Island to see the bird. We rived in Middletown about 12:30 on July 7 and soon thereafter located the gull. Shortly after we found it, the gull flew off toward an inland reservoir. During the lull created by the bird's absence, I scanned the beach area to see what else was around. I noticed a dark, medium-sized butterfly flying rather rapidly up the shoreline. My immediate reaction was that it was a Painted Lady or a Red Admiral but through my binoculars it was obviously neither. The overall dark blackish coloration with a pale whitish coloration near the outer borders of both the fore- and hindwings baffled me at first. Just before it disappeared out of range it dawned on me that it was a Baltimore Checkerspot.

During the ensuing hour I intermittently checked the shoreline, while watching the gull, which had returned, and chatting with old acquaintances. During this period of time I noticed two more Baltimore Checkerspots. Both were flying rapidly along the beach very near where sand and water meet and in a general northward direction. These individuals were easily recognized since I was now alert for them and their dark, orange-bordered wings were clearly evident. This is the first time I had knowingly witnessed a well-defined movement or migration, if you will, of this beautiful butterfly.

This observation prompted some dim recollection of a time when I was at the beach at Brant Rock, Marshfield and saw a Baltimore Checkerspot alight briefly on the beach next to me. Shortly thereafter, I saw a Baltimore Checkerspot flying along over the ocean. The date was July 23. I remembered Wayne Petersen

recounting an experience when he was on the bluff at Manomet Point and a Baltimore Checkerspot came flying in and landed. That date was July 8, 1971. Blair Nikula told me he has seen this species occasionally on Monomoy Island but in most years he sees none.

A more compelling account of a movement of Baltimore Checkerspots is related by Tor Hansen in the Lepidopterists' Society newsletter. On July 7, 1990, he noticed a butterfly flapping feebly in the wrack line on the outer beach at North Truro. Closer inspection revealed that it was a Baltimore Checkerspot. This discovery prompted him to do a four hour investigation of the wrack line in the North Truro area and he found an additional forty-five Baltimore Checkerspots. Most that he found were dead, but about a dozen were in varying stages of "aliveness." The cause of this "wreck" of butterflies is unknown, but Hansen pointed out that there was a heavy fog on the morning of both July 6 & 7. Clearly some kind of significant movement was in progress.

These isolated observations strongly suggest that, at least periodically, Baltimore Checkerspots undertake some kind of movement. The evidence suggests that early July is the period when they are most likely to be encountered. These flights most likely coincide with periods of above average numbers of Baltimore Checkerspots somewhere in their range, most likely some relatively local population. There must be some point at which local population pressures become so great that the pressures trigger some sort of dispersal instinct within the insect's population. Whatever the cause, Baltimore Checkerspot can be added to the growing list of butterflies that initiate some kind of movement at periodic intervals.

## ANOTHER OCOLA SKIPPER IN WELLESLEY by Richard Forster

On September 11, 1995 while walking along the edge of a pond I noticed a small dark skipper land on a discarded plastic sandwich bag very close to me. A quick glance revealed it to be an Ocola Skipper; for the second consecutive year I had recorded this very rare southern stray in Wellesley (Norfolk County).

I would like to pass along a few notes that may be helpful to butterflyers who might be interested in searching for this unusual species in Massachusetts. Based on the number of records for this butterfly in the state, the likelihood of success seems remote, but, then again, one never knows. Both specimens were encountered along pond edges with relatively sparse vegetation along the shoreline. One was perched essentially on the ground and the other was perched on an aster about two feet above the ground. The two ponds were located a mere 250 yards or so apart. The habitat where they were found is not the type of place that a butterflyer would normally investigate in search of butterflies, especially at that time of year.

The dates for the two specimens were September 11 & 28. This would indicate that the most likely time of year to search for them is mid- to late September, perhaps slightly later than for other southern strays. Also, the inland

location is distinctly removed from what we perceive as "traps" for southern strays, i.e., along the immediate coast or the major north-south river valleys. This would indicate that northward dispersal of southern strays most likely occurs on a broad front. It is only when they become concentrated at natural barriers that they are more likely to be found.

It is curious that both individuals were found within a few feet of the edge of a pond. Their habitat is said to be salt marshes, but also pine woods, low damp areas, and forest edges (Pyle, 1981). The presence of two individuals in Wellesley immediately adjacent to ponds might suggest a closer affinity for wet areas than the literature would suggest.

Pyle, Robert Michael. 1981. The Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Butterflies. Alfred A. Knopf : New York.

