



ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND INC.

# NEWS BULLETIN



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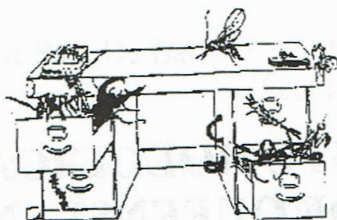
The **ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND INC.**, since its inception in 1923, has striven to promote the development of pure and applied entomological research in Australia, and particularly in Queensland. Membership is open to anyone interested in Entomology. The Society promotes liaison among entomologists 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 Goddard Building, University of Queensland at 7.00 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 of the Society.

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 in the Australian region, including New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and the islands of the South Western Pacific. The journal is published four parts annually.

**EMBLEM:** The Society's emblem, chosen in 1973 on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Society, is the king stag beetle, *Phalacrognathus muelleri* (Macleay), family Lucanidae. Its magnificent 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:** Aboriginal stylised depiction of a biological control agent (*Malacorhinus irregularis*) and its host plant (*Mimosa pigra*) on a background piece of torn bark, by Otto Fahey and Soussanith Nokham.



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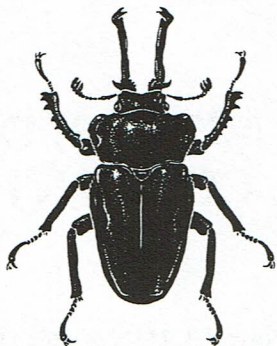
The cover design is derived from the logo developed for the XI International Symposium on the Biological Control of Weeds to be held in Canberra in April 2003. See [www.ento.csiro.au/weeds2003](http://www.ento.csiro.au/weeds2003)

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

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## THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND

### MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING: 10 June 2002

Minutes of the General Meeting of the Entomological Society of Queensland Inc. held in Room 388, Goddard Building, The University of Queensland, on, 11 June 2002, 7.00 pm.

**Attendance:** J. Beard, P. Collier, B. Crowe, V. Davies, R. Eastwood, D. Foley, M. Griffiths, J. Haines, A. Hatch, T. Heard, R. Kendall, I. Knight, P. Mackey, B. Miller, G. Monteith, J. Moss, J. Neilson, L. Popple, C. Rodriguez, S. Russell, D. Sands, M. Schneider, M. Shaw, J. Wright, S. Wright.

**Visitors:** Barnett, G. Forbes, R. Stoodley.

**Apologies:** J. Gom, H. Proctor, D. Walter.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the last General Meeting were circulated in the News Bulletin Vol. 30 Issue 3.

*Moved:* Don Sands

*Seconded:* Angela Hatch

**Nominations:** The following nominations were received and are now put before the meeting:

Dr Paul De Barro

Nominated: Tim Heard  
Seconded: Veronica Brancantini

Mr David Walker

Nominated: Dr Michael Brown  
Seconded: Tim Heard

Wesley Jenkinson

Nominated: Don Sands  
Seconded: Jenny Beard

In accordance with the Society's rules, these candidates will be considered for election at the next meeting.

**Elections:** The following nominations were received at the last General Meeting, and circulated in the News Bulletin Vol. 30 Issue 3.

Mr Rod Eastwood

This nominee was elected unanimously.

### General Business:

Geoff Monteith announced a call for inspiration regarding another "Living with Insects" type display to be held in association with the International Congress of Entomology 2004.

### Main Business:

**Rod Eastwood** - Winner of the 2002 ESQ student prize

### Don Sands - Host use of an introduced aquatic plant by two endangered species of butterfly

**Jenny Haines** - The how, why and where of the Bug Catch program.

**Geoff Monteith** - The Bromberg Massiff - home of the new insect order.

Vote of thanks was given by Tim Heard.

## **Main Business:**

### **Jennifer Haines** **An overview of Bug Catch**

Bug Catch, the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service initiative to survey the invertebrate fauna of Queensland's protected areas, moves into its second year. With three successful Bug Catch programs to date, interest in the program is increasing. This program will continue to expand, eventually covering all our protected areas in Queensland.

QPWS staff in the Conservation Sciences Unit recognised that a major faunal component (99% of the animal kingdom) was not receiving adequate attention in our protected areas. Arthropods provide important food sources for vertebrates, pollination and dispersal services for plants, as well as being of considerable conservation significance in their own right. Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service recognise the potential for documentation of the invertebrates in Queensland, the most bio-diverse region of Australia. With the ultimate aim of compiling a data set of arthropods for each protected area in Queensland, at least two Bug Catch programs will be held each year, with the results entered into a departmental database.

We have little information on what invertebrates occur in our National Parks and to adequately conserve our biodiversity, we need to know what we have in our protected areas. The most beneficial and cost effective way to survey our protected areas is to invite specialist entomologists into our parks to survey, and identify their target? invertebrate group. By having focus groups,



at least one specialist will be available to coordinate identifications and encourages collection of those groups by the other participants. Rangers are encouraged to attend so they can learn about the importance of our invertebrate fauna and how they fit into the ecosystem. This gives interested regional staff an opportunity to interact with entomologists and to gain an insight into the world of entomology.

