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Hexapod Herald - Vol. 16, No. 1, January 2004

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"Hexapod Herald - Vol. 16, No. 1, January 2004" (2004). *Hexapod Herald and Other Entomology Department Newsletters*. 20.

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Hexapod Herald

Department of
Entomology
Volume 16

January 2004

University of Nebraska -
Lincoln
Number 1

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Calendar of Events

January 19, 2004

- Martin Luther King Day - Student and Staff Holiday

January 22-23, 2004

- 12th Annual Urban Pest Management Conference, The Cornhusker Hotel - Lincoln, NE

February 15 - 18, 2004

- Meeting of the Southeastern Branch of the Entomological Society of America - Charleston, SC

February 18, 2004

- Faculty Meeting - 9:30 a.m., PI 214

March 7 - 9, 2004

- Meeting of the Eastern Branch of the Entomological Society of America - New Haven, CT

March 10, 2004

- Faculty Meeting - 9:30 a.m., PI 214

March 14 - 21, 2004

- Spring Vacation - Offices are open Monday - Friday

March 28 - 31, 2004

• Meeting of the North Central Branch of
the Entomological Society of America -
Kansas City, MO



Welcome

New Distance Masters Students:

Spring 2004: **Douglas Adams**, Montrose, NY; **Edgar Echevarria**, AP, AE;
Mark Johnson, Dearing, GA; **Ava Marshall**, Colorado Springs, CO; **Kurt
Olmer**, Kearney, NE; **Edward Patterson**, Camden, MI

André Luiz B. Crespo will be pursuing a Ph.D. degree under the supervision of **Dr. Blair Siegfried**. André received his B.S. in agronomy from the Federal University of Vicosa in 2000, and completed his M.S. degree in Entomology from the Federal University of Vicosa in 2003.

Dr. Youngjin Park and his wife, **Jiyoung Nam**, have joined **Dr. David Stanley's** laboratory for a one year post-doctoral fellowship funded by KOSEF, the Korean National Science Foundation. In Spring, 2003 Youngjin earned his Ph.D. in Entomology at Andong National University in Andong, Korea, working under Dr. Yonggyun Kim on microbial impairment of insect immunity. This is Dr. Park's third visit to our department. He spent 4 months here during 2001 (funded by the B.I.G. Corporation in Korea), then returned for 5 weeks during July, 2003 (funded by an NSF grant to Stanley). Please say hello to Youngjin when you can.

Bamphitlhi Tiroesele will be starting his M.S. program under the supervision of **Dr. John Foster**. Bamphitlhi has been awarded a full sponsorship from the Botswana College of Agriculture, University of Botswana. He received his B.S. in Agriculture from the University of Botswana in 2001.

Dr. Wouter van Steenis, a specialist with syrphid flies from the Netherlands, is conducting research in the Museum. Wouter's visit will continue to April 2004.

Congratulations



The following students graduated December, 2003:

Laura A. Campbell, M.S. (Advisor: **Dr. Lance Meinke**)

Grant D. De Jong, M.S. (Advisors: **Drs. Leon Higley** and **W. Wyatt Hoback**)

Lou E. Didier, M.S. (Advisor: **Dr. Tiffany Heng-Moss**)

John D. Hansen, M.S. (Advisor: **Dr. Leon Higley**)

James C. Kriz, M.S. (Advisors: **Drs. James Brandle** and **Stephen Danielson**)

Kenneth P. Rohr, Jr., M.S. (Advisor: **Dr. John Foster**)

Jenny A. Stebbing, Ph.D. (Advisor: **Dr. Lance Meinke**)

Dr. Robert Wright received a Certificate of Excellence from Section E of the Entomological Society of America for a poster he co-authored at the 2003 Entomological Society of America annual meeting at Cincinnati, OH. The poster was: *Transgenic corn for rootworm control: Implementing IRM and IPM with uniform scouting procedures*, M. E. Rice, E. Cullen, C. D. DiFonzo, K. R. Ostlie, K. L. Steffey, J. J. Tollefson and R. J. Wright.

The Grasshopper Response Team - Troy Walz, Bruce Treffer, Ron Seymour, **Jack Campbell**, **Gary Hein**, and **Dave Keith** - received the Excellence in Team Programming Award at the Cooperative Extension Fall Conference held in Grand Island .

Joan Christen, a Ph.D. student advised by **Drs. John Foster** and **Steven Skoda**, is the recipient of the 2004 Christa McAuliffe Prize given by University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Education and Human Sciences. Joan will be honored at a banquet on January 25th and will receive a \$1,000 stipend and plaque. Criteria for selection include the search for a nominee that exemplifies the courage, commitment to excellence, creativity, and ability to inspire that characterized McAuliffe. Joan was also one of four teachers in Nebraska to receive a Nebraska Award of Excellence. The Nebraska Awards of Excellence Program serves to recognize the contributions of outstanding classroom teachers and

searches for those who are “exceptionally dedicated, knowledgeable, and skilled.” The most important criterion is a superior ability to inspire students of all backgrounds and abilities to learn. Joan was honored at a luncheon at the Governor’s mansion in November.

