Welcome

New Distance Masters Students: Fall 2012: Andrew Brown, Silver Spring, MD; Clark Fryrear, San Diego, CA; Courtney Welgand Rincon, Des Moines, IA.

New Insect Science Student: Hillary Fischer, Beatrice, NE

Natalia Bjorklund is a new Ph.D. student who will be working under the supervision of Dr. Doug Golick. Natalia is originally from Greeley, NE. She is currently an extension educator for Dodge County. She received her B.S. in Horticulture from UNL, and her M.S. in Plant Studies from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. Natalia’s area of study will involve extension and education programs in insect pollination systems.

Teresa Donze is a new postdoc working with Dr. Tiffany Heng-Moss. Dr. Donze is originally from McCook, NE. She received her Ph.D. in Molecular Biology and Microbiology from UNL. Dr. Donze’s research will focus on understanding insect resistance in buffalograss and switchgrass. She will also be working with Dr. Keenan Amundsen from the Agronomy Department on genomic sequence assembly and evaluation in turfgrass.

Adriano Pereira is a new Ph.D. student working under the supervision of Dr. Blair Siegfried. He received his B.S. in Agricultural Engineering from the Federal University of Lavras and his M.S. in Entomology from the Federal University of Viçosa. He then worked as an entomologist for the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service in São Paulo, Brazil. Adriano’s research will involve characterizing the response of corn rootworms to selection by RNA interference.

Renata Pereira is taking a hiatus from her M.S. program at the Federal University of Viçosa in Brazil to learn IPM techniques. She started an internship with Dr. Tom Hunt in July, working primarily on Aphis glycines and soybean host plant resistance projects.

Mateus Ribeiro received his B.S. and M.S. in Entomology from the Federal University of Viçosa and is a Ph.D. student at the Federal University of Pernambuco in Recife, Brazil working under the direction of Dr. Herbert Siqueira (Ph.D. UNL Entomology 2003). Mateus is working in the Toxicology Lab on a six month fellowship to develop techniques for documenting behavioral responses to insecticides using EthoVision monitoring equipment.

Vania Xavier also joined Dr. Tom Hunt’s program in July. She too is a M.S student from the Federal University of Vicosa in Brazil and will be here through December. Vania is studying Diabrotica research techniques with Drs. Hunt and Meinke.

Congratulations

The following students graduated August 2012:

Ph.D. in Entomology: Jessica Jurzenski, Advisors—Drs. W. Wyatt Hoback and Shripat Kamble; Khanobporn Tangtrakulwanich, Advisors—Drs. Fred Baxendale and Jerry Zhu

M.S. in Entomology Resident: Chelsea Plitz, Advisors—Drs. Tom Hunt and Blair Siegfried; Off Campus: Peter Bonkrude, Aaron Hassell, Andrea McKern, Gregory Ose, Robert Stanley, Advisor—Dr. Tom Weissling

B.S. in Insect Science: Stephen Losey; B.S. in Diversified Agriculture: Matthew Langley, Brett Rupprecht

Bjorklund  Donze  Pereira  Pereira  Ribeiro  Xavier
Publications


Grants

Fred Baxendale and Tiffany Heng-Moss
DuPont Corporation .......................................................... $28,000
“Turfgrass Pest”
Syngenta .......................................................... $18,000
“Turfgrass Pest”

Shripat Kamble
DuPont Corporation .......................................................... $5,500
“Termite Study”

Lance Meinke
Monsanto Company .......................................................... $5,000
“Biology, ecology, and management of Diabrotica”
Pioneer Hi-Bred International .................................................. $10,000
“Biology, ecology, and management of Diabrotica”
Syngenta .......................................................... $6,000
“Biology, ecology, and management of Diabrotica”

Drs. Lance Meinke, Nicholas Miller, and Blair Siegfried were part of a successful USDA-BRAG grant proposal led by Aaron Gassmann (Iowa State). The title of the grant is “Risks from Field-Evolved Resistance to Bt Corn by Western Corn Rootworm.” The amount of the grant is $498,000 with $242,392 being awarded to the Entomology Department at UNL.

