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# *EntNews*

**The Newsletter of the Department of Entomology**

Vol. 21 No. 12 December, 2006



**Bob Carlson**



**Dug Miller**



**Pat Espenshade**



**Faridah Dahlan and Jeff Chiu**

**Front Page:** Bob Carlson, Pat Espenshade and Dug Miller have announced that they will be taking the BARC (Beltsville Agriculture Research Center) buyout and retiring the first week of January, 2007. All three have been USDA employees for several decades, and their expertise will be strongly missed. Faridah Dahlan and Jeff Chiu verify the good time enjoyed by the staff at the 2006 Entomology Holiday Celebration, held in mid-December. Faridah was the central coordinator for the event. (Photo credits: Carlson, Espenshade and Miller/G. Miller. Holiday photo/J. Louton. Formatting of front page/J. Louton.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The 1106<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the **Entomological Society of Washington** will convene on December 07 at 7:00 pm in the Cathy Kerby Seminar Room at the National Museum of Natural History. Steve Lingafelter will present the topic "Cerambycidae of Bolivia."

## **GENERAL NEWS:**

Congratulations to **Dave Smith**, who has recently been recognized by colleagues in the introductions of two volumes on sawflies. Author M.S. Sani, In "Indian Sawflies Biodiversity" dedicates his book with the following text: "This volume is dedicated to my revered guide Dr. D.R. Smith of USNM, for his unstinted academic and moral support." Authors S.M. Blank, S. Schmidt & A. Taeger devote their volume on "Recent Sawfly Research: Synthesis and Prospects" to Manfred Kraus and David R. Smith, with ten pages for Dave, including a photograph, biography, and publication list.

A **position as Insect Systematist** at the Assistant Professional Scientist level, Illinois Natural History Survey, Section for Biodiversity, Division of Biodiversity and Ecological

Entomology (State-funded, full-time) is available. The insect systematist will conduct innovative collection-based research on insect systematics and/or biodiversity with relevance to the Midwestern U.S. and additional emphasis on one or more of the following topics: biotic inventory, biogeography, conservation biology, cybertaxonomy, ecology, genomic analysis, molecular and morphological phylogenetics, symbiosis, and taxonomy. Other duties include: develop and maintain a vigorous extramurally funded research program; maintain a record of frequent publication in peer-reviewed scientific journals and present results of research at scientific conferences; curate and build the INHS insect collection; provide insect identification services; develop collaborations within INHS, other units of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and other public, private or academic research agencies at the local, state, national, or international levels; serve on INHS/DNR committees; participate in education and outreach activities. Qualifications: A Ph.D. (by starting date) in entomology or a related discipline is required, with a demonstrated organismal focus. Post-doctoral and curatorial experience is preferred. Research experience and interests that complement research programs in the Center for Biodiversity, and that can be applied to conservation and management issues in Illinois and the Midwest, are desirable. The successful applicant must 1) demonstrate abilities to plan, attract funding for, conduct, supervise, and evaluate research activities; 2) possess and maintain a record of frequent publication in peer-reviewed, nationally recognized scientific journals; and 3) have an affinity for cooperative or interdisciplinary research with scientists at INHS and other units of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and academic institutions such as the University of Illinois. Preference will be given to applicants whose taxonomic expertise complements that of existing staff and is compatible with INHS collection strengths. Salary

is \$56,000 to \$58,000, and the position is available in the Spring, 2007. Application: To ensure full consideration, applications should be received by February 16, 2007. To apply, submit cover letter, CV, a statement of research interests, and three professional letters of reference to Human Resources Office, PRD# 1479, Illinois Natural History Survey, 1816 S. Oak St., Champaign, IL 61820. Telephone is 217-----265-5644, and e-mail is [hroffice@inhs.uiuc.edu](mailto:hroffice@inhs.uiuc.edu). FAX is 217-333-4949.

