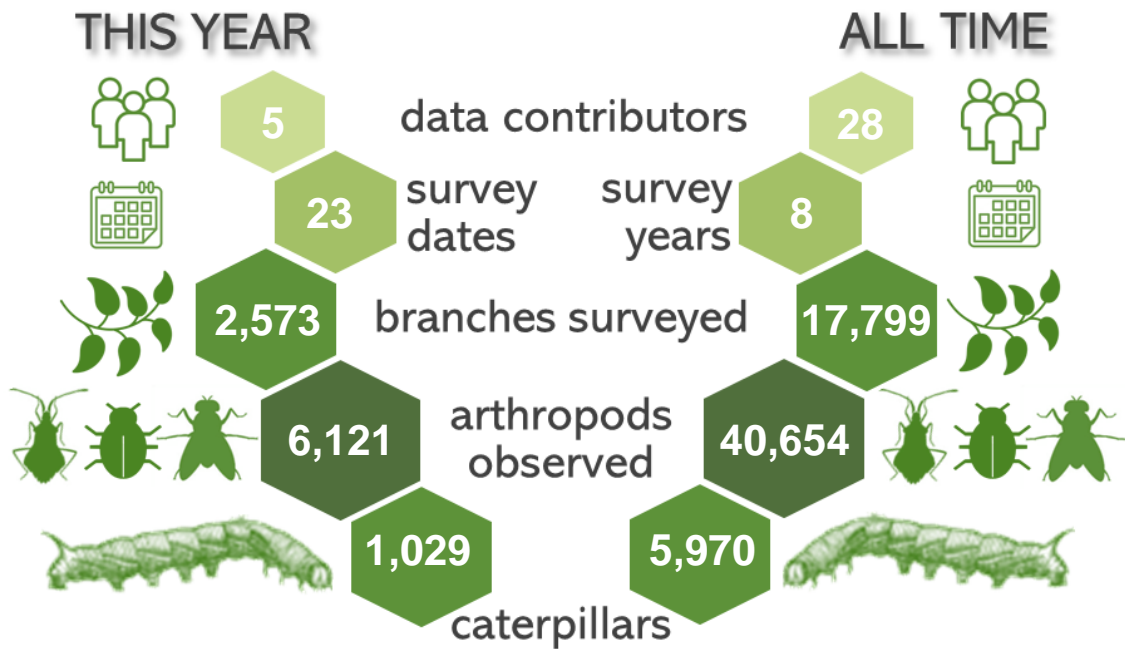




Prairie Ridge Ecostation, 2022 Summary



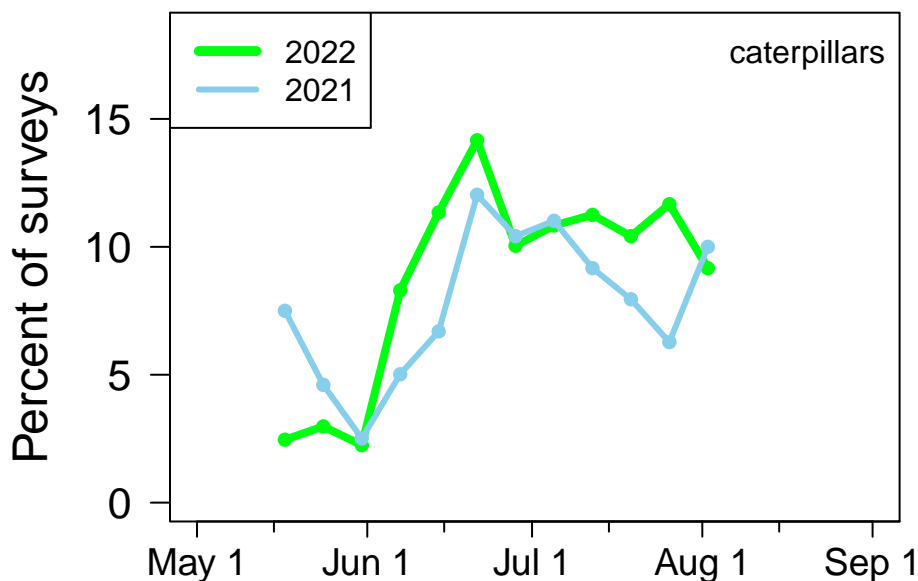
The **2,573** total surveys conducted at **Prairie Ridge Ecostation** this year ranks **1st** out of the **70** sites that participated in 2022.

