

# NEWSLETTER

of the WISCONSIN ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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Volume 22, Number 1

Les Ferge, Editor

March 1995

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## NEXT MEETING IN MADISON ON APRIL 8

The next meeting of the Wisconsin Entomological Society will be held on Saturday, April 8 at Russell Labs on the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus, beginning at 1:00 PM in room 150. Russell Labs is located at the corner of Babcock and Linden Drives (see map on back page) and parking is available in lots adjacent to the building. Presentations will be made by Andrey Khitsun, a Russian entomologist and Lepidoptera enthusiast, and Phil Pellitteri, who will speak on Insects and Issues of 1995. As always, ample time is available for anyone else wishing to give a talk or share experiences. Please contact Phil Pellitteri, Dept. of Entomology, 1630 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706, phone (608) 262-6510, if you are interested in participating.

## 1995 DUES NOTICE

Enclosed in this Newsletter is your dues envelope for 1995. Your prompt attention will be most appreciated. Please note that dues are to be sent directly to the Treasurer, Tom Rocheleau, 3100 Buena Vista St, Madison, WI 53704. To determine your status, please check the address label on this Newsletter. Appearing after your name will be the last year dues are paid for and your membership category (Individual, Family, Sustaining or Patron). Also be sure to notify us of any address changes or corrections when you send in your dues, or notify us at the address below.

