No. 17, Winter 2003

University of California, Riverside

Friends of the Entomology Research Museum

Newsletter

Editor: Rick Vetter Proofing Editors: G. Ballmer, D. Hawks, D. Yanega

FERM Officers

President : Greg Ballmer
Vice-president: Jeremiah George
Treasurer: Dave Hawks
Secretary: Dale Powell
E-mails:
ballmer@citrus.ucr.edu, jergeorge@hotmail.com
david.hawks@ucr.edu, DAJRPOWELL@msn.com

Possible FERM collecting trip to Catalina Island

FERM is interested in organizing a field trip to Catalina Island some time in the late spring or summer. The primary objective of such a trip would be to increase our understanding of the insect communities of the island by sampling various representative native habitats with special emphasis on groups that are inherently undersampled such as microhymenoptera. This trip will need to be limited to individuals over 18 and people committed to a rigorous daily schedule of sampling. Also, because over 80% of the island is currently administered by the Catalina Island Conservancy (CIC) all material would need to vouchered in the UCR Entomology Research Museum as per our agreement with the CIC. If you are interested in participating in this trip please contact Jeremiah George <jergeorge@hotmail.com> immediately.

The FERM Newsletter is published quarterly and contains articles written by FERM members. If you would like to submit an article, please send it as a Word/Wordperfect file using one of the following two methods: (1) an attachment via email to the editor (see below) or (2) a hard copy version on disk. Submissions will be published in the order they are received in accordance with space availability and relevancy to the FERM general readership. If you have questions please contact the FERM Newsletter editor:

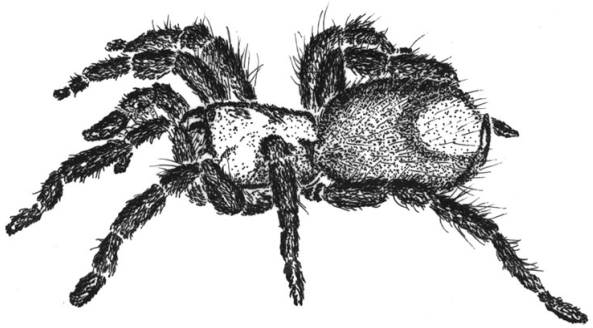
Rick Vetter (vetter@citrus.ucr.edu)

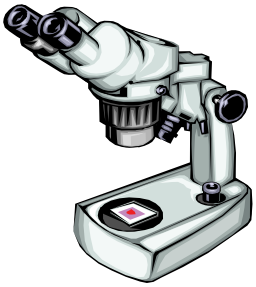
FERM ANNUAL MEETING

"The Natural and Unnatural History of Spiders" by Rick Vetter

Saturday February 15th 6:30 @ Entomology Museum

This year's annual meeting of FERM will be a real hootenanny with lots of extra special events. So many events that we decided to start the festivities earlier than normal. We will assemble in the Entomology Museum so that we may unveil the brand spanking new museum compactor system for your inspection. After the opening ceremonies, there will be a scrumptious feast, which is of course the most important aspect of any FERM annual meeting. Also, because the new Entomology Building has opened since last year and become infested with entomologists, we will be giving tours of the building and all its glorious display cases. Around 8 pm, we will assemble in the conference room of the new Entomology Building on the first floor where we will have a crowd favorite, the auction of entomology books by Rick Vetter (titles listed on page 5 of this newsletter.) Finally, because we can't avoid it any longer, FERM's own shy and demure Rick Vetter will present a talk on "The Natural and Unnatural History of Spiders" which should be more than enough exposure to Rick to last you all till next year, if you recover by then.





