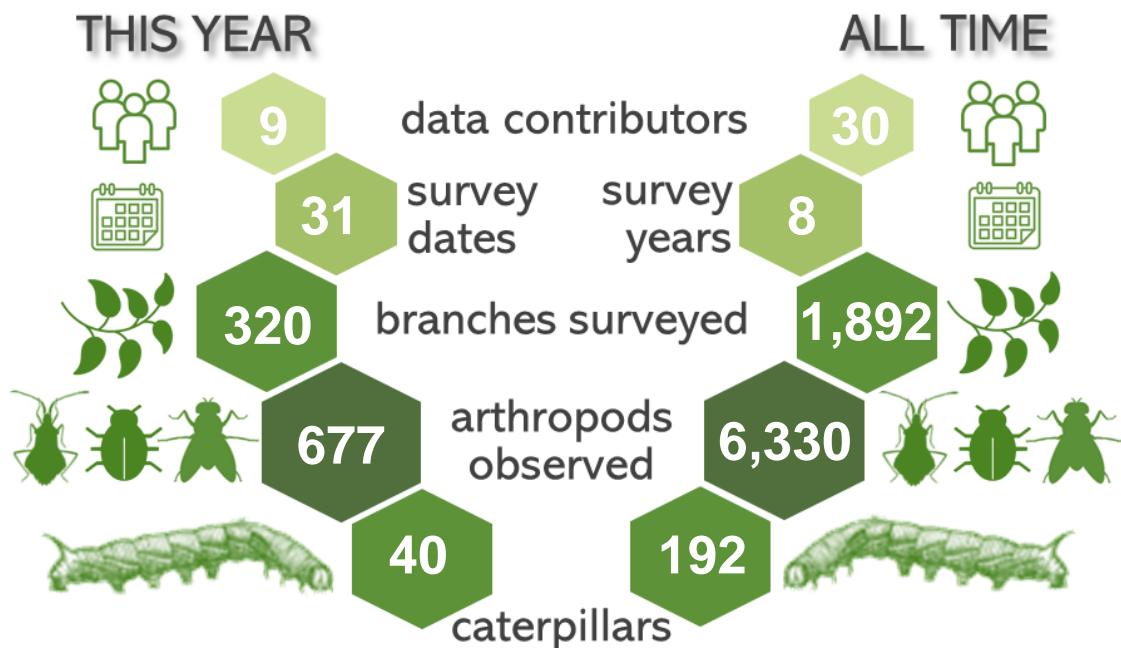


Caterpillars Count!



Mt. Auburn Cemetery, 2025 Summary



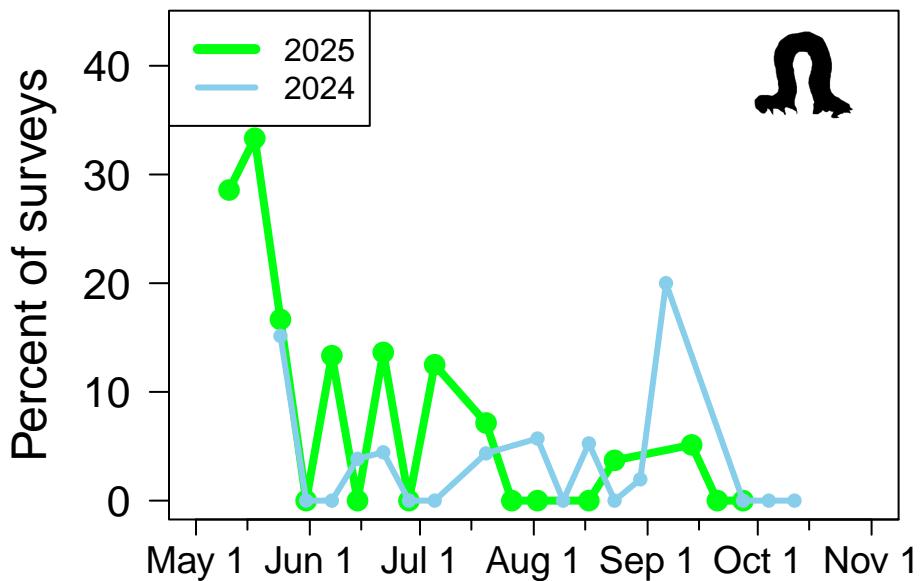
The **320** total surveys conducted at **Mt. Auburn Cemetery** this year ranks **14th** out of the **68** sites that participated in 2025.