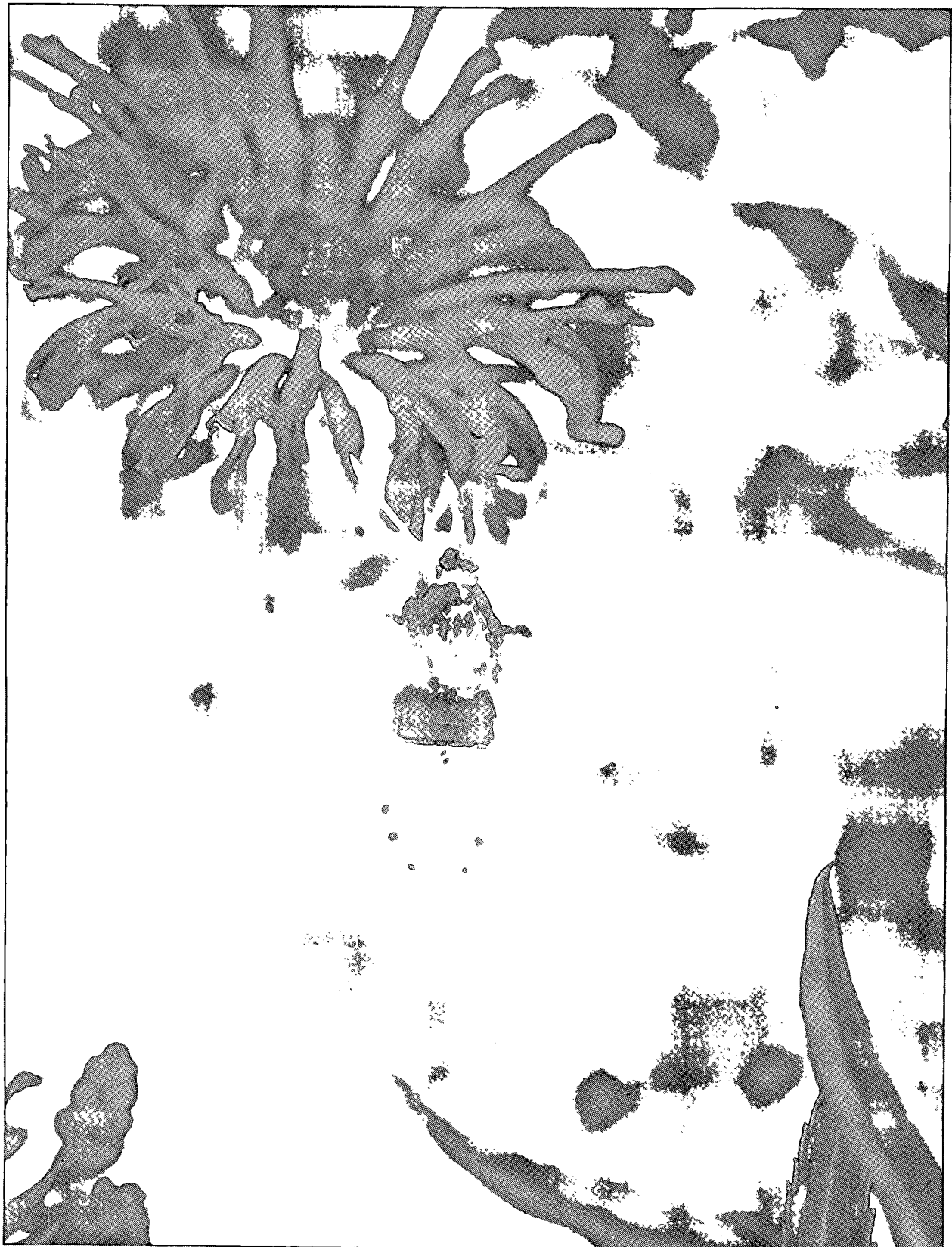
## 1994 ANNUAL MEETING NOTES

Appearing on pages two and three are the winning entries in the Annual Photo Salon held at last December's meeting. First place went to an exceptional photo of the Hummingbird Moth, by Janice Stiefel. Two entries tied for second place: Phlox Flower Moth (*Schinia indiana*), photographed by Les Ferge, and Painted Lady on Purple Coneflower by Anita Carpenter. Runners-up were Halloween Pennant Dragonfly and Grasshopper Laying Eggs, also by Anita Carpenter. Many other excellent slides were presented, contributing to a most interesting and colorful program.

The officers elected for 1995 are as follows: President, Phil Pellitteri; Vice-President, Gene Drecktrah; Secretary, Carol Ferge; and Treasurer, Tom Rocheleau.

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*The Newsletter of the Wisconsin Entomological Society is published three times a year, at irregular intervals. It is provided to encourage and facilitate the exchange of information by the membership, and to keep the members informed of the activities of the organization. Members are strongly encouraged to contribute items for inclusion in the Newsletter. Please send all news items, notes, new or interesting insect records, season summaries, research requests, and report any address changes to the editor: Les Ferge, 7119 Hubbard Avenue, Middleton, WI 53562.*



HUMMINGBIRD MOTH - JANICE STIEFEL



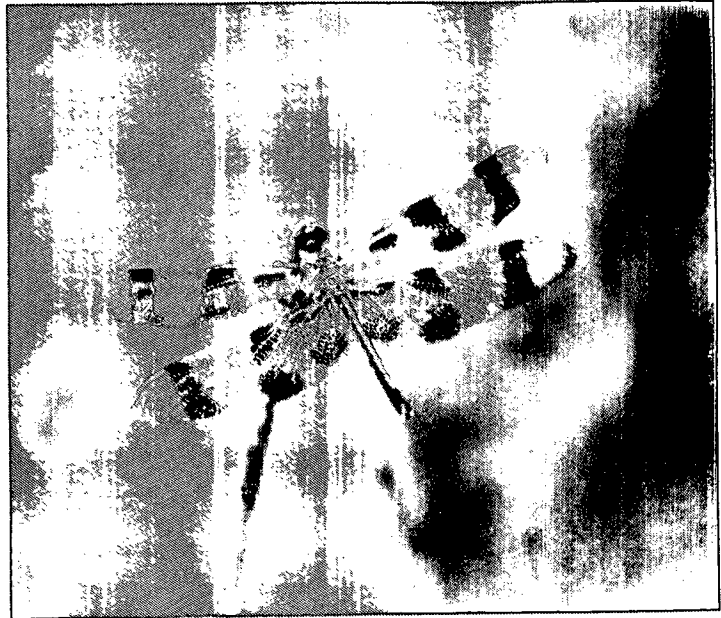
PHLOX FLOWER MOTH - LES FERGE



PAINTED LADY - ANITA CARPENTER



GRASSHOPPER - ANITA CARPENTER



HALLOWEEN PENNANT - ANITA CARPENTER

### THE 1994 NABA-XERCES JULY 4TH BUTTERFLY COUNT

Ann Swengel

The 20th annual NABA-Xerces Fourth of July Butterfly Count, sponsored by the North American Butterfly Association, was held in the summer of 1994. Volunteer participants conducted a one-day census of all butterflies observed at sites within their count area, a 15-mile diameter circle. Most counts were held in late June and July.