NEWS FROM THE MUSEUM

FERM Moving Day!

by Doug Yanega
photos by John Heraty

The much-anticipated FERM Moving Day took place on December 7th, 2002, and was — I'm happy to report — an incredible success. We had many people helping, and the logistics (where each family was, and where it needed to go into the new compactor system) had been set up so well in advance, that it went off almost without a hitch. Besides myself and Rick Vetter, who acted as coordinators, there was a stalwart crew of assistants consisting of Greg Ballmer, James Barry, Vladimir Berezovskiy, Roger Burks, Oscar Clarke, Gene Drake, Saul Frommer, Dave and Elois Hawks, John Heraty, Nathan Moorhatch, Ken Osborne, Alexis Park, Cissy Pierce, John Pinto, Zac Porcu, Dale and Jun-Rong Powell, Gordon Pratt, Paul Rumpsa, James Russell, Serguei Triapitsyn, Matthew and Alex Van Dam, and Marcella Waggoner. (If someone was inadvertently left off this list, please contact us to remind us of our faux pas as we made up this list with failing memories, several weeks post-move — after all, a main reason for writing this was to thank everyone involved for their much-appreciated efforts!)

Scout foragers Cissy Pierce and Gordon Pratt find caches of resources valuable to the museum colony, and alert colony to its existence.

The day started off slowly, as we tried initially to split up each family into its own drawer(s), for the most part. This was necessitated by my desire to reorganize the collection from alphabetic sequence of families to phylogenetic sequence of families. In a nutshell, what this boils down to is that if you have, for example, a single large family which gets split up into several families (by the reigning authorities on that group), then when you've got an alphabetic-sequence collection, you'd generally have to move dozens if not hundreds of drawers in the process of dispersing the specimens to the appropriate locations in the collection – which creates sort of a domino effect, requiring you to move other drawers to make room for the ones you're moving – basically, a nightmare.

Queue of recruited foragers (front to back: Alex Van Dam, John Pinto, Saul Frommer) wait to be unloaded as colony chamber supervisor Serguei Triapitsyn apparently slaps colony chamber supervisor Doug Yanega on the head.

However, under a phylogenetic floor plan, if a family gets split up, the component families are still all related to one another, and therefore will stay in the same general area within the collection – so not much more than a little localized re-labeling and reshuffling is all that's needed to accommodate nearly any taxonomic changes (and with insects, those sorts of higher-level changes are still annoyingly frequent). At any rate, we soon had so many people helping out that people were carrying back drawers faster than we could divvy up the multi-family drawers. Therefore, Rick got people shifted over to targeting the large families first so that we could make the best use of the bucket-brigade of workers we had going. As a result, over the course of eight hours (and with only a few troublesome logjams) we managed to not only transfer roughly 90% of the research material back from storage in the old building (something on the order of 3000 drawers of specimens), but get all of it reorganized from alphabetic to phylogenetic sequence. If there were people who kept track of this sort of thing, it would probably be a record for the fastest such feat in entomology museum history!

Everyone involved put out tremendous effort and I think we all had fun too. Many thanks to all who participated!
We now have more than 100 left-over museum cabinets which hold 24 Cal. Academy size drawers (no more Cornell cabinets are available). If you are interested and have not yet reserved cabinets, please contact Doug Yanega either by e-mail (dyanega@pop.ucr.edu) or by phone (909-787-4315). We'll be showing off the new compactors and holding a Grand Re-Opening ceremony at the FERM Annual Meeting in February!

[*Editor's note:* the boisterous day of moving several thousand drawers into the museum indeed very much mimicked an ant colony raiding a food source with two lines of "foragers" snaking between the Old Entomology Building (where all the cabinets were stored) and the Museum (where the drawers ended up). In fact, there was even some antennating amongst individuals running into each other during the process. The line of analogy (or is it homology?) was, however, drawn at trophallaxis, though there were other good eats available, some brought by volunteers, plus a series of pizzas.]

Colony chamber assistant to the supervisor Ken Osborne directs recruited foragers Alexis Park (on the right) and Gene Drake (on the left) to the proper chamber for storage of cache. Forager James Russell admires a portion of the harvested cache.

