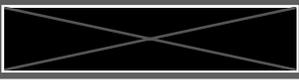


DATE	DAVID ELDER SR	AMBER ELDER	ESTIMATED NUMBER of SYNCs	TEMP/ TIME	MOON PHASE	WEATHER NOTES
2/2/2024	Saw 2 distinct POSSIBLE FF flashings...? 5' off the ground.	XXX	0	~55°/ 5:45pm	LAST QUARTER	???
2/8/2024	XXX	Saw possible "spark" in the treetops	0	~62°/ 6:55pm	WANING CRESCENT	Clear
2/24/24	XXX	Confirmed firefly sighting flying over my driveway. A few sparks in the treetops. No fireflies caught.	0	~70°/ 6:45pm	FULL MOON	Clear; cold
3/2/24	XXX	Infrequent sparks in the treetops. No fireflies caught.	0	~65°/ 7:45pm	WANING GIBBOUS	Mostly cloudy
3/3/24	One tree topper spotted.	About 2-3 dozen tree toppers. Saw one shooter in the treetops. Husband saw a reddish orange one. No fireflies caught.	0	~70°/ 6:45pm	THIRD QUARTER	Partly cloudy
3/4/24	Too rainy for bugs.					
3/6/24	XXX	A few dozen tree toppers. Some ventured over my yard. None low enough to catch.	0	~75°/ 7:45pm	WANING CRESCENT	Clear
3/7/24	Tree toppers seen. Good number.	A few dozen tree toppers. No bugs caught.	0	~68°/ 7:00pm	WANING CRESCENT	Clear
3/12/24	XXX	A handful of tree toppers. Saw a low-flyer, but was unable to get my hands on it. Will try again tomorrow.	0	~61°/ 8:20pm	NEW MOON	Partly cloudy
3/13/24	XXX	Dozens of tree toppers and some lower flying bugs, None near enough or low enough to catch.	0	~68°/ 7:45pm	WAXING CRESCENT	Partly cloudy

DATE	DAVID ELDER SR	AMBER ELDER	ESTIMATED NUMBER of SYNCs	TEMP/ TIME	MOON PHASE	WEATHER NOTES
3/17/24	XXX	A handful of brave tree toppers. Not much. It's been a lot of rain and cool-ish nights.	0	~68°/ 8:00pm	WAXING CRESCENT	Partly cloudy, rained a LOT today.
3/24/2024	XXX	Handful of tree toppers. Nothing low enough to catch.	0	~62°/ 8:00pm	WAXING GIBBOUS	Partly cloudy. No rain all day.
3/25/24	Too windy for bugs.					Windy/Rainy
3/26/24	Nothing seen.	Handful of tree toppers. Nothing low enough to catch.	0	~63°/ 8:00pm	WANING GIBBOUS	Clear; cold
3/29/24	Nothing seen.	2-3 distinct flashes mid treeline (about 5-8' off the ground). Nothing above or below.	0	~66°/ 7:50pm	WANING GIBBOUS	Clear.
3/31/24	Nothing seen.	A couple of flashers mid-treeline. Nothing noteworthy.	0	~72°/ 7:45pm	WANING GIBBOUS	Slight breeze. Clear with some clouds.
4/1/24	Nothing seen.	A couple of flashers mid-treeline. Nothing noteworthy.	0	~76°/ 7:45pm	WANING GIBBOUS	Slight breeze. Clear with some clouds.
4/2/2024	Nothing seen.	One lone flasher mid-treeline.	0	~74°/ 7:55pm	LAST QUARTER	Rainy, muggy, cloudy.
4/3/2024	Nothing seen.	Nothing seen.	0	~67°/ 8:00pm	WANING CRESCENT	Clear, cool.
4/4/24	XXX	Nothing seen.	0	~66°/ 8:00pm	WANING CRESCENT	Clear, cool.
4/7/2024	XXX	Nothing seen.	0	~71°/ 8:25pm	WANING CRESCENT	Clear.

