

## Tupper seminar

Tuesday, June 6, noon seminar speaker will be Egbert G. Leigh, Jr., STRI.

## Bambi seminars

- Thursday, June 8, Bambi seminar speaker will be Steve Paton, STRI
- On Sunday, June 11, there will be an extra Bambi by Roberto Dirzo, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México

Please check your e-mail for the titles. Reservations are essential!

## Arrivals

Catherine Potvin, McGill University, Jun 2 - Jun 30, 2001, to continue research at STRI during her sabbatical year, at Tupper.

Lukas Schaerer, Université Pierre and Marie Curie, Switzerland, and assistants Dita Vizoso, Kune von Wattenwyl and Trimurti Irzan, Jun 3 - Dec 31, to conduct preliminary investigation for a study of parasite induced adaptive shift in sex allocation in a sequential hermaphrodite fish, at Bocas del Toro and other areas of Panama.

John Pickering, University of Georgia, Jun 3 - 18, to continue research on insect diversity, on BCI.

Leticia Medina, Universidad Católica Santa María La Antigua, Jun 4-14, to work with Christopher Jiggins on the ecology and genetics of the species boundary in a neotropical butterfly, on BCI.

Denise Hardesty, University of Georgia, Jun 4 - Jul 30, to work with Steve Hubbell on dispersal limitation: does it limit the distribution and abundance of pioneers in a neotropical forest?, in Gamboa and BCI.



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panama

June 2, 2000

## CTFS meeting in Singapore

STRI's Center for Tropical Forest Science (CTFS) is presently hosting the meeting, "Exploring forest diversity and change: Science and policy results from the network of forest dynamics plots" from Wednesday, May 31 to Saturday, June 3, at the National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. The meeting

—that brought together more than 90 natural and social scientists, and forest managers from 20 countries—was organized to share recent findings, build stronger collaboration between networks, and discuss matters related to CTFS's database on tropical tree demography, the largest in the world. The participants will also have the opportunity to visit the Pasoh Forest Dynamics Plot in Malaysia, Huau Kha Khaeng Forest Dynamics Plot in Thailand, and the Lambir Forest Dynamics Plot in Sarawak, Malaysia.



[www.lonelyplanet.com/dest/sea/graphics/map-sing.htm](http://www.lonelyplanet.com/dest/sea/graphics/map-sing.htm)

El Centro de Ciencias Forestales del Trópico, CTFS, de STRI, está llevando a cabo el congreso "Explorando diversidad y cambios forestales: resultados científicos y prácticos de la red de parcelas de dinámica de bosques", del miércoles 31 de mayo al sábado, 3 de junio, en el Instituto Nacional de Educación, Universidad Tecnológica de Nanyang, Singapore. El congreso, que reunió a más de 90 especialistas en ciencias naturales y sociales, y administradores forestales, fue organizado para compartir nuevos conocimientos, reforzar la colaboración entre miembros de la red, y discutir asuntos relacionados a la base de datos del CTFS sobre demografía de árboles tropicales, la más extensa del mundo. Los participantes también tendrán la oportunidad de visitar las parcelas de dinámica de bosques de Pasoh en Malasia, Huau Kha Khaeng en Tailandia, y Lambir en Sarawak, Malasia.

## Congreso de CTFS en Singapore

### Important findings by Condit, et al.

In the article by Condit et al., published on the May 26 issue of *Science*, this international team of researchers lead by STRI's Center for Tropical Forest Science, explain how trees of the same species tend to cluster or aggregate together in a tropical forest. A typical 130-acre site may contain more than a thousand tree species and more than 360,000 individual trees. But researchers have long debated about whether these trees tended to cluster by species or were randomly distributed. A tree census of forest plots was conducted in five South

Condit, Richard, Ashton, Peter S., Baker, Patrick, Bunyavejchewin, Sarayudh, Gunatilleke, Savithri, Nunatilleke, Nimal, Hubbel, Stephen P., Foster, Robin B., Itoh, Akira, LaFrankie, James V., Lee, Hua Seng, Losos, Elizabeth, Manokaran, N. Sukumar, R., and Yamakura, Takuo. 2000. "Spatial patterns in the distribution of tropical tree species." *Science* 288 (5470): 1414-1418.

## More arrivals

Karen Warkentin, SI postdoctoral fellow from the University of Kentucky, Jun 5 - Aug 30, to study the adaptive timing of hatchling in red-eye treefrogs, in Gamboa.

Tim Kennedy, East Carolina University, Jun 5 - Aug 27, to work with Kyle Summers, on the geographic divergence in *Dendrobates pumilio* in the Bocas del Toro Archipelago.

Stylianos Chatzimanolis, graduate student fellow from the University of Kansas, Jun 5 - Aug 12, to work on the behavioral ecology of *Nordus fungicola*, BCI.

Ken Glander, California, Jun 5-21, to work with Katharine Milton on the effects of parasites on a free-ranging howler monkey population, on BCI.