The Bug Catch program provides information which benefits QPWS by providing records of "what we are protecting in our National Parks", while the entomologists have an opportunity to gain insight into the distribution, biology and conservation of the arthropod world. QPWS is exposed to the entomological world with benefits that include identifying critical habitats and learning about management practices which may influence arthropods such as grazing and fire practices.

The three Bug Catch projects have, to date, provided new and valuable information. New data about the distribution of particular 'focal groups', including species of butterflies, dung beetles and wasps (that are parasites of bracket fungi), and a new record for a pseudo-scorpion have been documented. The latter find has contributed to important bio-geographic studies by a specialist based at the Western Australian museum. Butterfly records from the Bug Catch programs at the Conondale National Park and Shoalwater Bay Conservation Park include new records for extensions of range and local variation in an extremely difficult taxonomic complex of a 'skipper' species.

Surveys that are carried out in our protected areas increases the possibility of the identification of any pest species that may have entered into our parks undetected (eg fire ants and crazy ants). Early detection of these pests would allow management to take appropriate action thus forestalling more extensive incursions.

A joint program between QPWS and DPI to survey our bushland in and around the Brisbane area is currently underway. This is to correspond with the pest incursion of fire ants in the Brisbane area. Karawatha Forest was the first of these areas to be surveyed. Venmans National Park and Daisy Hill State Forest will also be surveyed later in the year.

The species of butterflies collected and identified through Bug Catch are now incorporated into WildNet. Dung beetles are soon to follow. This means that for the first time in Queensland, there will be accurate data available on the distribution of some invertebrate groups occurring in our protected areas.

WildNet is the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service corporate database for the collection of data and information about flora and fauna for our State, including both native and feral taxa. It can be used by anyone wishing to gain information on particular species distribution. Planners, managers, local councils, and environmental groups are just some of the people that access information from WildNet for a range of applications, including biodiversity assessments and planning. For example, DNR use WildNet for assessing vegetation clearing applications, and Main Roads for planning new road works.

To increase the utility of the WildNet database, a new data entry system, WildNet Light, has been introduced. This is a stand-alone Access application enabling data to be easily entered and downloaded into the WildNet system. WildNet Light is where the Bug Catch data is entered. Information entered into WildNet includes locality, habitat, species, collector's details, and photos.

There are to be 2 – 4 Bug Catch programs held each year. Rangers can nominate a protected area for inclusion in the program and I would like to encourage Entomological Society members nominate areas they would like to survey.



For any further information on Bug Catch, or a copy of the findings to date, I can be contacted as follows:

Jenny Haines  
Fire Ant Control Centre  
81A Seventeen Mile Rocks Road, Oxley  
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Mobile: 0401 997832  
[Jennifer.Haines@dpi.qld.gov.au](mailto:Jennifer.Haines@dpi.qld.gov.au)

The Chair announced that the next meeting will be held on Tuesday 11 June 2002.

As there was no further business, the Chair closed the meeting.

**Notice of next meeting**

**TUESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> August, 2002**

**Dr Scott O'Neill,**  
Chair in Evolutionary and Population Biology, School of Life  
Sciences, University of Queensland, will speak on  
**"Influential passengers: Wolbachia infections and arthropod  
reproduction".**

## News from AQIS

Yellow crazy ants (*Anoplolepis gracilipes*) were identified from two separate interceptions. The first lot arrived via what has become the more expected and usual pathway, when they were found wandering in an empty container returning from PNG. The second interception however, was a little more unusual in that the ants were found infesting cooked taro from Western Samoa at the international airport. Both items received the appropriate treatment. Yellow crazy ants are considered a major environmental pest as they tend honeydew producing insects protecting them from parasites and predators, allowing them to reach population levels which cause dieback in forests and some crops. They feed on a wide variety of food types including seeds, honeydew, fruits, other plant materials and household foods. In recent times they have even been intercepted infesting PE's which contained a packet of cough lollies. They are easily recognised as they are golden coloured, long legged and walk in a frenetic or "crazy" manner.



**Yellow crazy ants**

An interesting post-barrier detection was made when a member of the public heard a rasping noise emanating from a wooden statue of Buddha which they had purchased from a street market whilst holidaying in Thailand 12 month ago. A little surprised to hear Buddha's belly rumbling, they notified quarantine. On inspection, the statue was found to be covered in a fine powdery frass most likely caused by that of an auger beetle larva. Buddha was bundled

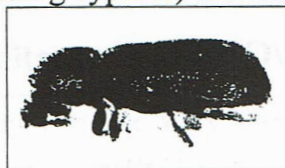


up and he now resides in the quarantine insectary in the hope that the hungry borer will reveal itself. Auger beetles (many species of which are exotic to Australia) attack the sapwood layer of hardwoods, freshly felled trees and green or seasoned timber. The larvae feed along the grain, making circular tunnels measuring about 6mm in diameter. Tunnels are tightly packed with a fine floury frass, often only visible when adults emerge.



