

# STRI news

June 14, 1996

Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute • Apartado 2072, Balboa, Panamá • Tel. 227-6022 • Fax 232-5978

## TUPPER CENTER SEMINARS

Tuesday, June 18, noon seminar speaker will be Helena Fortunato, STRI

### *Neogene Speciation in (One or Two?) Small Oceans*

#### Abstract

The late Neogene formation of the Isthmus of Panama provides an excellent opportunity to compare the proportion of speciation events that occurred within a single ocean or across a developing land barrier, based on cladistic analysis of well preserved fossil lineages.

Cladistic phylogenies based on 49 shell characters of 42 species of the genus *Strombina* ranging from the Early Miocene to Recent show that the Isthmus was indeed an important geographic barrier that was breached only 4 or 5 times during the entire evolutionary history of *Strombina*. Results show two main clades both of them originating and evolving in the Caribbean sea. These two lineages colonized the Eastern Pacific in the Middle or early Late Miocene (the *S. (Strombina)* lineage) and during the Pliocene (the *S. (Lirastrombina)* lineage); after which the Caribbean and the Eastern Pacific lineages remained distinct throughout the Recent. Approximately 90% of the inferred speciation events occurred within a single ocean over distances less than 500-1000 Km. The isthmian barrier was of trivial importance for speciation, as well as for the establishment of new lineages (only one can be attributed to a transisthmian event).

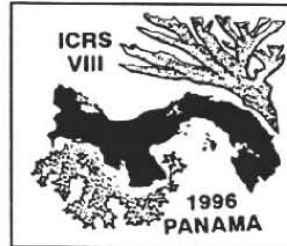
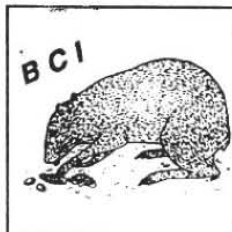
Tuesday, June 25, Eric Lindquist, STRI short-term fellow from Ohio State University, will be the noon seminar speaker at the Tupper Center.

## BAMBI SEMINAR

Thursday, June 20, Bambi seminar speaker will be Trina Vittl-eto, Southampton College

### *Earthworm ecology: they're not just for fishing*

Transportation and dinner reservations are essential. Please call at BCI, tel 276-2124



## HIGHLIGHTS

### Programa Público

■ Domingo 23 de junio, 5pm: conferencia magistral dictada por Peter Glynn, Teatro La Huaca, Centro de Convenciones ATLAPA. "Perspectivas para la biología de los arrecifes coralinos: resultados de estudios en Panamá." ■ Inauguración de la exhibición "Nuestros Arrecifes: Unidos por el Caribe," Salón Las Totumas, ATLAPA.

■ Lunes 24 de junio, 6:30pm: Refrigerio, seguido, a las 7:30pm, por el "Foro integrado por participantes nacionales e internacionales: Las comunidades indígenas y costeras; conservación de los arrecifes coralinos," Teatro La Huaca, ATLAPA.

■ Martes 25 de junio, 6:30pm: brindis de apertura, Teatro La Huaca, seguido, a las 7:30pm, por la conferencia del biólogo Michael Lang: "Scuba: la ciencia y tecnología del buceo."

■ Miércoles 26 de junio, 6:30pm: refrigerio seguido, a las 7:30pm, por la conferencia de Héctor Guzmán: "Crisis en la Zona Costera ¿Destrucción o Conservación?" complementada por la participación de Elvira María Alvarado Chacón (Colombia) y Eric Jordán (México)

■ La exhibición "Nuestros Arrecifes: Unidos por el Caribe" estará abierta al público del 24 al 30 de junio, de 10am a 9pm. Expone el tema de los arrecifes coralinos del Caribe, su estado actual y los esfuerzos para utilizarlos sosteniblemente. Para mayor información, favor ponerse en contacto con la Oficina de Educación de STRI.

