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2003 Annual Meeting for the Society for Economic Botany in Tucson: A Review

The SEB 44th annual meeting was held June 1-5, 2003, at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, Tucson Arizona. There were about 175 registrants from many countries, with 73 oral and 25 poster presentations. It was great to have the presence of many Mexican colleagues. The presence of many student participants was also notable, demonstrating that our Society nurtures young professionals. Students presented very impressive oral and poster papers. This was the first meeting held in the southwestern United States and required quite a bit of planning and commitment. It was possible thanks to the cheerful leadership of Daniel F. Austin, the meeting coordinator, who was assisted by Steve McLaughlin (registration and program

chair), Wendy Hodgson (field trips), Thomas VanDevender (transportation), Ana Lilia Reina (symposium chair), the Conservation and Science and Botany staff, the many volunteers and docents at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, and the tireless students. This enthusiastic team was responsible for driving the shuttles from the hotel and the university dorms to the Museum, located west of Tucson in the saguaro, ironwood, and palo verde-covered Tucson Mountains. Volunteers also organized field trips, helped with the media presentations, staffed the information desk, provided directions, and gave interesting presentations of their own.

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**Visit
<http://www.econbot.org>
for registration and details of the 2004
meeting.**

Plants & People

The Newsletter of
The Society
for
Economic Botany

Website:
<http://www.econbot.org>

Newsletter Committee

Trish Flaster, Editor
1180 Crestmoor Dr.
Boulder, CO 80303

E-mail: newsletter@econbot.org

Mike Balick

Charlotte Gyllenhaal

Kurt Allerslev Reynertson

David Theodoropoulos

Michael Thomas, Webmaster

Gail Wagner

Tita Young
www.WordScribe.com
Designer

The articles within the Newsletter are independently submitted and do not represent the position of The Society for Economic Botany as a whole.

Deadlines for submissions are February 1 (Spring Issue) and September 1 (Fall Issue).

Notes from the Field

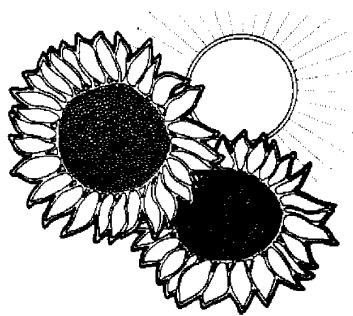
As always, the Fall issue is full of SEB news after our annual meeting so if you were not there or if you want to reminisce, you'll enjoy this issue.

Look for notes on the Annual Council meeting and the Symposia.

We are still supporting electronic subscriptions for the Newsletter and many have signed up. Continue to send us email at webeditor@econbot.org or newsletter@econbot.org of your preference stating whether you prefer a hard copy in the mail.

It appears that the Newsletter is popular as the Spring issue was downloaded 4,574 times by July. That is an average of 1,500 people a month reading about us.

SEE YOU IN THE UK IN 2004



Trish Flaster

Timothy C. Plowman Latin American Research Award

The Botany Department at The Field Museum invites applications for the year 2004 *Timothy C. Plowman Latin American Research Award*. The award of \$1,500.00 is designed to assist students and young professionals to visit the Field Museum and use our extensive economic botany and systematic collections. Individuals from Latin America and projects in the field of ethnobotany or systematics of economically important plant groups will be given priority consideration.

Applicants interested in the award should submit their curriculum vitae and a detailed letter describing the project for which the award is sought. The information should be mailed to the Timothy C. Plowman Award Committee, Department of Botany, The Field Museum, 1400 South Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60605-2496 USA and received no later than December 15, 2003. Announcement of the recipient will be made no later than December 31, 2003.

Anyone wishing to contribute to *The Timothy C. Plowman Latin American Research Fund*, which supports this award, may send their checks, payable to The Field Museum, c/o Department of Botany, The Field Museum, 1400 South Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60605-2496 USA. Make certain to indicate the intended fund.

Awards

2003 Edmund H. Fulling Award

Eve Emshwiller (The Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago) was awarded the Edmund H. Fulling award at the 44th Annual Meeting of the Society for Economic Botany held at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum in Tucson, Arizona. This award is given for the best paper by a student or a professional who has received their Ph.D. within the past five years. Dr. Emshwiller received the award for her talk on "Conservation and Evolution of Clonally Propagated Crops: What Do We Need to Know?"

An honorable mention was awarded to My Lien T. Nguyen, University of Hawai'i, for her presentation on "(Re)constructing Culture in the Vietnamese Diaspora." An impressive 30 speakers were eligible for this prestigious award. Judging was done by Elaine Joyal (Arizona State University, Tempe), Christine Niezgodna (The Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago), and Diane Ragone (National Tropical Botanical Garden, Hawai'i). Criteria used for judging the Fulling Award will be posted on the SEB website <http://www.econbot.org>.

Diane Ragone Ph.D. ragone@ntbg.org, <http://www.ntbg.org>

Back issues of the Journal are available for the remainder of the year so don't hesitate to order your issues now from Allen Press for US \$5.00 each.

Klinger Book Award Report (2002-2003)

The 2003 Klinger Book Award goes to David Yetman and Thomas R. Van Devender, 2002. **Mayo Ethnobotany. Land, History, and Traditional Knowledge in Northwest Mexico.**

Klinger Book Award Committee

Dan Austin, Chair (daustin@fau.edu)
Brad Bennett (bennett@fiu.edu) [withdrew from committee because his book was being considered]

Tim Johns (johns@macdonald.mcgill.ca)

Hew Pendergast

(saraandhew.pendergast@ic24.net)

John Rashford (rashfordj@cofc.edu)

2002-2003 Nominees for Klinger Book Award

Bennett, B. C., Marc A. Baker, and Patricia Gomez Andrade, 2002.

