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Hexapod Herald

Volume 21

November 2009

Number 6

WELCOME

New Distance Masters Students:

Spring 2010: **James Dienes**, Budd Lake, NJ; **Andrea McKern**, Ames, IA; **Nona Ramirez Merrick**, Walcott, IA; **Ashley Stephens**, Virginia Beach, VA; **Adriane Tambasco**, Homestead, FL

CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. Shripat Kamble has been named an Honorary Member of the Entomological Society of America. Honorary membership acknowledges those who have been significantly involved in the ESA for at least 20 years. The award will be presented at the ESA Annual Meeting in Indianapolis, IN, which will be December 13-17, 2009.

Tim Husen will receive the ESA Student Certification Award, which recognizes outstanding entomology graduate students with interest in the mission of the group's certification program. Tim will be presented the award at the ESA Annual Meeting also. Tim is a Ph.D. student working under the supervision of **Dr. Shripat Kamble**.

Amanda Fujikawa, and her husband, Marc, are the proud parents of a little girl, Elsa Grace, born November 9, 2009. Elsa weighed 6 lbs., 4 oz., and was 19.5 inches long. Amanda is a Ph.D. student working under the supervision of **Drs. David Carter** and **Leon Higley**. Elsa paid us a visit, and her picture does not do her justice!



Dr. Doug Golick and his wife, Erinn, are the proud parents of a little boy, Braden Douglas, who was born October 1, 2009. He weighed 8 lbs., 14 oz., and was 21 inches long. Doug received his M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction with a minor in Entomology from UNL in 2001 and his Ph.D. degree in Educational Studies from UNL in 2005. He is a Developmental Instructor and Design Coordinator at the University of Kansas and co-teaches a distance course, Insects as Educational Tools, with **Dr. Tiffany Heng-Moss**.



GRANTS

David Carter

- Department of Justice \$142,475
"Developing a High Throughput Protocol for Using Soil Molecular Biology as Trace Evidence"

John Foster

- USDA-ARS..... \$40,000
"Molecular Markers for Determining Population Difference in Screwworms Originating from Different Geographic Areas"

Shripat Kamble

- DuPont Corporation. \$25,200
"Cockroach II"
- DuPont Corporation \$2,500
"Urban Research"

Blair Siegfried

- Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. \$36,375
"Genetic Variation in Lab Colonies of Western Corn Rootworm
Selected for Tolerance to Event"

MEET AN OFF-CAMPUS STUDENT

Off-Campus M.S. Student – Bethany Teeters

It's fair to say that entomology has always been my destiny, although I didn't always know it. I was missing for most of my childhood, sitting quietly in a far-off field watching bumblebees bounce about on clover for hours at a time, only faintly registering, and ultimately ignoring my mother shouting "Bethany Sue...Where are you?!" in the distance.

Having grown up in the woods of northern Wisconsin, nature has always been my favorite companion. It's not surprising, therefore, that I decided to pursue a degree in the natural sciences, earning my bachelor of science in biology and environmental science from the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay in 2006.

While working on a research project assessing the effects of earthworm abundance on arthropod diversity in northern hardwood forests, I gained a greater appreciation for the ecosystem services insects provide, as well as their use as indicator species for the health of the environment. I was able to explore these interests further as a field tech with the University of South Dakota monitoring the endangered Hine's emerald dragonfly in Door County, Wisconsin and the Joliet area of Illinois.

The distance MS program at UNL was the perfect opportunity for me to pursue my passion for pollinators (inspired by my early observations of bees), and satisfy my desire for further education without resorting to the weekend relationship with my husband. I would not be surprised if I pursued a PhD or second master's degree in the future, since learning seems to be my favorite hobby. In the meantime, however, I'm enjoying the flexibility that UNL offers and feel that my experience thus far has been well-rounded and rewarding.



PUBLICATIONS

Brust, Mathew L., W. Wyatt Hoback, and Robert J. Wright. 2009. Degree-day requirements for eight economically important grasshoppers (Orthoptera: Acrididae) in Nebraska using field data. *Environ. Entomol.* 38(5):1521-1526.

Clark, Pete L., David J. Isenhour, Steven R. Skoda, Jaime Molina-Ochoa, Claudia Gianni, and John E. Foster. 2009. Lyophilization of *Spodoptera frugiperda* (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae) larvae yields high-quality DNA for use in AFLP genetic studies. *International Journal of Tropical Insect Science*, Vol. 29(2): 79-85.

Crespo, André L.B., Terence A. Spencer, Analiza P. Alves, Richard L. Hellmich, Erin E. Blankenship, Leonardo C. Magalhães, and Blair D. Siegfried. 2009. On-plant survival and inheritance of resistance to Cry1Ab toxin from *Bacillus thuringiensis* in a field-derived strain of European corn borer, *Ostrinia nubilalis*. *Pest Manag. Sci.* 65:1071-1081 DOI 10.1002/ps.1793

Khajuria, Chitvan, Yu Cheng Zhu, Ming-Shun Chen, Lawrent L. Buschman, Randall A. Higgins, Jianxiu Yao, **Andre L.B. Crespo, Blair D. Siegfried**, Subbaratnam Muthukrishnan, and Kun Yan Zhu. 2009. Expressed sequence tags from larval gut of the European corn borer (*Ostrinia nubilalis*): Exploring candidate genes potentially involved in *Bacillus thuringiensis* toxicity and resistance. *BMC Genomics* 10:286 DOI:10.1186/1471-2164/10/286

Murúa, Gabriela M., **Jaime Molina-Ochoa**, and Patricio Fidalgo. 2009. Natural distribution of parasitoids of larvae of the fall armyworm, *Spodoptera frugiperda*, in Argentina. *Journal of Insect Science*: Vol. 9, Article 20. www.insectscience.org/9.20/i1536-2442-9-20.pdf

Neita, J.C. and **B.C. Ratcliffe**. 2009. Description of the adult female, larva, pupa, and distribution of *Strategus fascinus* Burmeister (Scarabaeidae: Dynastinae: Oryctini). Coleopterists Bulletin 63: 367-379.

