

FY98 WILDLIFE PRESERVATION FUND REPORT:

BASELINE LEPIDOPTERA SURVEYS FOR

TWO ILLINOIS NATURE PRESERVES

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Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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May 3, 1998

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Eric Metzler and the Ohio Lepidopteran Society for their assistance in identifying nocturnal lepidoptera, and the Ohio State University Entomology Department, which opened their insect collection for verification of specimens. In addition, I would like to thank George Derkovitz and Ron Panzer for providing advice and thoughtful discussions about the ecology and sampling of insects. Last, but not least, I would like to thank the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and the Wildlife Preservation Fund Advisory Committee for funding this research. Without their financial assistance and encouragement this research would not have occurred.

Introduction

Transeau's Prairie Peninsula contains one of the most fragmented habitats in North America. The eastern portion of the tallgrass prairie region is especially fragmented, with the states of Indiana, Illinois and Iowa ranking 48th -50th respectively for intact natural habitat remaining (Klopatek et al., 1979). Despite, or perhaps because of this, Illinois has many extremely rare species. This makes it imperative that remnant populations on protected natural areas are maintained, while, at the same time, performing management practices deemed important for each ecosystems overall health.

Management priorities for Illinois nature preserves are clearly stated in the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) publication "The Changing Illinois Environments: Critical Trends" (1995) "Interest in maintaining global biodiversity, as well as state and federal legislation, requires us to apply a species-level management strategy at sites where rare and endangered species currently reside." Often rare and endangered species are overlooked until survey work is conducted. This is especially true of insects, which are small, mobile and often not recognized to species by amateurs and professionals alike.

Baseline insect surveys provide valuable information for site managers. Baseline surveys alert site managers to the presence of rare and endangered species on the site, before potentially detrimental management activities are undertaken. This allows managers to monitor rare species and determine if their populations are increasing or declining. By comparing changes in insect populations within and across preserves and factoring in variables, such as management practices and site size, insights into causes of population changes may be gained (New, 1991; Pollard and Yates, 1993)

In April, 1997, John Wilker (IDNR) submitted a proposal prepared by me to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Wildlife Preservation Fund Advisory Committee entitled 'Baseline Lepidoptera Surveys for Two Illinois Nature Preserves'. The proposal was approved, and this report is the result of the funded research. The purpose of this study was to establish baseline data on the presence of nocturnal lepidoptera (primarily Noctuidae) and the presence and abundance of diurnal (Papilionoidea and Hesperioidea) lepidopteran species at Long Branch Sand Prairie and Barton-Sommer's Woods.

Chapter 1

Long Branch Sand Prairie Nature Preserve

Site Description

Long Branch Sand Prairie nature preserve is a 93-acre site with a mix of sand prairie, scrub oak and old fields on it. It is part of a larger, (183-acre) area containing a mosaic of these communities (Fig. 1), which is located in Sections 25 and 36 of T 20 N, R 9 W, and Sections 30 and 31 of T 20 N, R 8 W of the Third Principal Meridian. No prescribed burning has occurred on this site since the state of Illinois acquired it in December 1987. The site has most likely received very infrequent burning since the 1930's. Local landowners expressed negative attitudes towards fire, and talked of spreading prairie hay in blowouts to attempt to stabilize dunes during the 1930's. In the early 1990's, and again in early spring of 1997, a bulldozer came on site to doze non-native pine trees into piles, which were burned. Other than these activities, which created the 'disturbed' habitat category, little or no management has occurred on this site since IDNR acquired it in 1987.

The topography varies from relatively flat to rugged dunes, with elevations from 485 to 515 feet above sea level. Soils on the preserve are primarily of the Sparta-Plainfield-Ada soil association, with a transition to the Marshan-Udolpho soil association (NCSS 1995) occurring on the east edge of the preserve where the ground slopes down to the terraces of White Oak Creek (see Table 1).

Habitat categories: Categories ranged from the Disturbed category, to prairie and woodland categories. A brief description of these categories follows:

Disturbed: bulldozed in the spring of 1997, and dominated by bare sand, annuals and scattered remnants of the former vegetative cover.

Old Fields: Clearly plowed in the late 20th century and dominated by *Panicum perlongum*, *Panicum capillare*, and weedy or annual forbs. *Eragrostis trichodes*, *Polygonum pensylvanicum*, *Asclepias syriacus*, and *Heterotheca villosa* are locally dominant within this area.

Sand Lovegrass (*Eragrostis trichodes*) Prairie: On smooth gentle dunes, without blowouts and with interspersed plowed fields and scattered woody invasion. The sand lovegrass prairie lacks conservative forbs and may have been plowed or heavily grazed in the distant past.

Little Bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) Prairie: On rugged sand dunes, interspersed with blowouts and copses and containing conservative prairie forbs, such as *Liatris aspera*, *Baptisia lactea*, *Tephrosia virginiana* and occasionally *Amorpha canescens*.

Prairie Sandreed (*Calamovilfa longifolia*) Prairie: On gently sloping low prairie, with some conservative forbs, including *Amorpha canescens*, but low forb density overall.

Black Jack Oak (*Quercus marilandica*) Savanna: Open-canopied copses, interspersed with openings and narrow coves, occasionally closed-canopied in spots. There are some grasses in the understory, and shrubs (*Salix humilis*, *Rhus aromatica*) in many of the openings.

Oak woods: Closed-canopied woods with some woodland forbs (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*) in understory and dominated by oaks (*Quercus marilandica*, *Quercus velutina*). This probably represents very old, once open-canopied copses.

Methodology

Diurnal and nocturnal lepidopteran species were monitored using different methodologies. Nocturnal species were sampled using two black lights placed at varying locations from June 23 until October 3, 1997. Diurnal species were monitored using modified Pollard (Pollard and Yates 1993) transects at each site from June 17 until July 31, 1997. A representative sample of the nocturnal species were taken, spread, pinned, identified to species, and deposited at the Illinois State Museum insect collection.

Diurnal sampling: A standard Pollard transect was used, with only minor modifications. A fixed route was established with flagging used to mark the route. The route was designed to sample a variety of habitats, and the length of the route was determined for each habitat. All diurnal lepidoptera seen within 5 meters of the observer in any direction (except behind) were recorded by habitat, as the observer traveled at a steady pace along the route. At the beginning of each route, and numerous times during the route, the observer paced off 5-meter distances to determine if butterflies were within the 5-meter limit. If the observer paused for any reason, the recording of species stopped until the observer renewed their pace through the site. Date, time of day, temperature, windspeed, amount of sunshine, and miscellaneous commentary on the ecosystem (eg drought stress of plants, or sex ratios of lepidoptera) were recorded at each visit. No specimens of diurnal lepidoptera were taken, as butterflies seen within the route were identified while alive in the field. Exceptions to this were several hairstreak butterflies, which flew high into oak trees before they could be identified. These were simply noted as hairstreaks, and were not further identified.

Nocturnal sampling: Two bucket-style black light traps, equipped with 12 volt marine batteries, 15 watt U-shaped black light tubes and photocell switches, were set out at each site for at least one night, twice each month. Traps were examined early the next morning, representative specimens taken, and the rest of the insects released.

Pinned specimens were identified to species to the best of my ability using available texts (Covell 1984, Hardwick 1996, Rings et al. 1992, Rockburne and Lafontaine 1976, Sargent 1976). Specimens were then taken to the Ohio State University collection center, where I compared my specimens with those in the collection, and gained the assistance of Eric Metzler in confirming or correcting identifications of many moths. I then perused available texts for information on the abundance of the species that I had vouchered. Next, I checked the collections of the Field Museum, the Illinois Natural History Survey and Ron Panzer's database. I also made a partial survey of the Illinois State museum's and Jim Wiker's (Oakford, IL) collection. I used this information to determine the rarity of these moths at the state level. Species determined to be rare are discussed in the results.

Data Analysis

Diurnal sampling: The length of each route occurring in each community was measured, and the acreage sampled in each community was determined. For each species, I then determined the density of butterflies per acre of plant community by dividing the number of butterflies seen by the acreage sampled in each community. Using aerial photographs (1983-1986) from the soil survey maps of Mason County (Calsyn 1995) and a planimeter, I determined the area of each community

within Long Branch Nature Preserve. I then estimated the numbers of butterflies of each species per site by multiplying the density/community type by the acres of each community type and summing the totals.

Results

Diurnal Sampling: The monitoring route sampled 6.2 acres, or 6.7% of the site each time the route was walked. The percent of the different plant communities sampled varied from a low of 2.7% of the Oak Woods sampled to a high of 11.2% of the Oak Barrens sampled (Table 2). The Little Bluestem and Sand Lovegrass Prairies had intermediate sampling percentages of 6.2% and 9.2% respectively.

Two butterfly species occurred in large numbers on the site. These were the Regal Fritillary (*Speyeria idalia*) and Wood Nymphs (*Ceryonis pegala*). An estimated 2179 Regal Fritillaries were flying on the 93-acres of the nature preserve on June 17, 1997 (Figure 1). Regal Fritillaries occurred at densities of 38.8/acre in Little Bluestem Prairie, 33.1/acre in Sand Lovegrass Prairie, 24.3/acre in Old Fields and a surprising 16.5/acre in the Oak Barren/Edge habitat (Figure 2). Wood Nymphs peaked at an estimated 984 individuals (Figure 3) on the 93 acre site on the last sampling day (July 31). At that time, they showed a strong preference for the Oak Barren/Edge habitat. Wood Nymphs also showed a strong avoidance of the Old Field habitat throughout their flight time, suggesting that Wood Nymphs may be restricted to native habitats.

Nocturnal Sampling: One hundred twenty seven (127) species of moths from Long Branch Nature Preserve were identified (Table 3) and vouchered at the Illinois State Museum, Springfield, Illinois. Of these, 15 (11.8%) were considered rare in Illinois, based upon a search of literature and collections. The Flower Moths (Heliiothinae) had more rare species (four) than any other subfamily of moth. Almost without exception, museum specimens of these moths were collected in the 19th and early 20th century. While this may reflect collection effort, it most likely also reflects the presence of more remnant insect populations persisting on the more abundant habitat fragments occurring at that time. Unless specimens have been collected in the latter half of the 20th century, as is the case for all specimens in the Panzer collection, records presented here should be considered to represent historical distributions, not present occurrences.

