

STRI newsletter

November 22, 1991

SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE - Apartado 2072, Balboa, Panama

No. 47

TUPPER CENTER SEMINARS

Tuesday, Nov. 26, noon seminar speaker will be Stanley Heckadon.

The state of forestry and agroforestry research in tropical Latin America

SPECIAL SEMINAR

Friday, Nov 29, noon seminar speaker will be Ricardo Godoy, Harvard University.

How much is the forest worth? Valuation guidelines in the study of non-timber tropical forest products

Habr  traducci n simult nea.

Next Week

Tuesday, Dec 3, noon seminar speaker will be Scott Armbruster, University of Alaska.

Pollination ecology and assemblage structure in Australian trigger plants: are there rules?

BAMBI SEMINAR

Tuesday, Dec 3, Scott Armbruster, University of Alaska.

Biochemical exaptation and the evolution of plant-animal mutualisms: The Dalechampia Story".

Call Vielka Liao to arrange transportation to BCI.

PEOPLE

Departure

- Henk and Tina Wolda, after 20 years in Panama (see page 3).

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General Editor: *Argelis Rom n*
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A special welcome to biologists Llewellya Hillis and Paul Colinvaux who recently initiated their appointment at STRI ••• Una bienvenida especial a los bi logos Llewellya Hillis y Paul Colinvaux, quienes iniciaron sus labores en el STRI recientemente.

(Foto: C.C. Hansen)

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Holiday ••• D a Libre

Thursday, Nov 28, Thanksgiving Day is a holiday for STRI ••• El jueves 28 de noviembre, d a de Acci n de Gracias para los Estados Unidos es un d a feriado para el STRI.

New OSP Responsibilities

Effective July 1, 1991, the Office of Sponsored Projects (OSP) assumed responsibility for the financial management of grant and contract awards received from government, foundation and corporate sponsors. In addition to the various pre-awards services OSP provides, OSP now assigns account and fund numbers for such projects, provides cash management in preparing invoice billings and sponsor-required financial reports, and maintains the office record. OSP is dedicated to providing the same high level of service with post-award accounting that it currently provides researchers in the pre-award area.

At Tupper Center

- Nov. 26 Visit to Tupper Exhibit by Panama Canal College students, 9:00-12:00 and 1:30 to 3:30 pm.
- Nov. 27 COABIN Meeting, 9-12m. Small Meeting Room
Visit to the Exhibit by Panama Canal College students, 1:30-3:30pm.
- Nov 27 Visit to Exhibit by Red de Bosques Tropicales, 11am.

For Tupper Center Users ••• Para los Usuarios del Centro Tupper

On Saturday, Nov 23, Simplex Co. will check the alarm systems at the Tupper Center. Alarms will go off and on continuously for several hours ••• *El sábado 23 de noviembre la Compañía Simplex examinará los sistemas de alarma del Centro Tupper. Las alarmas se prenderán y apagarán repetidamente durante varias horas.*

MI License Plate Year 1992

Private owners of vehicles with MI-licence plates will need to send Celideth Mendoza, by December 15, 1991 the following documents:

- the vehicle's inspection certificate for 1992 (when you get your "revisado" you do not need to buy the sticker, since the Ministry of Foreign Relations will provide you with one)
- and a photocopy of your insurance policy valid at least until February 1992 (your insurance policy must be from a company with a branch in Panama).

ANNOUNCEMENTS**New Booklet: Administrative and Support Services**

The Assistant Secretary for Finance and Administration has printed a "Guide to Smithsonian Administrative and Support Services." This guide is a handy resource for SI researchers and other staff and provides an overview of SI administrative and support offices and the services each provides. A copy of the guide can be obtained from the Management Analysis Office, 955 L'Enfant Plaza, Room 7500, Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C. 20560.

1992 Calendar

Limited edition of beautiful 1992 calendar with collection of six pencil lithographs of Panamanian fauna by renowned artist Horacio Rivera, ready to be framed, for sale at STRI Mini-Bookstore. The calendar is printed in high quality paper and comes in an attractive envelope. Proceeds from its sale will be used to support environmental education programs at the Metropolitan Natural Park. This is a different and lasting gift for someone special this coming holiday season. At the same time you are contributing to the conservation of Panama's natural resources.

