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NOTES ON SOME SKIPPERS (HESPERIIDAE) FROM
SOUTHEASTERN GEORGIA

On the morning of 18 May 1974, I stopped to collect for about 30 minutes along U.S. Route 82 in Atkinson Co., Georgia, two mi. E of Pearson. I was compelled to stop by the sight of a skipper collector's delight: profusely blooming Pickerel Weed (*Pontederia cordata* Linn.) lining both sides of the highway in shallow drainage ditches. I collected only nine butterflies (six species) because others were too far over the water for me to reach dry-shod. I later checked on the status of knowledge of each species in Lucien Harris Jr.'s *Butterflies of Georgia* (1972). I found that the five skipper species were new county records, and that some were considered rather rare. I present here a list of these species and comments from Harris (1972) as well as my own:

1. *Oligoria maculata* (Edwards), Twin-spot Skipper. Harris (p. 38) states that it is "not usually common." My two specimens were a bit worn, but were taken within date ranges given by Harris.
2. *Euphyes dion alabamæ* (Lindsey), Alabama Skipper. My fairly fresh pair adds a sixth county to the list for Georgia; Harris (p. 49) indicates that *alabamæ* "occurs widely in the Coastal Region."
3. *Euphyes berryi* (Bell), Berry's Skipper. The capture of two males was the prize of this collection because I had never collected it before, and also because this locality extends the known range in Georgia somewhat to the south and west (Bryan, Screven, and Effingham comprise the previously known range in Georgia). Harris (p. 50) refers to it as "rare and local."
4. *Poanes aaroni howardi* (Skinner), Aaron's Skipper. I took one male in good condition, and saw others. Harris (p. 56) gives no Coastal Region records, listing it only from Augusta in Richmond Co. Furthermore, this capture is the first from Georgia representing the May brood (the Augusta specimens were taken in August).
5. *Atrytone delaware delaware* (Edwards), Delaware Skipper. According to Harris (p. 65), *delaware* "occurs widely but locally in Georgia, and is generally rare." I took a fresh male.

The only other butterfly collected was *Phyciodes phaon* (Edwards), netted on the shoulder of the highway rather than amid the Pickerel Weed blossoms.

This collection information bears out the fact that some butterfly species are listed as rare in publications largely because no one has collected in the right places at the right times to justify any other conclusion. I am surprised that more people have neglected southeastern Georgia—the land of John Abbot—in their collecting plans. I expect to give the area more attention in the future.

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