Top Participants of 2025

User	Surveys	Arthropods	Caterpillars	% Caterpillars
E Petrover	28	20	9	21.43
S Gray	14	11	7	21.43
L Vidal	43	232	8	13.95
A Dix	73	110	8	10.96
A Mertl	62	143	8	9.68
A Tramontano	25	15	0	0.00
B Mancini	32	51	0	0.00
K Toma-Lee	28	94	0	0.00

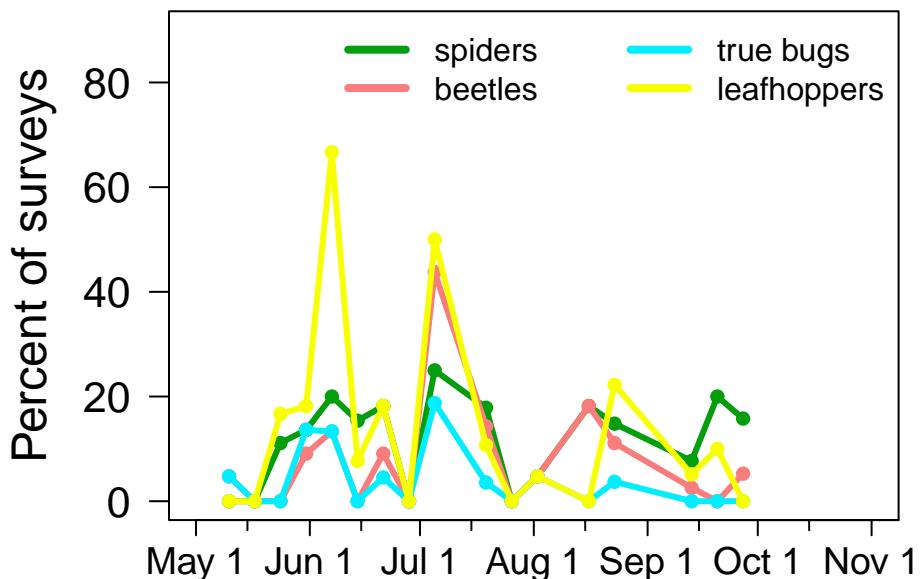
Caterpillar Phenology

As a major source of food for nestlings of migratory birds, we are especially interested in the timing of caterpillar availability. At **Mt. Auburn Cemetery** in **2025**, caterpillar occurrence peaked at **33.3%** of surveys on **17 May**. Do you see other peaks as well? How does the pattern compare to the previous year?



