

STRI newsletter

AUGUST 24, 1990

SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, Apartado 2072, Balboa, Panamá

No. 34

SEMINARS

Tupper Center Auditorium

Tuesday, August 28, no noon seminar speaker will be scheduled.

NEXT WEEK

Tuesday, September 4, noon seminar speaker will be James Quinn, University of California at Davis.

Habitat fragmentation, species diversity and extinction.

PEOPLE

Arrivals

■ 52 experts from 10 countries, August 26 - 31, to participate in Congress on "Non-imperial politics in the lands visited by Christopher Columbus during his four voyages to the New World" to be held in the Tupper Center.

Departures

♦ August 28 - October 14, Argelis Roman, to Guatemala to attend workshop on conservation, planning and management of Guatemala's cultural and natural heritage in the Maya Biosphere Reserve in Peten.

EVENTS

Congreso sobre Las Sociedades No-Imperiales en los Países Visitados por Cristobal Colón durante sus Cuatro Viajes al Nuevo Mundo

Lugar: Auditorio del Centro Tupper

27 de agosto--

2:00 p.m. Inaguración. Palabras de bienvenida de los Dres. I. Rubinoff y R. Cooke.

3:00 p.m. Conferencia Inaugural. *El impacto de la invasión española sobre las comunidades indígenas de la cuenca del Caribe.* Dr. Jalil Sued Badillo, U. de Puerto Rico - Río Piedras.

28 - 31 de agosto--

8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Presentación de trabajos de investigación.

1. *El ambiente natural en vísperas de la conquista.*

Moderador: Warwick Bray (Univ. de Londres). Se presentarán evaluaciones del impacto humano sobre la flora y fauna desde un punto de vista histórico y regional. Algunas ponencias procurarán determinar hasta que punto factores geográficos y ecológicos pudieran haber influido en el nivel de complejidad social de las comunidades visitadas por Colón y en el tipo de resistencia que éstas lograrán ofrecer a los invasores.

2. *El desarrollo exógeno y endógeno: una evaluación multidisciplinaria.* Moderador: Tomás Arias (Univ. de Panamá). En esta sesión, participarán genetistas, lingüistas y arqueólogos. Se evaluarán las diferentes hipótesis que atañen a la continuidad y discontinuidad cultural, migraciones y difusión demica y cultural. Se hará especial énfasis en los grupos de habla chibcha, arawaca y caribe a fin de establecer si las filogenias propuestas por los genetistas y lingüistas corresponden a los datos arqueológicos.

3. *¿Tribus o cacicazgos?* Moderador: Charles Spencer (Univ. de Connecticut). Los arqueólogos no se cansan de escribir prolijamente sobre este tema. Sin embargo, la especulación y las analogías desordenadas suelen prevalecer sobre las evaluaciones cuidadosas de los datos arqueológicos. Se presentarán diferentes opiniones sobre el grado de complejidad social que existía en vísperas de la Conquista en los países visitados por Colón.

4. *El impacto diferencial de la conquista en las comunidades indígenas.* Moderador: Luz Joly (Política Indigenista, Ministerio de Gobierno y Justicia, Panamá). La colonización europea afectó a las comunidades indígenas en formas muy diferentes. Algunas desaparecieron rápidamente, otras fueron diezimadas por las epidemias antes de que llegaran los españoles; algunas se rindieron, otras se resistieron a la invasión. Se presentarán análisis regionales de los efectos diferenciales de la colonización, tanto donde la población indígena desapareció o fue mestizada, como en regiones donde las culturas amerindias han logrado mantener cierto grado de independencia.

Se les invita a todos los científicos permanentes y visitantes, estudiantes y personal administrativo a asistir a este evento. Las ponencias se presentarán en inglés o español. Habrá un programa detallado en el mural del Centro Tupper.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Anuncio Importante / Important Announcement

Se cita por este medio a todos los empleados federales, de fondos privados y contratistas de STRI a una corta reunión informativa para ampliar sobre las últimas instrucciones recibidas referentes al presupuesto del año 1991, según el siguiente horario:

- para empleados de Tupper y Tívoli, martes 28 de agosto, 3:00 p.m., Patio Tupper (bajo el árbol)
- para empleados de BCI, miércoles 29 de agosto, 8:30 a.m., Salón de Reuniones de BCI
- para empleados de Naos y Galeta, jueves 30 de agosto, 3:00 p.m., Salón de Reuniones de Naos

All Federal, trust fund and contract STRI employees are requested to attend a short briefing to expand on recent developments pertaining to the 1991 budget, as per the following schedule:

- for Tupper and Tivoli employees, Tuesday August 28, 3 p.m., Tupper courtyard (under the tree)
- for BCI employees, Wednesday August 29, 8:30 a.m., BCI Meeting Room
- for Naos and Galeta employees, Thursday, August 30, 3 p.m., Naos Meeting Room.