Ratcliffe, B.C. 2009. *Xyloryctes* (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Dynastinae: Oryctini) in the United States. *Qui es et ubi fuisti et quo vadis?* Insecta Mundi 0099:1-11.

Ratcliffe, B.C. and R.D. Cave. 2009. New Species of *Cyclocephala* Dejean, 1821 from Guatemala (Scarabaeidae: Dynastinae: Cyclocephalini). Coleopterists Bulletin 63: 325-332.

Spomer, Neil A., Shripat T. Kamble, and Blair D. Siegfried. 2009. Bioavailability of chlorantraniliprole and indoxacarb to Eastern subterranean termites (Isoptera: Rhinotermitidae) in various soils. J. Econ. Entomol. 102(5): 1922-1927.

Spomer, S.M. 2009. A taxonomic study of populations of tiger beetles in the *Cicindela longilabris* complex from the Black Hills of South Dakota. Great Plains Research 19(2): 169-77.

Umphlett, N., **T. Brosius**, R. Laungani, J. Rouseau, and D.L. Leslie-Plecky. 2009. Ecosystem Jenga! Science Scope, September 1, 2009, Vol. 33, No.1.

Whipple, Sean D., Mathew L. Brust, W. Wyatt Hoback, and Kerri M. Farnsworth-Hoback. 2009. The grasshoppers *Arphia Xanthoptera* and *Dichromorpha Viridis* prefer introduced smooth brome over other grasses. Great Plains Research 19(2):179-86.

STUDENT NEWS

Ana Maria Vélez was awarded continued graduate fellowship funding of \$5,000 from the Mary and Charles C. Cooper/Emma I. Sharpless Fellowship Fund. Ana is a Ph.D. student under the supervision of **Dr. Blair Siegfried**.

Sean Putnam's dissertation defense seminar was held on Monday, November 23, 2009. His title was "The Chemistry of Lipid Signal Molecules in Insects." Sean's co-advisors are **Drs. David Stanley** and **Paul Staswick**.

Abby Stilwell presented her dissertation defense seminar on Tuesday, November 24, 2009. Her title was "Remote sensing to detect the movement of wheat curl mites through the spatial spread of virus symptoms and identification of thrips as predators of wheat curl mites." Abby's co-advisors are **Drs. Gary Hein** and **Steve Danielson**.

Laura Campbell's dissertation defense seminar will be held on Monday, November 30, at 1:00 p.m. in the Nebraska East Union. Her title is "Hybridization in *Diabrotica barberi* Smith and Lawrence and *Diabrotica longicornis* (Say) (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae): Biology, Behavior, Field Introgression, and a Reevaluation of Taxonomic Status." Laura's advisor is **Dr. Lance Meinke**.

Mitch Stamm will present his thesis defense seminar on Wednesday, December 2, at 10:00 a.m. in HECO 121. His seminar title is "Differential Responses of the western chinch bug, *Blissus occiduus*, to neonicotinyl insecticides." Mitch is co-advised by **Drs. Fred Baxendale** and **Tiffany Heng-Moss**.

FROM THE OFFICE

USDA - Extension Integrated Pest Management Coordination and Support Program
http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/rfas/eipm_support_program.html Application Deadline: 1/14/10
More information: Nathan Meier (2.1808/ nmeier@unl.edu)

Contracts for Professional Services - Effective October 1, 2009, contracts for services must include a clause regarding the vendor's verification of the work eligibility of their employees. Individuals or sole proprietors must provide a citizenship or qualified alien attestation for services performed within

the State of Nebraska. Please contact Marissa Young accounting person for details. Further compliance information on LB403 is available at <http://tinyurl.com/ylzyah8>.

TRAVEL

Team Scarab, **Dr. Brett Ratcliffe, Dr. M. J. Paulsen, Dr. Mary Liz Jameson, and Jesus Orozco**, attended and presented papers at the VIII Reunión Latinoamericana de Scarabaeoidología (RELAS) in Xalapa, Veracruz, Mexico on October 12-24, 2009.

Dr. Bob Wright chaired the annual meeting of the North Central Field Crop Extension Entomologist's Working Group, held in St. Louis, MO, October 15-16, 2009.

Dr. Bob Wright participated in the annual meeting of NCERA-125, the USDA regional committee on biological control of insects and weeds, at Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS, October 27-28, 2009.

Calendar of Events

November 30, 2009

- Laura Campbell, Dissertation Defense Seminar, 1:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

December 1, 2009

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

December 2, 2009

- Mitch Stamm, Thesis Defense Seminar, 10:00 a.m., HECO 121

December 7-12, 2009

- Last Week of Classes

December 8, 2009

- Treat Day I – Entomology hosts Forestry – Starting at 10:00 a.m.

December 10, 2009

- Treat Day II - Forestry hosts Entomology – Starting at 10:00 a.m.

December 13-17, 2009

- ESA Annual Meeting, December 13-17, 2009, Indianapolis, IN

December 14-18, 2009

- First Semester Final Exams

December 18, 2009

- Graduate Commencement and Doctoral Hooding Ceremony

December 19, 2009

- First Semester Undergraduate Commencement

December 24 – January 3, 2010

- Holiday Closedown

January 4, 2010

- UNL Offices Open

January 11, 2010

- Second Semester Classes Begin

January 18, 2010

- Martin Luther King Day (Student and Staff Holiday)