Ethnobotany of the Shuar of Eastern Ecuador. Advances in Economic Botany, Volume 14, The New York Botanical Garden Press, 200th Street and Kazimiroff Blvd., Bronx, New York 10458-5126. Nominated by Tim Johns, April 10, 2003. [REVIEW TO BE PUBLISHED IN 57(1)]

Cunningham, Anthony B., 2001.

Applied Ethnobotany: People, Wild Plant Use & Conservation. Earthscan Publications Ltd., London. Nominated by Helen Rose, Earthscan, Feb. 5, 2001. [REVIEW BY: Jan Salick; scheduled for 57(1)].

Laird, Sarah A. (editor), 2002. **Biodiversity and Traditional Knowledge.** 288 pages 1st edition. Stylus Pub., llc; ISBN: 1-85383-698-2. Nominated by Trish Flaster March 26, 2002. RETAINED FROM 2002 COMPETITION.

Minnis, Paul E. and Wayne J. Elisens (eds.), 2000. **Biodiversity and Native America.** University of Oklahoma Press, 4100 28th Avenue N.W., Norman, OK 73069-8212. x+310 pp. (hardcover). \$34.95. ISBN 0-80613-232-9. Nominated in 2001 by Kathy Roberts. [REVIEW 55(3), p. 416]—RETAINED FROM 2002 COMPETITION.

Pearsall, D.M., 2000. **Paleoethnobotany: A Handbook of Procedures, second edition.** San Diego, CA 92101-4495, Academic Press, 525 B Street, Suite 1900.- Nominated by Karol Chandler-Ezell, April 2, 2002. [REVIEW WILL BE IN 56(2)]; RETAINED FROM 2002 COMPETITION.

Yetman, David and Thomas R. Van Devender, 2002. **Mayo Ethnobotany: Land, History, and Traditional Knowledge in Northwest Mexico.** University of California Press, 2130 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, CA 94720. xiv + 359 pp. (hardcover). US \$48.00. ISBN 0-520-22721-2. Nominated by Dan Austin 2002 [REVIEW TO BE IN 56(4)].

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Germplasm News and Views

"The EU moratorium [against GM products] violates WTO rules." – Robert Zoellick, US trade representative (Anonymous 2003h).

"The deal would be this: if the Americans would stop lying about us, we would stop telling the truth about them." – Poul Nielson, European Union Development Commissioner, referring to the GMO dispute (Reuters, 1/20/03).

"We're very sorry for the mishap."
– Anthony Laos, CEO of ProdiGene (Cummins 2003).

In November 2002, it was found that a GM pharmaceutical maize expressing a pig vaccine grown by ProdiGene had, through volunteers, contaminated 500,000 bushels of soybeans in Nebraska, and 155 acres of maize in Iowa through pollination, all of which had to be destroyed (Anonymous 2002c; Cummins 2003; Grooms 2002b; Montague 2003).

The Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO) issued a statement on October 22, 2002, that its members would not grow pharmaceutical-containing crops in major food-producing areas (Grooms 2002a). The more than 1,000 member firms and academic institutions would "commit to grow regulated articles that are derived from outcrossing food and feed crops, but which are intended not to be in food or feed, only in areas of the country that are not centers of that crop's production." By January, BIO had reversed itself and eliminated this ban, partially in response to pressure from Iowa Governor Tom Vilsack (Anonymous 2003b) and Senator Charles Grassley (Anonymous 2003a).

Since there have been unexpected serious reactions to several pharmaceuticals produced by GM organisms (the shutdown of red blood cell production in patients taking Eprex (Pollack 2001), for example, and there exist such biopharm crops as 'contraceptive' maize, which produces anti-sperm antibodies (Apel 2002; McKie 2001), it has been suggested that in light of widespread contamination of food crops with GM material, future biopharm crops be limited to non-food plants such as tobacco.

In May 2003 the United States, Argentina, Canada, and Egypt filed a World Trade Organization case against the European Union challenging the EU's ban on GM products.

In late August 2002, the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture stated that, of 85 samples of soybean products labeled as "organic," 20 had been found to contain GM soybeans (Anonymous 2002d). It is expected that Japan will strengthen its identity-preservation requirements for imports to prevent entry of GM-commingled lots.

A \$110-million settlement has been reached in a class action lawsuit by maize farmers for economic losses



sustained because of the StarLink contamination incident. StarLink, a GM maize approved for feed but not for human food or export, was discovered in many human food products, and this caused a loss of buyers for US maize and depressed prices for the entire US crop. About \$70 million will be distributed to farmers who have filed claims (Anonymous 2003e).

The National Association of Wheat Growers has stated that they will now support the commercialization of GM wheat. In the past, wheat growers have resisted GM wheat because of fears of losing foreign markets. US Wheat, a wheat export marketing organization,

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Kem Ralph of Covington, Tennessee, was sentenced to eight months in prison and ordered to pay Monsanto \$165,469.

