

# STRI newsletter

July 19, 1991

SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE - Apartado 2072, Balboa, Panama

No. 29

## TUPPER CENTER SEMINARS

### Scientific Seminars

No noon seminar scheduled for Tuesday, Jul 23.

### Next Week

Tuesday, Jul 30, noon seminar speaker will be Cynthia Sagers, University of Utah. Seminar title to be announced.

### Conferencia General

El miércoles, 24 de julio, se dictará una conferencia sobre *Prevención contra el Cólera*, por la Dra. Rosalía Quintero, Departamento de Epidemiología de la Caja del Seguro Social.

## PEOPLE

### Arrivals

- Joseph Wright returned to STRI this week from Duke University, with his wife Claudia Campbell and sons Adam and Jessie, after a one-year sabbatical.
- Ernesto Weil, University of Texas, Jul 26-Sep 25, on a short-term visitor fellowship to complete research on *Monastrea* corals at Naos.

### Departures

- Jorge Ventocilla, STRI Office of Education and Conservation, Jul 14-22, to participate in a conference on the Andean Tropical Zone in Pasto, Colombia.
- Nereida Hernández and Ana Luisa de la Espada, STRI secretaries, Jul 20-25, to Dallas, Texas, to attend the meetings of the Professional Secretaries International Convention.
- Nélica Gómez, BCI scientific coordinator, Jul 20-31, to Chicago, to attend the annual meeting of the American Society of Pharmacognosy and present poster.

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*Arcadio Rodaniche shows corals growing in a tide pool to children from Curundu Elementary School, who visited the Naos Marine Laboratory. Students from elementary and secondary schools throughout Panama are regularly visiting the aquaria and tide pool at Naos, and taking a guided nature walk to Culebra Island ••• Arcadio Rodaniche muestra a los niños de la Escuela Primaria de Curundu, que visitaron el Laboratorio Marino de Naos, los corales que crecen en una piscina de mareas. Estudiantes de escuelas primarias y secundarias de todo Panamá visitan regularmente los acuarios y la piscina de mareas en Naos y luego siguen el camino hasta Isla Culebra con un guía.*

(Foto: M.A. Guerra)

- Klaus Winter, STRI scientist, Jul 21-28, to Wurzburg, Germany, to consult with colleagues and attend meetings of the German Grants Committee.
- Alan Smith, STRI scientist, Jul 23-29, to attend the Global Change Crosscut Meetings in Washington, D.C. and consult with colleagues at the University of Miami.

## THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

### New Galeta Address

The new APO address for the Galeta Marine Laboratory, as of July 15, is Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Unit 1520, APO AA 34005.

### For Tupper Personnel

Monday, July 22, the Tupper Staff Lounge and Meeting Rooms will be unavailable to users since the rugs will be cleaned that day. The mail will be distributed to your office and the photocopier in Procurement will be available for that day.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Tupper Center Events

Jul 26 Meeting of Fundación NATURA.

### Assistant Available

John Withey is interested in working as an assistant at STRI. Mr. Withey has a BA in Biology from Pomona College and research experience from Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, studying the distribution of larval transport of bryozoans. He can speak, read and write Spanish and has computer skills. Mr. Withey will be available by mid-August. If interested please contact him at 1633 36th. Ave., Seattle, WA 98122. Tel: 206-324-1871.

## FROM OTHER SOURCES

### Environmental Aftershocks of Earthquake

*from the Tropical Conservation Newsbureau*

The powerful earthquake that rocked Costa Rica and Panama on April 22nd killed more than a 100 people and left thousands homeless. Buildings and bridges collapsed, and roads split open.

Perhaps the most surprising and lasting effects of the "terremoto" are ecological. The Caribbean coastline along the narrow waist of the Central American Isthmus has been forever altered. Scientists have just begun to take stock of the changes.

The quake actually raised the shoreline, leaving boats stranded and fish flopping on newly exposed beach. Seaside homeowners suddenly found they had yards of new beach property. According to initial estimates, the coast of Costa Rica and northern Panama is as much as six feet higher in some places.