DATE	DAVID ELDER, SR 	AMBER ELDER 	ESTIMATED NUMBER of SYNCs	TEMP/ TIME	MOON PHASE	WEATHER NOTES
4/8/24	Nothing seen.	Handful of bugs mid-tree line. Saw a single flashing bug, 6 feet off the ground that flashed every 3 minutes. Couldn't catch him.	0	~70°/ 8:20pm	NEW MOON	Partly cloudy.
4/13/24	Nothing seen.	Last few days have had stormy weather, windy weather, rainy weather and cold weather. Tonight I spotted about 3-4 individuals flashing about 7 feet off the ground. Tonight I also saw a lone flasher 3 feet off the ground slowly flying and flashing near the underbrush in my open yard.	0	~72°/ 8:10pm	WAXING CRESCENT	Clear, cool.
4/14/24	Nothing seen.	Gazed around for about 30-40 minutes. Saw a few individuals flashing about 8-10 feet off the ground. Nothing spectacular. No low-flyers.	0	~72°/ 8:15pm	WAXING CRESCENT	Clear, cool.
4/15/24	Nothing seen.	Saw a few more sparks 5-10 feet off the ground. Flashing in patterns of 3 flashes and then dark. Couldn't catch any, but tried. No low-flyers, but numbers MAY finally be picking up.	0	~74°/ 8:10pm	FIRST QUARTER	Clear, warm.
4/16/24	Nothing seen.	Saw only a few mid-tree line. I believe I spotted one "Shooter" (photuris versicolor) this evening. In the past these have preceded the Snappies. Fingers are crossed.	0	~74°/ 8:15pm	WAXING GIBBOUS	Partly cloudy, warm.

DATE	DAVID ELDER SR 	AMBER ELDER 	ESTIMATED NUMBER of SYNCs	TEMP/ TIME	MOON PHASE	WEATHER NOTES
4/17/24	Nothing seen.	Saw a few mid-tree line. I believe I saw a few photuris versicolors. Finally caught what has been identified as a Candle Firefly. Orange flicker, 4 feet off the ground near the edge of the forest. Hoping the Snappies aren't far away.	0	~73°/ 8:23pm	WAXING GIBBOUS	Cloudy.
4/18/24	A few low-flyers. No synchronous.	A few mid-tree line. A few low flyers. No synchronous. Saw a few 5 feet or so off the ground as well.	0	~76°/ 8:15pm	WAXING GIBBOUS	Cloudy. Humid. Very warm.
4/19/24	XXX	A few tree-toppers and mid-line flashes.	0	~77°/ 8:10pm	WAXING GIBBOUS	Cloudy, humid.
4/20/24	Nothing seen.	Around 6:45 I caught a Sneaky Elf (first in Nation seen this year). It began raining right at 7:45pm hard, and I didn't have any hope for seeing anything. Around 8:00pm, I decided to peek outside anyway and saw multiple in treetops. So I decided to venture out in the light rain. Was about to give up on catching anything and then saw some low flashers around 8:20pm. Saw one flashing in a bush. Caught him. Confirmed to be first Snappy IN THE NATION this year. No other Snappies or synchrony were seen.	0	~74°/ 8:20pm	WAXING GIBBOUS	Humid all day. Short, heavy rainfall in the evening. Slight breeze.
4/21/24	Too cold for bugs.		0	~63°/ 8:15pm	WAXING GIBBOUS	Cold.

DATE	DAVID ELDER SR	AMBER ELDER	ESTIMATED NUMBER of SYNCs	TEMP/ TIME	MOON PHASE	WEATHER NOTES
4/22/24			0	~60°/ 8:20pm	WAXING GIBBOUS	Cold. Clear.
4/24/24	XXX	Lots of firefly activity tonight. Multiple species. Captured 3 Snappy males.	14	73°/ 8:15pm	WANING GIBBOUS	Clear.
4/25/24	Tree toppers seen.	Captured 2 Snappies. They seem to like organic debris. I found them hovering around piles of sticks and dead wood.	14	74°/ 8:15pm	WANING GIBBOUS	Clear.
4/26/24	XXX	Captured 2 Snappies and a Shooter. Numbers seemed slightly down; possibly due to the breeze.	12	74°/ 8:15pm	WANING GIBBOUS	Mostly cloudy. Breezy.
4/28/24	A few synchronous Snappies finally seen @ 9:00pm!!!	Captured 4 male Snappies. Captured a damaged Versicolor. Lots of firefly activity tonight.	~100	75°/ 8:15pm	WANING GIBBOUS	Mostly cloudy. Breezy.
4/29/24	D saw a few Snappies. Matthew saw some over his yard as well.	Numbers seemed lower tonight.	Dozens	69°/ 8:15pm	WANING GIBBOUS	Hazy. Heavy cloud cover. Very dark. Low visibility.
4/30/24	XXX	Caught 3 different fireflies tonight. One of them a Snappy. Thought I saw a couple of "Slow Blue" fireflies this evening.	Dozens	74°/ 8:15pm	WANING GIBBOUS	Clear. Calm.