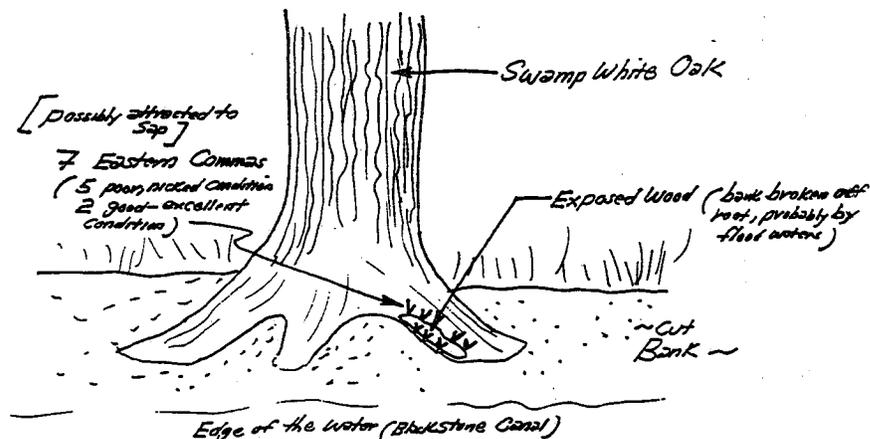
## BUTTERFLY SURVEY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteer field observers are needed for a survey of Massachusetts butterfly populations this summer in association with the Massachusetts Audubon Society. Observers will conduct weekly counts of butterfly populations in grasslands and other open habitats using a transect sampling method. Survey data will be compiled into a central computer database and analyzed for geographic, temporal, and habitat-related trends in butterfly abundance and species diversity. It is hoped that this survey will become an ongoing, long-term data collection effort for Massachusetts butterflies. Volunteers who are qualified in butterfly identification can request an information packet containing methodology from Richard Lent, 279 North Main Street, Petersham, MA 01366 [telephone 508-724-3306; e-mail [ralent@unix.amherst.edu](mailto:ralent@unix.amherst.edu)].

20 August 1995

Facsimile of R.W. Hildreth Field Notes

*NORTHBRIDGE, MASS.  
Larkin Recreation Area - South*



EXCERPTS FROM  
MOTHS OF THE LIMBERLOST  
BY GENE STRATTON-PORTER  
1912

One morning there was a tap at my door, and when I opened it I found a tall, slender woman having big, soft brown eyes, and a winning smile. In one hand she held a shoe-box, having many rough perforations. I always have been glad that my eyes softened at the touch of pleading on her face, and a smile sprang in answer to hers before I saw what she carried. For confession must be made that a perforated box is a passport to my good graces any day....The most wonderful things come from those that are brought to my front door.

"I guess I won't stop," said the woman in answer to my invitation to enter the Cabin. "I found this creature on my front porch early this morning, and I sort of wanted to know what it was, for one thing, and I thought you might like to have it, for another."

"Then of course you will come in, and we will see what it is," I answered, leading the way into the library.

There I lifted the lid slightly to take a peep, and then with a cry of joy, opened it wide. That particular shoe-box had brought me a [Luna Moth], newly emerged, and as yet unable to fly. I held down my finger, it climbed on, and was lifted to the light.

"Ain't it the prettiest thing?" asked the woman, with stars sparkling in her dark eyes. "Did you ever see whiter white?"

Together we studied that moth. Clinging to my finger, the living creature was of such delicate beauty as to impoverish my stock of adjectives at the beginning. Its big, pousy body was covered with long, furry scales of the purest white imaginable. The wings were of an exquisite light green color; the front pair having a heavy costa of light purple that reached across the back of the head : the back pair ended in long artistic "trailers," faintly edged with light yellow....A living moth must be seen to form a realizing sense of its shape and delicacy of color. Luna is our only large moth having trailers and these are much longer in proportion to size and of more graceful curves than our trailed butterflies.

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Luna as a rule is a moth of the deep wood, and so is seldom seen close a residence, making people believe it quite rare. As a matter of fact, it is as numerous, where the trees its caterpillars frequent are to be found, as any other moth in its natural location. Because it is of the forest, the brightest light there is to attract it is the glare of the moon as it is reflected on the face of a murky pool, or on the breast of a stream rippling its way through impassable thickets. There must be a self-satisfied smile on the face of the man in the moon, in whose honor these delicate creatures are named, when on fragile wing they hover above his mirrored reflection; for of all the beauties of a June night in the forest, these moths are most truly his.

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Repeatedly I am asked which I think most beautiful of the big night moths. I do not know. All of them are indescribably attractive....It may be that on account of its artistically cut and colored trailers, Luna has a touch of grace above any.