



Tagging Monarchs Wayne National Forest 2014 Accomplishments

Tagging Monarch butterflies began on the Wayne National Forest in 2008. Requested information is collected on the butterflies and sent to the Monarch Watch program at the University of Kansas.

Tagging activities are conducted usually from September to October by visiting appropriate habitat. In 2014, a total of 14 monarchs were tagged which was up significantly from the 3 tagged in 2013. The majority of monarchs tagged in 2014 occurred at the Wayne National Forest Headquarters where flats of milkweed were being grown in the resident shade house (see accompanying report). Eight monarchs were fitted with a tag soon after emerging from the chrysalis allowing us to report them as reared (knowing that they developed, emerged and began their migration from the Wayne) rather than reported as wild where we catch them migrating thru the area unaware of where their journey began.

To date 199 monarch butterflies have been tagged. No tags have been reported as recovered.



Figure 1. A monarch butterfly emerging from its chrysalis



Figure 2. One of eight monarchs that emerged at the Wayne shade house. All eight were tagged after the wings had dried.

Year Project Initiated: 2008

Project completion: Ongoing

Report number: 1 of 2

Expenditures (2008 thru 10/2014): NFWF \$3160.00

FY14 Funding: Wayne National Forest

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