

Maritimes Butterfly Atlas



Photograph by Denis Doucet

2014 Newsletter

Highlights from the 2013 field season

The final field season of the Maritimes Butterfly Atlas has arrived! This is the year to tromp that bog you've been meaning to tromp, hike that trail you've been meaning to hike, and canoe that marsh you've been meaning to canoe.

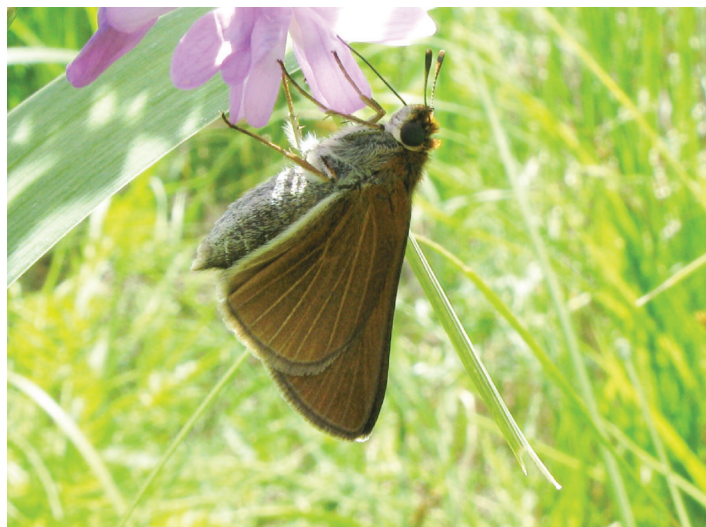
In 2013, 118 participants submitted 5,090 butterfly records, the second highest annual total for the Atlas (only 2012, the year of a massive migration, had more records). To date, there have been 350 participants, and 19,533 records submitted!

Notable records

New Provincial Records

There were two new provincial records in 2013: Two-spotted Skipper (*Euphyes bimacula*) and Eastern Tailed-Blue (*Cupido comyntas*) were both found in Nova Scotia for the first time ever. On July 6, Ken McKenna found Two-spotted Skipper about 3km southwest of Sunnybrae, Pictou County, along a powerline adjacent to a small, bog-margined lake. In general, Two-spotted Skipper is a difficult species to detect - it prefers sedge-dominated fens and marshes, and finding it often requires a hike into the wetland. As a result it very often goes undetected. Ken's specimen is the first record for Nova Scotia, but it is likely quite widespread in the province. More details on how to find this species are available in [MBA target species](#) document, see information below.

Eastern Tailed-Blue was found at four different sites in Nova Scotia in 2013: August 14 near Mosher's Corner, Annapolis County (David Colville); August 21 near Debert, Colchester County (Phil Schappert); August 22 near Windsor Forks, Hants County (Leslie McClair); and



Two-spotted Skipper - Photograph by Jim Edsall

September 7 near Lake Mulgrave, HRM (Ken McKenna). At Debert, and probably Mosher's Corner, there were multiple individuals present, strongly suggesting the species had bred locally. As discussed in last year's newsletter, prior to the Atlas the Eastern-tailed Blue was thought to be more or less restricted to southwestern New Brunswick. Records well outside its traditional range started popping up in 2012, when it was found near Blackville, Northumberland County, and Riverside-Albert, Albert County. It is not possible to say with certainty that these new records represent an actual range expansion, as it could have been overlooked in the past. If anything, the four records are a strong indication that it was more common in Nova Scotia in 2013 than in years prior.

Eastern Tailed-Blue should be sought throughout the Maritimes in 2014. Perhaps a PEI record is not too far off...



Eastern-tailed Blue - Photograph by Phil Schappert

Other significant finds

Eric Sullivan found Bog Fritillary (*Boloria eunomia*) at a small bog 10km northwest of Doaktown, Northumberland County, a new location for the species. There are now nine sites known for this species in New Brunswick, three of which were discovered during the Atlas.