Top Participants of 2022

User	Surveys	Arthropods	Caterpillars	% Caterpillars
A Hurlbert	256	1193	756	12.11
E Weaver	568	1368	64	10.04
M Beverly	630	1530	69	9.52
A Moore	530	697	93	9.43
I Edwards	589	1333	47	6.45

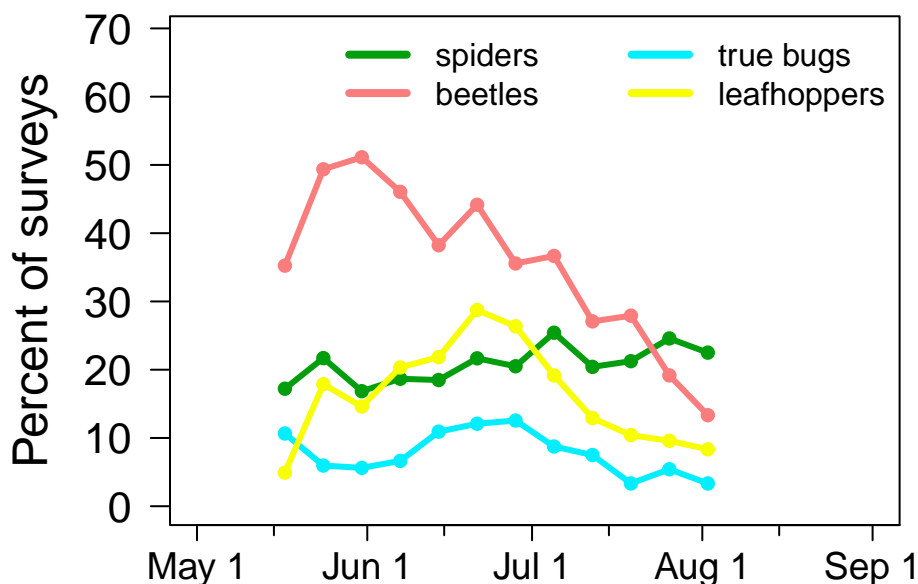
Caterpillar Phenology

As a major source of food for nestlings of migratory birds, we are especially interested in the timing of caterpillar availability. At **Prairie Ridge Ecostation** in **2022**, caterpillar occurrence peaked at **14.2%** of surveys on **21 June**. Do you see other peaks as well? How does the pattern compare to the previous year?



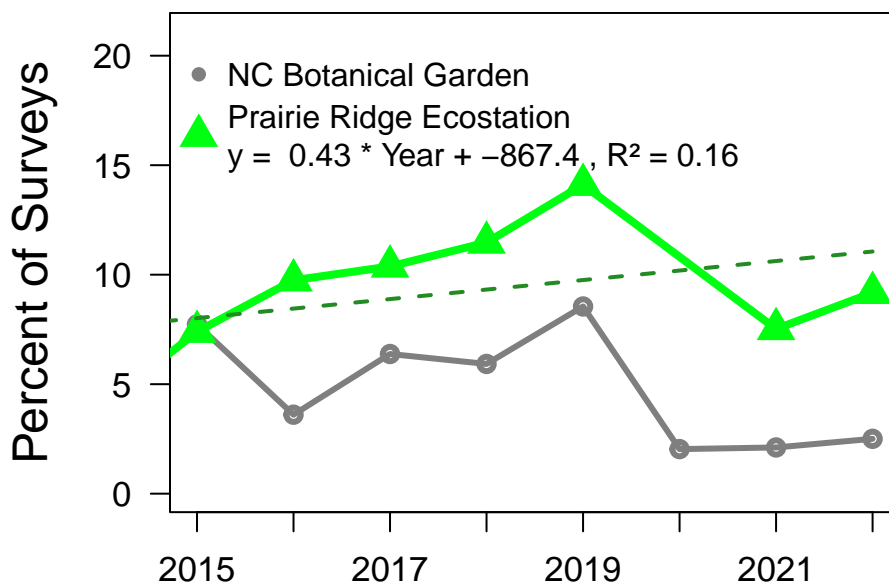
Other Arthropod Phenology

While caterpillars tend to have pronounced seasonal peaks, other groups are more variable. What patterns do you see below for **2022**? You can explore the phenology of other groups on the [Caterpillars Count! website](#).



