

Tupper 4pm seminar

Tuesday, June 1st, 4pm seminar speaker will be Roldán Valverde, Southeastern Louisiana University
Hot beaches and sex: Sea turtles and climate change

BDG meeting

STRI's next Behavior Discussion Group meeting will be held on June 1st, 2pm, at the Large Meeting Room, Tupper, with Bill Wcislo and Gloria Vargas
Miniatrization of brain size in spiders

Bambi seminar

Thursday, June 3, Bambi seminar speaker will be Jonathan Shik, University of Oklahoma

The ecological importance of ant colony size

Arrivals

Tomas Kursar and Phyllis Coley, University of Utah, to continue working on the ICBG bioprospecting and training, on BCI.

Michael Ryan, Amanda Lea and Sofia Rodriguez Brenes, University of Texas, to continue studies on the Túngara Frog, in Gamboa.

Peter Houlihan, John Hopkins University, to study phenotypic plasticity among populations of Nymphalid butterflies in biogeographically diverse tropical forest habitats, in Gamboa.

Thomas Lambert, Frostburg State University, to study the influence of liana removal on small mammal communities and seed fate, on BCI.



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

www.stri.org

May 28, 2010



Correa

García de Paredes

Lu

Chizmar

Toribio

De Sedas

Stapf

Lucila de Zárate

Five new books with INBio and Norway

STRI botanists Mireya Correa (also with the University of Panama) and María Stapf and their colleagues have published five new books supported by the project “Developing Capabilities and Sharing Technologies for Biodiversity Conservation” a joint venture of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Costa Rican National Institute for Biodiversity. The University of Panama and STRI also supported these publications that include a photographic guide, a guide to the trees at the University of Panama, a guide to El Charco in the Soberania National Park, a guide to Cerro Jefe, the

folkloric use of plants, and crafts using seeds and fruits in Panama. A calendar was also issued.

The first of these books was published in 2009, *Plantas comestibles de Centroamérica* [Central American edible plants] (see *STRI news*, July 24, 2009).

The University of Panama presented these books as a collection “to learn more about the flora of our country” on May 19, at the Rector’s Hall. Rector Gustavo García de Paredes congratulated *Profesora* Correa for her excellent work directing the University of Panama Herbarium since its creation in

1968, as well as the rest of the authors of this collection, namely María Stapf, Ally Lu, Alejandro De Sedas, Laurencio Martínez, Noris Toribio, Fermín Hernández, Reyes Carranza and the scientific editor of the books, J. Francisco Morales. He also congratulated the government of Norway for financing this project, and INBio for their coordination.

The books are being distributed among local and regional libraries, as well as other institutions and non-government organizations.

More arrivals

Lawrence Richard Kirkendall, University of Bergen, Norway, to study biodiversity determinants of the community of bark beetles in fallen leaves, on BCI.

Michaela Halsey, Frostburg State University, to study seed removal rates by small mammals and seed fate in the Neotropics, on BCI.

Sam Dupre, Frostburg State University, to make a comparison of behavior and microhabitat use by two sympatric species of echimyid rodents, spiny rats (*Proechimys semispinosus*) and armored rats (*Hoplomys gymnurus*) in Central Panama, on BCI.

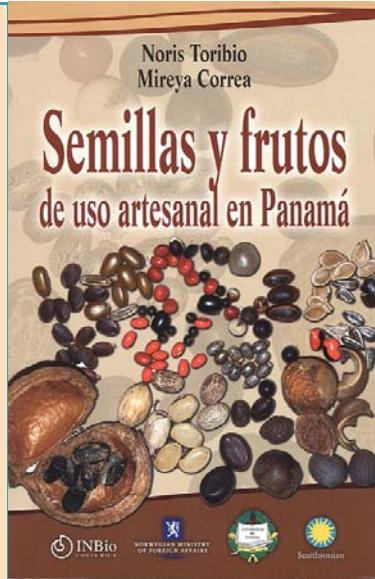
Paul Schaeffer, Miami University Ohio, to study the seasonality and life history of metabolic capacity in birds, on Bocas del Toro.