In 1994, 249 Fourth of July butterfly counts were held, a 12% increase from 1993. The program has doubled since the 124 counts in 1990! The 1994 counts occurred in 45

states (five more than last year) and six Canadian provinces (two more than last year), as well as two states in Mexico. California had the most 1994 counts, with 17, followed by 16 in Wisconsin and 14 in New York. Four counts (Berkeley, CA; Gilpin County, CO; High Line Canal, CO; Lower Pearl River, LA-MS) have been held for all 20 years of the count program. The number of people participating in each count adds up to 2,106 (a 27% increase from last year), although some people are tallied more than once, since they participated in two or more counts.

The 1994 count north of Mexico with the highest species diversity was Gilpin County, CO, with 103 species. This edged past the previous record of 102 on the Patagonia, AZ count in 1992. The new Fox River-Seney, MI count tallied 17,191 individuals at an impressive rate of 1,127.3 individuals per party-hour of census effort. This broke the previous record of 16,994 butterflies recorded at the rate of 1,213.9 individuals per party-hour on the Klamath Falls, OR count in 1992.

In 1994, Monarchs produced strong numbers in eastern North America, with heartening increases from the strong declines observed in 1992 in the Atlantic coastal states and adjacent Canadian provinces and in 1993 in the Midwest. Monarchs were particularly abundant in the Midwest, where observation rates per party-hour rivaled those in 1991, the previous best year ever for Monarchs east of the Rocky Mountains. Monarch rates in the Pacific coastal states were well above the extremely low numbers observed in 1993, but were still well below normal.

TO GET THE 1994 COUNT REPORT, please send your report order, specifying year of count results desired, and a check or money order payable in U. S. Dollars to NABA at the address below. The cost is \$4.00 (NABA members) or \$6.00 (non-members). For more information on NABA, the count program, counts in your area, and how to conduct a count, please write, including a self-addressed stamped business envelope to expedite response.

NABA Butterfly Count, 909 Birch Street, Baraboo, WI 53913

#### 1994 WISCONSIN LEPIDOPTERA SEASON SUMMARY

Coordinator: Les Ferge (LF). Contributors: George Balogh (GB), Tom Barina (TB), Bob Borth (BB), Jim Ebner (JE), Karl and Dorothy Legler (K&DL), Jim Parkinson (JCP), Tom Rocheleau (TR), Clark Schultz (CS), Scott & Ann Swengel (S&AS), Tom Vogel (TV).

Following a severely cold winter, the spring warmup progressed quickly, with growing degree-day accumulations indicating the season to be 7-11 days advanced from late April through June. Spring was characterized by warm days but cool nights, while June was hotter than normal. August was cooler, but the weather was generally mild well into October. A notable number of migrant butterflies were recorded, with *Hylephila phyleus* and *Libytheana bachmanii* seen in numbers in several localities, but the most unusual was the *Anaea andria* sighting in Jackson County. Gypsy moth numbers were down considerably from last year, with by far the largest populations concentrated in Door County.

New county records are indicated by county names in CAPITAL letters, new state records by the STATE notation.