Indian Skipper (*Hesperia sassacus*) was found in three new Atlas squares in New Brunswick in 2013, bringing the total number of squares where it has been recorded during the Atlas to eight. Ken MacIntosh found it near Doaktown, and Scott Makepeace found it in Queens County near Coytown and Gagetown. This infrequently documented species is likely much more common than Atlas records indicate. It can be difficult to find as it is very similar to the much more common Long Dash Skipper (*Polites mystic*).

Mark Arsenault found Harvester (*Feniseca tarquinius*) near Wellington, PEI, on July 4, the first record of Harvester for PEI from the Atlas period. While present in relatively low densities on PEI, Harvester can be found throughout the island from May to October (more details on how to find this species are available in [MBA target species](#) document, see information below).

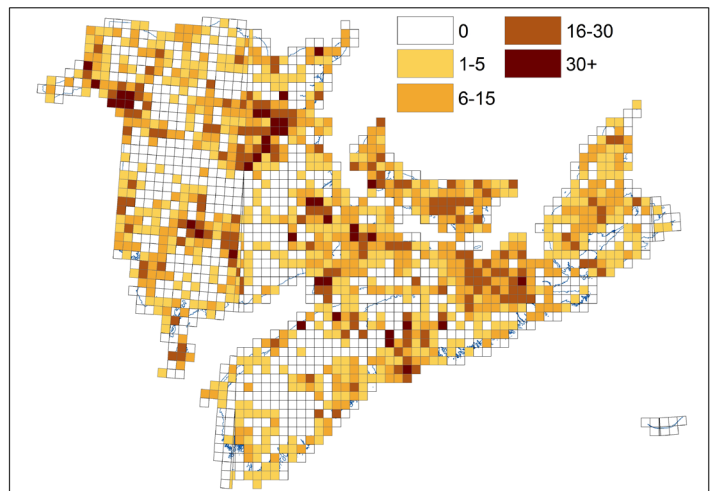
It was a good year for *Amblyscirtes*-skippers in Nova Scotia. The number of Atlas squares for Common Roadside Skipper (*Amblyscirtes vialis*) went from four to eight, and the number for Pepper and Salt Skipper (*Amblyscirtes hegon*) went from three to six. Jim Elliot, Ken McKenna, Richard

Mash, Sarah Robinson, and John Klymko got the new square records for Common Roadside Skipper, while Leslie McClair and Ken McKenna found the new square records for Pepper and Salt Skipper. Both *Amblyscirtes* are uncommon in Nova Scotia, but Atlas data has shown that the species are not nearly as rare as previously thought. Details on how to find these species are available in the target species document.

It was also a good year for Jutta Arctic (*Oenies jutta*) in Nova Scotia. Don Anderson found it in three new squares in the Cape Breton Highlands, bringing the total number of Nova Scotia squares up to eleven.

Filling in the gaps

Feel like adding a species to a square this afternoon? Well you probably can without travelling too far! The species that have been recorded from 2010-2013 in any Atlas square can be viewed on an interactive map at ontarioinsects.org/maritimesbutterflyatlas/atlas_online_mba.html (they can also be accessed through the MBA website). We encourage you to examine these maps and use them to plan your outings. You might be surprised to see what common species still haven't been recorded from your home square, and you probably don't have to travel too far to get to a square that has received little to no attention. With only one field season left for the MBA, now is the time to fill in those gaps!



Map showing number of species recorded per square during the Atlas. Many squares remain lightly sampled.

Targeting under-sampled species

Many of our butterfly species are difficult to find without targeting specific habitats. As a result, many species remain undersampled in the Atlas period. A guide has been put together that provides advice on how and when to find ten of the most under-sampled species. It is available at accdc.com/butterflyatlas/Target%20species.pdf. In general, to maximize the number of species you are encountering, it is necessary to visit a variety of habitats over the course of the year.

