

Tupper seminar

Tuesday, October 17, noon seminar speaker will be Suzanne Williams, STRI postdoctoral fellow

Molecular biogeography of two widespread Indo-West Pacific invertebrates

The richest, most diverse, marine fauna is found in the tropical Indo-West Pacific (IWP) region. Some authors suggest that this biodiversity may be due to the overlap of two biogeographic zones. Climatological and/or geological processes may have prevented or restricted dispersal of many tropical marine species between the Indian and Pacific Oceans for thousands of years, with the Indonesian archipelago acting as a border between two biogeographic regions. While there are abundant distribution data that suggest that the Indian and Pacific Oceans should be considered as distinct biogeographic zones, direct evidence for genetic segregation is limited. I present here molecular data for two broadly distributed invertebrates spanning the IWP. I will also discuss problems arising from data from pseudogenes.

Evening seminar

A special evening seminar will be held at the Tupper Center on Friday, October 20, at 6pm by Patty Jo Watson, Washington University at St. Louis

Transitions to agriculture in prehistory

Cocktails: 5pm. Simultaneous translation (English to Spanish) will be available.

Bambi seminar

Thursday, October 19, Bambi speakers will be Roberto A. Cordero and Melva Olmos, University of California
The hydraulic and mechanical design of *Psychotria deflexa*: an allometry perspective



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

www.stri.org

October 13, 2000

Fifth census on BCI plot completed



The STRI's Center for Tropical Forest Science (CTFS) completed the fifth census of the 50ha forest dynamics plot on Barro Colorado Island this past week. The census started on January 3rd under the general direction of STRI scientists Richard Condit, CTFS director, and Steve Hubbell. Nine biologists and students from the University of Panama, three volunteers from the University of Washington and four technicians from

the Yasuní-Ecuador plot participated in the census under the direct supervision of Rolando Pérez. Three species were reported in the plot for the first time in this census. The first census on the BCI plot was done in 1981-83. Studies based on information gathered from these censuses on plots around the world show how tropical forests regenerate, how they can be managed and conserved, and how to maintain their rich diversity. On the left, Richard Condit crawls from under a wild cashew tree (Espavé: *Anacardium excelsium*). On the right, part of the Panamanian team: Diógenes Ibarra, Clara Camargo and Arturo Morris (first row), Cherie Wasoff (development writer visiting from Washington, D.C.) and Eric Manzané (second row), Rick Condit, Nigel Pitman (visitor), Salomón Aguilar, Isaac Quintero, Rolando Pérez and Javier Ballesteros (third row). Not in the photo: Blexein Contreras. José Rincón and Pablo Ramos. Volunteers from University of Washington were Jeremiah Nelson, Lauren Schachner and Tonya Lander. Technicians from Ecuador were Gabriel Grefa, Silverio Mamallacta, Jairo Zambrano and Anelio Loor. Data entry is scheduled to take another two months.



Photos: Marcos A. Guerra

El Centro de Ciencias Forestales del Trópico de STRI (CTFS) completó esta semana el quinto censo de la parcela de dinámica de bosques de 50hectáreas en Barro Colorado. El censo empezó el 3 de enero, bajo la dirección general de los científicos de STRI Richard Condit, director del CTFS, y Steve Hubbell. El censo contó con la participación de nueve biólogos y estudiantes de biología de la Universidad de Panamá, cuatro voluntarios de la Universidad de Washington, y cuatro técnicos de la parcela de Yasuní-Ecuador, bajo la supervisión inmediata de Rolando Pérez. Durante el censo se encontraron tres especies que no se habían encontrado anteriormente en la parcela. El primer censo de esta parcela se llevó a cabo de 1981-83. Estudios que se basan en la información recogida durante estos censos en parcelas alrededor del mundo muestran cómo se regeneran los bosques tropicales, cómo deben ser administrados y conservados, y cómo mantener su rica diversidad. A la izquierda, Richard Condit sale de abajo de un árbol de espavé (*Anacardium excelsium*). A la derecha, parte del grupo panameño: Diógenes Ibarra, Clara Camargo y Arturo Morris (primer plano), Cherie Wasoff (escritora de la Oficina de Promoción Institucional, de

Special Bambi

A special Bambi will be held on BCI on Saturday, October 21, by Patty Jo Watson, 7pm

Prehistoric exploration in the world's longest cave

Pick-nick style dinner up at the old dining hall. The boat back to Gamboa will leave at 9:30pm.

Remember to call BCI and make your reservation before noon of the day before the Bambi and confirm the boat schedules. If you don't have a STRI ID, please contact the BCI secretary or the Visitor's Office at Tupper for a permit to enter the Gamboa Dredging Division.

