

STRI newsletter

June 4, 1993

SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE - Apartado 2072, Balboa, Panamá

No. 23

TUPPER CENTER SEMINARS

Tue, Jun 8, noon seminar speaker will be Alberto B. Broce, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas.

Abstract

The New World screwworm, *Cochliomya hominivorax* (Coquerel) (Diptera: Calliphoridae), is a serious ectoparasitic pest of any warmed blooded animals, including humans, as its name implies. The fly lays eggs in wounds as small as a tick bite or on natural wounds such as a newborn's navel. Larvae eat into the living flesh of the host and an infested wound becomes highly attractive to other gravid flies; thus an untreated wound almost always results in the death of the host.

This pest has been eradicated from Mexico and the U.S.A. by the release of sterilized insects. Plans are for its eradication from Central America and the establishment of a permanent barrier in Darien to prevent reinfestation from South America. Recent introduction into Lybia, Africa and reinfestations of North America indicate the constant threat from existing populations.

Many questions about the ecology of this fly in tropical environments must be answered before the eradication efforts are initiated in the Isthmus of Panama. Although the effect of the eradication on livestock production is well documented, little is known about its effect on wildlife, especially that of the tropics.

BAMBI

Thu, Jun 10, Bambi speaker will be Catherine Craig, Yale University, at 7:45pm. Please arrange transportation with BCI.

PEOPLE

Arrivals

- Richard Hanschu, University of Oklahoma, Jun 5-14 Aug, to work with Ola Fincke on the ecology and behavior of



Don Windsor and Jorge Ceballos, new Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) technician attended the official inauguration of this facility at the Tupper Center laboratories, office 294, on Tue, June 1 ••• Don Windsor y Jorge Ceballos, nuevo técnico del microscopio electrónico de barrido (SEM), inauguraron oficialmente esta instalación en los laboratorios del Centro Tupper, oficina 294, el martes 1ro de junio. (Foto: A. Montaner)

- tree-hole odonates, frogs and mosquitos, on BCI.
- Catherine Craig, Yale University, Jun 7-17, to continue research on the effects of insect learning, on BCI.
- Eugenia Naro, Yale University, Jun 7-1 Sep, to work with Jeremy Jackson, at Naos.
- Steve Frankel, University of Illinois, Jun 8-20 Jul, to study the antioxidant variation in tropical trees as a consequence of light regime, on BCI.
- Bret Racliffe and Mary Jameson, University of Alaska, Jun 8-25, to work on a faunistic survey of the dynastine scarab beetles of Panama and Costa Rica.
- Damond Kylo, predoctoral fellow from the University of Missouri, Jun 10-Apr'94, to study the nutrient translocation through VA mycorrhizae and the effects on plant performance and early succession under different light, on BCI.
- Jodi Richmod, Pomona College, CA, Jun 2-31 Jul, to work with Rachel Levin, at Galeta.
- Robert Percy and Tony Honglian, University of California at Davis, Jun 11-20, to do research on spatial and temporal variations in sunflecks within a tropical forest canopy.
- Juan Prada, University of Los Andes, Jun 5-10, to visit STRI facilities as a future research site, on BCI.

Departures

- Paul Colinvaux, May 31-6 Jun, to San Juan, Puerto Rico, for the annual meeting of the Association of Tropical Biology and to attend editorial board meeting of *Biotropica*. Jun 7-24 to Oxford University, England, to visit Green College and Department of Zoology. Jun 24-10 Aug, to Woods Hole, MA, to organize coring equipment and logistics for NSF field expedition to Mato Grosso and Rondonia, and to work with colleagues at MBL, WHOI, Harvard and University of Rhode Island. Aug 10-10 Sep, to Brazil, to conduct NSF expedition.
- Llewellyn Hillis, May 31-10 Aug, to attend meetings of the Association of Tropical Biology and consult with marine phycologists in Puerto Rico; continue research at the Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole; and consult with colleagues at the British Museum of Natural History and the Royal Holloway University of London.
- Olga Linares, Jun 5, to France, to work on Unesco volume and do research at Paris archives.
- Carlos Urbina, Jun 6-11, to Washington D.C. on official business at SI Accounting Division.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW**New Facsimile Numbers****Nuevos Números de Facsímil**

Please note the new fax numbers for the Tupper/Tivoli/Library complex starting Jun 16 ••• Favor de anotar los siguientes nuevos números de fax para el complejo Tupper, Tivoli y Biblioteca:

	Before • Antes	Jun 16-
Director's Office		
Oficina del Director	62-4167	32-6197
Tivoli	62-6084	32-6274
Tupper Center	62-5942	32-5978
Procurement • Oficina de Compras	62-7022	32-6349
Library • Biblioteca	62-3134	32-6453

At Tupper Center

- Mon Jun 7 ■ Directors, scientific council, scientific support and administrative staff meeting, Large Meeting Room, 9 am.
- *Academia de Matemática y Comercio* to visit exhibition, Exhibit Hall, 9-11:30 am.