Dr. Andrew Smith was awarded the Outstanding Paper of the Year in the 2002 Coleopterists Bulletin by the Coleopterists Society at its annual meeting in Cincinnati for his contribution entitled, *Revision of the Southern South American Endemic Genus Aulacopalpus Guérin-Ménéville with Phylogenetic and Biogeographic Analyses of the Subtribe Brachysternina (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Rutelinae: Anoplognathini)*.

Wyatt Anderson, a M.S. student advised by **Drs. Fred Baxendale** and **Tiffany Heng-Moss** received Honorable Mention for his 10-minute oral presentation at the Entomological Society of America annual meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio last October.

Adeney Bueno a Fulbright grant recipient working with **Dr. Leon Higley**, was awarded First Place for his poster at the Entomological Society of America annual meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio last October.

Condolences

Dr. Blair Siegfried’s grandfather passed away January 5, 2004. Funeral services were held in Pennsylvania.



Publications

Anderson, Bruce E., Loren J. Giesler, **Thomas E. Hunt**, **Shripat T. Kamble**, Steven Z. Knezevic and Charles A. Shapiro. 2003. Alfalfa in Nebraska. EC 03-181, pp 11. Cooperative Extension Division, University of Nebraska, Lincoln NE.

Hunt, Thomas E., Leon G. Higley, and **Fikru J. Haile**. 2003. Imported Longhorned Weevil (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) Injury to Soybean:

Physiological Response and Injury Guild-Level Economic Injury Levels. J. Econ. Entomol. 96:1108-1173. (J Series No. 13825)

Park, Youngjin, Kim Yonggyun, **Sean M. Putnam**, and **David W. Stanley**. 2003. The Bacterium *Xenorhabdus Nematophilus* Depresses Nodulation Reactions to Infection by Inhibiting Eicosanoid Biosynthesis in Tobacco Hornworms, *Manduca Sexta*. Arch. Insect Biochem. Physiol. 52: 71-80. (J. Series No. 13857)

Phelps, Pamela K., **Jon S. Miller**, and **David W. Stanley**. 2003. Prostaglandins, Not Lipxygenase Products, Mediate Insect Microaggregation Reactions to Bacterial Challenge in Isolated Hemocyte Preparations. Comp. Biochem. Physiol. 136: 409-416. (J. Series No. 14132)

Tafoya, Felipe, Jose Lopez-Collado, **David Stanley**, Julio C. Rojas, and Juan Cibrian-Tovar. 2003. Evidence of an Aggregation Pheromone in Males of *Metamasius Spinoiae* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae). Environ. Entomol. 32: 484-487. (J. Series No. 14137)



Travel

Shripat T. Kamble, **Gary Hein**, and **Jack Campbell** participated in the Wheat Pest Management Strategic Plan Meeting, November 18-21, 2003, at Brookings, SD.

Eleven of Team Scarab attended the ESA meetings in Cincinnati to present papers on their work.

Most of Team Scarab (**Brett Ratcliffe**, **Mary Liz Jameson**, **Matt Paulsen**, **Federico Ocampo**, and **Shauna Hawkins**) traveled to Chile and Argentina for three weeks in November for collecting in several national parks and museum work in the principal research collections of each country.

Fond Farewell

Dr. Steven Skoda, USDA-ARS Research Entomologist with the Northern Plains Area, Midwest Livestock Insects Research Unit has been reassigned to the Screwworm Research Unit of the USDA-ARS Southern Plain Area. He will be located in Panama City, Republic of Panama. Dr. Skoda began his ARS career as a Research Technologist in 1984 with the Midwest Livestock Insects Research Unit, doing field research on stable flies, while completing his Masters at UNL under the guidance of **Dr. Jack Campbell**. From 1988 - 1992 he was both a Ph.D. student and a Research Scientist Apprentice for the USDA. Upon completing his Ph.D., Dr. Skoda was promoted to Research Entomologist, concentrating his research efforts on stable fly ecology. In 1994 he was reassigned to screwworm research at the newly acquired screwworm laboratory. August 1999 through August 2000, Dr. Skoda served as Acting Research Leader of the MLIRU. January 2003 ARS management decided to combine the divergent entities of screwworm research under the management of the Southern Plain Area. During his tenure with MLIRU and as an Associate Professor with the Department of Entomology, Dr. Skoda mentored ten graduate students; four M.S. and four Ph.D. graduate students have completed their degrees. His productivity and commitment to the Department of Entomology will be sorely missed. Among his responsibilities in Panama, will be the oversight of the new construction of the ARS facility which will temporarily house screwworm research until the APHIS facility is completed. We wish Dr. Skoda and his family a bright and happy future, and look forward to his visits when he returns to Lincoln to mentor his graduate students, to collaborate on research, and to visit his family.

