

SEMINAR NEWS

On Tuesday, December 20th, SCOTT ARMBRUSTER, University of Alaska, will be our speaker. The title of his seminar is:

Evolution of Pollinator Rewards
in Dalechampia (Euphorbiaceae)

DEPARTURES

ALAN SMITH left STRI this week for the U.S. Dr. Smith will be teaching at the University of Miami during the spring semester and is expected back at STRI in May 1984.

December 17 - Leaving, ADELA GOMEZ to D.C. on official business and vacation. She is expected to return around January 7th.

December 23 - Leaving HARIS LESSIOS to D.C. for official business at the Smithsonian and to Philadelphia to attend the meetings of the American Society of Zoologists. He is returning on January 1st.

LIBRARY NEWS

On exhibit at the Library are photographs of forest destruction by DANIEL SUMAN and various XMAS decorations collected and arranged by BERNADETTE FRENCH and ANGEL AGUIRRE.

EXXON CORPORATION CONTINUES SUPPORT FOR STRI FELLOWSHIP/ASSISTANTSHIP PROGRAM

The Exxon Corporation has renewed its support for the fellowship/assistantship program at STRI for 1984. The program is designed to support students and recent graduates from developing countries, who participate as assistants in on-going projects at STRI, or carry out their own independent projects with the assistance of a STRI advisor.

OUR CONDOLENCES

To EGBERT LEIGH and his family for the recent loss of his father, Egbert G. Leigh Sr.

NOTES OF INTEREST

-A marine mammal, possibly a sea lion, that made its way to Panama from the Galapagos Islands as a result of the changes brought about by the last "EL Niño", was recently found and captured by fishermen on the beach at Antón, Cocle Province, Panama. The fate of this "new arrival" is still to be determined. The fishermen wish to sell the animal to recuperate the money they have invested in feeding it. JULIO JAEN and other interested persons are trying to secure the safety of the animal and have it properly identified and released.

-The PRIMER ENCUENTRO NACIONAL DE POLITICA CULTURAL was held from December 12 - 15 at the Museo del Hombre Panameño, under the auspices of Panama's Institute of Culture. The coordinator of this event was MARCELA CAMARGO. Among the participants were GILBERTO OCAÑA, who presented a talk on "The Role of Scientific Research in Cultural Development and Environmental Protection", and RICHARD COOKE who spoke on "The Study of Prehistory in Panama: Reflections on Educational Policy".

BIOLOGICAL CONSERVATION NEWSLETTER

The Department of Botany at the National Museum of Natural History is now issuing a Biological Conservation Newsletter with the intent that all units at the Smithsonian involved in conservation submit pertinent information regularly. The Newsletter will serve as a means to disseminate information on subjects of general environmental and biological concern in addition to reports of meetings attended by SI representatives that may be of interest to others. If you wish to receive the Newsletter or have an item/news that you would like to have included, please write to: JANE LAMLEIN, Department of Botany, Plant Conservation Unit, NHB 166, W501, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560.

REMINDERS

STRI vehicle owners should try to have their vehicles inspected early and avoid the crowds. Only 9,000 vehicles in Panama have passed the inspection.

AND

DON'T MISS the STRI Xmas Party (FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16 at 4:30 PM at the Tivoli site). There will be lots of surprises.