Each of the vouchered moth species thought to be rare are listed below, along with pertinent data. These data include the name, subfamily, known or suspected food plants, distribution in North America and distribution in Illinois. Counties of occurrences are followed by collections in which specimens were observed. Abbreviations for collections are as follows:

ISM = Illinois State Museum

INHS = Illinois Natural History Survey

FMNH = Field Museum of Natural History

Panzer = Collection and notes of Ron Panzer, Markham, Illinois.

Flower Moths (subfamily Heliothinae): Nine species of flower moths were vouchered at LBSP during this study, with four of these considered rare in Illinois. Many species of flower moths, especially those in the genus *Schinia*, are habitat restricted due to the prevalence of monophagous and oligophagous dietary habits (Hardwick 1996). Flower moths typically lay eggs in the flower heads of their host plants. Several days later the eggs hatch, and the larvae feed upon the flower head and seeds, until maturing. Pupation and overwintering typically occurs in the soil. Some desert flower moths have the ability to stay in the pupal stage for several years, until appropriate (usually rainfall) events stimulate eclosion (Hardwick 1996). The adult lifespan of flower moths is typically a week or less. Most *Schinia* species are univoltine, although some produce successive summer generations if their host plants have a prolonged bloom time. Dormant season fires will most likely have little effect on most flower moths.

Heliothis paradoxus is a flower moth known to oviposit on *Andropogon barbinodes*, a western bluestem grass (Hardwick pp 61, 1996). Its distribution in Illinois suggests that it may be feeding upon little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) here. *H. paradoxus* occurs from central Mexico to Oregon and east to Florida and Minnesota, with a population in southwest Ontario. Illinois county records are Cook (FMNH), Adams, Champaign, Mason, Marshall, Peoria and Putnam (INHS) counties.

Rhodoecia aurantiago is a flower moth known to feed on *Gerardia*. *R. aurantiago* occurs from Massachusetts westward to southern Ontario and Illinois, and southward to Florida and central Texas (Hardwick pp42, 1996). Illinois county records are Cook (FMNH, INHS, Panzer), Lake, (FMNH, INHS), Putnam (INHS), Iroquois and Grundy (Panzer) counties.

Schinia diffusa (Illinois state record) is a flower moth whose only known larval food plant is *Haplopappus annua*, a member of the Asteraceae. Prior to this study, *S. diffusa* was known to occur from central Florida and the gulf coastal states westward to southern Texas and the high plains of Colorado (Hardwick pp. 131, 1996). *H. annua* occurs on sand prairies in the western great plains from western Nebraska to central Oklahoma, south and west to Texas and New Mexico (McGregor, R.L., and T.M. Barkley 1986). Composites, such as golden aster (*Chrysopsis camporum*), should be observed to determine if they are the host plant of *S. diffusa* in Illinois. There are no records of *S. diffusa* from Illinois.

Schinia sanguinea, sometimes called *S. gloriosa*, is a flower moth whose only known larval food plants are *Liatris* species. *Liatris aspera* occurs at this site. *S. sanguinea* range is from the southeastern states west to Texas, and north to Illinois and Minnesota, with an isolated population in Ontario (Hardwick pp. 160, 1996). Illinois county records are Cook, Winnebago, Peoria (INHS), McHenry (INHS, Panzer) Carrol, and Lake Counties (Panzer) counties.

Miscellaneous Subfamilies:

Itame Subcessaria (Ennominae) is an uncommon geometer, known to feed on gooseberries and currants (Covell pp. 347, 1984). Its range is from Newfoundland to eastern Kentucky, west to Manitoba, Iowa and South Dakota. Illinois county records are Cook (FMNH, INHS), Menard (ISM), Putnam, LaSalle (INHS), Jo Davies and Will (Panzer) counties.

Grammia phyllira (Arctiinae) is a Tiger Moth, thought to feed on corn, tobacco and lupines. Despite this list of host plants, *G. phyllira* is uncommon along the Atlantic coast and rarer inland (Covell pp. 71, 1984). Illinois county records are Cook (FMNH), Adams, Marshall, Putnam (INHS) and Whiteside (Panzer) counties.

Spilosoma latipennis (Arctiinae) is an uncommon Tiger Moth, which feeds on a variety of plants. It occurs from Maine to southern Ontario, west to Nebraska and Arkansas (Covell, pp. 66, 1984). Illinois county records are Cook and McHenry (INHS) counties.

Apamea burgessii (Amphipyriinae) is an uncommon noctuid moth, which was identified by E. Metzler. I can find little information on this species. Illinois county records are Cook (FMNH), Champaign, Marshall and Putnam (INHS) counties.

Cucullia speyeri (Noctuidae) is an uncommon moth which feeds on Erigeron species (Rings et al. pp. 114, 1992). It occurs from southern Maine and Ontario to North Carolina, west to Manitoba and South Dakota (Covell pp. 120, 1986). Illinois county records are Cook County, Farma, IL (FMNH), McHenry and Putnam (INHS) counties.

Leucania extincta (Noctuidae) is a rare moth known to occur from the East Coast and Illinois (Metzler, personal communication). In Illinois it is known to occur in 'northern Illinois' (INHS).

Xylota vetusta (Noctuidae) is a Dart Moth that feeds on many plants. Despite this, it is uncommon to rare throughout its range (Covell pp. 89, 1986). It occurs from Nova Scotia to Georgia, west to Manitoba and Texas. Illinois county records are Cook, Marshall, Mason, Putnam (INHS), Jo Davies, Whiteside, and Carrol (Panzer) counties.

Eucoptocnemis fimbriaris (Noctuidae) is a Dart Moth with no known food plants. It occurs from New Hampshire to Florida west to Illinois and Texas, and is uncommon to rare northward (Covell pp. 91, 1984). It does not occur in Ohio (Rings et al. 1996). In Illinois it is known from Putnam (INHS) county.

Euxoa niveilinea (Noctuidae) is a Dart Moth. Illinois county records are Cook (FMNH, INHS), Crawford, Putnam and Union (INHS) counties.

Sphinx eremitus (Sphinginae) is a sphinx moth, which feeds on Bee balm, bugleweeds, mints and sage. It occurs from Nova Scotia to North Carolina, west to Manitoba and Arkansas, and is uncommon to rare southward (Covell pp 34, 1986). Illinois county records are Cook (INHS, Panzer), Marshall and McHenry (INHS) counties.

Discussion

Diurnal Sampling: By strictly adhering to a 10-meter wide sampling swath, I was able to make estimates of butterfly population size. This may prove valuable in determining if habitat restricted

populations are large enough to maintain their existence in the face of deterministic and stochastic events. Deterministic events, such as habitat loss, are beyond the control of the site manager. Stochastic events, such as fire, unusual climatic events, fluctuations in availability of host plants, or unusually heavy predator pressure, may have catastrophic effects on small, reproductively isolated populations.

Faced with the current uncertainty regarding what minimum viable population sizes are for many species (especially insects), a quick review of insect population dynamics may be in order. Insects are mostly annual species, which produce large numbers of eggs (often > 100) per individual. Unlike annual plants, insects seldom produce a seed bank to tide them through difficult years. High mortality rates keep insect populations in check. This cycle of high reproductive rates and high mortality rates in annual species naturally leads to highly fluctuating population numbers.

The following scenario of roughly resembles population fluctuations observed by Panzer (In Press) in fire-sensitive prairie insects. In a stable population of 100 reproductive females (200 individuals), if each individual female lays 50 female eggs (5,000 total), then 2% of those eggs will survive to be a reproductive female. If 20% of the eggs die before hatching in an average year, then 97.5% of the hatched eggs must die later if we are to leave only one reproductive female (population stability). If a fire, or severe winter, kills 90% of the eggs before hatching, then the 97.5% mortality operates on only five eggs/female. This would leave us with a population of 12.5 reproductive females after this stochastic event. Put two bad years back-to-back, and a population of 100 reproductive females (200 individuals) would be extirpated or down to a few individuals and facing a genetic bottleneck. Many populations of rare, habitat-restricted insect species are thought to occur in populations smaller than 200 individuals.

Regal Fritillaries: Regal Fritillaries occur from the midwestern United States to the east coast and New England, occurring in meadows and prairies (Scott 1986). Their numbers are declining throughout their range. In West-Central Illinois, regal fritillaries occur in small, scattered populations, with the exceptions of the sand dune and floodplain areas of Mason and Cass counties (Sedman and Hess 1985). Regal fritillaries are strong fliers, and can readily disperse across large areas. While at Kansas State University, I saw a regal fritillary on the quad. This is at least a mile from the closest prairie. Lou Nelms, living east of Mason City, has seen regal fritillaries on his homestead, which is over ten miles from the nearest known source population. Jim Wiker once collected a regal fritillary along the railroad tracks in Athens, Illinois. It is likely that this butterfly followed the tracks from a site in Mason County, perhaps 20 miles away. Long-range dispersal is a likely explanation for regal fritillaries appearing infrequently and in low numbers at well-monitored sites, such as Revis Prairie, Goose Lake Prairie and the Kibbe Science Station. Unfortunately, many regal fritillary populations in Illinois are too isolated for even these strong fliers to form metapopulations.

The proximate cause of the rapid decline of the regal fritillary in eastern North America is unknown. Many isolated populations have less than a dozen individuals observed in them each year. It is likely that these populations have less than 200 reproductive females in many years. Going by the best scientific knowledge of today, these populations are not viable, and will disappear in the near

future. This has already occurred in most eastern states, where, just a few decades ago, the regal fritillary was common in marshes, grasslands and coastal prairies. In fact, after discussing the status of Illinois regal fritillary populations with Ron Panzer and Doug Taron, I have come to believe that the only regal fritillary populations in Illinois with consistently more than 200 individuals in them are the Sand Ridge State Forest and the Long Branch Sand Prairie metapopulations.

