

## Tupper seminar

Tuesday, November 5, noon seminar speaker will be Egbert Giles Leigh, Jr., STRI **Two islands and one black hole**

## Two Bambis

Tuesday, November 5, there will be a special Bambi by Tupac Otero, University of Puerto Rico

**Specificity of tropical orchid mycorrhizae**

Thursday, November 7, Bambi seminar speaker will be Sarah Godsey, University of Cincinnati

**Runoff generation on BCI**

## Arrivals

Camilo Salazar, Universidad de los Andes, Nov 2 - Dec 2, to do DNA mitochondrial and nuclear genealogies as part of STRI/UNIANDÉS Bridge Program, at Naos.

Jodi Grayson, Bamfield Marine Station in Canada, Nov 2 - Feb 28, to work with David Kline, on the role of environmental and anthropogenic stresses in emerging coral diseases, on Bocas del Toro.

Stephane Jansegers, Catholic University of Louvain La-Nueve, Belgium, Nov 2 - Jan 15, to study the parasitoid guild of tropical beetles (Chrysomelidae: Cassidinae) from Panama, in Gamboa.

Lynn Atkinson and Benjamin Wolsieffer, University of Connecticut, Nov 4-25, to study the causes and consequences of variation in colony structure in the termite *Nasutitermes corniger*, at Galeta.

# STRI news 2002



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

[www.stri.org](http://www.stri.org)

November 1, 2002

## Panamanian legislators visit STRI

Five Panamanian legislators from the Panama Canal Affairs and Foreign Relations commissions visited STRI on Tuesday, October 29. Present were legislator Julio César Castillo, president of the Canal Affairs commission (with deputy director Cristián Samper in the photo below) and the commission secretary Haydée M. De Lay. Also present were legislator Marco Ameglio, president of the Foreign Relations commission (with director Ira Rubinoff in the photo at right), commission vice-president Lenín Sucre and Elías Castillo. Advisors to the National Assembly Roberto Montañez,



Dionisio Médez, Luz Marina Navarro, Dionisio Médez, Lucila Cisneros, Gilberto Cárdenas and Ramiro Franceschi, also attended the event. Rubinoff, Samper and Elena Lombardo, from the Office of External Affairs briefed the visitors on STRI research activities in Panama.

Cinco legisladores panameños de las comisiones de Asuntos del Canal de Panamá y Relaciones Exteriores visitaron STRI el martes, 29 de octubre. Estuvieron presentes el legislador Julio César Castillo, presidente de la Comisión de Asuntos del Canal (con el subdirector Cristián Samper, en la foto a la izquierda) y la secretaria de la comisión, Haydée M. De Lay. También nos visitaron el legislador Marco Ameglio, presidente de la Comisión de Relaciones Exteriores (con el director Ira Rubinoff, en la foto a la derecha) el vice-presidente de esta comisión Lenín Sucre, y Elías Castillo. Roberto Montañez, Dionisio Médez, Luz Marina Navarro, Dionisio Médez, Lucila Cisneros, Gilberto Cárdenas y Ramiro Franceschi, asesores de la Asamblea Legislativa, también estuvieron presentes en el evento. Rubinoff, Samper y Elena Lombardo, de la Oficina de Asuntos Externos, dieron una introducción sobre las actividades de investigación de STRI en Panamá.

## U.S. army visit to Naos

Ira Rubinoff explains the operation of the Sea Water System at Naos to visitors from the U.S. Army, on Tuesday, October 29. Rubinoff keeps live specimens of the Pacific yellow-bellied sea snake *Pelamis platurus* in these facilities. This species was essential to Rubinoff in the 1970's, when he evaluated the possible effects of constructing a sea-level canal in the Isthmus of Panama that would connect both oceans.



## More arrivals

Christoph Rothenwohrer and Nina Becker, University of Ulm, Nov 5 - Jan 3, to work as volunteers with Luis D'Croze, at Naos.

## Departures

David Roubik, Nov 8-30, to Kyoto, Japan, to attend the Biodiversity Symposium at Kyoto University, then to Cambodia, to do bee research with colleagues.

## STRI in the news

"Killer bees and coffee: the connection." 2002. *Smithsonian Today* Summer/Fall: 3.

"La realidad sobre los murciélagos" por Errol E. Caballero. 2002. *La Prensa* (October 26): 1B.

"Una especie irremplazable" por Errol E. Caballero. 2002. *La Prensa* (October 26): 2B.

"Del bosque al matraz" por Eva Aguilar. 2002. *La Prensa* (October 28): 1B

## New publications

Chave, Jerome, and Leigh, Jr., Egbert Giles. 2002. "A spatially explicit neutral model of biodiversity in tropical forests." *Theoretical Population Biology* 62(2): 153-168.