Department Meeting Dates for Fall 2012
9:00 a.m., ENTO 110
Tuesday, October 9
Tuesday, November 6
Tuesday, December 11
This 'n That

The first Nebraska Moth Night was held on July 27, 2012 at Spring Creek Prairie. Andy Matz and Gabrielle Cooper, along with volunteers from the Insect Science Club and members of the department, organized this event. It was one of many taking place during National Moth Week, which is a citizen science project aimed at gathering moth counts from all over the country. While not many moths showed up at our light, we had 135 human visitors. Dr. Fred Baxendale took groups around the prairie hunting for caterpillars and other insects. There were also hands-on displays of pinned adults, and families had the opportunity to hold some large and spectacular caterpillars. Hopefully this is the first of many Nebraska Moth Nights hosted by UNL.

Faculty News

Dr. Bob Wright briefed Sen. Mike Johanns and staff on “Insect Impacts” at a drought update meeting in Lincoln on August 9, 2012, and spoke on “Corn rootworm management options” at the South Central Ag Laboratory Field Day, at Clay Center on August 22 and at the Monsanto Corn-on-Corn Workshop on July 25 at Norfolk. He also gave a talk on “Corn insects” at the Iowa State University “Corn Clinic” on August 15 at Ames, IA, and provided an overview of entomology research at Clay Center during a tour of South Central Ag Laboratory by the Ag Builders of Nebraska on July 12.

Dr. Junwei (Jerry) Zhu was elected as a new councilor of the International Society of Chemical Ecology (ISCE). The ISCE forms a nucleus for worldwide interdisciplinary cooperation between biologists and chemists. Its membership directory currently lists more than 600 scientists from 35 countries.

Student News

Ken Miwa has received a 2012-2013 Shear-Miles Fellowship in the amount of $2,000. Ana Velez and Kyle Koch have each been awarded a Milton E. Mohr Fellowship in the amount of $2,000. A special recognition luncheon to honor all fellowship and award recipients will be held on October 30, 2012.

Abdul Hafiz Ab Majid and Ralph Narain were each awarded a Fred Clute Memorial Fellowship.

Aaron Gilman and Kathryn O’Brien have been awarded scholarships from the Earl and Bertha Ramsey Memorial Fund for 2012. Elias Bloom and Kathryn O’Brien each received an Ephriam and Veallon Hixson Memorial Fund Scholarship. Jenny Freed was awarded a scholarship from the Insect Science Scholarship Fund.

UCARE awards for 2012-2013 have been given to students listed below, along with their adviser and the amount of the award:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Adviser</th>
<th>Award Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Levi Borrego</td>
<td>Dr. Ashley Hall</td>
<td>$2,000 (year 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebecca Osborn</td>
<td>Dr. Nick Miller</td>
<td>$2,000 (year 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courtney Spilker</td>
<td>Dr. Tiffany Heng-Moss</td>
<td>$2,400 (year 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erin Steward</td>
<td>Larry Barksdale</td>
<td>$2,000 (year 1)</td>
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Meet an Off Campus Student

Joey Caputo

As a young adult I graduated with my first bachelor's degree in political studies and I became an activist. I did this because I felt compelled to “give back” for the many privileges I had received in life. In hindsight I wonder if it was actually a forgotten head injury that led me in such a direction. I say this because after years of being a rabble-rouser, I one day abruptly decided to put down my picket sign and pick up my gardening shovel.

I made the choice to follow in the footsteps of my uncle and aunt, Don and Ann Ivie, and learn to grow plants. They owned a small commercial greenhouse before they passed away. This line of work brought them much joy throughout their lives and I thought it would suit me well too. I found employment at a local, wholesale nursery and decided to go back to college and study horticulture. After graduating—again—my thirst to learn was unquenched, so I started applying to graduate programs. After weighing my options I selected the University of Nebraska's off-campus program because I was able to customize the degree to reflect my specific interests: insects and their interactions with plants. I’m hoping that the Master's in Entomology program will give me a thorough understanding of plant/insect ecology.

From my perspective, insects are the unsung heroes and misunderstood villains of our agriculturally dependent civilization. Ultimately I hope to secure employment with an institution that shares my goal of better educating the public about the importance of insects in agriculture. In a way my aspirations are the same today as they were many years ago—I want to change the way people think. However it is no longer my desire to influence who they vote for or their political ideology. Instead I merely want folks to be mindful of the many organisms which help make our way of life possible.

Condolences

Arthur Hagen, 84, died July 26, 2012 at the Community Hospital in Torrington, WY. Hagen attended Colorado State University where he received his Masters Degree in Entomology. He worked as a Research and Extension Entomologist for the state of Nebraska for 33 years.