"Los corales son los ecosistemas marinos más diversos y su futuro peligra! Conoce más acerca de los arrecifes coralinos de Panamá y del mundo participando en el Programa Público de VIII Simposio Internacional de Arrecifes Coralinos"



**EN EL PARQUE METROPOLITANO**

- El ciclo de conferencias titulado "Charla Smithsonian del Mes" como parte de la celebración del 150avo del Smithsonian, presentó a Elizabeth King, el 29 de mayo, con la charla "Historia de la Investigación Científica en la Isla de Barro Colorado, en el Salón de las Oropéndolas del Parque Nacional Metropolitano.
- La próxima charla será el miércoles 26 de junio por John Welch, USDA-ARS Screwworm Research Unit

*El Gusano Barrenador en Panamá*

**PEOPLE****Arrivals**

- Mario Sousa, University of Connecticut, Jun 15-10 Jul, to work on the systematics and reproductive biology of the genus *Witheringia* L'Her (Solanaceae), on mainland.
- Gerardo Avalos, University of Missouri, Jun 15-30 Nov, to work on the influence of light and support availability on phenotypic plasticity and photosynthetic acclimation in lianas. He will be stationed at Tupper.
- Robert Rowan, Australian Institute of Marine Science, Jun 15-12 Aug, to work on the ecology of coral-dinoplageellate symbiosis, at Naos.
- Steven Hubbell, Eli Carlisle and William Pugh, Princeton University, Jun 17-15 Jul, for an experimental test on mammals and insects, and their control on tropical forest diversion, at BCI and Gigante.
- Elsie Rivera, University of Puerto Rico, Jun 17-15 Aug, to work with Richard Meinzer on environmental and physiological regulation of water flux through a tropical forest ecosystem, at BCI.
- Helene Mueller-Landau, Princeton University, Jun 17-15 Jul, to do research in habitat speciation in rainforest trees and their reflection in differential seedling recruitment and survival between habitats, at BCI.
- James Porter, University of Georgia and daughter, Jun 19-23, to re-photograph the Lutz/Molino trail on BCI.
- Mairi Best, STRI short-term fellow from the University of Chicago, Jun 20-20 Sep, to work on the temporal variability in the post-mortem condition of tropical molluscan assemblages, at San Blas.
- David Gruber, STRI Washington D.C. Office, Jun 21-29, to participate at the Coral Reef Symposium activities.
- Lucy Dorick, STRI Development Officer at SI, Jun 23, to attend the Coral Reef Symposium.

**New Honor**

Mary Jane West-Eberhard was recently selected as fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. West-Eberhard received this honor as a recognition for her contributions in the evolutionary and population biology and ecology fields. We all feel very proud.

**THINKS YOU SHOULD KNOW****From the Visitor's Office****De la Oficina de Visitantes**

PEMASKY officials have reported that scientists are carrying out collections within Kuna Yala without their knowledge of approval. If you are doing research or collecting in Panama with an INRENARE permit not processed at the STRI Visitor's Services Office though Maria Leone and want to do collecting in Kuna Yala, please contact her. If you already have a permit for Kuna Yala, please report the dates you will visit the area to Geodisio Castillo, PEMASKY, Tel. 225-8084 • Fax 225-7603 ••• PEMASKY ha reportado científicos haciendo colectas en Kuna Yala sin su aprobación. Si usted está llevando a cabo investigaciones o colectas en Panamá con un permiso de INRENARE que no se procesó en la Oficina de Visitantes de STRI a través de María Leone, favor de comunicarse con ella. Si usted ya tiene permiso para colectas en Kuna Yala, debe avisar sobre las fechas en que visitará el área a Geodisio Castillo, PEMASKY, Tel. 225-8084 • Fax 225-7603.

**AFCU Audio Response Teller**

When making inquiries or transactions, the new AFCU audio response teller (A.R.T.) will give you information on your savings balance, may transfer funds between your different accounts, do withdrawals, verify if checks have cleared, etc. You can access A.R.T. from a touch tone telephone by calling 202-488-3130. For more information on A.R.T., please contact AFCU authorized personnel at STRI. Celideth de León at the Office of External Affairs, Tivoli, Mercedes Denis and Osmila Sánchez at Naos, José Ramón Perurena at the Naos Shop, Vielka Rodríguez at BCI and Dora Justo at the Pastor's House.

