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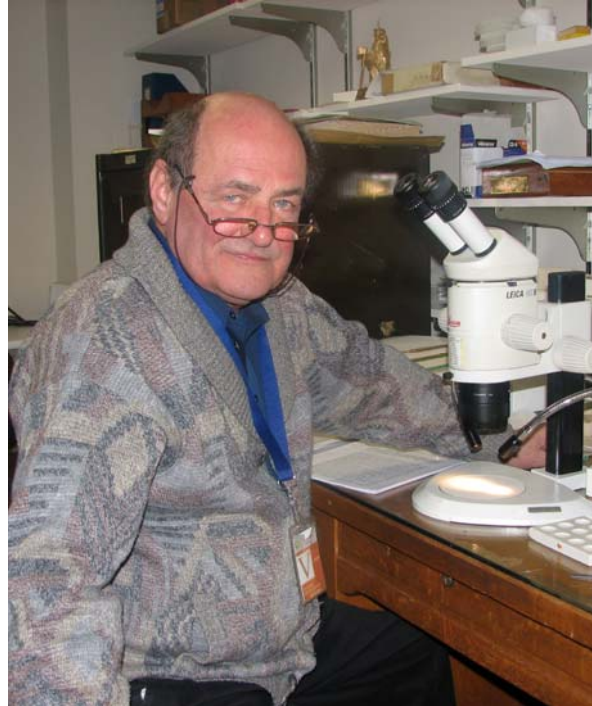
# *EntNews*

**The Newsletter of the Department of Entomology**

Vol. 22 No. 1 January, 2007



**Randy Mercurio**



**Lloyd Knutson**



**Amadeus Dyck**



**Darlene Butler**

**Front Page:** Randy Mercurio is the speaker at the February ESW meeting (see below). Amadeus Dyck has recently been accepted as a volunteer for the Department of Entomology, working with David Furth. Darlene Butler has recently been appointed as Secretary with the Systematic Entomology Lab. Lloyd Knutson, former Research Leader with SEL, is a current visitor (see Visitor listings). (Photo credits: G. Hevel). Formatting of front page/J. Louton.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Correction** from December EntNews: Steve Lingafelter presented a talk at the 1106<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the Entomological Society of Washington in January, not December.

The 1107<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the **Entomological Society of Washington** will convene on February 01 at 7:00 pm in the Cathy Kerby Seminar Room at the National Museum of Natural History. Randy Mercurio from the American Museum of Natural History will present the topic “An Overview of Centipedes in New York State and North America.”

## PUBLICATIONS BY STAFF:

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

**Furth, D.G.** 2007. A new genus and species of flea beetle (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Alticinae) from the rainforest canopy in Costa Rica. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 109(1): 90-101.

--abstract—*Laselva*, n. gen, and *Laselva trileborni*, n. sp., are described and illustrated from the canopy of a lowland Atlantic rainforest in Costa Rica. The genus belongs to the “Sphaeronychini” of the Alticinae.

**\*\*Grissell, E.E.** 2007. Nesting habits of *Ectemnius scaber* (Lepeletier and Brulle) (Hymenoptera: Crabronidae). Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 109(1): 182-186.

--abstract—*Ectemnius scaber* (Lepeletier and Brulle) was found nesting in a dried flower stalk of parsley (*Petroselinum crispum* Nyman). A simple entrance hole was made 30 cm. above ground level. Five cells, each provisioned with *Toxomerus marginatus* Say (Diptera: Syrphidae), were constructed above the entrance point. This is the first report of the genus as a host for *Ectemnius*. The biologies of seven species of Nearctic *Ectemnius* and three Holarctic species are reviewed.

**Mawdsley, J.R.** 2007. Ecology, distribution, and conservation biology of the tiger beetle *Cicindela patruela consentanea* Dejean (Coleoptera: Carabidae: Cicindelinae). Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 109(1): 17—28.