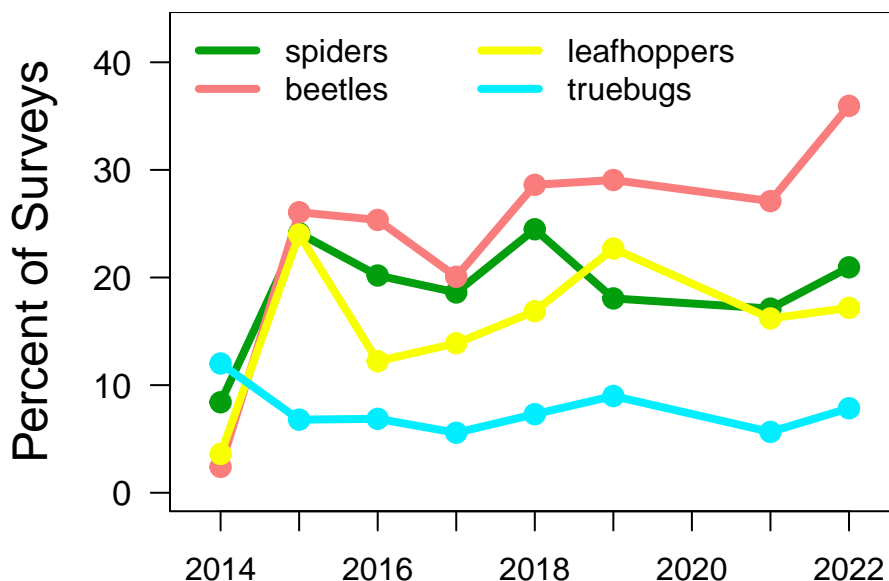
Arthropod Trends

Annual monitoring is critical for assessing the health of ecosystems and evaluating the impacts of environmental change that may be happening in your area. There have been worrying reports of insect declines around the world but there is much we don't know, so your efforts help to fill in pieces of the puzzle. Keep it up!



Above you can see how the proportion of surveys with caterpillars has varied over time at your site, with the trend for one of our flagship sites, **NC Botanical Garden**, for comparison. If you've surveyed for at least 3 years, then you will also see the average dashed trend line displayed.

Below are trends for some other common arthropod groups. Do the different groups go up and down in sync, or seem to vary independently?

