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Hexapod Herald

Volume 21

January 2009

Number 1

WELCOME

New Distance Masters Students:

Spring 2009: **Lorenzo Garner**, Pensacola, FL; **David McKinney**, Greenville, SC; Summer 2009: **Lori Peterson**, Tacoma, WA; **Adam Varenhorst**, LeMars, IA

New Insect Science Students: **Julie Lindsteadt**, Lincoln, NE; **Stephen Losey**, Mauldin, SC

Dr. Gary Hein is the Director of the new Doctor of Plant Health Program and began his new position (.70 FTE Director and .30 FTE Professor of Entomology) this month. Gary was a professor in the Department of Entomology at the Panhandle Research and Extension Center in Scottsbluff where he started as an assistant professor on February 1, 1988. He recently received the Distinguished Specialist Award from UNL Extension and the Nebraska Cooperative Extension Association at their annual Fall Conference. His office is 271 Plant Sciences Hall and his phone number is 472-3345.



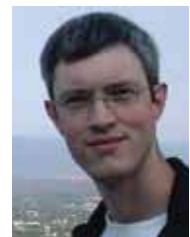
Dr. Samira El-Shall is a visiting scientist here for the next several months hosted by **Dr. John Foster**. Samira is an Associate Professor of Entomology and Insecticides with the Atomic Energy Authority in Abu-Zaabal, Egypt. While here, she will be working on manuscripts and initiating a new project on the genetic diversity of Egyptian Armyworm, *Spodoptera littoralis*. Her office is Room 3 in Entomology Hall and her phone number is 472-7016.



Dr. Ousmane Youm is a visiting scientist here for the next several months also hosted by **Dr. John Foster**. Ousmane joined the West Africa Rice Development Association (WARDA) as Assistant Director of Research and Program Leader (rain-fed Program/then Integrated Rice Production Systems Program) from 2004-2008. Before joining WARDA, he worked at the International Crop Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) from 1990-2004. He will be working on distance education programs for delivery to Africa as well as working on the use of genetic characterization of several insect pests. His office is Room 3 in Entomology Hall and his phone number is 472-7016.



Dr. Reed Johnson is a new post-doc working with **Drs. Marion Ellis** and **Blair Siegfried**. Reed received his B.S. degree in biology from Wabash College, his M.S. degree in biology from Wake Forest University, and his Ph.D. degree in entomology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Reed will examine the synergistic interactions of in-hive miticides, the sublethal effects of miticides on queen fecundity and drone semen viability. Reed's office is in Biochemistry Hall, Room 216 and his phone number is 472-8694.



Ana Maria Vélez is a new Ph.D. student from Columbia who will be working under the supervision of **Dr. Blair Siegfried**. Ana received her bachelor's degree in biology from Pontificia Universidad Javeriana and will receive her masters degree in entomology in March from the Universidad Nacional de Columbia.



Sean Whipple is a new Ph.D. student working under the supervision of **Drs. Wyatt Hoback** and **John Foster**. Sean received his B.S. degree in biology with a wildlife emphasis and his M.S. degree in biology, both from the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

Gary Torrisi is a new Ph.D. student also working under the supervision of **Drs. Wyatt Hoback** and **John Foster**. Gary received his B.S. degree and M.S. degree in education from Plattsburgh State and a M.S. degree in biology from the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

CONGRATULATIONS

The following students graduated December 2008:

Distance M.S. Degree – **Julie F. Orr, Earl Thomas, and Monti R. Vandiver**
B.S. in Horticulture and Insect Science – **Nicole D. Haxton**

Dr. Brett Ratcliffe received the Outstanding Paper Presentation at the SOLA Conference at the Entomological Society of America (ESA) meeting in Reno, NV, in November.

Laura Campbell received a Runner-up Award in the Student Competition for the President's Prize at the ESA annual meeting for her talk, "Reproductive isolation between *Diabrotica barberi* and *D. longicornis*." The talk was co-authored with **Dr. Lance Meinke**.

Mitch Stamm received a Runner-up Award in the Student Competition for the President's Prize at the ESA annual meeting for his talk, "Dose-response relationships of neonicotinyl insecticides to *Blissus occiduus* and *B. leucopterus hirtus*." The talk was co-authored with **Drs. Tiffany Heng-Moss, Fred Baxendale** and **Blair Siegfried**.

Ken Miwa and his wife, Ayo are the proud parents of a son, Fuki, born November 23, 2008. Fuki was 7 lbs., 10 oz., 21.7 inches long, and as cute as can be!

