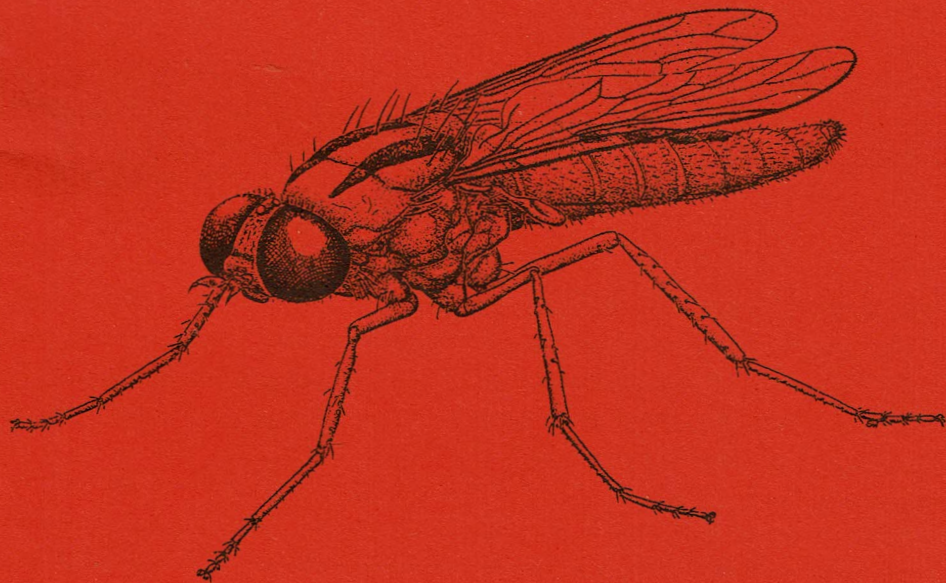




# ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND NEWS BULLETIN



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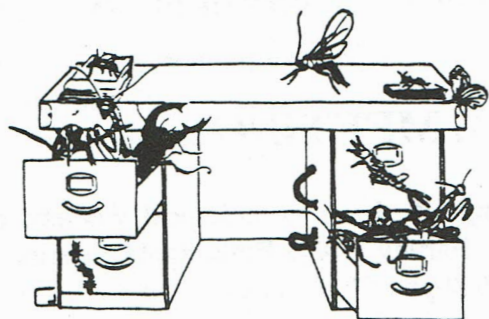
The **ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND**, since its inception in 1923, has striven to promote the development of pure and applied entomological research in Australia and particularly in Queensland. Membership is open to anyone interested in Entomology. The Society promotes liaison among entomologists through regular meetings and the distribution of a *News Bulletin* to members. Meetings are announced in the *News Bulletin* and are normally held in the Entomology Department, The University of Queensland at 6.30 pm on the second Monday of each month (March to June, August to December each year). Visitors and prospective members are welcome. Membership information can be obtained from the Honorary Secretary or other office bearers.

Contributions to the *NEWS BULLETIN* such as items of news, trip reports, announcements, etc are welcome and should be sent to the *News Bulletin* Editor.

The Society publishes *THE AUSTRALIAN ENTOMOLOGIST*. This is a refereed, illustrated journal devoted to entomology of the Australian region, including New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and islands of the south western Pacific. The journal is published in four parts annually.

**EMBLEM:** The Society's emblem, chosen in 1973 on the 50th anniversary of the Society, is the king stag beetle, *Phalacrognathus muelleri* (Macleay), family Lucanidae. Its magnificent metallic purple and green colouration make it one of the most attractive of all Australian Coleoptera. It is restricted to the rainforests of northern Queensland.

**COVER:** A stiletto fly belonging to an undescribed genus and species of Therevidae (Diptera: Asiloidea) drawn by Shaun Winterton. Shaun and David Yeates are currently working on the systematics on this family, which is extremely diverse in the woodland and semi-arid habitats of Australia.



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The issue of this document does **NOT** constitute formal publication for the purposes of the "International Code of Zoological Nomenclature 3rd edition 1985". Authors alone are responsible for the views expressed.

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## THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND

### GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the General Meeting of the Entomological Society of Queensland Inc. held in Room 323, Hartley Teakle Building, University of Queensland, on 14 April 1997, at 6.30pm. Chaired by D. Yeates.

**Attendance:** L. Muir, C. Lambkin, S. Evans, S. McGrath, A. Wilson, H. Nahrung, A. Loch, P. Mackey, T. Heard, D. Merritt, E. Exley, E.J. Reye, J. Lamy.