There were over 2,000 regal fritillaries estimated on the Long Branch nature preserve. If the adjacent, unprotected prairie is as productive as the nature preserve, then the greater Long Branch area (183-acres) had over 4,000 regal fritillaries on-site in 1997. In addition, Frita Meyer's nearby (approximately 3/4 mi.) and currently unprotected property has over 40 acres of high-quality sand prairie. Jim Wiker tells me that he has seen large numbers of regal fritillaries on this site as well. Regrettably, the nearby Matanzas Wet Sand Prairie and Sand Prairie-Scrub Oak nature preserves seem to be regal fritillary population sinks. This may be due to the paucity of larval food plants (violets) on these sites. There are large numbers of *Viola rafinesquii* at Long Branch. Nonetheless, this metapopulation is far larger than any regal fritillary population in Illinois, with the possible exception of the poorly studied Sand Ridge State Forest metapopulation. The Sand Ridge metapopulation is certainly declining in numbers, as Sand Ridge State Forest is rapidly transitioning from a 7,500 acre sand prairie/scrub oak community to a closed-canopied white pine forest.

Wood Nymphs: Wood nymphs occur throughout temperate North America, occurring in moist grassy places (Scott 1986). In West-Central Illinois, wood nymphs are locally common in dry prairie, old fields and prairie savanna (Sedman and Hess 1985). There were nearly 1,000 wood nymphs estimated in the Long Branch Sand Prairie nature preserve. As part of a 183-acre site, the total numbers in the greater Long Branch population were probably closer to 2,000 individuals. This suggests that this population may be viable long-term. Wood Nymphs presently occur in a wide range of open woods and prairie habitats, frequently occurring in degraded natural areas. However, the avoidance of the disturbed and old field habitats in this study suggest that wood nymphs may become uncommon if we lose these degraded natural areas.

Nocturnal Sampling: Three moth species vouchered during this project were previously known from one location (or less) in Illinois. *Schinia diffusa* is a state record, and represents a disjunct population of this moth from its western and southern populations. *Eucptocnemis fimbriaris* was only known from one county (Putnam) before this survey. This eastern moth has now been rediscovered in central Illinois, after many years without known records. *Leucania extincta* represents an entomological boon for Illinois. Formerly known only from the East Coast and a few specimens collected by Forbes in northern Illinois in the early 20th century, we now have an opportunity to reexamine this highly disjunct population. Eric Metzler has expressed an interest in examining a series of specimens to determine if *L. extincta* in Illinois truly represents a widely disjunct population, or if it is an undescribed endemic species.

Conclusion

We are currently experiencing a conservation crisis in Illinois entomology. We have documented (Panzer 1993, Catchpole personal observation: 1987-1998) the loss of insect species from even the highest quality Illinois nature preserves (Illinois Beach State Park: Frosted Elfin, Ottoo Skipper; Revis Hill Prairie: Arogos Skipper). Furthermore, biogeographical population distributions suggest that many more species have been locally extirpated (Panzer 1993) without voucher specimens to verify their disappearance. Fortunately, only a few species have been extirpated from all of Illinois (e.g. Dakota Skipper, Arogos Skipper).

If Illinois is going to support remnant dependant animal species that normally occur at low population densities, then we must design preserves around the most viable remaining populations. Long Branch Sand Prairie certainly qualifies as a critical, core-area for the regal fritillary. If, as is expected, there will be no populations of regal fritillaries in northern Illinois in the near future, then Long Branch will be the only population large enough to restore regal fritillaries to the rest of Illinois. Long Branch also provides habitat for rare moth species. Even if further research reveals the presence of these rare moths on other sites, we now know that Long Branch provides habitat for them.

Critical steps to preserve and enhance the insect populations at Long Branch involve both management practices and land acquisitions. The acquisition of adjacent high-quality dry prairie and mesic plowed fields is of critical importance. Restoration of mesic sand prairie, with its dense floral components, will provide nectar sources during dry summers. In addition, mesic prairie restorations should be planted with large numbers of sand and mesic prairie violets. These native violets no longer occur on many Mason County sand prairie sites. However, they occur commonly on dry-mesic to mesic sand prairies throughout the rest of the Midwest. The plowing of nearly all Mason County sand prairies, except extremely arid and unstable dunes, has resulted in a system of nature preserves that has few native violets within it.

Management practices should involve burning the site on a three to four year rotation and burning no more than half of the site at one time. When dividing the site into burn units, the plant communities should be divided so that no plant community occurs only in one burn unit. By following these guidelines, the manager is assured that there will often be unburned refugia for fire sensitive insects. Even if a species occurs only within one burn unit, by allowing at least three years for the population to recover, the population will most likely be fully recovered before the next burn (Panzer, in press).

There is an urgent need for further research to catalog animals on our Illinois nature preserves. If combined with strategic land acquisitions and sound management practices, we may be able to avoid a catastrophic episode of extinctions in Illinois. Now is the time to purchase the remaining unprotected natural areas and provide them with strategically placed buffers and restorations. Through this process we can protect and enlarge our remnant plant and animal populations, assuring future generations a chance to see the beauty and diversity of wild Illinois.

Tallgrass Research and Management

Figure 1. 1978 aerial photo of Long Branch Nature Preserve, Mason County, Illinois. Dashed line encompasses the dedicated nature preserve.

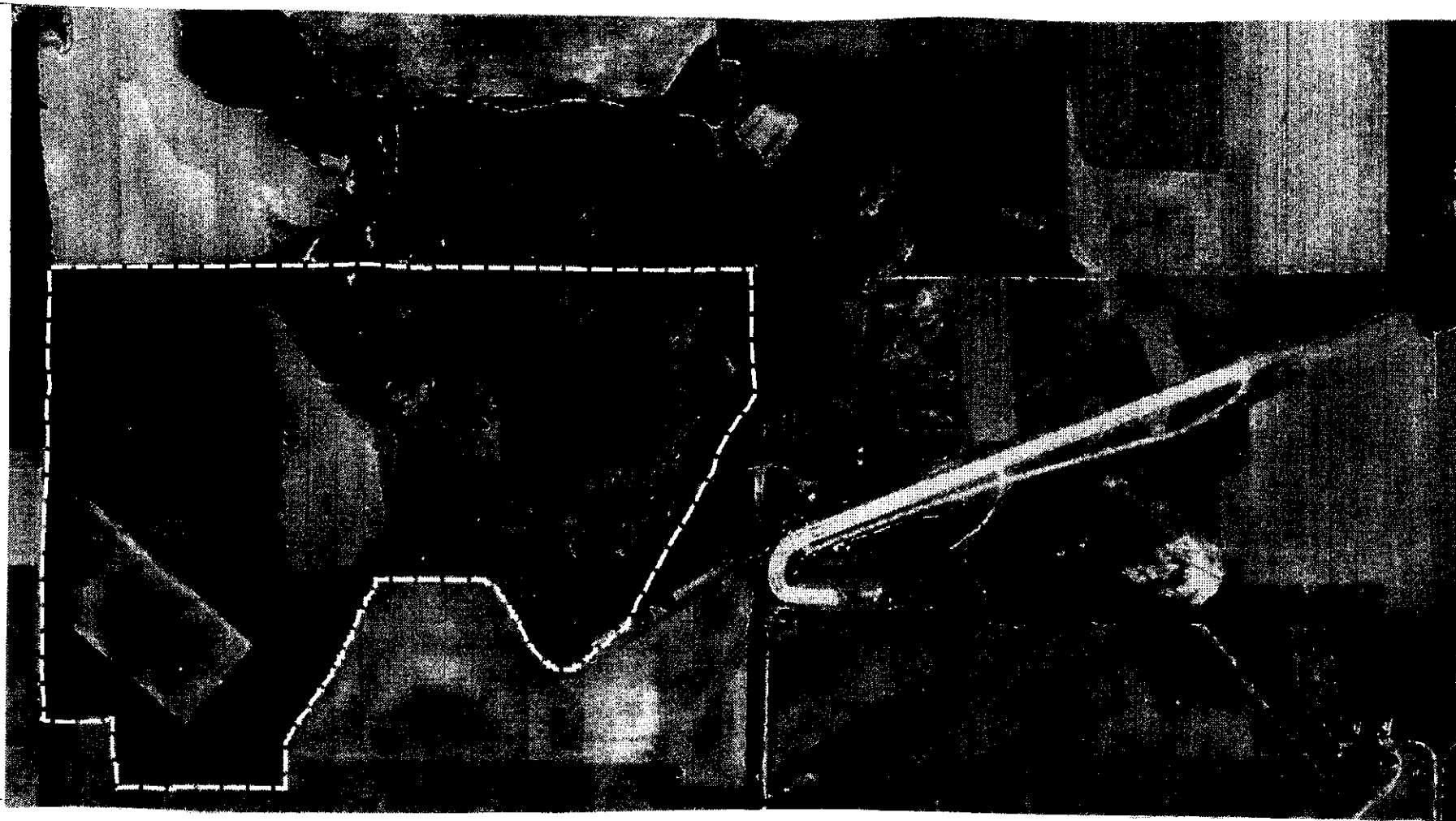


Figure 2. Estimated abundance of Regal Fritillary (*Speyeria idalia*) butterflies at Long Branch Sand Prairie Nature Preserve, Mason County, Illinois in 1997. Estimated numbers of Regal Fritillaries on the Y axis, sampling dates on the X axis. Numbers were determined by dividing the numbers of Regal Fritillaries observed in each habitat by the number of acres sampled in that habitat and then multiplying by the acres of that habitat on-site. This process was repeated for each habitat and the resultant numbers were then summed.

