

January 2010

Faculty News

Dr. [Christine Miller](#) was invited to serve as an Editorial Board Member and a Reviewing Editor for the [Journal of Evolutionary Biology](#) for the years 2010-2014.

Dr. [Norman Leppla](#) became an ESA Fellow at the [Entomological Society of America](#) (ESA) annual meeting in Indianapolis during 13-16 December. This award was in recognition of his efforts "in the field of integrated pest management, emphasizing biological control and associated insect rearing techniques."

Dr. [Marc Branham](#) served as the 2009 President of the Systematics, Evolution and Biodiversity Section of the ESA. His term of office expired at the Section's final business meeting at the recent annual meeting. He also served on the Program Committee for the meeting. Dr. Branham recently was elected Councilor of the [Coleopterists Society](#) for 2010-2011.

[Thomas Fasulo](#) was pleasantly surprised to discover that the State of Georgia has authorized our [CD-ROM-based training tutorials](#) for licensed pesticide applicator recertification for several years. This makes five such states, including Florida, that use these tutorials for applicator license renewal and technician training. The [Georgia Pest Control Association](#) initiated this through their state's structural oversight board, but Fasulo found out when the board that recertifies other types of pesticide licenses also approved the tutorials.

Student News

Ph.D. student [Thomas Chouvenc](#) received the 2009 Nutting Award, presented by the [International Union for the Study of Social Insects- North American Section](#). The **William L. and Ruth D. Nutting Award** is named in honor of the late Bill Nutting, an outstanding termite biologist who made major contributions to termite biology, both through his own research and mentoring of students, and in honor of Ruth Nutting for her support of Bill's work."

At the recent ESA meeting, **Thomas Chouvenc** received 1st place for his presentation in "Structural,

Veterinary and Public Health Systems" with "Differential cellular encapsulation in six termite species against the infection of *Metarhizium anisopliae*."

The [Entomology and Nematology Student Organization](#) (ENSO) organized a practice and comment session on December 10th for students preparing to present at the annual ESA conference. Eight students presented 10 to 12 minute talks on their research. A \$100 travel grant was gifted on behalf of ENSO for the best presentation, as deemed by a committee of professors. While all eight talks were without a doubt excellent, we would like to congratulate [Sharon Clemmensen](#), the winner of the travel grant. We would also like to thank our panel of judges - Drs. [James Maruniak](#), [Norman Leppla](#), and [Marc Branham](#) - for all of their help in making this session possible. - **Dan Fitzpatrick**, ENSO President

Ph.D. students **Margie Pfister** and **Matt Lehnert** were married on 11 December 2009. With 100+ graduate students, we should be surprised this doesn't happen more often. Did either of them (or both?) take Dr. Miller's course on Sexual Selection?

Ph.D. student **Roxanne Burrus** won first prize at the ESA's Student Competition for the [President's Prize](#) in the Structural, Veterinary, and Public Health Systems section's Veterinary and Stored Product Pest's grouping. Her co-advisors are Drs. [Jerry Hogsette](#) and [Phillip Kaufman](#).

Ph.D. student **Harsimran Rosie Gill** received a \$300 CALS James Davidson Graduate Student Scholarship to attend the recent ESA meeting.

Ph.D. student [Teresia Nyoike](#) received the first prize in the student poster competition (Ecology section) at the ESA meeting.

Alumni News

Three recent graduates of our department were honored by the [Entomological Society of America](#) for their achievements at its recent meeting.

- Dr. **Karla Adesso** (Ph.D., '07) was awarded the [Henry & Silvia Richardson Research Grant](#) by the [Entomological Foundation](#) for her research on semiochemical-based pest management of the [pepper weevil](#), *Anthonomus eugeni*.
- Dr. [Jennifer Zaspel](#) (Ph.D. '08) was recognized with the [Snodgrass Memorial Research Award](#) for her research on the systematics of the fruit-piercing and blood-feeding moths of the subfamily Calpinae (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae).
- [Emily Torlak](#) (M.S. '09), one of the first graduates of our distance Master's program, was awarded the [President's Prize for Outstanding Achievement in Secondary Education](#).

Congratulations! - Dr. [Heather McAuslane](#) - Graduate Student Coordinator

[Eugenio Nearn](#)s (M.S. '06) is the 2009 recipient of the [J.G. Edwards Prize](#). This prize is awarded annually by the Coleopterists Society for the best published paper dealing with the systematics or biology of Coleoptera based upon a master's thesis published in the preceding calendar year. The paper of note is: Nearn EH, [Branham MA](#). 2008. Revision and phylogeny of the tribes Curiini LeConte and Plectromerini Nearn & Branham, new tribe (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae: Cerambycinae). *Memoirs of the American Entomological Society* 47: 1-117.

