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# EntNews

The Newsletter of the Department of Entomology

Vol. 23 No. 1, January 2008



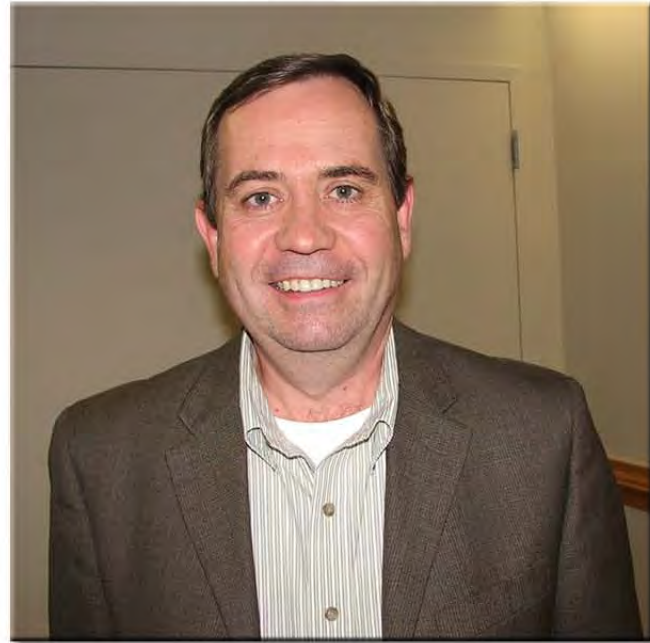
Michael Gates



Nilanjana Saha



Jeffrey Chiu



Jerry Cook

## EntNews for January, 2008

**Front Page:** Photo credits, Gates, Saha & Cook/G. Hevel; Chiu/M. Buffington. Formatting of front page/K. Darrow.)

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The 1114<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting of the **Entomological Society of Washington** convenes on January 03 at 7:00 pm in the Cathy Kerby Seminar Room at the National Museum of Natural History.

**Four PhD positions** are available in the context of a multidisciplinary research initiative titled “Biodiversity Exploratories” to study the impact of land-use intensification on biodiversity and ecosystem processes on some 300 grassland and forest sites from three German regions. Successful candidates will experimentally analyze effects of land-use intensification on plants, pollinators, herbivores (including butterflies) and their natural enemies in both grassland and forest habitats. Details are available at [www.biodiversity-exploratories.de/project-aims](http://www.biodiversity-exploratories.de/project-aims). Main topics of the four doctoral positions: 1) Multitrophic plant-butterfly interactions; 2) Bees, wasps and their natural enemies in standardized trap nests 3) Multitrophic plant-insect interactions on herbs 4) Pollination and seed set in herbs. The PhD students will be located in Germany at the University of Gottingen or the University of Bayreuth.

Requirements: MSc or Diploma degree in biology, agriculture or related disciplines. Knowledge in plant-insect interactions, insect communities and statistics is desirable. Interest in independent research and team work. Salary is ca. 1100 Euro per month. Start date is as soon as possible (e.g., March 1, 2008). The positions are for three years each. The doctoral thesis will be done as a series of English manuscripts.

Applicants should send their CV per email, at the latest January 20, including certificates, a short summary of research interests, and the names (with email address) of two referees to all project coordinators (see addresses below).

Prof. Ingolf Steffan-Dewenter ([Ingolf.Steffan@uni-bayreuth.de](mailto:Ingolf.Steffan@uni-bayreuth.de)),  
Dr. Catrin Westphal ([catrin.westphal@uni-bayreuth.de](mailto:catrin.westphal@uni-bayreuth.de)),  
Dr. Christoph Scherber ([christoph.scherber@agr.unigoettingen.de](mailto:christoph.scherber@agr.unigoettingen.de)),  
Prof. Teja Tscharntke ([ttschar@gwdg.de](mailto:ttschar@gwdg.de)),  
Dr. Alexandra M. Klein ([aklein@nature.berkeley.edu](mailto:aklein@nature.berkeley.edu))  
Dr. Jochen Krauss ([Joeh.Krauss@uni-bayreuth.de](mailto:Joeh.Krauss@uni-bayreuth.de)).