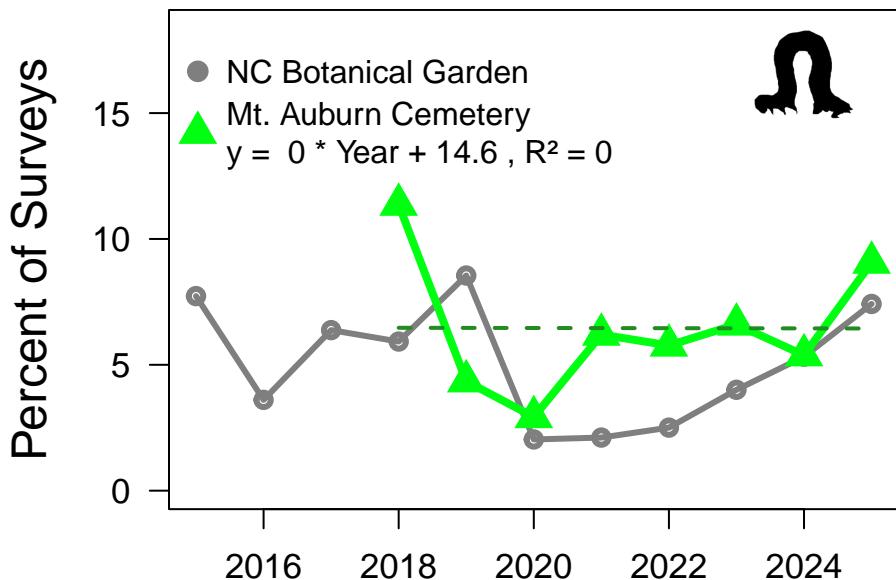
Other Arthropod Phenology

While caterpillars tend to have pronounced seasonal peaks, other groups are more variable. What patterns do you see below for **2025**? You can explore the phenology of other groups on the [**Caterpillars Count!**](#) website.



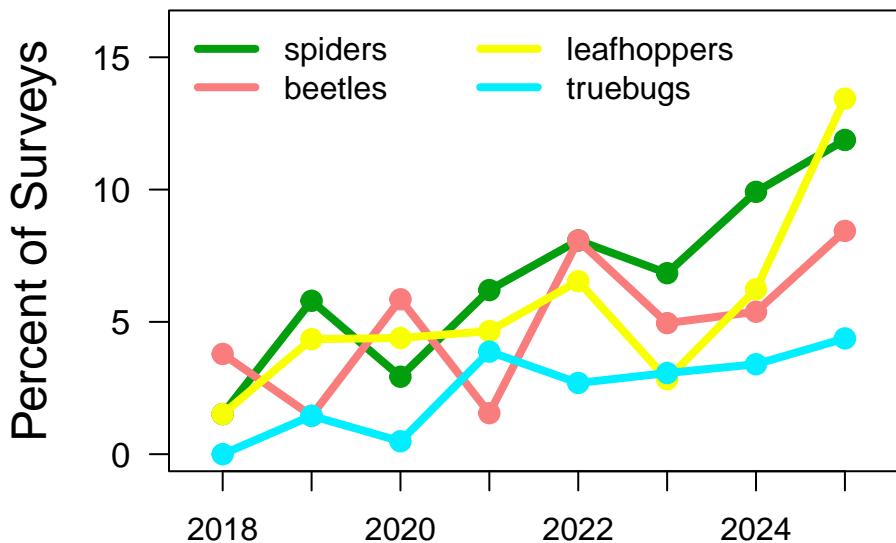
Arthropod Trends

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?