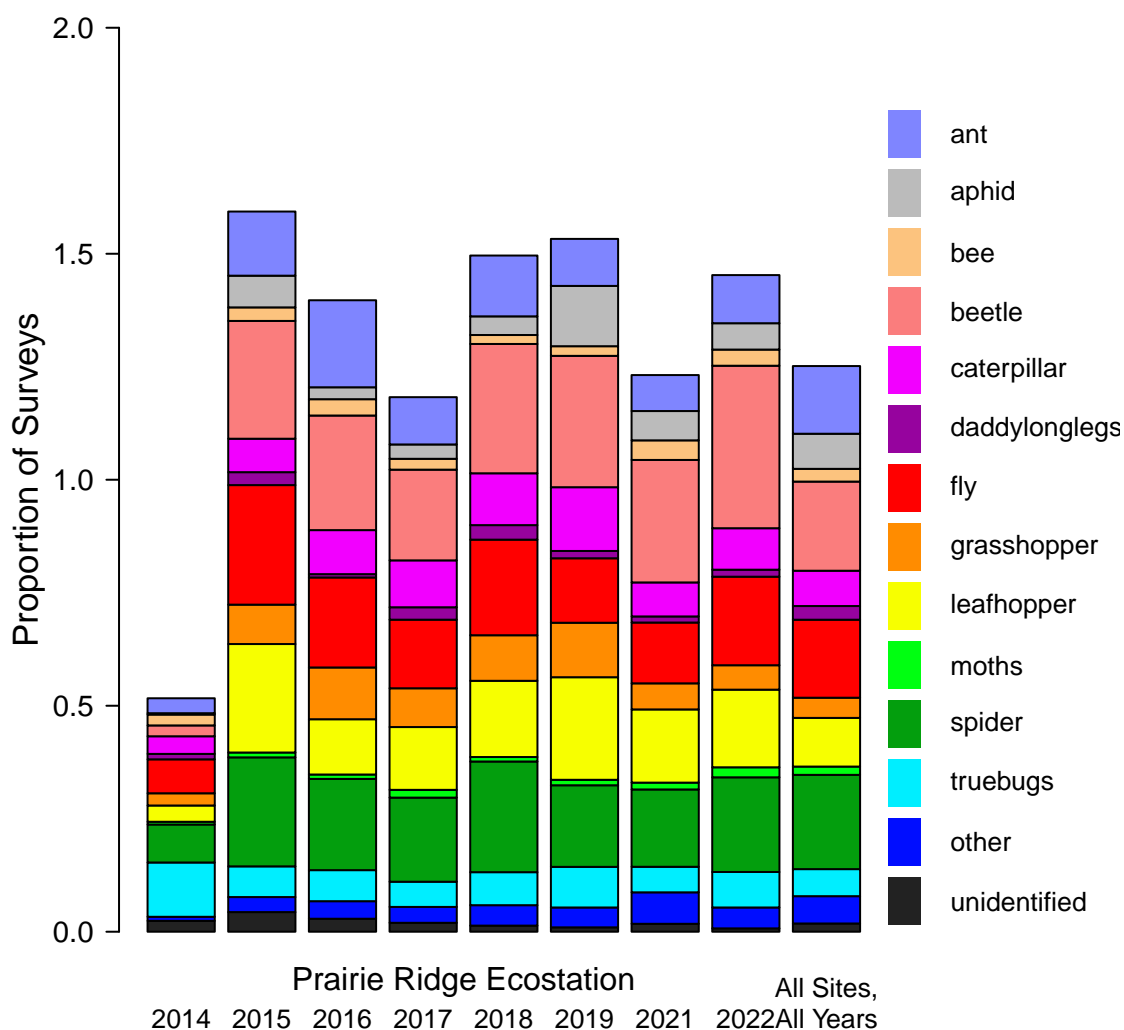


You can explore trends for more arthropod groups, and compare trends at different sites, on your site's [Trends Page](#). See also our [November 2021 newsletter](#) for more on how to interpret these trends.

Site Arthropod Composition

Some arthropods are more commonly encountered than others. The graph below portrays the occurrence (proportion of surveys where a given group was found) for each arthropod group found at your site. See how what was found varies by year (if the site has been participating for multiple years), and how it compares to what has been found across all sites in the **Caterpillars Count!** network (*right bar*).