**Visitors:** J. Shevington, C. Palmer, J. Playford.

**Apologies:** T. Withers, E.N. Marks, J. Christensen, J. King, M. Schneider, J. Christensen, V. Davies.

**Minutes:** The Minutes of the last General Meeting (December) were circulated in News Bulletin Vol. 24, Issue 9. It was moved D. Yeates, seconded C. Lambkin that the Minutes be accepted.

#### Elections:

**Jack & Sue Hasenpusch**

Australian Insect Farm

PO Box 26

Innisfail Qld. 4860

Nominated: R.I. Storey

Seconded: R. Huwer

**Peter Mistic**

PO Box 97

Sebastopol Vic. 3356

Nominated: L. Muir

Seconded: G. Maywald

**WA Palmer**  
AFRS  
Qld. Dept. Natural Resources  
PO Box 36  
Sherwood Qld. 4075

Nominated: H. Nahrung  
Seconded: C. Simpson

**Stephen Frances**  
Aust. Army Malaria Inst.  
Gallipoli Barracks  
Enoggera Qld. 4052

Nominated: L. Muir  
Seconded: D. Yeates

**Carolyn Ditchfield**  
50 Beatrice Street  
Taringa Qld. 4068

Nominated: D. Walter  
Seconded: D. Yeates

**Claudina Rodriguez**  
35 Green Terrace  
WindSOR Qld. 4030

Nominated C. Burwell  
Seconded: J. King

Elected by a show of hands.

### **General Business:**

#### **1. Office Bearers:**

President  
Senior Vice-President  
Honorary Secretary  
Honorary Treasurer  
News Bulletin Editor  
Councillors

David Yeates  
Gordon Gordh  
Lynda Muir  
Gunter Maywald  
Cathy Simpson  
Helen Nahrung  
Chris Burwell  
Dave Merritt

2. E. Exley: Request that acronyms in the News Bulletin are written in full for those not familiar with the terms.

## **Main Business:**

### **Pollination of Primitive Angiosperms**

Dr Julia Playford

Lecturer, Department of Botany  
The University of Queensland

The primitive angiosperms are defined phylogenetically as including the uniapeturate dicotyledons in the following orders: Magnoliales, Laurales, Piperales, Aristolochiales, Nymphales, Illiciales. These range morphologically to plants with large flowers with many floral parts (Magnolia, waterlilies) to species with very small flowers in inflorescences (Piper) and even species with highly specialised floral structures for pollination (Aristolochia). This morphological variation is the clue to the levels of variation in pollination of this group of species. The early theories of beetle pollination being most common in primitive plants due to a mutualistic ancient association appear flawed. Most families have multiple types of insects as pollinators. There are very few correlations between primitive families of insects and relictual angiosperms. Where beetles are pollinators floral structure appears specialised or the more advanced Coleoptera are most important pollinators. Families that do contain species with specialist pollinators appear to show polyphyletic specialisation.

Some Australian species in these primitive groups show very little specialisation and may be visited, and pollinated, by multiple species. The most interesting specialist pollination syndrome, however, occurs in Eupomatia. There are two species in this genus, both pollinated exclusively by Elleschodes. These weevils feed on nutritive tissue of the inner staminodes and then lay eggs on the floral parts which fall to the ground.

The larvae then pupate in the soil. This would make a very interesting co-evolutionary research project.



The President announced that the next Meeting is on 12 May and the speaker is Tony Clarke.

There being no further business, the President closed the meeting.

#### **NOTICE OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

12 May: Tony Clarke, 'Eucalypt entomology in temperate Australia'

10 June Notes and Exhibits, Student Award Presentation





# PEOPLE AND PROJECTS



NEWS FROM QDNR

Alan Fletcher Research Station, Sherwood.

Graham Donnelly inspected *Pentobruchus germaini* release sites in Central Queensland and addressed a Parkinsonia field day at Clermont on the biological control of parkinsonia. He also visited Karratha, WA, to release the mesquite seed beetles, *Algarobius bottimeri* and *A. prosopis* (Bruchidae) with Dr John Dodd, Agriculture WA.