Arrivals

Jenny Acevedo, intern from the University of Puerto Rico, Oct 15, to work with Eldredge Bermingham, at Naos.

Phyllis Coley, University of Utah, Oct 15 - Dec 23, to continue long-term studies on herbivory and pathogen damage to tropical trees.

Thomas Kursar, University of Utah, Oct 15 - Dec 23, to work on the deterrence of fungi and herbivores in young leaves with different developmental patterns, on BCI.

Departures

Mireya Correa and Noris Salazar-AlLEN, to Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, Oct 14-21, to attend the Herbariums of Mesoamerica and the Caribbean Network meetings and present conferences.

Héctor Guzmán, Oct 20-29, to Bali, Indonesia, to participate at the Coral Reef Congress with conferences:

--*Can large-scale ecology improve coral reef conservation? A case study from Bocas del Toro, Panama*

--*A revision of the genus Pacifigorgia (Octocorallia; Gorgoniidae)* (with O. Breedy)

--*Monitoring and Status of Coral Reefs in Southern Tropical America* (with J. Garzón-Ferreira, J. Cortés, A. Croquer, Z. Leão, and A. Rodríguez-Ramírez)

visita de Washington, D.C.) y Eric Manzané (segundo plano), y Rick Condit, Nigel Pitman (visitante), Salomón Aguilar, Isaac Quintero, Rolando Pérez y Javier Ballesteros (tercer plano). Del grupo, que no están en la foto: Blexein Contreras. José Rincón y Pablo Ramos. Voluntarios de la Universidad de Washington: Jeremiah Nelson, Lauren Schachner y Tonya Lander. Técnicos de Ecuador: Gabriel Grefa, Silverio Mamallacta, Jairo Zambrano and Anelio Llor. Se espera que el trabajo de procesamiento de datos tome otros dos meses.

Se completó quinto censo de la parcela de BCI

New names for STRI bookstores

Tupper: *Corotú Bookstore*

Culebra: *The Pelican Bookstore*

BCI: *Espavé Bookstore*

New book

Jaramillo A., César A., Ibáñez D., Roberto, Solís, Francisco A., and Luna, Iván (eds.). 2000. *IV Congreso de la Sociedad Mesoamericana para la Biología y la Conservación: Libro de Resúmenes*. Panamá, Panamá: Sociedad Mesoamericana para la Biología y la Conservación



Nueva publicación

WWWOOOO!

To complement the BCI Halloween party (to be held the weekend after), Gamboa will have a Fancy Dress Party on Halloween itself, Tuesday, 31st October. As soon as it gets dark, and the bats come out, the party will start! (about 7pm). Come as your favorite horror character, or just like something that dragged itself out of the forest! There will be a prize for the best costume. You can bring food, beverages and horrors to decorate the area! RSVP to Chris Thompson in Gamboa or E-mail: thompsonc.

Laboratorio Marino Isla Galeta, Colón

Visita
nuestros
acuarios

Instituto Smithsonian de Investigaciones Tropicales (STRI)



Support the Galeta aquaria by buying the cutest bumper sticker with Galeta's mascot, Colón's emotive pufferfish! 25¢ at STRI bookstores

¡Apoye los acuarios de Galeta comprando el gracioso "sticker" con la mascota de Galeta, el emotivo pez erizo colonense! 25¢ en las librerías de STRI

New STRI publications

Lovette, Irby J. and Bermingham, Eldredge. 2000. "c-mos variation in songbirds: molecular evolution, phylogenetic implications, and comparisons with mitochondrial differentiation." *Molecular Biology and Evolution* 17(10): 1569-1577.

Plotkin, Joshua B., Potts, Matthew D., Leslie, Nandi, Manokaran, N., Lafrankie, James, and Ashton, Peter S. 2000. "Species-area curves, spatial aggregation, and habitat specialization in tropical forests." *Journal of Theoretical Biology* 207(1): 81-99.

Roubik, David W. 2000. "The de-flowering of Central America: a current perspective." In *Proceedings of the Sixth International Conference on Apiculture in Tropical Climates*: 144-151. Cardiff, Wales, UK: International Bee Research Association.

Roubik, David W., and Wolda, Henk. 2000. "Male and female bee dynamics in a lowland tropical forest." In *Proceedings of the Sixth International Conference on Apiculture in Tropical Climates*: 167-174. Cardiff, Wales, U.K.: International Bee Research Association.

Roubik, David W., and Moreno, J. Enrique. 2000. "Generalization and specialization by stingless bees." In: *Proceedings of the Sixth International Conference on Apiculture in Tropical Climates*: 112-118. Cardiff, Wales, U.K.: International Bee Research Association.