Publications

[Chouvenc T](#), [Su N-Y](#), Robert A. 2009. Susceptibility of seven termite species (Isoptera) to the entomopathogenic fungus *Metarhizium anisopliae*. *Sociobiology* 54: 723–748.

[Obenauer PJ](#), [Buss LJ](#), [Kaufman PE](#). 2009. Utilizing Auto-montage™ technology for identifying field-collected container-inhabiting mosquito eggs. *Journal of the American Mosquito Control Association* 25: 517-520.

[Stelinski LL](#), Czokajlo D. 2010. Suppression of citrus leafminer, *Phyllocnistis citrella*, with an attract-and-kill formulation. *Entomologia Experimentalis et Applicata* 134: 69-77.

[Watts SL](#), [Fitzpatrick DM](#), [Maruniak JE](#). 2009. Blood meal identification from Florida mosquitoes (Diptera: Culicidae). [Florida Entomologist](#) 92: 619-622.

[Nyoike TW](#), [Liburd OE](#). 2010. Effect of living (buckwheat) and UV reflective mulches with and without imidacloprid on whiteflies, aphids and marketable yields of zucchini squash. *International Journal of Pest Management* 56: 31-39.

[Weibelzahl E](#), [Liburd OE](#). 2009. Epizootic of *Acalitus vaccinii* (Acari: Eriophyidea) caused by *Hirsutella thompsonii* on southern highbush blueberry in north-central Florida. [Florida Entomologist](#) 92: 601-607.

[Liburd OE](#). 2009. Fostering collaboration and linkages with our Latin American and Caribbean neighbors. [Florida Entomologist](#) 92: 689-690.

[Cuda JP](#). 2009. Book review: Muniappan, Reddy, GVP, Raman A. (eds.). *Biological Control of Tropical Weeds using Arthropods*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK. [Florida Entomologist](#) 92: 675-676.

[Cuda JP](#), [Medal JC](#), [Gillmore JL](#), [Habeck DH](#), [Pedrosa-Macedo JH](#). 2009. Fundamental host range of *Pseudophyllothrips ichini* sensu lato (Thysanoptera: Phlaeothripidae), a candidate biological control agent of *Schinus terebinthifolius* (Sapindales: Anacardiaceae) in the USA. *Environmental Entomology* 38: 1642-1652.

Manrique V, **Cuda JP**, **Overholt WA**. 2009. Effect of herbivory on growth and biomass allocation of Brazilian peppertree (Sapindales: Anacardiaceae) seedlings in the laboratory. *Biocontrol Science and Technology* 19: 657-667.

Bybee SM, Zaspel JM, **Beucke KA**, **Scott CH**, **Smith B**, **Branham MA**. 2010. Is molecular data supplanting morphological data in modern phylogenetic studies? *Systematic Entomology* 35: 2-5.

Spring 2010 Entomology and Nematology Seminars

The seminar series is held on Thursday afternoons in room 1031. Refreshments are served at 3:45 pm, and the seminar begins at 4:00 pm. For a listing of the speakers and their presentations for Spring 2010, see the department's seminar Web site at <http://entomology.ifas.ufl.edu/seminar/>.

Meetings and Presentations

On 16-18 November, Drs. **Alejandro Arévalo** and **Jawwad Qureshi**, of the UF/IFAS [Southwest Florida Research and Education Center](#) in Immokalee, were invited to present their research at the Citrus Huanglongbing and Potato Zebra Chip conference in McAllen, Texas. Dr. Qureshi spoke on "Integrating biological control in the management program for [Asian citrus psyllid](#), *Diaphorina citri* (Hemiptera: Psyllidae)," and Dr. Arevalo discussed the "Efficiency of three monitoring methods for Asian citrus psyllid, *Diaphorina citri* Kuwayama, populations on commercial and research plots in Florida" and an "Update on the [Citrus Greening Bibliographical Database](#)." The database now has over 1761 references, 789 of which have links to the original article. To add an article that is not yet linked, or if you would like to contribute information, have questions or provide suggestions, please contact them at Greening.Database@ifas.ufl.edu.

Dr. **James P. Cuda** was invited to participate in a Strategic Management of Invasive Species in the Southeastern United States workshop sponsored by the Department of Defense. The workshop, held in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, 7-11 December, provided participants with the knowledge and resources which will enable them to improve land stewardship by building partnerships and effectively addressing invasive species problems with an emphasis on terrestrial plants of the southeast. Cuda gave a presentation "Biological control for invasive plant management in the Southeast."