The Caribbean lowlands of Costa Rica and Panama are extremely wet: some areas receive 20 feet of rain a year. The area is laced with rivers, some of which were dramatically altered when the coastline lifted. Limon, Costa Rica's eastern port city, found itself suddenly awash in its own sewage. With 62,000 inhabitants and no sewage treatment plants, Limon, like most Caribbean towns, relies on gravity and the sea to carry away its wastes. But now the lay of the land is causing the city's black water to accumulate, greatly increasing the risk of contagious disease.

"Many rivers have been blocked by landslides," an advisor to the Costa Rica minister of natural resources explains. "As water builds up behind these obstructions, it may eventually break loose with destructive force."

In other cases, environmentalists are concerned about the lack of water. The coral reef bordering Costa Rica's

Cahuita National Park was pushed up above the water line, exposing it to killing sun.

People living on the once-tranquil bays and islands of Panama's northeastern coast took the brunt of the quake and are now coping with an environment altered by floods and landslides as well as the loss of homes and services.

## LETTERS FROM EXHIBIT VISITORS

Dear Ms. Leigh:

I enjoyed the tour you gave us. I had fun! Thanks. Thank your son too. I enjoyed the slides and the rap. I enjoyed seeing the animals. I had fun learning for the first time in a long time. Thanks! Maybe I will bring my family next time I come. I told them all about it, they seemed interested. Well I have to go and thanks again. From, Cheryl A. Stanford, Los Rios Elementary School, 6th Grade.

...

I would like to say  
In a merry way  
What for the while  
Made us smile  
For it was fun  
To be on the run

At the Smithsonian Institute today!!

Sean R. Evans, Los Rios Elementary School, 6th Grade.

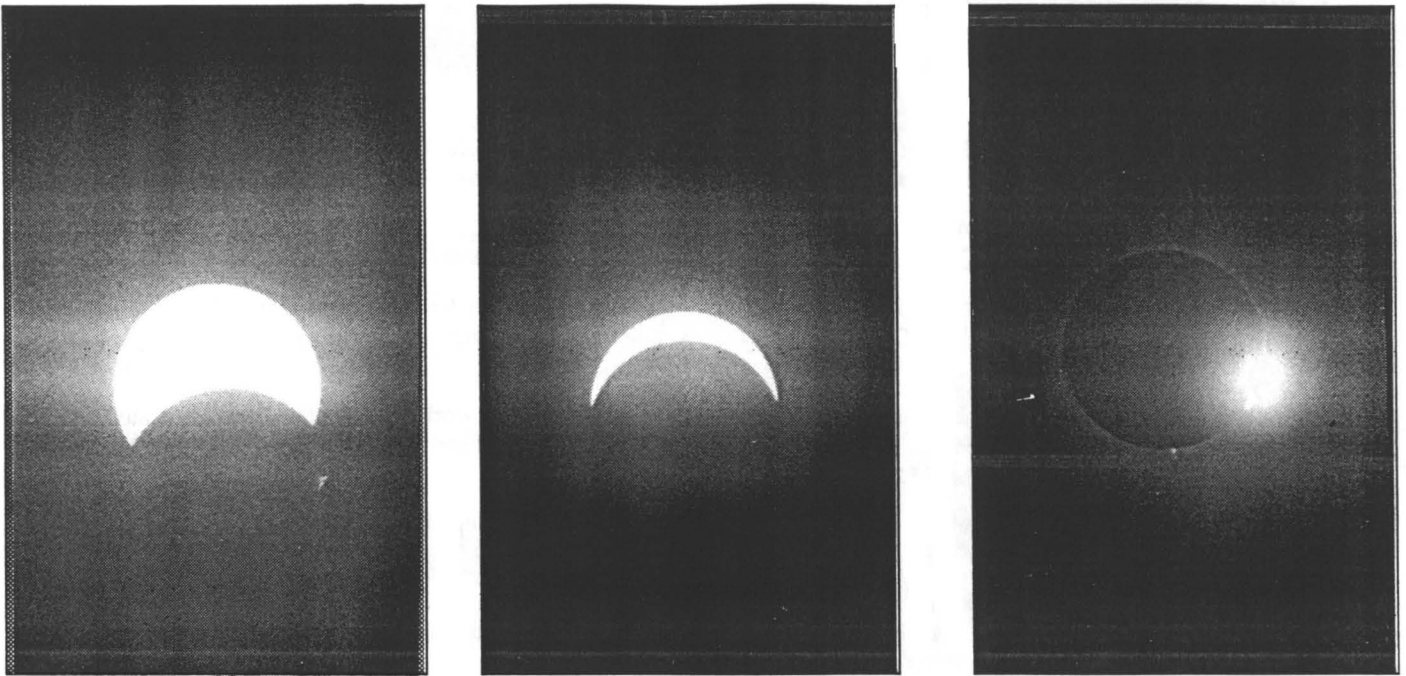
...

