

# STRI newsletter

July 26, 1991

SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE - Apartado 2072, Balboa, Panama

No. 30

## TUPPER CENTER SEMINARS

Tuesday, Jul 30, noon seminar speaker will be Cynthia Sagers, University of Utah.

*Natural Levels of Herbivory and Growth in Clones of *Psychotria horizontalis**

### Abstract

Herbivory is considered an important determinant of the distribution and abundance of plant species. Presumably, the loss of photosynthetic tissues reduces future growth, reproduction and probability of survival. Several studies have shown conclusively that simulated herbivory reduces some correlate of plant fitness, but the consequences of natural levels of herbivory are less clear. In this study I demonstrate that natural herbivory has a dramatic effect on plant growth. I compared the growth rates of plants exposed to herbivores with those protected by a fine mesh enclosure. Clones of 36 individuals of *Psychotria horizontalis* Sw (Rubiaceae) were planted in large light gaps on Barro Colorado Island, Panama. Two cuttings of each clone were paired on the basis of initial weight and assigned randomly to either the protected or exposed treatment. Nine months after planting, leaf area and plant height differed by an order of magnitude, and mean internode length and the number of nodes produced differed two-fold. No significant differences existed among clones in any growth measure. These results indicate that herbivory is a major influence on plant performance under field conditions.

*Habr  traducci n simult nea al espa ol.*

### Next Week

No noon seminar scheduled for Tuesday, August 6.

## PEOPLE

### Arrivals

- Gregory Gilbert, three-year postdoctoral fellow, Jul 27-31, on a short visit in advance of the start of his appointment in October.



*Herasto Reyes (center), Editor-in-Chief of the Revista section of La Prensa and a group of boy scouts return to Gamboa after an active day visit to Barro Colorado Island ••• Herasto Reyes (centro), Editor Jefe de Revista del Diario La Prensa, y un grupo de j venes exploradores regresan a Gamboa luego de una activa visita de un d a a la Isla de Barro Colorado.*

*(Foto: M.A. Guerra)*

- Katherine Milton, Univ. of Berkeley, Jul 25-Aug 22, to work on population dynamics of howler and spider monkeys on BCI.
- Merrill Varn, member of C. Handley's work group, Jul 28-Aug 26, to work on the demography of figs on BCI.
- Wills Flowers, Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad, Costa Rica, Jul 31-Aug 4, to visit STRI facilities and consult with Hindrik Wolda.
- Carlos Perez-Santos and Ana Moreno, Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales, Barcelona, Spain, Aug 1-31, to work on the project "Chronological skeleton of tropical humid zones".

### Departures

- Stanley Rand, STRI scientist, Jul 31-Aug 15, to teach a course at OTS in Costa Rica.
- Neal Smith, STRI scientist, Aug 2-11, to Ecuador on an Audubon-sponsored trip, which will include a visit to the Galapagos.

### STRI Development Officer ••• Director de Promoci n del STRI

Edgar Maravi will be on educational leave for nine months starting July 29. He will be attending the Masters' Degree Program in Public Administration at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. Lucy Dorick, from the SI Office of Membership and Development, will

now handle STRI development projects. Our best to Edgar and a warm welcome to Lucy.

•••

Edgar Maravi estará de licencia académica por nueve meses a partir del 29 de julio. Durante este tiempo realizará estudios de maestría en Administración Pública en la Escuela Kennedy de Gobierno de la Universidad de Harvard. Lucy Dorick, de la Oficina de Membresía y Promoción del Smithsonian, desempeñará las funciones de desarrollo para el STRI. Muchos éxitos a Edgar y nuestra cordial bienvenida a Lucy.

### Wedding Bells

Robin Andrews, an annual BCI visiting scientist, and Brent Opell, also from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University were married on July 12 in Indiana. Congratulations!

### On Leave

Hely Andrade	Aug 1 - 16
Eldredge Bermingham	Aug 5 - 9
Isis Ivancic	Aug 5 - 9
Wilbert Forde	Aug 5 - 9
Gabriel Martínez	Aug 5 - 9
Audrey Smith	Aug 5 - 16
Ira Rubinoff	Aug 5 - 16

## THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

### From the Visitors Office

Visitors are reminded that immigration procedures are ultimately their responsibility. Obtaining the necessary papers (exit permits, "paz y salvos", etc.) is done through the STRI Office of the Assistant Secretary for External Affairs, but visitors must request these actions with enough time, as stated in the information received on arrival.