It's not too late to submit old data

Any butterfly records you collected in the past that are supported by either a photograph or a specimen are of interest to the Atlas! This includes data from the first four years of the atlas, as well as the years prior to this. If you have questions about how to submit your data, contact John Klymko at jklymko@mta.ca or (506) 364-2660.

Maritimes Butterfly Atlas Funders and Partners

The MBA is made possible by generous support from Environment Canada's EcoAction Community Funding Program, the Gosling Foundation, the New Brunswick Wildlife Trust Fund, the New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources, New Brunswick Power, TD Friends of the Environment Foundation, and the Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre. The project has received in-kind support from the three Maritimes Provinces, Environment Canada, and the New Brunswick Museum.

The Maritimes Butterfly Atlas is a partner of [eButterfly](#), a North America-wide butterfly records depository. All Maritimes records submitted to eButterfly along with a photograph or specimen are incorporated into the MBA.

2010-2013 Atlas Participants - Thank You!

*= more than 50 records, **= more than 100 records, ***= more than 250 records, ****= more than 500 records, *****= more than 1000 records

Marie Abgrall	Juliet Bewley	Greg Campbell*	Adam Cruikshank	D. Durston
Darrell Abolit	Jo Bishop	Carl Canning	Rosemary Curley***	S. Eaton
Chris Adam***	Richard Blacquiere	Maggie Caskanette	Dave Currie*	Jim Edsall*****
Sarah Adams	Bob Blake	Rick Cavašin	Joan Czapalay	Mark Elderkin
Don Anderson****	Sean Blaney*	Zac Chipper	Vicki Daley	Ralph Eldridge
Jennifer Arsenault	Sherman Boates	David Christie	Daphne Davey	Jim Elliot*
Ronald G. Arsenault	Alison Bogan	Ann Chudleigh	Andrew Dean	Christopher
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Lana Ashby**	Marlene Bolger	Jeff C. Clements	Fiep DeBie	Chris Englehart
Michelle Baker	Jeanette Boudreau	James Clifford	Jimmy Dee	Cathy Etter
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Dan Banks	William Bowerbank	Chris Clunas	Gisele d'Entremont	Sandra Feetham
Steve Barrett	Jessica Bradford	Elwood Coakes	Ronnie d'Entremont	Rick Ferguson
Greg Barrett****	Derek Bridgehouse**	Murray Colbo*	David D'Eon	Susan Feurtado
Avery Bartels	Meredith Brison-	David Colville*	Jerome D'Eon*	Danielle Fife
Sean Basquill	Brown	K.J. Connor	Mary Dicks	Edie Fillmore
Duncan Bayne	Cecil Brown	Sandra Cooper*	Patricia Dix	Karen Flannagan
Richard Beazely	Linda Brown**	Louis-Emile Cormier	Geri Dohm	Graham Forbes
David Bell	Marion Brunelle	Merv Cormier	Clayton D'Orsay*	Celia Ann Forsyth
Jim Bell*	Don Bullock	Jessica Cosham	Catherine Doucet	Paige Forsythe
Alain Belliveau	Roger Burrows	Laura Cosham	Denis Doucet	Rick Fournier
Gilles Belliveau	Kelsey J. Busson	Clive Cosham**	Janet Doucet	J. Francis
Normand Belliveau	Hennie de Caluwe	John Crabtree	A. Doucette	Holly Frazer
Marilyn Benjamin*	Maureen Cameron-	Kevin Craig	David Dowling**	Troy Frech
Tyler Bernard	MacMillan	L. Crain	Irene Doyle	Ken Freeman

