

Entomology@Purdue



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The Honey Bee Genome Project

Determining the DNA sequence of whole genomes is becoming more common these days. After determining the sequence for all of the chromosomes of humans, fruit flies and mosquitoes, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the USDA decided that it was time to take on the honey bee. This effort recognizes the value of honey bees to U.S. agriculture because bees increase the yields of U.S. crops by about 14 billion dollars annually. It was also thought that knowledge of the bee genome might help us learn about how genes influence behavior.

The behavior of bees has fascinated people even before Aristotle wrote about them in ancient Greece. Honey bees are social insects that have perennial nests. This means that there is a single queen bee and tens of thousands of worker bees that are all her daughters, and the colony does not die in the winter time. The worker bees are female, yet they do not lay eggs. Instead, they perform all of the tasks needed to

keep the colony going, such as building the wax honeycombs, foraging for pollen and nectar, ventilating the nest and ripening the honey, and defending the nest. The males, known as drones, come from unfertilized eggs and do not perform any useful work, except mating with the queens. The hard-working worker bees will even sacrifice their lives as they sting to defend the nest. Before winter, the drones are ejected from the nest and the workers over-winter by eating honey, clustering and flexing their muscles to stay warm.

Purdue Entomology has a program in honey bee behavioral genetics and has been coordinating with the Baylor College of Medicine and other groups that are helping with the genome project. I produced the first map of the honey bee genome as a grad student at UC-Davis and my lab here at Purdue has studied the defensive behavior of the so-called "killer bees" (or as we prefer to call them, Africanized bees). Dr. Ernesto Guzmán has been the key partner in this work. Ernesto is with the Mexican equivalent of USDA/ARS and has a research facility for apiculture in Mexico. Together we have mapped genes that influence stinging behavior to specific chromosomal regions. Ernesto even spent a year's sabbatic leave at Purdue and his wife gave birth to twins in Lafayette!



HONEY BEES: Placing pollen in the honeycomb

It seems that the same genes that influence stinging behavior in Africanized bees also influence the behavior of our European races of honey bees. My grad student, Miguel Arechavaleta, used crosses between "mean" and gentle European bees and showed that the same areas of the chromosome influence guarding behavior in our bees. He also found

that bee hives that have more "guard bees" in the hive entrance are more likely to sting than those that have few guards.

We already have a rough draft of the honey bee genome DNA sequence. It seems that the job will be finished later this fall. This rough draft has been used to identify genes that are likely to be the ones that we are looking for influencing stinging behavior. We are also collaborating with other researchers to find genes that influence the rate at which bees develop and pass through the different jobs that they do, as well as genes that influence how well bees perform in learning

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Steve Yaninek

From the Head Bug

O. Wayne Rollins Foundation Endows Chair

In the spring 2003 newsletter, I mentioned our plans to create an endowed chair in urban entomology. Well, I'm pleased to say we've done it! The O. Wayne Rollins Foundation has committed \$1.5 million to endow the O. Wayne Rollins/Orkin chair in urban entomology – the first in the Department.

The foundation is the charitable arm of Rollins Inc., the parent company of Orkin Inc – a leading pest control company. Glen Rollins, president and COO of Orkin Inc., is the son of Gary Rollins, chairman of the company, and grandson of O. Wayne Rollins who bought the company in 1964.

The endowment will create a dedicated faculty program focused on urban insect pests. The new program will complement current urban R&D activities and bring the latest technology and its applications to the

urban pest industry. Significant synergy is anticipated between the basic and applied research, and from interactions with the established urban program at Purdue.

The O. Wayne Rollins/Orkin endowed chair will have an immediate and powerful impact on the Department and on our relationship with industry. It signals a new commitment to excellence between the University and the pest control industry, and significantly raises the stature of the established program in urban entomology at Purdue. The prestige this gift brings to the Department will underscore our strong reputation in urban entomology and help us attract from among the best and brightest prospective students and scholars.

The gift grew out of an idea I presented to the Dean soon after I arrived at Purdue in the fall of 2000. With his blessing and a vague idea how to proceed, I assembled an external department advisory committee in 2001 to help plan the endowment strategy. This led to a campaign committee chaired by Judy Dold with Norm Erhmann, Austin Frishman (PhD '48), Dan Moreland, Dave Mueller (BS '75), **John Osmun**, and John Owens (MS '77, PhD '80) – all critical and essential elements of this project.

