

## Tupper seminar

Tue, Mar 11, noon seminar speaker will be Sunshine Van Bael, University of Illinois  
**Birds and bats limit arthropod densities in a tropical forest canopy**

## Bambi seminar

Thu, Mar 13, Bambi seminar speakers will be Scott Powell, University of Bristol, UK, and STRI communication associate Christian Ziegler  
**Army ants: Life and "pregnancy" of a social predator**

## Arrivals

Karen Lips and Matt Whiles, Southern Illinois University, Mar 8 - 16, to study the influence of amphibian extinction on tropical highland stream structure and function, at Fortuna and El Copé.

Nicole Saverschek, Zoologisches Institut, Germany, Mar 10 - Sep 9, to study host plant selection by the leaf-cutting ant, *Atta colombica*: The role of experience in the process of decision making, on BCI.

Douglas and Tara Robinson, Oregon State University, Mar 10-Aug 6, to study avian community dynamics, in Gamboa.

I. Fan Sun, CTFS, Mar 10 - May 1, to work on the CTFS related activities, at Tupper.

Lynn Atkinson and Benjamin Wolsieffer, University of Connecticut, Mar 13 - Apr 14, to study the causes and consequences of variation in colony structure in the termite *Nasutitermes corniger*, at Galeta.



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

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

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STRI organized a get-together to welcome students from McGill and Princeton universities on Thursday, February 27, at the Tupper Corotú Plaza. Both universities offer field semester courses in Panama, to allow students get acquainted with tropical research, biological investigation opportunities in the Panamanian isthmus, and STRI scientists. Among their instructors are Richard Cooke, Dolores Piperno, Don Windsor, and Stanley Heckadon. McGill students are posted in the City of Knowledge facilities in Clayton; Princeton students are residing at STRI's school in Gamboa. Both groups have visited BCI, Gamboa, Bocas, Chitré and Fortuna. In the photo, director Ira Rubinoff (right), Georgina de Alba, associate director for Finance and Administration (second from the right), staff scientists Donald M. Windsor (third from the right) and Stanley Heckadon Moreno (third from the left), and Meylín Hernández and Nilka Tejeira (foreground) from the Office of Education, join the students for an official group photo.

STRI organizó una reunión informal para darle la bienvenida a estudiantes de las universidades de McGill y Princeton, el jueves 27 de febrero en la Plaza Corotú del Centro Tupper. Ambas universidades ofrecen semestres de campo en Panamá, para permitir que los estudiantes se familiaricen con investigaciones tropicales, las oportunidades científicas que ofrece el Istmo de Panamá, y los científicos de STRI. Entre sus instructores están Richard Cooke, Dolores Piperno, Don Windsor y Stanley Heckadon. Los estudiantes de McGill residen en las instalaciones de la Ciudad del Saber en Clayton, mientras que los estudiantes de Princeton están en la Escuela de STRI en Gamboa. Ambos grupos están visitando BCI, Gamboa, Bocas, Chitré, y Fortuna. En la foto, el director Ira Rubinoff (derecha), Georgina de Alba, directora asociada para Finanzas y Administración (segunda desde la derecha) los científicos de STRI Donald M. Windsor (tercero desde la derecha) y Stanley Heckadon Moreno (tercero desde la izquierda), y Meylín Hernández y Nilka Tejeira, de la Oficina de Educación (en primer plano) se unen a los estudiantes para la foto oficial del grupo.



## More arrivals

Lisa Miller, Oregon State University, Mar 13 - Jul 31, to work with Douglas Robinson on the life history-physiology nexus: Constraints on the evolutionary diversifications of avian life histories, in Gamboa.

## Departures

David Roubik, Mar 13-23, to Washington DC, to work at SI's National Museum of Natural History, and to various cities in the US and Canada, to give seminars and consult with colleagues.

