

April 2010

Faculty News

Dr. [James P. Cuda](#) attended the University of Florida Inventors' Reception: A Celebration of Innovation 2010 held at the UF Hilton Conference Center on 25 March. Cuda was recognized for co-developing a pest control technology, methionine amino acid for the control of nematodes, licensed during the past year.

All four candidates for the open teaching position were interviewed over the last month. Faculty will discuss the candidates at the next faculty meeting on April 22nd.

Staff News

Judy Gillmore, Senior Laboratory Technician for Dr. **James Cuda**, will retire at the end of this month.

Student News

Ben Anderson, undergraduate entomology major and president of our [entomology club](#), was selected as the CALS student commencement speaker for the Spring 2010 graduation. This is an honor of the highest level. Congratulations! - Dr. [Carl Barfield](#), Undergraduate Coordinator

Ph.D. candidates **Gaurav Goyal**, **Rosie Gill** and **Teresia Nyoike** attended the [Gamma Sigma Delta](#) reception and award ceremony in the Reitz Union on 1 April. They were selected from our department for this membership in this fraternity. According to its charter, "Graduate students of outstanding ability ... who have, by virtue of outstanding achievement, demonstrated worthiness of the honor, are eligible for membership."

On 19 February, the Dade County Agricultural Council awarded Ph.D. candidate **Rosie Gill** the L. Russell Norton Memorial Fellowship (\$500), and awarded Ph.D. candidate **Gaurav Goyal** the Warren Wood, Sr. Memorial Fellowship (\$1000). These made nice wedding presents, as Rosie and Gaurav were married on 6 February in India.

Alumni News

Dr. [Jason Byrd](#) (Ph.D. '98) participated in relief efforts for the earthquake in Haiti. As a forensic entomologist, he helped in the creation of an identification system for the dead. Dr. Byrd works for the National Disaster Medical System and is a member of the UF faculty.

Publications

[Miller CW](#), Emlen DJ. 2010. Across- and within-population differences in the size and scaling relationship of a sexually selected trait in *Leptoscelis tricolor* (Hemiptera: Coreidae). *Annals of the Entomological Society America* 103: 209-215.

Boina DR, [Rogers ME](#), Wang N, [Stelinski LL](#). 2010. Effect of pyriproxyfen, a juvenile hormone mimic, on egg hatch, nymph development, adult emergence, and reproduction of the Asian citrus psyllid, *Diaphorina citri* Kuwayama. *Pest Management Science* 66: 349-357.

[Halbert SE](#), Manjunath KL, Ramadugu C, Brodie MW, [Webb SE](#), Lee RF. 2010. Trailers transporting oranges to processing plants move Asian citrus psyllids. [Florida Entomologist](#) 93: 33-38.

[Ellis JD](#), [Zettel Nalen CM](#). (March 2010). Bee louse, *Braula coeca* Nitzsch. Featured Creatures. EENY-472. http://entnemdept.ifas.ufl.edu/creatures/misc/bees/bee_louse.htm

Eger Jr JE, Ames LM, Suiter DR, Jenkins TM, Rider DA, [Halbert SE](#). 2010. Occurrence of the Old World bug, *Megacopta cribraria* (Fabricius) (Heteroptera: Plataspidae) in Georgia: a serious home invader and potential legume pest. *Insecta Mundi* 121: 1-11.

[Medal J](#), [Bustamante N](#), [Overholt W](#), Diaz R, [Stansly P](#), Roda A, Amalin D, Hibbard K, Gaskalla R, Sellars B, Hight S, [Cuda J](#). 2010. Biological control of tropical soda apple (Solanaceae) in Florida: post-release evaluation. [Florida Entomologist](#) 93: 130-132.

Meetings and Presentations

Dr. [Marc Branham](#) gave an invited seminar on "The Evolution of fireflies and their courtship signals" at the Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, Mississippi State University.

Dr. [James P. Cuda](#) attended the 84th Annual Meeting of the ESA-Southeastern Branch held in Atlanta, GA, 7-10 March. Cuda gave a presentation on "Biology and host range of *Episimus unguiculus* (Lepidoptera: Tortricidae), a predated biological control agent of Brazilian peppertree, *Schinus*

terebinthifolius (Sapindales: Anacardiaceae), for release in Florida." The paper was co-authored by Drs. **J. C. Medal**, J.H. Pedrosa-Macedo (Brazil), V. Manrique, P. Conant (Hawaii), and **W.A. Overholt**. Cuda also represented the department at the annual meeting of the S-1034 Multi-state Regional Project on Biological Control of Arthropod Pests and Weeds at the same venue.