Germplasm News and Views

Continued from page 4

has found that there is strong resistance to GM wheat among many wheat-importing nations. Andrew Apel, editor of *AgBiotech Reporter*, states that "Wheat growers have ordered US Wheat to stop talking publicly about the export market opposition, saying such discussion only hurts the efforts to gain acceptance." Multinational giant Archer Daniels Midland states that their customers do not want GM wheat (Apel 2003). As nearly half of US hard red spring (HRS) wheat is exported, Iowa State University economist Robert Wisner states that there is a high risk that rejection by the international market could depress HRS and durum wheat prices by about one-third. Five groups have joined to petition the USDA to address economic impacts, and wheat grower Tom Wiley, spokesman for the Western Organization of Resource Councils, points out that the costs of segregating GM wheat will likely be borne by the growers (Grooms 2003).

A bill in North Dakota that would have made biotech companies liable for losses incurred by farmers if their non-GM crops are contaminated by GM varieties was defeated (Anonymous 2003c). The UK's environmental minister has stated that conventional and organic farmers should have the right to compensation if their crops are contaminated by GM crops (Anonymous 2003g). Organic rules in the US and EU prohibit GM crops. Organic farmer Roger Lansink found his \$70,000 crop of soybeans tested positive for GM material. In Nebraska, David Vetter has found his organic maize crop test positive for GM contamination for the past three years. Alex Nurnberg, an organic dairy farmer in Ontario, had his organic

feed maize crop contaminated by pollen drift from a neighbor's GM Bt maize field. David Nees's organic maize crop in Iowa was contaminated with GM StarLink maize. Laura Krouse, organic farmer and professor of biology at Cornell College, lost her "Abbe Hills Open Pollinated Seed Corn" variety (grown by her family for 99 years) to GM contamination (Anonymous 2003d).

In May, the European Patent Office declared Monsanto's overly broad patent on a process for genetically modifying plants to be "insufficient" (Kushner & Shadrack 2003), but the EPO upheld the species-wide claim to all GM soybeans (Group 2003).

In the first criminal sentence of a farmer for violating a seed license agreement, Kem Ralph of Covington, Tennessee, was sentenced to eight months in prison and ordered to pay Monsanto \$165,469. He was said to have conspired to commit fraud by helping a friend conceal the saving of GM cotton seed in violation of the licensing agreement (Anonymous 2003f; Kushner & Shadrack 2003; Shinkle 2003). Mississippi farmer Homan McFarling saved seed of Monsanto's GM soybeans and announced his intention to continue saving and replanting. Monsanto sued and won an injunction. McFarling appealed on the argument that Monsanto's no-replanting agreements violate anti-trust law and the doctrines of patent exhaustion and first sale, are unenforceable and violate the Plant Variety

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Publications

Books by and about Chinese Medicinals

Pharmacopoeia of the People's Republic of China (2000 English Edition)

This edition of the Pharmacopoeia of the People's Republic of China (known as Chinese Pharmacopoeia 2000 or in abbreviation as Ch. P 2000) has been prepared in accordance with the principles and requirements by the Seventh Pharmacopoeia Commission and accomplished with the effort of more than three years. It has been reviewed and approved by the Executive Committee of the Pharmacopoeia Commission and authorized by the State Drug Administration for publication. This is the seventh edition of the Pharmacopoeia of People's Republic of China since the founding of the People's Republic of China.

contact: szchisco@hotmail.com

<http://www.tradezone.com/tradesites/chizhenguo.html>

Phone/Fax: + 86 755 26161829

Earthscan Website:

www.earthscan.co.uk

Earthscan recently has published the sixth book in the People and Plants Conservation Series and is currently running an online promotion of the books. Each of the six books is being offered for a 10% online discount and the full series is on offer for a 25% discount. Please follow the links below for information regarding the special offers and for more information about each title.

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Germplasm News and Views

Continued from page 5

Protection Act, but the Court of Appeals disagreed (Anonymous 2002a). McFarling has been ordered to pay Monsanto \$780,000 damages (Anonymous 2002e).

Brazil, which had banned GM crops, has temporarily authorized their sale until the end of 2004 in response to the black market of GM soybeans. At that time all GM soy will be destroyed (Kushner & Shadrack 2003). Brazil hopes to retain its market share of soy exports by staying GM-free.

Bolivia is considering repealing its ban on GM crops in order to strengthen its cotton industry (Anonymous 2002b).

Submitted by David Theodoropoulos.
dt@dtheo.org

- ANONYMOUS. 2002a. Appellate courts rule on RoundUp-resistant patent claims. *Seed & Crops Digest* **53**:13-14.
- ANONYMOUS. 2002b. Bolivia may repeal GM ban. *Seed & Crops Digest* **53**:19.
- ANONYMOUS. 2002c. Contamination of "biopharm" corn prompts criticism from ag biotech foes. *Alternative Agriculture News* **2002**.
- ANONYMOUS. 2002d. Japanese officials find GM soybeans in organic products. *Seed & Crops Digest* **53**:12.
- ANONYMOUS. 2002e. Monsanto wins \$780,000 case against Mississippi farmer. *Seed & Crops Digest* **53**:16.
- ANONYMOUS. 2003a. BIO backs off moratorium on growing biopharma crops in corn-production areas. *Seed Saver's 2003 Summer Edition*:83.
- ANONYMOUS. 2003b. BIO reverses ban. *Seed & Crops Digest* **54**:25.
- ANONYMOUS. 2003c. GM wheat legislation defeated in Dakotas, proposed in Montana. *Seed Saver's 2003 Summer Edition*:81.
- ANONYMOUS. 2003d. Organic farmers report increasing problems with GMO contamination. *Seed Saver's 2003 Summer Edition*:84-85.
- ANONYMOUS. 2003e. StarLink settlement

compensates growers. *Seed & Crops Digest* **54**:11.