DATE	DAVID ELDER, SR [REDACTED]	AMBER ELDER [REDACTED]	ESTIMATED NUMBER of SYNCS	TEMP/ TIME	MOON PHASE	WEATHER NOTES
5/2/24	<p>Nothing seen @ [REDACTED]. Captured a Snappy female @ [REDACTED]. I found her a out [REDACTED] nches beneath some Dewberry bushes. I almost missed her. I looked carefully in the overgrown underbrush next to my driveway. The males were flying here and there above her. She seemed to be flashing in a different pattern underneath them (a quick series of flashes... maybe double flashes), trying to get their attention. Then she went dark so I figured it was my eyes playing tricks. Wandered around a bit longer to see what the Snappies were up to elsewhere. Was about to go back inside and then decided to glance back at the underbrush because I was hoping against hope I would see the faint flashing again. Sure enough, I did. I turned on my head lantern and spotted her on a stem of some of the underbrush (last year's female was also found flashing on a stem). When I put my light on her, she stopped flashing and started to head back down the stem. I immediately grabbed her, she "spit" on me, then played dead. I was worried that I'd killed her, but no. A few moments later she was flashing around in my net. I caught a gentleman and ran inside. Took photos, and now she's in a pickle jar with an apple and said gentleman. Observed a copulation. Unsure how long they were paired, but they'd been in the jar nearly an hour. When I'd disturbed them, I observed that the female had a constant faint glow. The male was happily flashing and eating the apple. At around 2am (5/3/24), I observed both fireflies flashing, crawling and flitting bak and forth in the jar. The male had his typical "Snap, Snap, Snap" flashing pattern. The female's flashing pattern was erratic, but still had a series of quick double-flashes with each series having anywhere from 4-8 flashes. At 5:45 this morning, I can report that both are alive and well and looking for the jar's exit. Released the male and female around 7:45am. The male took flight, while the female sought refuge by crawling into the leaves on the ground.</p>		Dozens.	~75/ 8:15-8:40 pm	WANING CRESCENT	Partly cloudy.

DATE	DAVID ELDER SR	AMBER ELDER	ESTIMATED NUMBER of SYNCs	TEMP/ TIME	MOON PHASE	WEATHER NOTES
5/3/24	XXX	Cooler tonight. Saw a handful.	Handful	69°/ 8:45pm	WANING CRESCENT	Clear, cool.
5/5/25	<p>A few synchronous @ [redacted] @ [redacted] Caught another female Snappy. She was acting oddly, apparently on a twig (that I did not see). I tried to catch her and knocked her off her perch. She tried to fly away after that and I caught her. Placed her in a jar with three other males. She started playing dead and another male began acting erratically. She flashed faintly whenever the erratic male flashed. Removed the normal fireflies (including female) and placed them in a new jar. Female stopped playing dead and now she is flashing in response to another male, but only faintly. Hoping they aren't disturbed too much to do anything tonight. One male seems to be getting braver. Will see what happens. Both males making a big flashy show while female sits at the bottom. Eventually only one female and one male were flashing brightly and wildly. They flashed and flitted all night long. By 11pm, no copulation was observed. At 5am, two were still flashing. I added an apple to the jar this morning and all three are feasting happily. The erratic male is still alive, but struggling. Upon microscopic inspection, I did not observe any parasites eating him from the inside out like I've seen before, but time will tell.</p>		Dozens.	~79°: 8:15 pm	WANING CRESCENT	Partly cloudy, muggy.

