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Hexapod Herald - Volume 25, No. 2, April 2103

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"Hexapod Herald - Volume 25, No. 2, April 2103" (2013). *Hexapod Herald & Other Entomology Department Newsletters*. 72.
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Hexapod Herald

April 2013

Department of Entomology
College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources

Volume 25, No. 2

Welcome

New Distance Masters Students: **Angela Clagg**, Mountain Home, ID; **Derek Crisman**, Oceanside, CA; **Maria Gutierrez**, Arroyo Grande, CA; **Jon Derek Pruitt**, Cedar City, UT; **Jay Smith**, Chelmsford, MA; **Cynthia Thomas**, Akron, OH.

Rosane Bezerra da Silva is working in **Dr. Blair Siegfried's** Toxicology Lab on a 12 month fellowship to develop RNAi techniques in fall armyworm. Rosane received her B.S. in biological science from Paranaense University in Parana State and her M.S. in plant biotechnology from Federal University of Lavras in Minas Gerais, Brazil. She is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in plant biotechnology also from Lavras and conducting her research at the Embrapa Mihlo e Sorgo in Sete Lagoas, Brazil.

Jacqueline Barbosa Nascimento is a visiting scholar who is working with **Dr. Tiffany Heng-Moss** for the next year. Jacqueline graduated with an agronomy major from the Federal University of Goiás. Her M.S. degree was in plant production and she is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in entomology from the same university and is developing work in the area of agricultural entomology and molecular biology, along with the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (Embrapa Rice and Bean) in Goiânia, Goiás. Here at UNL, Jacqueline will be working on switchgrass with a specific focus on changes in peroxidase in response to yellow sugarcane aphid feeding.



Da Silva



Nascimento

Congratulations

Dr. Tom Weissling was the recipient of a Junior Faculty Holling Family Award for Teaching Excellence for the year 2013. The award was accompanied by a \$3,000 stipend and was presented to Dr. Weissling in a recognition event held March 6, 2013.

Dr. Blair Siegfried's appointment as a Charles Bessey University Professor of Entomology has been renewed for an additional five year term by the University Professorships Committee. The stipend associated with the appointment will increase to \$5,000.

Drs. Ashley Hall and Nick Miller were married 4:30 p.m. (London time) on March 16 at the Royal Burnham Yacht Club, Burnham-on-Crouch, England. They then honeymooned in Paris.



UNL Department of Entomology is now on Facebook at
Department of Entomology, University of Nebraska - Go Huskers!
And on Twitter at NebraskaEntomol. Join us!

Grants

G.L. Hein, et. al. (20 Co-PIs in six states and USDA-ARS)	
USDA-AFRI.....	\$3,375,000
<i>“A Predictive Model to Increase Adoption of IPM of a Mite-Virus Disease Complex in Wheat”</i>	

Meet an Off Campus Student

I am Elizabeth Foley, and I am a Technical Sergeant (E-6) in the United States Air Force. My husband, Graham, and I have two children, Oliver and Maggie (6 and 3 years-old). We are currently stationed in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean on a small island within the Azores Archipelago, about 900 miles off the coast of Portugal. I enjoy running, which heavily involves chasing my kids.



Having to scrape up roadkill

I have been in the pest management career field for 11 years now, but I wasn't always into "creepy-crawlies." After joining the Air Force with an open mind, (and no guaranteed job) I sort of fell into this career field by accident and never looked back. I knew I wanted to make it a career after attending the Operational Entomology class, where we learned different vector collection and identification techniques. That was seven years ago.

I have passion for what I do and the community in which I serve. My plan is to gain the tools and knowledge necessary to better serve my country, along with the people who protect it. As a military medical entomologist, I will be at the forefront of disease prevention during contingency operations, where our troops are not only susceptible to enemy threats, but also environmental hazards. In the U.S., the damage caused by vectored diseases can be immensely underrated, but in a foreign location they are a real and powerful threat. In deployed locations, our troops are exposed to many life-threatening diseases including Leishmaniasis, Dengue, Shistosomiasis and Malaria. In order to minimize these threats we must know the intimate details of how the vector and parasite interact. These details are precisely what I am learning through this program.

Not only does a M.S. degree in entomology enrich my current position, but it also opens the door to new opportunities. Once I complete my Masters in Entomology, I will be able to compete for an officer's commission and join the exclusive ranks of only 17 medical entomologists in the Air Force. With any luck, someday I will be teaching that Operational Entomology course.

Meeting/Workshop News

The 21st Annual Nebraska Urban Pest Management Conference was held on February 12-13, 2013. The conference had 147 registrants, 16 exhibitors, and 4 hands-on laboratory sessions. A total of 31 speakers presented 56 different topics in four categories: 1) general pest management principles, 2) structural plus wood destroying pests, 3) managing pest in stored grains and food processing facilities, and 4) pests of public health importance. This multidisciplinary conference was held in cooperation with the Nebraska State Pest Control Association, the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, and the University of Nebraska-Extension Division. **Dr. Shripat Kamble** coordinated the conference, with help from **Erin Bauer**, **Dr. Gary Brewer**, **Jeri Cunningham**, **Liz Dahlgren**, **Camila de Oliveira**, **Jim Kalisch**, **Kyle Koch**, **Ralph Narain**, **Travis Prochaska**, **Bob Roselle**, **Ashley Yates**, and **Marissa Young**.