PINE : PARTNERS IN NATURE EDUCATION

FERM members are entitled to 20% discounts* on the following UCR Extension field nature study courses:

Field Study of the San Andreas Fault: San Bernardino to Mecca Hills
$95 (23N24) [Sat. 8 am-6 pm, Feb. 1]

Geology and Natural History of Death Valley $150 (23N35)
[Sat. 9 am-6 pm, Mar. 8/Sun. 8 am-4 pm, Mar. 9]

Flora of Joshua Tree National Park [Enroll through The Desert Institute: 760-367-5535]
[Fri. 6-9 pm, Mar. 21/Sat. 8 am-4 pm, Mar. 22/Sun. 8 am-noon, Mar. 23]

The Desert Tortoise: A Natural History $185 (23P36)
[Fri. 5-9 pm, Mar. 28/Sat., Sun 8 am-5 pm, Mar. 29, 30]

Ecology of Desert Insects [Enroll through The Desert Institute: 760-367-5535]
[Fri. 7-9 pm, Apr. 4/Sat. 8 am-5 pm, 7-9 pm, Apr. 5/Sun. 8 am-noon, Apr. 6]

Geology and Natural History of the Eastern Sierra $150 (24N22)
[Sat., Sun. 8 am-5 pm, Apr. 12, 13]

A Field Study of Birds: Spring $185 (24P23)
[Tue. 7:30-9:30 pm, Apr. 15. Field trips all day Sat. Apr. 19, 26, May 3, 17, June 7]

Natural and Cultural History of the Mojave National Preserve:
Soda Lake to Kelso Dunes -- The Low Country $265 (24N32)
[Fri. 8-10 pm, Apr. 25/Sat. 9 am-5 pm, Apr. 26/Sun. 9 am-3 pm, Apr. 27]

Birds of Joshua Tree National Park [Enroll through The Desert Institute: 760-367-5535]
[Fri. 6-8 pm, Apr. 25/Sat. 7 am-4 pm, Apr. 26/Sun. 7 am-noon, Apr. 27]

For current listing of courses at any time, bookmark www.unex.ucr.edu/ns/fns1/classes in your web browser.
For further information, contact: Natural Sciences UCR Extension 909.787.5804 909.787.2456 (fax)
*some restrictions apply

Friends of the Entomology Research Museum Membership Form

☐ Check here if you are renewing (renew by July each year)

Name _____
Address _____
Interests _____
Telephone _____Email_____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:		**Please Check**
Basic Membership	$10.00	☐
Sustaining Member	$25.00+	☐
Donor	$100.00+	☐
Benefactor	$500.00+	☐
Patron	$1000.00+	☐

Submit your membership form and dues to:

David C. Hawks, Treasurer
Friends of the Entomology Research Museum
Department of Entomology - 041
University of California
Riverside, CA 92521-0314

Dues and other contributions are payable by check to the **UCR Foundation,** noting "**Entomology Museum**" on the memo line on your check. (It is very important to note "Entomology Museum" in order for your donation to be deposited in the Friends' UCR Foundation account.)

Books to be auctioned at the FERM annual meeting

These are books that I have had for a while but were misplaced. Then again, we haven't had a meeting for a while so there was no opportunity to unload them. Most of them are very old, except for the E. O Wilson title, and probably of historic interest only. But then again, what do I know...

A CLASSIC OF HISTORICAL ENTOMOLOGY!!!!!!
Insect Life. 1889. Volume 2, issues 1 through 6. This are the USDA, Division of Entomology publications that, I believe, were written or organized by famous entomologist, C. V. Riley. A collector's item.

Wilson, E. O. Sociobiology. 1975. THE CLASSIC!!!! 697pp.

Essig. 1926. Insects of Western North America. 1035pp. SIGNED BY THE AUTHOR. A KEEPSAKE!!!!

Essig, 1942. College Entomology. 900pp. ALSO SIGNED BY THE AUTHOR!!!!

