

# BALSAM MTN. 5/30/94 from Rider Hollow 210-8

## Timetable

Lv. Rider Hollow Trail Base	8:18 AM
Haynes Col	9:20 to 9:45
Summit	11:13 to 12:13
Bellefleur Col.	1:00 PM
Mine Hollow	ca. 1:20 PM
Trail Base, Rider Hollow	1:47 PM

Senecio Spring just above 3500' sign on trail.

Mystery plant is Senecio aureus  
 Originally found Oct. 1990. Voucher specimen collected with peat. Other species may need checking in August for I.D., e.g. g mint.

### Flora at Spring.

SUG to 22" x 45' grove	SM	ALLIUM
BC	HYDR	*VV
SORS seedl.	IMP	TE in fl.
MM	AA	ERY
CORNALT seedl.	VC	
	VPAP	\$ INT
	PELI	D THELYP ← <u>MAINT</u>
	CLYT in fl.	A THELYP
	TRALTI	
	DENTARIA	
	SOLID RUB	

Spring flows out of ground and spreads out into a more level swamp. To NE, in SUB grove, only 5 to 10% of ground surface is covered by boulders.

Probe in pool with peat sample 13" deep, before channel. 2nd sample about 5' away at 9". Average is 4" to till below much.

Panicles of a 24" BC + SUB are 24" without ledge. Ledge exposed above the spring.

\*VV do not grow above spring head, although there are a few nearer the summit in a dry area.

## Tree Ages by ring counts:

- Y MO, 3" cut to clear trail below Haynes Col: ±21 years. Tree #7
- MO, 4", 20 yrs at 20' height, now on ground. Tree #8
- ascent HEM, broke off 10' up, 24" diam, 143 yrs. Tree #63.
- SUG, 29" diam, broke 10' up = 125 yrs in over 10" of total 14 1/2" radius. Tree #74
- Heart rot + under bark are shortening fungus. All here; slope less steep.
- BEECH, broken 20' up, 6", 82 yrs. Tree #C23
- YB: still live with diam. equal to hiking stick length, 4 1/2"
- Col to Haynes

SUB #74 projected

$$\frac{125y}{20"} = \frac{?y}{29"} + 15y$$

to reach 10" = 196y

- Descent: MO broken at 1' high, 3", 18 yrs. Tree #9
- R + three COVE { SUB broken 20' up, over 10" of total 12" radius, 135 yrs. Tree #75
- { SUB down 10" over radius of total 16", 125 years. heart rot Tree #76
- 36" at base.
- Mine Hollow: BEECH 13 1/2" diam cut 10' up, 80 yrs. Tree #C24

$$\frac{10"}{135y} = \frac{12"}{?y} + 30y \text{ up}$$

→ = 192y projected

$$\frac{10}{125y} = \frac{16"}{?y}$$

→ 200y projected



# FIR DISTIN ON BALSAM MTN. 2109

From S. 1st fir about 40' W of trail, elev.  $\pm 3200'$ . One fir 7" x 30', 2nd fir 5" x 20', 3rd fir dead 4" x 15'. All 3 firs in understory, suppressed & decapitated under BC. A few SUB, B, YB, PM & MO nearby. ERY-ox-PITUI- $\delta$ -MC- AA-SAMB. Well-drained & hot especially shallow. NOT a ledge top.

1st ledge on ascent of Balsam Mt. from Kames col is just above & E of trail. No fir on this. The 2nd ledge requires the trail to jog E.

Next firs several ledges up, ca. 3400', most suppressed, all decapitated, with dead trunks 15' to 20' by 6" DBH max.  $\pm 6$  trees. To E of trail there is a boulder, 5' high x 10' long. Red oak 12" between boulder & trail. On top of boulder are four sapling firs about 3 feet tall, 10 to 20 yrs; old with leaders 2" to 4" high. Shaded under BC + OAK.

Spring (see page 1) at  $\pm 3500'$

Above spring: fir become abundant on and above the ledge, with SORBS and ERY-fem openings. Nil fir repro. Lower branches of mature fir NOT browsed, suggesting NO seedling browsing by deer.