The Department of Entomology sincerely thanks the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation for this generous gift. This signals the importance of our urban program to industry, and affirms industry's commitment to this future partnership.

- Steve Yaninek -

(Continued from page 1)
tests, and genes that influence whether a bee prefers to forage for pollen or nectar.

Finally, Andy Ammons and Brad Barnd in our lab are investigating whether there is a connection between the genes that influence stinging and the bees' tolerance to alcohol.

We find that our gentle bees will voluntarily drink higher concentrations of alcohol when we serve them mixed drinks of alcohol and sugar syrup, and they are more tolerant of the effects of alcohol than the mean bees! Bees might tell us something about alcohol abuse. It seems that bees have been drinking mead long before humans invented it because sometimes their nectar goes off before it can be turned into honey.

- Greg Hunt -

Second Chair Endowed in Entomology

The gift from the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation to endow the first chair in the Department has been matched by the Bindley Chair Challenge fund. This fund was established by William Bindley to promote the establishment of 15 endowed chairs at Purdue.

The match provides for \$1.5 million to endow a William Bindley chair in Entomology. Since the funds for this chair are linked to the estate of William Bindley, the gift is deferred for the time being.

Department News

New Staff

Mark McClenning joined Brandi Schermerhorn's lab as a research technician.

Departing Staff

Mike Scharf (BS '91, MS '93, PhD '97) accepted a faculty position in toxicology research and teaching at the University of Florida. **Dancia Scharf** is now a lab tech in the Pathology Department at the University of Florida. **Joe Zhou**, a Post Doc, joined Mike Scharf at the University of Florida.

Weddings and New Arrivals

Jody Aleong (MS '04) married Rodney Green on July 31st. **Joao Pedra** (PhD '04) and his wife, Tanja, were married July 30th. Jenny and **Mike Mullis** are proud new par-

ents to a son, Maxwell David born July 8th. Mike is the department Outreach Coordinator. Kelly and **Chris Pierce** welcomed Eliza Grace into the world on May 13th. Chris is the Indiana APS State Coordinator. Erin and **Grzegorz Busckowski** have a new son, Adrian Daniel, born July 30th. Grzegorz is the Director of the Industrial Affiliates Program. Mark and **Kelli Knoth** are the parents of Garron Asher, born August 17th. Kelli

Awards

Dr. **Joao Pedra** (PhD '04) is the winner of the Entomology Foundation's "Student Award in Insect Molecular Biology." The award will be presented at the 2004 Entomological Society of America meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Joao is currently a Post-Doctoral Associate in Molecular Pathogenesis of Vector Borne Diseases at Yale University School of Medicine - Department of Internal Medicine - Section of Rheumatology.

Fellow of the Teaching Academy

Chris Oseto, has been selected as a new Fellow of the Teaching Academy. The academy is a network of scholar-teachers committed to the continual improvement of teaching and learning at Purdue University. A recognition program and reception was held October 18, 2004 in Fowler Hall.

USDA - CSREES Hall of Fame

Congratulations to **Eldon Ortman** who has just been selected as one of ten inaugural inductees to the USDA Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service Hall of Fame.

Eldon was nominated by **C. Richard Edwards** who represented a group with regional and national IPM interests. Other members of the group endorsing this nomination included Dr. Wendy Wintersteen, Senior Associate Dean and Associate Director, College of Agriculture, Iowa State University, Dr. Harold Coble, Agronomist, USDA/ARS/OPMP, and Dr. Scott Hutchins, Global Director, Research and Development, Dow AgroSciences.

Senior Fulbright Specialist



C. Richard Edwards

C. Richard Edwards, Professor Emeritus, Purdue University, has been selected by the Council for the International Exchange of Scholars as a Senior Fulbright Specialist. His appointment was at the request of the University of Zagreb and the American Embassy in Zagreb, Croatia, and supported by the Council. In 2003, Edwards spent 6 months on a Research Fulbright working on *Diabrotica* in Croatia and lecturing to students in the University of Zagreb, Faculty of Agriculture.