Nathan Erwin, SI National Museum of Natural History, Jun 5-10, to collect specimens for the Insect Zoo.

Silvia Englund, New Hampshire Jun 5-16, to work with Allen Herre on a mycorrhizal project, on BCI.

Kristen Silvius, STRI short-term fellow from Florida Atlantic University, Jun 6 - Jul 30, to work on complex interactions in the palm/palm bruchid system: implications for the evolution of frugivory systems, on BCI.

Steve Mulkey, University of Florida, Jun 6-21, to continue research work on *Psychotria* and Marantaceae, with Joe Wright, at Tupper.

Kaoru Kitajima, University of Florida, Jun 6-21, to conduct studies of ecophysiological and ecosystem significance of silicate accumulation in tree lianas, in Gamboa.

American and Asia countries and findings reveal that nearly every tree species tended to clump together and this aggregation was most intense for the rarer types of plants. The study reveals discoveries that may affect how tropical forests are managed and preserved and will help in the design of nature reserves and in reforestation efforts.

## Hallazgos importantes de Condit y colaboradores

En el artículo de Condit y colaboradores, publicado en el número del 26 de mayo de *Science* (ver cita en la primera página), este equipo internacional de investigadores bajo el CTFS de STRI, explican cómo árboles de la misma especie tienden a agruparse juntos en el bosque tropical. Un área típica de 50 hectáreas puede contener más de 360,000 árboles de mil especies diferentes. Pero los investigadores han debatido por mucho tiempo sobre si estos árboles tienden a agruparse por especies o se distribuyen al azar. En cinco países de Asia y Suramérica se llevó a cabo un censo de árboles en parcelas de bosques, y los resultados revelan que la tendencia de casi todas las especies fue de agruparse, y más aún en las plantas poco comunes. El estudio revela descubrimientos que pueden afectar cómo se manejan y conservan los bosques, y podrá ayudar en el diseño de reservas naturales y en esfuerzos de reforestación.

## “STRINFO”

STRI's Office for Public Information —that disseminates information on STRI's mission and activities— has established the e-mail address “STRINFO” to receive all information on scientific, administrative matters or special events, to be published in the STRI news, the STRI research news flash!, the STRI web-page, the SI Torch, local and international newspapers, TV, radio, etc. Information sent to STRINFO will be received by Mónica Alvarado, Olga Barrio, Marialuz Calderón and Georgina de Alba.

La Oficina de Relaciones Públicas de STRI, encargado de difundir las noticias sobre la misión de STRI y sus actividades, ha establecido un grupo de correo electrónico “STRINFO” para recibir toda información sobre asuntos científicos, administrativos, financieros, eventos de impacto público, etc. que debe distribuirse para publicación en STRI news, STRI research news flash!, STRI web-page, SI Torch, periódicos locales e internacionales, TV, radio, etc. La información que se mande a STRINFO será recibida por Mónica Alvarado, Olga Barrio, Marialuz Calderón y Georgina de Alba.

## New STRI publications

- Dudley, Robert. 2000. “The evolutionary physiology of animal flight: paleobiological and present perspectives.” *Animal Review of Physiology* 62: 135-155.
- Hastings, Philip A. and Robertson, D. Ross. 2000. “Notes on a collection of chaenopsid blennies from Bahia Azul, Bocas del Toro, Caribbean, Panama.” *Revue française Aquariologie* 26(1-2): 33-38.
- Heckadon-Moreno, Stanley. 2000. “Exploraciones botánicas de Paul H. Allen en río Tuira, Darién, 1937.” *“Epocas” Segunda Era* 15(1): 2-3.
- Roubik, David W., Inoue, Tamiji, Hamid, Abdul and Harrison, Rhett. 1999. “Height communication by Bornean honey bees (Apiformes: Apidae; Apini).” *Journal of the Kansas Entomological Society* 72(3): 256-261.

## More arrivals

Gregory Johnston, short-term visitor from Australia, Jun 6 - Jul 5, to test the hypothesis that the lateral patch on a hylid frog *Agallidryas callidryas* is a sexually selected visual signal, in Gamboa.

Gregory Adler and assistants Walter Bialkowski, Jared Haas and Gina Zubert, University of Wisconsin, Jun 6 - Jul 10, to work on limiting and regulating factors in populations of a tropical forest rodent, *Proechimys semispinosus*, on BCI, Gamboa and Fortuna.

## Departures

Amalia Herrera, Jun 4-17, to Washington, D.C., to work at the SI National Museum of Natural History.

Don Windsor, Jun 7-19, to Crete, Greece, to attend the *Walbachia* Conference, and to the U.K., to visit the British Museum of Natural History.

## Leaving the CTFS

Shallin Busch left the CTFS (Washington offices) to start a Ph.D. program in Zoology, at the University of Washington in Seattle. We wish her best of luck in her academic studies. Please direct questions and requests to Elizabeth Losos, CTFS director at [elosos@stridc.si.edu](mailto:elosos@stridc.si.edu)