**BUTTERFLIES:** *E. martialis*, 23 May, Douglas Co (LF); 23-28 May, Burnett Co (LF, JCP); 24 Jul, Jackson Co (TR). *P. communis*, 1 Jun, JACKSON Co (S&AS). *N. lherminier*, 28 Aug, Green Co (LF). *T. lineola*, 25 Jun, ADAMS Co (JCP); 2 Jul, JACKSON, MARATHON, PORTAGE, VERNON, WOOD Cos (JCP). *H. phyleus*, 30 Jul, 22 Aug, Milwaukee Co (JE, K&DL); 7 Aug, Grant Co (K&DL); 10 Sep, Grant Co (JCP); 11 Sep, Sauk Co (K&DL); 25 Sep, Waukesha Co (JE). *H. ottoe*, 28 Jun-26 Jul, Crawford, Grant, Green, Sauk Cos (S&AS); 15 Jul, Trempealeau Co (K&DL). *H. metea*, 13 May, Adams Co (JCP); 28 May, Burnett, Douglas Cos (JCP). *A. campestris*, 24 Jun, Forest Co (TR); 7 Aug, Grant Co (K&DL); 19 Aug, Milwaukee Co (JE). *P. byssus*, 2 Jul, Grant Co (JCP). *E. bimacula*, 24 Jun, Forest Co (TR). *P. protodice*, 15 Aug, Crawford Co (TR). *Z. cesonia*, 24 Jul, Grant Co (K&DL); 10 Sep, PIERCE Co, (Carol Ferge via LF). *E. lisa*, 15 Jul, Trempealeau Co (K&DL); 22 Jul, Milwaukee Co (JE); 23 Jul, Crawford Co (TR); 23 Jul, Dane Co (K&DL); 24 Jul-22 Aug, Grant Co (K&DL); 10 Sep, Grant Co (JCP); 11 Sep, Crawford Co (LF). *N. iole*, 12 Jul-14 Sep, Dane Co (K&DL); 15 Jul, Trempealeau Co (K&DL); 16 Jul, Winnebago Co (CS); 23 Jul & 11 Sep, Crawford Co (TR, LF). *F. tarquinius*, 27 Jul, Sauk Co (K&DL); 4 Aug, Waukesha Co, ovipositing on Alder (JE). *I. irus*, 10 May-1 Jun, Jackson, Wood Cos (S&AS). *I. henrici*, 14-17 May, Jackson Co (LF, S&AS); 23-28 May, Burnett, Douglas Cos (LF, JCP). *S. melinus*, 22 May, WOOD Co (S&AS). *L. melissa samuelis*, 22 May-6 Sep, Burnett, Clark, Eau Claire, Jackson, Wood Cos (S&AS). *P. saepiolus*, 25 Jun, Marinette Co (TR). *L. bachmanii*, 18 Jun, IOWA Co (K&DL); 15 Jul, TREMPEALEAU Co (K&DL); 5 Aug, MANITOWOC Co (TV). *P. faunus*, 30 Jul, Forest Co (TR). *V. cardui*, 1-15 May, Winnebago Co (CS). *Junonia coenia*, 31 Jul, FOREST Co (TR); 15 Aug POLK Co (K&DL); 24 Aug, ADAMS, Portage Cos (K&DL); 11-21 Sep, Winnebago Co (CS); 18 Sep, Dane Co (K&DL). *S. idalia*, 28 Jun-21 Aug, Crawford, Dane, Iowa Cos (S&AS); Green Co (K&DL, S&AS). *C. eunomia dawsoni*, 12 Jun, FOREST Co (TR). *C. freija*, 21 May, DOUGLAS Co (LF); 28 May, Oneida Co (JCP). *C. titania grandis*, 17 Aug, Douglas Co (K&DL). *C. gorgone carlota*, 4 Jun, Jackson Co (LF); 10-24 Jul, Winnebago Co (CS); 15 Jul, Trempealeau Co (K&DL). *A. andria*, 15 Aug, JACKSON Co, sight (T. Kirkpatrick via JE). *A. celtis*, *A. clyton*, 25 Jun, ADAMS Co (JCP); 2 Jul, Grant, VERNON Cos (JCP). *C. tullia inornata*, 24 Jun, Forest Co; 25 Jun, Marinette Co (TR). *E. discoidalis*, 21 May, Douglas Co (LF). *O. chryxus strigulosa*, 21 May, Bayfield Co (LF); 23-28 May, Douglas Co (LF, JCP).

**MOTHS:** PYRALIDAE - *Uresiphita reversalis*, 27 Aug, DANE Co, reared from *Baptisia lactea* (Rich Henderson via LF). GEOMETRIDAE - *Erastria coloraria*, 14 May, 5 Jul, Jackson Co, det. GB (LF). *Lobocleta plemyraria*, 1 Jul, Sauk Co; 16 Jul, PIERCE Co, det. GB (LF). SATURNIIDAE - *Sphingicampa bicolor*, 11 June, Grant Co (BB). SPHINGIDAE - *Ceratomia catalpae*, 29 July, Sauk Co (LF); 10 Sep, Iowa Co (JCP). *Sphinx luscitiosa*, 21 May, Bayfield Co, barrens (LF). NOTODONTIDAE - *Clostera brucei*, 24 June, FOREST Co (TR). *Notodonta scitipennis*, 4 & 24 June, JACKSON Co (LF, TR). ARCTIIDAE - *Crambidia casta*, 9 Sep, JACKSON Co (LF). *C. pura*, 16 Aug, SAUK Co, STATE, sand prairie (LF); 10 Sep, PIERCE Co, lime prairie (LF). *Lycomorpha pholus*, 10 Sep, PIERCE Co, lime prairie (LF). *Ecpantheria scribonia*,