It is also the responsibility of each visitors to make sure that all documents are valid, and to request necessary extensions well in advance of expiration dates. Extension requests must be made through the Visitor Services Office (VSO), at least 15 work days before expiration. Failure to do so may cost the visitor a fine levied by the immigration authorities. If you have any questions about procedures, please ask the VSO.

### Attention Tupper Personnel ••• Atención Personal de Tupper

Rug cleaning in the Staff Lounge and Meeting Rooms of the Tupper Center was postponed until Monday, July 29th.

Se solicita a las personas que saquen vasos de la Cafetería que por favor los devuelvan. No los dejen en el Cuarto de Computadoras.

### New Publications

Please remember to send the Director one copy of all submitted manuscripts of scientific papers related to your research at STRI. This procedure helps keep track of STRI research activities and also helps to prepare timely press releases on appropriate forthcoming work.

### August Calendar

AUGUST 1991						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Aug 15, Founding of Old Panama City. Banks and government offices will be closed.

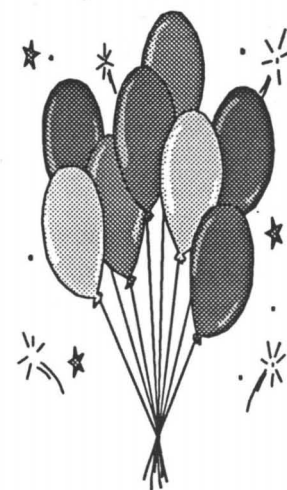
Aug 15, Deadline for submission of short term and Exxon fellowship applications.

### At Tupper

Aug 1 - Housing Committee Meeting

### STRI August Birthdays ••• Cumpleaños del Mes

Juan C. Roqueiro	1
Steve Miller	4
Elena Lombardo	4
Donald Windsor	4
Alejandro Hernández	6
Carlos Bonilla	7
Eric Lam	9
Víctor Pérez	13
D. Ross Robertson	13
Luis Polanco	13
Lidia Mann	17
Marcel Epailly	18
Mary J. West-Eberhard	20
Amalia Herrera	25
Guillermo Caballero	27
Francisco Rivera	30



## ENTRENAMIENTO

### Curso en Costa Rica

La Organización de Estudios Tropicales (Oficina Centroamericana en Costa Rica), OET, y la Universidad de Costa Rica, UCR, se complacen en anunciar el curso sobre "Principios ecológicos para la toma de decisiones y el manejo de los recursos naturales en América Latina".

Este curso está dirigido a profesionales que participan en la toma de decisiones que, a su vez, se relacionan con el manejo de los recursos naturales y el desarrollo de proyectos que inciden sobre ellos.

Dado el tiempo que tarda recibir las cartas enviadas por correo, se solicita que, de ser posible, envíen todos sus documentos por fax, al número 40 67 83 en Costa Rica. La fecha límite de recepción de solicitudes es el 16 de agosto de 1991.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Assistant Available

Nicole Barbee, a 1991 honors graduate in biology from the University of Pennsylvania, is available to work as an assistant for a full year starting in late August. She is completely bilingual (English/Spanish) and can do word processing, field work and lab work. Highly recommended by Mary Jane West-Eberhard. *Curriculum vitae* available from the Office of Education.

### Guidelines for Smithsonian Women's Committee Awards

The purpose of the Smithsonian Women's Committee is to support the Smithsonian Institution through volunteer fundraising and public relations services. Monies raised by the Committee are used to fund Women's Committee Awards which benefit educational outreach and research programs within the Institution.

