

Tupper Seminar

Tue, Dec 7, noon seminar speaker will be Shoko Sakai, Kyoto University, Japan

General flowering in a dipterocarp forest in Borneo

Abstract

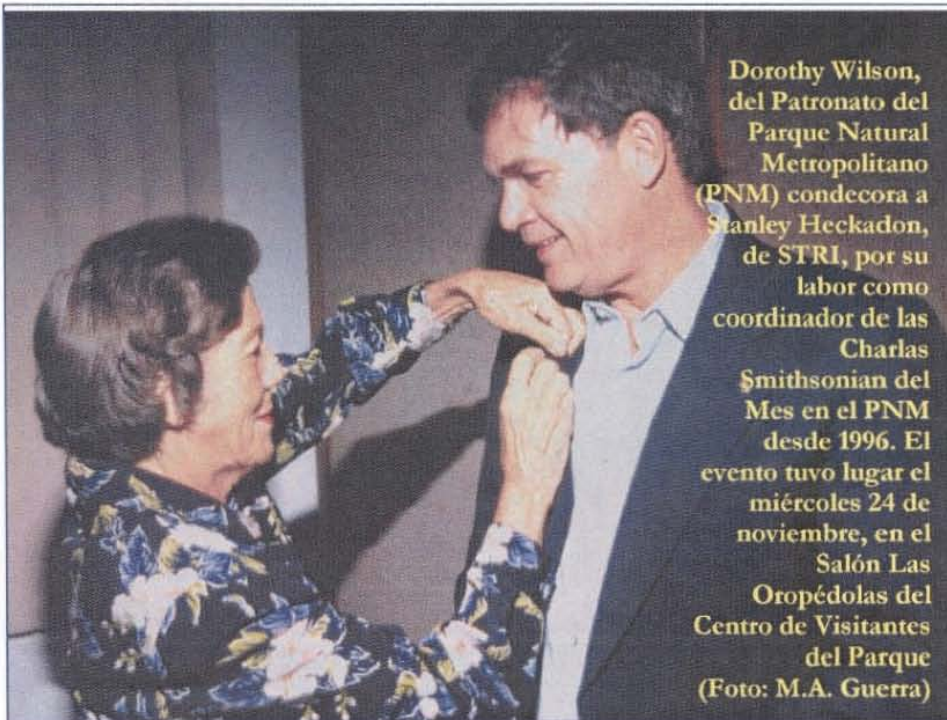
General flowering (GF) is a phenomenon unique to lowland dipterocarp forests in Southeast Asia. During GF, which occurs at irregular intervals of 3-10 years, most dipterocarp species together with species of other families flower heavily and sequentially for several months, with high intraspecific synchronization. In non-GF periods, only a few flowers can be seen. A series of studies conducted in Lambir NP, Malaysia, by the Canopy Biology Program in Sarawak (CBPS) described the GF phenomenon and the plant-animal interactions associated with it. One of the important questions, related to GF, is what pollinates the species that flower at multi-year intervals, given that there are few floral resources to sustain potential pollinators during non-GF periods. The studies revealed that honeybees and beetles were important pollinators during GF periods. In the light of these studies, I discuss two hypotheses concerning GF triggers (drought and drops in temperature), and three possible ultimate causes of GF, predator satiation, promotion of pollination, paucity of potential flowering cues in aseasonal forests.

STRI news

'99

Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

December 3, 1999



Dorothy Wilson, del Patronato del Parque Natural Metropolitano (PNM) condecora a Stanley Heckadon, de STRI, por su labor como coordinador de las Charlas Smithsonian del Mes en el PNM desde 1996. El evento tuvo lugar el miércoles 24 de noviembre, en el Salón Las Oropédolas del Centro de Visitantes del Parque (Foto: M.A. Guerra)

Dorothy Wilson, of the Metropolitan Natural Park's "Patronato" (MNP) awards a pin to STRI scientist Stanley Heckadon in recognition for coordinating the "Charlas Smithsonian del Mes" at the MNP since 1996. The event took place on Wednesday, November 24, at the "Salón Las Oropédolas" in the Park's Visitors Center.

Arrivals

Manuel Lerdaú and Heather Throop, State University of New York, Dec 8 - 20, to work on the ecology of isoprene emission, at Parque Natural Metropolitano.