New Employee

Shawn McCafferty will be replacing Laura Beal as Senior Biological Technician with Dr. E. Birmingham starting August 26, 1990. Mr. McCafferty has a M.S. in Marine Environmental Sciences from SUNY at Stony Brook, N.Y. and a B.S. in Zoology from North Carolina State University.

Research Assistant Available

Helen Dallas (Ben-Jurion University of the Negev, The Jacob Blaustein Institute for Desert Research, Sede Boker Campus, Israel 84993) is interested in working at STRI for 3 to 12 months in 1991. She is currently working on thermoregulatory behavior and nest site selection by the desert widow spider with Dr. Yael Lubin, as part of a Jacob Blaustein studentship/traineeship.

Ms. Dallas has a B. S. Honours degree from Rhodes University, South Africa, obtained in 1987. From January 1988 to May 1989 she worked as a research assistant in the Desert Ecological Research Unit of Namibia, on plant-insect interactions of Namib shrubs, foraging efficiency of harvester ants, ecology and physiology of the desert snail *Trigonephrus* sp. She also did photographic work and the production and editing of the Institute's journal.

Results of STRI Research at Ecological Society of America Meeting

The following abstracts of work done at STRI were presented at the 75th Annual Ecological Society of America Meeting, 29 July - August 2, 1990.

- DeVries, P. J. Department of Zoology, University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78712, USA. The acoustic enhancement of symbioses between butterfly caterpillars and ants.
- Escobar-Paramo, Patricia. Universidad de los Andes, Bogota, Colombia. Social relations between infants and other group members in the black-capped Capuchin (*Cebus apella*) at Centro de Investigaciones Primatólogicas La Macarena, Colombia.
- Kitajima, Kaoru. University of Illinois, Urbana, IL 61801, USA. A morphology-function relationship in carbon balance of epigeal cotyledons of 12 tropical tree species.
- Machado, Jose Luis, Joseph Wright, *Stephen Mulkey and Alan P. Smith. Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panama. *University of Missouri, St. Louis, US. Effects of irrigation on stomatal conductance in leaves of *Psychotria* spp.
- Mulkey, S.S., S. J. Wright and A. P. Smith. University of Missouri, St. Louis, MO 63121, USA and Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. Gas exchange in seasonal leaf phenotypes of an understory shrub in a tropical moist forest.
- Smith, Alan P., Stephen Mulkey, S. Joseph Wright and Jose Luis Machado. Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute and University of Missouri, St. Louis, MO, USA. Life history and physiology of two tropical forest herb species.
- Wright, S. Joseph and T. A. Kursar. Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute and University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT. The maintenance of soil structure by seasonal drought in a tropical moist forest.
- Yavitt, Joseph B. and S. Joseph Wright. Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, 14853, USA and Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. Root growth and turnover in a tropical moist forest.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

From the Smithsonian Institution Information Resources Newsletter*(courtesy of C. Hansen)***PRINT DRIVERS**

Print drivers are now available from the Information Resources Center (IRC) Software Library at SI. Print drivers enable a word processor to communicate the correct instructions to a printer. Wordperfect Corp. supplies only the most common print drivers with packages of Wordperfect Versions 5.0 and 5.1. Usually PC users with less common and nonstandard printers must purchase the print driver from WordPerfect Corporation. However, to save the Smithsonian money and time, OIRM obtained copies of all 825 print drivers in existence directly from WordPerfect Corp. To obtain a copy of the necessary print driver, mail a disk to OIRM Help, A & I 2310, Smithsonian Institute, Washington, DC 20560. For more information, call (202) 357-Help.

SAS PC UPGRADE

The SAS PC Version 6.04 update is now available. To make your own copy you will need either six 3 1/2" or twenty-two 5 1/4" formatted diskettes.

SYSTAT

Version 4.2 upgrade of SYSTAT is now available. Version 4.2 contains no new software but fixes all problems encountered in version 4.1. The Network Compatible Version of SYSTAT is also available. Call David Dance (202) 357-4218 to obtain SAS or SYSTAT software.

INSTITUTIONAL LOGOS AVAILABLE

Institutional logos are now available for use on your PC printer. For further information, call Ralph Walker at (202) 357-4242

From Pierre Michel Forget, BCI

I have been contacted by the members of the plant-animal interaction group of the Mituzani Plant Ecochemical Project, located in Hokkaido (Japan), to explore the defensive mechanisms of neotropical plant species. The interest of this project lays on both ecological and chemical aspects, i.e. to study the chemical interactions between plants and other organisms of the ecosystem, especially seed-eater insects. The implications of these investigations are substantial for our knowledge of the New World

tropical forest, e.g. mutualism, coevolution and speciation, seed-dispersal and tree recruitment, insect and plant-host diversity, and ethnology, as well as for industrial production of natural repellent substances. Sample collect, shipment, bioassays and chemical investigations will be financed by the project. In order to test the validity of such a project in neotropical forests, actually a virgin land in this topic, preliminary studies will be conducted on the family of Meliaceae, a plant group that appeared to be rich in anti-insect compounds in Africa and Asia. For more details on this project, please contact P. M. Forget at BCI.

