

STRI Newsletter



February 4, 1994

No.5

Tupper Center Seminars

Wed., Feb. 9, 12:00 noon seminar speaker will be Professor Kurt Hostettmann, Institute of Pharmacognosy and Phytochemistry, School of Pharmacy - B.E.P., University of Lausanne, Switzerland.

Importance of Medicinal Plants and Drugs at the End of the 20th Century.

Abstract: The process of seeking out plants for medicinally important compounds has expanded greatly in the last 30 years. I discuss the search for anti-HIV and anti-cancer compounds, and in particular the antifungal constituents of certain plants of Panama.



Mario Kreuzberger, "Don Francisco", interviews Oris Acevedo, BCI Scientific Coordinator during his visit to the island, on Friday, Jan. 28. This visit will be part of several segments on Panama to be aired in Sábado Gigante Internacional (with over 20 million viewers) later this year. *Mario Kreuzberger, "Don Francisco" entrevista a Oris Acevedo durante su visita a BCI el viernes 28 de enero. Esta visita forma parte de varios segmentos sobre Panamá que saldrán al aire en Sábado Gigante Internacional (con más de 20 millones de expectadores) próximamente.*

Things You Should Know

At the Tupper Center

Wed, Feb. 9 - Noon seminar Prof. Kurt Hostettmann, Auditorium.

Thu, Feb. 10 - Emergency Response Subcommittee meeting - SMR at 8 a.m.

Thu, Feb. 10 - CPR Course in LMR at 8 a.m.

Thu, Feb. 10 - OEC Slide show - Auditorium at 3 p.m.

At the Culebra Marine Reserve

Tue, Feb. 8 - Balboa Elem School.

Wed, Feb. 9 - Esc. Naciones Unidas

Thu, Feb. 10 - Esc San José.

Fri, Feb. 11 - ECO Aventuras.

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People

Arrivals

- Phyllis Boyd, Field Museum Chicago, Feb. 7-30 June, to study crown status of canopy trees; testing of variable transect methods; examine 1994 fruit crop of *Tachigali versicolor*.
- Simon Haberle, SI postdoctoral fellow from the Australian National University, with his wife Cathy Ranieri, Feb. 9, 1994-14 February, 1995, to study palynology of recent river, delta and continental shelf sediments from the Amazon Basin.
- Camille Mojica, graduate student fellow from the University of California at Berkeley, Feb. 1-26 April, to study ecology, behavior of natural history of the livebearing fish genus *Brachyrhaphis* at Gamboa.

- Elizabeth Pennisi, *Science News* writer, Feb. 4-15, to meet STRI staff for possible news articles.

Departures

- Nancy Knowlton, Feb. 3-5 to San Jose, Costa Rica to teach a course and present a seminar at Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica.
- Ricardo Cortez, Feb. 9-13, to Miami, Florida, to attend the Third Annual International Boatbuilders Exhibition and Conference.
- Monica Alvarado, Jan. 30-12 Feb. to Washington, D.C., to attend courses and other official business.
- Alejandro Arze and Luis Lopez, Feb. 12-20, to attend National Security Conference in Washington, D.C.

Announcements

Welcome to Dr. Penny Barnes

STRI is delighted to welcome Dr. Penny Barnes as a new Affiliated Research Scientist. Penny Barnes has a PhD. from the University of Plymouth, England and her undergraduate and masters degrees are in Marine Science from the University of Victoria, Canada. She is funded for her current research through a grant from the Office of Naval Research held in conjunction with Professor Colleen Cavanaugh through Harvard University. Penny will be based at NAOS and will conduct research on Invertebrate-Bacteria Symbioses, in particular host-endosymbiont specificity in the mollusc family Lucinidae. Intracellular bacterial symbioses oc-

cur in all bivalves belonging to the family Lucinidae and were undoubtedly a critical factor in their evolution. Very little is known, however, about the specificity of the relationship between the symbionts and their lucinid bivalve hosts. In addition, species boundaries within the lucinids are currently based entirely on shell morphology and are ambiguous. The specificity of the relationship between the lucinid bivalves and their bacterial endosymbionts may be of systematic importance or may demonstrate ecological specificity. Investigations into the symbio-host relationship in the lucinid bivalves may have implications for other bacteria-bivalve symbio-

Announcement from the Office of the Director

The use of STRI vehicles is not authorized for participation in Carnival events in the Republic of Panama during February. There are a number of car-rental agencies which can readily provide vehicles for anyone interested in participating in these events.

Anuncio de la Oficina del Director

No se pueden usar los vehículos de STRI para participar en los eventos de Carnaval en la República de Panamá durante Febrero. Hay varias agencias de alquiler de autos que alquilan carros a cualquiera interesado en participar de estos eventos.