Dr. George Manglitz, 85, passed away May 7, 2012. Manglitz received his Ph.D. in Entomology from UNL in 1962 and was a research entomologist with the USDA until his retirement in 1988.

Travel

Dr. M.J. Paulsen, Collection Manager in Entomology at the University of Nebraska State Museum, had a busy collecting season. He traveled to Japan for three weeks in June and July, specifically northern Honshu and Hokkaido islands and also collected throughout Arizona for three weeks in July and August.

Dr. Brett Ratcliffe conducted collections work in Guadeloupe in the French West Indies, Jamaica, and Puerto Rico during the last three weeks in June.

Dr. Ken Pruess attended the Rocky Mountain Conference of Entomologists, August 5-8, 2012, at Woodland Park, CO.

Dr. David Stanley was in Daegu, South Korea, for the ICE 2012 meeting, August 18–25, 2012, where he and a Korean colleague, Professor Y. Kim (Andong National University), co-organized and presented a joint paper to a symposium on cross-talked between biochemical signaling systems in insect immunity. Stanley also had traveled to China in June, 2012, and co-organized and presented a plenary lecture at the First International Workshop on Insect Immunity at Zhejiang University in Hangzhou. He also traveled to Guangzhou, where he presented invited seminars at the South China Agricultural University and the South China Normal University. He completed his trip with a visit to cooperators in the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences in Beijing.

September will see the arrival of a Laser Capture Microdissection (LCM) system in the Entomology Department. The LCM system consists of a research-grade microscope linked to a laser that can cut out regions as small as a single cell from a variety of specimens. The $150,000 cost of the LCM system is being met in equal parts by a successful departmental equipment bid led by Dr. Ashley Hall, a successful ARD equipment bid led by Dr. Blair Siegfried and additional support from the Office of Research and Economic Development.
Fond Farewell

Dr. David Carter accepted a new position as an Associate Professor of Forensic Sciences, Assistant Dean of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and Director of Forensic Sciences, at Chaminade University of Honolulu, effective August 1, 2012. Carter joined the Entomology Department as a lecturer in 2006, developing forensic science courses for our undergraduate, graduate, and distance programs. He was promoted to an Assistant Professor of Entomology in 2007, and Associate Professor of Entomology in 2011, and was coordinator of the Forensic Science Program.

Craig McGill accepted an advising position at Florida International University in Miami. He had been an academic advisor for the Forensic Science Program since 2009.

Calendar of Events

September 14, 2012
Bruner Club Presents—Jennifer Struck, Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc., 12:00 NOON, ENTO 202

September 18, 2012
Entomology Seminar—Carolina Carmargo, Entomology Graduate Student, 4:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

September 21, 2012
Bruner Club Presents—Julie Obermeyer, UNL Career Services, 12:00 NOON, ENTO 202

September 25, 2012
Entomology Seminar—Amanda Maegli, Entomology Graduate Student, 4:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

September 28, 2012
Bruner Club Presents—Dr. E.A. (Short) Heinrichs, INTSORMIL/Entomology Department, 12:00 NOON, ENTO 202

October 2, 2012
Entomology Seminar—TBA, 4:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

October 5, 2012
Bruner Club Presents—Devin Bird, Dow AgroSciences

October 9, 2012
Entomology Seminar—Dr. Ivan Hiltpold, Plant Sciences Department, University of Missouri, 4:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

October 12, 2012
Bruner Club Presents—Rod Madsen, LI-COR, 12:00 NOON, ENTO 202

October 15-16, 2012
Fall Semester Break (Student Holiday—UNL offices open)

October 19, 2012
Bruner Club Presents—Dr. Brett Ratcliffe, Entomology Department, 12:00 NOON, ENTO 202

October 23, 2012
Entomology Seminar—Ashley Yates, Entomology Graduate Student, 4:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

October 26, 2012
Bruner Club Presents—Dr. Junwei (Jerry) Zhu, USDA-ARS, 12:00 NOON, ENTO 202

October 30, 2012
Entomology Seminar—Dr. Bob Davis, BASF Pest Control Solutions, 4:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

November 2, 2012
Bruner Club Presents—Dr. Doug Golick, Entomology Department, 12:00 NOON, ENTO 202