10 Jun, EAU CLAIRE Co (JCP). *Phragmatobia lineata*, 15 Aug, CRAWFORD Co (TR); 29 Aug, Dane Co (TR). *Apantesis carlotta*, 20 May & 6 Aug, PIERCE Co, lime prairie (LF); 5 Jun, Green Co (BB). *Grammia virguncula speciosa*, 5 Jul, JACKSON Co (LF); 10 Jul, BAYFIELD Co (LF). *G. celia*, 29 Jul, SAUK Co (LF). *Pygarctia spraguei*, 28 May, Eau Claire Co (JCP); 4 & 15 Jun, Jackson Co (LF, TR). NOCTUIDAE - *Phalaenostola eumelusalis*, 20 June, Jackson Co (BB). *Metalectra tantillus*, 7 Aug 1993, 11 Jun, 29 Jul & 16 Aug, SAUK Co, STATE (LF). *Ascalapha odorata*, 24 Sep, DOUGLAS Co (TR). *Catocala abbreviatella*, *C. amestris*, 16 Jul, PIERCE Co (LF). *C. clintoni*, 3 Jul, Marathon Co (JCP). *Rachiplusia ou*, 24 Sep, DOUGLAS Co (TR). *Autographa mappa*, 24 Jun, Forest Co (TR). *A. californica*, 20 Jun, JACKSON Co (BB). *A. flagellum*, 20 Jun, JACKSON Co (BB); 4 Jul, MARATHON Co (JCP); 11 Jul, BAYFIELD Co (LF). *Syngrapha viridisigma*, 2 Sep, EAU CLAIRE Co (JCP). *S. microgamma*, 12 & 24 Jun, FOREST Co (TR). 19 Jun, DOUGLAS Co (BB). *Oruza albocostaliata*, 10 Sep PIERCE Co, 3rd state record (LF). *Cerma cora*, 4 Jun, JACKSON Co (LF). *Amyna octo*, 12 Sep, JEFFERSON Co (LF). *Tarachidia binocula*, 20 May, 16 Jul & 6 Aug, PIERCE Co (LF). *Acronicta longa*, 21 May, BAYFIELD Co (LF); 4 Jun, ADAMS Co (JCP). *Apamea lateritia*, 9 & 12 Jul, BAYFIELD Co (LF). *Apamea niveivenosa*, 30 Jul, MARINETTE Co (TR). *Apamea burgessi*, 11 Sep, Sauk Co (LF); 10 Sep, GRANT Co (JCP). *A. relicina*, 2 Sep, EAU CLAIRE Co (JCP); 10 Sep, PIERCE Co (LF). *Oligia bridghami*, 5 Jul, JACKSON Co (LF). *O. minuscula*, 2 Sep, FOREST Co (TR). *Meropleon ambifusum*, 6 Aug & 10 Sep, PIERCE Co (LF); 9 Sep, JACKSON Co (LF); 11 Sep, SAUK Co (LF). *Lemmeria digitalis*, 2 Sep, EAU CLAIRE Co (JCP). *Selicanis cinereola*, 9 Sep, Jackson Co (LF). *Spartiniphaga panatela*, 12 Jul, Bayfield Co (LF). *Archanara laeta*, 8 Sep, DANE Co (TR). *Papaipema cataphracta*, 10 Sep, WAUKESHA Co (BB, TB). *Papaipema baptisiae*, 9 Sep, JACKSON Co (LF). *P. appassionata*, 2 Sep, FOREST Co (TR). *P. maritima*, 8 Sep, Dane Co (TR). *P. nelita*, 24 Aug, DANE Co, det. E. Quinter (TR). *P. rigida*, 17 Aug & 11 Sep, Dane Co (TR); 10 Sep, PIERCE Co (LF). *Hydraecia micacea*, 31 Jul, FOREST Co (TR). *H. stramentosa*, 16 Jul, PIERCE Co (LF). *Conservula anodonta*, 5 Jul, Jackson Co (LF). *Enargia mephisto*, 9 Jul, Bayfield Co (LF). *Chytonix sensilis*, 10 Jul, Bayfield Co (LF); 31 Jul, MARINETTE Co (TR). *Magusa orbifera*, 7 Sep, Jackson Co (TR). 10 Sep, Waukesha Co (BB, TB). *Amphipyra glabella* (Morr.) 1 Jul, GRANT Co (BB). *Athetis mendosa*, 5 Jul, JACKSON Co, STATE, in wetland (LF); 12 Jul, BAYFIELD Co (LF). *Lithophane amanda*, 19 May, FOREST Co (TR); 2 Sep, EAU CLAIRE Co (JCP). *Eupsilia devia*, 14 Apr, JACKSON Co (LF); 21 May, BAYFIELD Co (LF). *Chaetagnaea sericea*, 24 Sep, DOUGLAS Co (TR). *Hillia iris*, 8 Sep, Dane Co (TR); 10 Sep, Waukesha Co (BB). *Feralia jocosus*, 19 May, FOREST Co (TR). *F. major*, 14 Apr, Jackson Co (LF). *Homohadena badistriga*, 20 Jun & 5 Jul, Jackson Co (BB, LF); 16 Jul, PIERCE Co (LF). *Oncocnemis viriditincta*, 17 Sep 1993, JACKSON Co, STATE, det. J. Wilterding (LF). *Sideridis congermana*, 4 & 15 Jun, 5 Jul, Jackson Co (LF, TR). *Lacanobia nevadae*, 12 Jun, FOREST, ONEIDA Cos (TR). *L. radix*, 12 Jun, ONEIDA Co, bog (TR). *Trichordestra rugosa*, 12 Jun, FOREST Co (TR). *T. tacoma*, 28 May, FOREST Co (TR). *Papestra quadrata*, 21 May, Bayfield Co (LF); 13 May, Marinette Co (BB, TB). *Leucania linita*, 11 June, Oneida Co (TR); 5 Jul, JACKSON Co (LF); 12 Jul, Bayfield Co (LF). *Euxoa obeliscoides*, 10 Sep, PIERCE Co, lime prairie (LF). *Richia grotei*, 6 Aug, PIERCE Co, lime prairie (LF); 17 & 26 Aug, DANE Co (TR). *Diarsia rosaria*, 12 Jun, ONEIDA Co (TR); 9 Jul, BAYFIELD Co, det. J. D. Lafontaine (LF). *Xestia oblata*, 12 Jul,