Thank you for letting us come to the Smithsonian. The part I liked seeing was the animal pictures and seeing the Pacas. I will probably come again to do some research. Sincerely, Doug Barfiendt, Los Rios Elementary School, 6th Grade.

...

Save our Rainforest: Panama will be a big Desert by the year 2000 if people don't stop deforestation!!!





A sequence of photographs taken on July 11, 1991, show the total solar eclipse, as seen from Las Tablas, Los Santos Province. The sun was completely covered for approximately 7 minutes, but in different parts of Panama it was seen for less time. The last photo shows the total eclipse with sun flares dramatically visible ••• Esta secuencia de fotografías tomadas el 11 de julio de 1991, muestran el eclipse solar total, como fué visto en Las Tablas, Provincia de los Santos. El sol fué cubierto en su totalidad por 7 minutos, pero en diferentes lugares de Panamá se apreció por menos tiempo. La última foto muestra el eclipse total con dramáticos destellos solares.

(Fotos: C.C. Hansen)

### STRI NEW PUBLICATIONS

- Guzmán, Héctor M. 1991. "Restoration of Coral Reefs in Pacific Costa Rica." *Conservation Biology* 5(2): 189-195.
- Kirkpatrick, Mark and Ryan, Michael J. 1991. "The Evolution of Mating Preferences and the Paradox of the Lek." *Nature* 350(6313): 33-38.
- Smythe, Nicholas. 1991. "Steps Toward Domesticating the Paca (*Agouti* = *Cuniculus paca*) and Prospects for the Future." In: *Neotropical Wildlife Use and Conservation*: 202-216, edited by John G. Robinson and Kent H. Redford. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.
- Werner, Dagmar I. 1991. "The Rational Use of Green Iguanas." In: *Neotropical Wildlife Use and Conservation*: 181-201, edited by John G. Robinson and Kent H. Redford. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.
- Wiley Jr., John P. 1991. "Phenomena, Comment and Notes." *Smithsonian* 22(3): 29-32.
- Wolda, Henk. 1991. "The Usefulness of the Equilibrium Concept in Population Dynamics. A Reply to Berryman." *Oecologia* 86: 144-145.

### I Simposio Internacional de Ecología Tropical Amazónica

Organizado por la Universidad Nacional de la Amazonia Peruana, del 3 al 8 de noviembre de 1991, Iquitos Perú. Para mayores informes comuníquese con la Bióloga M.S. Janeth Braga Vega, Presidenta de la Comisión Organizadora, Universidad Nacional de la Amazonia Peruana, Jirón Próspero No. 584 -Altos, Apartado Postal 496, Teléfonos (094) 235351 / 233657, Fax: 005194-233657.

#### From: 365 Ways to Save our Planet

##### • Page-a-Day Calendar •

That leaky faucet is annoying enough, but it'll drive you really crazy when you know just how expensive it is. At a drop per second, it can spill 2,500 gallons a year. If you heat water electrically, a 10¢ washer replacement could save you \$40 in heating costs.

## STRI NEW BOOKLIST

The Birds of Japan (M. Brazil, 1991)

QL691.J3B82 1991 STRI.