### GENERAL NEWS:

**Jeff Chiu** has recently departed his position with the Systematic Entomology Lab, USDA, to return to school. His friends and colleagues wish him good luck and good study habits.

### PUBLICATIONS:

Research papers by colleagues no longer members of the combined entomological staff, mostly retired members, will be listed, and those will be preceded by a double asterisk.

\*\*Dennis, D. S., Barnes, J. K., and **Knutson, L.** 2008. The pupal case of *Mallophora atra* Macquart (Diptera: Asilidae) from South America. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 110(1): 234-241.

- **abstract**—The pupal case of *Mallophora atra* Macquart from South America is described, illustrated, and compared with the South American species *M. media* Clements and Bennett, *M. ruficauda* (Wiedemann), and *M. sylveirii* Macquart, and the North American species *M. bomboides* (Wiedemann), *M. faulx* Osten Sacken, *M. leschenaultia* Macquart, and *M. orcina* (Wiedemann).

**Furth, D. G.** 2007. *Longitarsus warchalowskianus*, a new species from Chihuahua, Mexico (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Alticinae). Genus 18(4): 623-630.

- **abstract**—*Longitarsus warchalowskianus* is a new species to science from Chihuahua,

Mexico. It contains a unique combination of dorsal coloration, punctuation and shape that differentiates it from other species. All specimens are flightless and apterous. It feeds on *Packera bellidifolia* (Asteraceae) that contains pyrrolizidine alkaloids.

\*\***Gagne, R. J.** 2008. Obituary, Donald Morgan Anderson, 1930-2005. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 110(1): 263-264.

Garci-Robledo, C., E. K. Kuprewica, & **Staines, C. L.** 2007. Hispine-like herbivore damage in *Canna* (Zingiberales, Cannaceae) by *Anopsilus* weevils (Curculionidae, Bariinae). Colep. Bul. 61(2): 468-470.

- **abstract**—Our results confirm the plant-herbivore interaction between at least one species of *Canna* and an *Anopsilus* weevil. Review of herbarium specimens suggests plant-herbivore interactions among several *Canna* species throughout a broad geographic range. Further research will determine if *Anopsilus* weevils, hispine beetles, or other herbivores are producing the characteristic herbivory damage that we have recorded for several *Canna* species in South America.

**Hall, J. P. W.** 2008. *Theope* revisited: A synopsis of new discoveries, with the description of three new species (Lepidoptera: Riodinidae: Nymphidiini). Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 110(1): 144-158.

- **abstract**—Since the last revision of the Neotropical riodinid genus *Theope* Doubleday in 1999, several new Amazonian species have been discovered. These discoveries are summarized here. Two new species were described between 2002 and 2006, *T. fayneli* Gallard (*nycteis* group) and *T. minialba* Gallard (miscellaneous group), and an additional three new species are described here, *T. tetrastigmoides* (*eurygonina* group), *T. harisi* Hall (*hypoleuca* group), and *T. euselasina* Hall (*eurygonina* group). The genus *Theope* now contains 73 species and, with the proposal of the *eurygonina* group for *T. eurygonina* Bates and *T. euselasina*, fifteen species

groups. The recently proposed subspecies name *minimus* Gallard is here synonymized with *T. fayneli* (n. syn.).

\*\***Kelly, R., Mea, D., and Harrison, B. A.** 2008. Discovery of *Culex coronator* Dyar and Knab (Diptera: Culicidae) in Georgia. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 110(1): 258-260.

**Kula, R. R.** and Zolnerowich, G. 2008. Revision of New World *Chaenusa* Haliday *sensu lato* (Hymenoptera: Braconidae: Alysiinae), with new species, synonymies, hosts, and distribution records. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 110(1): 1-60.