Christopher Laumer, Harvard University, to study the recollection of the little-known *Geocentrophora tropica* Hyman 1941 (Platyhelminthes: Lecithoepitheliata) from BCI.

Jacob Dittel, University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh, to Seed removal rates by small mammals and seed fate in the Neotropics, on BCI.

Julian Moll-Rocek, Harvard University, to study the functional diversity of secondary succession plant communities within a tropical agricultural landscape in the Republic of Panama.

James Kealey, Columbia University, to study the social and genetic determinants of eusocial behavior and kin recognition in *Synalpheus* snapping shrimps, in Bocas del Toro.



guía para El Charco del Parque Nacional Soberanía, una guía de plantas en Cerro Jefe, y el uso folclórico de las plantas, y artesanías que usan semillas y frutos en Panamá. También se produjo un calendario.

El primero de estos libros, *Plantas comestibles de Centroamérica*, se publicó en 2009 (*STRI news* del 24 de julio de 2009).

La Universidad de Panamá presentó estos libros como “una colección para conocer más la flora de nuestro país” el

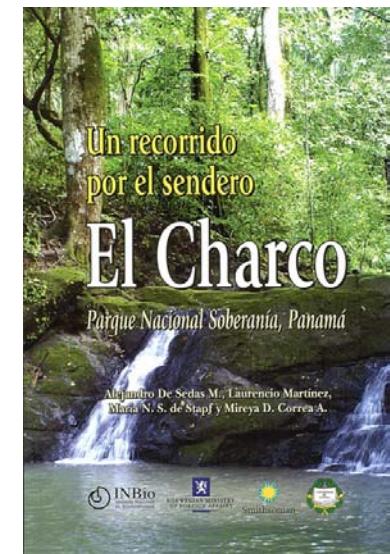
Las botánicas de STRI, Mireya Correa (también con la Universidad de Panamá) y María Staph, y sus colegas de la rama, publicaron cinco nuevos libros con el apoyo del proyecto ‘Desarrollando Capacidades y Compartiendo Tecnología para la Conservación de la Biodiversidad’ un programa en conjunto entre el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de Noruega y el Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad de Costa Rica. La Universidad de Panamá y STRI también ofrecieron apoyo a estas publicaciones, que incluyen una guía fotográfica, una guía para árboles y arbustos de la Universidad de Panamá, una

Guía fotográfica de las plantas vasculares de Cerro Jefe, Panamá



Alejandro De Sedas M., Laurencio Martínez, María N. S. de Staph y Mireya Correa A.

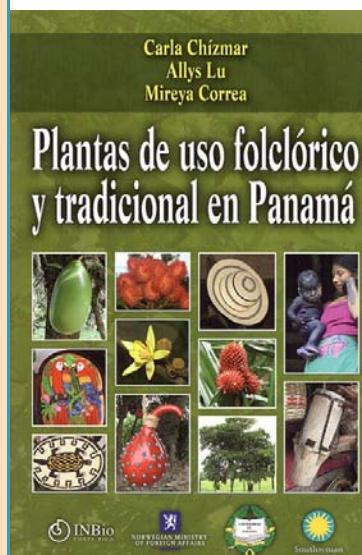
INBio NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS Smithsonian



directora del Herbario de la Universidad de Panamá desde su creación en 1968, y al resto de los co-autores de la colección, María Staph, Ally Lu, Alejandro De Sedas, Laurencio Martínez, Noris Toribio, Fermín Hernández, Reyes Carranza, y el editor científico de los libros, J. Francisco Morales. También felicitó al Gobierno de Noruega por suministrar los fondos para la publicación de estos libros, y a INBio por su coordinación.