- Tue, Jun 8 ■ *Academia de Matemática y Comercio* to visit exhibition, Exhibit Hall, 9-11:30 am.
- Noon seminar by Alberto B. Broce, Auditorium.
- Scientific staff meeting, Large Meeting Room, 1:30 pm.
- Wed, Jun 9 ■ Fundación NATURA meeting, Large Meeting Room, 8:30 am.
- *Academia de Matemática y Comercio*, to visit exhibition, Exhibit Hall, 9-11:30 am.
- Paleocology Group meeting, Small Meeting Room, 12 noon
- Thu, Jun 10 ■ *Instituto Richard Newman*, to visit exhibition, Exhibit Hall, 9-11:30 am.
- IN.RE.NA.RE. staff members, to visit exhibition, Exhibit Hall, 2pm.
- Fri, Jun 11 ■ *Primer Ciclo Monseñor Francisco Beckman*, to visit exhibition, Exhibit Hall, 9-11:30 am.

At the Culebra Marine Biological Reserve

- Mon, Jun 7 ■ *Instituto Fermín Naudeau*, 8:30 am.
- Tue, Jun 8 ■ Balboa Elementary School, 9:00 am.
- Wed, Jun 9 ■ *Colegio Elena Chávez de Piñate (Juan Díaz)*, 9:00 am.
- Thu, Jun 10 ■ *Escuela Internacional*, 8:00 am.
- Fri, Jun 11 ■ *Escuela Cristóbal A. de Urriola (Arraiján)*, 8:30 am.

Access to Old Gamboa Road**Acceso al Viejo Camino de Gamboa**

The Canal Protection Division has agreed to allow access to the "Old Gamboa Road" to the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute research personnel and their vehicles. STRI staff must present the Smithsonian I.D. card upon request ••• *La División de Protección del Canal de Panamá ha aceptado el acceso a la vieja carretera de Gamboa al personal de investigación del STRI y sus vehículos. Para esto deberán portar su tarjeta de identificación del Smithsonian.*

For Tupper Center Residents**Para los Usuarios del Centro Tupper**

The STRI Newsletter will be available for all Tupper Center users on Fridays mornings at the lounge coffee table. By picking-up your own Newsletter, you will cooperate with your co-workers. If you do not get one, you can take a copy from the Office of Education's display shelving next to its door, Office 328 ••• *El "STRI Newsletter" será puesto a disposición de los usuarios del Centro Tupper los viernes antes de mediodía sobre la mesita del centro de fotocopias y correo. Al recoger su propio*

"Newsletter", estará cooperando con sus compañeros de trabajo. Si se queda sin el boletín, puede recoger una copia en el muestrario exterior de Oficina de Educación, #328, Planta Baja.

From the Library

Olga de Cuevas, librarian, will serve as library aide at the STRI Library until September to perform the duties of Elizabeth Sánchez who is on maternity leave. We welcome her to the STRI community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

News from 3Rs Program



Nuevas Sobre el Programa de Reciclado de Papel

Every time you get paid, you receive brand new envelope with a plastic window. Since this kind of envelope is not accepted for recycling, a box will be placed at every facility to return them to the Accounting Department. Please cooperate and get into the habit ••• *Cada vez que usted recibe su cheque de quincena, recibe un sobre nuevo con una ventana plástica. Ya que este tipo de sobre no es aceptado en el programa de reciclado, se instalará una caja en cada instalación para devolver los sobres a contabilidad. Coopere con el programa y tome el hábito.*

Volunteer Needed

The Visitor's Services Office needs a volunteer for general office support. Preferable bilingual and basic knowledge of word processing. Please contact Isis Ivancic at 27-6022 ••• *La Oficina de Visitantes necesita voluntario para trabajo de oficina en general. Preferiblemente bilingüe y con conocimientos en procesamiento de palabras. Favor de comunicarse con Isis Ivancic al 27-6022.*

World Environmental Day

Día Internacional del Medio Ambiente

During the World Environmental Day celebration this coming week, the University of Panama will host the First Environment Legislation Seminar, Jun 3-5,



Group of students from Instituto Celestín Freinet play out an educational activity during their visit to the exhibition "Nuestros Bosques: Nuestra Herencia" at the Tupper Center, on May 27 ••• Un grupo de estudiantes del Instituto Celestín Freinet se entretienen con un juego educativo durante su visita a la exhibición "Nuestros Bosques: Nuestra Herencia, en el Centro Tupper, el 27 de mayo.
(Foto: A. Montaner)

Auditorium, organized the Association of USMA Law Students and the Law and Ecology Association of the University of Panama. STRI will participate with a talk by Jorge Ventocilla, Office of Education, on Culture and Conservation on Jun 3 at 6 am ••• *Durante la celebración del Día Internacional del Medio Ambiente, la Asociación de Estudiantes de Derecho USMA y la Asociación de Derecho y Ecología de la Universidad de Panamá han organizado el Primer Seminario de Legislación Ambiental, del 3 al 5 de junio en el Auditorio de la Universidad de Panamá. STRI participará con una charla sobre Cultura y Conservación, por Jorge Ventocilla, Oficina de Educación, el 3 de junio a las 6am.*