Reminder

The "Jacana" will be undergoing maintenance from February 8 to 11. The "Las Cruces" will be in use during this period.

Fellowship awarded to Francisco Rivera

Francisco Rivera, STRI computer specialist, was recently awarded a full scholarship from the Learning Tree Professional Certification Program, as part of their Excellence in Education Competition. Rivera was selected from among many applicants in companies such as Hewlett-Packard, Novell, Intel and Lotus. The scholarship supports Rivera in 5 four-day courses that will enable him to become a Certified Internetworking Professional, and will facilitate the implementation of the STRI telecommunication master plan.

Harbor Branch Internships and Workshops

Harbor Branch is offering student internships and faculty workshops as well as undergraduate courses in introductory marine biology and oceanography and specialized courses in aquaculture, invertebrate and fish biology and environmental science. For information, see flyer posted at Tupper Building bulletin board.

Solicitud de Voluntario

Se necesitan asistentes voluntarios para trabajar en BCI desde marzo hasta mediados de abril, marcando, mapeando y midiendo árboles en 16 parcelas experimentales. Se están construyendo grandes cercas alrededor de 8 parcelas para impedir la entrada de los mamíferos. El objetivo del experimento es determinar la función de los herbívoros en la regeneración del bosque. El título del proyecto es: "¿Controlan los mamíferos y los insectos la diversidad del bosque tropical?; un experimento a nivel comunitario". Los voluntarios deben viajar todos los días a BCI o quedarse en Gigante. Interesados favor comunicarse con el Dr. Walter P. Carson en Barro Colorado o con la Oficina de Educación.

Access to the Causeway

Access to the Amador Causeway "at no cost" and "in vehicle" is only and exclusively for STRI Official business related. Our access to the area is regulated by the Municipal Security. STRI's official mission at Naos could be affected if we do not comply with these regulations. When coming to Naos for recreational purposes, leave your car at the parking space located at the entrance, walk and pay the 25¢ fee. Thanks for your cooperation.

Acceso a la Calzada de Amador "sin costo" y "en vehículos" es única y exclusivamente por asuntos oficiales relacionados con STRI. Nuestro acceso al área está regido por la Vigilancia Municipal. Por lo tanto, la misión oficial de este Instituto en Naos podría afectarse si no cumplimos con los reglamentos establecidos. Cuando visite Naos por recreación, deje su vehículo estacionado a la entrada de la calzada, camine y pague los 25¢ de entrada. Gracias.

Director of National Police Visits STRI

Lic. Oswaldo Fernández, Director of the National Police, visited STRI Administrative Headquarters last Tuesday, January 25 and met with Ira Rubinoff and other STRI representatives.

He was accompanied by Major José A. Gomez, Director of the Panama Canal Area Police, and Captain Ida de García, Chief of the Forest Police.

During this visit they toured the Earl S. Tupper Exhibit Hall, the Library, laboratories and other facilities. On this occasion, the National Police and STRI signed an important collaborative agreement, which formalizes the joint protection and patrols of the Barro Colorado Nature Monument. During recent years, these joint patrols have been conducted effectively by members of the National Police and the STRI gamewardens.

The continuing support from the director of the National Police and his awareness of the importance of protecting the Barro Colorado Nature Monument are sources of encouragement for the members of the Forest Police and the STRI gamewardens, who patrol day and night to ensure the protection of this important area.



STRI Director Ira Rubinoff and Oswaldo Fernandez, Director of the Policia Nacional, sign an important agreement for the joint protection of the Barro Colorado Natural Monument. *El Director del STRI Dr. Ira Rubinoff y Oswaldo Fernandez, Director de la Policia Nacional, firman un importante acuerdo de protección conjunta del Monumento Natural Barro Colorado*

El Director de la Policía Nacional visita STRI

El Director del Instituto Smithsonian de Investigaciones Tropicales, Dr. Ira Rubinoff, recibió la visita del Lic. Oswaldo Fernández, Director de la Policía Nacional, el pasado martes 25 de enero en la sede administrativa del Instituto en el Corregimiento de Ancón.

El Director Fernández estuvo acompañado del Mayor José A. Gómez, Director de la Policía del Area Canalera y de la Capitana Ida de García, Jefa de la Policía Forestal.

Durante la visita, recorrieron el Centro de Exhibiciones Tupper, la Biblioteca, los Laboratorios y otras instalaciones del Instituto. Además, se llevó a cabo la firma de un importante Acuerdo de Cooperación entre la Policía Nacional y el Smithsonian. Este Acuerdo formaliza las actividades conjuntas de protección y patrullaje del mundialmente reconocido Monumento Natural de Barro Colorado, las cuales se han estado llevando a cabo de manera armoniosa y efectiva por unidades de la Policía Nacional y

miembros del cuerpo de guardabosques del Smithsonian, durante los últimos años.

