

Broward County Monarch/Queen Butterfly Tagging/OE Sampling Program 2018

Introduction to the Program:

The Monarch/Queen Butterfly Tagging/OE Sampling Program in Broward County is a citizen-science project taking place in residential gardens by tagging and OE sampling wild-caught butterflies or butterflies raised in a cage from egg, larvae and pupae and tagging in Broward County Parks with permit only. Our goals are to: determine if our assumed, non-migrating Monarchs/Queens remain local or migrate; track residential longevity and survival rates; monitor their health through OE parasite testing and make the data available to researchers.

Our tagging/sampling program is facilitated by the tagging program in Southwest Florida. The Southwest Florida Monarch Program was started by Nick Bodven, a citizen-scientist who initiated this free program.

To learn more, go to www.browardbutterflies.org and to Monarch/Queen Butterfly Tagging/OE Sampling page to view Butterfly Tag and Test Video and How to Fill in the Data Sheet video. Disregard any instructions in the videos that are not listed below.

Getting Supplies:

To order tags and OE sampling kits, email your request to Nick Bodven at monarchtags@gmail.com. Please include your name, street address, email address and telephone number and that you will be tagging/sampling in Broward County. When you receive your tags and OE sampling kit, please discard the tagging sheet provided and go to www.browardbutterflies.org, click on Monarch/Queen Butterfly Tagging/OE Sampling Program and click on and print the Monarch/Queen OE Sampling Datasheet for Broward County.

Getting Started:

- a. Have your tagging and sampling supplies ready, including the datasheet, index cards, and clear, circle stickers. Use one datasheet and set of index cards for each street address including lat/long.
- b. Purchase a net if you are catching adults.
- c. Purchase disposable gloves.
- d. Use paper towels as a placemat.
- e. Use a toothpick to pick up tag.
- f. Use a flat hairclip on wings to keep Monarch/Queen still.
- g. Use index cards and write your name, phone, email address and "Bodven Team" on the reverse side of the index card from the sample stickers.

Instructions:

- a. Catch butterfly with net, or use a butterfly cage-raised from egg, larvae, pupae after the wings have dried for at least 2-3 hours.
- b. Remove the butterfly from net or cage. Hold the wings shut.
- c. Determine and record on the datasheet the sex of the butterfly: male or female.
- d. Place the Monarch/Queen tag on mitten-shaped, discal cell on the underside of the right hindwing.
- e. Tape the underside of Monarch/Queen's abdomen with clear sticker to collect an OE sample.
- f. Place OE clear sticker on an index card. Write the Monarch/Queen tag number next to sticker.
- g. Release the butterfly.
- h. Fill out the printed datasheet with the additional data requested.
- i. When you have tagged and OE tested 15 to 20 butterflies, mail your Monarch/Queen OE Sampling Datasheet and OE samples on index cards to Odum School of Ecology at the address below.
- j. Take a photo of each Monarch/Queen with tag attached. (optional for possible future research)

Where to mail: Monarch/Queen OE Sampling Datasheet and OE Samples on index cards.

Project Monarch Health
UGA, Odum School of Ecology
140 East Green Street
Athens, GA 30602-2202

The samples you send will be observed for parasites at the University of Georgia and the results will be shared with you by email. Your data will be used as part of the long-term data set on monarchs/queens and their parasites.

Tagging in Broward County Parks:

If you would like to tag in county parks, please contact Barbara DeWitt, Tagging/OESampling Program Coordinator, at badewitt@gmail.com. County Parks, Nature Centers and Natural Areas where tagging/OE sampling is permitted: Fern Forest, Helene Klein Pineland Preserve, Hillsboro Pineland, Long Key, Markham Park, Miramar Pineland, Plantation Heritage, Pine Island Ridge, Saw Palmetto, Secret Woods, Treetops, Quiet Waters, West Creek Pineland (33A), West Lake. For locations, visit www.broward.org/parks.

For questions and additional information, please contact badewitt@gmail.com or cschambers53@yahoo.com.

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