For Sale

Brian Keller has an extra copy of Roughgarden et al. *Perspectives in Ecological Theory*. If interested call Surfside.

World Rainforest Week

October 21-28 1990. IV Annual Celebration of the World-wide Movement to Save the Rainforest. A time for people throughout the world to focus attention on the need to save the tropical rainforest.

Activists and groups will organize grass-roots activities to increase awareness of the issues at stake and possible solutions. Groups are planning education exhibits, public talks, demonstrations, letter-writing campaigns, prayer vigils, film festivals, street theater, and much more. Anyone interested in participation should request a **World Rainforest Week Organizer's Packet** from Rainforest Action Network, 301 Broadway, Suite A, San Francisco, CA 94133, Tel: (415) 398-4404.

Por una Buena Causa . . .

Soroptimista Internacional anuncia la obra de teatro *Un Marido de Ida y Vuela*, el miércoles 19 de septiembre en el Teatro en Círculo, para recaudar fondos para proyectos de medio ambiente y labores sociales. El valor del boleto es de \$10.00; puede comprarle su boleto a Vielka Chang.

STRI LIBRARY NEW BOOK LIST

Atlas of Mexico (JB Pick et al, 1989) **G1545.P5 1989X STRI.**

Bioaccumulation of xenobiotic compounds (DW Connell, 1990) **QH545.X44C66 1990X STRI.**

The Biology of blue-green algae (NG Carr & BA Whitton, eds., 1973) **QK569.C96C37X STRI.**

Catalog of the Diptera of the Australasian and Oceanian regions (NL Evenhuis, ed., 1989) **QL534.C35 1989 STRI.**

A Catalogue of the lepidopterous insects in the museum of the Hon. East-India company (East India Company (English) Museum, London, 1857-59) **QL545.E13 STRI.**

Chemistry and enzymology of marine algal polysaccharides (E. Percival & RH McDowell, 1967) **QD321.P383 1967X STRI.**

Dictionary of microbiology (P. Singleton & D. Sainsbury, 1978) Ref **QR9.S56X STRI.**

Fish physiology (WS Hoar & DJ Randall, eds., 1969-) **QL639.1.H67 v.11A & 11B STRI.**

Gaia, the thesis, the mechanisms and the implications (P. Bunyard & E. Goldsmith, ed., 1988) **QH540.C182 1987 STRI.**

An Introduction to comparative arachnology (L. van der Hammen, 1989) **QL451.H22 1989 STRI.**

Lindenmayer systems, fractals, and plants (P. Prusinkiewicz & J. Hanan, 1989) **QH491.P78 1989X STRI**

Macroevolutionary dynamics : species, niches, and adaptive peaks (N. Eldredge, 1989) **QH366.2.E52 1989X STRI.**

Monograph of living chitons (P. Kaas & RA van Belle, 1985-) **QL430.1.k11M 1985 v.4 STRI.**

The National directory of addresses and telephone numbers. * National directory of addresses and telephone numbers (New York, N.Y.) Ref **E154.5.N26 STRI.**

Photosynthesis : molecular biology and bioenergetics : proceedings of the International Workshop on Application of Molecular Biology and Bioenergetics of Photosynthesis (International Workshop on Application of Molecular Biology and Bioenergetics of Photosynthesis (1988 : Jawaharlal Nehru University), 1989) **QK882.I612 1988 STRI.**

Physical chemistry for the life sciences (JR Barrante, 1977) **QD453.2.B36X STRI.**

A Synonymic catalogue of Homoptera (British Museum (Nat. Hist.) Dept. of Zoology, 1906-) **QL523.H7B83X STRI.**

Watershed research in eastern North America : a workshop to compare results : February 28-March 3, 1977 (Watershed Research Workshop, Chesapeake Bay Center for Environmental Studies, 1977), 1977) **GB980.W37 1977X STRI.**

MISCELLANY

Servicio de Técnico Cartográfico

Victor Samudio, técnico cartográfico, ofrece sus servicios profesionales para confección de mapas, gráficas, planos, flujogramas, organigramas, ampliaciones, reducciones, dibujo lineal y dibujo general. Los interesados pueden llamar al 28-2302 ó al 36-2444. Referencias: Prof. Mireya Correa o Dra. Noris Salazar.

El Manito Festival

PTY Tours, Inc. is organizing a tour to Ocu on August 31, September 1, 2, & 3, 1990 for the El Manito Festival. During this festival all the "campesinos" of the region come to the town of Ocu to celebrate a ceremonial mass wedding. Participants will also have the opportunity to enjoy rich Panamanian cuisine and there are plenty of handicraft shops, especially in La Arena.

Price: \$98.00 (2nights), \$115.00 (3 nights)

Children \$ 75.00

For more information contact PTY Tours at 69-2183.

HUMOR

"HE KEEPS RECORDS TO REMEMBER WHERE HE'S BURIED ALL HIS BONES."