

Tupper 4pm seminar

Tuesday, March 8, 4pm seminar speaker will be Gwen Keller, STRI *Wolbachia* ecology and evolution in Neotropical beetles

Bambi seminar

Thursday, March 10, Bambi seminar speaker will be STRI director Ira Rubinoff
BCI...from green hell to green Hilton

Arrivals

David Kline, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, Mar 2 - Aug 30, to study the effect of anthropogenic stress on white band disease transmission, on Bocas del Toro.

Elaine Day, University of California at Los Angeles, Mar 6 - Apr 9, to study hormonal control of an avian neuromuscular system, in Gamboa.

Stefanie Berghoff, University of Bristol, UK, Mar 7 - May 7, to study the diversity of fragmented army ant populations and their guests, on BCI.

Willi Pineda, intern from the University of Costa Rica, Mar 7 - 14, to work on bat project, with Elisabeth Kalko, on BCI.

Renae Brodie and Stephen Borgianini, University of South California, Mar 9 - 12, to study the distribution of early life stage *Uca* species along an intertidal gradient, at Naos.

Alex Monro, Natural History Museum, London, Mar 10-15, to participate in a *Flora Mesoamericana* collecting trip to Cerro Fábrega.



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

www.stri.org

March 4, 2005

VII Herbaria meeting

The VII Meeting of the Mesoamerican and Caribbean Herbaria Network was held in Panama from Monday, February 28 - Wednesday, March 2. The Herbaria Network was established to encourage botanic research in the region, based on work conducted in herbaria as scientific information centers for biodiversity conservation, its sustainable development and environmental education.

The meeting, held at the University of Panama, focused on gathering information on biodiversity, and discussing joint efforts that can be conducted in the region. It was presided by STRI staff scientist Mireya Correa, president of the

La VII Reunión de la Red de Herbarios de Mesoamérica y el Caribe se celebró en Panamá del lunes 28 de febrero al miércoles 2 de marzo. La Red de Herbarios fue creada para estimular la investigación botánica en la región con base en la labor de los herbarios como centros de información científica para la conservación de la biodiversidad, su desarrollo sostenible y la educación ambiental.

La Reunión, llevada a cabo en la Universidad de Panamá se enfocó en la investigación sobre biodiversidad y actividades conjuntas que se pueden realizar en la región. La

Herbaria Network since 2002

Among the contributions presented at the meeting were specialists from Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Puerto Rico, Santo Domingo, and the US. STRI's Noris Salazar-Allen, Christopher Dick, Todd Capson and Mark Wishnie contributed presentations.

James A. Duke, international authority in Botany, attended the meeting and presented the conference "Ethnobotanical reflections: from Mexico to Panama" at Tupper.

The VII Meeting of the Herbaria Network was sponsored by STRI, the University of Panama, the North American Aerospace

Reunión Herbarios fue presidida por la científica de STRI, Mireya Correa, presidenta de la Red desde 2002 (también con la Universidad de Panamá)

Entre los conferencistas participantes se encontraban especialistas de Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Panamá, Puerto Rico, Santo Domingo y los EU. Noris Salazar-Allen, Christopher Dick, Todd Capson y Mark Wishnie, de STRI, contribuyeron con presentaciones. James A Duke, autoridad internacional en Botánica asistió a la Reunión y presentó la conferencia "Ethnobotanical reflections:



James A. Duke

Command (NORAD) /Developing Capacities and Sharing Technology for Central American Biodiversity Project, INBio from Costa Rica, and CIFLORPAN/OAS [Center for Pharmacognostic Research of Panamanian Flora].

from Mexico to Panama." [Reflexiones etnobotánicas: de México a Panamá], en Tupper.

La Reunión fue patrocinada por STRI, la Universidad de Panamá, el Comando Aeroespacial Norteamericano (NORAD)/Proyecto "Desarrollando Capacidades y Compartiendo Tecnología para la Gestión de la Biodiversidad en Centroamérica", el Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad de Costa Rica, (INBio), y el Centro de Investigaciones Farmacognósticas de la Flora Panameña (CIFLORPAN)-Organización de Estados Americanos (OEA).

More arrivals

Noelle Beckman, University of Minnesota, Mar 10 - Aug 31, to study the implications of hunting for tropical plant community composition: differential effects on seed removal, on BCI.

Luke Gibson, Princeton University, Mar 10-20, to study the life history physiology nexus constraints on the evolutionary diversification of avian life histories, in Gamboa.

Jeff Brawn, Illinois Natural History Survey, Mar 10-24, to continue monitoring the dynamics of avian communities and population in Central Panama, in Gamboa.

Kimberley Mathot, Simon Fraser University, Mar 10, to study latitudinal gradients in inter-tidal communities: relationships between over-wintering shorebird and crab distribution patterns from California to Panama, at Naos.

