



Hot Seens

Spring 2008

by Michael Reese

The first week of April brought some warmer temperatures and first migrants of the year. Painted Ladies were seen April 2 near Ozark National Scenic Riverways, Dent Co., MO (D. Berry), April 16 in Wautoma, WI (M. Reese), and on April 23 at Hook Mountain, Nyack, NY (V. Corsello). Monarchs were reported on April 6 near Ozark National Scenic Riverways in Dent Co., MO (D. Berry), April 25 at Armleder Park, Cincinnati, Hamilton Co., OH (B. Hull), and 15 were seen in Whitby, ON (C. McLaughlan) on June 6. In Ft. Tilden, Queens Co., NY 165 American Ladies were reported on May 5 (R. Kelly).

Interesting butterflies emerging included Hessel's Hairstreak on April 19 and 26 at Jakes Landing Road, Cape May Co., NJ (A. Loudell and P. Sutton, respectively), Olympia Marbles on April 20 at Spring Green Preserve, Sauk Co., WI (A. Thering, D. Eide), over 100 Meadow Fritillaries on April 22 at Friendship Hill, Fayette Co., PA (C. Lehman), Banded Hairstreaks on April 23 at Big Creek Scenic Area, Sam Houston Natl. Forest, TX (R. & B. Wauer), and two Grizzled Skippers on April 25 Allegheny Co., VA (M. G. Smith). Freija Fritillaries were found on May 24 at the Riley Lake Area in Price Co. WI (M. Reese), one of the few place in the East where this species can be seen. Other butterflies of interest included a fresh Ornythion Swallowtail on May 3 at NABA IBP, Mission, TX (K. Garwood, G. Quintanilla, C. Traylor), 14 fresh Byssus Skippers on May 8 in the Lower Suwannee NWR, Levy Co., FL (B. Ahern), and 100s of Leanira Checkerspots and Variable Checkerspots on June 1 in the Arroyo Seco area, Los Padres National Forest, CA (G. Arthur). Cloudless Sulphurs were seen early on June 6 in Forest Hills, Allegheny Co., PA

(C. Lehman) and on June 7 at Somer's Point, Garden State Parkway, Atlantic Co., NJ (J. & S. DiOrio), and 9 Giant Swallowtails were seen just north of Picton, Prince Edward Co., ON (J. Dewey).

As the season progresses greater numbers of species are reported for a given region. Some highlights from this spring included 15 species on April 7 reported from Tim's Ford State Park, TN (R. Venable), 29 species seen in the Kisatchie National Forest, Grant Parish, LA (C. Marks), 5 species observed on April 12 at the Grant Narrows Park, Pitt Meadows, Vancouver, BC (S. Ansell), and 28 species reported on April 18 on a SEABA Garden Canyon Field Trip, AZ with 12 participants. On April 19 at Lake Kissimmee State Park, FL (B. Cooper, L. Cooper, B. Bindschadler, D. Cutler, M. Cutler, J. DuBois, L. Smith) saw 43 species including the royal trio of Monarchs, Queens, and Soldiers, on April 26, 15 species were recorded at the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, VA (M. A. Koeneke, G. Koppel), on May 9 the Carolina Butterfly Society saw 28 species on a field trip to Haywood County, NC which included 1000s of Pipevine Swallowtails, an early Gulf Fritillary, a Common Roadside-Skipper, and an American Snout. On May 19, 26 species were seen on a Southeast Arizona Butterfly Association field trip to Box Canyon, Pima Co., AZ, and 21 species were seen on a Southern Wisconsin Butterfly Association field trip led by S. Swengel. Highlight of the trip included all five species of Elfins found in Wisconsin, four species of Duskywings including the Persius Duskywing, Olympia Marbles, Silvery Blues, Gorgone Checkerspots, Cobweb Skippers and a Dusted Skipper. On June 1, 29 species were observed



Michael Reese



M.G. Smith

Top: The Riley Lake Area in Price Co., WI is one of the few places in the eastern United States where one can find Freija Fritillaries. This one was seen on May 24.

Bottom: The range of Grizzled Skippers in the eastern United States has greatly contracted over the past 50 years. This one was found on April 25 in Allegheny Co., VA.

at the Albany Pine Bush Preserve, Albany Co., NY (T. Fiore, K. Wallstrom) and 45 species were reported on June 7 in Florida Caverns State Park, FL (M.A. Friedman, S. and D. Jue, D. Harder, B. Booth, O. Toness, K. & T. MacClendon, C. & D. Stewart).

Whether you see an unusual butterfly, an early or late sighting of a common species, or have a whole list of the species that you

have seen, we would appreciate hearing from you. Please send your butterfly sightings to sightings@naba.org. With the advent of the Butterflies I've Seen Web Site, those who record your sightings to that site can also just click on "email trip" and send it to the address above. Your sightings will go into the larger database and will be available for others to see on the Recent Sightings web page. 