In keeping with its stated purpose, the Women's Committee is particularly interested in supporting:

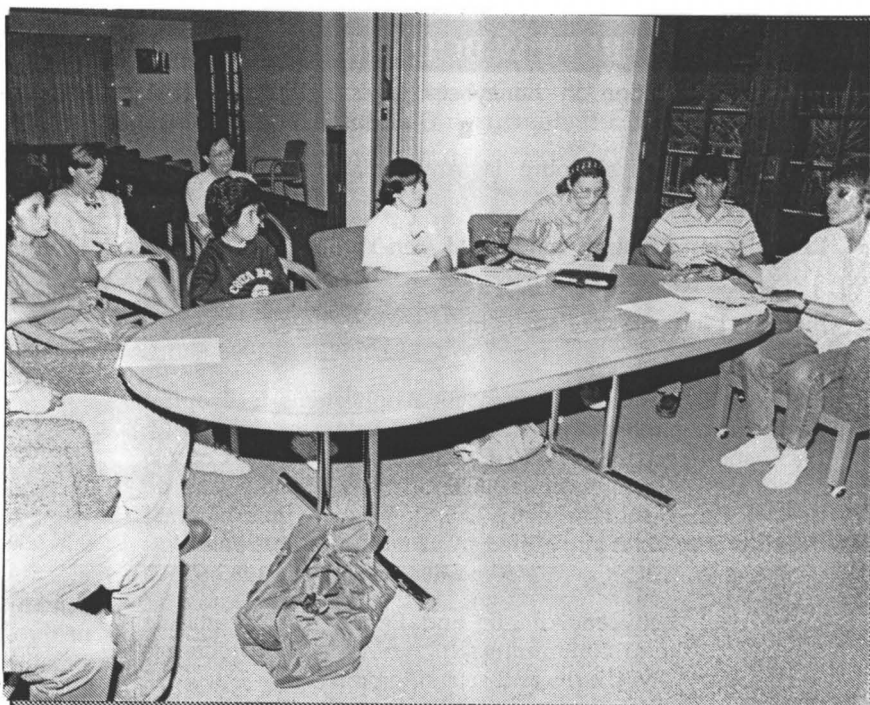
- educational projects serving students, teachers, and/or the general public
- seed money for innovative SI programming
- research projects that serve the public interest
- augmentation and conservation of collections.

While the Committee maintains its commitment to funding small projects (\$1000 - \$10,000), this year it will consider funding a few projects of up to \$50,000.

September 23, 1991 is the next deadline for submitting proposals. Applicants will be notified of the outcome by mid-February 1992.

### Se Vende ••• For Sale

Walkie-talkie Sony usado, 1 par, Modelo ICB-1000. Alcanza de 1-2 kms en la ciudad, de 6-8 kms en las afueras de la ciudad y de 80 a 100 kms en lugares llanos y abiertos. A prueba de agua. \$125. También se vende mochila de campaña completa mas cantimplora, usada. Interesados pueden llamar al 20-6019 de 8 a 11 a.m.



*Mary Jane West-Eberhard (right), discusses the importance of basic research with Exxon fellows and interns, using as an example the development of the theory of sexual selection. Mary Jane and Bill Eberhard, STRI's scientists stationed in Costa Rica, spent the month of July in Panama ••• Mary Jane West-Eberhard (derecha), discute sobre la importancia de la investigación básica con becarios Exxon, usando como ejemplo el desarrollo de la teoría de la selección sexual. Mary Jane y Bill Eberhard, científicos del STRI en Costa Rica, pasaron el mes de julio en Panamá.*

(Foto: M.A. Guerra)

### Curso Bilingüe de Turismo Ecológico

El American Training Institute en cooperación con la empresa Eco-Tours de Panamá ofrece curso especializado para guía bilingüe de turismo ecológico comenzando el sábado 17 de agosto. Horario: Todos los viernes de 6 a 9pm y tres sábados por mes de 8am a 5pm por un año, con vacaciones de dos semanas cada tres meses. Los estudiantes tendrán oportunidades de trabajo en Eco-Tours durante el curso o con otra empresa de la industria del turismo ecológico una vez terminado. Para información e inscripción, sírvase llamar al 60-9402, 60-9403 ó 60-9493 o visitar el American Training Institute, Centro Comercial La Alambra, No. 64, El Dorado, Panamá.