--abstract—The tiger beetle *Cicindela patruela consentanea* Dejean is known only from the mid-Atlantic coastal plain of the United States, where it is closely associated with pine and oak barrens ecosystems. Historic collecting records document the past presence of this subspecies at multiple sites in New Jersey and Long Island, while single specimens are also known from Delaware, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. This tiger beetle apparently has been extirpated from much of its former range, and extant populations are known only from sites within state forests and state wildlife management areas in the Pine Barrens region of New Jersey. Soil, vegetation, and forest stand characteristics were studied at four sites occupied by populations of *C. p. consentanea* in 2004, 2005, and 2006. Observations on adult biology and population dynamics are reported. Adult beetles were active along sandy trails and firebreaks in pine-oak woodlands dominated by *Pinus rigida* Miller (Pinaceae) and several *Quercus* species (Fagaceae), primarily *Quercus ilicifolia* Wangenheim. The use of prescribed fire as a forest management tool was evident at three of the four sites. Management activities which may benefit these populations include the continuation of prescribed burns as well as routine trail and firebreak maintenance.

**Perez-Gelabert, D.E.** and C.H.F. Rowell. 2006. Further investigations of Hispaniolan

eumastacoid grasshoppers (Espagnolinae: Episactidae: Orthoptera). J. Orth. Res. 15(2): 241-249.

--**abstract**—The new species *Espagnolopsis exaltata* Perez-Gelabert & Rowell is described from the mountains north of Ocoa, Cordillera Central, Dominican Republic. Also described is the hitherto unknown adult male of *Antillacris explicatrix* Rehn & Rehn, 1939, a relatively rare high mountain species. The variation exhibited by the most widely distributed episactid species in the island, *Espagnola darlingtoni*, is investigated through a comparative analysis of male and female genital features in several populations. Usually the female subgenital plate of eumastacoids shows a species specific morphology. We find that most of the apparent variation between populations is confined to the female subgenital plate, while the males are much more homogeneous. We conclude that our sample represents a single, somewhat variable species. Additionally, the transfer of *Tainacris divergens* Perez et al. 1997 to the new genus *Neibamastax* Rowell & Perez-Gelabert (see paper this issue) prompted the need to review the evidence for the distinctiveness of the two other species included in *Tainacris*. Differences are found in both the female subgenital plate and the male internal genitalia. The earlier conclusion that these populations represent different species is supported.

Rowell, C.H.F. and **Perez-Gelabert**. 2006. The status of the Espagnolinae (Rehn 1948) and other subfamilies of the Episactidae (Descamps 1973) (Eumastacoidea Caedlifera: Orthoptera), with description of two new genera, *Paraletbus* and *Neibamastax*. J. Orth. Res. 15(2): 191-240.

--**abstract**—The phallic anatomy of all the odern Hispaniolan eumastacids and of representative species of all genera of the Central American Episactinae has been examined. Two new genera, *Neibamastax* from the Dominican Republic and *Paraletbus* from El Salvador, are erected to accommodate species which are found to have very divergent phallic morphology. Additionally, we have examined isolated species of the Teicophyinae and Miraculinae. A cladistic analysis

of the Central American and Hispaniolan genera was performed, which divides these two into well-supported monophyletic clades, corresponding to the two areas of distribution. These we equate with the Epidsactinae Burr 1903 and the Espagnolinae Rehn 1948, and offer diagnoses of these two subfamilies. We present new data from the Teicophyinae which supports their inclusion in the Episactidae as well.

Scarborough, A.G. and **D.E. Perez-Gelabert**. 2006. A review of the asilid (Diptera) fauna from Hispaniola with six genera new to the island, fifteen new species, and checklist. Zootaxa 1381: 1-91.