Frederick Meinzer, Oregon State University, Mar 12-19, to study the functional convergence and constraints in regulation of transpiration and carbon assimilation in tropical forest canopy trees, at Tupper and BCI.

Departures

Allen Herre, Mar 6-19, to Washington DC, to work with colleagues at SI's National Museum of Natural History.

Olga F. Linares, Mar 10-29 to France, to consult with colleagues in Paris and attend the IPGRI Board meetings in Montpellier.

Volleyball League: ¡Gamboa campeón! Congratulations!

Mycology studies in Central America

STRI, the University of Panama, the University of Costa Rica, Chicago's Field Museum of Natural History and the New York Botanical Garden sponsored the seminar/workshop "Mycological Studies in Central America: the Future of Mycology in the Region", from Tuesday, March 1 through Friday, March 4, at the University of Panama.

The workshop included field trips to Campana National Park, BCI, the Metropolitan Natural Park, and STRI's Canopy Crane Access System at the Park. Speakers included



Seed dormancy workshop at STRI

STRI's Project for Reforestation with Native Species (PRORENA) will hold the one-day workshop "Seed dormancy from an ecological point of view" on April 6, by Carol Baskin and Jerry Baskin, University of Kentucky. Carol and Jerry Baskin, authors of *Seeds: Ecology, biogeography and evolution of dormancy and*



specialists and professors from the University of Costa Rica, Chicago's Field Museum of Natural History, the New York Botanical Garden, University of San Carlos in Guatemala, Costa Rica's National Museum and the Biodiversity Institute (INBio), the University of

STRI, la Universidad de Panamá, la Universidad de Costa Rica, el Field Museum of Natural History de Chicago, y el New York Botanical Garden, patrocinaron el seminario/taller "Estudios Micológicos en Centroamérica: Futuro de la Micología en la Región", del martes 1ro al viernes 4 de marzo, en la Universidad de Panamá.

El taller incluyó viajes de campo al Parque Nacional Altos de Campana, Barro Colorado, el Parque Natural Metropolitano, y el Sistema de Acceso al Dosel de STRI en el Parque. Los

Puerto Rico, and Dora Alvarez and Enith Rojas, from STRI. The workshop was presided by Noris Salazar-Allen from STRI, and Julieta Carranza, University of Costa Rica. The photo (above) shows Salazar Allen and Loengrin Umaña, INBio, from Costa Rica.

conferencistas incluyeron especialistas y profesores de la Universidad de Costa Rica, el Field Museum of Natural History de Chicago, el New York Botanical Garden, la Universidad de San Carlos en Guatemala, el Museo Nacional y el Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad de Costa Rica, y Dora Alvarez y Enith Rojas, de STRI. El taller fue presidido por Noris Salazar-Allen, de STRI y Julieta Carranza de la Universidad de Costa Rica. La foto de arriba muestra a Salazar-Allen y a Loengrin Umaña de INBio, Costa Rica.

germination, have more than 30 years of experience working on seed dormancy. The workshop will include topics by different kinds of seed dormancy, world biogeography of seed dormancy and of nondormancy, taxonomic trends in seed dormancy, designing experiments on dormancy release and

germination from an ecological perspective, how seed dormancy is broken in nature, and soil seed banks and dormancy cycling. Interested in participating in the workshop, please contact Adriana Sautu at sautua@si.edu or Joana Madera at maderaj@si.edu

“Nothing to worry about...” says BCI guide Melva Olmos

BCI naturalist guide Melva Olmos, who conducts graduate studies at the University of UNELLEZ in Venezuela, presented the poster “The Jaguar” at the Veraguas’ Fair of Crafts, Agriculture and Tourism, held in the town of Santa Fe from January 28-31.

Due to habitat loss, jaguars in Santa Fe National Park and surrounding areas are beginning to be a threat to ranchers complaining for the loss of cattle, due to jaguar attacks.

Jaguars control animal populations and maintain a healthy environment since they eat sick animals otherwise dangerous to the local fauna. An adult jaguar weighing 65 kilos needs approximately 25km² of forested lands to

Melva Olmos, guía naturalista de Barro Colorado, quien lleva a cabo estudios de posgrado en la Universidad de UNELLEZ en Venezuela, presentó el poster educativo “El Jaguar” durante la Feria Agrícola, Turística y Artesanal de Veraguas, en el poblado de Santa Fe, que se celebró del 28 al 31 de enero.

