



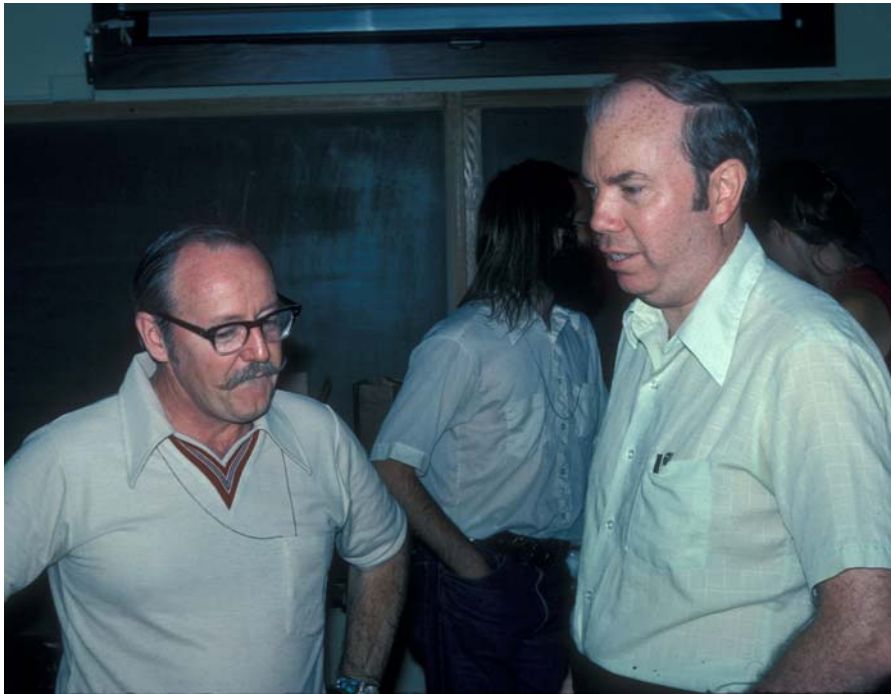
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EntNews

The Newsletter of the Department of Entomology

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Paul Spangler and Don Anderson



Don Anderson



Catherine Duckett

FRONT COVER

Don Anderson:

After a lengthy illness, involving a stroke and congestive heart failure, our colleague Don Anderson died on December 27, the date of his 75th birthday. He was at Tanglewood Manor in Jamestown, New York, near the home of a cousin. Donald Morgan Anderson was born Dec. 27, 1930. He received a BA degree at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, in 1953, and a Ph.D. at Cornell in 1958. After two years at SUNY in Buffalo, New York, Don joined the Systematic Entomology Lab, USDA in 1960, and was there employed until 1990. After retirement, he continued entomological research as a collaborator. He was active in many professional societies, including the Entomological Society of Washington (president, 1985) and the Clan Anderson Society (president, 1990-1992). Much of his research centered on the immature stages of weevils.

Photo: Don Anderson with Paul Spangler, 1976, (G.Hevel, photographer). Don Anderson, staff directory, 1985.

Congratulations to **Catherine Duckett**, who has recently gained employment as program manager at Ocean Biogeographic Information System, an international biodiversity informatics program based at Rutgers, focusing on Georeferenced marine biological data.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The 1098th regular meeting of the **Entomological Society of Washington** will convene on February 02 at 7:00 pm in the Cathy Kerby Seminar Room at the National Museum of Natural History. Wayne F. Wehling from Permits & Risk Assessment, USDA, Plant Health Inspection Service, PPO, will present the topic "Systematist or Collector: Aphis & Permits for Live Arthropods."

GENERAL NEWS:

On January 24, an Associated Press article regarding bed bugs appeared in the *Washington Post Express*, and suggested that the population of New York City was in danger of bed bugs leaping from person to person on subways, elevators, and crowded streets. The article also referred to the insects as "chomping in the night." **Gary Hevel** sent an e-mail message to the *Express*, with the "good news" that bed bugs were not capable of jumping, and also that they have sucking mouthparts, incapable of "chomping." The short "letter of corrections" appeared in the January 26th edition of the newspaper.