La comprensión y sensibilidad del Director de la Policía Nacional con relación a la importancia de la continua y efectiva protección de la integridad del Monumento Natural de Barro Colorado, es un estímulo para las unidades de la Policía y del cuerpo de Guardabosques del Smithsonian, quienes laboran día y noche en cumplimiento de su misión. Mediante la firma de este Acuerdo se reconoce la importancia de las actividades de protección, a fin de garantizar la disponibilidad de esta área protegida, y así continuar estudiando los procesos naturales del bosque y de los organismos tropicales.

Announcement:

The scientific Staff meeting scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 8 has been cancelled.

STRI Birthdays February

Martin Moynihan	5
Gilberto Batista	6
Eduardo Navarro	6
Mireya Correa	6
Gloria Zelaya	7
Milagro Ruiz	7
Karl Kaufmann	8
Roberto Borrell	10
Luis Carlos Lopez	10
Isis Estribi	12
Ricardo Cortez	14
Georgina De Alba	15
Walter Dillon	18
Robin Foster	18
Alvaro Gonzalez	27
Consul Chamorro	28
Vielka Chang-Yau	29



New Books Received at the STRI Library

Colón y Kuna Yala : desafío para la Iglesia y el gobierno.
F1569.C7C719 1992 STRI.

The Community ecology of frugivorous *Drosophila* in a neotropical forest / Jan Gerhard Sevenster.
QL537.D76S49 1992 STRI.

Ecology 2 / Paul Colinvaux.
QH541.C628 1993X STRI.

Effects of land-use change on atmospheric CO2 concentrations : South and Southeast Asia as a case study / Virginia H. Dale, editor.
QC879.8.E25 1993X STRI.

Forests and forest trees of northeast tropical Africa : their natural habitats and distribution patterns in Ethiopia, Djibouti and Somalia / Ib Friis.
QK390.F75f 1992 STRI.

Guía de campo para el estudio de los vertebrados / editada por José María Chani. **QL605.G94 1992 STRI.**

Informe de la situación general en materia de equilibrio ecológico y protección al ambiente, 1989-1990.
HC79.E5143 1992 STRI.

Isthmian ethnobotanical dictionary / James A. Duke.
RefQK221.D87i 1986 STRI.

Mycenas of the northern hemisphere / by R.A. Maas Geesteranus. **QK629.A44N111 1992 STRI.**

Participación comunal para el desarrollo sustentable : alternativas metodológicas / [editado por María Antonieta Camacho, María Trivelato y Emilio Vargas Mena].
HC143.P27 1992 STRI.

Plant toxin analysis / edited by H.F. Linskens and J.F. Jackson.
RA1250.P713 1992 STRI.

Progress in phycological research, v.9, 1993.
QK564.P965 STRI.

Recursos mundiales 1992-93: Un informe del Instituto de Recursos Mundiales en colaboración con el Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente y el Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo.
Ref HC79.E5W92 S1992 STRI.

Silvicultura especial de árboles maderables tropicales / A. Betancourt Barroso.
SD535.3.B56 1987 STRI.

The Third revolution: environment, population, and a sustainable world / Paul Harrison.
GF75.H367 1992X STRI.

Using online scientific & engineering databases / Harley Bjelland.
QA76.55.B54 1992X STRI.

Oceanography and Marine Biology, An Annual Review, v.31, 1993.

New STRI Publications

Keller, B.D. and J.B.C. Jackson, eds. 1993. Long-term assessment of the oil spill at Bahía Las Minas, Panama, synthesis report, volume I: executive summary. OCS Study MMS 93-0047. U.S. Department of the Interior, Minerals Management Service, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, New Orleans, La. 129 pp.

Keller, B.D. and J.B.C. Jackson, eds. 1993. Long-term assessment of the oil spill at Bahía Las Minas, Panama, synthesis report, volume II: technical report, Part I, II. OCS Study MMS 93-0048. U.S. Department of the Interior, Minerals Management Service, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, New Orleans, La. 1,017 pp.

Gupta, Mahabir P., Correa A., Mireya D., Solís, Pablo N., Jones, Ana, Galdames, Carmen, and Guionneau-Sinclair, Françoise, 1993. Medicinal plant inventory of Kuna Indians: Part 1. *Journal of Ethnopharmacology* 40 - 77-109.

Roberts, Tyson R., 1993. Artisanal fisheries and fish ecology below the great waterfalls of the Merong River in Southern Laos. *Nat. Hist. Bull. Siam Soc.* 41:31-62.

Ewald, Paul W. Evolution of infectious disease. New York: Oxford University Press, 1994.

Diagramación y Edición por : Fernando Bouche