Summit: Canyon 25 to 30'. Fir leaders > 12" long in sun. Firs to 20' below crest all along the E shoulder (ie elev 3580'). No place to look at & see how far below crest firs drop along W shoulder 30' or NE

North slope: First SORBS scat. dam below 3500' sign without regard to ledges nor wetflats. By 3400'  $\pm$ , firs are at. SORBS at ledge top 3100'; this lower ledge with SORBS, but no fir, look like those on Vly & Kaleet Mts.

Cor. of crest down.

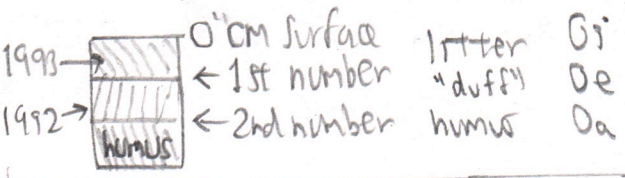
Summit down



# LITTER THICKNESS

non-compacted

Each pair of numbers represents a sample. The 1st number, in cm, is the depth to the base of a 1993 litter accumulation. The 2nd number, in cm, is the depth to the base of fragmented leaf accumulation, 1992 possibly plus several years prior to 1992. Beneath is black humus, leaf fragments not visible.



Haynes Balsam Col  
Canopy 50'  
SUB-B-YB, All hdwds.

- 5, 8 \*
- 6, 9 \*
- 2, 5
- 2, 3
- 2, 4
- 2, 5
- 3, 5
- 3, 6
- 3, 6
- 2, 4

\* In a depression where more litter collects.

1993 litter compacted when squeezed by hand, to <1cm, maybe 0.5 cm.

Sug Grove next to Seneca Springs

- 2, 3
- 2, 2
- 4, 6 depression
- 2, 2

## FIR

1st three trees:

- 2, 3
- 2, 4
- 1, 2
- 2, 3

Mixed hdwd + Fir litter  
BC dom, a few  
SUB-RM-MO-YB-B.

Look at E mid-crest of summit

- 2, 5
- 2, 3
- 4, ?
- 2, 3
- 1, 2 (mineral soil at 6)
- 6, 9 in a depression

1993 litter non-compacted. 6 cm of litter can be compacted by hand to 1 cm. 2 cm compact to <1 cm.

Canopy 25 to 30'

YB dom, FIR, SUB, BC, RM, VA in fl. (few MM)  
MC-OX-MC-AA-IM-RS-TV-Inf-Polynady

Under dense FIR along summit

- 2, 3
- \* 4, 6
- 1, 8 ⊙
- 1, >10 ⊙

\* The 4cm can be compressed to 1cm.

Locally, mineral soil begins at 16cm.

⊙ 1993 litter 1cm is mostly hdwd. The >10 cm beneath is fir needles mostly requiring several years to decay.