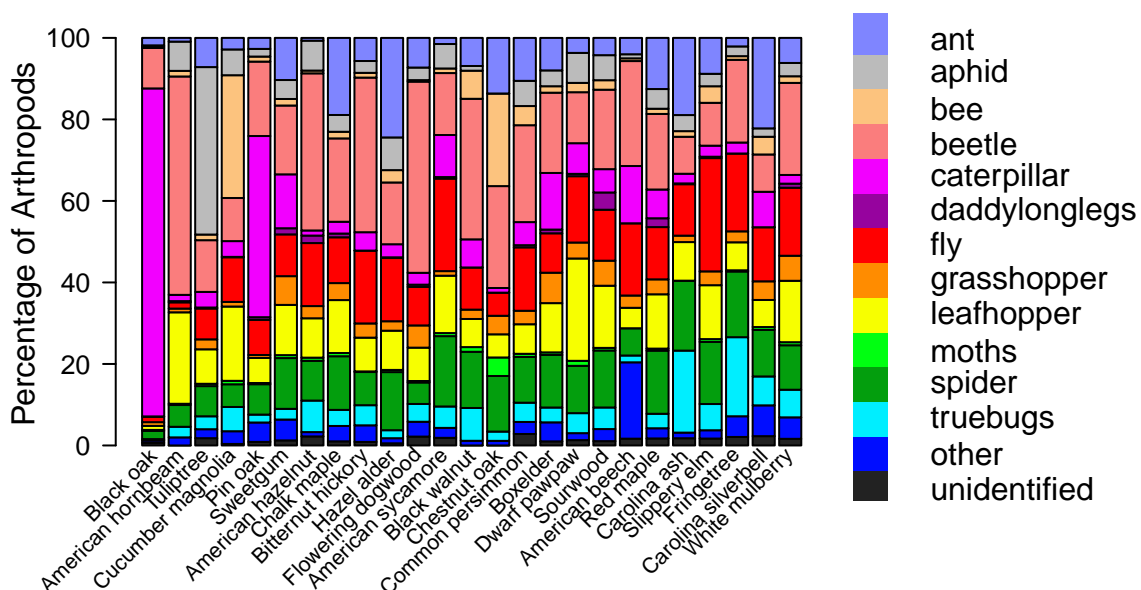
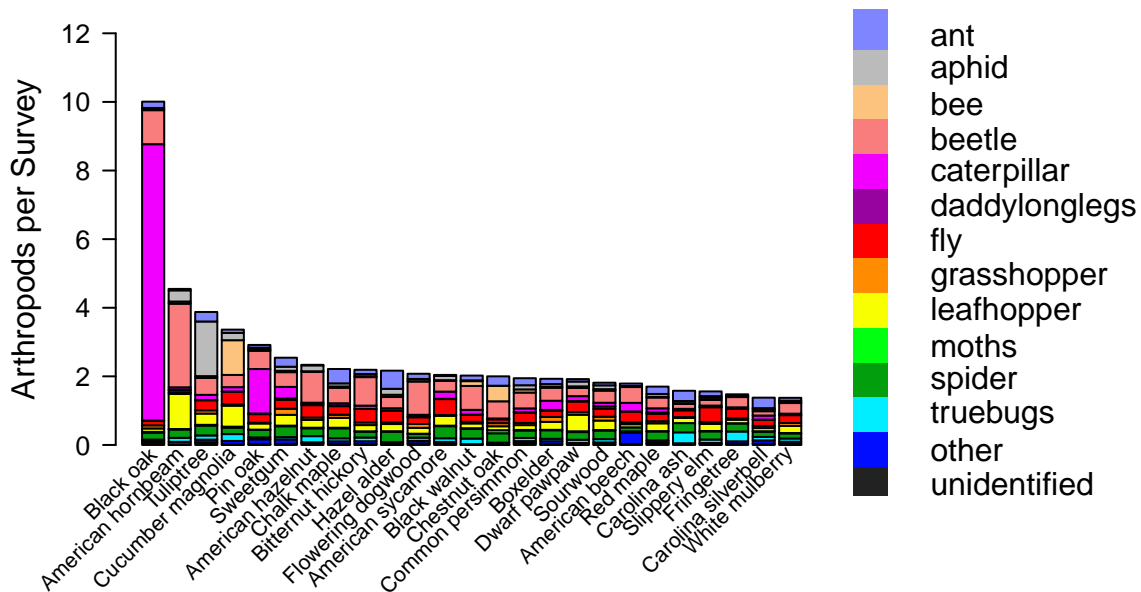
- What are the most common arthropod groups found at your site?
- Has that varied by year?
- Is anything noticeably different about **Prairie Ridge Ecostation** compared to all other participating sites?
- If arthropod photos were submitted as part of your site's surveys, check the last section of this report for a summary of any finer taxonomic id's that have been made.



Arthropod Composition by Plant Species

For some arthropods like spiders, trees and leaves are merely habitat—a place where they live, hide, and hunt. For others like caterpillars, the leaves are not just habitat, but also food.