His 6-week stay, which begins October 1, will be at the University with primary responsibility for lecturing in the utilization of transgenics in agriculture.

He will also work with colleagues reviewing Croatian research data on *Diabrotica* and counsel MS and PhD students. One of the students is expected to come to Purdue in 2005 on a Student Fulbright to work for 9 months with Edwards and others as a part of the Department's *Diabrotica* research program.

Department Fall Picnic



GRAD STUDENTS: Grads and others enjoy the perfect picnic weather



SPECIAL GUEST: Jan Mills, Mayor of West Lafayette



FACULTY: Gary Bennett, Steve Yaninek, and Tim Gibb visit with Jan Mills



GREAT FOOD: Chad Craighill defends his chow



David B. Hogg

2004 Osmun Award Winner

Dave Hogg (MS '73) has been selected for the 2004 John V. Osmun Alumni Professional Achievement Award in Entomology at Purdue University. Dave is Professor of Entomology, and he currently serves as Executive Associate Dean in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at the University of Wisconsin, a post he has held since 2002.

Dave joined the faculty in the Department of Entomology at the UW in 1979, where he developed a research program encompassing the ecology and management of insect pests and their natural enemies in agronomic crops. He also taught courses in insect pest management and insect population ecology. Dave served as department chair from 1998 to 2002.

Dave was born at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Bethesda, Maryland, but he spent most of his childhood and attended high school in West Lafayette, Indiana. He attended Purdue University and received both his BS '71 and MS '73 degrees in Entomology. In 1977 he received his PhD in Entomology from the University of California-Berkeley. Dave spent two years as an assistant professor at Mississippi State University before moving to Wisconsin.

Dave and his wife, Sue, have two sons, Ben (26) and Chris (24). Sue graduated from Purdue in 1973. Ben and Chris are both University of Minnesota graduates. In his leisure time, Dave enjoys reading, but stays active with bicycling, racketball and golf.



Purdue Down Under

The XXII International Congress of Entomology was held in Brisbane, Australia this past August. More than 3,100 entomologists from over 70 nations were in attendance.



PALS: Guy Hallman (MS '76) and C. Rich Edwards



RENEWING FRIENDSHIPS: Al York (r) meets up with M. Javahery, a former visiting scientist in the department

The meeting consisted of more than 20 sessions with as many as 15 concurrent covering all aspects of entomology. **Gary Bennett, Rich Edwards, Bob O'Neil, Dave Schilpalus** (post-doc with **Greg Hunt**), **Tom Turpin, Al York**, and **Steve Yaninek** represented the Department. Among the alumni spotted at the meeting were Rob Weidenmann (PhD '90), Guy Hallman (MS '76), and Pat Larrain-Quiroz (MS '89).

Funding News

Cate Hill, Barry Pittendrigh, and **Jeff Stuart**, along with colleagues at Notre Dame and Indiana University, have received a grant from the Indiana 21st Century Program for the Insect Genomics program.

Cate Hill is also a co-PI on a \$10 million NIAID grant awarded to Frank Collins to create and maintain a public Bioinformatics

Resource center that will manage genomic information on insects and other arthropods that transmit human pathogens.

Chris Pierce and the CAPS committee will receive funding for their core project and approval for a new Indiana soybean surveillance program pending the availability of funds.

Tim Gibb and the extension team received a 1st round grant from the Indiana Homeland Security Program funded by the Department of Homeland Security and implemented through the Indiana Office of Homeland Security.

The Dean has authorized matching support to build a new insectary in EEL. We're hoping the Indiana Homeland Security funding can be used in this regard.



Development Update

Your Gift Support

It has been a great year for development, first with a gift from the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation to endow our first chair in urban entomology, and then a second chair triggered by a match from the Bindley Chair Challenge. Receiving two endowed chairs in one year is quite remarkable, but it doesn't pay the bills for our student-based activities. We need these funds for recruiting, awards and recognition activities, travel support, and improving our student resources.

