



Hot Seens

Fall 2009

by Michael Reese

Butterflies from the northern states love getting out in the fall to see the last butterflies of the season. These included nine Cloudless Sulphurs seen September 1 in Clermont Co., OH (B. Hull), nine Regal Fritillaries on September 2 at Sand Ridge SF including Gleason Nature Preserve, Mason Co., IL (R. & R. Bell), a Cloudless Sulphur on September 8 on Coney Island Beach, Brooklyn, NY (V. Corsello), and a Queen recorded in Croatan NF, NC on September 16 (J. Monroe). Other good sightings included four Common Ringlets on September 16 at Sears Island, Searsport, Waldo Co., ME (A. Block), a Leonard's Skipper on September 19 in Chaplain, CT (J. Myers), 11 Great Purple Hairstreaks and 28 species overall in Blackwater NWR, & Eastern Dorchester Co., MD (D. Amadio), a Brazilian Skipper seen on October 1 at Jones Beach SP, Nassau Co., NY (R. Kelly), and 26 Red Admirals observed in High Park, Toronto, ON (Ontario Butterflies Google Group: B. Yukich).

Several sightings were of note because of their high numbers of species or the high number of individuals of a species. These included a count on September 5 in Hobcaw Barony, SC (P. Sutton and 10 observers) of 58 species with four species new to the count including a Georgia Satyr, 7 Yehl Skippers, and 11 Palatka Skippers. The next day's count at Francis Marion National Forest, SC (P. Sutton and 12 others) included 62 species and 3485 individuals with high count totals for four species. On September 24 in the Lower Suwanee NWR, FL, T. Palmer observed 45 species including 65 Ocola Skippers and 70 Long-tailed Skippers, and on September 27 in Eagle Lake, TN B. Jones saw 28 species including 25 Phaon Crescents.

Opposite page

top:

Banded Patches, believed to be at least semi-permanent inhabitants of extreme south Texas thorn-scrub, are one of the most rarely seen United States resident butterflies.

This one was seen at Falcon Heights, Starr Co., TX on Nov. 6.

Bottom:

Emerald Agunias, recorded from the United States only about five times — all from the Lower Rio Grande Valley — are always thrilling to see. This one was at Frontera Audubon, Weslaco, Hidalgo Co., TX on Nov. 21.



Linda Cooper (2)