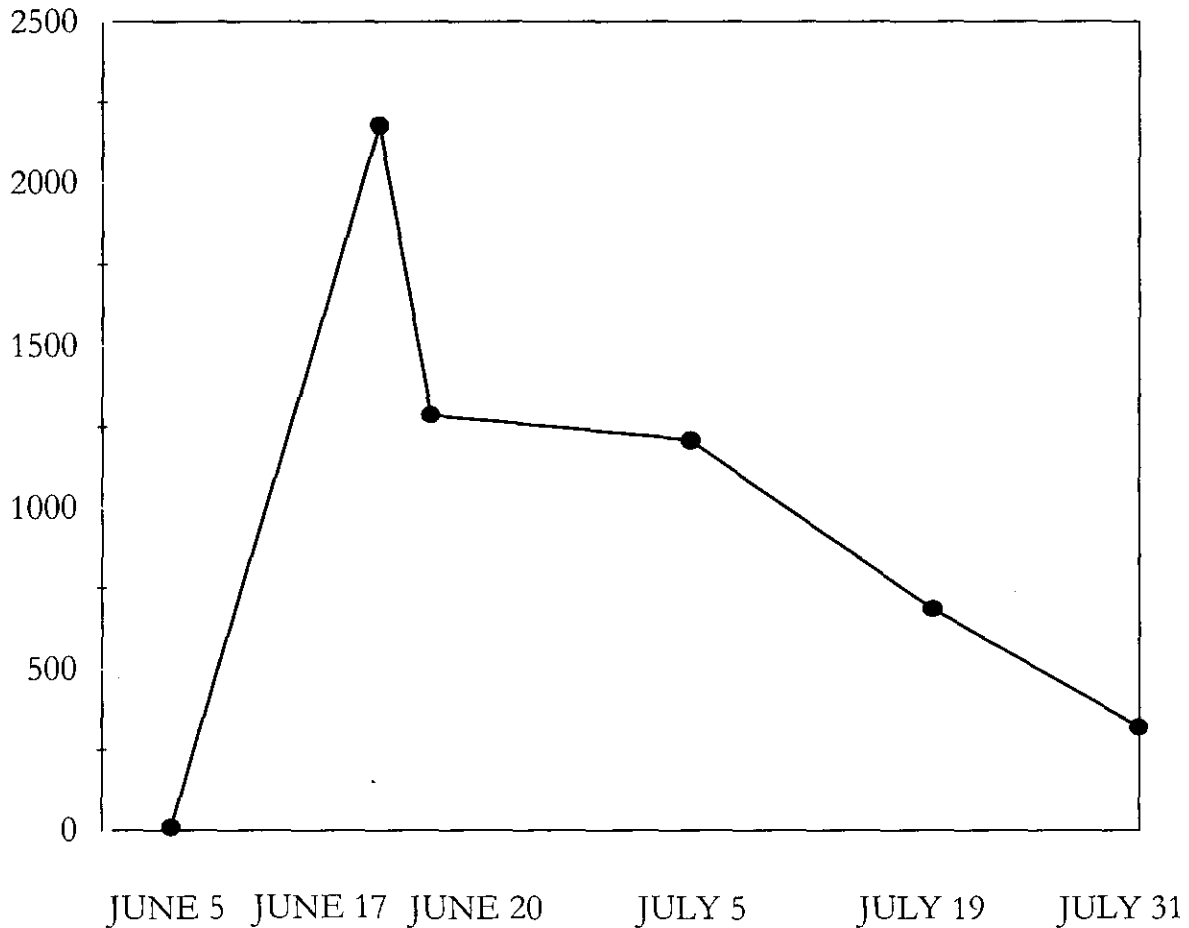


Figure 3. Density (Numbers/acre) of Regal Fritillary (*Speyeria idalia*) per habitat at Long Branch Sand Prairie Nature Preserve, Mason County, Illinois in 1997. Numbers were determined by dividing the numbers of Regal Fritillaries observed in each habitat by the number of acres sampled in that habitat and then multiplying by the acres of that habitat on-site. Dist = disturbed habitat, Oak B = Black Jack Oak Barrens, Oak W = Oak Woods, Field = Old Field, SLP = Sand Lovegrass Prairie, LBP = Little Bluestem Prairie.

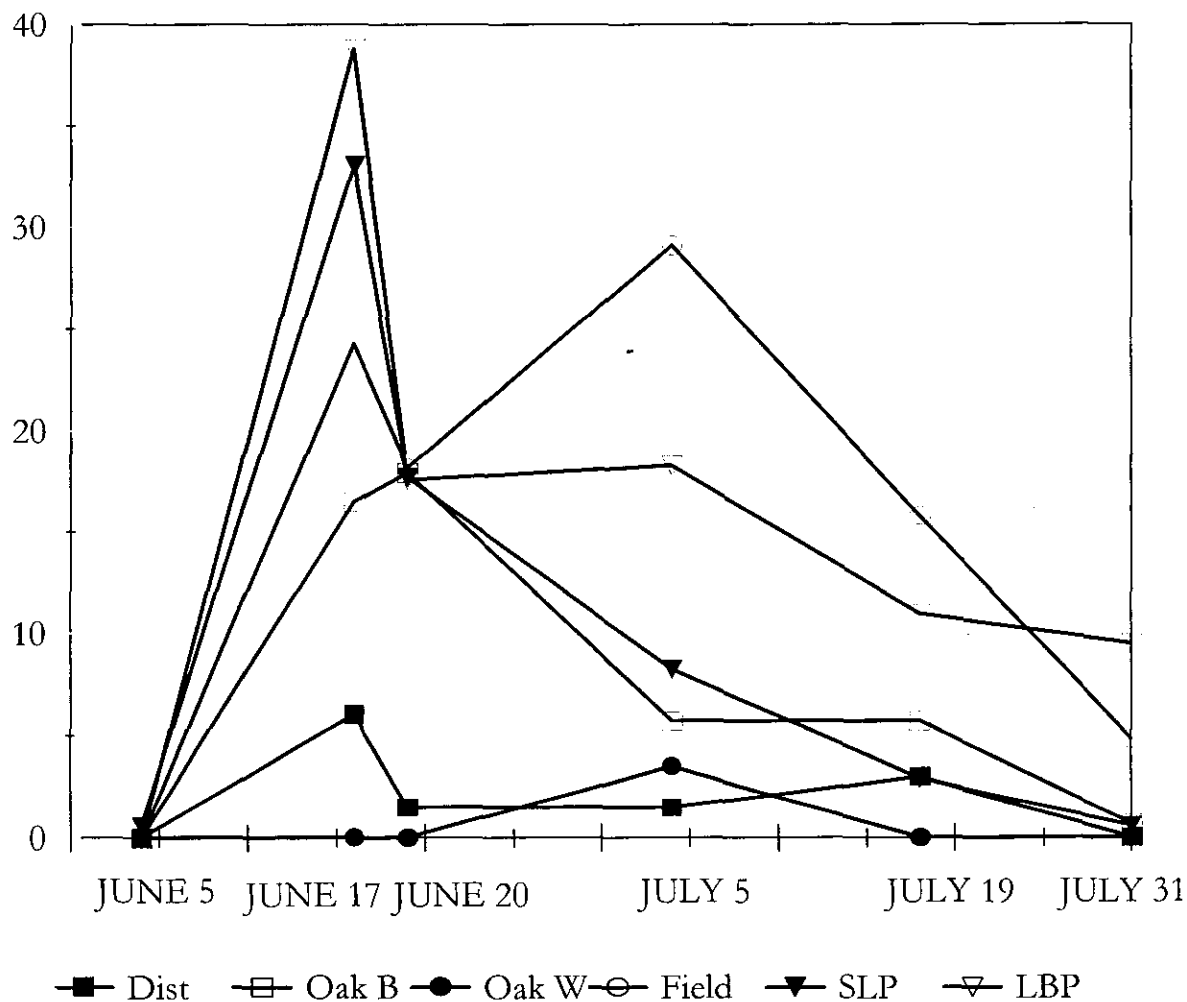


Figure 4. Density (Numbers/acre) of Wood Nymphs (*Cercyonis pegala*) per habitat at Long Branch Sand Prairie Nature Preserve, Mason County, Illinois in 1997. Numbers were determined by dividing the numbers of Wood Nymphs observed in each habitat by the number of acres sampled in that habitat and then multiplying by the acres of that habitat on-site. Dist = disturbed habitat, Oak B = Black Jack Oak Barrens, Oak W = Oak Woods, Field = Old Field, SLP = Sand Lovegrass Prairie, LBP = Little Bluestem Prairie.

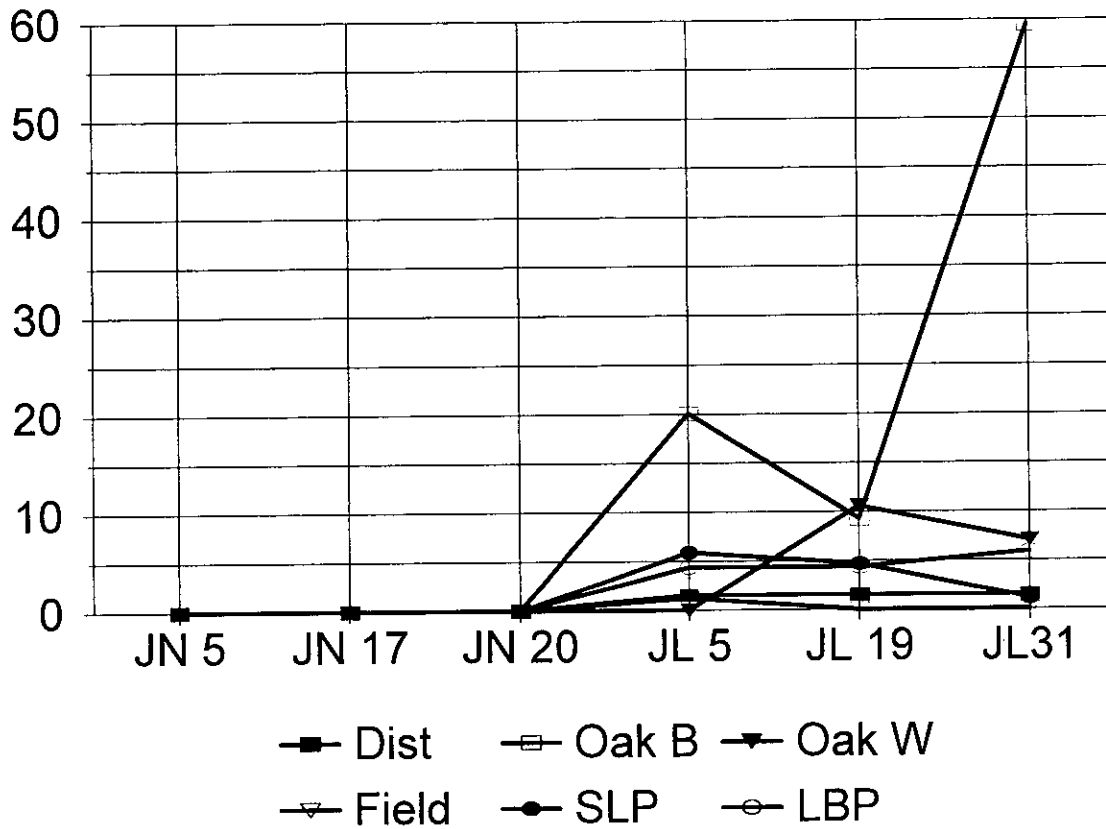


Table 1. Soils and associated vegetation of Long Branch Sand Prairie Nature Preserve, Mason County, Illinois. Determinations made by combining field observations of vegetation with soils as identified on the Soil Survey of Mason County, Illinois (1995).