Mallis. 1945. Handbook of Pest Control. Read all about how to use cyanide powder to control roaches in your kitchen and baby's bedroom. 554pp.

Chester. 1942. The Nature and Prevention of Plant Diseases. 584pp.

Duncan and Pickwell. 1939. The World of Insects. In excellent condition and signed by both authors, 409pp.

Seymour. 1936. The Garden Encyclopedia. 1300pp.

Snedecor. 1946. Statistical Methods. 485pp.

Earle, 1923. Mineral Tables. 73pp.

Keep. 1935. West Coast Shells. 350pp.

Robbins, Bellue and Ball. 1951. The Weeds of California. 547pp.

Amos. 1967. The Life of the Pond. 232pp. (Not an account of your ex-spouse's social life)

Herms. 1939. Medical Entomology. 582pp.

Matheson. 1932. Medical Entomology. 489pp.

And there should be lots of other little field guides and coffee table books on insects and entomology available for $1 to $10 early on in the program before the official auction.

Better make it four legs, I can't eat six

According to a little article in Westways, the magazine of the Automobile Association of Southern California, *Typhoon*, a restaurant on the grounds of the Santa Monica Municipal Airport is offering main dishes using insects such as crickets and white sea worms. Yum yum. That's the way to really impress a first date. "I'll have the Cricket Special, hold the Malpighian tubules, please."

Typhoon, 3221 Donald Douglas Loop South, 310-390-6565

Korreckshuns to the Lasst Noosletter

The last FERM newsletter (at least the first printing, which most of you received) had an embarrassing number of typos and poorly edited text and we would like you to know the story behind it. The 12-page newsletter was assembled by Rick in early October, edited by the 3 proofing editors and was ready to be taken to the printer in late October. Then by mishap, the FERM computer's hard drive was fried, losing the entire thing. Attempts were made to resuscitate the computer with no luck. Backups of files were not easily made because an external zip-drive needed to be installed with each use and to do so required turning off the computer and other things which might seem simple but caused many problems which you wouldn't understand were problems unless you had to do it yourself. A new FERM computer was acquired thanks to the generosity of Serguei Triapitsyn but it took a while to get the Publisher program installed and then hunt down the versions of the original articles on other computers which had been edited slightly but mostly by Rick who doesn't know insect genera names for squat, so they looked fine to him. Then we had trouble getting the new computer to recognize the pathway to the Clipart CD so the graphics could be added. All this resurrection was being done in November when 1) Rick was gone giving talks in Sacramento, Portland and Seattle and really didn't care anymore, 2) Dave was gone in Australia and couldn't have cared even if he wanted to, 3) Doug was gone in Seattle and didn't care about Rick or Dave, and 4) there was the Thanksgiving holiday to boot. Things were slapped back together by people who didn't have the time, in hopes of resurrecting as much of the newsletter as possible as quickly as possible so it could be hastily mailed out to let everybody know about the Dec. 7th communal FERM Compactor move. And because of the haste, not every story was re-read, hoping that the version that was there was OK. Anywho, that is why the last newsletter contained a variety of errors because basically, it was the product of a series of boo-boos behind the scenes.

The silver lining in this whole travesty is that the current computer is a much nicer one (thank you Serguei), it has all the necessary ports already built into the computer (floppy, CD, Zip drives) so there is no screwing around with wires and temporary contraptions, the computer is in a building that is always locked and only certain people have permission to enter, in a room that is locked so no one can fiddle with the computer, play solitaire on it, or unplug it, and has an internet hookup so stories can be sent right to that computer. So, in effect, the FERM newsletter computer system has been upgraded tremendously. However, it would have been nice if the polished version of the last newsletter was printed first. It was really spiffy. You should have seen it.

Encyclopedia of Insects edited by Vincent Resh and Ring Cardé

FERM's very own Ring Cardé is co-editor of a peachy new tome that will probably be a classic in its own time. Or maybe it already is. Here are the hard facts about it in case you are thinking about ordering it.