- **abstract**—The New World species of *Chaenusa* Haliday *sensu lato* are revised, and a diagnosis is provided for *Chaenusa s. l.* Four new species from North America, *Chaenusa trumani* Kula, *Chaenusa virgili* Kula, *Chaenusa whartoni* Kula, and *Chaenusa woolleyi* Kula, and two new species from South America, *Chaenusa hirsutissima* Kula and *Chaenusa ireneae* Kula, are described. *Chaenusa Americana* (Riegel), new combination and *Chaenusa saxicola* (Riegel), new combination are transferred from *Chorebidea* Viereck. *Chaenusa bergi* (Riegel), revised combination is returned from *Chorebidella* Riegel. *Chorebidea bessae* Riegel is a new synonym of *Cha. americana*, and *Chorebidea macclurei* Riegel is a new synonym of *Cha. saxicola*. *Chaenusa anticostae* Riegel and *Chaenusa illinae* Riegel are new synonyms of *Chaenusa quadriceps* (Ashmead). *Chaenusa americana*, *Cha. bergi*, *Chaenusa californica* Riegel, *Cha. quadriceps*, *Chaenusa rossi* Riegel, and *Cha. saxicola* are redescribed. Host and spatiotemporal distribution data are provided, including new host and distribution records. The status of several holotypes is discussed, and a key to the New World species of *Chaenusa s. l.* is provided.

**Lingafelter, S. W.** 2008. book review: *Longicorn Beetles of Japan*,

By N. Ohbayahi and T. Niisato (eds.). Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 110(1): 540-541.

\*\*Liu, X., Flint, O. S. Jr., and Yang, D. 2008. Revision of the alderfly genus *Indosialis* Lestage (Megaloptera: Sialidae). *Zootaxa* 1677: 47-56.

- **abstract**—*Indosialis* Lestage is a small Asian genus of alderflies. Herein, we describe a new species, *I. indicus*, and revise the three species in the genus. A key to males and a discussion of the phylogeny and biogeography of the genus is provided.

Mathis, W. N. & Foster, G. A. 2007. Canacidae (Diptera) from the Delmarva States. *Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash.* 120(4): 387-428.

- **abstract**—Species of Canacidae sensu lato, including the subfamilies Canacinae, Pelomyiinae, and Tethiniinae, from the Delmarva states are revised. Included are nine species in six genera. Taxonomic categories from family to species are diagnosed and appropriate synonymy, illustrations, maps, and information on the natural history are provided for each species. A lectotype is designated for *Rhinoessa parvula* Loew, *Anthomyza cinerea* Williston, 1896 and *Rhinoessa bermudaensis* Melander, 1952 are determined to be conspecific with *Rhinoessa willistoni* Melander, 1913 with the latter being the senior synonym.

Mathis, W. N. and Ohishi, H. 2008. Revision of the shore-fly genus *Eremomusca* Mathis (Diptera: Ephydriidae) with description of a new species from Japan. *Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash.* 110(1): 67-78.

- **abstract**—A new species of *Eremomusca*, *E. wakii*, is described from specimens collected in Japan (Ayase City; 35 25.9'N, 138 25.9'E). for perspective, a diagnosis for *Eremomusca* is provided, and to facilitate identification a key to species of the genus, as well as figures of the head, thorax, abdomen, and wings, are provided.

Mathis, W. N. and Zatwarnicki. 2007. A revision of the species of the genus *Dichaeta* Meigen (Diptera: Ephydriidae). *Annal. Zoologici* 57(4): 783-822.

- **abstract**—The species of the genus *Dichaeta* Meigen are revised, including a phylogenetic analysis of the five recognized species. Two new species are described (type locality in parenthesis): *D. wirthi* (New Jersey. Ocean: Forked River (39 50.1'N, 74 11.8'W)) and *D. zacki* (Idaho. Boundary: Perkins Lake (48 45.4'N, 116 05.5'W)). The identity of *N. transversa* Walker, which had been a nomen dubium, is established and is discovered to be conspecific with *D. ussurica* Krivosheina, the latter thus being a junior synonym. *Dichaeta choui* Fan, described from specimens collected in china, is recognized as a junior synonym of *D. caudata*. In the phylogenetic analysis, the tribe Notiphiliini is found to be a well-established, well-corroborated, monophyletic lineage comprising two genera, *Dichaeta* and *Notiphila* Fallen. *Dichaeta* is found to be the sister group of *Notiphila* sensu lato and is accorded generic status, which is a reversion to its former placement when first described. All known species are described with an emphasis on structures of the male terminalia, which are fully illustrated. Detailed locality data and distribution maps for the Nearctic Region are provided. A lectotype is designated for *Notiphila transversa* Walker.