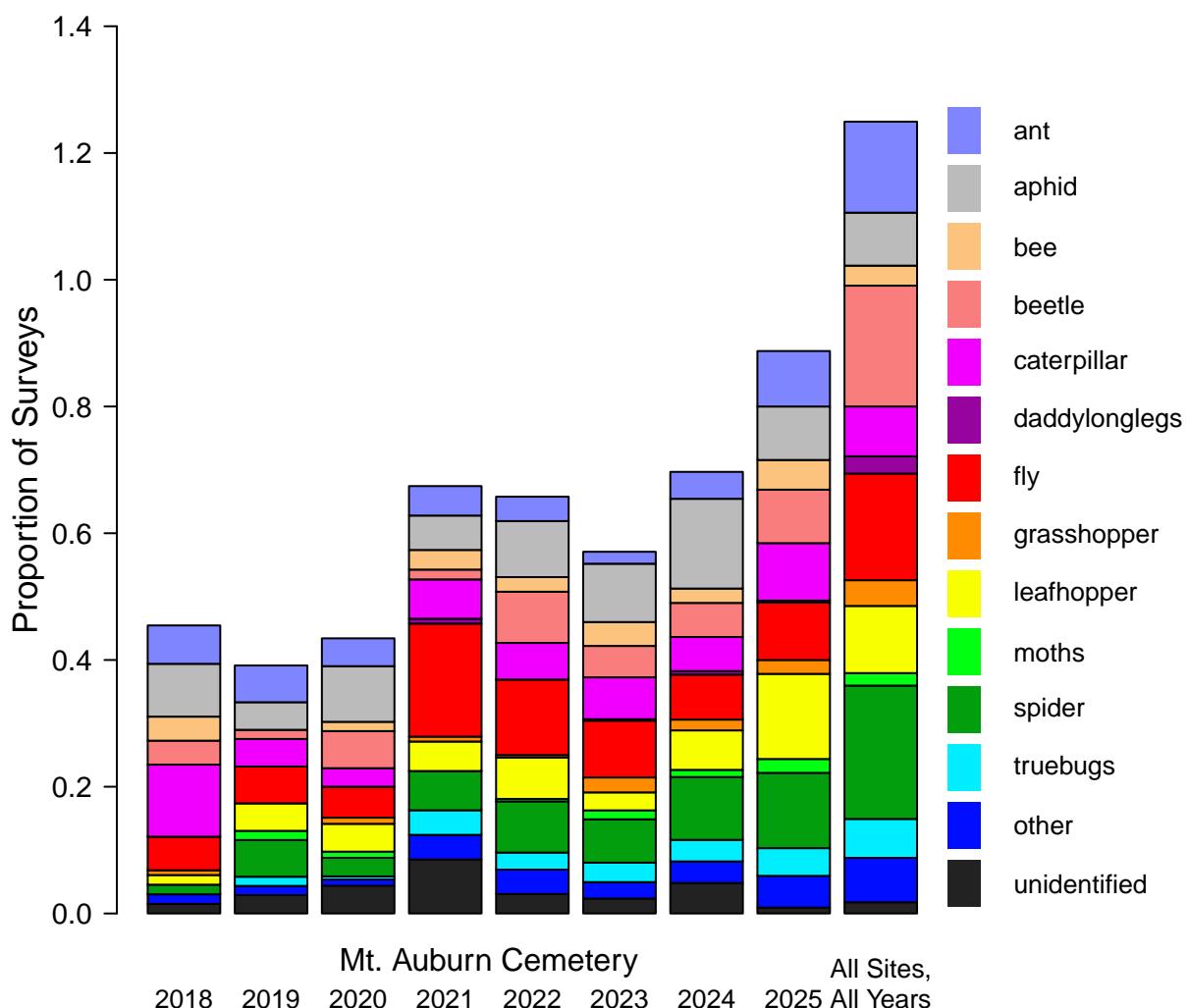


You can explore trends for more arthropod groups, and compare trends at different sites, on your site's **Trends Page**. See also our **November 2021 newsletter** for more on how to interpret these trends.

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*).