This past year we have helped students with publication costs, travel support, training workshops, summer internships, and Linnean game sponsorship, among other activities. In addition, we provided 26 student scholarships totaling \$40,000. The Department sincerely appreciates the financial contributions we receive each year from alumni, faculty, staff, and friends of entomology. We look forward to your continued support.

You can help by joining the "Friends of Entomology." We have created several levels of giving for the "Friends of Entomology" and hope you will consider joining. A separate giving form has been included with this newsletter for your convenience.



The Honor Roll recognizes those who made new gifts to the Department since January 2004.

Monarch Club (\$1000 up)

Anonymous

Honey Bee Club (\$500-\$999)

Anonymous

Firefly Club (\$101-\$499)

Stanley Gesell
Lyle E. and Linda D. Matteson
David W. McCoy
Robert S. Trueman, M.D
Anonymous

Mayfly Club (up to \$100)

Charles William Agnew
Kenneth W. and Linda L. Ash
Karen McIntosh Bernhard
Larry W. Bledsoe
Frank E. Bohman, Jr.
Mary C. Clark
Michael J. and Helen L. Corbitt
Dr. Michael D. and Judith A. Culy
Bernice B. and Dr. J. Kevin DeMarco
David W. and Ann D. Fincannon
Dr. Gerard J. Florentine
Ronald D. and Nancy C. Gardner
Karen M. Holz
William C. and Cathleen A. Kalb
Kenneth H. Kendall
Dr. Jesusa C. and Dr. Benjamin A. Legaspi
Dr. Richard L. Miller
Dr. Harry B. and Nancy Moore Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. James C. Porter
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis A. Rone
Dr. Erik Stephan Runstrom
Dr. Brian M. Schneider
Wynn A. Senff
Raymond E. Siegel III
Dr. Phillip E. and Paula B. Sloderbeck
Dale D. Stanton II
John M. and Mary K. Thieme
David O. Wietlisbach
Mr. and Mrs. Tedd E. Wildman

Outreach Update

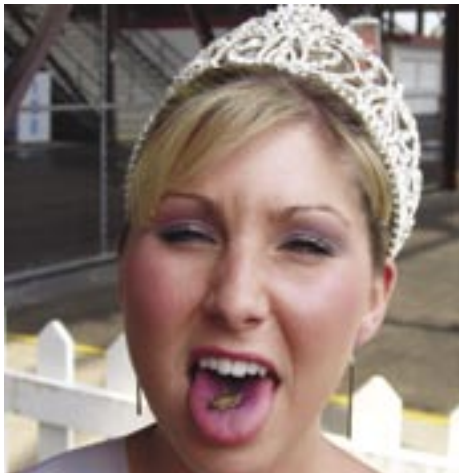
Outreach Establishes Teacher Advisory Network

Outreach is establishing a Teacher Advisory Network that will play a critical role in our program. Participating teachers will supply information on what the department can do to support the use of entomology in the K-12 science curriculum.

Members will serve a one year term with the period of service beginning in the fall. Committee members will represent elementary, middle and high schools from all over the state.

Purdue Entomology at the Indiana State Fair

Representatives from the Entomology Department spent 12 days during the month of August at the Indiana State Fair increasing the public's knowledge about insects.



ROYAL SPIT-OFF: Miss Indiana State Fair, Tiffany Miller prepares for the challenge

Large crowds gathered to witness thoroughbred racing roaches speed around Roachill Downs. Races were held each day at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. in the Pioneer Hi-Bred Our Land Pavilion. On Purdue Day hundreds of fair goers gathered at the Marsh Grandstand to participate in the annual cricket spitting contest.



Grad Students Help with Cricket Spitting Contest



OFFICIAL MEASUREMENT: Matt Tarver gives ruling on cricket spitting distance



SPITTING STATS: Jody Green (MS '04) records results for over 200 participants

Entomology Students

Busting at the Seams: New Fall 2004 Students

Undergraduates:

Helesa Agner, a sophomore transfer from Zionsville, Indiana; **Ruth Allhands**, a freshman from Dillsboro, Indiana; **Rianna Arcinas**, a junior transfer from Chula Vista, California; **Jay Bailey**, a freshman from Indi-

anapolis, Indiana; **Walter Baldauf**, a junior codo from Lafayette, Indiana; **Rob Bruner**, a sophomore transfer from Brookston, Indiana; **Tabatha Carroll**, a freshman from Linton, Indiana; **Wai-Han Chan**, a sophomore codo from Miami, Florida; **Bradley Fry**, a sophomore codo from Howe, Indiana; **Kristi Jukovich**, a freshman from Valparaiso, Indiana; **Nitsa Martinez**, a sophomore codo from Frankfort, Indiana; **Autumn Nance**, a sophomore codo from Warsaw, Indiana; **Amanda North**, a sophomore from Fort Wayne, Indiana; **Jessica Platt**, a sophomore codo from Jeffersonville, Indiana; **Meredith Powell**, a sophomore codo from Warsaw, Indiana; **Kyanne Reidenbach**, a sophomore transfer from Ft. Wayne, Indiana; **Jacob Rowland**, a freshman from Rensselaer, Indiana; **Kyle Schnepp**, a freshman from Lafayette, Indiana; **Alexis Truelsen**, a freshman from West Lafayette, Indiana; **Matthew VanWeelden**, a freshman from Indianapolis, Indiana; **Tabor Wilson**, a sophomore codo from Bristol, Indiana; **Ryan Yutzzy**, a freshman from Athens, Illinois.

MS Students:

Bradley Barnd from Butler University, with Greg Hunt; **Thiago Benatti**, from University of Sao Paulo-Brazil, with Jeff Stuart; **Nicholas Geraci** from College of Mount St. Joseph, with Cate Hill; **Marcus McDonough (BS '94)** from Purdue University, with Gary Bennett; **Philip Morton** from Oklahoma State University, with Brandi Schemerhorn; **Barbara Sanchez-Neri** from Purdue University, with Barry Pittendrigh.

PhD Students:

Venu Margum from the University of Kentucky, with Barry Pittendrigh; **Margaret Schwinghammer** from the University of Missouri, with Gary Bennett; **Jody Green (M.S. '04)**, formerly Jody Aleong, comes back to the department after a busy summer earning her Master's Degree in Entomology at Purdue University and getting married. Jody works with Gary Bennett.

2004 Summer Graduates

Joao Pedra, PhD, Jody (Aleong) Green, MS, and Megan Lanning, BS.

Chris Oseto attended the summer commencement as department representative.



Long and Rewarding Road: Reflections of a Purdue Entomology Graduate

Al Fournier

For years, my family has teased me, calling me a “permanent student.” Although the nick-name has been well earned, I will be very happy to prove them wrong when I graduate from Purdue with my Ph.D. in Entomology next semester. I am in some ways a typical “non-traditional” student. I worked a full time job while completing my associates degree in liberal arts in my home town of Royal Oak, Michigan. I moved to Maryland and completed my B.S. there in 1992 where I had an undergraduate internship collecting plant specimens at the National Arboretum. That experience inspired me to enter a masters program in Entomology at the University of Maryland, where I specialized in Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

After completing my M.S, I continued working in the University of Maryland’s Entomology Department for three years as a research assistant and as an Extension program assistant. I also had the opportunity to teach biology part time, both at the University of Maryland and at a community college. I loved the teaching and the Extension work because they allowed me to combine my “liberal arts” skills with my love of science and entomology.

When I learned about the opportunity to work with Dr. Tim Gibb here at Purdue developing Extension education programs to promote Integrated Pest Management in Indiana schools, I jumped at the chance. Since the position was being offered as a Ph.D. assistantship,

it offered the chance to earn a degree at the same time.

As coordinator of the IPM in Schools Program, I have developed educational training and materials, written grants, and collaborated with professionals in academia, industry, and government. Being in this department has provided great opportunities to interact with diverse international researchers, industry professionals, and community members. My research project is a study of the factors that affect adoption and implementation of IPM in Indiana public schools.

I have received great support and friendship from the faculty, students and staff here at Purdue. I want to thank Dr. Tim Gibb, who has been a mentor and a friend, challenging me to make important decisions and to trust my own vision and abilities. I especially want to thank my major advisor, Dr. Chris Oseto, for his unwavering support of an entomology Ph.D. project that was, to say the least, a little different. His vision of research spans disciplines and expands the boundaries of what is possible for an entomologist to achieve.