**Buddha and external damage caused by borer activity (inset)**

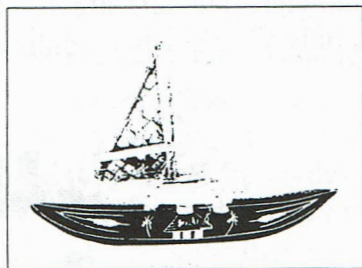
Another new record for Queensland entomology interceptions was the identification of *Stephanopachys amplus* from packing crates ex Germany. This exotic species of auger beetle (unlike the majority of auger beetles) is capable of feeding on softwoods (especially pines, including cypress) and hardwoods.



***Stephanopachys amplus***

The keen eye of an airport quarantine inspector sussed out borer damage in a souvenir timber boat carried by a passenger returning from Fiji. Noticing a weakness in one of the timber cross bars on the boat, the inspector discovered powdery frass most likely caused by auger beetle activity. Auger beetles (many species of which remain exotic to Australia) attack the sapwood layer of

hardwoods, freshly felled trees and green or seasoned timber. The larvae feed along the grain, making circular tunnels measuring about 6mm in diameter. Tunnels are tightly packed with a fine floury frass, often only visible when adults emerge. The boat is now housed in the AQIS insectory in the hope of rearing the larva through.



*Souvenir boat*

Bill Crowe returned from 3 weeks of intensive training on the taxonomy of mites which he attended at Columbus University, Ohio. The schedule was non-stop, with early starts and late finishes but was a worthwhile exercise as he was able to have many of our mite identifications confirmed or corrected.

## **News from USDA/CSIRO Australian Biological Control Laboratory**

**Dr. Hongyin Chen** of the USDA, Sino-American Biological Control Laboratory, Beijing, China will be visiting ABCL from 19-23 August. He will be visiting with ABCL staff to review field collecting activities for the *Melaleuca quinquenervia* and *Lygodium microphyllum* biological control program.

Mr. **Andrew Oles** and Ms. **Lara Valley**, Appalachian scholars from Berea College, Berea, Kentucky USA will spend 4th quarter of 2002 with ABCL. They will be assisting **Ryan Zonneveld** and



**John Goolsby** with ongoing ecological studies which measure the impact of the eriophyid mite, *Floracarus perrepae*, *Knihinicki* & *Boczek* on *L. microphyllum* biomass production.

## News from DPI Indooroopilly

**Greg Daglish**, **Pat Collins** and **Manoj Nayak** represented DPI at a conference on the safe storage of grain during July. The historical city of York in Northern England was the venue for the 8th International Working Conference on Stored Product Protection. York is also centred within a major grain producing area and is the location of the Central Sciences Laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture Food and Fisheries. **Greg**, **Pat** and **Manoj** each made presentations on their research and **Pat** co-chaired a resistance management workshop with **Ken Mills** (CSL) where **Greg** and **Manoj** were invited speakers. During the week before the conference **Manoj** visited Dr **Bryan Turner** of King's College in London, and Dr **Rick Hodges** of the University of Greenwich in Chatham to exchange ideas on management of psocids in grain.

### Important changes to the way you can receive the Bulletin

As a trial, I am going to make the Bulletin available by email for the remainder of the year to anyone who requests it. Subject to a review at the end of this year, you may be able to choose between receiving the bulletin electronically or by normal means in the future. I stress that this would be an additional option and the hard copy version of the Bulletin will still be available to those who wish to continue receiving it.

Please contact me on (07) 33102810 or [Cas.Vanderwoude@dpi.qld.gov.au](mailto:Cas.Vanderwoude@dpi.qld.gov.au) to be added to the email distribution list.

Cas Vanderwoude  
(Editor)

those who had problems viewing the last electronic bulletin should download the latest version of Adobe reader (free) at <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>

Also please note that there is no intention to replace the printed Bulletin in favour of an electronic version!

#### **Corrections to contact details on back cover**

Please note that the following changes to contact details of Society office bearers:

Tim Heard's telephone number is (07) 3214 2843

Jenny Beard's telephone number is (07) 33657085 and her email is [j.beard@zen.uq.edu.au](mailto:j.beard@zen.uq.edu.au)

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- ORDINARY:** Persons resident within the municipality of Brisbane - \$26pa (\$23 if paid by the AGM)
- COUNTRY:** Persons resident elsewhere - \$24pa (\$21 if paid by AGM)
- JOINT:** Couples in either of the above two categories who share a copy of the *News Bulletin*, but each otherwise have full membership privileges.  
Ordinary           \$33 pa (\$30 if paid by AGM)  
Country           \$30 pa (\$27 if paid by AGM)
- ASSOCIATE:** Students and others at the discretion of the Society Council, \$18 pa (\$15 if paid by the 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

Tropical Fruit Fly Research Group, Griffith University  
Pest Management Research, Department of Natural Resources  
Centre for Identification and Diagnostics, The University of Qld



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## NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Society will be held at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> August in Room 388, **GODDARD Building**, U.Q. The main business will be: **Dr Scott O'Neill, "Influential passengers: Wolbachia infections and arthropod reproduction"**. Refreshments will be served before the meeting at 6.30 pm in the tea room on level 2 of the Goddard Bldg.

**VISITORS ARE WELCOME**