

STRI newsletter

March 12, 1991

SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE - Apartado 2072, Balboa, Panama

No. 15

SEMINARS

Tupper Center Auditorium

Tuesday, April 16, noon seminar speaker will be David Lloyd, University of Canterbury, New Zealand.

Intra-family Conflicts

Abstract

Parental care and disabled individuals (those with reduced or zero fitness) are considered. The disabled individuals include a spectacular array of sterile, inviable, sacrificed or merely diverted sperm, eggs, pollen and seeds as well as sterile castes. In some of these situations, kin selection is invalid. The concept of parent-offspring cooperation has more heuristic value than that of parent-offspring conflict.

SPECIAL SEMINAR

BCI Seminar

On Friday, April 19, there will be an evening seminar at 7:30 p.m. given by David Lloyd, University of Canterbury. There will be a late boat back to Gamboa; those interested in attending should call Maritza Cárdenas on BCI.

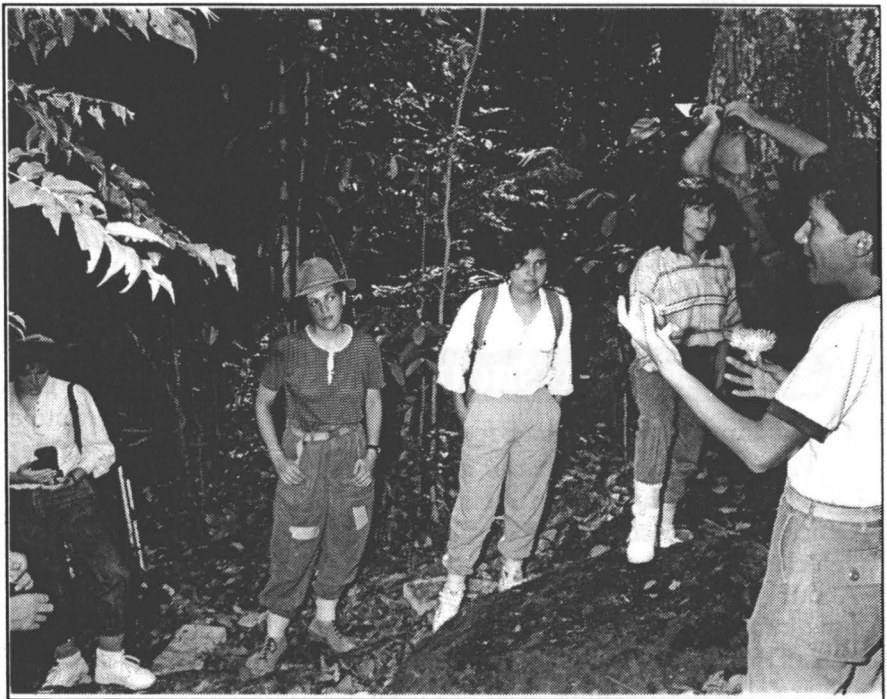
Plants of New Zealand

Abstract

Some general features of the reproductive biology of New Zealand plants are considered, including small, simple flowers adapted to generalized pollinators, frequent dioecy and fleshy fruits. Species selection during immigration has played an important role in determining the composition of the New Zealand biota.

Next Week

No noon seminar scheduled for April 23rd.



Nélida Gómez describes puff-like flowers of the "barrigón", pollinated at nights by bats. This was part of a visit by STRI Exxon fellows and interns to Barro Colorado Island last Friday, Apr 5 ••• Nélida Gómez describe las flores en forma de motas de maquillaje del árbol "barrigón" que son polinizadas en las noches por los murciélagos. Esto fue parte de la visita que realizaron a Barro Colorado becarios de Exxon el pasado viernes 5 de abril.

(Foto: M.A. Guerra)

PEOPLE

Arrivals

- Piedad Montaña, Centro Internacional de Agricultural Tropical, Cali, Colombia, Apr 14-16, to visit the STRI Library and to consult with Panamanian members of the Asociación Interamericana de Bibliotecarios y Documentalistas Agrícolas, as president of the association.
- David Lloyd, Univ of Canterbury, New Zealand, Apr 15-21, to visit STRI and present seminar.
- Bernard Goffinet, Univ of Alberta, Apr 15-May 30, to study the geographic distribution and ecological preferences of the epiphytic moss *Macromitrium* in a Panamanian montane forest.
- Melvin Tyree, Univ of Vermont, Apr 15-24, to work on the evolution and structure of terrestrial ecosystems at BCI. Mrs. Loeta Tyree will accompany Dr. Tyree on this visit.