Thanksgiving Day at BCI ••• Día de Acción de Gracias en Barro Colorado

All the STRI community is invited to enjoy the Thanksgiving Day Dinner on BCI at lunch time on Thursday Nov 28. Please make your reservations with Vielka Liao, BCI before Nov 26. Cost: \$4 each. Las Cruces will leave Gamboa at 8:55 am, and will return at 2:30pm ••• *El día de Acción de Gracias se celebrará en Barro Colorado con un almuerzo especial el jueves 28 de noviembre. Todos aquellos interesados deberán hacer sus reservaciones con Vielka Liao en BCI antes del día 26. Las Cruces partirá de Gamboa a las 8:55 am y regresará de la Isla a las 2:30pm. Costo por persona: \$4.*

Christmas Bazaar ••• Bazar de Navidad

The Interamerican Women's Club is sponsoring a Christmas Bazaar to raise funds for charity purposes. The bazaar will be held at ATLAPA on Saturday, Nov 30 from 10 am-8 pm. Entrance cost is \$3 and includes door prizes. For more information call the Club's Office at 23-1749, from 8am-3pm Monday through Friday ••• *El Club Interamericano de Mujeres patrocinará un bazar de Navidad para obtener fondos para obras de caridad. El bazar se llevará a cabo en ATLAPA el sábado 30 de noviembre de 10am-8pm. El costo de la entrada es de \$3 e incluye premios. Para mayor información comuníquese con la oficina del Club al 23-1749 de lunes a viernes de 8am-3pm.*

Book Fair at University of Panama ••• Feria de Libros en la Universidad de Panamá

An open fair (texts, Christmas cards, sports equipment, etc.) will be held at the Paraninfo Universitario, U. de Panamá, from Nov 28-Dec 11 8am through 8pm daily. The STRI community is welcome ••• *Una feria de libros de texto, tarjetas de navidad, implementos deportivos y otros regalos se llevará a cabo en el Paraninfo Universitario, Universidad de Panamá, del 28 de noviembre al 11 de diciembre de 8 de la mañana a 8 de la noche en horario corrido. La comunidad del STRI será bienvenida.*

For Sale/Se Vende

Beautiful Nicaraguan double hamacs, at bargain prices. If interested contact Marissa Crespo at 23-3396 ••• *Hermosas hamacas nicaraguenses, dobles, a muy buen precio. Si está interesado llame a Marissa Crespo, tel. 23-3396.*

Needed ••• Se Necesita

To buy or rent a portable crib. Please contact Ricardo Beteta at 26-2198 ••• *Comprar o alquilar una cama cuna. Si tiene una disponible, favor de ponerse en contacto con Ricardo Beteta, tel. 26-2198.*

JOBS AVAILABLE

Evolutionary Biology

Indiana University, Bloomington

The Department of Biology and the Program in Evolution, Ecology, and Behavior seek to recruit a new faculty member at the junior or senior level in the broad area of evolutionary biology. Candidates' research should focus on evolutionary questions in areas such as ecology, physiology, phylogenetics, and/or theory. The successful candidate should have demonstrated ability as a creative scientist and will be expected to conduct a vigorous, independent, externally funded research program and contribute to teaching at undergraduate and graduate levels. Applications from women and minorities are strongly encouraged. Junior candidates should send a curriculum vitae, brief description of research interests, and arrange to have three letters of reference sent to: Evolution Search Committee, Department of Biology, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405. Senior candidates should send a letter of interest and curriculum vitae. Applications received before December 15, 1991 will be assured of full consideration. Indiana University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

Associate Director

The Council of Ocean Law (COL), Washington, D.C. The Associate Director, as editor, will be responsible, together with the Executive Director for the publication of the Council's monthly newsletter, Ocean Policy News, and in this capacity is responsible for tracking issues in all sectors of ocean uses including pollution control, navigation rights, marine scientific research, fisheries management, boundary delimitation, and minerals development. The Associate Director represents COL at public conferences, government advisory meetings, and Congressional hearings; prepares briefing papers, articles and a wide range of commentary on international law issues; assist the executive director in carrying out fund raising and associated reporting functions. The position represents ample opportunity for the right individual to develop and pursue their own interests. Qualifications: COL seeks candidates with interest in ocean matters and international law. Applicants must have excellent writing skills. For further information, contact: Charles Higginson, Executive Director, Council on Ocean Law, 1709 New York Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20006; Telephone: (202) 347-3766. Fax: 202-638-0036.

