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A POPULATION OF THE STRIPED HAIRSTREAK, *SATYRIUM LIPAROPS*
LIPAROPS (LYCAENIDAE), IN WEST-CENTRAL FLORIDA

As a resident species, *Satyrium liparops liparops* Boisduval & LeConte, has been previously reported only from the north Florida border and panhandle areas (Kimball 1965, Vol. I, Div. Plant Industry, Gainesville, 363 p.). However, on 15 May 1973, a freshly emerged female *S. l. liparops* was captured at Chassahowitzka, Citrus Co., Florida along the border of a hydric forest at the headwaters of the Chassahowitzka River. Two other adults were observed but not collected in the same location on that date. They were present in an ecotone area of young and mature hammock trees dominated by basswood (*Tilia floridana*), southern magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*), water ash (*Fraxinus caroliniana*), sweet bay (*Magnolia virginiana*), water oak (*Quercus nigra*) and bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*).

The area was revisited in early June 1975, and two more *S. l. liparops* were collected and several others observed. These specimens were more worn than the female collected in May 1973. All adults observed or collected at this Florida west-coast locality are typical *S. l. liparops* having the conspicuous orange-brown patches on the upper sides of the wing rather than the subspecies, *S. l. strigosa*, which occurs over wide areas of Georgia.

A careful examination of vegetation in the Chassahowitzka area produced two early instar larvae of *S. liparops* (identified by rearing) in mid-June 1975. They were found on tree blueberry (*Vaccinium* sp.) in the same area where the adult hairstreaks were previously encountered. In Georgia (Harris 1972, Univ. Okla. Press, Norman, 326 p.), *S. liparops* produces only one brood annually with adults flying from May-July. This is compatible with my Florida data.

The presence of a population of *S. liparops* halfway down the west coast of peninsular Florida suggests that the striped hairstreak may be present over a much wider area of the southern Gulf and Atlantic Coastal Plains than previously reported.

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