- ISBN: 0-12-586990-8
- 8 1/2" x 11"
- 1205 pages (yes, that is twelve hunnert plus pages)
- $99.95
- available in February 2003 from Academic Press
- Toll Free 1-800-545-5136
- www.academicpressbooks.com

-There are 270 articles by experts that were peer-reviewed for ackuricy and speling, just like the FERM newsletter (or actually much better, really).
-1,000 figures, half in color (the other half you get to color yourself)
- arranged A to Z with glossary of key terms and extensive index with cross-linking to other articles

And we have a form that allows a 20% discount (it looks like this flyer came from the Entomological Society of America Meeting), so if you contact us, you can get it for $80. Copies of the flyer will probably be available at the FERM annual meeting or contact Rick Vetter and he will give you a copy as soon as you request one.

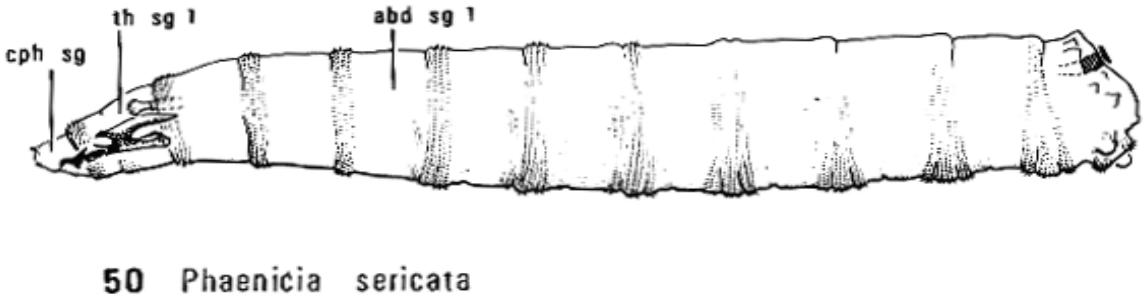
Maggot Therapy

By Rick Vetter

I recently was sent an article by colleague Ron Sherman, who is currently a medical professor at the University of California, Irvine. Ron got his undergraduate degree at UCR in Entomology many years ago and has not lost his interest in insects. He has published many articles regarding the medicinal use of maggots (larvae of the blowfly, *Phaenicia sericata*) to clean wounds. His papers are finding that maggots are as good or better than conventional medical practices for non-healing rotting flesh wounds. The maggots go in and eat away the rotting flesh, leaving behind the good stuff. However, what was interesting in his last article was that the response of the nursing staff was much worse than the response of his patients. An excerpt from his article follows.

"With 95% of patients consenting to treatment when asked, maggot therapy was clearly better accepted by patients than it was by the medical and administrative staff, who frequently dissuaded or disallowed their patients to receive maggot therapy, whether or not the patient consented to treatment. The nursing staff also reacted in ways that were not anticipated. For example, some senior nursing staff assigned maggot-treated patients to new and temporary staff without identifying the patients' unique dressing needs. Allowing these uninitiated nurses to inappropriately remove maggot-filled dressings before reading the patients' treatment orders proved to be a powerful and perhaps well-deserved lesson for those nurses who did not first read orders; but it was a very frustrating experience for the patients and the maggot therapy staff who had to replace or discontinue the maggot dressings. Application of "do not remove this dressing" labels directly on the maggot dressings reduced the occurrence of these incidents."

Sherman, R.A. 2002. Maggot versus conservative debridement therapy for the treatment of pressure ulcers. Wound Repair and Regeneration 10: 208-214



Got an idea for a FERM article???

