



Hot Seens

Summer 2008

by Michael Reese

Although butterfly populations seemed to be down in many areas this year, there were still many butterflies to be seen this summer. On June 15 an early Cloudless Sulphur was seen in Columbia, Howard Co., MD (J. Wilkinson). Cloudless Sulphurs were also reported on June 14 from Point Pelee National Park, ON (B. & K. Yukich), June 28 in Cumberland Co., NJ (J. J. DiOrio), July 23 along the Great Miami River, Hamilton Co., OH (B. Hull), and on September 7 at Ward Pound Ridge, Westchester Co., NY (H. Zirlin). Ontario also had several other unusual sightings with the earliest record in Ontario of a Horace's Duskywing on June 14 at Point Pelee National Park, ON (B. & K. Yukich), and one of the latest for this species on September 1 also at Point Pelee (R. Hall, A. Wormington, M. Backwall, A. Hall), a Southern Dogface, the second record for Point Pelee National Park on June 16 (H. O'Neill), a Funereal Duskywing on August 12, at Scarborough Bluffs, Toronto, ON (B. Harrison, J. Fairchild), and just the third record of a Marine Blue in Canada was reported on July 12 from Marie Curtis Park, Toronto Centre Butterfly Count, ON (S. LaForest, C. King). A Marine Blue was also reported for only the fourth time from Wisconsin on July 19 from Schurch-Thompson Prairie, Iowa Co., WI (A. Thering, D. Eide) and was subsequently seen in two other counties in Wisconsin.

Giant Swallowtails were seen farther north than usual throughout the eastern United States including reports on July 11 from a backyard Butterfly Garden, Brooklyn, NY (V. Corsello), on August 1, 2008 from Lindsay, ON (R. Pye), on August 14 in the El Dorado Nature Preserve, Town of Henderson,

Jefferson Co., NY (J. Hanyak), August 22, a fresh one in Whitby, ON (C. & B. McLauchlan), August 22 in a butterfly garden in Kintnersville, Bucks Co., PA (M. Spingola), on August 30 at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, Auburn, NY (B. Grosek), and an amazing 27 from Appalachian Trail Lands from State Route 94 to County Route 517, Vernon, NJ (V. Corsello).

On June 14 over 50 Regal Fritillaries and 1,000s of Hackberry Emperors were observed in Sand Ridge State Forest, Mason Co., IL (G. Adams, M. DuBois, D. Hitchell, R. & R. Bell). Other sightings of note include 31 species reported from the Buzzard Swamp, Forest and Elk Cos., PA (C. Lehman, M. Miller) including 100s of Harris' Checkerspots, Common Ringlets, and Pepper and Salt Skippers, and an Ocala Skipper seen at the Maurice River Botanical Gardens, Heislerville, Cumberland Co., NJ (J. J. DiOrio) on June 28. Interesting species on a NABA-SEABA Field Trip included California Sister, Deva Skipper, Python Skipper, Cassus Roadside-Skipper, and Orange-edged Roadside-Skipper on June 21 in the Chiricahua Mountains, AZ, while 22 species from various trails along Mormon Emigrant Trail Road, CA (G. Arthur) were reported on June 23 including 100s of Clodius Parnassians, Pale Swallowtails, Juniper Hairstreaks, and Edith Checkerspots.

A Confused Cloudywing, a Hayhurst's Scallopwing and 35 Zebra Heliconians were surprising sightings from Bogue Banks, Carteret Co., NC on July 13 (H. LeGrand, W. Cook, R. Davis). Other uncommon sightings reported include a Gulf Fritillary on July 20 in Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, Queens Co., NY (S. Walter), a Gray Cracker on July 4 in



Ann Thering



Mike Reese

Top: Ann Thering was able to obtain great photos of the 4th Marine Blue found in Wisconsin. July 19, 2008. Schurch-Thompson Prairie, Iowa Co., WI

Bottom: Two-spotted Skippers are rarely common. R. Arnold, A. Thering and Mike Reese found 23 of them on the Sandhill-Seneca NABA Count.