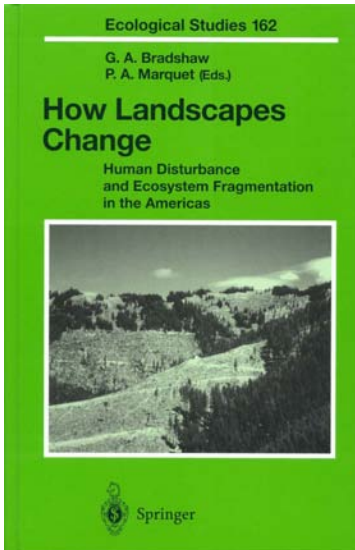
## New publications

Barrios E., Héctor V. 2003. "Insect herbivores feeding on conspecific seedlings and trees." In Basset, Y., Novotny, V., Miller, S.E., and Kitching, R.L. (Eds.), *Arthropods of tropical forests: Spatio-temporal dynamics and resource use in the canopy*: 282-290. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Basset, Yves, Aberlenc, Henri-Pierre, Barrios E., Héctor V., and Curletti, Gianfranco. 2003. "Arthropod diel activity and stratification." In Basset, Y., Novotny, V., Miller, S.E., and Kitching, R.L. (Eds.), *Arthropods of tropical forests: Spatio-temporal dynamics and resource use in the canopy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Basset, Yves, Hammond, Peter M., Barrios E., Héctor V., Holloway, Jeremy D., and Miller, Scott E. 2003. "Vertical stratification of arthropod assemblages." In Basset, Y., Novotny, V., Miller, S.E., and Kitching, R.L. (Eds.), *Arthropods of tropical forests: Spatio-temporal dynamics and resource use in the canopy*: 17-27. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

## How landscapes change



Springer published *How landscapes change: Human disturbance and ecosystem fragmentation in the Americas*, edited by Gay A. Bradshaw from Oregon State University, and Pablo A. Marquet, from Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, as volume 162 of their Ecological Studies series. The book, that emphasizes in habitat fragmentation, includes two chapters by STRI researchers and colleagues: "Forest fragmentation and biodiversity in Central Amazonia" by Claude Gascon of STRI's Biological Dynamics of Forest Fragments

Project in Brazil, staff scientist William F. Laurance and STRI research associate Thomas E. Lovejoy from the Smithsonian Institution; and "Bandages for wounded landscapes: Faunal corridors and their role in wildlife conservation in the Americas" by Susan G. Laurance and William F. Laurance. This volume synthesizes the perspectives of several disciplines—ecology, anthropology, economy, and conservation biology—to gain an understanding of how human and ecological processes interact to affect ecosystem functions and species in the Americas.



Deputy director Cristián Samper (center) and Elena Lombardo from the Office of External Affairs presented the book *A magic web: The tropical forest of Barro Colorado Island* by STRI staff scientist Egbert G. Leigh, Jr. and communication associate Christian Ziegler, to Manuel Cambra, executive director of the Centennial National Commission, as STRI's first contribution to this year's festivities.

El subdirector Cristián Samper (centro) y Elena Lombardo, de la Oficina de Asuntos Externos, hicieron entrega oficial del libro *A magic web: The tropical forest of Barro Colorado Island* [Red mágica: el bosque tropical de la Isla de Barro Colorado] del científico de STRI Egbert G. Leigh, Jr., y el asociado en comunicación Christian Ziegler, a Manuel Cambra, director ejecutivo de la Comisión Nacional del Centenario, como la primera contribución de STRI a las festividades de este histórico año.

## More publications

Goulet, T.L., and Coffroth, Mary A. 2003. "Genetic composition of zooxanthellae between and within colonies of the octocoral *Plexaura kuma*, based on small subunit rDNA and multilocus DNA fingerprinting." *Marine Biology* 142(2): 233-239.

Hooper, Elaine, Condit, Richard G., and Legendre, Pierre. 2002. "Responses of 20 native tree species to reforestation strategies for abandoned farmland in Panama." *Ecological Applications* 12(6): 1626-1641.

Peretti, Alfredo V. 2002. "Courtship and sperm transfer in the whip spider *Phrynos gervaisii* (Amblypygi, Phrynidae): a complement to Weygoldt's 1977 paper." *The Journal of Arachnology* 30(3): 588-600.

Plotkin, Joshua B., and Muller-Landau, Helene C. 2002. "Sampling the species composition of a landscape." *Ecology* 83(12): 3344-3356.

Simon, Ulrich, Gossner, Martin, and Linsenmair, K. Edward. 2003. "Distribution of ants and bark-beetles in crowns of tropical oaks." In Basset, Yves, Novotny, Vojtech, Miller, Scott E., and Kitching, Roger L. (Eds.), *Arthropods of tropical forests: Spatio-temporal dynamics and resource use in the canopy*: 59-68. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Villelsen, Palle, and Boomsma, Jacobus J. 2003. "Patterns of male parentage in the fungus-growing ants." *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology* 53(4): 246-253.