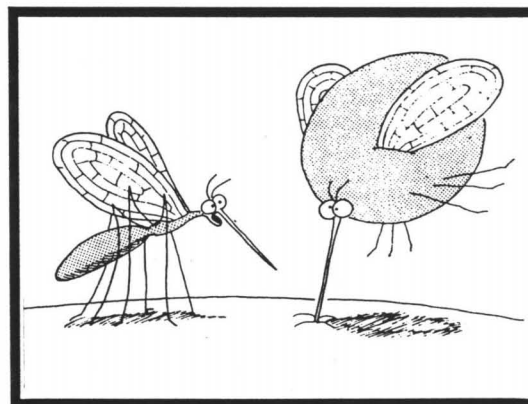
### From: 365 Ways to Save our Planet

#### • Page-a-Day Calendar •

You can do a lot for the appearance of our world by *not* doing one simple thing: littering. It's so easily avoided, and much of what's tossed in our parks, woodlands, roadsides and waters could be recycled instead. Pick upon someone else's litter —the example can be contagious.

## STRI NEW BOOKLIST

- Allozyme variation in honeybees (*Apis mellifera* L. (HA Sylvester, 1976). QL568.A6S98 1976a STRI.
- Bibliografía general sobre la Amazonia colombiana (CA Domínguez, 1974). Z1754.A5D67 1974 STRI.
- La Atracción de peces con luz (M. Ben-Yami, 1990). QL639.3.B47 1990 STRI.
- Biological indicators of stress in fish. QP82.2.S8B615 1990 STRI.
- Biotechnology in the Americas II: Applications in Tropical Agriculture, a Symposium: San José, Costa Rica, July 14-17, 1985 / sponsored by INTERCIENCIA Association and Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Tecnológicas de Costa Rica; co-sponsored by U.S. Agency for International Development ... [et al.]; edited by Hugo Mora Poltronieri. S494.5.B563B616 1985 STRI.
- Comparison between Atlantic and Pacific tropical marine coastal ecosystems: community structure, ecological processes, and productivity: results and scientific papers of a Unesco/-COMAR workshop, University of the South Pacific, Suva, Fiji, 24-29 March 1986 / edited by Charles Birkeland; sponsored by Unesco/COMAR. QH93.6.C66 1988X STRI.
- Contribution to the archaeozoology of Central Africa (W. van Neer, 1989). CC79.5.A5N38 1989 STRI.
- Development of tropical forest edge vegetation (G. Williams-Linera, 1989). QH541.5.R27W72 1989 STRI.
- Diagnóstico ambiental do Estado do Rio de Janeiro. QH541.D53 1980 STRI.
- Ecological heterogeneity / Jurek Kolasa, Steward T.A. Pickett, editors. QH541.15.E24E28 1991X STRI.
- Elsevier's dictionary of horticultural and agricultural plant production: in ten languages, English, Dutch, French, German, Danish, Swedish, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, and Latin / compiled under the auspices of the International Society for Horticultural Science, Wageningen, The Netherlands with the cooperation of the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Management, and Fisheries, The Hague, The Netherlands. Ref SB317.58.E46 1990X STRI.
- The Fisheries forecasting system in Japan for coastal pelagic fish / by I. Yamanaka ... [et al.]. SH301.F53 1988 STRI.
- Floristics for the 21st century: proceedings of the workshop sponsored by the American Society of Plant Taxonomists and the Flora of North America Project, 4-7 May, 1988, Alexandria, Virginia / edited by Nancy R. Morin ... [et al.]. QK51.F63 1988 STRI.
- Four neotropical rainforests / Alwyn H. Gentry, editor. QH541.5.R27F69 1990X STRI.
- Goals, no-goals, and own goals: a debate on goal-directed and intentional behaviour / edited by Alan Montefiore & Denis Noble. B105.A35G63 1989X STRI.
- Guía para el estudio de los macroinvertebrados acuáticos del Departamento de Antioquía (G. Roldán Pérez, 1988). QL244.R74 1988 STRI.
- Información hidrográfica: prospecciones de los recursos pesqueros de la plataforma pacífica entre el sur de México y Colombia, 1987 / elaborado por Carlos L. Brenes R. ... [et al.]. GC859.I43 1990 STRI.
- Man & beast revisited QL85.M28 1991X STRI.
- The Passage of arms: an archaeological analysis of prehistoric hoards and votive deposits (R. Bradley, 1990). GN805.B693 1990X STRI.
- Poverty: world development indicators. HC79.P6P87 1990 STRI.
- Scientific and Technological Meeting of the Member Countries of the Treaty for Amazonian Cooperation (1st: 1984: Belém, Brazil), 1984). T25.A43S28 1984X STRI.
- Sinopsis de datos biológicos y pesqueros de la sardina *Sardinops sagax* (Jenyns, 1842) en el Pacífico suroriental (R. Serra, 1988) SH351.S3S48 1988 STRI.
- Sistemática del género *Stator* (Insecta, Coleoptera, Bruchidae) en Sudamérica (CD Johnson, 1989) QL596.B7J66 1989 STRI.
- Tomato and pepper production in the tropics: International Symposium on Integrated Management Practices, Tainan, Taiwan, 21-26 March 1988 \* Proceedings of the International Symposium on Integrated Management Practices. SB349.I61 1988 STRI.
- Advances in the Study of Behavior, v.20, 1991 (PJB Slater et al., eds.) Serials section.
- Evolutionary biology, v.25, 1981 (MK Hecht et al., eds.) Serials section.