Dr. **James P. Cuda** gave an invited seminar on the "Potential distribution and prospects for biological control of the Federal Noxious Weed *Hygrophila polysperma*" for the Plant Pests of Regulatory Significance Colloquium (ALS 6921) on 17 March.

Dr. **James P. Cuda** was an invited speaker for the department's graduate course on Biological Control (ENY 5241) on 23 March. Cuda spoke on biological control of terrestrial weeds.

Dr. **James P. Cuda** participated in the polycom in-service training on "Aquatics and Invasive Plants" held on 30 March. The in-service program was held at McCarty Hall and streamed to over 50 counties. Cuda gave a presentation on "Integrating biological controls and herbicides."

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/>.

Florida Entomological Society Meeting

The 93rd Annual Meeting of the [Florida Entomological Society](#) takes place 25-28 July 2010. See the Society's [meeting site](#) for pre-registration form and other meeting information.

All submitted papers, except student competition papers, should be 8 minutes long with 2 minutes for questions. Student competition papers are 10 minutes long with 2 minutes for questions. Posters should be no larger than 48"x48". The deadline for submission of titles and abstracts is 14 June 2010. Send titles and abstracts to Dr. Wayne Hunter at Wayne.Hunter@ars.usda.gov.

The meeting site is the Jupiter Beach Resort & Spa, in Jupiter Beach, Florida. The meeting's hotel room registration deadline is 12 July 2010. Room rates are \$129/day, or junior suites at \$179/day. Contact the hotel at either 800-228-8810 or <http://www.jupiterbeachresort.com/>.

- Dr. [Jennifer Gillett-Kaufman](#)

Bee College and Master Beekeeper Program

The third annual Bee College was held 12-13 March in St. Augustine, Florida. This year was our biggest yet with over 250 people! We brought 24 speakers from as far away as Brazil, and certified nearly 20 pest control operators in African bee removal, and several first responders in African bee response. Along with over 30 educational lectures and workshops, we held African bee identification training, our annual honey show, EpiPen medical certification training, and Welsh Honey Judge training. This year was a huge success, and we are already starting to plan for 2011!

The Master Beekeeper Program training and exams were held on 11 March in St. Augustine, Florida. We certified our very first group of Master level beekeepers this round. We had 26 new beekeepers enter the program, and a total of 51 beekeepers participate, which brings our total to 131 Master Beekeeper students!
- **Catherine Zettel Nalen**, Honey Bee Research & Extension Laboratory

Entomology Field Camp

Registration is now open for our department's 1st annual Entomology Field Camp. The camp is for students in 6th-8th grades and will be held during 21-25 June. Additional details and registration forms are available on our [Bug Club](#) site at http://entnemdept.ifas.ufl.edu/bug_club/camp.htm.

Segments

Ever wonder why female arthropods are often bigger and more beautiful when compared to males of the same species? Is this fair? Are males being discriminated against? Or is it that males are more in a hurry to become adults? [Click here](#) for details.

The queen ant lives for her colony. After all, the members of the colony are her children. Well, that may not be true, as the queen ant is more devious than we suspected. [Click here](#) for details.

LSD is supposed to enhance your senses, with some people saying they even smell colors. If so, maybe desert ants in Tunisia use drugs to find their way home. Scientists determined that to find their nest, not only do these ants use a "sun compass" and count their steps (...three million and twenty-three, three million and twenty-four... divide by six — Hey, I'm home!), but also smell in stereo for odor-guided navigation. [Click here](#) for details.

It is said that you are what you eat. In that case, maybe it is a good idea to be a 90-pound weakling. Scientists recently determined that the world's strongest insect is *Onthophagus taurus*, a species of dung beetle. [Click here](#) for details.

Ever wonder why people who drink a lot of coffee aren't bothered by mosquitoes? Neither did I. And, of course, that doesn't happen. But a recent study shows that the next new generation of insecticides might come from unroasted coffee beans. [Click here](#) for details.

So what do companies like Hair Fairies, Hair Whisperers, Nit-Picker, Texas Lice Squad, and Licebeaters have in common? The people who work for them make a lot of money! How does \$300+ an hour sound? [Click here](#) for details. Need more information on the cause for such a fee? [Click here](#) for details.

Literary Bugs

Cricket

A cricket's ear is in its leg.
A cricket's chirp is in its wing.
A cricket's wing can sing a song.
A cricket's leg can hear it sing.

Imagine if your leg could hear.
Imagine if your ear could walk.
Imagine if your mouth could swing.
Imagine if your arm could talk.

Would everything feel upside down
And inside out and wrong side through?
Imagine how the world would seem
If you became a cricket, too.

- [Mary Ann Hoberman](#)

from The Llama Who Had No Pajama

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 118,043 page views.

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