PUBLICATIONS BY STAFF:

Research papers by members of the combined entomological staff who are retired will be listed, and those will be preceded by a double asterisk.

James, A.M., F.E. Freier, **J.E. Kerirans**, **L.A. Durden**, J.W. Mertins, and J.L. Schlater. 2006. Distribution, seasonality, and hosts of the Rocky Mountain Wood Tick in the United States. *J. Med. Entomol.* 43(1): 17-24.

--abstract—*Anaplasma marginale* Theiler is a tick-borne pathogen that causes anaplasmosis in cattle. There are ~20 tick species worldwide that are implicated as vectors of this pathogen. In the United States, *Dermacentor andersoni* Stiles and *Dermacentor variabilis* (Say) are the principal vectors. The risk of transmission of anaplasmosis to cattle has been largely based on the distribution of *D. andersoni* in the United States. We developed a centralized geographic database that incorporates collection records for *D. andersoni* from two large national databases. We

reviewed the geographic records in each database and postings from MEDLINE and AGRICOLA to produce a national county-level distribution map based on a total of 5,898 records. The records spanned the period from 1903 through 2001 with the majority between 1921 to 1940. Populations of *D. andersoni* were recorded from 267 counties in 14 states and were distinguished as either established or reported. We found 180 counties with established populations of *D. andersoni* and 87 counties with reported occurrences in 14 states with the majority of established populations reported from Montana, Idaho, and Oregon. *D. andersoni* populations in the United States currently extend from the western portions of Nebraska and the Dakotas westward to the Cascade Mountains and from the northern counties of Arizona and New Mexico northward to the Canadian border. The data will be useful for identifying regions at increased risk of acquiring anaplasmosis in the United States. Based upon the database collection records, we also present a summary of recorded hosts for *D. andersoni* and comments on its seasonal occurrence.

LaPolla, J.S. 2006. Book review of *Carpenter Ants of the United States and Canada*, by Laurel D. Hansen and John H. Klotz. Proc. Ent. Soc. Wash. 108(1): 250-251.

LaPolla, J.S. and S.P. Cover. 2005. New species of *Pheidole* (Hymenoptera: Formicidae) from Guyana, with a list of species known from the country. Trans. Amer. Entomol. Soc. 131 (3&4): 365-374.

--abstract—Two new species of *Pheidole* from Guyana are described, *P. funki* LaPolla and *P. schultzi* LaPolla. One species, *P. funki*, belongs to the *scrobifera*-group and is only the second member of the species-group known from South America. The other species, *P. schultzi*, belongs to the *tachigaliae*-group. *P. tachigaliae* is also illustrated to identify morphological differences with *P. schultzi*. Modified versions of Wilson's (2003) key are provided. Recent biotic survey work across Guyana revealed that at least 86 *Pheidole* species are present in the country.

LaPolla, J.S. and B.L. Fisher. 2005. A remarkable new species of *Acropyga* (Hymenoptera: Formicidae) from

Gabon, with a key to the Afrotropical species. Proc. Calif. Acad. Sciences 56(30): 601-605.

--abstract—A new species of *Acropyga*, *A. bakwele* species new, is described from Gabon. This is an intriguing species unlike any other known because its worker possesses a median ocellus, unlike any other known *Acropyga*. This species is the largest *Acropyga* known from Africa, and one of the largest in the world. In overall appearance, the worker resembles the southern African *A. arnoldi*. A key to Afrotropical *Acropyga* is provided.

Mantovani, A., N. Magalhaes, M.L. Teixeira, G. Leitao, C.L. Staines, and B. Resendo. 2005. First report on host plants and feeding habits of the leaf beetle *Acentroptera pulchella* Guerin-Meneville (Chrysomelidae, Hispinae). Pp. 153-157 in A.S. Konstantinov, L. Penev, and A. Tishechkin (eds.). Contributions to systematics and biology of insects: papers celebrating the 80th birthday of I.K. Lopatin. Pensoft Publishers.