Dr. **Marjorie A. Hoy** attended the ESA annual meeting and presented an invited symposium presentation on "Classical biological control of the red palm mite."

While attending the ESA meeting, Dr. **James P. Cuda** presented the poster "Biology and fundamental host range of the stem boring weevil *Apocnemidophorus pipitzi* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae), a new candidate for biological control of Brazilian peppertree, *Schinus terebinthifolius*." It was co-authored by **Judy Gillmore** and Drs. **Julio Medal** and **William Overholt**.

Ph.D. student **Clare Scott** presented "The contribution of morphology to a phylogenetic analysis of Crambida (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae: Arctiinae): a preliminary investigation" at the ESA meeting.

Grants

Ph.D. students **Teresia Nyoike** and [Elena Rhodes](#) received \$250 travel grants from the Graduate Student Council to attend the ESA meeting.

Graduate students Teresia Nyoike, Elena Rhodes and [Craig Roubos](#) received \$200 travel grants from the Florida Entomological Society to attend the ESA meeting.

Segments

Stephen Brown is the Horticulture Program Leader for the University of Florida's Cooperative Extension Service in Fort Myers, Florida. He produced and then posted a video on YouTube showing the damage that [palmetto weevils](#) can do to palms. [Click here](#) to view the video.

A new Indie film untangles the web of cultural and historical ties underlying Japan's deep fascination with insects. To see the trailer, [click here](#).

Florida butterflies and their preservation make the pages of the Gainesville Sun. [Click here](#) to read the article.

Ever wonder why bees always have a safe landing? [Click here](#) for the answer.

Broucci, the Czech word for beetles, is the name of a classic children's book by Jan Karafiát published in the early 1870s, and is also used for "traditional Czech figures of fairylike insect people" based on the characters in the book. In English, the title is often translated as **Fireflies**. During World War II, the inmates of the Nazi Theresienstadt concentration camp dramatized and performed their own version of the book. For more details, [click here](#).

Bug Quote

Through and through the inspired leaves
Ye maggots, make your windings;
But, oh! respect his lordship's taste,
And spare his golden bindings.

— [Robert Burns](#)

(who was actually referring to book-boring beetle larvae)

Departmental Vans

The department has several vans available for general use. Personnel are reminded that when returning vans after the administration office has closed, the vans should be locked and the keys deposited in the "mail slot" on the administration office door. This ensures that people who reserved the vans for the next day have immediate access to the keys. Placing the keys under the driver's seat in an unlocked van is not an acceptable substitute. The worst case scenario in this case is a stolen van to which no one has access. Keeping the keys in your pocket, lab or office until you remember to turn them in is also discourteous to others as it might affect their work schedule.

Reading Room

The Reading Room Committee again reminds us that no one is allowed to take materials out of the reading room, and no one is allowed to take food or drink in. You are also reminded that Reading Room users are monitored on closed-circuit TV. In addition, the Department just spent \$450,000 to install one of the latest scanners that allows us to see what is hidden under your clothing. (Just kidding!) The committee requests that you tidy up after yourself before leaving the room. Those who wish to use the in-room copier should visit the stock room and obtain a PIN from Nick Hostettler.

Cartoons

Many comic Web sites limit the length of time a panel appears to just 30 days. Others may require you to register to view previous panels, which you may not wish to do. In either case, the sooner you visit the site, the greater chance you have to view the following:

After the long holiday break, it is common for your adviser to act differently. Do not let it worry you. [Click here](#) for details.

During the holidays, our graduate students likely gorged themselves at their parents' and relatives' tables. But now that they are back at school, it is time once again to revert to their regular diet by adhering to the USDA's [Graduate Student Food Pyramid](#).

Newsletter Minutiae

[Thomas Fasulo](#) is the newsletter editor. Departmental faculty, staff, students and alumni can submit news

anytime to **fasulo@ufl.edu**. Issues usually are published by early mid-month. Submit items for an issue by the 7th of that month.

UF-Bugnews-L listserv subscribers receive notices when issues are posted on the newsletter Web site at <http://entomology.ifas.ufl.edu/news>, which has instructions for subscribing and unsubscribing. **Pam Howell** and **Nancy Sanders** review the newsletter for errors. Thomas Fasulo does the HTML coding.

In the last 12 months, the newsletter Web site recorded 115,154 page views.

January 2010.