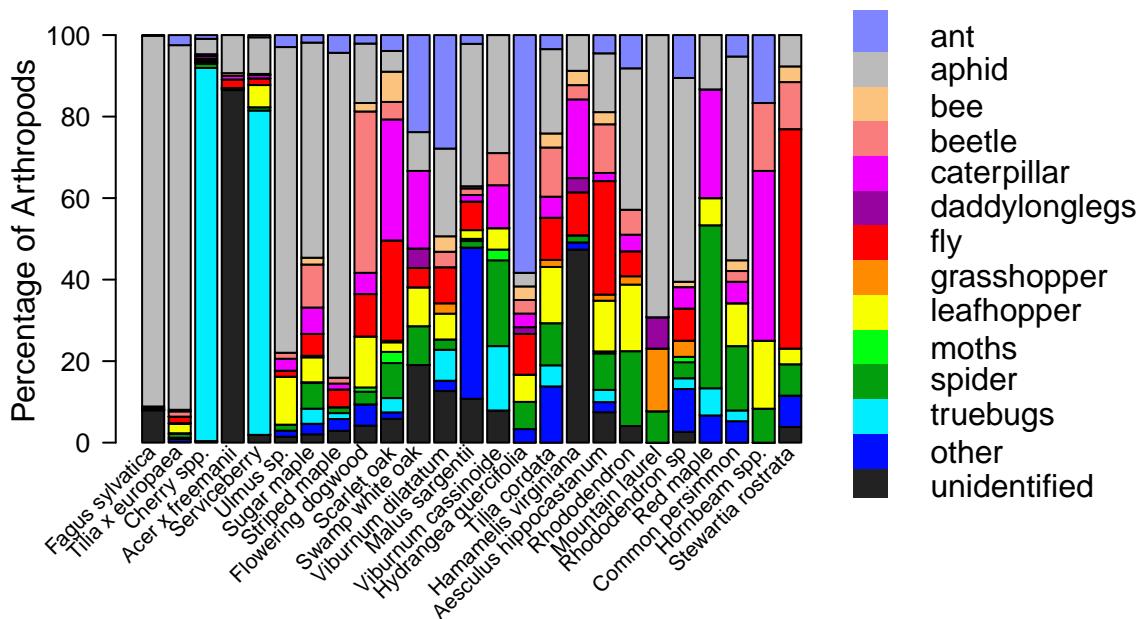
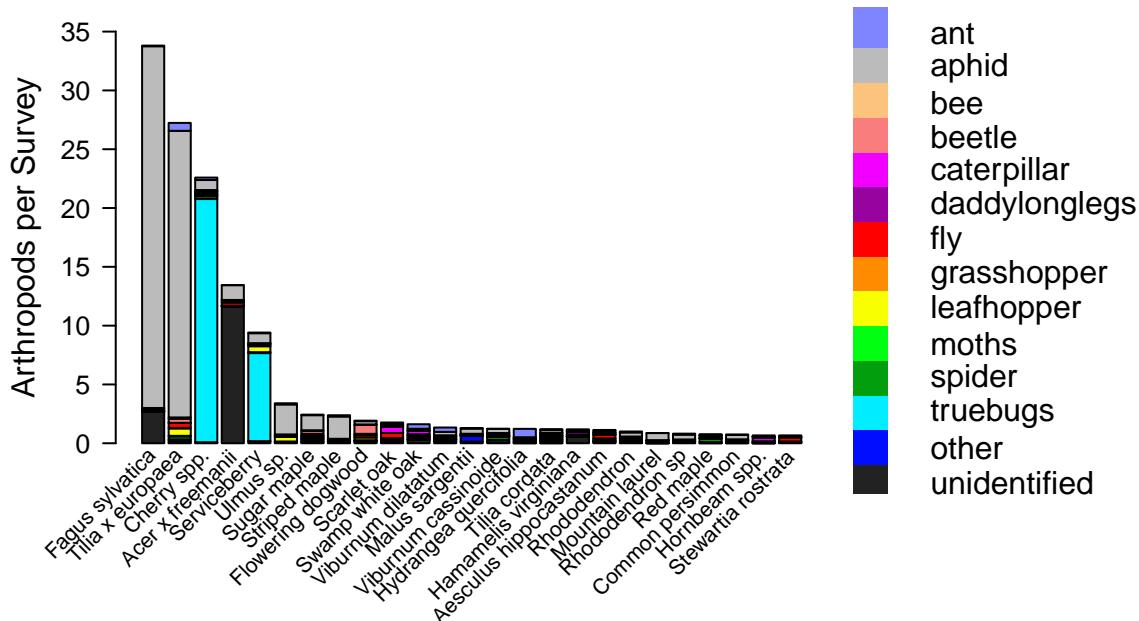
- What are the most common arthropod groups found at your site?
- Has that varied by year?
- Is anything noticeably different about **Mt. Auburn Cemetery** compared to all other participating sites?
- If arthropod photos were submitted as part of your site's surveys, check the last section of this report 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.

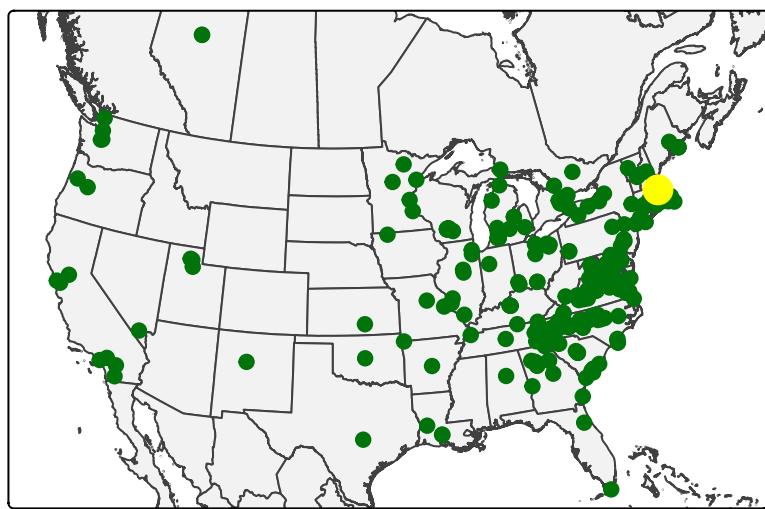
- Which plant species supports the most arthropods per survey?
- Which plant species supports the most **caterpillars**?
- Are any plant species dominated by just one or two types of arthropods?
- Or do they support a diversity of arthropod types?