Debido a la pérdida de hábitat, los jaguares en el Parque Nacional Santa Fe han



empezado a ser una amenaza para ganaderos que se quejan de pérdidas debido a ataques de jaguares. Los jaguares controlan las poblaciones de otros animales y mantienen un ambiente saludable ya que comen animales enfermos que de otra forma serían peligrosos para la fauna local. Un jaguar adulto de 65 kilos de peso necesita cerca de 25km² de bosques para sobrevivir,

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According to Olmos, “jaguars are not dangerous to people...”, but no studies have ever been conducted in Panama until now. STRI’s Ricardo Moreno from BCI is also doing research on the population density of the jaguar in Cana, in the province of Darien for his master’s thesis. Research and educational efforts are conducted in neighboring countries.

mientras que en áreas abiertas necesita tanto como 60km². Olmos planea hacer una propuesta a los ganaderos y a la comunidad local, para conservar la especie en el Parque Nacional Santa Fe en Veraguas. Otras poblaciones de jaguares en Panamá se han registrado en el Monumento Natural de Barro Colorado, Chagres, Darién, Fortuna, y Bocas del Toro.

De acuerdo a Olmos, “los jaguares no son un peligro para las personas...” aunque en Panamá no se habían llevado a cabo estudios sobre jaguares sino hasta ahora. Ricardo Moreno de STRI en Barro Colorado también lleva a cabo investigaciones sobre la densidad de la población de jaguares en Cana, provincia de Darién, para su tesis de maestría. Investigaciones y esfuerzos educativos se están llevando a cabo en países vecinos.



Congratulations!

To BCI nature guide Anayansi Castillo, who completed a course in Environmental Interpretation in Tambopata, Peru. STRI’s Office of Communications and Public Programs selected Castillo to participate in this course for her dedication and professionalism. She was selected Nature Guide of the Year in 2003.

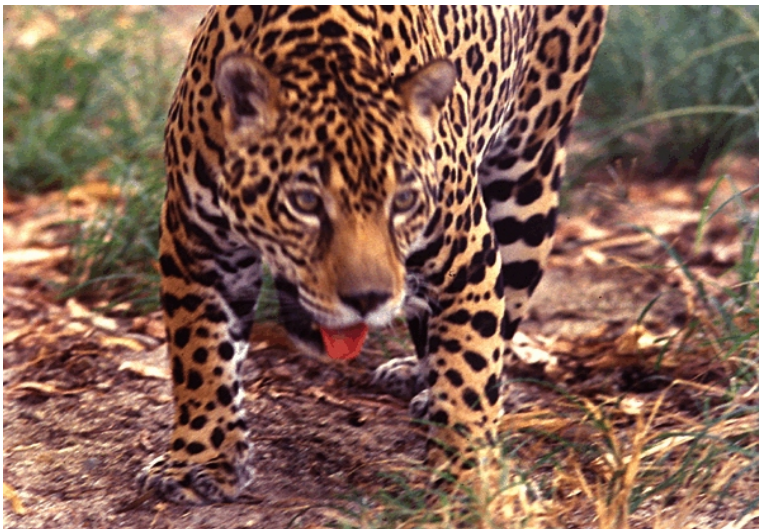
Corrections

Laurance, W.F., Albernaz, A.K.M., Fearnside, P.M., Vasconcelos, H.L., and Ferreira, L.V. 2005. “Amazonian deforestation models.” *Science* 307: 1044.

Fearnside, P.M., Laurance, W.F. Albernaz, A.K. Vasconcelos, H.L. Ferreira, L. V. 2005. “A delicate balance in Amazonia.” *Science* 307: 1045.

Laurance, W.F., Albernaz, A.K. Fearnside, P.M., Vasconcelos, H.L. and Ferreira, L.V. 2005. “Underlying causes of deforestation.” *Science* 307: 1046-1047.

Safety tel. number
212-8211



A close-up photograph of a woman with light brown hair, wearing a dark blue jacket, holding a white-faced monkey. The monkey is wearing a collar with a blue tag. The background is a lush green forest.

science in progress:

Costs and benefits of living in social groups, on BCI

Anthropologist Meg Crofoot, STRI's short-term fellow from Harvard University, is using the Automated Radio Telemetry System (ARTS) on BCI to study the interactions between white-faced monkey (*Cebus capucinus*) social groups in an effort to understand the costs and benefits of living in social groups of different sizes. The aim of the research is to determine whether group size determines dominance relationships between groups, and whether dominant social groups forage more efficiently or eat higher quality diets.

La antropóloga Meg Crofoot, becaria a corto plazo en STRI de la Universidad de Harvard, está usando el sistema de Radio-Telemetría (ARTS, por sus siglas en inglés) en Barro Colorado, para estudiar las interacciones entre grupos sociales de monos cariblanco (*Cebus capucinus*) en un esfuerzo por entender los costos y beneficios de vivir en grupos sociales de diferentes tamaños. El objetivo del estudio es determinar si el tamaño del grupo determina las relaciones de dominio entre grupos, o si los grupos dominantes forrajean más eficientemente o si su dieta es de mejor calidad.