Recent additions to the lantana project include *Alagoasa parana* (Chrysomelidae), and *Ectaga garcia* (Oecophoridae) from Brazil, Kristin Latimer from DPI Toowoomba, and \$30 000 from National Parks of NSW. The insects will be held in quarantine for a generation before being mass-reared for release. The funding will be used to supply NSW with biocontrol agents, and Kristin will be...busy. First-generation *Aconophora compressa* (Membracidae) eggs and nymphs have been found at lantana release sites near Yarraman. First-generation adults, and eggs and larvae, of *Charidotis pygmaea* (Chrysomelidae) have been observed at release sites at Mt Gravatt, and Monto, respectively. Specimens of a new lantana species to Australia, *Lantana rugosa*, have been collected from two sites near Blackwater. Samples have been sent to Kew Gardens for confirmation of identity. Three species of agent were found on the plants, *Lantanophaga*, *Calcomyza*, and *Teleonemia*.



Shipments of *Homichloda barkeri*, *Acizzia* sp, and various geometrids are expected from Kenya for prickly acacia biological control.

The results of initial host-specificity testing of *Camenta ithacae* (Sesiidae), a root and crown moth for parthenium biocontrol will be discussed by Rachel McFadyen at the next Insect-Host Discussion group at AFRS on May 6 - all welcome.

Toni Withers, Bill Palmer, Rachel McFadyen, Michael Day, Martin Hannan-Jones and Trevor Armstrong attended the CTPM Science Conference at Caloundra from April 20-22. Marie Vitelli, Dhileepan and Joe Vitelli from the Tropical Weeds Research Centre, DNR, Charters Towers, and John Hosking from NSW Dept of Agriculture, who also attended the conference, visited AFRS to discuss projects.



## NEWS FROM DPI MAREEBA

Peter Cranston from ANIC in Canberra journeyed to Northern Queensland to attend a CRC-TREM organisational meeting at James Cook University. Afterwards, he spent time in the area with an odonaterist mate undertaking a familiarisational visit to the local dragon and damselflies. Peter had a short visit with Ross Storey to further discuss the TREM dung beetle databasing project and the important politics of Australian entomology.

Geoff Monteith was also at the TREM meeting. Afterwards, he spent several days with Jack Hasenpusch accompanied by two students making collections for new projects. Geoff also spent two days with Ross on the dung beetle project, mostly determining latitudes and longitudes for specimen labels.

Chris Reid (JCU) changed bases from Townsville to Cairns in mid April. Amongst other benefits, this will allow Chris greater access to the good Mareeba DPI beetle collection while he endeavours to build up the JCU collection. His involvement in the TREM will be easier and good collecting areas are closer. He will also meet with Geoff and Ross in Mareeba, again discussing the cladistics of dungies.



## NEWS FROM CRC FOR TROPICAL PEST MANAGEMENT, Brisbane

The CTPM Science Conference, held at Caloundra on 20-22 April, was a great success. The first day involved a celebration of CTPM achievements with short presentations from a number of project areas. The second day involved Centre participants working in small groups to plan activities to maximise collaboration over the next 15 months and beyond. It was a great opportunity to bring together the geographically dispersed people involved with the Centre.

Planning for the joint Australasian Applied Entomological Research Conference (AAERC) and Australian Entomological Society(AES) Conference is progressing well. The AAERC will run from 29 September to 2 October, and the AES from 27 to 29 September. For the AAERC, a draft scientific program has been formulated, a logo developed, and a web site established. The latest details of the Conference are available at <http://www.ctpm.uq.edu.au/Education/AppliedEnto.html>.



NEWS FROM UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Australian Biological Control Laboratories

We were all saddened by the news of the death of Dr Charley Turner. Charley became the Director of the USDA Australian Biological Control Laboratory in late 1995. He had been transferred from Albany, California to take over from Dr Joe Balciunas. Charley was enthusiastic about his new posting, and enjoyed the Australian lifestyle with his family. He was about to embark on new research on *Melaleuca* biological control when he learned of his terminal illness, forcing him to return to the United States. Charley made many friends in his short stint in Brisbane. He is a great loss to us all, and to science.



NEWS FROM THE QUEENSLAND MUSEUM  
Brisbane

Robert Raven has been in Mount Isa helping staff at the Museum's outback branch, The Museum of North Western Queensland. Between routine duties, Robert has been out scanning the ground for tarantulas, trying to come up with a reasonable hypothesis about why Redbacks are comparatively uncommon (cf Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth) in what seems to be the ideal conditions of Mount Isa. Recent floods have, of course, displaced much of the ground fauna but then the occasional interesting mineral or gem is there to catch the eye.