Soil Numbers	Soil Name	Drainage	Presettlement Community	Current Communities	Dominant Plant	Acreage
54B 54D 54E	Plainfield Sand	Excessively Drained	Dry Prairie w/ widely scattered trees	Dunic Prairie Level Prairie Low Prairie Copses	<i>S. scoparium</i> <i>E. trichodes</i> <i>C. longifolia</i> <i>Q. marilandica</i>	19.2 18.0 1.2 22.9
88B	Sparta Loamy Sand	Excessively Drained	Dry Prairie	Old Field Disturbed Low Prairie Level Prairie	ND ND ? <i>E. trichodes?</i>	
151	Ridgeville Sandy Loam	Poorly Drained	Mesic Prairie? No natural examples remaining	Old Field	ND	
201	Gilford Sandy Loam	Poorly Drained	Mesic Prairie	Low Prairie w/ woody invasion	<i>C. longifolia</i>	0.3
770	Udolpho fine sandy loam	Poorly Drained	Mesic to Wet-Mesic Prairie	Low Prairie w/ woody invasion	<i>C. Longifolia</i>	0.1 + adj. offsite

Table 2: Percent of communities sampled by Pollard Route at Long Branch Sand Prairie Nature Preserve, Mason County, Illinois. Percentages determined by measuring area of each route sampled in each community, and dividing by the area of each community as determined from aerial photograph.

Community Type	Acres of Community Sampled	Acres of Community On-Site	Percent of Community Sampled
Disturbed	0.66	10	6.6%
Oak Barrens	1.39	12.5	11.2%
Oak Woods	0.28	10.4	2.7%
Old Field	0.82	18.1	4.6%
Sand Lovegrass Prairie	1.69	18.5	9.2%
Little Bluestem Prairie	1.37	22.2	6.2%
Totals	6.22	93	6.7%

Table 3: Moths identified to species and vouchered from Long Branch Sand Prairie Nature Preserve, Mason County, Illinois in 1997. Dates represent earliest and latest dates of collection on voucher specimens only, and may not reflect total flight time.

Superfamily	Family	Subfamily	Genus	Species	Dates Early	Dates Late	Noteworthy
Bombycoidea	Apateleodidae		Apateleodes	torrefacta	02-Jul-97	02-Jul-97	
Bombycoidea	Lasiocampidae		Tolype	velleda	02-Oct-97	02-Oct-97	
Cossoidea	Cossidae		Zeuzera	pyrina	02-Jul-97	02-Jul-97	nn
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Ennominae	Antepione	thisoaria	31-Jul-97	31-Jul-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Ennominae	Euchlaena	amoenaria	01-Aug-97	01-Aug-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Ennominae	Itame	subcessaria	23-Jun-97	23-Jun-97	*
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Ennominae	Melanophia	canadaria	19-Jul-97	19-Jul-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Ennominae	Procherodes	transversata	02-Jul-97	03-Oct-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Ennominae	Tornos	scolapacinaris	23-Jun-97	23-Jun-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Larentiinae	Orthonama	centrostrigaria	01-Oct-97	01-Oct-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Sterrhinae	Calythosanis	amaturaria	19-Jul-97	19-Jul-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Sterrhinae	Haematopsis	grataria	23-Jun-97	02-Oct-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Sterrhinae	Scopula	inducta	19-Jul-97	19-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Arctiinae	Apantesis	nais	01-Sep-97	01-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Arctiinae	Cycnia	tenera	23-Jun-97	23-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Arctiinae	Grammia	anna	23-Jun-97	01-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Arctiinae	Grammia	arge	02-Jul-97	01-Aug-97	
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Arctiinae	Grammia	oithona	24-Jun-97	01-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Arctiinae	Grammia	phyllira	19-Jul-97	01-Sep-97	*
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Arctiinae	Halysidota	tessellaris	23-Jun-97	23-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Arctiinae	Haploa	reversa	02-Jul-97	02-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Arctiinae	Holomelina	aurantiaca	23-Jun-97	23-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Arctiinae	Holomelina	rubicundaria	23-Jun-97	23-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Arctiinae	Pyrrharctia	isabella	01-Sep-97	01-Sep-97	

Table 3: Moths identified to species and vouchered from Long Branch Sand Prairie Nature Preserve, Mason County, Illinois in 1997. Dates represent earliest and latest dates of collection on voucher specimens only, and may not reflect total flight time.

Superfamily	Family	Subfamily	Genus	Species	Dates Early	Dates Late	Noteworthy
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Arctiinae	Spilosoma	latipennis	02-Jul-97	02-Jul-97	*
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Arctiinae	Spilosoma	virginica	24-Jun-97	01-Aug-97	
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Lithosiinae	Hypoprepia	fucosa	23-Jun-97	29-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Lithosiinae	Hypoprepia	miniata	24-Jun-97	31-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Acontiinae	Acontia	aprica	23-Jun-97	23-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Acontiinae	Agroperina	helva	01-Sep-97	01-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Acontiinae	Cerma	cerintha	23-Jun-97	23-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Acontiinae	Homophoberia	apicosa	01-Aug-97	01-Aug-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Acontiinae	Spragueia	leo	01-Aug-97	01-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Acontiinae	Tarachidia	candefacta	19-Jul-97	01-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Acontiinae	Thioptera	nigrofimbria	01-Sep-97	01-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Acontinae	Amyna	octo	03-Oct-97	03-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Acronictinae	Acronicta	interrupta	01-Sep-97	01-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Acronictinae	Acronicta	lithospila	15-Sep-97	02-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Acronictinae	Simyra	henrici	02-Jul-97	01-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Amphipyra	pyramidoides	02-Oct-97	02-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Apamea	burgessii	01-Sep-97	15-Sep-97	*
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Cirrhophanus	triangulifer	01-Sep-97	01-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Crambodes	talidiformis	19-Jul-97	19-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Elaphria	festivoides	01-Aug-97	01-Aug-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Elaphria	grata	01-Sep-97	01-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Papaipema	baptisiae	01-Sep-97	02-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Proxenus	miranda	19-Jul-97	01-Sep-97	

nn = non-native; * = rarely found in Illinois collections; and SR = Illinois State Record.

Table 3: Moths identified to species and vouchered from Long Branch Sand Prairie Nature Preserve, Mason County, Illinois in 1997. Dates represent earliest and latest dates of collection on voucher specimens only, and may not reflect total flight time.

Superfamily	Family	Subfamily	Genus	Species	Dates Early	Dates Late	Noteworthy
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyrinae	Spodoptera	ornithogalli	23-Jun-97	03-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Catocalinae	Caenurgia	chloropha	01-Aug-97	01-Aug-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Catocalinae	Catocala	amatrix	01-Sep-97	01-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Catocalinae	Catocala	neogama	01-Sep-97	01-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Catocalinae	Catocala	paleogama	31-Jul-97	01-Aug-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Catocalinae	Catocala	piatrix	31-Jul-97	03-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Catocalinae	Catocala	ultronia	02-Jul-97	02-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Catocalinae	Lesmone	detrahens	02-Jul-97	01-Sep-97	*
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Catocalinae	Panopoda	carneicosta	13-Jul-97	13-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Catocolinae	Caenurgina	crassiuscula	23-Jun-97	01-Aug-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Catocolinae	Caenurgina	erechtea	23-Jun-97	03-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Catocolinae	Mocis	texana	01-Aug-97	01-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Cucullinae	Cucullia	speyeri	24-Jun-97	24-Jun-97	*
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Hadeninae	Faronta	diffusa	01-Sep-97	01-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Hadeninae	Lacinipolia	implicata	01-Sep-97	01-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Hadeninae	Lacinipolia	renigera	23-Jun-97	03-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Hadeninae	Leucania	extincta	15-Jul-97	01-Oct-97	*
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Hadeninae	Leucania	lapidaria	24-Jun-97	24-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Hadeninae	Leucania	linda	23-Jun-97	03-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Hadeninae	Leucania	phragmitidicola	13-Jul-97	01-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Hadeninae	Nephelodes	minians	15-Sep-97	15-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Hadeninae	Orthodes	crenulata	01-Sep-97	02-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Hadeninae	Pseudaletia	unipunctata	23-Jun-97	02-Oct-97	

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Table 3: Moths identified to species and vouchered from Long Branch Sand Prairie Nature Preserve, Mason County, Illinois in 1997. Dates represent earliest and latest dates of collection on voucher specimens only, and may not reflect total flight time.