DR. HENK WOLDA

by Gretchen Sotomayor

Henk Wolda remembers well his first visit to Panama. It was late in the evening of Dec. 15, 1969—the same night that Omar Torrijos returned from a visit to Mexico



(Photo by C.C. Hansen)

to find that two subordinates had attempted to oust him.

Over the years, Wolda admits, he hasn't timed his entries and exits to and from Panama very well. During a sabbatical a few years ago, at the University of Washington in Seattle, Wolda returned to Panama for a one-week visit, which coincided with the eruption of another political crisis in February 1988.

This time, Wolda said with a smile, he is hoping to leave "quietly."

And this time, Wolda is packing his bags with an air of finality as he prepares for retirement. He is leaving Panama Nov. 30, after working for more than 20 years as a STRI staff scientist.

He and his wife Tina are moving to Bellevue, Washington, a Seattle suburb. They chose the area because two of their four children are living there, and it's also an area they enjoy.

"It's the only place in the states that I've lived for any length of time," he said.

Wolda, a native of Holland, joined STRI's staff in Panama in 1971.

"It was one of the best decisions we've ever made," he said.

The Woldas found Panama City to be a wonderful place to raise children, and STRI has provided excellent scientific support. He credits STRI for creating a stimulating environment through its extensive library and steady stream of visitors.

"At many places in the tropics, you are isolated scientifically," he said.

Though he is retiring from STRI, Panama won't be scratched from Wolda's travel itinerary any time soon. Once he settles in, Wolda will be analyzing data from his insect monitoring program on Barro Colorado Island, where data collection is slated to continue for at least another three years. During the coming years, Wolda plans to visit STRI twice a year, with his first visit planned for May, 1992.

"You don't get rid of me that easily," he said.

Wolda instituted the insect monitoring program on BCI 17 years ago. Insects are caught using light traps and preserved for study. Wolda has been following certain insect species, tracking their abundance from year to year.

As he prepares to leave Panama, Henk says he will miss the climate, the "great" people in Panama and of course, the tropical biology.

"What better place is there than a tropical forest?" he remarked.

Henk and Tina will be missed at STRI. May good luck and good fortune follow them.

The Woldas' new address is 1626 106 Ave SE, Bellevue, WA 98004; telephone: (206)455-1443.

From: 365 Ways to Save our Planet • Page-a-Day Calendar •

WATER: A BIG ISSUE

On a planet that's three-fifth submerged in H₂O, it seems absurd to think that water could ever be scarce. Nevertheless, clean fresh water may soon become a luxury. Polluted lakes and streams, and pumping from saltwater sources, threaten the survival of many animal species. Underground reservoirs are being emptied faster than they can refill, and many natural replenishments—such as rainfall and agricultural runoff—are returning tainted water to previously pure sources. Water conservation as a way of life will save energy and help keep a reliable supply of fresh water on tap.



This week at the Tupper Center, representative Guaymí women participated in the planning workshop for an agroforestry project to be carried out in the Chiriquí Guaymí area ••• Durante esta semana en el Centro Tupper, representantes de mujeres Guaymí participaron en el seminario-taller de planificación de un proyecto agroforestal que se llevará a cabo en el área Guaymí de Chiriquí.

(Foto: C.C. Hansen)

Proyecto Agroforestal

Este seminario-taller, organizado por Stanley Heckadon, investigador asociado del STRI, tuvo como objetivo el planeamiento de un proyecto que financiará la GTZ de Alemania dirigido a cambiar los sistemas de producción Guaymí, haciendo énfasis en la participación de las mujeres, ya que en el caso de las familias Guaymí donde los hombres trabajan en las bananeras fuera de la Comarca, son las mujeres las cabezas de familia "de facto". Se iniciará mejorando los cultivos de café para incrementar el ingreso a corto plazo y el componente forestal de árboles para autoabastecer la familia con leña y madera para la construcción. El seminario se llevó a cabo durante la semana del 18-23 de noviembre.

STRI NEW PUBLICATIONS

Keller, Brian D. and Jackson, Jeremy B.C. (eds.). 1991. *Long-term assessment of the Oil Spill at Bahía Las Minas, Panama Interim Report. Volume I: Executive Summary. Volume II: Technical Report.* New Orleans: U.S. Department of the Interior. New Orleans: U.S. Department of the Interior.

Linares, Olga F. 1991. *Power, Prayer and Production: The Jola of Casamance, Senegal.* Cambridge: Cambridge Studies in Social and Cultural Anthropology.