

Tupper seminar

Tuesday, January 29th we will have the symposium
The future of the Amazon: Impacts of deforestation and climate change
Auditorium, 9am to 1pm

Bambi seminar

Thursday, January 31st, Bambi seminar speaker will be David A. King
A comparison of the architecture of temperate and tropical trees

Arrivals

Seirian Summer, postdoctoral fellow from the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, Jan 29 - Jan 31, 2004, to study the genetics of caste determination in a primitive and advanced eusocial wasps, at Naos and BCI.

Mary Jane West-Eberhard, STRI Costa Rican project, Jan 29 - Feb 3, to meet with SI Science Commission members.

Director Ira Rubinoff, Jan 31 - Feb 6, to host visit of the SI Science Commission to STRI.

André Riveros, intern from Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Feb 1 - Apr 30, to work with Bill Wcislo and Elizabeth Capaldi on the relationship between brain development and social behavior in bees, at Gamboa.

Brenda Larison, Dominick Daurio and Nadine Lehrer, University of California at Los Angeles, Feb 1 - Apr 30, to study the alternative mating tactics in the Damsel fly, in Gamboa.



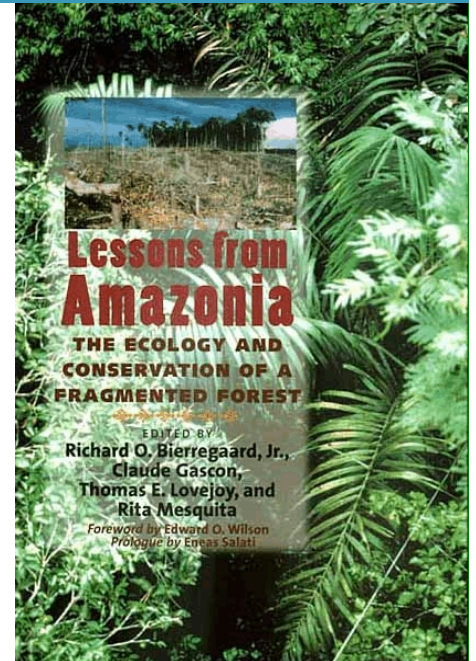
Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

www.stri.org

January 25, 2002

New book

A new book by Yale University Press, *Lessons from Amazonia: the ecology and conservation of a fragmented forest*, edited by Richard O. Bierregaard, Jr., Claude Gascon, Thomas E. Lovejoy, and Rita Mesquita, includes four chapters by STRI scientist Bill Laurance: "Deforestation and forest fragmentation in the Amazon" (with editors Gascon, and Bierregaard, and Judy Rankin-de Mérona), "The hyper-diverse flora of the Central Amazon: An overview", "Fragmentation and plant communities: Synthesis and implications for landscape management" and "Principles of forest fragmentation and conservation in the Amazon" (with Bierregaard, Gascon, Julieta Benitez-Malvido, Philip M. Fearnside, Carlos R. Fonseca, Gislene Ganade, Jay R. Malcolm, Marlúcia B. Martins, Scott Mori, Márcio Oliveira, Rankin-de Mérona, Aldicir Scariot, Wilson Spironello, and Bruce Williamson). The STRI bookstores will sell this book shortly. To reserve a copy please contact the bookstore at at 212-8029.



Un libro recién publicado por Yale University Press, *Lessons from Amazonia: the ecology and conservation of a fragmented forest* [Lecciones de la Amazonía: ecología y conservación de un bosque fragmentado], editado por Richard O. Bierregaard, Jr., Claude Gascon, Thomas E. Lovejoy, y Rita Mesquita, incluye cuatro capítulos por el científico Bill Laurance, de STRI: "Deforestación y fragmentación de bosques en el Amazonas (con los editores Gascon, y Bierregaard, y Judy Rankin-de Mérona)", "La flora hiper-diversa del Amazonas central: un resumen", "Fragmentación y comunidades de plantas: síntesis y aplicaciones para el manejo del paisaje" y "Principios de fragmentación de bosques y conservación en el Amazonas" (con Bierregaard, Gascon, Julieta Benitez-Malvido, Philip M. Fearnside, Carlos R. Fonseca, Gislene Ganade, Jay R. Malcolm, Marlúcia B. Martins, Scott Mori, Márcio Oliveira, Rankin-de Mérona, Aldicir Scariot, Wilson Spironello, y Bruce Williamson). El libro se venderá próximamente en las librerías de STRI. Para reservar una copia, favor comunicarse con la librería al tel. 212-8029.

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In order to inform a wider audience about research underway at STRI, we have subscribed to the AAAS electronic bulletin board for science journalists, <http://www.Eurekalert.com>. The subscription entitles designated STRI public information officers to post an unlimited number of press releases including research news releases and announcements of new books, grants, meetings, awards and press conferences. Up to 60 researchers working at STRI may also choose to list themselves as experts on a database for journalists seeking people to comment on specific subjects. When a press release about an upcoming journal article is submitted, it will only be accessible to registered journalists until the embargo is lifted, when the release will appear on the public information page of the site. If you are interested in featuring an event or publication, please send an e-mail to STRINFO@tivoli.si.edu or contact Mónica Alvarado at 212-8023

More arrivals

Janet Gorrell and Willa Veber, Eastern Kentucky University, Feb 1 - Aug 1, to study dusky antbird territory size and stability, in Gamboa.