Departures

- Apr 13-24, Ira Rubinoff, STRI Director, to attend meetings of the Charles Darwin Foundation in Luxembourg, then to Oxford, U.K. to consult with Jeremy Jackson and other colleagues, and to Washington, D.C. to meet with Dr. Hoffmann.
- Apr 18-Jul 1, Hector Gúzman, to attend the meetings of the International Ocean Technology Conference in Glasgow, Scotland, and to take classes at the University of Newcastle.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Speed Limit on the Amador Causeway ••• *Limite de Velocidad en la Calzada de Amador*

Once again we have been informed by officials of the Offices of Tourism and External Relations that STRI vehicles have been speeding on the Amador Causeway. At our request, employees of the Amador Causeway are now informing us of the date and license plate number of cars that violate the speed limit. With this information we are able to determine who has been speeding.

Unfortunately certain STRI employees have chosen not to obey the speed limit or comply with past requests that they do so. Violation of the speed limit seriously threatens our privilege to access Naos Island by car and even our use of Naos Island for a laboratory.

Therefore, from this day onward the following policy will apply:

- If you are driving a STRI vehicle and are caught speeding on the Amador Causeway, your license to drive U.S. Government Vehicles will be revoked and you will not be permitted to drive a STRI vehicle for any reason for one year.
- If you are speeding in your personal vehicle, your supervisor will be informed. He or she will take appropriate disciplinary action. If you are a repeat violator we will request that the Policia Nacional take appropriate action.
- If you have MI status through the Institute and are a repeat violator your MI status will be revoked.

Please see John Christy or Mercedes Arosemena if you have any questions.

•••

Nuevamente hemos sido informados por las autoridades de la Oficina de Turismo y Relaciones Exteriores correspondientes, que algunos vehículos de STRI han excedido los límites de velocidad en la Calzada de Amador. Cumpliendo con nuestra solicitud, los empleados de la Calzada de Amador nos informan la fecha y número de

placa de los automóviles que violan los límites de velocidad. Dicha información nos permite determinar quién está violando la ley.

Desafortunadamente ciertos funcionarios de STRI han decidido no obedecer los límites de velocidad ni cumplir con anteriores solicitudes al respecto. La violación de los límites de velocidad pone en serio peligro nuestro privilegio de acceso con vehículos a la Isla de Naos y hasta el uso de la Isla de Naos como Laboratorio.

Por lo tanto a partir de la fecha se aplicará el siguiente reglamento:

- Si usted está conduciendo un vehículo de STRI y es visto excediendo los límites de velocidad en la Calzada de Amador, le será anulado su permiso de conducir vehículos del Gobierno Norteamericano y no le será permitido conducir, por ningún motivo, vehículos de STRI por un período de un año.
- Si Ud. excede los límites de velocidad mientras conduce su vehículo personal, su supervisor será informado. El (ella) tomará la apropiada acción disciplinaria. Si Ud. es un violador recurrente nosotros solicitaremos a la Policia Nacional que tome la medida correspondiente.
- Si usted tiene status MI en el Instituto y es un violador recurrente, su status de MI será anulado.

Por favor comuníquese con John Christy o Mercedes Arosemena si tiene alguna pregunta.

Delegation of Authority

During Leonor Motta's absence, Carlos Urbina will be Acting Executive Officer from April 8 through April 19, 1991.

Reminder About Recycling Paper

In our last batch of recycling paper, we found that color paper, paper clips, staples, paper towels & inter-dept. envelopes were sent for recycling. Please remember that only white paper, without paper clips or staples is accepted. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Honor for STRI Staff

Mary Jane West-Eberhard was recently named *President elect* of the Society for the Study of Evolution, whose current president is S. J. Gould.

Update on Deadlines

For Seidell Endowment Fund - Apr 15
James Smithson Society - Apr 24

STRI NEW PUBLICATIONS

Adams, Eldridge S. 1991. "Nest-Mate Recognition Based on Heritable Odors in the Termite *Microcerotermes arboreus*." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 88: 2031-2034.