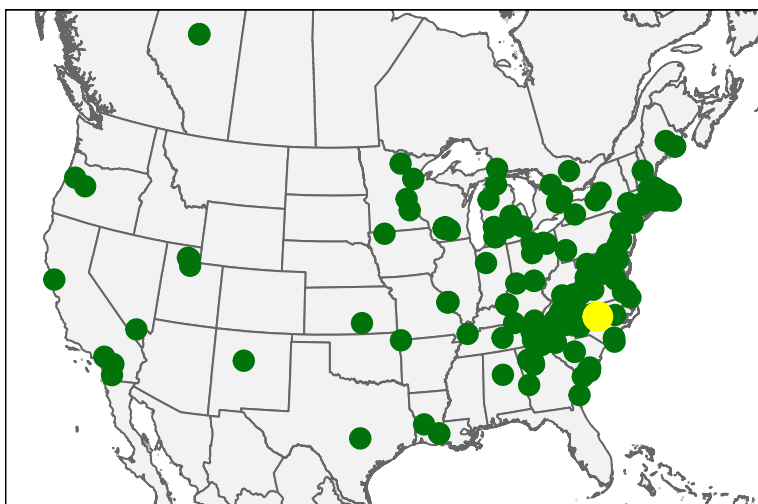
- Which plant species supports the most arthropods per survey?
- Which plant species supports the most **caterpillars**?
- Are any plant species dominated by just one or two types of arthropods?
- Or do they support a diversity of arthropod types?



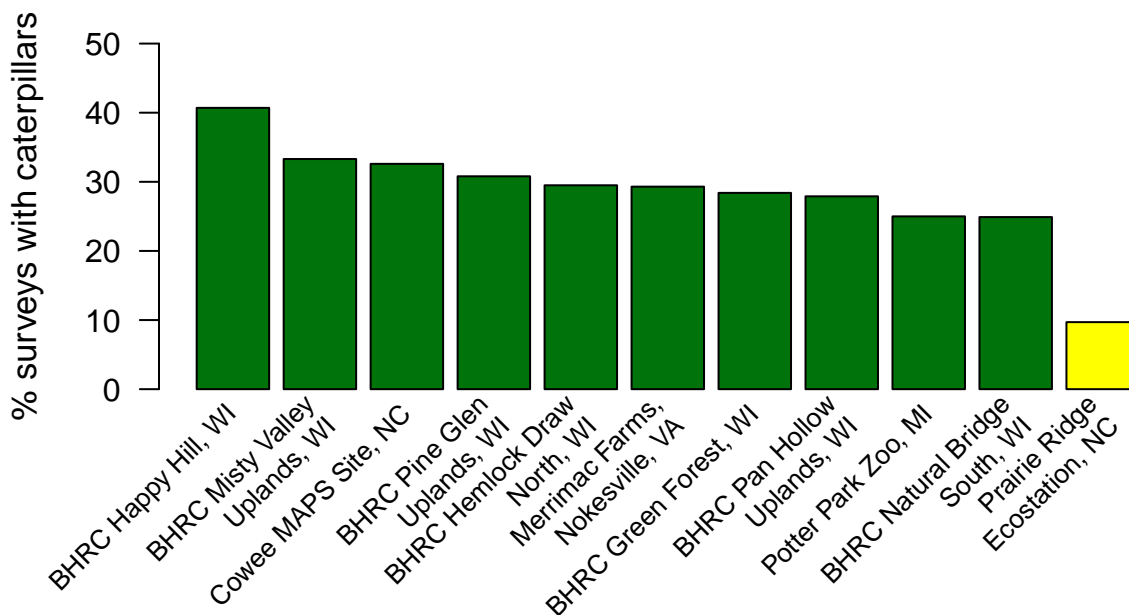
This bottom panel shows, of the arthropods found on a given plant species, what proportion were from each taxonomic group. At most, only the top 25 plant species are shown.

Broader Patterns

Thanks to participants like yourself, **Caterpillars Count!** observers have now submitted a total of **220,722** arthropod observations—including **16,838 caterpillars**—from **185** different sites.