Juan Posada, University of Florida, Dec 9-23, to study the acclimation of leaf photosynthetic traits in canopy tree with contrasting architectures, at Tupper.

Krista Farris, Louisiana State University, Dec 10 - 27, to work with Julie Denslow on the effects of light and litter on seedling dynamics across a rainfall gradient, on BCI and Gamboa.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF
MARTIN H. MOYNIHAN
STRI'S FOUNDING DIRECTOR
WHO DIED THREE YEARS AGO
ON DECEMBER 3rd

David Roubik Dec 7-10, will be back at STRI briefly, to continue research.

Bambi Seminar

Thu, Dec 9, Bambi seminar speaker will be Tom Orsar, University of Utah

Physiological differences among shade-tolerant forest plants and speculations about drought as a selective factor

Abstract:

Most rainforest plants are referred to as "shade tolerant", a term that masks considerable variation. I will discuss our studies, mostly published, that show that these species can be very different in physiology. The existence of such physiological diversity is consistent with our understanding of tropical rainforest habitats as highly variable in time and space. The talk will end with a discussion and speculations about the role of water stress in determining the species composition of tropical forests.

STRI in the news

"Where north meets south: seeking a "unified theory" in Panama." 1999. *Mammoth Trumpet* 14(3): 8-11.

"Colaborando en la preservación del camarón". 1999. *Suplemento "Ellas" de Prensa*, 26 de noviembre: 63-64.

STRI pagará 70% del seguro de salud de sus empleados

A partir del 1ro de enero del 2000, STRI asumirá el 70% del costo de la prima del seguro de hospitalización y vida PALIC (hasta un máximo de \$500 anual por empleado) de todos los empleados con contratos indefinidos, definidos y por proyecto, siempre que el contrato sea de al menos 6 meses. Los empleados que deseen la cobertura deberán aportar el 30% restante, más el 100% del costo por incluir a sus dependientes. El costo bi-semanal de las primas a partir de enero del 2000 será:

| | STRI (70%) | Empleado (30%) | Total |
|------------------------|------------|----------------|-------|
| Empleado solo | 17.47 | 7.49 | 24.96 |
| + 1 dependiente | 17.47 | 35.72 | 53.19 |
| + 2 dependientes | 17.47 | 37.43 | 54.90 |
| + 3 ó más dependientes | 17.47 | 61.76 | 79.23 |

Los empleados que desean ingresar en el Seguro PALIC deben pasar por la Oficina de Recursos Humanos para completar la documentación necesaria. La aprobación de su inclusión al seguro es potestad de la compañía de Seguros PALIC.

Luz Elena Latorraca, Oficina de Recursos Humanos de STRI

STRI new publications

Kalko, Elisabeth K.V. (and D. Nill, photographer) 1999. "Jäger der nacht". *Terra* Heft 1/1999 (Jan./Feb./März): 54-65.

Leigh, Jr., Egbert Giles. 1999. "Levels of selection, potential conflicts, and their resolution: the role of the "common good". In: *Levels of selection in evolution*. 15-30, edited by Laurent Keller. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Robinson, W. Douglas. 1999. "Long-term changes in the avifauna of Barro Colorado Island, Panama, a tropical forest isolate." *Conservation Biology* 13(1): 85-97.

Swearer, Stephen and Robertson, D. Ross. 1999. "Life history, pathology, and description of *Kudoa ovivora* n. sp. (Myxozoa, Myxosporaea): an ovarian parasite of Caribbean labroid fishes". *Journal of Parasitology* 85(2): 337-353.



Fiesta de la máquina de soda de Tupper para las madres

Organizan:

Gabriel Martínez y el combo de la Oficina de Compras

Martes, 7 de diciembre, 3-5pm

Salón de Exhibiciones del Centro Tupper

Todos los usuarios de la máquina de sodas del Tupper están invitados a un brindis en celebración del día de las madres de Tupper, Tivoli, Pastor's House, Biblioteca y Mini-librería, el día miércoles 7 de diciembre desde las 3pm en el salón de exhibiciones del Centro Tupper. Como es tradicional, tendremos bocadillos, refrescos, regalos y sorpresas. ¡Sea puntual!