



Whitbeck, Julie <julie_whitbeck@nps.gov>

report on collection permit, Barataria Preserve

1 message

Ray Gagne <rgagne@rcn.com>

Thu, Feb 2, 2017 at 8:47 AM

To: "Whitbeck, Julie" <julie_whitbeck@nps.gov>

Dear Ms Whitbeck,

I have been asked to make a report on my visit to the Lafitte Wildlife Refuge in Barataria, LA on Oct. 15, 2016. I have tried to navigate through the regular reportage system, but was born too soon for what to me is a frustrating process. Having spent some time unsuccessfully trying to even get past the password hurdle, I hope you will accept as a full and complete report the following paragraph outlining the findings of my one visit to Lafitte.

I visited the Lafitte Wildlife Refuge in Barataria, LA on the afternoon of Oct. 15, 2016 to collect leaf galls on bald cypress made by gall midges of the genus *Taxodiomyia* (Diptera: Cecidomyiidae) as part of a project to revise the genus. The trees along the boardwalk were mostly mature and the branches out of reach, so I made only a small collection of galls during an approximately one-hour survey. I brought those galls, along with the rest of my collections from elsewhere in Louisiana, to my home Maryland for study. I examined and tabulated the gall specimens by their common names because they do not yet have scientific names. Those from Lafitte W. Ref. were as follows:

white starburst – 3 each

yellow starburst -33

pineapple -6

cup and saucer - 17

pillow – 1

pea – 10

sausage – 9

This particular bag had a number of mites in it. As soon as I had tabulated the collection and placed one or two of each in a vial of alcohol as a voucher collection, I returned the galls to the bag and microwaved and discarded it. Although I kept none of the specimens for the collection they will represent another locality for their species when I prepare the final revision. When the revision is published, I will send you a copy.

Sincerely yours,

Raymond J. Gagné

(tThe species at present have only common names)

X-15-2016 Lafitte Wildlife Refuge, Barataria, LA

white starburst, a few look young, discarded

pineapple, mostly young

flower galls, a few

pillow gall, one

pea galls with flange, a few but show the keel is a normal feature

yellow starburst, lots, but are larvae thirds?

sausage, a few