Across all surveys ever done at **Prairie Ridge Ecostation**, caterpillars have been found **9.7%** of the time, which ranks **43rd** across sites. The top 10 sites (with ≥ 20 surveys) are shown below.



Caterpillar occurrence and phenology vary as a function of climate, land cover, tree species, and other local factors, and **your data** are helping us understand this variation and what it might mean for birds. Thank you for participating in **Caterpillars Count!**

Expert Identifications

2599 photo observations from **Caterpillars Count!** surveys have been submitted from your site. You can check them all out at the site's [iNaturalist page](#). Based on these photo observations, experts on **iNaturalist** have identified the following taxa, including at least **126** unique species. Taxa seen for the first time this year are marked with a *.

Caterpillars

Erebidae

Orgyia leucostigma
Panopoda sp.
Halysidota harrisii
Halysidota tessellaris
Hyphantria cunea
Hypsoropha hormos
Parallelia bistriaris
Pyrrharctia isabella
Spilosoma virginica

Euteliidae

Paectes sp.

Geometridae

Epimecis hortaria
Hypagyrtis unipunctata
Macaria bisignata

Limacodidae

Lithacodes fasciola
Natada nasoni
Phobetron pithecium*

Noctuidae

Acronicta americana
Acronicta retardata
Harrisimemna trisignata
Morrisonia confusa

Notodontidae

Datana sp.
Schizura ipomaeae
Cecrita biundata
Cecrita guttivitta
Coelodasys unicornis
Misogada unicolor
Nadata gibbosa

Pyralidae

Pococera sp.

Saturniidae

Anisota sp.

Actias luna

Sphingidae

Moths, Butterflies

Acrolophidae

Acrolophus sp.*

Erebidae

Spilosoma sp.*
Hypsoropha hormos*

Geometridae

Eulithis sp.
Hypagyrtis sp.*
Eutrapela clemataria

Hesperiidae

Lon zabulon

Saturniidae

Anisota sp.

Tortricidae

Coelostathma discopunctana

Spiders

Anyphaenidae

Wulfila sp.

Araneidae

Araneus sp.
Eustala sp.
Neoscona sp.
Larinioides cornutus
Mecynogea lemniscata
Metepeira labyrinthea
Micrathena gracilis*
Verrucosa arenata

Clubionidae

Castianeira longipalpa

Corinnidae

Trachelas sp.

Philodromidae

Philodromus sp.

Salticidae

Colonus sylvanus

Hentzia sp.

Lyssomanes viridis

Paraphidippus aurantius

Tetragnathidae

Tetragnatha sp.
Leucauge venusta

Theridiidae

Theridion sp.*
Theridula sp.
Rhomphaea fictilium

Thomisidae

Mecaphesa sp.
Tmarus sp.
Xysticus sp.
Synema parvulum

Grasshoppers, Crickets

Gryllidae

Cyrtoxipha columbiana

Mogoplistidae

Cycloptilum sp.

Oecanthidae

Oecanthus niveus*

Podoscirtidae

Orocharis sp.

Tettigoniidae

Scudderia sp.

Trigonidiidae

Cyrtoxipha sp.
Phyllopalpus pulchellus

True Bugs

Berytidae

Jalysus sp.*

Coreidae

Acanthocephala declivis
Acanthocephala terminalis
Leptoglossus oppositus

Miridae
 Ceratocapsus sp.
 Hyaliodes harti
 Hyaliodes vitripennis
 Lopidea sp.
 Paraxenetus guttulatus
 *Texocoris nigrellus**
 Nabidae
 Lasiomerus sp.*
 Pentatomidae
 *Banasa euchlora**
 *Euschistus servus**
 Podisus sp.*
 Brochymena quadripustulata
 Chinavia hilaris
 Reduviidae
 Empicoris sp.*
 Pselliopus barberi
 *Pselliopus cinctus**
 Sinea sp.
 Zelus luridus
 Arilus cristatus
 Rhopalidae
 Boisea trivittata
 Tingidae
 Corythucha sp.