**STRI EN LAS NOTICIAS****Natural Resources Monitoring Project****Proyecto de Monitoreo de Recursos Naturales**

With USAID funding STRI and INRENARE have

initiated a 2.5 year effort to monitor forest cover, vertebrates, soil and water resources in the Panama Canal Watershed. A steering committee, one member from each participating institution, provides guidance and facilitates project activities. Stanley Heckadon represents STRI in this committee. Alexis Baules, trained in Germany, has been appointed project chief. Support staff include Zeida Batista, administrator, and Maribel McCoulley and Néstor as assistants. Richard Condit is responsible for forest cover, Roberto Ibañez for vertebrates and Robert Stallard for soils and water. Leopoldo León played a major role in the successful negotiations with USAID ••• *Con fondos de la USAID, STRI e INRENARE han iniciado un proyecto de 2.5 años para monitorear la cubierta boscosa, los vertebrados, suelos y aguas de la Cuenca del Canal de Panamá. Un comité de coordinación, compuesto por un representante de cada institución participante, provee orientación y facilita el desenvolvimiento de las actividades. Stanley Heckadon representa a STRI en este comité. Alexis Baules, entrenado en Alemania, ha sido escogido director del proyecto. El personal de apoyo se compone de Zeida Batista, administradora con apoyo de Maribel MacCoulley y Nestor Sánchez. Richard Condit es responsable del componente de bosques, Roberto Ibañez, vertebrados, y Robert Stallard de suelos y aguas. Leopoldo León jugó un papel clave en el éxito de las negociaciones con USAID.*

#### AT THE HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE



Recently, we received reading material from the Employee Assistance Program, which is available to be loaned to interested employees ••• Recientemente

recibimos el siguiente material de lectura de parte del Programa de Asistencia al Empleado, y se les prestará a interesados:

- Alzheimer's: the mystery of a fading mind
- Parenting Teens: straight talk
- Single Parenting: a survival guide
- Parenting: your parents
- Parenting: children aged 6-11
- Stress: a modern epidemic
- The Color of Light: daily meditations for all of us living with AIDS
- Self-Care for Caregivers: a twelve-step approach
- Compulsive Overeater
- Meditaciones para Mujeres que Hacen Demasiado.

#### NEW STRI PUBLICATIONS

- Cambra, Roberto A. and Quintero A., Diomedes.** 1996. "The Mexican and Central American Species of *Lophostigma* Mickel, including a New Species, New Distribution Records, and Taxonomic Notes for the Genus (Hymenoptera: Mutillidae)." *Pan Pacific Entomologist* 72(2): 92-101.
- Colinvaux, Paul.** 1995. *Violent Consequences of the Human Niche*. The Ernest Becker Foundation.
- Devall, M.S., Parresol and Wright. S. Joseph.** 1995. "Dendroecological Analysis of *Cordia alliodora*, *Pseudobombax septenatum* and *Annona spregue* in Central Panama." *IOWA Journal* 16(4): 411-424.
- Dudley, Robert and Adler, Gregory H.** 1996. "Biogeography of Milkweed Butterflies (Nymphalidae: Danaeinae) and Mimetic Patterns on Tropical Pacific Archipelagos." *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society* 57: 317-326.
- Guariguata, Manuel R. and Gilbert, Gregory S.** 1996. "Interspecific Variation in Rates of Trunk Wound Closure in a Panamanian Lowland Forest." *Biotropica* 28(1): 23-29.
- Heckadon-Moreno, Stanley.** 1996. "Estudios Botánicos y Forestales de Paul Allen en Panamá 1934-1954." *"Epocas" Segunda Era* Abril: 11.
- Heckadon-Moreno, Stanley.** 1996 "Paul C. Standley y la Flora de Panamá, 1923-1925." *"Epocas" Segunda Era* Mayo: 5
- Jennions, M.D. and Backwell, P.R.Y.** 1996. "Residency and Size Affect Fight Duration and Outcome in the Fiddler Crab *Uca annulipes*." *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society* 57: 293-306.
- Lasker, Howard R., Kim, K. and Coffroth, M.A.** 1996. "Reproductive and Genetic Variation Among Caribbean Gorgonians: The Differentiation of *Plexaura kune*: new species." *Bulletin of Marine Science* 58(1): 277-288.
- López, J.V. Knowlton, Nancy, Cevario, S. and O'Brien, S.F.** 1996. "Complete Nucleotide Sequences of the Domestic Cat (*Felis catus*) Mitochondrial Genome and a Transported mtDNA Tandem Repeat (*Num*) in the Nuclear Genome." *Genomics* 33(2): 229-246.
- Kays, Roland W. and Gilleman, John L.** 1995. "Home Range Size and Social Behavior of Kinkajous (*Potos flavus*) in the Republic of Panama." *Biotropica* 27(4): 530-534.
- Phillips, Kim.** 1995. "Differing Responses to a Predator