## NEWS FROM CSIRO DIVISION OF ENTOMOLOGY

Long Pocket Laboratories, Brisbane

Overseas-funded postdoctoral fellow Pekka Kaitaniemi (Turku University, Finland; 1 year) and Senior Research Fellow Tomonari Watanabe (Japan, Kyushu National Agricultural Experiment Station; 2 years) arrived in Brisbane in March to learn about virtual plant technology and to carry out research projects with Peter Room and Jim Hanan.

Veronica Brancatini spent 3 weeks in April at a remote atoll, Nikunau in Kiribati - two of the weeks unexpectedly a result of broken down aircraft and bad weather. However, not all bad news, she found very convincing evidence that the predatory coccinellid, *Rodolia limbata* Blackburn, introduced from Darwin had successfully controlled the fluted scale, *Icerya aegyptiaca* on breadfruit.

Marc Coombs visited the Bubia Agricultural Research Station near Lae, Papua New Guinea in March to discuss with PNG entomologists Sim Sar and James Ernest, progress with the collaborative project on biological control of green vegetable bug. Releases of the Argentinean parasitic tachinid, *Trichopoda giacomellii*, have begun in the Markham Valley.

Dr Martin Hill, Plant Protection Research Institute Pretoria South Africa spent 5 weeks visiting CSIRO in Brisbane. Martin has been working with a new biological control agent for water hyacinth, a mirid *Eccritotarsus catarinensis*, from Brazil, which he brought with him into the Long Pocket Quarantine where host specificity tests have begun. The group are still working with the moth *Acigona infusella* also for water hyacinth and Martin took a colony back to South Africa with him. During his stay, techniques and ideas were exchanged about managing these insects and about other water hyacinth issues. He accompanied Mic Julien on a two week visit to PNG to observe the AusAID funded water hyacinth control project.

# NOTES AND EXHIBITS MEETING

10 JUNE 1997

The next Notes and Exhibits Meeting of the Society will be held on 10 June. If you would like to present an item, please contact David Yeates, President, on 07 3365 2217, fax: 3365 1922, or email: [d.yeates@mailbox.uq.edu.au](mailto:d.yeates@mailbox.uq.edu.au).

Previous topics have included:

Entomological Tour of the Queensland Museum Library

Illustrations from the Entomological Society of NSW Competition

Poster on insect and mite pests of bananas

Tortoise beetle life histories in Brisbane

The effect of deprivation on *Zygogramma bicolorata* host acceptance behaviour



## FUTURE EVENTS AND FEATURES



A copy of the Victorian Butterfly Database CD has been ordered by the Society for review. The review will appear in a future edition of the News Bulletin: stayed tuned for details.



The feature documentary 'Microcosmos' will be released in Queensland on 12 June at the Hoyts Regent. There is a reduced price for group bookings. Details will appear soon.



A team of three reviewers are currently reading through the applications for the 1997 Student Award. The recipient will be announced at the next Society Meeting (12 May). They will also do a presentation at the June Notes and Exhibits meeting.



## SOCIETY SUBSCRIPTION RATES

- ORDINARY:** Persons resident within the municipality of Brisbane - \$23pa (\$20 if paid by AGM).
- COUNTRY:** Persons resident elsewhere - \$21 pa (\$18 if paid by AGM).
- JOINT:** Couples in either of the above categories who share a copy of the *News Bulletin*, but each otherwise have full membership privileges.  
Ordinary - \$30 pa (\$27 if paid by AGM).  
Country - \$27 pa (\$24 if paid by AGM).
- ASSOCIATE:** Students and others at the discretion of the Society Council - \$15 pa (\$12 if paid by AGM). Associate Membership conveys full membership privileges except the right to vote on the conduct of affairs of the Society, to hold office and to nominate new members.

## THE AUSTRALIAN ENTOMOLOGIST SUBSCRIPTION RATES

- AUSTRALIA:** Individuals A\$16 pa Institutions A\$20 pa
- ELSEWHERE:** Individuals A\$20 pa Institutions A\$22 pa

Subscriptions should be sent to the Business Manager, *The Australian Entomologist*.

## SUSTAINING ASSOCIATES

Arrest-A-Pest  
Ciba-Geigy Australia Pty Ltd  
CRC for Tropical Pest Management  
Rhone-Poulenc Rural Australia Pty Ltd



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### NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Society will be held at 6.30 pm on **Monday 12 May** in Room **323**, Hartley Teakle Building, UQ. The main business will be: **Tony Clarke**, 'Eucalypt entomology in temperate Australia'. Refreshments will be served before the meeting at 6.00 pm in the Tea Room (510).

VISITORS ARE WELCOME