DATE	[REDACTED]	AMBER ELDER [REDACTED]	ESTIMATED NUMBER of SYNCS	TEMP/ TIME	MOON PHASE	WEATHER NOTES
5/6/24	<p>Nothing @ [REDACTED] @ [REDACTED] The female catch from last night seemed to come out and flashed in sync with the others around 8:11pm (CT). Her lanterns were as bright as the others. She was not perched, but trying to get out. From what I've observed, females either perch on stems or hide in the leaves below. 2/3 of them were perched, and one of the perched was beneath foliage. The pulse of her flashes are quite lovely if you look closely at a couple of the videos. I ran to catch a male and came back to her with him. She immediately dimmed the lights and started flashing in a one (pause) two-three pattern. Then in a one-two (pause) three pattern. At least that is what my brain is interpreting. It's hard to see on the video because she dimmed her lights. But once she paired with that male, they were flashing back and forth and I cannot for the life of me pick up a steady pattern of dialogue flashes between them (my Father-in-Law might be able to). Though I did try. I captured another male and put the two of them in a separate jar. As was the situation last night, after the female pairs with another male in the same vicinity, the other male goes dark. Both fireflies (he and she) are trying desperately to get free and have their little rendezvous—lots of buzzing noises flitting back and forth which I've never heard fireflies make before. The flashing is erratic, but both are still separated and will be until tomorrow when I set them free. On another note, I may not have any information tomorrow as Piper (my daughter) has an awards ceremony I must attend. I will keep you posted on any further developments.</p>		Dozen.	~82°/ 8:11pm	WANING CRESCENT	Partly cloudy, muggy.

DATE	DAVID ELDER SR 	AMBER ELDER 	ESTIMATED NUMBER of SYNCS	TEMP/ TIME	MOON PHASE	WEATHER NOTES
5/7/24	<p>I have so many observations tonight I hardly know where to begin.</p> <p>Lady number 3 (the one caught on 5/5) was released today. At 8pm I watched the jars. The gentlemen began flashing first in the leaves. The lady began flashing about 5 minutes later and emerged from the leaves and desperately tried to fly away. The gentlemen eventually emerged from the leaves and left the jar empty. The lady waited. Eventually she flew high away into a tree somewhere. I went to observe numbers of Snappies in another area (lower than last night, I think!—Sad year for South Louisiana's Snappies).</p> <p>As I was walking back toward my house, I saw a faint flashing on a blade of grass. I stopped and waited and got my camera ready as a gentleman approached her. She immediately went dark and he turned and flew away. I captured her (we'll call her Jane) and placed her in a jar and caught two other gentlemen. One got loose in my house and is who knows where? The other I placed with Jane. The pair flashed for a moment, then both of them went dark.</p> <p>Well, I thought I'd try another. I captured another gentleman and placed him in the jar with the other two. The flashing continued for a few moments. Single flash from him, single flash from her, back and forth about half a dozen times before all three fireflies went dark. This lady is special. She doesn't flash for any old guy. She's quite picky. And I like her. I removed her from the gentlemen's jar (because who wants to remain with someone who had jilted them?) and placed her in her own jar where further observations will be made tomorrow night.</p> <p>When I came back to the gentlemen's jar, I found one of them pinning the other to the side of the glass wings slightly parted. I don't know if he was willing to fight for the lady or what? Anyhow, he flashed again, then Jane flashed a few times, and now all three fireflies are dark again. They are very funny creatures.</p>		Handfuls.	~81°/ 8:00pm	WANING CRESCENT	Partly cloudy, muggy.

DATE		AMBER ELDER 	ESTIMATED NUMBER of SYNCs	TEMP/ TIME	MOON PHASE	WEATHER NOTES
5/8/24	@  7:45pm - removed Jane from jar and placed under leaf. 8:03pm - fireflies begin flashing 8:11pm - something flashing in underbrush nearby. Single flashes, nothing came of it. 8:18pm - returned to Jane who was flashing faintly in the underbrush. There were a few fellas who came to call and she rejected them ALL. See the videos, sent in separate emails, for commentary (sorry for the random conversations with my daughter in the audio). She did not perch all night, just wandered around in the grass and leaves. Maybe due to it being slightly windy??? She did flash every time a gentleman got near. Numbers slightly higher tonight. I got tired of Jane rejecting all the males and getting eaten up by mosquitos for no reason.		Dozens, higher than it has been.	~82°/ 7:45pm	NEW MOON	Hot, Humid, Cloudy.
5/9/24	Nothing.	Dozens, but nothing caught. I think the numbers are dropping. Still have to go deep into woods to see anything. All species populations seem to be down. Had to have something to do with last summer's drought.	Dozens.	~82°/ 8:23pm	WAXING CRESCENT	Hot, humid, muggy, cloudy.