Leafhoppers, Cicadas

Acanaloniidae
 Acanalonia bivittata
 Acanalonia conica
 Cercopidae
 Prosapia bicincta
 Cicadellidae
 Bandara sp.
 Osbornellus sp.
 Paraphlepsius sp.
 Scaphoideus sp.*
 *Agalliopsis ancistra**

Graphocephala coccinea
 Graphocephala versuta
 Japananus hyalinus
 Jikradia olitoria
 Oncometopia orbona
 Rugosana querci
 Cixiidae
 Haplaxius sp.*
 *Bothriocera cognita**
 Derbidae
 Cedusa sp.
 Flatidae
 Flatormenis proxima
 Metcalfa pruinosa
 Ormenoides venusta
 Issidae
 Thionia bullata
 Thionia quinquata
 Aplos simplex
 Membracidae
 Telamona sp.*
 Platycotis vittata
 Stictocephala militaris
 Stictocephala taurina
 Tropiduchidae
 Pelitropis rotulata
 Thraupidae
 Stictocephala sp.

Aphids, Scales

Aphididae
 Pseudococcidae
Beetles
 Anthribidae
 Ormiscus sp.*
 *Toxonotus cornutus**
 Attelabidae
 Eugnamptus sp.

Cantharidae
 Chauliognathus marginatus
 Podabrus rugosulus
 Carabidae*
 Cerambycidae
 Anelaphus sp.
 Chrysomelidae
 Bassareus sp.
 Cryptocephalus sp.
 Paria sp.
 Demotina modesta
 Coccinellidae
 *Cycloneda munda**
 Harmonia axyridis
 *Psyllobora vigintimaculata**
 Cupedidae
 *Cupes capitatus**
 Tenomerga cinerea
 Curculionidae
 Brachystylus sayi
 Cyrtopistomus castaneus
 Lechriops oculatus
 *Ochyromera ligustri**
 Pseudocneorhinus bifasciatus
 *Pseudoedophrys hilleri**
 Elateridae
 Glyphonyx sp.
 Melanotus sp.
 Conoderus lividus
 Lampyridae
 Photinus sp.
 Photuris sp.
 Mordellidae
 *Falsomordellistena hebraica**
 *Mordellistena trifasciata**
 Paramordellaria triloba
 Scarabaeidae
 Macroductylus subspinosus

Popillia japonica

Bees, Wasps

Eupelmidae

Tenthredinidae

Vespidae

Vespula maculifrons*

Choreutidae

Ants

Formicidae

Formica fusca

Formica subsericea

Camponotus castaneus

Camponotus pennsylvanicus

Camponotus snellingi*

Camponotus subbarbatus

Crematogaster sp.

Monomorium minimum*

Brachyponera chinensis*

Pseudomyrmex ejectus*

Flies

Asilidae

Cerotainia sp.

Bombyliidae

Anthrax argyropygus*

Chironomidae

Chloropidae

Dolichopodidae

Keroplidae

Macrocera sp.

Lauxaniidae

Homoneura sp.

Rhagionidae

Chrysopilus thoracicus

Sciomyzidae

Anura

Hyla cinerea

Blattodea

Caribblatta*

Reticulitermes hageni

Collembola

Tomocerinae

Dermaptera

Forficula auricularia

Entomobryomorpha

Homidia socia

Neuroptera

Chrysopa nigricornis

Chrysoperla

Chrysopidae

Leucochrysa insularis

Leucochrysa pavidus*

Hemerobius*

Micromus

Micromus posticus

Odonata

Calopteryx maculata

Polydesmida

Oxidus gracilis

Psocodea

Cerastipsocus venosus

Graphopsocus

Spirobolida

Narceus americanus

Other observations

Thank you for participating in **Caterpillars Count!** For a more in-depth exploration of the data check out our [Maps & Graphs page](#). The raw data from your site, or any site, can be downloaded [here](#)!

We can't wait to see what you find next year!



Sycamore tussock caterpillar, *Halysidota harrisii*, at Walker Nature Center, VA.

Allen Hurlbert
Director
Caterpillars Count!