Culture and Society: contemporary debates (JC Alexander & S. Seidman, eds., 1990)

HN101.C8955 1990X STRI.

Food hoarding in animals (SB Vander Wall, 1990)

QL756.5.V36 1990X STRI.

Freshwater Ostracods: keys and notes for the identification of the species (PA Henderson, 1990)

QL444.O8H497 1990 STRI.

Inventario y estudio taxonómico del género *Anolis* (Sauria, iguanidae), en la fase II del área de embalse de la hidroeléctrica Edwin Fábrega (FA Arosemena, 1989-1990)

QL666.L25A76 1990a STRI.

Inventory of the natural resources of sandy beaches in southern California (D. Straughan, 1982)

QH105.C2S794 1982X STRI.

Language variation in South Asia (W. Bright, 1990)

PL4603.B7 1990X STRI.

Leaf venation patterns (EP Klucking, 1986)

QK649.K66v.51986 STRI.

Lessons learned in global environmental governance (PH Sand, 1990)

TD170.2.S313 1990 STRI.

Man & beast revisited / Michael H. Robinson and Lionel Tiger, editors

QL85.M28 1991X STRI.

A Manual for analysis of hemispherical canopy photography (PM Rich, 1989)

SD387.S53R49 1989 STRI.

A Manual for microcomputer image analysis (PM Rich, 1989)

TK8315.R49 1989 STRI.

Monitoring the abundance of butterflies, 1976-1985 (E. Pollard, 1986)

QL555.G7P77 1986 STRI.

Moundbuilders of the Amazon: geophysical archaeology on Marajo Island, Brazil (AC Roosevelt, 1991)

F2519.1.M35R66 1991X STRI.

Personhood and agency: the experience of self and other in African cultures / edited by Michael Jackson and Ivan Karp

GN645.P46 1990 STRI.

The Pigs that ate the garden: a human ecology from Papua New Guinea (PD Dwyer, 1990)

DU740.2.D89 1990X STRI.

The Population dynamics of the Mucajai Yanomama (JD Early, 1990)

F2520.1.Y3E27 1990 STRI.

A Preliminary report of the tropical African geomorphology and late-Quaternary palaeoenvironmental research project 9TAGELA-QP) 1987/88 / edited by Hiroshi Kadomura; contributing authors, Mike G. Bingham ... [et al.]

QH541.5.P7P92 1989 STRI.

Proceedings of the International Symposium on Biology and Management of Mangroves (International Symposium on Biology and Management of Mangroves (1974: Honolulu), 1975)

QK495.R46I61 1974 v.2 STRI.

Qilakitsoq. English. The Greenland mummies / edited by Jens Peder Hart Hansen, Jorgen Meldgaard and Jorgen Nordqvist.

E99.E7G814 E1991 STRI.

Recovering the past (RA Gould, 1990)

CC75.G66 1990X STRI.

Recursos naturales y desarrollo económico en América Central: un perfil ambiental regional, agosto 1985 (HJ Leonard, 1986)

HC141.L44 S1986 STRI.

Sea turtles of the world: an annotated and illustrated catalogue of sea turtle species known to date (René Márquez M., 1990)

QL666.C5M357 1990 STRI.

Structures assisting the migrations of non-salmonid fish: USSR (DS Pavlov, 1989)

SH157.85.F56P33 1989 STRI.

Synopsis of biological data on the Whitemouth Croaker: *Micropogonias furnieri* (Desmarest, 1823) (VJ Isaac, 1988)

QL638.S34I73 1988 STRI.

Tllection satellitaire et pecheries thonieres oceaniques edit par Jean-Yves Le Gall ; auteurs, Jean-Claude Berges ... [et al.]

SH351.T8T26 1989 STRI.

Vegetable production training manual

SB320.43.A68V42 1990 STRI.

Vegetable research and development in SADCC countries: proceedings of workshop held at Arush, Tanzania, 9-13 July 1990 / editors R.T. Opeña and M.L. Kyomo.

SB320.43.A35V42 1990 STRI.



"What a day! ... I must have spread malaria across half the country."