Túlio and Paula Macedo will be moving to Bozeman, Montana, where Túlio will be working as a post-doc research assistant with **Dr. Bob Peterson** at Montana State University. Paula will be returning now and then to complete her Ph.D. under the supervision of **Drs. Jack Campbell** and **Phil Scholl**. Túlio received his Ph.D. in August, 2003, under the supervision of **Dr. Leon Higley**, and continued working with **Dr. Higley** as a post-doc research assistant. Paula received her M.S. degree in August 2001, under the supervision of **Dr. Marion Ellis**. Best wishes to Túlio, Paula, and their children, Matheus and Luiza in their new home!





Grants



Fred Baxendale	Precision Laboratories	\$2,500	National Turfgrass Evaluation Program
Fred Baxendale and Tiffany Heng-Moss	Industry Research Funds	\$12,000	Turfgrass Insect Research in Nebraska
Thomas Hunt and Leon Higley	Nebraska Soybean Board	\$12,625	Soybean Aphid Survey and Early Warning Program
Shripat Kamble	Syngenta	\$14,000	Termite Research
Shripat Kamble	Dow AgroSciences	\$20,000	Urban Research
Shripat Kamble	Bayer Environmental Science	\$13,050	Urban Research
Shripat Kamble	BASF Inc.	\$1,500	Industry II
Shripat Kamble	Michigan State University	\$2,000	IR-4 Program
Robert Wright	Amvac Chemical Corporation	\$2,800	Insect Management Industry

William Allgeier, an M.S. student advised by **Dr. Leon Higley**, has been awarded a grant from the Center for Great Plains Studies Board of Governors in the amount of \$350. The title of his proposal is “Night, Light, and Flight: Cues and Clues Regarding Insect Navigation and Disruption in the Great Plains.”



From the Office

Two changes should be noted when completing USDA competitive grant application cover sheet:

In **Box 2**, the address should be listed as:

Office of Sponsored Programs
312 North 14th Street
Alexander West
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Lincoln, Nebraska 68588-0430 (Lancaster County)

In **Box 11**, the DUNS Number is:

55-545-6995

PAY ADVICE INFORMATION IN ESS: When using Employee Self Service (ESS), please note that pay advice information is only accurate after the end of the pay period. Data may show before payday, but this information is preliminary and may not be correct.

GRADUATE TUITION AND HEALTH CHARGES: In an effort to provide graduate tuition and health distributions earlier, the Fall semester's allocations have been computed based upon Fall semester appointment information. Allocations for the Fall semester have recently been posted to the departmental cost objects, and should show on the next set of ledgers. A similar process will be followed in the Spring, with postings made in March.

WORKER'S COMPENSATION / UNEMPLOYMENT: First quarter allocations for worker's compensation and unemployment have now been posted to revolving and grant cost objects. Unemployment claims rose as compared to last year; however, this increase is partially offset by a decrease in the worker's compensation assessments. These expenses should show on the new ledgers.

MEAL ALLOWANCE UPDATE: The updated meal allowance amounts have been posted on the Accounting web page. Please use these updated rates, which were effective as of October 1, 2003. Reimbursements for meals which exceed the federal rates are considered taxable income to the employee unless supporting documentation is provided. The updated

tables can be found on the Accounting web page at: <http://busfin.unl.edu/bfsite/travel/smeala.htm>

BETTER BUSINESS WEBSITE: Purchasing recommends utilizing the Better Business Bureau Website to conduct a quick reference search of vendors you have not previously dealt with. The URL of the BBB website is: <http://www.bbb.org/>. The Better Business site includes company such as the number of years in business, membership status in the Better Business Bureau (BBB) and records of any complaints filed with the BBB. Purchasing recommends only doing business with companies that have a track record with the BBB (whether or not they are BBB members) and, that have no unresolved customer complaints.

Please note the new funding opportunities found at the USDA research website: <http://www.reeusda.gov/>

Go to funding opportunities. The following are new funding programs: National Research Initiative Competitive Grants Programs (Information has been e-mailed to you)

Special Research Grants Program, Potato Research

Integrated Research, Education, and Extension Competitive Grants Program

Microbial Genome Sequencing Program (MGSP) for fiscal year (FY) 2004

FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT:

USDA Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

* Funding Opportunity Higher Education Challenge Grants Program *

<http://www.reeusda.gov/1700/funding/rfahec.htm>

Deadline: 02/04/04

#12-08-01

For more information, contact Tom Tabor at 2-9377 or ttabor@unlnotes.unl.edu

Over the closedown, two units here on East Campus were burglarized. Tens of thousands of dollars worth of desktop computers, laptops, and multimedia equipment were stolen. Previously, those kinds of thefts were only happening on City Campus, but East Campus has now become a target. To prevent that from happening in our department, please make sure that all doors are locked after hours, and during the business day when appropriate. Also, please notify Campus Police, or the Department Office, of any suspicious activity taking place, day or night.

Entomology Spring Faculty
Meeting Dates
9:30 AM - 214 Plant Industry Bldg.

Wednesday, February 18, 2004
Wednesday, March 10, 2004
Wednesday, April 14, 2004
Wednesday, May 12, 2004

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Send items of interest for the next issue of the Hexapod Herald to JCUNNINGHAM1@UNL.EDU