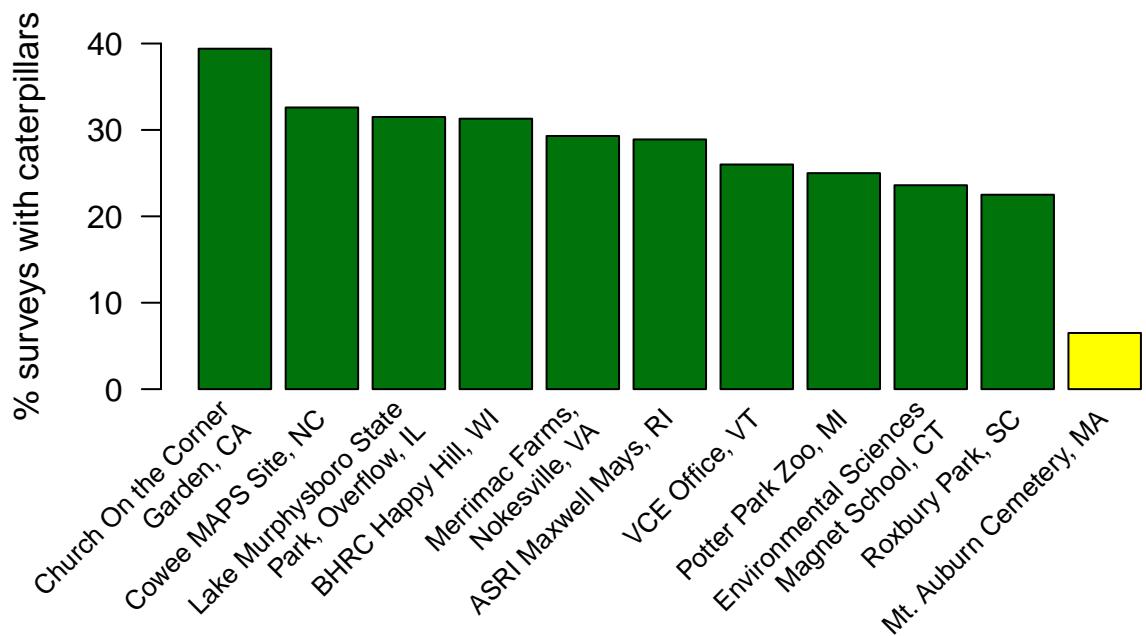
This bottom panel shows, of the arthropods found on a given plant species, what proportion were from each taxonomic group. At most, only the top 25 plant species are shown.

Broader Patterns

Thanks to participants like yourself, **Caterpillars Count!** observers have now submitted a total of **358,184** arthropod observations—including **23,494 caterpillars**—from **274** different sites.



Across all surveys ever done at **Mt. Auburn Cemetery**, caterpillars have been found **6.5%** of the time, which ranks **88th** across the **204** sites with ≥ 20 surveys. The top 10 sites are shown for comparison.



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

Your site has submitted **1,114 Caterpillars Count!** photos which ranks **10th** out of the **191** sites with photos. You can check them all out at the site's [iNaturalist page](#). Based on these photos, experts on iNaturalist have identified the following taxa, including at least **51** unique species. Taxa seen for the first time this year are marked with a *.