--abstract—*Acentroptera pulchella* Guerin-Meneville is reported to feed on *Aechmea blanchetiana* (Baker) L.B. Sm. And *Neoregelia cruenta* (Grah.) L.B. Sm. (Bromeliaceae). This is the first definitive host plant association for the genus. Adult feeding damage is of the scraper and external feeder type.

Miller, J.A. 2005. A redescription of *Porrhomma cavernicola* Keyserling (Araneae, Linyphiidae) with notes on Appalachian troglobites. J. Arach. 33: 426-438.

--abstract—The Appalachian troglobite *Porrhomma cavernicola* (Keyserling 1886) is redescribed. *Porrhomma emertoni* Roewer 1942 is a junior synonym (new synonymy). An unusual stridulatory organ with the plectrum on trochanter II and the striae on coxa I is found in both sexes of this species. *Porrhomma cavernicola* is widespread in Appalachian caves. By contrast, Appalachian *Nesticus* (Nesticidae) troglobites tend to be highly endemic. This despite the fact that both groups of spiders are web-builders that may be found in the same caves. *Porrhomma cavernicola* is added to a previous phylogenetic analysis of linyphiid spiders. Implications of this analysis for the

phylogenetic structure of linyphiid spiders is discussed.

Perez-Gelabert, D.E. and D.B. Thomas. 2005. Stink Bugs (Pentatomidae: Heteroptera) of the island of Hispaniola, with seven new species from the Dominican Republic. *Bol. Soc. Entomol. Arag.* 37: 319-352.

--**abstract**—A faunal survey of the Hispaniolan stinkbugs (Pentatomidae) is presented based on the study of a recent sample of approximately 800 specimens representing 55 species collected throughout the Dominican Republic. Additionally, approximately 700 specimens were examined from museums with significant holdings of Dominican material. One genus and seven species are described as new: *Antilloosciocoris palisoti*, n. gen., n. sp., *Banasa flavosa* n. sp., *Banasa punctata*, n. sp., *Mediocampus perezii* n. sp., *Mediocampus woodruffi* n. sp., *Oebalus magnus* n. sp. And *Edessa rawlini* n. sp. The males of *Mediocampus dominicanus* Thomas and *Acrosternum insulani* Rolston are described for the first time. The species *Podisus mucronatus* Uhler, *Acrosternum wygodzinskyi* Rolston, *Arvelius porrectispinus* Breddin, *Banasa herbacea* (Stal), *Banasa punctatissima* Barber & Bruner, *Mecidea longula* Stal, *Murgantia varicolor* (Westwood), *Thyanta testacea* (Dallas), *Menudo femoralis* Thomas, *Brepholoxa heidemanni* Van Duzee, *Edessa chlorophylla* Barber & Bruner, and *Vulsireia violacea* (Fabricius) are newly recorded for the island of Hispaniola. *Piezodorus guildinii* (Westwood), *Stiretrus quinquepunctatus* (Germar), and *Fecella biorbis* Eger, previously known from Haiti, are newly recorded from the Dominican Republic. A single specimen of an exotic species, *Chroantha ornatula* (Herrich-Schaeffer), is reported as a possible introduction of a Mediterranean species to the island. The species *Edessa rufomarginata* (DeGeer), *Arvelius crassispinus* Breddin, *Antiteuchus piceus* (Palisot de Beauvois), and *Euchistus ictericus* (Linnaeus) which have previously been cited as found in the island, are treated as species of doubtful presence. The total number of species known from Hispaniola is raised to 77.

Robbins, R.K. and M. Duarte. 2006. Systematic placement of *Lycaena cogina* Schaus (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae: Polyommatinae), a biogeographically disjunct New World species. *Proc. Ent. Soc. Wash.*

108(1): 226-236.