Beginning beekeeping workshops were held in North Platte on March 9 and Nebraska City on March 16, 2013. The 136 workshop attendees included 6 high school students who were awarded \$500 scholarships by the Nebraska Beekeepers Association to start their first hive. **Dr. Marion Ellis** coordinated the workshops.

Publications

Byamukama, E., D.L. Seifers, **G.L. Hein**, E. De Wolf, N.A. Tisserat, M.A.C. Langham, L.E. Osborne, A. Timmerman, and S.N. Wegulo. 2013. Occurrence and Distribution of *Triticum mosaic virus* in the Central Great Plains. *Plant Disease* 97(1): 21-29 DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-06-12-0535-RE>.

Hein, G.L., R. French, **B. Siriwetwivat**, and J.W. Amrine. 2012. Genetic characterization of North American Populations of the Wheat Curl Mite and Dry Bulb Mite. *Journal of Economic Entomology* 105(5): 1801-1808.

Johnson, Reed M., **Lizette Dahlgren**, **Blair D. Siegfried**, and **Marion D. Ellis**. 2013. Acaricide, fungicide and drug interactions in honey bees (*Apis mellifera*). *PLoS One* 8:1 e54092 doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0054092.

Navia, D., R.S. de Mendonca, A. Skoracka, W. Szydło, D. Knihinicki, **G.L. Hein**, P.R.V. da Silva Pereira, G. Truol, and D. Lau. 2013. Wheat curl mite, *Aceria tosichella*, and transmitted viruses: an expanding pest complex affecting cereal crops. *Experimental and Applied Acarology* 59(1-2): 95-143 DOI: <http://10.1007/s10493-012-9633-y>.

Ratcliffe, B.C. and J.-P. Saltin. 2013. A remarkable *Golofa* Hope, 1837 from Peru (Coleoptera: Dynastinae: Dynastini). *Scarabs* 72: 1–5.

Ratcliffe, B.C. and A. Solís. 2013. The southernmost *Orizabus* Fairmaire (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Dynastinae: Pentodontini): description of a new species from Costa Rica, *The Coleopterists Bulletin* 67: 1–6.

Stamm, M.D., **T.M. Heng-Moss**, **F.P. Baxendale**, **B.D. Siegfried**, R.E. Gaussoin, D.D Snow, and D.A. Casada. 2012. Effect of distribution and concentration of topically-applied neonicotinoid insecticides in buffalograss, *Buchloë dactyloides*, leaf tissues on the differential mortality of *Blissus occiduus* under field conditions. *Pest Manag. Sci.* 69(2): 285-291.

Tiroesele, Bamphitlhi, **Thomas E. Hunt**, **Robert Wright**, and **John E. Foster**. 2013. Population Dynamics of Bean Leaf Beetle, *Cerotoma trifurcate* (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae) on Edamame Soybean Plants in Nebraska. *European Journal of Sustainable Development* 2(1): 19-30.

Faculty News

Dr. M.J. Paulsen was approved for a courtesy assistant professor appointment in the Entomology Department. The appointment was effective March 1, 2013.

Bruner Club Officers for 2013–2014

President—Ashley Yates

Vice-President—Matheus Ribeiro

Secretary—Jenny Freed

Treasurer—Karen da Silva

GSA Representative—Carolina Gil and Lia Marchi Werle

Student Representative to Faculty—Camila de Oliveira

Faculty Representatives—Drs. Tom Weissling and Ashley Hall

Travel

Dr. M.J. Paulsen conducted collections research at the University of California-Riverside and Berkeley and the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco the first two weeks in February.

Dr. Brett Ratcliffe was invited to be part of a UNL delegation, led by Vice Chancellor for Research Prem Paul, to visit the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D. C. 25-28 March. Ratcliffe is a Research Associate of the Smithsonian Institution, and his lab in the Museum has the national collection of scarab beetles from the U.S. National Museum of Natural History for a lengthy period of off-site enhancement.

Blasts from the Past

Julia Colby has accepted a position as Collections Manager for the Milwaukee Public Museum after just having completed her grant-funded contract work at the Chicago Academy of Sciences. Julia received her M.S. degree under the supervision of **Dr. Brett Ratcliffe** in 2008.

Dr. Jesus Orozco had his dissertation published as a large, color monograph in the Patricia Vaurie series of The Coleopterists Society: Orozco, J. 2012. Monographic revision of the American genus *Euphoria* Burmeister, 1842 (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Cetoniinae). The Coleopterists Society Monograph 11: 1-182. Jesus received his Ph.D. degree under the supervision of **Dr. Brett Ratcliffe** in 2011.

Calendar of Events

April 16, 2013

Entomology Seminar—Dr. Everlyne Wosula, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Doctor of Plant Health Program,
4:00 p.m., Entomology Hall, Room 202

April 22–27, 2013

Last week of classes

April 23, 2013

Entomology Seminar—David Wanglla, Entomology Graduate Student, 4:00 p.m., Entomology Hall, Room 202

April 29–May 3, 2013

Spring semester final exams

May 3, 2013

Entomology Department Graduation Reception, 11:00 a.m., Nebraska East Union

May 3, 2013

Graduate College Commencement, 4:00 p.m., Memorial Stadium

May 4, 2013

Undergraduate Commencement, 9:30 p.m., Memorial Stadium

May 8, 2013

Fatima Mustafa Defense Seminar, 1:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

May 20, 2013

Pre-Session and 8-week session begin

May 27, 2013

Memorial Day—Student and staff holiday—UNL offices closed

June 10, 2013

First 5-week session begins