Robinson, Michael H. 1991. "A Mecca for Tropical Biologists." *The World and I*: March 1991: 299-307. Bryophytes, their chemistry and chemical taxonomy (HD Zinsmeister & R. Mues, eds., 1990)

Sanjur Fonseca, Oris Imperio. 1991. Estudio del Cariotipo de Cuatro Especies de Peces Pomacéntridos (Pomacentridae, Pisces) del Pacífico de Panamá y Algunas Consideraciones Evolutivas. Tesis, Universidad de Panamá.

STRI LIBRARY NEW BOOKS

Chrysophytes: developments and perspectives: proceedings of the Second International Chrysophyte Symposium, 3.-5. August 1987, Berlin / Edited by J. Kristianse, G. Cronberg and U. Geissler (International Chrysophyte Symposium (2nd: 1987: Berlin, Germany)

QK569.C63I61 1989 STRI.

Elsevier's Dictionary of horticultural and agricultural plant production: in ten languages, English, Dutch, French, German, Danish, Swedish, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, and Latin / compiled under the auspices of the International Society for Horticultural Science, Wageningen, The Netherlands with cooperation of the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Management, and Fisheries, The Hague, The Netherlands

Ref SB317.58.E46 1990X STRI.

From: *365 Ways to save our planet* • Page-a-day calendar

RECYCLING

Conserving resources is the most apparent benefit of recycling, but only the first of many. Manufacturing from recycled materials uses less energy than making goods from raw materials, so it slows global warming and diminishes acid rain. It also reduces the amount of trash headed for landfills, and that's critical: in three years half our cities will run out of dump space. And because recycling minimizes the need to exploit new resources, it limits damage to remaining wilderness. It's something we all can do.

Fundamentals of molecular evolution (Li, WH & D. Graur, 1991) QH325.L65 1991X STRI.

Nature reserves: island theory and conservation practice (CL Shafer, 1990) QH75.S474 1990X STRI.

Nitrogen in terrestrial ecosystems: questions of productivity, vegetational changes, and ecosystem stability (CO Tamm, 1990) QH344.T36 1990X STRI.

Population dynamics of forest insects (AD Watt ... et al., eds., 1990) SB761.P83 1990 STRI.

Proceedings of the Second International Conference on Quantitative Genetics / edited by BS Weir ... et al. (International Conference on Quantitative Genetics (2nd: 1987: Raleigh, N.C.), 1988) QH542.7.I58 1987X STRI.

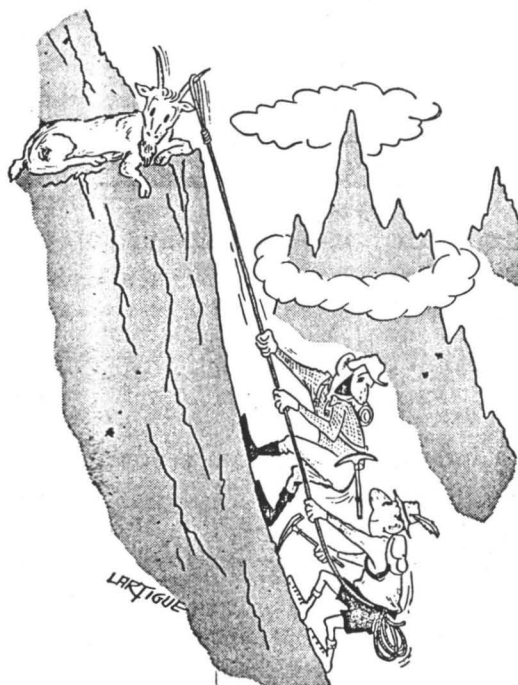
Radiocarbon dating (S. Bowman, 1990) CC78.B68 1990X STRI.

Teaching sign language to chimpanzees (RA Gardner et al., eds., 1989) QL737.P96T42 1989X STRI.

Textiles of the Kuna Indians of Panama (H. Puls, 1988) F1565.3.T49P98 1988 STRI.

••• New journal volume received •••

Methods in Microbiology, vol.22: Techniques in microbial ecology, R. Grigorova & JR Norris, eds., 1990
Serial section.



"Not Even Mountain Goats Venture This High"