GRANTS

Frederick Baxendale

- Marrone Organic Innovations \$2,250
 "Turfgrass Pest Management"

Frederick Baxendale and Tiffany Heng-Moss

- Nufarm Americas, Inc..... \$7,200
 "Turfgrass Pest Management"
- FMC Corporation..... \$41,110
 "Turfgrass Pest Management"

Shripat Kamble

- FMC Corporation..... \$4,500
 "Ant Research"

Lance Meinke

- Pioneer Hi-Bred \$4,000
 "Diabrotica Biology, Ecology, and Management"

Robert Wright

- Pioneer Hi-Bred \$4,000
 "Insect Management Industry"

PUBLICATIONS

Baxendale, Frederick P., Shripat T. Kamble, and Marion D. Ellis. Stinging Wasps and Bees. NebGuide G1447, Revised December 2008.

Brust, M.L., W.W. Hoback, and R.J. Wright. 2008. The Grasshoppers of Nebraska (Orthoptera: Acrididae and Romaleidae), University of Nebraska Extension, Extension Book 3, Lincoln, NE, 136 pp.

Carstens, J.D., F.P. Baxendale, T.M. Heng-Moss and R.J. Wright. 2008. Predation of the Chinch Bug, *Blissus occiduus* Barber (Hemiptera: Blissidae) by *Geocoris uliginosus* (Say) (Hemiptera: Lygaeidae) J. Kansas Entomol. Society. 81(4):328-338.

Cave, R.D. and **B.C. Ratcliffe**. 2008. Scarab beetles (Coleoptera: Scarabeoidea), pp. 3273-3286. *In*: J. Capinera (ed), Encyclopedia of Entomology, 2nd Edition. Springer Netherlands.

Franzen, Lisa D., Andrea R. Gutsche, Tiffany M. Heng-Moss, Leon G. Higley, and Tulio B. Macedo. 2008. Physiological responses of wheat and barley to Russian wheat aphid, *Diuraphis noxia* (Mordvilko) and bird cherry-oat aphid, *Rhopalosiphum padi* (L.) (Hemiptera: Aphididae). *Arthropod-Plant Interactions* 2(4): 227-235.

Gasca, J., C.R. Vasconcelos da Fonseca, and **B.C. Ratcliffe**. 2008. Synopsis of the Oryctini (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Dynastinae) from the Brazilian Amazon. *Insecta Mundi* 61:1-63.

Meihls, Lisa N., Matthew L. Higdon, **Blair D. Siegfried**, Nicholas J. Miller, Thomas W. Sappington, Mark R. Ellersieck, **Terence Spencer**, and Bruce E. Hibbard. 2008. Increased survival of western corn rootworm on transgenic corn within three generations of on-plant greenhouse selection. *PNAS* Vol. 105(49):19177-19182.

Mondaca E.J. and **M.J. Paulsen**. 2008. Revision of the genus *Apterodorcus* Arrow (Coleoptera: Lucanidae: Lucaninae) of southern South America. *Zootaxa* 1922:21-32.

Paulsen, M.J. and D.C. Hawks, 2008. Platyceroidini, a new tribe of North American stag beetles (Coleoptera: Lucanidae: Lucaninae). *Insecta Mundi* 58:1-2.

Ratcliffe, B.C. 2008. Have you ever had that "sinking feeling?" *Scarabs* 33:8-10.

Ratcliffe, B.C. 2008. The elusive *Strategus*. *Scarabs* 34:14.

Siegfried, Blair D. 2008. Recent advances in the identification and application of insecticide resistance-associated markers: Implications to resistance evolution and sustainable pest management, p. 125-151. *In*: Nannan Liu (ed), *Recent Advances in Insect Physiology, Toxicology and Molecular Biology*. Research Signpost, Trivandrum, Kerala, India.

Spomer, N.A., T.J. Husen, and S.T. Kamble. 2009. Stability of Imidacloprid (Premise[®]75) in a Tank-Mixed Aqueous Solution When Stored in Shade or Sunlight. *Bull. Environ. Contam. Toxicol.* 82(1):116-119.

STUDENT NEWS

Amanda Fujikawa has received a \$500 travel award from the David H. & Annie E. Larrick/William G. Whitmore Memorial Fund to attend the American Academy of Forensic Sciences annual meeting in Denver, CO, February 16-21, 2009.

Ana Vélez has been awarded \$5,000 from the Mary and Charles C. Cooper/Emma I. Sharpless Fellowship Fund. Ana is a new Ph.D. student who will be working under the supervision of **Dr. Blair Siegfried**.

Kathleen Kneeland, Difabachew Belay Kondidie, Erica Lindroth, Khanobporn "Kim" Tangtrakulwanich, Bamphitlhi "Banks" Tiroesele, and Jeremy Wagnitz were initiated into Gamma Sigma Delta at their Initiation and Awards Banquet held on November 2, 2008.

The Insect Science Club's honey sale held November 12-13, 2008 was a great success, selling out of almost everything! Becca Striman, president of the club, would like to thank **Dr. Marion Ellis** for donating honey (and his house for a day) to the club, and **Dr. Tiffany Heng-Moss** for her advice and support.

CONDOLENCES

Difabachew Belay Kondidie's father, Belay Kondidie, passed away January 1, 2009 in Ethiopia. We extend our sincerest sympathy to Belay and his family.