"Pull out, Betty! Pull out!... You've hit an artery!"

## Encuesta del Boletín (Newsletter) de STRI

Este Boletín tiene como finalidad transmitir información sobre asuntos de interés para la comunidad de STRI y sobre temas relacionados a nuestra misión. Todos los viernes la Oficina de Educación distribuye 200 copias del boletín a empleados, visitantes, voluntarios y colaboradores de STRI. Para que el boletín cumpla su cometido necesitamos recibir las opiniones de nuestros lectores. Por ello hemos elaborado esta encuesta y agradeceríamos que se tome unos minutos para que la llene y se la regrese a Argelis Román en la Oficina de Educación.

1. ¿Recibe Ud. el Boletín todas las semanas?  Si  No. Explique \_\_\_\_\_
2. ¿Usualmente cuándo recibe Ud. este boletín semanal (día, mañana, tarde)? \_\_\_\_\_
3. ¿Qué porción del Boletín lee usted?  La mayor parte  La mitad, más o menos  
 La primera página solamente  Otro Explique \_\_\_\_\_  Nada
4. ¿Es éste su principal fuente de noticias sobre las actividades de la Institución Smithsonian?  Si  No
5. ¿Es éste su principal fuente de noticias sobre sucesos de interés para los empleados (beneficios, reglamentos, empleados nuevos, etc.)?  Si  No
6. De las siguientes secciones que publica el Boletín, ¿cuáles lee usted?

<input type="checkbox"/> Seminarios	<input type="checkbox"/> Lista de Publicaciones	<input type="checkbox"/> Oportunidades de Entrenamiento
<input type="checkbox"/> Llegadas y Salidas	<input type="checkbox"/> Actividades del Tupper	<input type="checkbox"/> Conferencias, Simposios
<input type="checkbox"/> Vacaciones	<input type="checkbox"/> Actividades de Naos	<input type="checkbox"/> Proyectos del Staff
<input type="checkbox"/> Cumpleaños	<input type="checkbox"/> Actividades de BCI	<input type="checkbox"/> Estaciones en los Trópicos
<input type="checkbox"/> Anuncios sobre STRI	<input type="checkbox"/> Artículos de la Mini-Librería	<input type="checkbox"/> 365 Maneras de Salvar Nuestro Planeta
<input type="checkbox"/> Anuncios Generales	<input type="checkbox"/> Eventos Científicos	<input type="checkbox"/> Libros Nuevos - Biblioteca
<input type="checkbox"/> Ventas	<input type="checkbox"/> Eventos Culturales	<input type="checkbox"/> Hoja de la Oficina de Personal
7. El material que lee con mayor placer en el Boletín es: \_\_\_\_\_
8. ¿Tiene dificultad en entender los escritos que tratan temas técnicos?  Si  No
9. El Boletín (Newsletter) publica ocasionalmente artículos sobre diferentes temas. Indique los temas que ha disfrutado leer en el pasado.  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. ¿Qué temas se deben tratar en futuros artículos de fondo? \_\_\_\_\_
11. ¿Qué opina de la apariencia del Boletín?  Atractiva (siga a #13)  Desearía algunos cambios  Desearía muchos cambios
12. ¿Qué cambios sugiere? \_\_\_\_\_
13. Ayúdenos proporcionando más información sobre usted mismo.
  - a. ¿Cuál es su vinculación a STRI?  Empleado permanente  Empleado temporal  
 Otro (por favor, explique) \_\_\_\_\_ (becario, visitante, voluntario, otra organización, etc.)
  - b. ¿Area de trabajo?  
 Científica  Administrativa  Mantenimiento  Apoyo Científico
  - c. ¿Cuál es su nacionalidad?  
 Panameña  Estadounidense  Ciudadano de un tercer país \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. ¿Dónde trabaja?  Tupper  Tivoli  Biblioteca  Naos  BCI  Galeta  
 Proyecto de Derrame de Petróleo  San Blas  Gamboa  Otro \_\_\_\_\_
14. ¿Tiene comentarios o ideas adicionales? \_\_\_\_\_

