

Tupper seminar

Tuesday, January 22, Tupper seminar speaker will be Egbert G. Leigh, Jr., STRI **Madagascar: a nearly independent experiment in evolution**

Bambi seminar

Thursday, January 24, Bambi seminar speaker will be Melvin Tyree, USDA Forest Service, University of Vermont **Desiccation tolerance of BCI plants: work in progress**

Arrivals

Mark Wishnie, Yale University, Jan 20 - Feb 2, to continue with the CTFS's PRORENA Project, at Tupper.

Anna Mazzaro, Montclair State University, Jan 21-31, to work with Jacalyn Giacalone, on mamalian population fluctuations in relation to fruit crop, on BCI.

Candy Feller, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, Jan 21 - Feb 3, to work with Penelope Barnes, in Bocas del Toro.

Frank Andy Jones, predoctoral fellow from the University of Georgia, Jan 21 - Sep 30, to study the effects of *Wolbachia* on male choice and sperm competition in the neotropical leaf beetle *Chelymorphism alterans*, at Naos.

Tyler Smith, short-term fellow from the University of Miami, Jan 24 - Apr 15, to study the dynamics of coral reef algae in an upwelling system, at Naos.



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

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January 18, 2002



(Photo: Marcos A. Guerra)

New publication on Central American botany

Representatives from the World Wildlife Fund, the Red de Herbarios de Mesoamerica y el Caribe, National Museum of Costa Rica and ANAM's Corredor Biológico Mesoamericano del Atlántico Panameño gathered at STRI's Tupper Conference Center to present a new summary of missing links in our knowledge of Central American flora, *Identificación de vacíos de información botánica en Centroamérica*, on Friday, January 11th. The

publication, edited by Mariela Bermúdez and Joaquín Sánchez G. from the Costa Rica National Museum, includes contributions from STRI researchers Mireya Correa, Noris Salazar, Stanley Heckadon, and research assistant María Staff. It is the fourth in the technical series of the Red de Herbarios de Mesoamerica y el Caribe, established in 1995. This network currently represents 25 different plant collections including two in Panama: the herbarium at the University of Panama and the Summit Herbarium at STRI, both directed by Mireya Correa. Present in the photo (from the left) are director Cristián Samper, Tupper manager Audrey Smith, Mireya Correa and Mariela Bermúdez.

Representantes del World Wildlife Fund, la Red de Herbarios de Mesoamerica y el Caribe, el Museo Nacional de Costa Rica y el Corredor Biológico Mesoamericano del Atlántico Panameño de ANAM se reunieron en el Centro de Conferencias Earl S. Tupper, para presentar la nueva publicación *Identificación de vacíos de información botánica en Centroamérica*, el viernes 11 de enero. La publicación, editada por Mariela Bermúdez y Joaquín Sánchez G., del Museo Nacional de Costa Rica, incluye contribuciones de los investigadores de STRI Mireya Correa, Noris Salazar, Stanley Heckadon, y la asistente de investigación María Staff. Esta es la cuarta publicación de la serie técnica de la Red de Herbarios de Mesoamérica y el Caribe, establecida en 1995. Esta red representa 25 colecciones de plantas, incluyendo dos en Panamá: el herbario de la Universidad de Panamá, y el Herbario Summit de STRI, ambos bajo la dirección de Mireya Correa. Presentes en la foto aparecen el director Cristián Samper, Audrey Smith, administradora del Centro Tupper, Mireya Correa y Mariela Bermúdez.

Nueva publicación sobre botánica centroamericana

STRI assists new bio-security lab in Panama

At the request of the Panamanian Ministry of Health last year, STRI provided assistance and technical advice to the Gorgas Memorial Laboratory to design and develop a new bio-security laboratory in Panama, after last year's Anthrax mailings and bio-terrorism threats. A team formed by Harry Barnes, assistant director for Scientific Support Services, Security manager Alejandro Arze, Safety officer José Ramón Perurena and scientific coordinator Raineldo Urriola advised in the development and acquisition of equipment for a Laboratory Level 2, and participated in workshops designed to handle suspicious packages and situations. STRI Procurement Office also assisted with the purchases for the new lab.