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Deana Gadd**	Rosita Lanteigne***	Charles McAleenan*	Terrance Power	Jennifer Stephen
Peter Gadd*****	Kevin Lantz	Donald F. McAlpine	Harold Preston	Richard Stern
Sal Gallant	Charlotte LaPointe	J. Dan McAskill***	Chuck Priestly	Becky Stewart
Gisele Gaudet	Roy Lapointe*****	Leslie McClair	Sheila Pugsley	E. Stewart
Maxim Giasson	Maxim Larrivé	Tim McCluskey	Chantal Raillard	Judy Stockdale
Pascal Giasson	LeeAnn	Max McCosham*	Martin Raillard	J. St-Pierre
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John Gilhen	Danielle LeBlanc	Kent McFarland	T. Rawlings	Michael J. Sullivan
Lisette Godin	Jane LeBlanc	Mark McGarrigle	Donna Redden	Wendy Sullivan
Jim Goltz	Yolande LeBlanc	Lois McGibbon**	Jean Renton	Eric Sullivan****
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Bill Gough	J. Legere**	Pat McKay	Leonel Richard	Jim Taylor**
Paul Gould	Brian Levenson	Karen McKendry	Lewnanny	Gisele Thibiodeau
Derek Grant*	Tim Levy	Ken McKenna*****	Richardson	Anthony Thomas*
Diane Griffin*	Morgan Leyte	Rachel McKinley	John Robart	Cliff Thornley
Dominique Gusset*	Judy Lincoln	Ian McLaren	Sue Robertson	Stuart Tingley
Matt Hackett	Joshua Lindsay	Jeffie McNeil	Étienne Robichaud	Maureen Toner
Sam Hackett	J.C. Lucier	Ian Middleton	Kimberly Robichaud-	Brian Townsend
Ross Hall	Mary Macaulay	Richard Migneault*	Leblanc	Tina Trask
Robert Harding	Elizabeth	Marg Millard	Evelynn Robinson	Cameron Trenholm
Guillaume Harmange	MacCormick	Mary Millard-Smith	Kate Robinson	Suzanne Turgeon
Tara Harris*	Christopher	Michael Milligan	Norma Robinson	Martin Turgeon***
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Sharon Hawboldt	Gerry MacDonald	Mombourquette	Robinson****	Vandenbroeck
Catherine Higgins	Sam MacDonald	Bernice Moores	Ruth Rogers	Michel Viau
Verna J. Higgins**	Andrew Macfarlane	Annie Morrison	Hannah Ross	Rita Viau***
Steven Hiltz	Ken MacIntosh***	Pat Murphy	Josh Ross	Ron Walsh
James R. Hirtle**	Colin MacKay	Gary Myers	Abe Ross*	Owen Washburn
Beth Hoar	Kathy MacKay	Charles Neveu	Sue Ross*	Peggy Weatherson
Ardeth Holmes	Gayle MacLean	Christine Noronha	Karen Roy	Reggie Webster
Danielle Horne	Angus MacLean**	Ruth Nymand	Mary Sabine***	Sybil Wentzell
Steve Hupman	Allan MacMillan	Dwaine Oakley	Dwayne Sabine*****	Ann Wheatley
Fenton Isenor	Harriet MacMillan	Judy O'Brien	Vicky Salazar	Rick Whitman
Judith James	Janet MacMillan	Michael Olsen	Ma Sanford	Robert Whitney
Margaret Jennings	Ellen MacNearney	J.K. Panchuck	Phil Schappert****	Bev Wigney
B. Johnstone	Michael MacNeill	Mike Parks**	Ted Sears	Heather Wilkes
C. Kelly	Scott Makepeace****	David G. Patriquin	Marjorie Sharpe	Angela Wilson
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Paulette Kelly	Hughie Manthorne*	Linda Payzant	Julie Singleton*	Ron Wilson
Charlie Kendell	Don Marsch*	Peter Payzant	Alison Smith	Bill Winsor
Roberta Kenny	Anne Marsch***	Susan Petrie	Nigel Smith	Barry Wright*
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Sandra Keough	Sonya Martin	Kimberley Pitts	Judy Smits	Jessica Wysmyk
Leila Killen	Donna Martin***	Laura Pitts	John Sollows	Bev Yollem
Jeff Klein	Richard G. Mash***	Nelson Poirier	Cindy Spicer	
John Klymko****	Gillian Mastromatteo	Dorothy Poole	Kathleen F.	
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