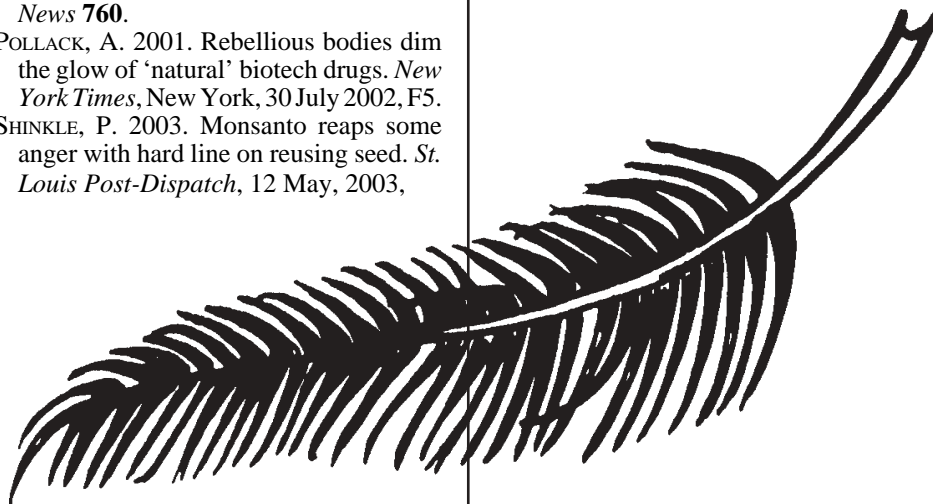
- ANONYMOUS. 2003f. Tennessee farmer gets sentenced for fraud involving Monsanto seed. *Seed & Crops Digest* **54**:11.
- ANONYMOUS. 2003g. UK official says biotech companies should be liable for contamination. *Seed Saver's 2003 Summer Edition*:82.
- ANONYMOUS. 2003h. US files case against EU policy on GMOs. *Seed & Crops Digest* **54**:10.
- APEL, A. 2002. AgBiotech today. *Seed & Crops Digest* **53**:38-40.
- APEL, A. 2003. US farmers back GM wheat. *Seed & Crops Digest* **54**:22.
- CUMMINS, R. 2003. Globalization and biotech under fire. *BioDemocracy News* **42**.
- GROOMS, L. 2002a. Biotech firms agree on "pharming" restrictions: The already tight regulations will be more rigorously controlled. *Seed & Crops Digest* **53**:4-6.
- GROOMS, L. 2002b. Prodigene situation underscores importance of bio-pharming stewardship. *Seed & Crops Digest* **53**:9.
- GROOMS, L. 2003. Economic impact of biotech wheat issue looms. *Seed & Crops Digest* **54**:6,8-9.
- GROUP, E. 2003. Monsanto's species wide patent on all GE soybeans. *Seed Saver's 2003 Summer Edition*:69-70.
- KUSHNER, G. J., and R. D. SHADRICK. 2003. Court considers seed industry rights and responsibilities: Intellectual property and biotechnology issues at the forefront. *Seed World* **141**:11.
- McKIE, R. 2001. GM corn set to stop man spreading his seed. *London Observer*, London, 9 September 2001.
- MONTAGUE, P. 2003. Bumpy road for biotech. *Rachel's Environment & Health News* **760**.
- POLLACK, A. 2001. Rebellious bodies dim the glow of 'natural' biotech drugs. *New York Times*, New York, 30 July 2002, F5.
- SHINKLE, P. 2003. Monsanto reaps some anger with hard line on reusing seed. *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, 12 May, 2003,

Publications

Continued from page 5

- People and Plants Conservation Series Six Volume SPECIAL OFFER:
<http://www.earthscan.co.uk/asp/bookdetails.asp?key=3588>
- Uncovering the Hidden Harvest
<http://www.earthscan.co.uk/asp/bookdetails.asp?key=3573>
- Applied Ethnobotany <http://www.earthscan.co.uk/asp/bookdetails.asp?key=3238>
- People, Plants and Protected Areas
<http://www.earthscan.co.uk/asp/bookdetails.asp?key=3287>
- Plant Invaders <http://www.earthscan.co.uk/asp/bookdetails.asp?key=3288>
- Biodiversity and Traditional Knowledge
<http://www.earthscan.co.uk/asp/bookdetails.asp?key=3595>
- Tapping the Green Market <http://www.earthscan.co.uk/asp/bookdetails.asp?key=3827>
- Helen Rose hrose@earthscan.co.uk
Phone: +44 (0)20 7278 0433
Fax +44 (0)20 7278 1142

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Poster Guidelines from the 2003 Julia Morton Award Winner

I had never presented a scientific poster at a scientific meeting. So to prepare for the Society for Economic Botany Conference 2003 in Tucson, Arizona, I began with an Internet search of "scientific poster presentations." Numerous sites appeared and I have chosen three that I found the most helpful:

<http://courses.washington.edu/~hs590a/weblinks/poster.html>

<http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/units/sel/bio/posters.html>

<http://www.swarthmore.edu/NatSci/cpurrin1/posteradvice.htm>

The first site provides valuable information on different software used to create a poster, i.e., Adobe, PowerPoint, etc. The second site discusses how to create, organize, and design scientific posters for many different disciplines at an undergraduate, graduate, or postgraduate level. It is replete with examples, reading lists, and links to effective poster presentation. I found the third site (my favorite is designed by Colin Purrington Ph.D. at Swarthmore) the most informative and practical for a first-time presenter. He provides you with a downloadable template for a poster. Since I am not the most computer-savvy, I did not have to spend hours trying to figure out how to create a poster on PowerPoint or sizing the fonts. Colin also provided simple steps and guidelines; for example, he provided a list of "What to Put in Your Sections"

Ethnobotanews

Plant Conservation, the Newsletter of the Center for Plant Conservation, www.centerforplantconservation.org, Spring 2003

US Fish and Wildlife has a 2003 budget of \$3 million, which is a short fall of \$134 million to relieve a backlog of listing of species. Therefore, a small amount will be designated for habitat designation while some is dedicated to processing decisions.