My only regret about my time in the department is that it has flown so quickly, and I wish that there were more opportunities now to spend time just “hanging out” and enjoying the company of everyone here.

No matter where my career path leads, I know that teaching, communicating, and collaborating will be the central themes for me. I will not always be a student, but I know that I will never stop learning.

-Al Fournier-

Thomas Say News

The Thomas Say Entomological Society is in an extremely exciting position. With the great influx of freshmen in entomology the numbers joining the Society have swelled.

Society members will be hearing orations from a diverse and dynamic array of faculty, staff, and students. It is hoped that these exchanges will broaden and enhance the understanding of Thomas Say members in areas not limited to entomology.

Also, we intend to support the addition of at least one new insect exhibit to the Bug Bowl Petting Zoo. This addition should serve to engender even greater curiosity regarding insects in the Bug Bowl patrons.

One of the several philanthropies that we hope to aid is the annual Hunger Hike, a program designed to provide food to the underprivileged. With increased membership, and a variety of interesting activities planned, a truly bright semester awaits.

- Tyler Janovitz -

School of Agriculture 2004-2005 Scholarship Awards

Purdue Academic Success Award

Christian Paulsen from Maumelle, AR

Award of Excellence

Ruth Allhands from Dillsboro, IN

Sophomore Scholarships

Christian Paulsen from Maumella, AR
Nicholas Seiter from Greensburg, IN

Floyd and Nellie Elliott Scholarship

Megan Corso from Marietta, GA

Entomology Graduate Student Symposium

This year the Department of Entomology will hold its third annual Graduate Student Symposium. Graduate students are given the opportunity to present 10-minute talks on the subject of their research. In addition to the experience of speaking in front of their peers, students benefit from audience feedback.

Many participants use the symposium to prepare for the Entomological Society of America national meeting. Time will also be given for students with poster displays. Sessions will be held on November 4 and 11 at 3:30 pm. The annual graduate student symposium is sponsored by EGO, the Entomology Graduate Student Organization.

Alumni News

James E. Cilek (BS '74) has recently been promoted to the rank of Professor at Florida A & M University where he is currently



James E. Cilek

working on the biology, ecology, and control of biting flies and ticks at the University’s Mulrennan Public Health Entomology Research & Education Center, located in Panama City, Florida. James’ full title is Professor & Section Leader Biting Fly and Tick Control Section Public Health Entomology Research & Education Center.

Michael J. Weiss (BS '77) became Dean of Auburn University’s College of Agriculture and Director of the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station. Weiss came from the

University of Idaho, where he was a professor in the Department of Plant, Soil and Entomological Sciences. He had also been Interim Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Idaho.

Doug Caldwell (MS '75) sent us this update: "I started with the University of Florida in Jan. 2001 as the Collier County



Doug Caldwell

Commercial Landscape Horticulturist. I was awarded best paper from the Florida State Horticulture Society in the 2003 Garden and Landscape Section. Also received 2 awards from the NACAA communications committee: national runnerup for individual newsletter and state winner for best web page (see <<http://collier.ifas.ufl.edu/Horticulture/Commercial%20Hort04.htm>>).

I just completed a course and passed the test to become a FCHP, Florida Certified Horticulture Professional through the Florida Nursery Growers and Landscape Association.

My younger daughter Julie just graduated from The Ohio State University (boo!) in Foreign Studies. My older daughter, Dawn, finished her stint in the U.S. Army after becoming a sergeant in the Airborne and is in Lawton, Oklahoma. My wife, Judy, is now in real estate, so give us a call, there are lots of good deals now!

We live 12 miles from the beach in Naples, Florida. Besides the routine university paperwork and pesticide, pruning and fertilizer training, I get to fly around in a helicopter and look at coconut palms along the beaches to detect lethal yellowing disease. That sure beats those days of working in alfalfa fields in November, sampling for weevil parasites! Go Boilers! Doug

Pat Randolph (PhD '02) Hi everyone, enclosed is an email from one of my students from the summer session (which is a real bear of a course to teach--8 hours of lecture each week with 6 hours of lab). Anyway, I wanted to thank all of you for giving me the tools to be successful as an instructor. It seems I am doing a good job (and the students are appreciative of my efforts). My teaching evaluations have been averaging 4 out of 5 (which is good for a newby like me--especially since I had to learn population genetics for this course).