Nickle, D. A. 2008. Commonly intercepted thrips at U.S. ports-of-entry from Africa, Europe, and the Mediterranean. III. The genus *Thrips* Linnaeus, 1758 (Thysanoptera: Thripidae). *Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash.* 110(1): 165-185.

- **abstract**—A total of 130 species of thrips occurring in Africa, Europe, and the Mediterranean region were intercepted by U.S. agricultural quarantine officers in shipments of plants and cut flowers at the various ports-or-entry in the United States from 1983 to 1999. Of the 24 most intercepted species of thrips encountered by port identifiers during this period, 10 of them were species of the genus *Thrips* Linnaeus, (*T. tabaci* Lindeman, *T. fuscipennis* (Haliday), *T. major* (Uzel), *T. vulgatissimus* (Haliday), *T. meridionalis* (Priesner), *T. flavus* Shrank, *T. atratus* (Haliday), *T. simplex*

(Morison), *T. nigropilosus* Haliday, and *T. australis* (Bagnall)). This is Part III of a guide to the identification of thrips intercepted from those regions. Included are keys, line drawings, and scanning electron micrographs to help identify the 18 commonly intercepted species of the genus *Thrips*, characterized by the presence of ctenidia located posteriad of abdominal spiracle VIII.

Prathan, K. D. and **Konstantinov, A. S.** 2007. *Yaminia*, a new genus of flea beetle from the Oriental Region (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae). Cole. Bul. 61(4): 574-580.

- **abstract**—A new genus and species of flea beetle, *Yaminia gmelini* Prathapan and Konstantinov, from southern India, is described and illustrated with comparative notes and host plant information.

**Staines, C. L.** 2007. A new species of *Anisostena* (*Anisostena*) from Colombia (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Casidinae). Genus 18(4): 677-680.

- **abstract**—*Anisostena* (*Anisostena*) *warchalowskii* Staines, new species, is described from Colombia. The species is illustrated and a revised key to the species of the *nigrita*-species group is presented.

**Steiner, W. E., Jr.** 2007. The darkling beetles (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae) of San Salvador, Bahamas, with notes on biogeography. PP. 99-116 in Rathke, B. J. and W. K. Hayes, eds., *Proceedings of the Eleventh Symposium on the Natural History of the Bahamas*. Grace Research Center, San Salvador, Bahamas.

- **abstract**--. As part of the ongoing survey and descriptions of the darkling beetles of the Bahama Archipelago, the known tenebrionid fauna of San Salvador is reviewed and illustrated; a checklist and key to the species are provided. In addition to specimens collected in June 2003, February 2004, and June 2005, material in the collection of the Gerace Research Center and other institutions was included in this study. Beetles were selectively sampled using

manual techniques; many were found under leaf litter in coastal scrub habitats and beach drift on sand, in dry fungi on dead wood, and at night at artificial lights. Twenty nine species are identified here. Only three species have been previously recorded from the island. Ten species new to science are represented, most of which are presumed to be endemic to San Salvador. Four species are identified as introduced exotics; others represent widespread Antillean forms but some are first-time records for the Bahamas. For its small size, San Salvador was found to be surprisingly rich in species. The geologic history of San Salvador, isolated on its own bank, has probably led to the evolution of distinct species, best illustrated in the genera with flightless members. Conservation of the localized habitats of these beetles is recommended.

#### **VISITORS:**

**Erika Carrera** from Ecuador will visit Terry Erwin and the Coleoptera Collection for three months, starting January 31, specifically working on canopy samples.

**Jen Jacobs** from the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California, will visit Terry Erwin and the Coleoptera Collection January 21-25 to identify bamboo leaf litter beetles from Peru.

**Tova Rivnay**, a former professional entomologist, Boston, visited David Furth and the general collection on December 31.

**Nilanjana Saha** from Bucknell University is currently a visitor with Terry Erwin and the Coleoptera Collection (December 15 until the end of January).

**Andrzej Wolski** from Poland Plant Protection Institute, Poland, will be a visitor with Tom Henry and the Tingidae Collection January 14 through February 08.

#### **TRAVEL:**

**Terry Erwin** spent several weeks during and past the holiday season in Peru.