

## Tupper seminar

Tuesday, August 26, noon seminar speaker will be Catherine Woodward, University of Wisconsin  
**The reproductive and genetic effects of forest fragmentation on two Costa Rican understory trees**

## Conservation forum

Tuesday, August 26 at 2pm, STRI will hold a first informal discussion group on tropical conservation research and real-life issues in Panama and the tropics, at Tupper Large Meeting Room. You are welcome to attend. This forum is organized by William F. Laurance, STRI.

## Bambi seminar

Thursday, August 28, Bambi seminar speaker will be Roberto Cordero, University of Florida

**Some biomechanical traits of plants and their ecological significance**

## Arrivals

Thomas Emmel, James Schlochta and Albert Thurman from the University of Florida, Aug 20-25, to conduct a survey of species diversity of Lepidoptera and Scarabeidae (Coleoptera) at the dry season-wet season interface, on mainland.

Annemarie Surlykke and Signe Brinkloev, University of Southern Denmark, Aug 25 - Sep 6, to study echolocation behavior of bats, on BCI

Jeremy B.C. Jackson, STRI and Scripps, Aug 27 - Sep 10, to consult with staff and continue on-going research projects.



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

[www.stri.org](http://www.stri.org)

August 22, 2003



## Symposium on Long Term Biodiversity Monitoring Plots in Cameroon

More than one hundred participants attended a two-day symposium at Limbe Botanical Garden in Cameroon on Long-Term Biodiversity Monitoring Plots in Cameroon: Results from the International Cooperative Biodiversity Group (ICBG). The symposium, sponsored by the STRI's Center for Tropical Forest Science, NZP's Measuring and Assessment of Biodiversity Program, and the Bioresources Development and Conservation Programme-Cameroon, highlighted research results from the Korup Forest Dynamics Plot. This large plot project has been funded for the last 7 years by ICBG, linking biodiversity research and conservation with medicinal drug development. The Secretary General of Cameroon's Ministry of Science (shown in the photo) opened the meeting along with Elizabeth Losos, Director of CTFS on August 5, 2003. (Information by Elizabeth Losos)

El simposio de dos días “Parcelas de Monitoreo de Biodiversidad a Largo Plazo en Camerún: Resultados de los Grupos de Colaboración Internacional para la Biodiversidad (ICBG)”, llevado a cabo en los Jardines Botánicos de Limbe, Camerún, contó con más de cien participantes. El simposio, financiado por el Centro de Ciencias Forestales del Trópico de STRI, el Programa de Mediciones y Estudios de Biodiversidad del Parque Zoológico Nacional del Smithsonian, y el Programa de Conservación y Desarrollo de Recursos Naturales de Camerún, destacó los resultados de las investigaciones de la Parcela de Dinámica de Bosques de Korup. Esta extensa parcela ha sido financiada durante los últimos siete años por ICBG, relacionando la investigación de la biodiversidad y la conservación, con el desarrollo de medicamentos. El Secretario General del Ministerio de Ciencias de Camerún (en la foto) inauguró el congreso junto con Elizabeth Losos, directora de CTFS, el 5 de agosto de 2003.

## More arrivals

Alexander Lang, Karl Franzens University, Graz, Aug 27 - Jul 31, 2004, to work with Heinrich Roemer, on BCI.

Brigitte Marazzi, University of Zurich, Switzerland, Aug 29 - Sep 14, to study flower asymmetry and phylogeny in Senna (Leguminosae, Cassiinae) at Tupper.

## New publications

Altshuler, Douglas L., and Dudley, Robert. 2003. "Kinematics of hovering hummingbird flight along simulated and natural elevational gradients." *Journal of Experimental Biology* 206(18): 3139-3147.

Arnold, A. Elizabeth, and Herre, Edward Allen. 2003. "Canopy cover and leaf age affect colonization by tropical fungal endophytes: Ecological pattern and process in *Theobroma cacao* (Malvaceae)." *Mycologia* 95(3): 388-398.

Heckadon-Moreno, Stanley. 2003. "G. Maack: geología y botánica de la costa de Colón, 1871." "Epochas" Segunda Era (Supplement to La Prensa) 18(7): 10-11.