Rare and native plants often are imperiled due to the inability to easily germinate or propagate them. The Center for Plant Conservation and its collaborating institutions have been quite successful in growing these rare plants in tissue culture. Lyon Arboretum, for example, has been successful in growing *Kokia cookeri*, one of the rarest plants in the world. They have three seedlings. Bok Sanctuary is growing *Crotalaria avonensis* and *Cincinnati*, which has grown *Arenaria cumberlandensis*, is working with Missouri Botanical Garden to maintain it in their greenhouse.

with explanations, or "Tips" and advice on "Presenting Your Poster." After surveying many websites, I have found Colin's site concise, clear, and packed with information.

For some of you, these sites may be redundant but for others, I hope they will provide you with new insight into how to present a scientific poster at any type of scientific meeting. Best of luck too!

Submitted by Sarah Khan MS, MPH,
skkhan@pipeline.com

Lingua Botanica, the National Newsletter for US Forest Service Botanists and Plant Ecologists: Wild orchid species named after Princess by Ranjana Wangvipula, *Bangkok Post*, April 2, 2003, reprinted in *Lingua Botanica*, The National Newsletter for US Forest Service Botanists and Plant Ecologists, Volume 4, Issue 2, 2003.

Three wild orchids species recently discovered in northern Thailand were given the genus name *Sirindhornia* in honor of HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, whose prominent work includes plant conservation.

The new pink colored species grow only in northern Thailand. Dr. Weerchai Nanakorn, Director of the Botanical Gardens Organization said they were confirmed as a new genus after a three-year investigation in Denmark. He also said that 1,125 species of wild orchids have been found in Thailand and that they are protected by law and their sale banned.

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stating whether you
prefer a hard copy in
the mail.**

Classes

We are editing the class list and need your feedback about which classes are available, where, and by whom. Also, please read the list and verify your information. Thanks; please send corrections, additions, and deletions to Newsletter@Econbot.org

Graduate Classes and Undergraduate Programs in Ethnobotany, Fall 2003

(updated from Spring 1999)

Dr. Eugene Anderson
Dept. of Anthropology
University of California, Riverside
1327 Watkins Hall
Riverside, CA 92502
(909) 787-5523
anderson@ucr.edu
<http://anthropology.ucr.edu/people/anderson.html>

Dr. Gregory J. Anderson
Dept. of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
University of Connecticut
75 N. Eagleville Road, Unit-3043
Storrs, CT 06269-3043
(860) 486-4322
ander@uconnvm.uconn.edu
<http://www.eeb.uconn.edu/faculty/anderson/anderson.htm>

Dr. William Balee
Dept. of Anthropology/Tulane University
New Orleans, LA 70118
(504) 865-5336
wbalee@tulane.edu

Dr. Michael Balick
Vice President for Research and Training
Institute of Economic Botany
New York Botanical Garden
mbalick@nybg.org
<http://www.nybg.org/bsci/staf/balick.html>

Dr. Bradley Bennett
Dept. of Environmental Studies &
Department of Biology -- OE 210
Florida International University
University Park Campus
Miami, FL 33199
(305) 348-3586
bennett@fiu.edu
<http://www.fiu.edu/~envstud/faculty/bennett.htm>

Dr. Brent Berlin
Anthropology Dept./University of Georgia
265A Baldwin Hall
Athens, GA 30602
(706) 542-1452
obberlin@arches.uga.edu
<http://anthro.dac.uga.edu/faculty/bberlin.html>

Dr. Geoffrey Cordell
Program for Collaborative
Research in the Pharmaceutical Sciences
University of Illinois at Chicago
833 S. Wood St. mc 877
Chicago, IL 60612-7231
(312) 996-7253
<http://www.uic.edu/pharmacy/depts/PCRPS/education.htm>

Dr. Vaughn Bryant
Anthropology Dept. & Center for Ecological Archaeology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843
(979) 845-5255
vbryant@tamu.edu
http://nautarch.tamu.edu/anth/bryant/Bryant_Main.htm

Dr. Carmen Burch
The Sciences & Conservation Studies Dept.
College of Santa Fe
1600 St. Michael's Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87505
(505) 473-6584
cburch@csf.edu
http://www.csf.edu/pr/viewbook/con_faculty.htm

Dr. N. Dwight Camper
Plant Medicine and Toxicology Program
Dept. of Plant Pathology and Physiology
Clemson University
B10B Long Hall / Box 340377
Clemson, SC 29634-0377
(864) 656-5743
dcamper@clemson.edu
<http://www.clemson.edu/biosci/camper.html>

Dr. W. Scott Chilton
Dept. of Botany/NC State University
4115 Gardner Hall
Raleigh, NC 27695
(919) 515-3792
scott_chilton@ncsu.edu
<http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/botany/faculty/schilton/schilton.html>