--**abstract** – Balint and Johnson described genus *Elkalyce* in the *Lycaenopsis* Section of the Polyommataini for the South American butterfly *Lycaena cogina* Schaus and suggested that it is closely related to the tropical Asian *Oreolyce* Toxopeus. This systematic placement was based on four characters that are phylogenetically uninformative or incorrect. A medial uncus without lateral hairy lobes, cephalad entry of the ductus ejaculatorius into the penis, and brief anastomosis of forewing veins Sc and R1 further falsify this systematic placement. *Elkalyce cogina* is transferred to the *Everes* Section of the Polyommataini following an unpublished hypothesis from the late John Eliot, where it is likely a close relative, perhaps a congener, of the primarily eastern Asian *Tongeia* Tutt. *Elkalyce* and *Tongeia* are the only genera with "false" alulae, which we characterize morphologically, on the male genitalia penis, but the position of the "false" alulae in each genus is slightly different. A lectotype is designated to preserve stability of the name *Lycaena cogina* Schaus, and the distribution and habitat of *E. cogina* are summarized. Six cases are noted in which a New World lycaenid species, or species pair, is most closely related to an Old World lineage, but *E. cogina* is the only endemic South American lycaenid whose closest relative is in the Old World. Whether or not *Elkalyce* is congeneric with *Tongeia*, the relict distribution of *E. cogina* suggests extinction in the intervening areas.

Smith, D.R. 2006. Review of the cypress and juniper sawflies of the genus *Susana* Rohwer and Middleton (Hymenoptera: Tenthredinidae). *Proc. Ent. Soc. Wash.* 108(1): 62-75.

--**abstract**—Species of *Susana* Rohwer and Middleton occur in western North America from British Columbia south to New Mexico, Arizona, and California. Food plants are *Cupressus* spp. and *Juniperus* spp. (Cupressaceae). Ten species are known, including *S. bakeri*, new species, from Idaho, and *S. marin*, new species, and *S. diablo*, new species, from California. The males of *S. oregonensis* Smith and *S. juniperi* (Rohwer) are described for the first time. A key to species is presented, new distributions records are given, and a food plant summary is presented.

Steiner, W.E., Jr. 2005. Two new species of three-horned *Hypogena* from Peru (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae). *Ann. Zool.* 55(4): 571-574.

--abstract—Two new distinctive species of the darkling beetle genus *Hypogena* Dejean (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae) are described from unique males, *H. triceratops* species new, and *H. cat* species new. Both are named in honor of tenebrionid specialist Charles A. Triplehorn. Images of the holotypes are provided, with comparisons to other known three-horned species of the genus. Both specimens were collected at the Rio Tambopata Reserve, Madre de Dios, Peru.

Wheeler, A.G., Jr. and T.J. Henry. 2006. *Gampsocoris decorus* (Uhler) and *Metacanthus tenellus* Stal (Hemiptera: Berytidae): Neotropical stilt bugs as colonists of an African grass, *Urochloa mutica* (Poaceae), in Florida, with a review of berytid-grass associations. *Proc. Ent. Soc. Wash.* 108(1): 1-8.

--abstract— Host plants of the Neotropical stilt bugs *Gampsocoris decorus* (Uhler) (subfamily Gampsocorinae) and *Metacanthus tenellus* Stal (subfamily Metacanthinae), whose U.S. distributions are limited to southern Texas and peninsular Florida, have been unknown or little known. In Florida, both berytids have colonized Para grass (*Urochloa mutica* (Forssk.) T.Z. Nguyen; Poaceae), an invasive plant native to Africa. We collected *G. decorus*

on Para grass in 20 counties and *M. tenellus* in 17 counties. Para grass is the first host plant recorded for *G. decorus* and first grass documented as a host for *M. tenellus*. Grass-feeding habits have evolved in three berytid clades and have been demonstrated for certain gampsocorines and metacanthines; grass feeding needs to be verified for berytine stilt bugs.

VISITORS:

Dimitri Forrero from Cornell University is visiting Tom Henry and the Miridae Collection January 17-31.

Alexey Moseyko from Zoological Institute, St. Petersburg, Russia, will visit Alex Konstantinov and the Leaf Beetle Collection February 01-22.

Thomas Pape from the Zoologisk Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark, visited Chris Thompson and the Flesh Fly Collection January 05-13.

TRAVEL BY STAFF:

Terry Erwin left in mid-January for Ecuador, where he will conduct canopy fogging for insects. He will return in mid-February.