## 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.

**\*Anderson, D.M.,** B.A. Korotyaev, and **S.W. Lingafelter.** 2006. Discovery of a new species of *Smicronyx* Schoenherr (Coleoptera: Curculionidae). Coleop. Bul. 60(3): 243-251.

--abstract—*Smicronyx obrieni* Anderson, Korotyaev, and Lingafelter, a new species associated with ragweed [*Ambrosia grayi* (A. Nelson) Shinnars], was discovered in Krasnodar (Russia) and Texas (United States), and is described.

\*(deceased)

Bellamy, C.L. and **N.E. Woodley.** 2006. review of *Castiarina Australia's richest jewel beetle genus*, S. Barker. Coleop. Bul. 60(3): 273-274.

**\*\*Duckett, C.N.,** K.D. Prathapan and **A.S. Konstantinov.** 2006. Notes on identity, new synonymy and larva of *Ivalia* Jacoby (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae) with description of a new species. Zootaxa 1363: 49-68.

--abstract—Genus *Ivalia* Jacoby is characterized morphologically, and *Ampimeloides* Jacoby syn. nov. and *Taizonia* Chen syn. nov. are junior synonyms with it. Several *Ivalia* species are figured, including *Ivalia bella* (Chen) comb. nov., *I. dorsalis* (Jacoby) comb. nov., and *I. viridipennis* Jacoby. A new species of *Ivalia* from the Nilgiri

Hills in south India, *I. korakundab* sp. nov., is described and illustrated, including the larvae. Larvae were associated with adults by sequencing a fragment of the mitochondrial gene cytochrome oxidase I. Larval morphology is discussed and compared with that of other flea beetles.

**Furth, D. G.** 2006. The current status of knowledge of the Alticinae of Mexico (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae). Proceedomgs of the Sixth International Symposium on the Chrysomelidae. Bonner Zoologische Beitrage 54(4): 197-225.

--abstract—The current state of knowledge of the diversity for Alticinae recorded from Mexico is taken from the historical literature, determined specimens primarily in the U.S. National Museum, including material collected by the author, as well as from several other institutions. An Appendix is provided containing a list of generic and specific names recorded from Mexico, including the known distribution for each species by Mexican state and the source for that information. There are 89 genera and 524 species currently known from Mexico. Although preliminary, this is a significant increase from the published literature. The Alticinae species diversity per Mexican state is also provided. Some discussion of the Mexican Alticinae biogeographic affinities is given. The following changes in status are made: *Syphrea bibiana* Bechyne = *Nesaecrepida infusate* (Schaefer); *Palaeothona* Jacoby is raised from synonymy with *Lupraea* Jacoby and considered valid; *Varicoxa* Bechyne = *Luperaltica* Crotch; *Kuschelina gracilis* Jacoby is raised from synonymy with *K. laeata* (Perbosc) and considered valid; *Aphthona dimidiaticornis* Jacoby, *A. fulvipennis* Jacoby, *A. maculipennis* Jacoby, *A. Mexicana* (Jacoby), *A. pallipes* (Jacoby), *A. semipunctata* Jacoby, and *A. substriata* Jacoby are all considered to be in *Centralaphthona* Bechyne; *Aphthona amuelensis* Jacoby = *Genaphthona* Bechyne; *Aphthona fulvitaris* Jacoby = *Gioia* Bechyne; *A. championi* Jacoby = *Lupraea*.

**Konstantinov, A.S.** and K.D. Prathapan. 2006. *Kashmirobia*, a new genus of flea beetles from the Oriental Region (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae). *Zootaxa* 1377: 61-68.

--abstract—A new genus, *Kashmirobia*, with the type species *Aphthona hugely* Jacoby from the Oriental Region is described and illustrated. Comparative notes are provided. Host plant of *K. hugely* is *Euphorbia nerifolia* L. (Euphorbiaceae).