City University of New York
(See Michelle Provenzano)
Columbia University
(See Michelle Provenzano)

Dr. Douglas Daly
Institute of Systematic Botany
CUNY/NYBG
ddaly@nybg.org
<http://www.nybg.org/bsci/staf/daly.html>

Dr. William Doolittle
Department of Geography
The University of Texas at Austin
Austin, TX 78712
(512) 232-1581
dolitl@mail.utexas.edu
<http://www.utexas.edu/courses/wd/>

Dr. Michael Dove
School of Forestry & Environmental Studies
Yale University
Sage Hall / 205 Prospect Street
New Haven, CT 06511
(203) 432-3463
michael.dove@yale.edu
<http://www.yale.edu/forestry/bios/dove.html>

Dr. Marja Eloheimo
The Evergreen State College
Library 3220
Olympia, WA 98505
(360) 867-6448
eloheimo@evergreen.edu
<http://academic.evergreen.edu/e/eloheimo/>

Dr. Hardy Eshbaugh, Emeritus
Department of Botany
Miami University
Oxford, OH 45056
(513) 529-4200
eshbauwh@one.net

Dr. Nina Etkin
Anthropology Dept./Univ. of Hawaii 'i at Manoa
2424 Maile Way
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 956-7726
etkin@hawaii.edu
<http://www2.soc.hawaii.edu/css/dept/anth/faculty/etkin/etkin.htm>

Ethics

Excerpt from Ethnobiology Working Group 2003. Intellectual Imperatives in Ethnobiology: Research, methodology, analyses, education and funding for a rapidly expanding field. NSF Biocomplexity Workshop Report, Missouri Botanical Garden.

Ethical Standards in Ethnobiology

When scientists who are located at different institutions choose to conduct collaborative research, they commonly develop a written agreement outlining the elements of the collaboration, including responsibilities, potential benefits, intellectual property agreements, and disposition of results. These agreements are usually intended to protect institutional, individual, and collective intellectual property that is developed or identified within the context of the collaboration. This is a crucial and complex requirement of ethnobiological research.

Even the most theoretical, intellectual, and non-commercial ethnobiological research cannot escape the fact that this research field impinges on the local people with whom they work. Researchers working with local or traditional peoples are in a position of trust at the interface between cultures. Ethnobiologists, therefore, find themselves in a position where the research process of gathering and publishing data has raised many ethical questions. In some cases, such knowledge is obtained only from traditional specialists within a community after the ethnobiologist has established credibility within that society and with the specialists concerned. Detailed information often can be obtained only after an extended period of interaction. Researchers inescapably have to earn, and find themselves in a position of trust to do their work, because ethnobiology is not only the study *of* people and their relationship to the natural world, but also *with* local people as colleagues, teachers, and research participants. We consequently enter into "collaborations" in which academic institutions and individual researchers form agreements with modern or customary governments, organizations, local communities, or corporations that secure the value of intellectual property generated by or identified through the collaborative research process. Recognition of the unique intellectual contributions made by research colleagues and their extended communities is a central theme of the ethical standards and

unique perspectives of ethnobiologists. It has also been widely recognized as a need by groups of indigenous and local peoples (Dutfield 2002).

In the past, some research has been undertaken without the sanction or prior consent of indigenous and traditional peoples, resulting in wrongful expropriation of cultural and intellectual heritage rights of the affected peoples and causing harm and violation of rights (ISE 1998). Also, the research process often has not contributed to capacity building of traditional communities and/or collaborating countries. In addition, research findings can be inaccessible to the indigenous/traditional peoples who provided original data and knowledge, with a lack of benefit-sharing mechanisms for commercial use of such knowledge or research findings.

Researchers in ethnobiology need to take into account the following.

- The recognition of the intellectual contribution made by local or indigenous communities or specialist plant users, such as herbalists, beekeepers, and master fishers, to the development, identification, and conservation of crop land races and new natural products and in environmental services;
- The equitable distribution of benefits from the use of their resources including their genetic or chemical structures, to assist people, and the conservation of biodiversity in their regions of origin; and
- Commitment to technology transfer, infrastructure development, capacity building, community-based education programs, policy dialogue, and local organizations to enable the development of crop varieties as well as new natural products and horticulture for the benefit of local and indigenous communities.

In response to the problems that can arise from the research process, codes of ethics, professional standards, and research guidelines have been developed by professional societies. These include guidelines for best practice developed by the American Anthropological Association (AAA 1998), American Society of Pharmacognosy (ASP), International Society of Ethnobiology (ISE), Society for Economic Botany (SEB),

Botanizing the Web



ECOLOG-L <http://www.listserv.umd.edu> is a listserv for people interested in ecology and designed for members of the Ecological Society of America (ESA). Subscription is free and is open to anyone. It contains information on jobs, funding announcements, discussions on ecological topics, and requests for help on technical issues. Be sure to read the manual on the website for special features and to set preferences (so you are not deluged when you are in the field, for example).

To sign up for the list, visit <http://listserv.umd.edu/archives/ecolog-l.html>
Submitted by Kris Stewart StewartKristine@msn.com by way of Campbell Plowden



Distinguished Economic Botanist—2003

Daniel Zohary—Distinguished Economic Botanist 2003

Following are two reviews of Dr. Zohary's presentation.