Superfamily	Family	Subfamily	Genus	Species	Dates Early	Dates Late	Noteworthy
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Heliiothinae	Heliocheilus	paradoxus	23-Jun-97	01-Sep-97	*
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Heliiothinae	Heliothis	zea	01-Sep-97	15-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Heliiothinae	Heliothus	subflexus	23-Jun-97	23-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Heliiothinae	Heliothus	phloxiphaga	01-Aug-97	01-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Heliiothinae	Rhodoecia	aurantiago	02-Oct-97	02-Oct-97	*
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Heliiothinae	Schinia	diffusa	01-Sep-97	01-Sep-97	SR
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Heliiothinae	Schinia	lynx	01-Sep-97	01-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Heliiothinae	Schinia	rivulosa	01-Aug-97	01-Aug-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Heliiothinae	Schinia	sanguinea	01-Sep-97	01-Sep-97	*
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Hypeninae	Plathypena	scabra	01-Aug-97	01-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Abagrotis	alternata	01-Sep-97	01-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Abagrotis	cupida	24-Jun-97	02-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Agrotis	gladiaria	01-Oct-97	01-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Agrotis	ippsilon	01-Aug-97	01-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Agrotis	venerabilis	01-Oct-97	02-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Agrotis	vetusta	15-Sep-97	03-Oct-97	*
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Choephora	fungorum	03-Oct-97	03-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Euagrotis	illapsa	19-Jul-97	01-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Eucoptocnemis	fimbriaris	01-Oct-97	03-Oct-97	*
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Euxoa	detersa	15-Sep-97	03-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Euxoa	fumalis	23-Jun-97	23-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Euxoa	immixta	23-Jun-97	23-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Euxoa	nivilinea	15-Sep-97	02-Oct-97	*

nn = non-native; * = rarely found in Illinois collections; and SR = Illinois State Record.

Table 3: Moths identified to species and vouchered from Long Branch Sand Prairie Nature Preserve, Mason County, Illinois in 1997. Dates represent earliest and latest dates of collection on voucher specimens only, and may not reflect total flight time.

Superfamily	Family	Subfamily	Genus	Species	Dates Early	Dates Late	Noteworthy
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Euxoa	tessellata	23-Jun-97	02-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Euxoa	velleripennis	01-Sep-97	02-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Feitia	jaculifera	01-Sep-97	15-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Feltia	geniculata	15-Sep-97	15-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Protolampra	brunneicollis	23-Jun-97	15-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Spaelotis	clandestina	23-Jun-97	23-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Xestia	adela	03-Oct-97	03-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Xestia	badinodis	01-Oct-97	03-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Xestia	bicarnea	01-Sep-97	15-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Xestia	dolosa	01-Sep-97	01-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Plusiinae	Allagrapha	aeria	01-Sep-97	01-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Plusiinae	Anagrapha	falcifera	02-Jul-97	03-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Plusiinae	Autographa	precaionis	23-Jun-97	02-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Plusiinae	Rachiplusia	ou	15-Sep-97	15-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Notodontidae		Dasychira	dorsipennata	01-Oct-97	01-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Notodontidae		Datana	perspicua	19-Jul-97	19-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Notodontidae		Furcula	cinerea	01-Aug-97	01-Aug-97	
Noctuoidea	Notodontidae		Nadata	gibbosa	24-Jun-97	01-Aug-97	
Pyraloidea	Pyralidae	Crambinae	Urola	nivalis	19-Jul-97	01-Aug-97	
Pyraloidea	Pyralidae	Odontiinae	Eustixia	pupula	01-Aug-97	01-Aug-97	
Pyraloidea	Pyralidae	Pyralinae	Herculia	infimbrialis	13-Jul-97	13-Jul-97	
Pyraloidea	Pyralidae	Pyralinae	Herculia	olinalis	13-Jul-97	13-Jul-97	
Pyraloidea	Pyralidae	Pyraustinae	Ostrinia	nubialis	23-Jun-97	01-Aug-97	

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Table 3: Moths identified to species and vouchered from Long Branch Sand Prairie Nature Preserve, Mason County, Illinois in 1997. Dates represent earliest and latest dates of collection on voucher specimens only, and may not reflect total flight time.

Superfamily	Family	Subfamily	Genus	Species	Dates Early	Dates Late	Noteworthy
Pyraloidea	Pyralidae	Pyraustinae	Pyrausta	signatalis	02-Jul-97	01-Aug-97	
Sphingoidea	Sphingidae	Macroglossinae	Eumorpha	achemon	15-Sep-97	15-Sep-97	
Sphingoidea	Sphingidae	Macroglossinae	Eumorpha	pandorus	31-Jul-97	01-Sep-97	
Sphingoidea	Sphingidae	Macroglossinae	Hyles	lineata	23-Jun-97	01-Sep-97	
Sphingoidea	Sphingidae	Sphinginae	Ceratomia	catalpae	13-Jul-97	01-Aug-97	
Sphingoidea	Sphingidae	Sphinginae	Ceratomia	hageni	23-Jun-97	23-Jun-97	
Sphingoidea	Sphingidae	Sphinginae	Laothoe	juglandis	02-Jul-97	01-Aug-97	
Sphingoidea	Sphingidae	Sphinginae	Manduca	quinquemaculata	31-Jul-97	03-Oct-97	
Sphingoidea	Sphingidae	Sphinginae	Sphinx	eremitus	02-Jul-97	02-Jul-97	*
Yponomeutoidea	Yponomeutidae		Atteva	punctella	01-Aug-97	01-Aug-97	

nn = non-native; * = rarely found in Illinois collections; and SR = Illinois State Record.

Chapter 2

Barton-Sommer's Woods Nature Preserve

Site Description

Barton-Sommer's Woods Nature Preserve contains 30-acres of floodplain woodland, riparian edge and old field along Salt Creek in Mason County, Illinois. It is located in the SE ¼ of section 1, T.19N, R.5W. No prescribed burning or other management has occurred on this site since it was acquired by the Illinois Department of Natural Resource (IDNR) in the mid-1990's. Soils are of the Elburn-Plano-Thorp association and of the Beaucoup-Dockery association representing terrace and floodplain soils respectively (NCSS 1995). The mostly closed-canopy mature second-growth woods supports a dense herbaceous layer of Virginia Wild Rye (*Elymus virginicus*) and Stinging Nettles (*Urtica dioica*). Most sun-loving forbs are located along the banks of Salt Creek on the south end of the preserve, and along the edge of the plowed field on the west edge of the preserve. There are several open areas within the preserve, primarily in old river channels. There is also a recently abandoned field in the southwest portion of the preserve, which has naturally revegetated.

Methodology

Diurnal and nocturnal lepidopteran species were monitored using different methodologies. Nocturnal species were sampled using two black lights placed at varying locations from June 29 until October 12, 1997. Diurnal species were monitored using modified Pollard (Pollard and Yates 1993) transects at each site from June 17 until July 31, 1997. A representative sample of the nocturnal species were taken, spread, pinned, identified to species, and deposited at the Illinois State Museum insect collection.

Diurnal sampling: A standard Pollard transect was used, with only minor modifications. A fixed route was established with flagging used to mark the route. The route was designed to sample a variety of habitats. All diurnal lepidoptera seen within 5 meters of the observer in any direction (except behind) were recorded as the observer traveled at a steady pace along the route. At the beginning of each route, and numerous times during the route, the observer paced off 5-meter distances to determine if butterflies were within the 5-meter limit. If the observer paused for any reason, the recording of species stopped until the observer renewed their pace through the site. Date, time of day, temperature, windspeed, amount of sunshine, and miscellaneous commentary on the ecosystem (eg drought stress of plants, or sex ratios of lepidoptera) were recorded at each visit. No specimens of diurnal lepidoptera were taken, as butterflies seen within the route were identified while alive in the field

Nocturnal sampling: Two bucket-style black light traps, equipped with 12 volt marine batteries, 15 watt U-shaped black light tubes and photocell switches, were set out at each site for at least one night, twice each month. Traps were examined early the next morning, representative specimens taken, and the rest of the insects released.

Pinned specimens were identified to species to the best of my ability using available texts (Covell 1984, Hardwick 1996, Rings et al. 1992, Rockburne and Lafontaine 1976, Sargent 1976). Specimens

were then taken to the Ohio State University collection center, where I compared my specimens with those in the collection, and gained the assistance of Eric Metzler in confirming or correcting identifications of many moths. Next, I perused available texts for information on the abundance of the species that I had vouchered. I then made a list of insects that might be rare in Illinois, based upon the abundance data in the texts. I proceeded to check the collections of the Field Museum, the Illinois Natural History Survey and Ron Panzer's database to see where in Illinois these species had been found. I also made a partial survey of the Illinois State museum's and Jim Wiker's (Oakford, IL) collection. Information on the moths that were uncommonly found in Illinois collections are presented in the results.

Results

Diurnal Sampling: One hundred-eighty two butterflies in twenty-two species were seen within 5 meters of the monitor while on route (Table 4). Silver-spotted Skippers (*Epargyreus clarus*) and Hackberry (*Asterocampa celtis*) butterflies were the two most common species (53 and 25 individuals, respectively). Silver-spotted Skippers occur throughout most of North America and are found in open-woods, canyons and prairie valleys (Scott 1986). Hackberry butterflies are found in sunny woods from central America to New England, with the larvae feeding on Hackberries (*Celtis* spp.) Both butterflies are common in West-Central Illinois (Sedman and Hess 1985).

Nocturnal Sampling: One hundred four (104) moth species from Barton-Sommer's Nature Preserve (Table 5) were identified and vouchered at the Illinois State Museum. Of these, nine (8.7%) were considered rare in Illinois, based upon a search of literature and collections. The borer moths (Amphipyridae) had the most rare species (four), with inchworms of the subfamily Ennominae the second most common (three). Almost without exception, museum specimens of these moths were collected in the 19th and early 20th century. While this may reflect collection effort, it most likely also reflects the presence of more remnant insect populations persisting on the more abundant habitat fragments occurring at that time. Unless specimens have been collected in the latter half of the 20th century, as is the case for all specimens in the Panzer collection, records presented here should be considered to represent historical distributions, not present occurrences.

Each of the vouchered moth species thought to be rare are listed below, along with pertinent data. These data include the name, subfamily, known or suspected food plants, distribution in North America and distribution in Illinois. Counties of occurrences are followed by collections in which specimens were observed. Abbreviations for collections are as follows:

ISM = Illinois State Museum

INHS = Illinois Natural History Survey

FMNH = Field Museum of Natural History

Panzer = Collection and notes of Ron Panzer, Markham, Illinois.