More arrivals

Louis Santiago, University of Florida, Jan 25 - Mar 10, to study the leaf characteristics along an environmental gradient, at Tupper.

Michaela Hau and Sara O'Brian, Princeton University, Jan 25, to work on the reproduction, territoriality, and hormones in a rainforest bird model system, in Gamboa.

Felicitaciones

Al cuerpo de guardabosques de STRI en Barro Colorado, por la celebración del Día del Guardabosques en Panamá, el viernes 18 de enero.

New publication

Lessios, Harilaos. 2001. "Molecular phylogeny of *Diadema*: Systematic implications." In: *Echinoderms*: 487-495. Barker (ed.). Swets and Zeitlinger, Lisse.

Quintero, Diomedes and Cambra, Roberto A. 2001. "On the identity of *Scaptopoda* F. Lynch Arribálzaga, new taxonomic changes and new distribution records for Neotropical Mutillidae (Hymenoptera), with notes on their biology." *Transactions of the American Entomological Society* 127(3): 291-304.

Quintero, Diomedes and Cambra, Roberto A. 2001. "On the endemic genus *Morymya* Fox (Hymenoptera: Mutillidae: Sphaerophthalminae), with a description of the previously unknown female." *Transactions of the American Entomological Society* 127(3): 451-458.

Por petición del Ministerio de Salud de Panamá el año pasado, STRI suministró asistencia y asesoría técnica al Laboratorio Conmemorativo Gorgas, para diseñar y desarrollar un nuevo laboratorio de bio-seguridad en Panamá, como resultado de los envíos de Antrax por correo y las amenazas de bio-terrorismo. Un equipo conformado por Harry Barnes, director adjunto para Servicios de Apoyo Científico, Alejandro Arze, administrador de la Oficina de Seguridad, José Ramón Perurena, director de Seguridad Ocupacional, y Raineldo Urriola, coordinador científico, ofrecieron asesoría en el desarrollo y adquisición de equipo para un Laboratorio Nivel 2, y participaron en seminarios diseñados para manejar situaciones y paquetes sospechosos. La Oficina de Compras de STRI manejó las adquisiciones para este nuevo laboratorio.

STRI asiste laboratorio de bio-seguridad en Panamá



Researchers wanted for field study course

Especially for graduate students: Want to make a little money teaching college students about your research? Gerald Urquhart will bring undergraduate students from Michigan State University to Panama in May, 2002. May 7-8 they will be in Gamboa and May 9-10 on BCI. They are looking for guest scientists to help with field projects on May 8, 9, or 10. Scientists will be compensated. They are also looking for guest lecturers for evenings during this period (May 7-8, 10, Gamboa; May 9 on BCI). Field projects can be on a variety of things related to your research. Urquhart would like projects that introduce students to the context of a research project, how the question is asked, the design of the experiment, etc. Students will then accompany the researcher into the field to collect data and quickly analyze the data. Graduate student research projects are especially desirable. Interested please contact Gerald at urquhar5@msu.edu. Please suggest some rough ideas for field projects and location of project.

Game-Warden Day

As part of the activities to commemorate Game Warden Day in Panama, on Friday, January 18th, STRI's Marine Exhibition Center in Punta Culebra hosted an educational group visit organized by CEASPA (Panamanian Center for Studies and Social Activities) for officials and game-wardens of Parque Nacional San Lorenzo, on Saturday, January 19. The Marine Exhibition Center director Argelis Ruiz served as guide for the group, emphasizing the importance to conserve tropical marine coasts and wetlands.

Como parte de las conmemoraciones del Día del Guardabosques en Panamá, el viernes, 18 de enero, el Centro de Exhibiciones Marinas en Punta Culebra recibió una visita de grupo educativa organizada por el Centro de Estudios y Acción Social de Panamá, CEASPA, para directivos y guardabosques del Parque Nacional San Lorenzo, el sábado, 19 de enero. Argelis Ruiz, directora del Centro de Exhibiciones Marinas, atendió al grupo sirviendo de guía y enfatizó sobre la importancia de la conservación de las costas marinas y los humedales en los trópicos.

Día del Guardabosques en Panamá