**Konstantinov, A.S.** and M.L. Chamorro-Lacayo. 2006. A new genus of moss-inhabiting flea beetles (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae) from Dominican Republic. *Coleop. Bul.* 60(4): 275-290.

--abstract--- *Kiskeya* new genus and two new species (*K. baorucae* and *K. neibae*), from the Dominican Republic are described and illustrated. *Kiskeya* is compared to *Monotalla* Bechyne, *Normaltica* Konstantinov, and *Clavicornaltica* Scherer. Geographic ranges in which Greater Antillean endemics have closest relatives in the Old World are discussed.

**Lingafelter, S.W.** and E.H. Nearn. 2006. Rediscovery and redescription of the remarkable *Phoenicus sanguinipennis* Lacordaire (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae: Trachyderini) from the Dominican Republic. *Coleop. Bul.* 60(3): 199-206.

--abstract—*Phoenicus sanguinipennis* was described by Lacordaire in 1869 based on one male specimen of unknown origin. We rediscovered this species 135 years later in the Punta Cana region in La Altagracia Province of eastern Dominican Republic (18 30.477°N, 68 22.499°W). Twenty-seven specimens were collected at lights and on dead *Maclura tinctoria* (Linnaeus) D. Don ex Steudel (Moraceae). We provide a thorough description of the species and the previously unknown female, and a discussion of the previous and current knowledge of the species.

**Miller, D.R.,** D.J. Williams and J.A. Davidson. 2006. Key to conifer-infesting species of *Lepidosaphes* Shimer worldwide (Hemiptera: Coccidae: Diaspididae), with descriptions of two

new species and a redescription of *L. pallidula* (Williams). *Zootaxa* 1362: 23-42.

--abstract—Two new species of *Lepidosaphes* are described, *L. caribaeae* Williams and Miller from Trinidad and Jamaica and *L. murreeana* Williams and Miller from Pakistan. *Lepidosaphes pallidula* (Williams), a non-conifer infesting species, is redescribed so that it can be distinguished from *L. pallida* (Maskell), a species commonly detected on conifers. A dichotomous key is presented for the identification of the adult females of the 25 species of *Lepidosaphes* that occur on conifers worldwide and a matrix is provided containing 23 characters considered important in distinguishing the 25 conifer-infesting species.

Saini, M.S., S.M. Blank and **\*\*D.R. Smith.** 2006. Checklist of the Sawflies (Hymenoptera: Symphyta) of India. In "S.M. Blank, S. Schmidt & A. Taeger (eds), Recent Sawfly Research: Synthesis and Prospects, Goecke & Even, Keltern." Pages 575-612.

--abstract—The first checklist for the sawfly species of India comprises 747 valid species and ca. 1,450 distribution records by Indian state. In addition, 44 undescribed species are known. The species are listed together with their synonyms. The spelling of numerous names has been corrected to provide a nomenclaturally sound basis for future taxonomic studies. References to the original descriptions are provided for all genus-group names and species-group names. The following species names are newly combined: *Dolerus infuscatus* (Saini & Singh, 1987), comb. n. for *Loderus infuscatus* Saini & Singh, 1987; *Nepala nigriventris* (Saini & Casu, 1996), comb. n. for *Neoxenapates nigriventris* Saini & Vasu, 1996; *Nepala quadrata* (Saini & Vau, 1996), comb. n. for *Neoxenapates quadratus* Saini & Vasu, 1996; *Tentredo (Tentredella) coeruleotincta* (Muche, 1987), comb. n. for *Rhogogaster coeruleotincta* Muche, 1987 [from Nepal]; *Tentredo kalatopensis* (Saini & Singh, 1990), comb.n. for *Metallopus kalatopensis* Saini & Singh, 1990; *Tentredo mandalica* (Saini & Singh, 1990), comb. n. for *Metallopus mandalicus* Saini & Singh, 1990; *Tentredo nefaensis* (Saini & Bharti,