Agradecemos su colaboración con esta encuesta. Sus comentarios nos ayudarán para mejorar su boletín. *Muchas gracias.*

## STRI Newsletter Survey

The objective of the Newsletter is to inform the STRI community about in-house events and news items related to our mission. Every Friday the Office of Education distributes 200 copies of the Newsletter to employees, visitors and collaborators. We would like to receive comments from our readers to ensure that the Newsletter is accomplishing its objective. Please take a few minutes to fill out this questionnaire and return it to Argelis Roman, in the Office of Education.

1. Do you receive the Newsletter every week?  Yes  No. Explain \_\_\_\_\_
2. When do you usually receive it (day, time)? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What sections of the Newsletter do you read?  Most  About half  First page only  
 Other. Explain \_\_\_\_\_  None
4. Is the Newsletter your principal source of information on Smithsonian activities?  Yes  No
5. Is it your main source of information (personnel matter, employees' benefits, regulations, new employees, etc.)?  
 Yes  No
6. Which of the following sections do you read?
 

<input type="checkbox"/> Seminars	<input type="checkbox"/> List of Publications	<input type="checkbox"/> Opportunities for Training
<input type="checkbox"/> Arrivals and Departures	<input type="checkbox"/> Activities at Tupper Center	<input type="checkbox"/> Workshops, Symposia
<input type="checkbox"/> Vacations	<input type="checkbox"/> Activities at Naos	<input type="checkbox"/> Updates on Projects
<input type="checkbox"/> Birthdays	<input type="checkbox"/> Activities at BCI	<input type="checkbox"/> Research Stations
<input type="checkbox"/> Announcements about STRI	<input type="checkbox"/> STRI Minibookstore	<input type="checkbox"/> 365 Ways to Save Our Planet
<input type="checkbox"/> General Announcements	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific Events	<input type="checkbox"/> New Books - Library
<input type="checkbox"/> Sales	<input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Events	<input type="checkbox"/> From the Personnel Office
7. The section of the STRI Newsletter that you enjoy the most is: \_\_\_\_\_
8. Do you have trouble understanding the technical articles?  Yes  No
9. The Newsletter occasionally prints feature stories on different subjects. Indicate which articles you have enjoyed in the past.  
 \_\_\_\_\_
10. What subjects would you like to see covered in future stories? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Give us your opinion on the appearance of the Newsletter:  Attractive (go to #13)  Could use few changes  Could be greatly improved
12. What changes do you suggest? \_\_\_\_\_
13. Please give us some information about yourself.
  - a. You are a:  Permanent employee  Temporary employee  
 Other (please explain) \_\_\_\_\_ (fellow, visiting scientist, volunteer, from another organization, etc.)
  - b. Your work area is:  
 Scientific  Administrative  Maintenance  Scientific support
  - c. Your nationality is:  
 Panamanian  U.S. citizen  Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Where do you work?  Tupper  Tivoli  Library  Naos  BCI  Galeta  
 Oil Spill Project  San Blas  Gamboa  Other \_\_\_\_\_
14. Do you have additional comments or ideas? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

We appreciate your comments; these will help us to improve your publication. Many thanks.