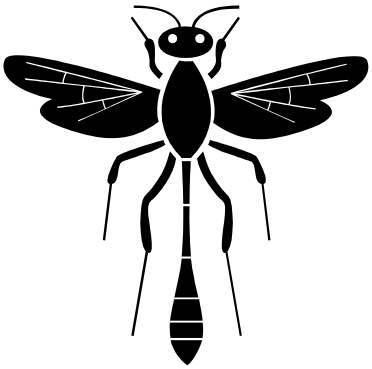
Do you have anything buggy-related that might be of interest for the FERM newsletter? We really would be tickled pinkish if you would send "stuff" in. Remember, this newsletter won't have much in it unless we have material submitted from you folks that we can publish. Feel free to send in photos, articles, recent publications related to insect taxonomy or natural history and even stories about how the Entomology Research Museum has assisted you in your bug-related endeavors. Send them to vetter@citrus.ucr.edu, preferably as attachments (not in email text). Additional information is on the front page of this newsletter.

*****Deadline for submission of material for next Newsletter is March 15th*****

RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY FERM MEMBERS:

Bologna, M. A., and **J. D. Pinto**. 2002. The Old World Genera of Meloidae (Coleoptera): A Key and Synopsis. J. Nat. Hist. 36(17): 2013-2102.

Bologna, M. A., A. DiGiulio, and **J. D. Pinto**. 2002. Review of the genus *Stenodera* with a description of the first instar larva of *S. puncticollis* (Coleoptera: Meloidae). Eur. J. Entomol. 99 : 299-313.



Burks, R.A. and **J.M. Heraty**. 2002. Morphometric analysis of four species of *Trichogramma* Westwood (Hymenoptera: Trichogrammatidae) attacking codling moth and other tortricid pests in North America. Journal of Hymenoptera Research 11: 167-187.

Burks, R. A., and **J. D. Pinto**. 2002. Reproductive and electrophoretic comparisons of *Trichogramma californicum* with the *T. minutum* complex (Hymenoptera: Trichogrammatide). Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 104: 33-40.

Gates, M.W., **J.M. Heraty**, M.E. Schauff, D.L. Wagner, J.B. Whitfield and D.B. Wahl. 2002. Survey of the parasitic Hymenoptera on leafminers in California. Journal of Hymenoptera Research 11: 213-270.

Heraty, J.M. 2002. A revision of the genera of the Eucharitidae of the World. Memoirs of the American Entomological Institute 68: 1-359. (with CD version included)

Pinto, J. D., A. B. Koopmanschap, G. R. Platner, and R. Stouthamer. 2002. The North American *Trichogramma* (Hymenoptera: Trichogrammatidae) parasitizing certain Tortricidae (Lepidoptera) on apple and pear, with ITS2 DNA characterizations and description of a new species. Biological Control, 23: 134-142.

Vetter, R. S. and D. K. Barger. An infestation of 2,055 brown recluse spiders (Araneae: Sicariidae) in a Kansas home and no envenomations: implications for bite diagnoses in non-endemic areas. Journal of Medical Entomology 39: 948-951.

IF YOU ARE A FERM MEMBER AND HAVE RECENT PUBLICATIONS THAT INVOLVE ARTHROPOD TAXONOMY OR NATURAL HISTORY, PLEASE SUBMIT THE CITATION TO RICK VETTER.

WE STILL NEED PHOTOS FOR THE INSECT CENTERFOLD

Folks. A few FERM Newsletters ago, I made an impassioned plea for slides for the Newsletter's "Bug o' the Issue". My argument was that if only 8 people would submit slides and/or stories to me, then I would have a two year supply in the bank here. Well, only Greg Ballmer responded to this plea, and currently I have nothing on tap awaiting. This should not be this difficult. I would like to have these items in my possession and ready to go because they are not time-sensitive, nor do they have an expiration date. With the upcoming annual meeting, this would be a perfect time to look through some of your material and loan me a slide or two. We have done a lot of Lepidoptera and Hymenoptera, although I think that a photo of a Painted Lady Butterfly and a story about its migrations would be a peachy topic for a FERM Newsletter item (especially if this spring turns out to be a good one for Painted Lady populations). C'mon, folks, this newsletter is a group effort (for better or worse) and needs to have input from many sources.