Borer Moths (Subfamily Amphipyridae): Many of the Amphipyridae are stem borers as larvae. This lifestyle has led to many species becoming monophagous or oligophagous. Amphipyridae that

are well known for being habitat restricted include many Papiapema and Spartiphaga moths, as well as many species scattered through other amphipyridae genera. Amphipyridae are often fire sensitive (Panzer, personal communication) because the eggs often overwinter above ground.

Archanara subflava (Amphipyridae) feeds on bulrushes and rushes (Covell pp. 124, 1984) or cattails (Rockburne and Lafontaine pp. 73, 1976). Rings et al. (1992) presents several credible references suggesting that it feeds on giant or great bulrush. It occurs from Nova Scotia to New Jersey, west to Manitoba, Minnesota and Illinois, and is a species of special concern in Ohio, where it is known from only one location. Illinois county records are Cook (FMNH, INHS), McHenry and Putnam (INHS) counties.

Bellura gortynoides (Amphipyridae) feeds on yellow water lilies (Rings et al. pp. 93, 1992) and perhaps cattails and pickerelweed (Covell pp. 128, 1984). It occurs from Nova Scotia to Florida, west to Michigan, Illinois and Kentucky, and is locally common. The Illinois county record is Cook County (FMNH, INHS).

Papiapema nelita (Amphipyridae) feeds on tall coneflower or burdock (Rings et al. pp. 92, 1992). It is uncommon in Ohio. Illinois county records are Cook (FMNH, INHS, Panzer), Will, Lake (Panzer), Putnam (INHS) and Peoria (FMNH) counties.

Inchworms (Subfamily Ennominae): Inchworms are largely woodland moths, which develop a twiglike appearance to escape the notice of predators. They typically pupate in loose cocoons in leaf litter or in soil (Covell, 1984) and due to this will probably experience different short-term responses to fire.

Cabera quadrifasciaria (Ennominae) has no known food plants. It occurs from Ohio to Kentucky, west to Nebraska, Kansas and Arkansas, and is uncommon to rare (Covell pp. 360, 1984). The Illinois county records is Putnam (FMNH) County

Econista dislocaria (Ennominae) has no known food plant. It occurs from Ontario and western Pennsylvania to eastern South Carolina and Mississippi, west to South Dakota and Texas, and is uncommon (Covell pp. 351, 1984). Illinois county records are Cook and Champaign (FMNH) counties.

Eugonobapta nivosaria (Ennominae) has no known food plant. It occurs from Maine and Quebec to western North Carolina, west to Manitoba and Missouri, and is locally common. (Covell pp. 372, 1984). The Illinois county record is Cook County and Beverly H's, IL (FMNH).

Other Subfamilies:

Heterophleps refusaria (Larentiinae) has no known food plant. It occurs from Quebec and Maine to North Carolina Mountains, west to Manitoba and northern Missouri, and is uncommon (Covell pp. 389, 1984). Illinois county records are Cook (FMNH, INHS) and Putnam (INHS) counties.

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Protorthodes eureka (Noctuidae), is sometimes also referred to as *Miodera eureka*. This moth was identified by comparison with several specimens in the Illinois State Museum collection, where it was collected in Menard County. I have found little information in texts regarding this moth.

Compacta capitalis, (Pyraustinae) a large, showy pyralid moth was vouchered in late June. Covell (pp. 402, 1984) lists this moth as rare, with a range from Virginia to Florida, west to Illinois and Texas. The larval food plant is unknown. The INHS has vouchers from Lacon, IL (June 27, 1933; June 9, 1936) and Putnam County, IL (July 15, 1947; July 25, 1948).

Discussion

Diurnal Sampling: Butterflies occurred in low densities at Barton-Sommer's Woods. Nearly all butterflies were concentrated along Salt Creek and at the west edge of the preserve, where high densities of nectar plants are concentrated. Although the site possesses a dense understory of Virginia Wild Rye and Stinging Nettles, the density of nectar producing flowers inside the woods is low. It is anticipated that burning and thinning activities planned for the site will encourage the spread of nectar producing flowers from their refugia along the woods edges into the interior of the woods as light levels are increased and fire reintroduced.

Nocturnal Sampling: Three moth species vouchered during this study were known from only one Illinois county before this study. In addition, four more species were only known from two counties in Illinois. *Bellura gortynoides*, *Econista dislocaria* and *Protorthodes eureka* all were previously known from only one county. The first two species are known from the Midwest. I have not been able to determine the range of *P. eureka*. Of the four species known from two counties, one stands out. This is *Compacta capitalis*, which is listed as rare throughout its range (Covell 1984). This large, showy pyralid moth is the type of moth collectors love to take. In addition, this moth readily came to black lights, as was evidenced by many (1/2 dozen or so at each light) specimens being seen during their flight period. This leads to a greater degree of certainty that it is truly rare.

Floodplain woodlands with grassy understories have become rare in Illinois. This suggests that natural remnants of this community, like Barton-Sommers Woods Nature Preserve may provide habitat for many now-rare insects. However, the lack of collecting in this habitat makes the determination of rarity problematic. Further research in floodplains and other relict grassy woodlands remaining in Illinois should be strongly encouraged. For now, the high number (seven) of moths found by this research which were formerly known from two counties or less in Illinois, strongly suggests that this preserve plays an important role in preserving the natural heritage of Illinois.

Table 4. Results of Pollard Transects at Barton-Sommer's Woods Nature Preserve in 1997. The common names (Scott 1986) of the butterflies are listed with the number of each species observed on the sampling dates.

Common Name	June 17	June 29	July 5	July 17	July 31	Totals
Silver Spotted Skipper	6	3	8	0	34	51
Cabbage White	1	0	0	0	0	1
Great Spangled Fritillary	2	0	4	0	0	6
Buckeye	2	0	0	0	0	2
Question Mark	1	0	0	1	5	7
Eastern Tailed Blue	1	0	1	0	1	3
Comma	0	5	1	0	3	9
Delaware Skipper	0	2	0	0	0	2
Hackberry	0	17	3	3	0	23
Dun Skipper	0	1	0	0	0	1
Little Wood Satyr	0	2	0	0	0	2
Red Admiral	0	1	1	3	4	9
Monarch	0	1	3	1	4	9
Pearl Crescent	0	1	9	3	0	13
Checkered White	0	0	2	6	0	8
Common Sooty Wing	0	0	1	0	0	1
Cabbage White	0	0	0	5	7	12
Spring Azure	0	0	0	0	16	16
Pearly Eye	0	0	0	0	1	1
Tawny Emperor	0	0	0	0	2	2
Common Sulphur	0	0	0	0	3	3
Erynnis spp.	0	0	0	0	1	1
Total						182

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Superfamily	Family	Subfamily	Genus	Species	Dates Early	Dates Late	Noteworthy
Bombycoidea	Apateleodidae		Apateleodes	torrefacta	29-Jun-97	29-Jun-97	
Bombycoidea	Lasiocampidae		Heteropacha	rileyana	18-Aug-97	18-Aug-97	
Bombycoidea	Saturniidae	Citheroniinae	Dryocampa	rubicunda	29-Jun-97	29-Jun-97	
Bombycoidea	Saturniidae	Citheroniinae	Eacles	imperialis	25-Jul-97	01-Aug-97	
Bombycoidea	Saturniidae	Citheroniinae	Sphingicampa	bicolor	25-Jul-97	18-Aug-97	
Bombycoidea	Saturniidae	Citheroniinae	Sphingicampa	bisecta	25-Jul-97	25-Jul-97	
Gelechioidea	Oecophoridae	Drepressariinae	Machimia	tentoriferella	08-Sep-97	08-Sep-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Ennominae	Anavitrinella	pampinaria	29-Jun-97	18-Aug-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Ennominae	Antepione	thisoaria	29-Jun-97	29-Jun-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Ennominae	Cabera	quadrifasciaria	30-Jun-97	30-Jun-97	*
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Ennominae	Econista	dislocaria	29-Jun-97	30-Jun-97	*
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Ennominae	Ennomis	magnaria	12-Oct-97	12-Oct-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Ennominae	Eugonobapta	nivosaria	30-Jun-97	30-Jun-97	*
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Ennominae	Eusarca	confusaria	29-Jun-97	25-Jul-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Ennominae	Eutrapela	clemataria	30-Jun-97	25-Jul-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Ennominae	Lytrosis	unitaria	29-Jun-97	29-Jun-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Ennominae	Melanophia	canadaria	30-Jun-97	30-Jun-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Ennominae	Mellilla	xanthometata	18-Aug-97	18-Aug-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Ennominae	Pero	honestaria	18-Aug-97	18-Aug-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Ennominae	Procherodes	transversata	30-Jun-97	08-Sep-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Ennominae	Semiothisa	promiscuata	18-Aug-97	18-Aug-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Ennominae	Xanthotype	urticaria	29-Jun-97	18-Aug-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Larentiinae	Eubaphe	mendica	29-Jun-97	08-Sep-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Larentiinae	Eulithis	diversilineata	08-Sep-97	12-Oct-97	
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Larentiinae	Eulithis	gracilineata	29-Jun-97	30-Jun-97	

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Superfamily	Family	Subfamily	Genus	Species	Dates Early	Dates Late	Noteworthy
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Larentiinae	Heterophelps	refusaria	30-Jun-97	30-Jun-97	*
Geometroidea	Geometridae	Sterrhinae	Scopula	limboundata	18-Aug-97	18-Aug-97	
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Arctiinae	Cycnia	tenera	25-Jul-97	25-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Arctiinae	Grammia	virgo	25-Jul-97	25-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Arctiinae	Halysidota	tessellaris	29-Jun-97	30-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Arctiinae	Haploa	lecontei	29-Jun-97	29-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Arctiinae	Haploa	reversa	29-Jun-97	29-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Arctiinae	Pyrrharctia	isabella	08-Sep-97	08-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Arctiinae	Spilosoma	latipennis	29-Jun-97	30-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Arctiidae	Arctiinae	Spilosoma	virginica	25-Jul-97	25-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Acontiinae	Acontia	aprica	25-Jul-97	25-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Acontiinae	Agroperina	helva	08-Sep-97	08-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Acontiinae	Lithacodia	carneola	08-Sep-97	08-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Acronictinae	Acronicta	interrupta	30-Jun-97	30-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Agaristinae	Eudryas	grata	25-Jul-97	25-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Amphipoea	velata	29-Jun-97	29-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Amphipyra	pyramidoides	08-Sep-97	08-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Archanara	subflava	30-Jun-97	30-Jun-97	*
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Bellura	gortynoides	30-Jun-97	30-Jun-97	*
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Chytonix	palliatricula	29-Jun-97	29-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Dipterygia	rozmani	30-Jun-97	08-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Luperina	passer	12-Oct-97	12-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Ogdoconta	cinereola	29-Jun-97	29-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Papaipema	cataphracta	12-Oct-97	12-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Papaipema	maritima	12-Oct-97	12-Oct-97	*