19 de mayo en el Vestíbulo de la Rectoría. El rector Gustavo García de Paredes, felicitó a la Profesora Correa, quien ha hecho un excelente trabajo como

Los libros se están distribuyendo entre bibliotecas locales y regionales, así como a otras instituciones y organizaciones no-gubernamentales.



More arrivas

Tiago Schaeffer, Elementary School Student, to study the seasonality and life history of metabolic capacity in birds, on Bocas del Toro.

Marion Lykins, Miami University Ohio, to study the seasonality and life history of metabolic capacity in birds, on Bocas del Toro.

Dario Zambrano, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, to study if plant defenses influence the specialization of insect herbivores of co-occurring, closely related plants in tropical forests, on BCI.

Jeremy Law, Columbia University, to study social and genetic determinants of eusocial behavior and kin recognition in *Synalpheus* snapping shrimps, on Bocas

Christopher Laumer, Harvard, to study the recollection of the little-known *Geocentrophora tropica* Hyman 1941 (Platyhelminthes: "Lecithoepitheliata") from Barro Colorado Island.

Departures

Richard Condit to Atlanta, to help initiate the CTFS Plot at Harvard Forest and present a lecture at Emory University.

Haris Lessios to Santa Marta, Colombia, to give course on molecular evolution as part of a Ph.D. program on the Colombian Center of Excellence in Marine Sciences and to collect sea urchins.

STRI in the news

"Vibrating frogs are ready to fight" by Adam Mann. 2010. *Science Now*: May 20 <http://news.sciencemag.org/sciencenow/2010/05/vibrating-frogs-are-ready-to-fight.html>

New faces at ELTI

STRI's Environmental Leadership and Training Initiative (ELTI) announces the incorporation of two new staff members, Saskia Santamaría (effective April 5) and Yohany Candanedo (effective May 10).

Santamaría, a biologist, was selected for the position of training assistant. She has worked at STRI, the Metropolitan Natural Park, and has extensive experience with environmental education working with groups in rural and urban areas. She actively volunteers with other environmental/climate change initiatives in Panama.

Yohany Candanedo was selected for the position of administrative assistant. Before joining ELTI, she worked at STRI's Office of Facilities, Engineering and Operations (OFEO) for 18 months, and Panama's private sector. At STRI she will handle a variety of administrative duties including travel arrangements, purchasing, financial monitoring, etc. She studies International Commerce with an emphasis in Logistics, at Universidad Latina.

La Iniciativa de Liderazgo y Capacitación Ambiental de STRI, (ELTI) anuncia la incorporación de dos nuevos miembros en su personal, Saskia Santamaría (a partir del 5 de abril) y Yohany Candanedo (a partir del 10 de mayo).

Santamaría, bióloga, fue seleccionada para la posición de asistente de capacitación. Ha trabajado los diez últimos años en STRI, el Parque



Santamaría



Candanedo

New publications

Caldwell, Michael S., Johnston, Gregory R., McDaniel, J. Gregory, and Warkentin, Karen M. 2010. "Vibrational signaling in the agonistic interactions of red-eyed treefrogs." *Current Biology Online*.

Ceron-Souza, Ivania, Rivera-Ocasio, Elsie, Medina, Ernesto, Jimenez, Jorge A., McMillan, W. Owen, and Bermingham, Eldredge. 2010. "Hybridization and introgression in New World red mangroves, *Rhizophora* (Rhizophoraceae)." *American Journal of Botany Online*: ajb.0900172.

Chizmar, Carla, Lu, Allys, and Correa A., Mireya D. 2009. *Plantas de uso folclórico y tradicional en Panamá*. Santo Domingo de Heredia, Costa Rica: Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad, INBio.

De Sedas M., Alejandro, Hernandez, Fermin, Carraza, Reyes, Correa A., Mireya D., and Staph, Maria N.S. de. 2010. *Guía de árboles y arbustos del campus Dr. Octavio Méndez Pereira, Universidad de Panamá*. Santo Domingo de Heredia, Costa Rica: Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad, INBio.

