

**Date and time:** Thursday Je23 2022 1:55 - 4:50 pm.

**Weather:** Pr 23 mm; RH 58%; BP 101.3 kPa; clear; S 10-30 kmh; T 25° C.

**Contents:** Inventory goes into high gear.



### FUNGUS DAY

### MOTH NIGHT

(See below for details of these coming events.)

When I drove into the property with my new step-son-in-law, Marcus Krueger, We found Steve Logan just finishing grooming the trail to the river. Newport Forest is now ready for a picnic or two, not to mention two special visits, one for Moth Night with expert Allen Woodliffe, the other for a fungal foray with Professor Greg Thorn. (See below for more information.)

We wasted little time, but got right into sweeping for arthropods. We swept along the bank of Fleming Creek, out at the River Landing, and along the Elbow (on the Blind Creek Trail). The hauls were not too remarkable, except for an unexpected grasshopper and a Stonefly that I lost some time recognizing as such. In fact that was our new species for the day.

Trail Cam 1 has dead batteries and Trail Cam 2 has a weird on/off switch which I have yet to master! So no input from the monitoring department this issue.

### Biological Inventory (ATBI)

#### New Species:

‘Blacklight Stonefly’

*Perlesta* sp.

FC KD Je23/22

**Species Notes:**

This stonefly genus occurs in all neighbouring states, albeit Bug Guide assigns no species name to this specimen: <<https://bugguide.net/node/view/556016>> Yet this appears to be the closest match to the specimen on hand. See IMAGES. It's unusual to get just one spider in a sample this size, even at this time of year.

**Recurring Species:**

Orchard Orbweaver (*Leucage venusta*); Two-striped Grasshopper (*Melanoplus bivittata*); Ebony Jewelwing (*Calopteryx maculata*); Meadow Plant Bug (*Leptopterna dolabrata*); Obscure Plant Bug (*Plagiognathus obscurus*); Four-lined Plant Bug (*Poecilocapsus lineatus*); Ebony Bug (*Corimelaena pulicaria*); Slender Lizard Beetle (*Acropteroxys gracilis*); Shortneck Soldier Beetle (*Podabrus brevicollis*); Cabbage White (*Pieris rapae*); Gypsy Moth (*Lymantria dispar*); 'Hex-winged Crane Fly' (*Epiphragma solatrix*); Robber Fly (*Cyrtopogon* sp); American Hover Fly (*Eupodes americanus*).

**Readers Write**

Christopher Essex is a UWO Prof and amateur naturalist: "I thought you might like to see a couple of photos of a turtle, which I suspect is trying to make a nest in our garden. We are next to a conserved wetland, which clearly has inhabitants that like to come out from time to time. In any case, I have never seen one of these before, and thought you might like to have a look." [Apparently a Snapping Turtle]



### **Fungus Day**

Greg Thorn Gives an early date for a fungus walk. In a day or so, I will issue a firm date: "I'd suggest (without checking the weather) July 2/3 or 3/10, 1:00 pm."

### **Moth Night**

Allen Woodliffe writes that "National Moth Week, which is celebrated internationally by quite a few countries, is July 23-31. . . . Of course once we get closer to that time, we can pick an actual date."

### **Image Gallery**



The Mystery Stonefly  
Stonefly larvae are prime fishing bait.





This Two -striped Grasshopper is rather early for the season, but it's not an adult, just a late instar nymph, as far as I can tell. The Two-striped is our most common grasshopper.



The 'Hex-winged Crane Fly' (*Epiphragma solatrix*) is one of three species of the *Epiphragma* genus on site — and the most common. The veins of the wings mingle confusedly with the strands of the net, obscuring their pretty geometry.



This attractive four-striped Plant Bug is a fairly common insect on the property. Plant Bugs as a family outnumber other groups disproportionately as most of our collecting is down by sweeping plants.



This Tree-hopper nymph looks like it belongs on Mars. I do not know the species but the only a few nymphs in this family show this spiny development, to my knowledge.



**Note to recipients** of *The Newport Forest Bulletin*: Please feel free to leave our email list at any time by replying to the carrier message and requesting that we take your name off the list.