

STRI news

June 9, 1997

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TUPPER CENTER

Tuesday, June 10, noon seminar speaker will be Conrad C. Labandeira, SI National Museum of Natural History

The Separate Development of Paleozoic and Post-Paleozoic Insect Herbivores

Abstract

It has been assumed that insect herbivory was minimally developed or absent during the Late Carboniferous and Permian, and that ecologically significant herbivore dietary guilds and functional feeding groups did not arise until considerably later. While this canonical view remains unchallenged, recent documentation from wetland environments in equatorial coal-swamp floras from Euramerica demonstrate that a diverse community of insect herbivores were partitioning plant tissues in major and essentially modern ways. These data, coupled with quantitative analysis of an Early Permian riparian flora, and the devastation of the end-Permian extinctions, suggest that modern (Mesozoic and Cenozoic) insect clades evolved the functional feeding groups and broad dietary guilds that had existed during the Late Paleozoic.



On Thursday, May 22, a reception was held in honor of Honduras President Carlos Reyna at the SI Arts and Industry Building, Washington, D.C. This event was hosted by SI Secretary Michael Heyman, STRI director Ira Rubinoff and Honduras Ambassador in Washington. In the photo, from left to right are SI Provost J. Dennis O'Connor, Honduras Ambassador Roberto Flores Bermúdez and wife Laura de Flores Bermúdez, and President Reyna and First Lady Bessie Watson de Reyna.
(Photo: Courtesy of External Affairs)

SPECIAL TUPPER SEMINAR

Thu, Jun 12, noon seminar speaker will be John Daly, National Institutes of Health
Thirty Years of Discovering Arthropod Alkaloids in Frog Skin

BAMBI SEMINAR

- Mon, Jun 9, Bambi seminar speaker will be Eben Kirksey, New College
Behavioral Relationships Between Ectatomma Colonies: Thieves and Kidnappers or Traders and Vagrants?
- Thu, Jun 12, Bambi seminar speaker will be Robert Dudley, University of Texas
The Biomechanics of Insect Flight: Form, Function and Evolution

PEOPLE

Arrivals

- Paula Eterovick, Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Jun 8-15, to observe the Túngara frog project, in Gamboa.
- Sarah Finkelstein, Princeton University, Jun 9 - Aug 21, to work on a neotropical seedling census.
- Jonathan Howe, Princeton University, Jun 11 - Aug 11, to work on a quantitative analysis of

the effects of Nematode virulence on host wasp mortality, at BCI.

- Tucker Rarrar, Princeton University, Jun 13 - Jul 31, to study the host plant selection by leafcutting ants, on BCI.
- A film crew from Linda Harrar Productions, Jun 2-13, to document research projects at STRI.

Departures

- Steve Paton, Jun 2-13, to Atlanta, for a computer fair, then to Colorado, to consult with colleagues.

New Honor

Stanley Heckadon has been selected by the World Bank, along with other 16 scholars and experts, to the Bank's new Consultative Group on Social Development for Latin America and the Caribbean. This panel will advise the World Bank on social issues.



On Tue, May 13, the STRI's exhibit "Our Reefs: Caribbean Connections" was inaugurated during the International Development Bank's Forum of the Americas Monthly Luncheon, in Washington D.C. The speaker of the Forum was Professor Robert Ginsburg from the Rosenstiel School of the University of Miami, and chair of the International Year of the Reef, who presented "Reefs of the Americas: Their Health Our Wealth". From left to right: Rogelio Novoy, IDB; Ira Rubinoff, STRI; Lawrence Chewing, OAS-Panama; Muni Figueres, IDB; Thomas Lovejoy, Ross Simons, and John Berry, SI, Lucy Dorick, STRI; and Miguel Brettos, SI. (Photo: Courtesy of External Affairs)

FROM SECURITY

■ Do to an increase in criminal activities in some areas of Darien, the Panamanian authorities recommend that visitors avoid the area until these activities are investigated. For more information call the Security Office, ext. 2246

••• *Debido al aumento de actividades criminales en áreas de Darién, las autoridades panameñas recomiendan a visitantes mantenerse alejados del lugar hasta que estas actividades sean investigadas. Para mayor información, favor llamar a la Oficina de Seguridad, ext. 2246.*

Lost CD Writer ••• "CD Writer" Extraviado

A box from Tiger Corporation was lost at the Tupper Center mailing room containing a CD writer. We will appreciate anybody who may give us some information on the missing box, at 232-4225 or the STRI Security Office, ext. 2246 ••• *Una caja que contenía un "CD writer" de la Corporación Tiger desapareció del cuarto de distribución de correo en Tupper. Cualquiera que haya recibido el equipo o pueda dar alguna información sobre éste debe llamar al tel. 232-4225 o la Oficina de Seguridad de STRI, ext. 2246.*

MISCELLANEOUS

Equipo de Football de STRI: Campeones 1997

Muchas felicitaciones al equipo de Football de STRI, quienes ganaron el trofeo "Campeones 1997" el viernes 30 de mayo, por su participación en la Liga de Relaciones Exteriores. Los miembros del equipo son Heidi Banford, Carlos Bonilla, Cónsul Chamorro, Manuel Garrido y José I. Sánchez. Con ellos jugaron también Cornelio Almanza, Luis Banda, Rico Boy, Jesús Garrido, Héctor Rodríguez, Moisés Sánchez, y Omar Velásquez, quienes laboran actualmente en la renovación del Edificio #359 de Naos.

For Sale

Two female boxers, 2-months old, \$150 each. Interested please call Lissy Barnett at 270-0400.