--**abstract**—The robber fly fauna of the 6 subfamilies Apoclinae, Asilinae, Laprinae, Ommatiinae, Stenopogoninae, and Trogonomiminae of Hispaniola with special reference to the Dominican Republic is reviewed in light of new collections. This paper reports 6 genera (*Cerotainia* Schiner, *Eumecosoma* Schiner, *Holcocephala* Jaenicke, *Pilica* Curran, *Proctacanthella* Bromley, and *Rhopalogaster* Macquart) new to the island, increasing the number to 20. Within the West Indies, *Eumecosoma*, *Holcocephala*, *Pilica*, and *Proctacanthella* are only known from Hispaniola. Also, 33 species are reported, including 15 new species (*Atomosia anacaona*, *A. ciguaya*, *A. jaguar*, *A. jimagua*, *A. yurabia*, *Cerotainia sola*, *Eumecosoma caeruleum*, *Holcocephala indigena*, *Ommatius geminus*, *O. latricrus*, *O. maculosus*, *O. praelongus*, *Proctacanthella taina*, *Plesiomma simile*, and *Rhopalogaster albidus*), increasing the number to 62 species plus 2 species in Dominican amber. The male of *O. cinnamoomeus* Scarborough & females of *Plesiomma inflata* and *Proctacanthus darlingtoni* Curran are reported for the first time. The *Ommatius lucidatus* species group is established with 8 extant and 2 fossil species. *Plesiomma angustum* (Macquart) and *Atoniomyia mikii* (Wiliston) are rediscovered and redescribed. *Plesiomma lineate* (Fabricius) is removed from the distribution list for Cuba and Jamaica and *Neophoneus* is removed from the list of West Indies asilids because of an error in identification. *Neophoneus flavotibis* Bigot is tentatively diagnosed as belonging to the genus *Efferia*. *Plesiomma macra* Loew is removed from synonymy. Significant

structures of most species are illustrated and keys to selected species are included. At least one species of *Atoniomyia* and *Pilica* remain undescribed from this survey. New distribution records for most species and a checklist of the Hispaniolan fauna are also included.

Schiff, N.J., S.A. Valley, J.R. LaBonte and **\*\*D.R. Smith**. 2006. Guide to the Siricid Woodwasps of North America. U.S.D.A, Forest Service, Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team, Morgantown, WV. FHTET-2006-15, 102 pp.

**Staines, C.L.** 2007. New distributional records of New World Cassidinae (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae). Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 109(1): 160-165.

--**abstract**—New country and new state records for the United States are presented for 39 species of New World hispines. Localities for these new records from Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, Suriname, and the United States are presented.

## VISITORS:

**David Ahrenholz** from the University of Minnesota Medical School will visit Bob Robbins and the Butterfly Collection January 29-30.

**Patrick Beauzay** from the University of North Dakota visited Michael Gates and the Hymenoptera Collection for specimen identifications January 17-20.

**Vasily V. Grebennikov** from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency in Ottawa will visit Alexander Konstantinov and the Coleoptera Collection January 29 through February 04 to conduct on beetles that are plant pests.

**Lynn Kimsey** from the University of California at Davis will visit Michael Gates and the

Hymenoptera Collection February 26-27.

**Stephen Kinyon** from CRC, Chappaqua, will visit Robert Robbins and the Butterfly Collection to return curated Asian butterflies January 28-29.

**Lloyd Knutson** from Gaeta, Italy will visit Wayne Mathis and the Sciomyzidae Collection January 29 through February 06.

**Ian Mendenhall** from Tulane University, New Orleans, will visit Jim Pecor and the Culicidae Collection January 20 through February 02.

**Randy Mercurio** from the American Museum of Natural History, New York, will visit David Furth and the Myriapoda Collection February 01-02.

**Rory McDonnell** from the University of California at Riverside will visit Michael Gates and the Hymenoptera Collection January 25-28.

**Nathan Schiff** from the U.S. Forest Service, Stoneville, MS., visited Dave Smith and the Siricidae Collection January 10-11.

**Katja Seltmann** from Florida State University will visit Michael Gates to deliver a seminar and demonstrate the MorphBank imaging system, January 15-20.

**Jeffrey Shultz** from the University of Maryland will visit Jonathan Coddington and the Opilionida Collection on January 30 to examine specimens of the genus *Leiobunum*.

## TRAVEL BY STAFF:

There were no known travel events for members of the combined entomological staff during the recorded time period.