Bayfield Co (LF). *Metalepsis fishii*, 21 May, BAYFIELD Co (LF). *Heliothis acesias*, 29 Jul, Sauk Co (LF). *Schinia indiana*, 26 May, BURNETT Co (S&AS); 29 May-15 Jun, JACKSON Co (S&AS, LF). *S. mortua*, 15-21 Aug, CRAWFORD Co, on *Grindelia squarrosa* flowers (TR, LF). *S. oleagina*, 6 Aug, PIERCE Co, lime prairie (LF). *S. lucens*, 1 Jul, Sauk Co (LF, JCP); 16 Jul, Pierce Co (LF).

### DRAGONFLY PHOTOS WANTED

Dave Westover (The Nature Conservancy) and Karl Legler (Madison Audubon Society) are working on a photographic guide to the commonest dragonflies of Wisconsin. There are 13 species that we have not photographed but would like to include in the guide. If you have reasonably clear color photos of any of these species we would be interested in including your picture in the guide. We cannot pay you for use of the photo (except copying and mailing costs) but the photo will only be used for non-profit purpose in the guide and the photo will be credited to you. Photos must show a living dragonfly in a reasonably natural setting. Any unposed field photograph is acceptable--even if the dragonfly is, say, on the side of a building. Posed photos are OK -- if they are in natural settings.

If you have one of these species, send a card to: Karl Legler, 429 Franklin St., Sauk City, WI 53583. Or phone (608) 643-4926. Your help is greatly appreciated.

*Aeshna interrupta*  
*Epitheca (Epicordulia) princeps*  
*Basiaeschna janata*  
*Gomphus (gomphurus) vastus*  
*Ophiogomphus rupinsulensis*  
*Stylurus spiniceps*

*Somatochlora minor*  
*Somatochlora williamsoni*  
*Sympetrum internum (male)*  
*Sympetrum rubicundulum (male)*  
*Macromia illinoiensis*

Other species for which we have photographs but would be interested in a better photo:

*Tramea onusta*  
*Pantala flavescens*  
*Pantala hymnaea*

*Ophiogomphus colubrinus*  
*Didymops transversa*



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