Hughes, William O. H., Sumner, Seirian, Van Borm, Steven, and Boomsma, Jacobus J. 2003. "Worker caste polymorphism has a genetic basis in *Acromyrmex* leaf-cutting ants." *PNAS* 100(16): 9394-9397.

Jones, F.A., and Hubbell, Stephen P. 2003. "Isolation and characterization of microsatellite loci in the tropical tree *Jacaranda copaia* (Bignoniaceae)." *Molecular Ecology Notes* 3(3): 403-405.

Levinton, Jeffrey S. 2003. "Evolution as frozen music." *Science* 301: 767-768.

## Taxonomic submarine workshop at Bocas

Ten taxonomists working on particularly difficult or under represented groups of marine animals spent 11 days in August surveying the marine fauna in the vicinity of STRI's Bocas del Toro Research Station. The Bocas del Toro Marine Invertebrate Taxonomy Workshop, funded by SI's Marine Science Network and Women's Committee and organized by STRI marine scientist Rachel Collin and research assistant Gabriel Jacome, brought together scientists from five countries working on six phyla of marine animals, with the aim of increasing the working knowledge of the fauna near the station. The resultant species list, web-based identification guides, and subsequent taxonomic publications will enable station visitors to more easily identify the common marine animals of the region and will facilitate general ecological research in the area. *(Information by Rachel Collin)*



The photo shows samples of the 160 species of sponges collected by the participants of the workshop. En la foto aparecen muestras de las 160 diferentes especies de esponjas colectados por los participantes del taller.

Diez taxónomos que trabajan con grupos de animales marinos particularmente difíciles o poco representados pasaron once días estudiando la fauna marina de los alrededores de la Estación de STRI en Bocas del Toro, del 3 al 14 de agosto. El Taller Taxonómico de Invertebrados Marinos de Bocas del Toro fue patrocinado por la Red de Ciencias Marinas y el Comité de Mujeres del Smithsonian. La organización del evento, que estuvo a cargo de la científica marina de STRI Rachel Collin y el asistente de investigación Gabriel Jácome, reunió científicos de cinco países que estudian seis familias de animales marinos, con el objetivo de enriquecer el conocimiento básico de la fauna cerca de la estación. La lista de especies resultante basada en guías de identificación por Internet, y las publicaciones taxonómicas subsecuentes permitirán a los visitantes de la estación identificar más fácilmente a los animales marinos comunes de la región y facilitarán investigaciones ecológicas generales en el área.

## More publications

Lips, Karen R., Reeve, John D., and Witters, Lani R. 2003. "Ecological traits predicting amphibian population declines in Central America." *Conservation Biology* 17(4): 1078-1088.

Montenegro, Hector, Gutierrez, Marcelino, Romero, Luz I., Ortega-Barría, Eduardo, Capson, Todd L., and Cubilla Rios, Luis. 2003. "Aphorphine alkaloids from *Guatteria spp.* with Leshmanicidal activity." *Planta Med* 69: 677-679.

Roslin, Tomas. 2003. "Not so quiet in the high frontier." *Trends in Ecology and Evolution* 18(8): 376-379.

Salazar, Gerardo A., Chase, Mark W., Soto Arenas, Miguel A., and Ingrouille, Martin. 2003. "Phylogenetics of Cranichideae with emphasis on Spiranthinae (Orchidaceae, Orchidoideae): evidence from plastid and nuclear DNA sequences." *American Journal of Botany* 90(5): 777-795.

Torres Mendoza, Daniel, Urena Gonzalez, Luis D., Ortega Barria, Eduardo, Capson, Todd L., and Cubilla Rios, Luis. 2003. "Five new cassane diterpenes from *Myrospermum frutescens* with activity against *Trypanosoma cruzi*." *Journal of Natural Products* 66: 928-932.

Zigler, Kirk S., and Lessios, Harilaos A. 2003. "250 million years of bindin evolution." *Biological Bulletin* 205(1): 8-15.

## Miscellaneous

For rent: duplex at Albrook, central air conditioner, two bedroms, 1bath, partially furnished \$450. Interested please call 276-6621 Cel 616-8552.