

1

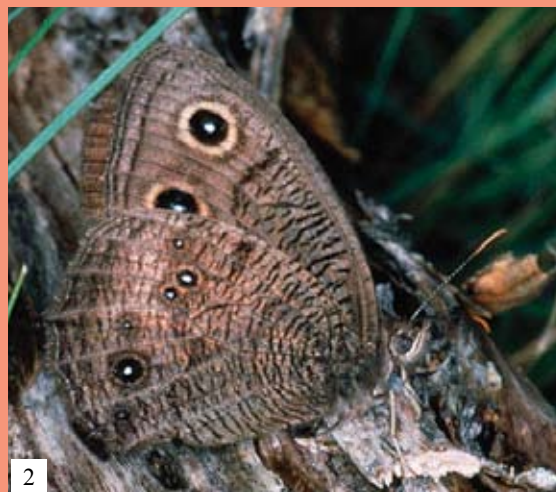
Go Get Set On Your Marks Wood-Nymphs

Greek nymphs, nature deities portrayed in the form of young women, were tightly associated with particular localities. Greek wood-nymphs would have been found only in some particular woody portion of one's imagination. Somehow, the wood-nymphs traveled to the New World and unshackled by the American spirit of anything goes, left the woods for good. Now they can be found in meadows, sagelands and grassy dunes. Sometimes they can be spied in very open woodland, but don't search for them in dense woods unless one also enjoys snipe hunts.

Our wood-nymphs come in three sizes, large (Common Wood-Nymph), medium (Great Basin and Mead's) and small (Small Wood-Nymph). Although Common Wood-Nymphs can be distinguished from Small Wood-Nymphs by size alone, unfortunately for field identification, there is overlap among adjacent size classes.

East of the Rockies the only wood-nymph present is Common Wood-Nymph (see map, page 30), so identification is easy! (see photos 1-8).

22 *American Butterflies*, Spring/Summer 2006

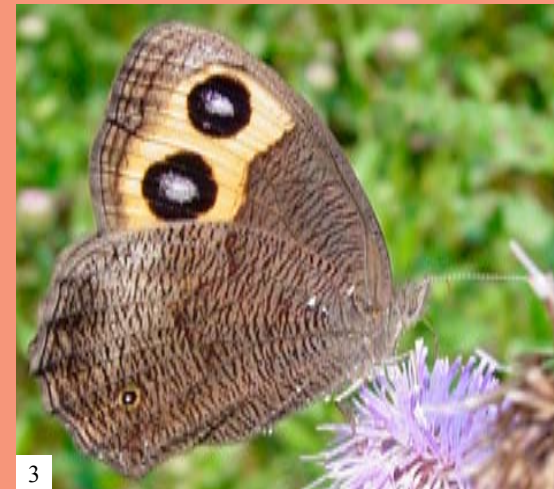


2

Photo 1. Mating Common Wood-Nymphs with yellow patches. June 25, 2001. Lakehurst, Ocean Co., NJ.

Photo 2. A dark form Common Wood-Nymph. July 31, 1998. Colorado Springs WMA, El Paso Co., CO.

Common Wood-Nymphs (East of the Rockies)



3

June 30, 2002. Canal Rd., Sussex Co., NJ



4

June 15, 2004. Smithville, Bastrop Co., TX.

Phil Schappert



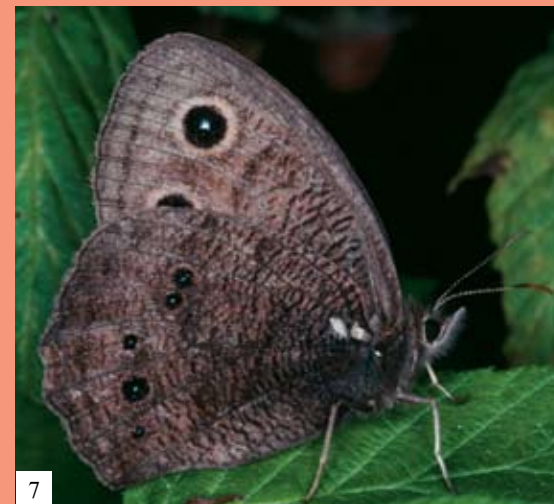
5

July 1, 2000. Francis Marion NF, Charleston Co., SC.



6

July 26, 1992. Gallatin, Gallatin Co., MT



7

Aug. 3, 1993. Lunenburg, Essex Co., VT.



8

July 2, 1996. Five Ridge Preserve, Plymouth Co., IA