Gene Morton, SI National Zoological Park Feb 1-9, to do research on "Why tropical birds are different: sex roles, nesting synchrony, and extra-pair mating, in Gamboa.

Departures

Klaus Winter, Feb 2-16, to Germany, on vacation.

Condolence

To Diomedes Quintero Arias, for the death of his father, Diomedes Quintero Rodríguez, on January 18.

Congratulations!

To Gabriela Jones at the Center for Tropical Paleoecology and Archaeology, Ancon, for obtaining her bachelor's degree in Graphic Design with honors. Her thesis is a proposal for educational audiovisual material for STRI's Marine Exhibitions Center in Culebra, for students from the interior of the country.

New publications

Heckadon-Moreno, Stanley. 2002. "Una niña en la construcción del Canal: Kathryn Diekers Brewer." "Epocas" Segunda Era (Supplement to *La Prensa*) 17(1): 10-11.

Jorge-Nebert, Lucía F., Eichelbaum, Michel, Griese, Ernst-U., Inaba, Ted and Arias, Tomás D. 2002. "Analysis of six SNPs of NAT2 in Ngawe and Embera Amerindians of Panama and determination of the Embera acetylation phenotype using caffeine." *Pharmacogenetics* 12(1): 39-48

Science

Where is the greatest biodiversity?

A research team led by STRI researcher Richard Condit (with Nigel Pitman, Egbert G. Leigh, Jr., Jerome Chave, John Terborgh, Robin B. Foster, Percy Núñez V., Salomón Aguilar, Renato Valencia, Gorky Villa, Helene C. Muller-Landau, Elizabeth Losos and Stephen P. Hubbell) just published the article "Beta-diversity in tropical forest trees" in *Science* (vol 295, no. 5555, pp. 666-669) comparing tropical forest composition in Panama and the Amazonia. According to the authors, beta-diversity is higher in Panama than in western Amazonia. Forests on the Isthmus of Panama change dramatically in tree species composition from one site to the next. Forests just 50km apart in Panama are less alike than forests 1,400 km apart in the western Amazon. As a result of such high landscape variation, parts of Panama have as many or even more tree species that parts of Amazonia.

Se necesitan Guías para Barro Colorado

El Programa de Visitantes del Monumento Natural de Barro Colorado requiere los servicios de dos guías. Las personas deben estar familiarizadas con la labor que realiza STRI en la Isla de Barro Colorado y tener conocimientos sobre historia natural del bosque tropical. Es imprescindible ser bilingüe (español e inglés) y tener disponibilidad para trabajar en días de semana (martes, miércoles o viernes). Estos servicios profesionales como guías serán remunerados a razón de B/.50.00 por día guiado. Los interesados deberán enviar un resumen de su Hoja de Vida a la Oficina de Educación del Smithsonian (atención: Jorge Ventocilla) a más tardar el viernes 1 de febrero o al e-mail ventocij@tivoli.si.edu.

Reminder

STRI staff, visiting scientists, fellows, interns, etc. are expected to wear STRI IDs at all times, even when attending social events within the STRI premises.



(Photo: Marcos A. Guerra, 1990)

Rainforest connection

Now all Spanish speaking kids can talk to a real live scientist working with animals on BCI. Starting on January 22, kids can log to the The Rainforest Connection at <http://www.csam.montclair.edu/ceterms/rainforest/RFC2002/RFC-02d.html> to follow the conversation. STRI visiting scientists Jacqueline Giacalone and Gregory Willis from Montclair State University developed this tool in 1999 to communicate with school kids while monitoring big mammals on BCI. The site, supported by Montclair State University and STRI, includes a map of BCI, tips for teachers, color photos and great links to more sites on the rainforests.

Ahora todos niños de habla hispana pueden hablar con un científico real que trabaja con animales en en BCI. A partir del 22 de enero los niños pueden conectarse a The Rainforest Connection en <http://www.csam.montclair.edu/ceterms/rainforest/RFC2002/RFC-02d.html> para seguir la conversación. Jacqueline Giacalone y Gregory Willis, científicos visitantes de Montclair State University desarrollaron esta herramienta en 1999, para comunicarse con escolares mientras monitoreaban mamíferos grandes en BCI. El sitio, que cuenta con el apoyo de Montclair State University y STRI, incluye un mapa de BCI, datos para maestros, fotografías a colores y magníficos enlaces a otros sitios para conocer más sobre los bosques lluviosos.

Miscellaneous

Room-mate wanted to share very nice apartment in Albrook starting March 1. Proximity to Tupper and Naos. Please call Renate at 212-8730 or email spnerr@naos.si.edu

February b'days

Fernando Santos-Granero	1
Mireya Correa	6
Gilberto Batista	6
Gloria Zelaya	7
Ernesto Cordovez	7
Karl Kaufmann	8
Enrique Martínez	9
Roberto Borrell	10
Luis Carlos Lopez	10
Alberto Isaac Castillo	12
Isis Ivancic	12
Santos Lemos	13
Georgina de Alba	15
Edwin Andrades	16
Gilberto Murray	16
Eliás Murillo	16
Walter Dillon	18
Rigoberto Blake	23
Ernesto Camarena	26
Vielka Chang-Yau	29