FROM THE OFFICE

Purchasing Reminder from the ABE Business Center: We have been reminded that on the paperwork for every purchasing transaction, the auditors expect to see a description of the "business purpose" for the purchase. In other words, on the requisition or other documentation that you provide to the business office there should be a brief written explanation of why the purchase was necessary, where it will be used, and what it will be used for. We have been told that during an audit, any transaction, even legitimate purchases, can be disallowed, and the purchase deducted from the project, leaving either the P.I. or the department responsible for the charge. Also, when handing in invoices for payment, sign the invoice and initial or sign the department requisition and/or the packing slip. This provides assurance to an auditor that the purchase was legitimate.

From the Director of Sponsored Programs, Jeanne Wicks: We have added Andy Budell to our Pre-Award staff. Andy is OSP's Contracts Negotiator and will be reviewing and negotiating industry and federal contracts. Your project coordinator, Nancy Becker, will initially review your department's contracts and forward those that are appropriate to Andy for processing. If a contract is given to Andy for review, the NUgrant record will be updated to display Andy's name listed as Pre-Award Coordinator. We encourage you to contact your project coordinator early for proposals. We request all proposals be in our offices 2 days prior to the deadline. If your proposal must be submitted via grants.gov, it is very important that we have your proposal early! The grants.gov system has undergone many changes over the past year and is showing signs of stress - the number of proposals submitted from colleges and universities is growing and we find that the system has bugs that can affect your proposal. Getting it in early can help you avoid these problems. As an added incentive, if you have all your submission data ready 5 days in advance, we will complete the grants.gov package for you! Visit with your project coordinator, Nancy Becker, if you are interested in this option!

FACULTY NEWS

Dr. Michael Scharf has been appointed to the Graduate Faculty of the University of Nebraska. This appointment was effective November 20, 2008.

TRAVEL

Dr. Marion Ellis attended the Almond Board of California's (ABC) Annual Meeting on December 10-12, 2008 in Modesto, CA to present the results of his ABC funded research on the effects of miticides on queen fecundity and drone semen viability.

Dr. Shripat Kamble participated as a state liaison in the IR-4 National Strategic Planning Conference in Washington, DC, December 8-11, 2008. He also presented the paper, "Biochemical composition of spider venoms" at the Entomological Society of America Annual Meeting in Reno, NV, November 16-19, 2008.

Dr. Matt Paulsen traveled to the California Academy of Sciences after the ESA meetings in Reno for lucanid research.

Dr. Brett Ratcliffe traveled to the research collections at the California Academy of Sciences, University of California-Berkeley and the University of California-Davis for scarab research before the ESA meetings in Reno.

Calendar of Events

January 27, 2009

- Entomology Seminar - Dr. John Foster, Professor of Entomology
4:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

January 30, 2009

- Entomology Department Meeting, 10:30 a.m., ENTO 214

February 3, 2009

- Entomology Seminar - Ralph Narain, Entomology Graduate Student
4:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

February 10, 2009

- Entomology Seminar - Bamphitlhi "Banks" Tiroesele, Entomology Graduate Student
4:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

February 17, 2009

- Entomology Seminar - Sek Yee Tan, Entomology Graduate Student
4:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

February 17-18, 2009

- 17th Annual Nebraska Urban Pest Management Conference
The Nebraska Cornhusker-Marriott Hotel

February 20, 2009

- Entomology Department Meeting, 10:30 a.m., ENTO 214

February 21, 2009

- Beekeeping Training Workshop, Lincoln, NE

February 24, 2009

- Entomology Seminar - Kentaro Miwa, Entomology Graduate Student
4:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

March 3, 2009

- Entomology Seminar - Jeremy Wagnitz, Entomology Graduate Student
4:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

March 10, 2009

- Entomology Seminar - Amanda Fujikawa, Entomology Graduate Student
4:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

March 15-18, 2009

- Annual Meeting of the North Central Branch of the ESA, St. Louis, MO

March 15-22, 2009

- Spring Vacation (UNL offices are open)

March 20, 2009

- Entomology Department Meeting, 10:30 a.m., ENTO 214

March 24, 2009

- Entomology Seminar - Sheri Svehla, Entomology Graduate Student
4:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

March 24-26, 2009

- The Sixth International IPM Symposium, "Transcending Boundaries," Portland, OR

March 31, 2009

- Entomology Seminar - Erica Lindroth, Entomology Graduate Student
4:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

April 7, 2009

- Entomology Seminar - Dori Porter, Entomology Graduate Student
4:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

April 14, 2009

- Entomology Seminar - Lanae Pierson, Entomology Graduate Student
4:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

April 21, 2009

- Entomology Seminar - Dr. Spencer T. Behmer, Texas A & M University
4:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

April 28, 2009

- Entomology Seminar - Dr. Keith Philips, Western Kentucky University
4:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union