(*Eira barbara*) by *Alouatta* and *Cebus*." *Neotropical Primates* 3(2): 45-46.

Piperno, Dolores R. and Becker, Peter. 1996. "Vegetational History of a Site in the Central Amazon Basin Derived from Phytolith and Charcoal Records from Natural Soils." *Quaternary Research* 45: 202-209.

Wcislo, William T. and Cane, J.H., 1996. "Floral Resource Utilization by Solitary Bees (Hymenoptera: Apoidea) and Exploitation of their Stored Foods by Natural Enemies." *Annual Review of Entomology* 41: (1996) 257-286.

Wright, S. Joseph and Calderon, O. 1996. "Phylogenetic Patterns Among Tropical Flowering Phenologies." *Journal of Ecology* 83(5): 937-948.

### AT THE OFFICE OF EDUCATION

At the Office of Education, No. 340, you may find information on training opportunities, congresses, etc., that it's too long to publish. Some of these information concerns:

- Boston University: Quito Ecuador (in Spanish)
- OET: Ecología Tropical y Conservación 97-2
- Engineering Management: University of Florida
- *Resonance*: Journal of Science Education
- Universidad para la Paz: Ecología y Paz, Maestría en Recursos Naturales y Desarrollo Sostenible
- Fortrop '96: International Conference on Tropical Forestry in the 21st Century, Bangkok, Thailand
- Plants for Food and Medicine
- Systematics and Biological Collections
- Frank White Memorial Symposium on ecology, chronology and taxonomy of the African and Madagascar Floras
- 15th Nature North American Conference

### MISCELLANEOUS

#### One of Us ••• Uno de Nosotros

Marek Zdzikot, crane operator at the Metropolitan Park, suffers from leukaemia. He has been accepted at a Social Security program to have a bone transplant from a brother who is compatible and may save his life. In the meantime and related to his travel to Spain where the transplant will take place, he needs our economic help. Please contact America Staff at the Tupper complex, Osmila Sánchez at Naos or Vicky Rodriguez at BCI ••• Marek Zdzikot, operador de la grúa del Parque Metropolitano,

sufre de leucemia. El Seguro Social lo ha aceptado en un programa para hacerle un trasplante de médula de un hermano quien es compatible, lo que puede salvarle la vida. Mientras tanto, necesita de nuestra ayuda para gastos relacionados con tratamientos y el viaje a España donde se realizará la operación. Favor ponerse en contacto con América Staff en el complejo de Tupper, Osmila Sánchez en Naos y Nicky Rodríguez en BCI.

#### Letter ••• Carta

A letter addressed to Odilia A. Arosemena was received at Procurement from P.O. Box 2464, Merrifield VA. If you think it may be yours, please contact Marcela Vargas at the Reception Desk in the Tupper Center ••• La Oficina de Correos recibió una carta dirigida a Odilia A. Arosemena, de Merrifield VA, Apartado 2464. Si usted piensa que puede ser suya, pídase a Marcela Vargas en Recepción del Centro Tupper.

#### For Sale

Toyota Tercel 1983 station-wagon, 4WD, 5 speeds, good condition, available in mid-June. \$1900. Contact Brigitte or Gaetan after working hours at 276-6727.

#### From the editor ••• Al lector

I will be on annual leave for some time. Please send your news through e-mail. If these news are important to personnel not connected to the lan, please ask your facility's secretary to have them available in the bulletin board ••• *Estaré en vacaciones por algún tiempo. Por favor mande sus noticias a través del correo electrónico. Si las noticias son importantes para personal que no está conectado a Groupwise, pídale a la secretaria de su lugar de trabajo que las facilite usando el "bulletin board."*