About 10,000 years ago mobile hunter-gatherers in an area called the Near East "arc" started to domesticate plants, particularly cereals, for human use. This development is one of the most important events of human history. For this year's DEB keynote address, Dr. Zohary spoke of the evidence he has obtained on the origin and spread of cultivated plants. To elucidate these origins, Dr. Zohary has gathered expertise in archaeology, botany, genetics, chemistry, anthropology, agronomy, and linguistics. However, his greatest skill may be as a detective.

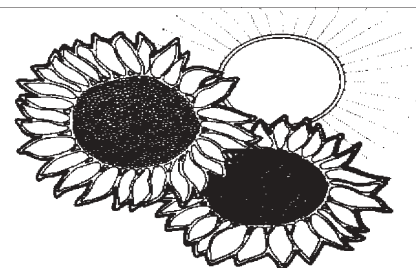
His description of the domestication of wheat and olives aptly demonstrated his synthesis skills. His research led him to conclude that plant domestication began rapidly in the Near East arc (others call this the "Fertile Crescent") and included cereals, pulses, and flax. The source of much of the evidence for these conclusions was information gathered from the examination of plant remains

in archaeological excavations as well as morphological and genetic evidence gathered from living plants. Genetic evidence suggests that wild ancestors were domesticated once and most likely occurred throughout the arc. Once domestication occurred, it spread rapidly (within 2,000-3,000 years) as a "package of grain crops" to all parts of the Old World. Somewhat later, archaeological and genetic evidence shows that sheep and goats had been domesticated, followed by cattle and pigs. The domestication of fruits—primarily olives, dates, and grapes—came later. Fruit production relies heavily on the invention of grafting, and since perennial tree and fruit production is a long-term investment, this development promoted the fully settled way of life. These early communities began an evolution of new technologies, political and economic structures, and eventually the rise of the city-states. Our thanks to Dr. Zohary for his succinct summary of a complex subject.

Submitted by Kristine Stewart,
StewartKristine@msn.com

Prior to the presentation by the DEB, a letter of introduction was read by Timothy Johns. The letter was written beautifully by Barbara Pickersgill, President 2001-2002, who was not able to attend because of illness. The DEB illustrated an intimate knowledge of the pre-historic and historic development of crops of the Mediterranean and Fertile Crescent regions. He spoke about differences in adaptations between wild wheat and human selections and the differing evolutionary pathways. He also briefly addressed domestication of olives and alluded to some of his parallel research on domesticated animals of the regions. It was a very interesting presentation that went late into the evening.

Submitted by Will McClatchey,
mcclatch@hawaii.edu



Field Trips

Grand Canyon

I had a fine time on the Grand Canyon Trip, which was organized by Wendy Hodgson. I think I can say that all the folks on the trip enjoyed it very much.

Wendy's wealth of information about all things related to the Sonoran Desert and beyond made the trip fantastic. She possesses a wealth of knowledge on the botany, history, ethnobotany, trails, hiking, etc.... That enriched our experience. She also included two other wonderful specialists, Helen Farley and Phyllis Hogan. These two women contributed immensely to a deeper

understanding of our environment at the Grand Canyon: history, native peoples, archeology, ethnomedical uses of plants, etc.... Just as important, we all enjoyed our trip together—the conversations, the laughter, food, networking, and the relaxed exchange among peers with a common interest.

For future SEB conferences, if Wendy is involved in any capacity, I would make sure to participate again.

Submitted by Sarah Khan skkhan@pipeline.com. Issac Bruck photos can be seen at <http://ethnobotanist.net/arizona/>.

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and Society for Ethnobiology (SE). Specific guidelines also have been generated by regional networks (such as the Manila Declaration developed by natural products chemists from the Asia-Pacific region (Cruz et al, 1993) and indigenous communities (Chapin 1991; Charter of Indigenous Peoples of the tropical forests 1992; Dutfield 2002; Carta de Sao Luis, Belem, Brazil 2001; and FOIRN/ISA 2000). Practical guidelines for codes of practice and of international agreements have been reviewed in Laird (2002). Adherence to these codes of practice is pivotal in peer-reviewed evaluation of research efforts.

The need for adherence to these professional standards also has been recognized by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) (NCI 1992; Schweitzer et al. 1991) and in research agreements for the ICBG research program in which NSF has played a role. This is a critical

need if international and traditional peoples' collaboration is to take place. In addition, unless research is linked to nationally defined priorities of partner countries and institutions, it is bound to be viewed with suspicion by both scientists and politicians in developing countries (Johns 1990). For this reason, even when ethnobiological research has a theoretical focus, it is important to involve international partner research organizations and communities in the process of developing research objectives, to ensure that they address local needs and problems. Furthermore, research results need to be returned to research partners in an appropriate way. Guidelines for this are given by Shanley and Laird (2002).

Prior to the conclusion of most collaborative research efforts, there are three

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Publications

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RARE BOOKS at Missouri Botanic Garden

The MBG Library has digitized William Woodville's "Medical botany," published 1790 - 1793. It can be viewed at:

<http://ridgwaydb.mobot.org/mobot/rarebooks/title.asp?relation=QK91C7431790V1>

Title: Medical botany : containing systematic and general descriptions, with plates, of all the medicinal plants, indigenous and exotic, comprehended in the catalogues of the materia medica, as published by the Royal Colleges of Physicians of London and Edinburgh : accompanied with a circumstantial detail of their medicinal effects, and of the diseases in which they have been most successfully employed / by William Woodville ...

Description: 3 v. (578 p., [210] leaves of plates) : ill. (copper engravings) ; cm. (4to in 2s)

Notes: The first 10 plates are unnumbered.