1995), comb. n. for *Peus nafaensis* Saini & Bharti, 1995); *Tentredo pannulosa* (Konow, 1907), comb. n. for *Peus pannulosus* Konow, 1907; *Tentredo shimlaensis* (Saini & Singh, 1990), comb. n. for *Metallopaeus shimlaensis* Saini & Singh, 1990); *Tentredo tridon* Malaise, 1945, comb. n. for *Metallopaeus trigon* Malaise, 1945); *Taxonus fletcheri* Rohwer, 1921 is identified as a species of *Darjilingia* Malaise, 1934. The following replacement names are proposed: *Darjilingia weii* for *Taxonus fletcheri* Rohwer, 1921, nec Cameron, 1878; *Siobla varia* for *S. bicolor* Saini & Vasu, 1999, nec W. F. Kirby, 1889; *Tentredo antennalis* for *T. antennata* Singh, Dhillon & Singh, 1985, nec Klug, 1817; *T. balbiriana* for *T. balbiri* (Bharti & Saini, 2000), nec Saini & Bharti, 1997; *T. gouletii* for *T. kingdonwardi* (Malaise, 1945) [from Myanmar], nec Malaise, 1945; *T. kalatopica* for *T. kalatopensis* Singh & Saini, 1994, nec (Saini & Singh, 1990); *T. kashmiricola* for *T. kashmiricus* (Malaise, 1945), nec Malaise, 1934; *T. kononiana* for *T. kononi* Saini & Bharti, 1997, nec Enslin, 1920; *T. malaiseana* for *T. malaisei* (Saini & Singh, 1990), nec Singh & Saini, 1988; *T. religio* for *T. rekuguisa* (Bharti & Saini, 2000), nec Malaise, 1945; *T. rohweriana* for *T. rohweri* Saini & Bharti, 1997, nec Smulyan, 1915; *T. taegeriana* for *T. taeferi* Saini & Bharti, 1996, nec Goulet, 1996; *T. tuber* for *T. tuberculata* (Saini & Singh, 1990), nec (Ed. Andre, 1882); and *T. zomboriana* for *T. zomborii* Saini & Bharti, 1996, nec Togashi, 1977. The following new synonyms are proposed: *Sainiella* Lacourt, 1996, synonym of *Tentredo* Linne, 1758; *Allantus elegans* Mocsary, 1909, synonym of *Tentredo megacephala* Cameron, 1899; *Chydostomus merceti* Konow, 1908, synonym of *Tentredo cestata* (Konow, 1908); and *T. podagrica semiannulata* Malaise, 1945, synonym of *T. podagrica* Konow, 1907. *Arge flavicollis* (Cameron, 1876) is removed from synonymy with *A. captive* (Smith, 1874), and *A. compar* Konow, 1900, from synonymy with *A. similis* (Snellen van Vollenhoven, 1860).

Schmidt, S. and **\*\*D.R. Smith**. 2006. An annotated systematic world catalogue of the Pergidae (Hymenoptera). Cont. Amer. Entomol.

Inst. 34(3): 1-207.

--**abstract**-- The Pergidae are known only from the Western Hemisphere and the Australasian Region. Diversity is greatest in the Neotropical and Australasian regions with the majority of species occurring in South America. The 14 subfamilies, 59 genera, and 431 species are catalogued, with full information on original descriptions, synonymy, and taxonomic changes, subsequent references, recorded distributions, parasite and food plant data, and remarks on the biology and taxonomy of certain species. Three of the 14 subfamilies are common to both the Neotropical and Australasian regions. In the Australasian Region, there are 9 subfamilies, 26 genera, and 163 species of which 140 species occur in Australia and 23 are confined to Indonesia and Papua New Guinea. In the Western Hemisphere, there are 8 subfamilies, 33 genera, and 268 species.