Caterpillars

- Bucculatricidae
 - Bucculatrix sp.
- Crambidae*
 - Erebidae
 - Lymantria dispar
 - Geometridae
 - Nematocampa sp.*
 - Operophtera brumata
 - Gracillariidae
 - Caloptilia sp.
 - Lycaenidae
 - Noctuidae
 - Amphipyra pyramidoides
 - Tortricidae*

Moths, Butterflies

- Crambidae
 - Crambus sp.*
 - Microcrambus elegans*
- Tortricidae
 - Acleris sp.*

Spiders

- Anyphaenidae
 - Anyphaena sp.
- Araneidae
 - Araneus sp.
 - Araniella displicata
- Dictynidae
- Philodromidae
 - Philodromus rufus
- Salticidae
 - Paraphidippus aurantius
 - Synemosyna formica*
- Theridiidae
 - Euryopis sp.*
 - Parasteatoda sp.
 - Theridion sp.

Yunohamella lyrical

- Thomisidae
 - Misumessus oblongus
- Uloboridae
 - Uloborus glomosus

Grasshoppers, Crickets

- Gryllidae
 - Cyrtotiphya columbiana
 - Hapithus saltator
- Oecanthidae
 - Oecanthus sp.
- Tettigoniidae
 - Meconema thalassinum
- Trigonidiidae
 - Anaxipha sp.
- Phyllopalpus pulchellus

True Bugs

- Miridae
 - Neolygus sp.
 - Campyloneura virgula
- Pentatomidae
- Reduviidae
 - Zelus sp.
- Tingidae
 - Corythucha sp.

Leafhoppers, Cicadas

- Cicadellidae
 - Graphocephala coccinea
 - Graphocephala fennahi
 - Japananus hyalinus
 - Jikradia olitoria
 - Orientus ishidae
- Clastopteridae
 - Clastoptera sp.
- Derbidae
 - Cedusa sp.
- Flatidae

Flatormenis proxima

- Membracidae
- Ophiderma evelyna

Aphids, Scales

- Aphididae
 - Periphyllus sp.*
 - Eucallipterus tiliae
- Hormaphididae
 - Hormaphis hamamelidis
- Triozidae
 - Baeoalitrozus diospyri

Beetles

- Cantharidae
 - Rhagonycha sp.
- Cleridae
- Coccinellidae
 - Chilocorus sp.
 - Harmonia axyridis
 - Psyllobora vigintimaculata
- Curculionidae
 - Pseudoedophrys hilleri
- Elateridae
 - Melanotus sp.
- Lampyridae
 - Lucidota atra

Bees, Wasps

- Apidae
 - Nomada sp.
 - Apis mellifera
 - Bombus impatiens
- Crabronidae
 - Trypoxylon sp.
- Cynipidae
 - Amphibolips quercusostensac
 - Callirhytis lanata

Eupelmidae	Therevidae
Halictidae	Tipulidae
Agapostemon virescens	Nephrotoma sp.
Scelionidae	Tipula oleracea
Vespidae	
Dolichovespula maculata	
Ants	Other observations
Formicidae	Blattodea
Camponotus pennsylvanicus	Ectobius pallidus
Lasius neoniger	Dermoptera
Nylanderia flavipes	Forficula auricularia
Prenolepis imparis	Neuroptera
	Chrysopidae*
Flies	Psocodea
Anthomyiidae	Graphopsocus cruciatus
Asilidae*	Pucciniales
Cecidomyiidae	Gymnosporangiaceae
Contarinia sp.	Trichoptera
Macrodiplosis sp.	Mystacides sepulchralis*
Chironomidae	
Clusiidae	
Culicidae*	
Dolichopodidae	
Condylostylus caudatus	
Condylostylus siphon	
Condylostylus patibulatus	
Amblypsilopus sp.	
Limoniidae	
Helius flavipes	
Polleniidae	
Pollenia sp.	
Rhagionidae	
Sarcophagidae	
Sciaridae	
Syrphidae	
Toxomerus geminatus	
Tephritidae	
Rhagoletis suavis	

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!



Spicebush swallowtail caterpillar, *Papilio troilus*, observed by *tem1691* on August 22, 2025 at **Lake Murphysboro State Park, Overflow**, Illinois.

Allen Hurlbert

Director

Caterpillars Count!

caterpillarscount@gmail.com