My success is a direct result of each

and every one of you and the efforts you have taken to instruct me, and I thank you. Part of my success is due to the fact that I



SAN FRANCISCO: Pat with a male purple shore crab at Duxberry Reef, north of San Francisco

have stolen numerous techniques and ideas from each of you and modified them for this course as I find my own voice in the classroom. Thanks again for the effort you have put into me. That effort is appreciated by my students. Pat

From Pat's student: As a professor, you are unbelievably approachable. The extra energy that you choose to expend in order to clarify material goes a long way....your passion for teaching shines through in every class.

Robert N. Wiedenmann (PhD '90)

Dear Purdue Friends: A short note on what I have been doing since leaving Purdue. I



Robert Wiedenmann

am the Director of the Center for Ecological Entomology at the Illinois Natural History in Champaign. I have been at the Survey since 1994, and have been Center Director since 2001. For the last year, I've also spent 15% of my time as an Assistant Dean for INHS Programs in the College of ACES at Illinois. And this past summer, I was selected to serve on the National Invasive Species Advisory Committee.

Despite spending about 75% of my time on administrative duties, I maintain a program in biological control. I also started several projects on biological control of weeds -- a research direction I never envisioned while in grad school! My lab consists of a post-doc, a research scientist, a technician, two (currently) grad students, an intern from Zamorano and several undergrads. I have to admit, however, that I am so seldom in the lab that, when I show up, the undergrads ask who I am and that maybe they should call Dr. Wiedenmann, "whoever that is." We have

had great success in one project, releasing several million *Galerucella* against purple loosestrife in Illinois wetlands. We also have trained over 400 K-12 educators who have their students grow the weed and the beetles in their classrooms, for release into nearby wetlands.

My lovely bride of 21 years, Luann (she is looking over my shoulder as I type this), is a research chemist at the Illinois Waste Management Research Center, also on campus. Our oldest son, Trevor, lives in Indianapolis. Our younger two children (both of whom were born while I was a grad student) are Neal, a sophomore at Eastern Illinois University, and Emily, a junior at Urbana High School. None of the three are the least bit interested in being an entomologist, much to the chagrin of their father (and the delight of their mother).

I visit Purdue about every other month, as I still maintain collaborations with Bob O'Neil and Cliff Sadof. I was Bob's first student and, amazingly, not his last one! He and I co-taught a course in Biological Control using distance education the past few years, which was a great deal of fun. Pat McCafferty will be delighted to know that his teaching prowess was not wasted on me -- on a good day, I can still identify many (some) arthropods to class level, occasionally to order. I have enjoyed seeing many Purdue classmates at recent meetings. My allegiance is still with Purdue, though I have divided loyalties when Purdue plays Illinois. Still, my favorite basketball team is whoever plays Indiana. Stop by if you are in Champaign, or

Robert Sharp (BS '50) wrote "Many thanks for the current newsletter, very in-



ACTIVE RETIREMENT: Bob Sharp, judging a show in Thailand

teresting and much appreciated. I am retired now, but keep busy judging American Kennel Club Dog shows, as well as International Dog Shows, recently back from Bangkok, and expect to go to China in October. Judged the Westminster K.C. in 2003." Bob Sharp.



October

12	Insectaganza
15	John V. Osmun Award Presentation
15-16	Purdue Homecoming
26	Outstanding Service Award

November

4 & 11	Fall Grad Student Research Symposium
13-17	ESA Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah
14	ESA Purdue Mixer in Salt Lake City, Utah

December

January

10-14	Pest Control Conference
24-28	Crop Management Workshops

From the editor

With each issue of **Entomology @ Purdue** we keep you up to date on what's happening in the Department of Entomology and with Alumni. Won't you please take a moment to help keep us up to date with you?

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Please include your name, address, degree, major and year of graduation. Photographs, if submitted, will be returned.

To update your contact information online, go to:
<www.entm.purdue.edu/alumni>