De Sedas M., Alejandro, Martinez, Laurentino, and Staph, Maria N.S. de. 2009. *Guía fotográfica de las plantas vasculares de Cerro Jefe, Panamá*. Santo Domingo de Heredia, Costa Rica: Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad, INBio.

De Sedas M., Alejandro, Martinez, Laurentino, Staph, Maria N.S. de, and Correa A., Mireya D. 2009. *Un recorrido por el sendero El Charco, Parque Nacional Soberanía, Panamá*. Santo Domingo de Heredia, Costa Rica: Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad, INBio.

New publications

McGowan, Tom, Cunningham, Sarah L., Guzman, Hector M., Mair, James M., Guevara, Jose M., and Betts, Tanja. 2010. "Mangrove forest composition and structure in Las Perlas Archipelago, Pacific Panama." *Revista de Biología Tropical* 58(3): 857-869.

Miura, Osamu, Torchin, Mark E., and Bermingham, Eldredge. 2010. "Molecular phylogenetics reveals differential divergence of coastal snails separated by the Isthmus of Panama." *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution Online*.

Park, Andrew, van Breugel, Michiel, Ashton, Mark S., Wishnie, Mark, Mariscal, Emilio, Deago, Jose, Ibarra, Diogenes, Cedeno, Norma, and Hall, Jefferson S. 2010. "Local and regional environmental variation influences the growth of tropical trees in selection trials in the Republic of Panama." *Forest Ecology and Management* 260(1): 12-21.

Ramirez, Santiago R., Nieh, James C., Quental, Tiago B., Roubik, David W., Imperatriz-Fonseca, Vera L., and Pierce, Naomi E. 2010. "A molecular phylogeny of the stingless bee genus *Melipona* (Hymenoptera: Apidae)." *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution Online*.

Rasher, Douglas B., and Hay, Mark E. 2010. "Chemically rich seaweeds poison corals when not controlled by herbivores." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 107(21): 9683-9688.

Toribio, Noris, and Correa A., Mireya D. 2009. *Semillas y frutos de uso artesanal en Panamá*. Santo Domingo de Heredia, Costa Rica: Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad, INBio.

Friday's coolest video!

Taken from *Science Friday*



<http://www.sciencefriday.com/program/archives/201005213>



"They look cuddly, but don't be fooled: red-eyed treefrogs (*Agalychnis callidryas*) have a secret dark side. When Michael Caldwell, of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, filmed the frogs under infrared light he saw a behavior he hadn't seen before -- the frogs started vigorously shaking the branches they were sitting on. Caldwell and colleagues, including Karen Warkentin of Boston University, decode the meaning of the shakes in *Current Biology* this week." [The week of May 21, 2010]

(Video credits: Footage and images courtesy of Michael Caldwell, Karen Warkentin Venetia S. Briggs, music from prelinger archives.)

Reviews of the findings reported in the article "Vibrational signaling in the agonistic interactions of red-eyed treefrogs" published by *Current Biology* and

distributed by Neal G. Smith's *Science Sendings*, were featured on NPR's, *Science Friday* and in the *New York Times* webpages and news services around the world.

The actual article can also be obtained from
calderom@si.edu

2010.]

(Los créditos del video: historia e imágenes, cortesía de Michael Caldwell, Karen Warkentin y Venetia S. Briggs, música de archivos prelinger).

Reseñas sobre los descubrimientos que se informaron en el artículo "Vibrational signaling in the agonistic interactions of red-eyed treefrogs" [Señalizaciones con vibraciones en interacciones agonísticas de las ranas arbóreas de ojos rojos] y publicados por la revista *Current Biology* y distribuido por los *Science Sendings* de Neal G. Smith, aparecen en NPR's, *Science Friday*, *New York Times*, páginas de web y servicios informativos alrededor del mundo.

El artículo mismo también puede obtenerse de
calderom@si.edu