**\*\*Smith, D.R.** 2006. Capitulo 6, "Los Sinfitos" and 7.1, Familia Orussidae, pp. 166-201, 202-205. In Hanson, P.E. and I.D. Gauld, eds. *Hymenoptera do la Rebiion Neotropical*. Memoirs of the American Entomological Institute, vol. 77, 994 pp.

**\*\*Smith, D.R.** 2006. 8.3. Familia Aulacidae, pp. 219-221. In Hanson, P.E. and I.D. Gauld, eds. *Hymenoptera do la Rebiion Neotropical*. Memoirs of the American Entomological Institute, Vol. 77, 994 pp.

**\*\*Smith, D.E.** 2006. Checklist of the Pergidae (Hymenoptera: Symphyta) of the Western Hemisphere, with a new genus and two new species. In "S.M. Blan, S. Schmidt & A. Taeger (eds), Recent Sawfly Research: Synthesis and Prospects, Goecke & Evers, Keltern. Pages 613-626.

--**abstract**--The sawfly family Pergidae in the Western Hemisphere currently includes 270 known species in 34 genera and 8 subfamilies. A checklist is given that includes all described species with their known distribution, known food plants, and literature since the previous 1990

major work on the family. *Acordulecera krausi*, sp. n., from Costa Rica, and *Krausius*, gen. n., and *Krausius colombia*, sp. n., from Colombia are described and illustrated.

**Steiner, W.E., Jr.** 2006. Patterns of distribution and endemism in Bahamian Tenebrionidae (Coleoptera). *Cahiers Scientifiques* 10: 103-109.

--**abstract**--Tenebrionid beetles make up a significant portion of the insect fauna of the Bahamian archipelago, yet in spite of centuries of European occupation, they remain poorly known. A diversity of tenebrionid habitats is found on Bahamian islands. Recent fieldwork on a few selected islands to date, and inventory of their tenebrionid species shows a surprising richness composed of widespread Antillean species, adventive elements, and presumed endemics. Many of the latter belong to the genera *Branchus*, *Diastolinus* and *Trientoma*, all flightless and proving to be information-rich for biogeographic analyses. Islands of each of the historically isolated Bahamian banks, with complete inundation during the Pliocene, offer unique opportunities for studies of dispersal, colonization, and speciation among islands.

## **VISITORS:**

**Robert Busby** from Andover, Massachusetts visited Bob Robbins and the Butterfly Collection December 07-09.

**Jessica Davis** from Iowa State University will visit Wayne Mathis and the Crane Fly Collection January 02-07.

**Taro Eldredge** from Cornell University was a visitor with Gary Hevel and the Staphylinidae Collection January 03-04.

**Kojun Kanda** from Cornell University was a visitor with Warren Steiner and the Tenebrionidae

Collection, including Ecuador canopy fogging lots, January 03-04.

**Joe Nicolay** from Chesapeake, Virginia visited Bob Robbins and the Butterfly Collection on December 20.

**Judith Rhymer** from the University of Maine will visit Bob Robbins and the Butterfly Collection January 03-05.

**Carrie Wells** from Clemson University visited Bob Robbins and the Butterfly Collection on December 01.

**Al Wheeler** from Clemson University visited Tom Henry and the Heteroptera Collection December 20-22.

## **TRAVEL BY STAFF:**

**Terry Erwin** spent the latter part of December in Peru, and is expected to return January 15.

**Steven Lingafelter** and **Jens Prena** are scheduled for field work in Bolivia, January 12-26.

**Scott Miller** presented the following topic during the December Entomological Society of America meetings in Indianapolis: "Challenges and opportunities in understanding and managing African insect biodiversity" in symposium "From entomological plagues to biodiversity: Unfinished business in Africa. A tribute to the life of Professor Thomas R. Odhiambo."

**Warren Steiner** presented the following topic during the December Entomological Society of America meetings in Indianapolis: "Recent surveys of Bahamian Tenebrionidae (Coleoptera) at the symposium "Darklings into Light: A Celebration of Tenebrionid Beetle Diversity."