National Ecological Week ••• Semana Ecológica Nacional

The Ministry of Education has declared the week of 7-12 of June as National Ecological Week. Many related activities will take place throughout the country. As a support to this initiative, STRI prepared a supplement on tropical forest which will appear in *La Prensa* newspaper on Mon, Jun 7 ••• *El Ministerio de Educación ha declarado la semana del 7 al 12 de junio como la Semana Ecológica Nacional. Numerosas actividades relacionadas se llevarán a cabo en todo el país. Como un apoyo a esta iniciativa, STRI ha preparado un suplemento sobre bosques tropicales, el cual aparecerá en la edición del periódico "La Prensa" el lunes 7 de junio.*

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Lincoln Park Zoo Scott Neotropic Fund

—Grants for projects contributing to wildlife conservation in Latin America—

Under the joint sponsorship of the Lincoln Park Zoological Society and the Chicago Park District, the Lincoln Park Zoo Scott Neotropic Fund provides support for conservation projects throughout Latin America. The fund is soliciting proposals for projects to be initiated during late 1993 or early 1994. Initial support is provided for up to twelve months with some possibility of renewal for an additional twelve months. Preference is given to new projects with 1) links to either the Lincoln Park Zoo animal collection or members of the zoo staff, 2) direct participation by graduate and/or undergraduate students, and 3) support designated for students and/or field assistant from Latin America. Projects should generate information that contributes to the conservation of Latin American wildlife. Awards are seldom greater than \$7,500 and does not generally support either salaries or the purchase of permanent equipment. For more information on the fund, application procedures, and the zoo's animal collection, contact: Steven D. Thompson, Director of Conservation and Science, Lincoln Park Zoological Gardens, 2200 North Cannon Drive, Chicago, IL 60614. Deadline for receipt of proposals is 1 September 1993.

CONGRESO

V Congreso Latinoamericano y XIII Venezolano de Entomología '93

—Hotel Margarita Concorde, Isla de Margarita
—Nueva Esparta, Venezuela
—del 4 al 8 de julio de 1993.

III Reunión Latinoamericana de Insectos Sociales II Simposio de Biología y Control de Vectores I Simposio de Entomología Forestal

El comité organizador de este congreso ha enviado a STRI su tercera comunicación con información operativa del evento a aquellos interesados. Favor acercarse a la Oficina de Educación, Centro Tupper, para mayores detalles o escribir a: Roberto Barrera R., V Congreso Latinoamericano de Entomología, Instituto de Zoología Tropical, Facultad de Ciencias, Avenida Los Ilustres, Universidad Central de Venezuela, Apdo. 47058, Caracas 1041-A; Fax 58-2-62-8763; 662-7121, Teléfonos 58-2-62-8763; 662-7121; 662-7895. Recepción de mensajes: 58-2-574-6473.

STRI NEW PUBLICATIONS

- Avise, John C., Bowen, Brian W., Lamb, Trip, Meylan, Anne B. and Bermingham, Eldredge. 1992. "Mitochondrial DNA Evolution at a Turtle's Pace: Evidence for Low Genetic Variability and Reduced Microevolutionary Rate in the Testudines." *Molecular Biology and Evolution* 9(3): 457-473.
- Bermingham, Eldredge and Lessios, Harilaos A. 1993. "Rate Variation of Protein and Mitochondrial DNA Evolution as Revealed by Sea Urchins Separated by the Isthmus of Panama." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 90: 2734-2738.
- Coffroth, Mary Alice, Lasker, Howard R., Diamond, Margaret E., Bruenn, Jeremy A. and Bermingham, Eldredge. 1992. "DNA Fingerprints of a Gorgonian Coral: A Method for Detecting Coral Structure in a Vegetative Species." *Marine Biology* 114: 317-325.
- McElroy, D., Moran, P., Bermingham, Eldredge, and Kornfield, I. 1992. "REAP: An Integrated Environment for the Manipulation and Phylogenetic Analysis of Restriction Data." *The Journal of Heredity* 83(2): 157-158.
- Seutin, Gilles, Brawn, Jeffrey, Ricklefs, Robert E. and Bermingham, Eldredge. 1993. "Genetic Divergence Among Populations of a Tropical Passerine, the Streaked Saltator (*Saltator albicollis*)." *The Auk* 110(1): 117-126.

For Sale

Solid pine dining room set with 4 chairs, \$450., small pine book shelf, \$55., B/W scandinavian desk with chair, \$350. Call Lissette Berríos at 84-6277. Kenmore heavy duty drier white/wide open, \$350. Call Rosa Rosado at 84-3298.

Se Vende

Sala de rattán, bali-blinds, escritorios, sillas de bar, mesitas, bicicleta fija. Llamar a Angel Aguirre al tel. 26-6378, después de las 8:00pm.

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

If you've just moved, chances are you're left with a heap of empty boxes. Try placing a classified ad [in your newsletter] to get rid of them. You may find a grateful respondent who can use them and keep them out of the landfill. Suggest that the process be repeated.