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Superfamily	Family	Subfamily	Genus	Species	Dates Early	Dates Late	Noteworthy
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Papaipema	nebris	08-Sep-97	08-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Papaipema	nelita	18-Aug-97	08-Sep-97	*
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Phosphila	miselioides	18-Aug-97	18-Aug-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Plagiomimicus	pityochromus	18-Aug-97	18-Aug-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Amphipyridae	Stiriodes	obtusa	29-Jun-97	25-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Catocalinae	Catocala	ultronia	02-Jul-97	25-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Catocolinae	Caenurgina	crassiuscula	29-Jun-97	29-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Catocolinae	Mocis	texana	18-Aug-97	18-Aug-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Catocolinae	Parallelia	bistriaris	08-Sep-97	08-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Catocolinae	Plusiodonta	compressipalpis	18-Aug-97	18-Aug-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Catocolinae	Spiloloma	lunilinea	30-Jun-97	25-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Catocolinae	Zale	lunata	30-Jun-97	12-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Cuculliinae	Sunira	bicolorago	12-Oct-97	12-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Hadeninae	Pseudaletia	unipunctata	29-Jun-97	12-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Hadeninae	Tricholita	signata	08-Sep-97	08-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Heliothinae	Heliothis	zea	08-Sep-97	08-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Heliothinae	Heliothus	subflexus	08-Sep-97	08-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Heliothinae	Schinia	arcigera	08-Sep-97	08-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Heliothinae	Schinia	rivulosa	25-Jul-97	25-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Hypeninae	Bomolocha	baltimoralis	18-Aug-97	18-Aug-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Hypeninae	Bomolocha	manalis	30-Jun-97	08-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Hypeninae	Plathypena	scabra	30-Jun-97	08-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Abagrotis	alternata	08-Sep-97	08-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Agrotis	ipsilon	30-Jun-97	25-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Choephora	fungorum	12-Oct-97	12-Oct-97	

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Superfamily	Family	Subfamily	Genus	Species	Dates Early	Dates Late	Noteworthy
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Miodera	eureka	18-Aug-97	18-Aug-97	*
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Peridroma	saucia	29-Jun-97	29-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Protolampra	brunneicollis	25-Jul-97	25-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Xestia	bicarnea	18-Aug-97	08-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Noctuinae	Xestia	dolosa	25-Jul-97	25-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Plusiinae	Agrapha	oxygramma	12-Oct-97	12-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Plusiinae	Allagrapha	aeria	08-Sep-97	08-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Plusiinae	Anagrapha	falcifera	08-Sep-97	08-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Plusiinae	Autographa	precaionis	08-Sep-97	08-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Plusiinae	Diachrysia	balluca	29-Jun-97	08-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Plusiinae	Pseudoplusia	includens	12-Oct-97	12-Oct-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Sarothripinae	Baileya	australis	18-Aug-97	18-Aug-97	
Noctuoidea	Noctuidae	Sarothripinae	Baileya	dormitans	25-Jul-97	25-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Notodontidae		Datana	angusii	29-Jun-97	25-Jul-97	
Noctuoidea	Notodontidae		Datana	contracta	30-Jun-97	30-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Notodontidae		Datana	integerrima	29-Jun-97	29-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Notodontidae		Datana	ministra	30-Jun-97	30-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Notodontidae		Heterocampa	obliqua	30-Jun-97	30-Jun-97	
Noctuoidea	Notodontidae		Lochmaeus	bilineata	30-Jun-97	08-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Notodontidae		Nadata	gibbosa	29-Jun-97	18-Aug-97	
Noctuoidea	Notodontidae		Nerice	bidentada	08-Sep-97	08-Sep-97	
Noctuoidea	Notodontidae		Schizura	unicornis	25-Jul-97	25-Jul-97	
Pyraloidea	Pyalidae	Pyraustinae	Herculia	olinalis	29-Jun-97	29-Jun-97	
Pyraloidea	Pyalidae	Pyraustinae	Compacta	capitalis	29-Jun-97	30-Jun-97	*
Pyraloidea	Pyalidae	Pyraustinae	Desmia	funeralis	31-Jul-97	08-Sep-97	

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Superfamily	Family	Subfamily	Genus	Species	Dates Early	Dates Late	Noteworthy
Pyraloidea	Pyralidae	Pyraustinae	Ostrinia	nubialis	25-Jul-97	18-Aug-97	
Sphingoidea	Sphingidae	Sphinginae	Ceratomia	hageni	29-Jun-97	08-Sep-97	
Sphingoidea	Sphingidae	Sphinginae	Laothoe	juglandis	29-Jun-97	29-Jun-97	
Sphingoidea	Sphingidae	Sphinginae	Paonias	excaecatus	29-Jun-97	25-Jul-97	
Sphingoidea	Sphingidae	Sphinginae	Smerinthus	jamaicensis	18-Aug-97	18-Aug-97	
Yponomeutoidea	Yponomeutidae		Atteva	punctella	25-Jul-97	25-Jul-97	

Chapter 3

Effectiveness of Various Immobilizing Agents in Light Traps

Introduction

Black lights have proven effective in sampling lepidoptera, although their effective range in attracting moths is about 50 feet (Robinson and Robinson, 1950). Despite the limited range of attraction and often-infrequent number of sampling dates within a year, there remains a desire to minimize impact upon moth populations being sampled. In this chapter, I present observations regarding the effectiveness and lethality of several different techniques used in sampling moths.

During the course of this study, various methods were tried to determine the most effective and least harmful method of sampling moth populations using bucket-style black light traps. Two different immobilizing agents and no immobilizing agent were tried in traps. No vigorous methodology was used in this aspect of the project, rather the immobilizing techniques, or lack thereof were applied at my convenience and whimsy. An ongoing problem when sampling moths, especially in sand areas, is the presence of large numbers of beetles in the traps. Beetles are often very active and can kill or damage moths to the extent that they can not be identified to species.

Methodology

Nineteen nights between June 23 and October 15 1997, two bucket-style black light traps were set out at Long Branch or Barton-Sommer's Nature Preserves in Mason County, Illinois. Ethyl acetate, dry ice and no immobilizing agent were variously tried in the buckets to determine their effectiveness and lethality to moths. In each instance, the two bucket-style traps were set out in one of the preserves and the moths collected were observed early the next morning (typically between 7:00 – 9:00 AM). Specimens not needed as voucher specimens were returned to their habitat by emptying the buckets.

Ethyl acetate: One-cup Tupperware containers were filled with ethyl acetate. The lids of the containers were slit in an X fashion and a common household sponge were cut and inserted through the lid so that it touched the bottom of the container, while at least one inch of sponge protruded out the top of the container. One container was placed in each bucket-style light trap.

Dry ice: A cooler was used to transport ethyl acetate to the sites. Bucket traps were modified by placing a one inch sheet of Styrofoam snugly into the bottom of the buckets. Either loose Styrofoam peanuts, or loosely wadded paper towel were placed over the dry ice to prevent the moths from coming into direct contact with the dry ice.

No immobilizing agent: On some nights no immobilizing agent was used. Bucket traps were set out and observed early the next morning.

Results and Discussion

Ethyl acetate: This was the most consistently effective immobilizing agent. Moths and other

insects collected were usually immobilized. Occasionally the ethyl acetate failed to immobilize the insects, usually on windy nights, when the levels of ethyl acetate remaining in the container may have been low. On some nights, the ethyl acetate seemed quite effective, with nearly all specimens appearing still and lifeless. However, seemingly dead moths sometimes revived later in the day, indicating that some moths are capable of reviving after appearing lifeless. In some instances, moths were truly killed by ethyl acetate. In between these two extremes, were nights on which the moths were immobilized, but quite obviously alive, as they soon began to stir when exposed to fresh air.

Dry ice: This was disappointing as an immobilizing agent. Difficult to find and store, I also had difficulties determining an appropriate amount to place in the buckets. Evaporation rates seemed to vary greatly with changes temperature and windspeed between nights. Styrofoam peanuts were not a good idea. Moisture tended to condense inside the buckets, and moths crawling down into damp peanuts became sodden and hard to sort and identify. Paper towels worked better because the paper towels absorbed excess moisture and allowed moths to be removed more easily. However, between condensation problems and frequent failure to have enough dry ice in the buckets, this method was scarcely better than no immobilizing agent.

No immobilizing agent: This was never successful during the course of this study. Large numbers of beetles caused severe damage to the moths, killing or rendering unidentifiable many individuals. However, I sampled moths in late April 1998 in Long Branch Nature Preserve under Ron Panzer's FY99 contract, and found that no immobilizing agent was needed at this time of year. At that time, only a few, smaller beetles were found in the traps and the moths were surprisingly passive and easily handled.

Conclusion

A means of inexpensively sampling large numbers of sites for moths has led to a reliance on bucket traps, rather than a single sheet with observers collecting off it. Concerns have been raised about bucket-style light traps causing mortality to more moths than are needed for voucher specimens, despite the small (50 foot) sampling range typically produced by black lights. This has led to a search for a non-lethal immobilizing agent. Except in spring sampling, moth fluttering and beetle predation and scabbling caused high levels of mortality and unidentifiable moths. Further experimentation will be needed to overcome the problems of condensation and variable evaporation rates that dry ice buckets experienced. At present, ethyl acetate is the most humane and least lethal means of immobilizing moths in bucket-style black light traps. Although less than perfect, many moths may be released from traps using ethyl acetate as an immobilizing agent with no apparent harm having been done to them.

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