

BROWARD COUNTY BUTTERFLY CHAPTER

**Sept
2015**

**PLANT
OF THE
MONTH**



Giant Ironweed.
Www.FS.fed.us.
Photo: David Taylor

Welcome all to our fall meetings!

Contents

BENCH DEDICATION

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New Chapter Meeting Venue

FALL COUNTS

FIELD TRIP

WINGS IN THE GARDEN
Butterfly Anatomy



Consider coming along on one of our counts.

Fall Counts. Sept 19 & 27

Sat Sept 19

North Circle. Birch State Park, Barbara DeWitt
954-599-1082 badewitt@gmail.com. Hillsboro
Pineland, Sandy Fernandes 954-557-3090
sanav1946@yahoo.com. Crystal Lake, Nancy
Johns 786-525-3701 blacktail07@yahoo.com

Sun Sept 27

South Circle. Long Key Nature Center, Barbara
DeWitt 954-599- 1082 badewitt@gmail.com
Tree Tops Park, Nancy Johns 786-525-3701
blacktail07@yahoo.com

Photo: Pink-spot Surphur
B.DeWitt

Reminders
Next meetings
WED Sept 15
TUE Oct. 13

Hope to see you!

Amazon Users

Please order thru website
www.browardbutterfly.org.
BCBC earns 4% of your pur-
chases.

Silent Auction

Please id donated plants.
We accept natives and non-
invasive plants.

Signing In Notebook

Members & guests, please
print your name. As a
guest, please give us your
email address to receive
our newsletters.

UPCOMING EVENTS. Wed Sept 15, 2015. Speaker: Karen Malkoff "Hydroponic & member Gardening"

Tues Oct 13, 2015. Video: "Journey of the Butterflies", migration of the Monarch butterflies

Contact us at www.browardbutterflies.org; email: BCBCmail@gmail.com

Chapter meetings at Tree Tops Park 3900 SW 100th Avenue, Davie FL 33328 – 954-357-5130

BROWARD COUNTY BUTTERFLY CHAPTER

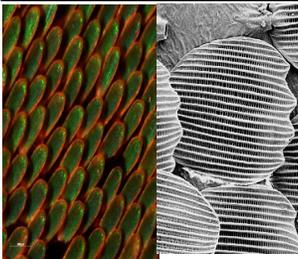
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Wings in the Garden. Butterfly wings are what we see in our garden, it is how we identify them. The butterfly parts are the head, thorax and abdomen, but the wings could be the most interesting feature of this insect.

All butterflies have two pairs of overlapping wings designed for flight. Wings consist of two layers of membranes stretched thin like tissue that are supported by tubular veins used for oxygen exchange. Regulated by strong flight muscles, wings are attached to the base of the three segments of the fused thorax which also anchors the legs.

What appears like dust on the wings, are layers of tiny colored scales. Wing scales are laid out in neat rows like roof tiles, some take a heart or shield shape. Some are hair-like and whenever absent in areas of the wings, butterflies appear transparent. Magnified, scales are constructed by ribs linked by a series of cross bars. Spaces between the ribs and cross bars diffract light to different degrees to produce the myriad of hues that form the wing patterns.

Scales contain pigment with melanin giving them the various colors. Some colors are in the ultra-violet spectrum which only butterflies can see. The UV patterns may help them identify each other and the source could be the ultra-violet flavonoids that caterpillars ingest from their larval food source which are deposited in the wing scales.



Butterfly scales
www.nsf.gov

Save the date !

The Broward County Butterfly Chapter
will host a

BENCH DEDICATION & RECEPTION

For Elane Nuehring of the Miami Blue
Chapter, NABA at

Long Key Natural Area & Nature Center
Davie Florida

Sunday November 15, 2015

2:00 to 5:00pm

More details to follow



Long Key Natural Area & Nature Center

<http://www.broward.org/parks/longkeynaturalarea/Pages/Default.aspx>

Directions to Tree Tops, Chapter Meeting Location

We meet at Tree Tops Park. From I-595, exit at Nob Hill Road. Travel 2.5 miles south on Nob Hill. Tree Tops will be on the left hand side.

From I-95, exit at Griffin Road. Travel west approximately 8.2 miles to Nob Hill Road. Turn right. Travel a quarter of a mile north. The entrance to the park will be on the right hand side of the road.

From I-75, exit at Griffin Road and travel east approximately 4.7 miles to Nob Hill Road. Turn left. Travel a quarter of a mile north. The entrance to the park will be on the right hand side of the road.

Wings in the Garden. The coloration of wings helps this creature to survive. The upper sides of wings can be colorful and the undersides dull. The up and down movement gives the effect of appearing and disappearing, the colors continually change. Erratic flight patterns help them evade danger too, evident in Sulphurs, Whites and Hair-streaks species. Another technique employed to avoid predators is the use of mimicry, resembling a bad tasting butterfly. Or, blending in, looking like a leaf.

On the other hand, milkweed monarchs have bold wing markings, a warning to birds and predators to 'avoid me' as the larval food transmitted to the adult from the caterpillar stage contains toxins. Color has its advantage as the brightly colored male butterfly helps them get the attention they need, emitting pheromones from their wings as they constantly compete for females.

Another interesting feature of butterflies is the ability to hear. The Heliconius Zebra Longwing can detect sound, or different frequencies using an "ear" near the base of the underside of their wings. Differentiating between low and high pitched sounds lets the butterfly escape from prey, hearing for e.g. the flapping of bird wings. They tilt wings to or away from the sun to get the temperature just right and we admire them. So whenever you see a blue, yellow, white, orange, black, red or brown one with vibrant hues, look at the wings of these insects, they're not just for flight. *Pat R*

Sources: www.learnaboutbutterflies.com;
www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/11511660

OCT FIELD TRIP NEAR TALLAHASSEE



Witness the Monarch Migration

St. Mark's Refuge Butterfly Festival Sat Oct 24, 2015. Depart on Fri Oct 23. Seven-hour drive. Several members will go. Call Pat 954-376-1128. For maps/accommodation/visitor center info go to: <http://www.fws.gov/saintmarks/visit.html>