## Means

under  
SUG  
n=14

Σ 40, 68

$\bar{x} = 2.9, 4.9$

under  
FIR

n=14, <sup>1/2</sup> B

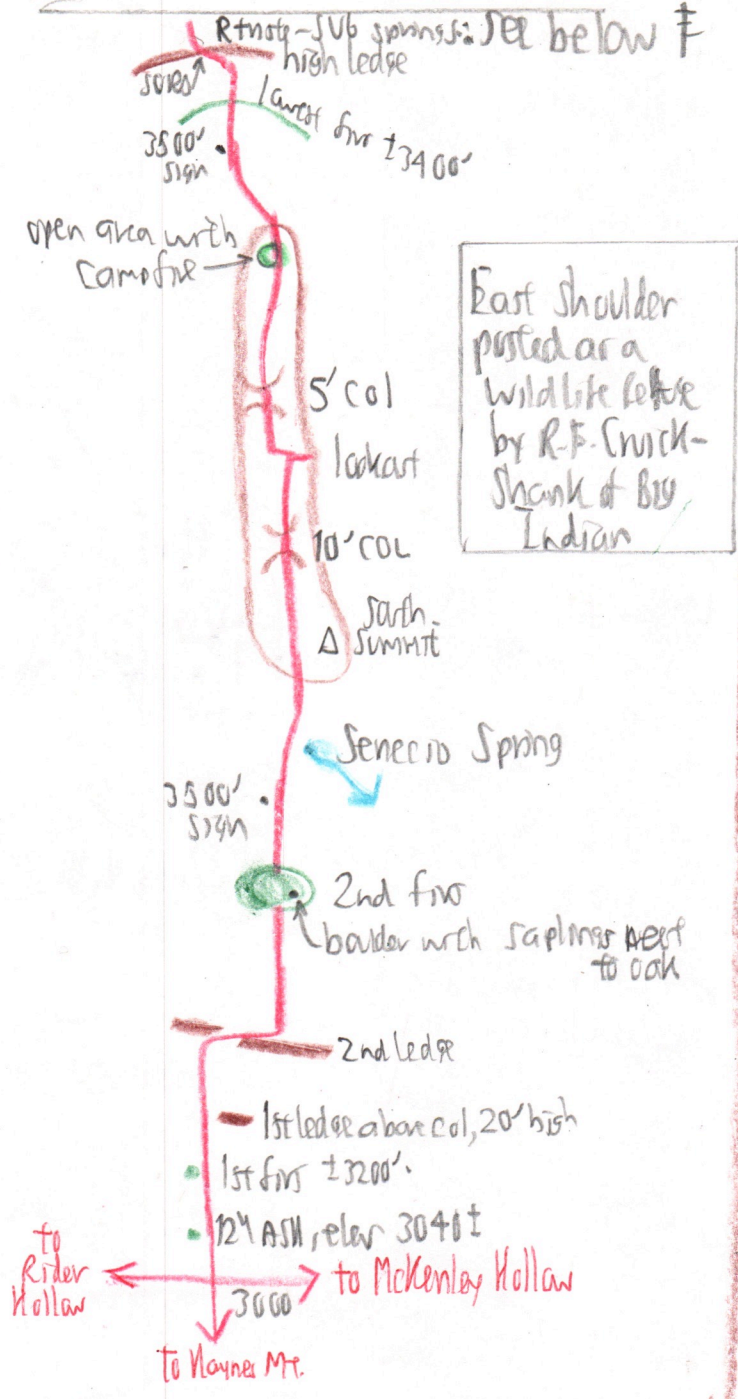
Σ 32, 61

$\bar{x} = 2.3, 4.7$

Compare with Balsam Lake + Graham Mt. Litter depths of 5/24/94



# Balsam Mtn. Trail Diagram



East shoulder posted as a wildlife refuge by R.F. Crick-Shank of Big Indian

## Miscellany 210-11

Does Windham High Peak line up over the col between N Domes Sherman? **(Yes)**  
 Does Huntshold line up over Deep Notch? **(No)** Tower Mt. does + Richmond Mt.  
 (From lookart)

## Mine Hollow

Common ASH just below JC - with Balsam - Bellefleur trail one above JC. 1 Sab seedling.

BASS just above top of Kemlock Grove ± 30" & 17" Bigtooths, W of trail all.

Mine Hollow Kemlock DBUS in grove.

36", 30", 30", 30" with one 36" below along trail Bigtooth & BASS below grove.

## People:

Charles Plate, Forest Ranger Arkville (on veg booth)

## ‡ R-trail Springs Flora:

SAMB in fl. can be smelled 30' away.

- |                         |          |
|-------------------------|----------|
| SUB dom                 | ALLIUM   |
| LAP                     | OSMO     |
| partly defoliated HYDRO | CAULO    |
| VC                      | ARIS     |
| OTC                     | R-TNTR   |
| MITELLA                 | Rlac     |
| ACTAEA                  |          |
| dry near but somewhat   | vivulets |

The "E" horizon is gray SS crumbled from above by hikers sprinkling on trail down a ledge. N slope of Balsam. Red till under the gray SS sprinkles