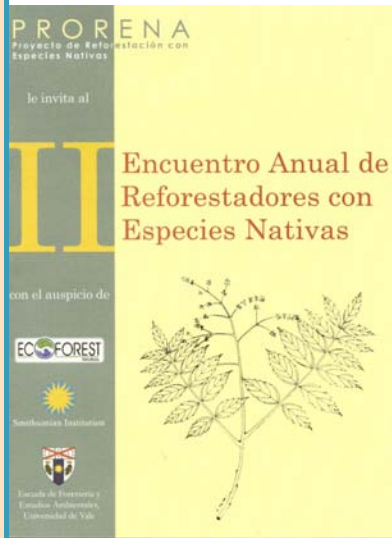
DeWayne Shoemaker, D., Machado, Carlos A., Molbo, Drude, Werren, John H., Windsor, Donald M., and Herre, Edward Allen. 2002. "The distribution of *Wolbachia* in fig wasps: correlations with host phylogeny, ecology and population structure." *Proceedings of the Royal Society (London)* B 269(1506): 2257-2267.



## Gabriela Jones leaves STRI

Effective Thursday, October 31, Gabriela Jones, facility secretary of STRI's Center for Tropical Palaeoecology and Archaeology at Ancon since January, 1997, left STRI, to accept a position in Florida State University in Panama, as assistant to the University's vice-dean. We wish her luck in this new phase of her career.

A partir del jueves, 31 de octubre, Gabriela Jones, secretaria del Centro de Paleocología y Arqueología Tropical de STRI en Ancón desde enero de 1997, dejó a STRI para aceptar una posición en la Universidad del Estado de Florida en Panamá, como asistente del vice-decano. Le deseamos mucha suerte en esta nueva etapa de su carrera.



## II Encuentro de PRORENA

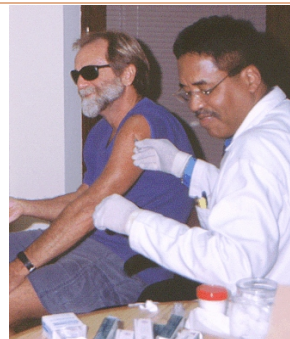
El Proyecto de Reforestación con Especies Nativas (PRORENA) de STRI, invita a la comunidad de STRI a participar en el II Encuentro Anual de Reforestadores con Especies Nativas, que se llevará a cabo el viernes 15 de noviembre en el Centro de Conferencias Tupper, de 9am a 5pm. El Encuentro tiene como

objetivo promover el intercambio de experiencias y conocimientos entre los interesados en el uso de especies nativas en programas de reforestación. Se contará con exposiciones de Gerardo Budowski de United Nations University of Peace, Richard Condit, STRI, Jaime Orozco, Cámara Forestal de Panamá, Luis Carles, Ecoforest, y otros especialistas. Confirme su asistencia con Emilio Mariscal, tel. 212-8235, e-mail: [mariscal@prorena.org](mailto:mariscal@prorena.org)

## Flu-shot afternoon at Tupper

The Human Resources Office organized a flu-shot afternoon at Tupper for all employees. In the photo, marine biologist D. Ross Robertson is one of the 32 staff members that received the one-year vaccination.

La Oficina de Recursos Humanos organizó una tarde de vacunas contra la influenza para todos los empleados. En la foto, el biólogo marino D. Ross Robertson, es uno de los 32 miembros del personal que recibieron esta vacuna de un año.



## More publications

Dudley, T. Robert, Srygley, Robert B., Oliveira, Evandro G., and DeVries, Philip J. 2002. "Flight speeds, lipid reserves, and predation of the migratory Neotropical moth *Urania fulgens* (Uraniidae)." *Biotropica* 34(3): 452-458.

Fortunato, Helena. 2002. "Understanding and conserving biodiversity." In Association, Eurocoast-Portugal (Ed.), *Littoral 2002, 6th International Symposium Proceedings, 22-26 September*, Vol. II: 53-59. Porto, Portugal: European Coastal Zone Association for Science and Technology and EUCC.

Heckadon Moreno, Stanley. 2002a. "Thomas Selfridge: de Colón a Bahía Caledonia, 1870." *"Epocas" Segunda Era (Supplement to La Prensa)* 17(8): 2-3.

Miranda, Roberto J., Quintero, A. Diomedes, and Almanza, Alejandro. 2002. "House dust mites from urban and rural houses on the lowland Pacific slopes of Panama." *Systematic and Applied Acarology* 7: 23-30.

Van Borm, Steven, Billen, Johan, and Boomsma, Jacobus J. 2002. "The diversity of microorganisms associated with *Acromyrmex* leaf-cutting ants." *BioMed Central Evolutionary Biology* 2(1): 9-20.

Ventocilla, Jorge. 2002. "Buen año para el 'mamón chino'". *La Prensa* (Octubre 27): 8B.

## Miscellaneous

For sale: 1997 Lada Niva 4x4. Air conditioning, AM/FM cassette radio. The body, engine, tires, etc. are in great shape. We will be leaving STRI in mid-November and have to sell the car. Asking \$2200. Please call Tom or Lili Duda at tel. 260-8394.