Includes bibliographical references and indexes.

Art Tucker
atucker@dsc.edu



Classes

Continued from page 8

Dr. Norman Farnsworth
Director, Program for Collaborative
Research in the Pharmaceutical Sciences
University of Illinois at Chicago
331A, PHARM, M/C 877
(312) 996-7253
Norman@uic.edu
[http://www.uic.edu/pharmacy/depts/pmch/
faculty_sites/Farnsworth.htm](http://www.uic.edu/pharmacy/depts/pmch/faculty_sites/Farnsworth.htm)

Dr. Suzanne K. Fish
Arizona State Museum/Univ. of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721
(520) 621-2556
sfish@u.arizona.edu
[http://info-center.ccit.arizona.edu/~anthro/
Faculty/faculty.shtml - sfish](http://info-center.ccit.arizona.edu/~anthro/Faculty/faculty.shtml - sfish)

Dr. Richard Ford
Anthropology Dept./ Univ. of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
(734) 936-2952
riford@umich.edu
http://www.lsa.umich.edu/anthro/faculty_staff/ford.html

Dr. Betsy Jackes
School of Tropical Biology
James Cook University
Townsville, QLD 4811
Australia
+61 (07) 4781 4574
Betsy.Jackes@jcu.edu.au
<http://www.jcu.edu.au/school/tbiol/Botany/staff/brj.htm>

Elaine Joyal
Department of Anthropology
Arizona State University
ejoyal@asu.edu

Dr. Susan Gerbi
Department of Molecular Biology, Cell
Biology and Biochemistry
Brown University
(401) 863-2359
Susan_Gerbi@Brown.edu
<http://biomed.brown.edu/Faculty/G/GerbiS.html>

Dr. David Meyer
Archaeology Dept./Univ. of Saskatchewan
Anthropology and Archaeology Building
55 Campus Drive
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7N 5B1
Canada
(306) 966-4175
meyerd@duke.usask.ca

Dr. Timothy Johns
Dept. of Plant Science/McGill University
Raymond Building, Room R2-019
21111 Lakeshore Road
Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec H9X 3V9
Canada
(514) 398-7847
johns@macdonald.mcgill.ca
<http://www.mcgill.ca/plant/faculty/johns/>

Dr. Beth Kaplin
Environmental Studies
Antioch New England Graduate School
40 Avon Street
Keene, NH 03431
(603) 357-3122 ext. 238
<http://faculty.antiochne.edu/EPfac/BKaplins/homepage>

Dr. Edward Kennelly
Dept. of Biological Sciences/Lehman College
City University of New York
250 Bedford Park Boulevard West
Bronx, New York 10468
(718) 960-1105
kennelly@lehman.cuny.edu
<http://www.lehman.cuny.edu/depts/biology/kennelly/>

Dr. Kelly Kindscher
Kansas Biological Survey
University of Kansas
2041 Constant Ave.
Lawrence, KS 66047
(913) 864-7698
k-kindscher@ukans.edu
[http://www.kbs.ku.edu/people/kindscher/
kindscher.htm](http://www.kbs.ku.edu/people/kindscher/kindscher.htm)

Dr. Walter Lewis
Dept. of Biology, Washington University
Rebstock 110A
St. Louis, MO 63130
(314) 935-6841
lewis@biology.wustl.edu
<http://www.biology.wustl.edu/faculty/lewis.html>

Dr. William Litzinger
Environmental Studies Program
Prescott College
220 Grove Ave
Prescott, AZ 86301
(602) 778-2090
http://www.prescott.edu/faculty/fac_Litzinger.html

2003 Annual Meeting

During the 2003 annual meeting the council met on many important issues that will springboard the society into the next century.

Membership is up 8%, 21% are students and our members reside in 26 countries. This is always great news and gives us the income we need to continue expansion of student scholarships and other awards. Also, with larger memberships, the council has greater ability to meet the needs of all members.

The Journal has been receiving many manuscripts, which has resulted in a small backlog. To relieve the backlog, the council has approved electronic submissions of manuscripts, added support for our Editor, and additional special editions.

Back issues of the Journal are available for the remainder of the year so don't hesitate to order your issues now from Allen Press for US \$5.00 each.

Don Ugent is seeking an individual to step into his role as his tenure as Editor is quickly coming to an end. He has uplifted the face of the Journal and we hope the new incoming Editor will continue the forward thinking.

If you are interested or know of anyone who would be interested, please write me, or any of the officers or council members through the website www.econbot.org



SEB's Tucson 2003 Meeting

Continued from page 1

There were several excursions and field trips available to the participants. Before the meeting Wendy Hodgson led a group to the Grand Canyon, while Ana Lilia Reina and Tom Van Devender led a trip to visit Tucson yerberías and the San Javier Mission. After the meeting, there were trips to the Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix (Wendy), the Native Seeds/SEARCH farm in Elgin (Suzanne Nelson), and the Chiricahua Mountains (Steve McLaughlin). These field trips increased our knowledge of the Southwest and were catalysts for many and varied discussions.

The Museum's beautifully designed desert gardens, auditorium, and restaurant were an excellent venue that allowed the interweaving of issues relevant to SEB through the five days of meeting. On the last day of the meeting, after the banquet, Prof. Daniel Zohary, the Society's Distinguished Economic Botanist for 2003 was honored. Prof. Zohary treated us to a wonderful presentation on the origin and comparative evolution of wheat and olives. To enhance his talk he brought some wild wheat heads from the Old World, to the delight of everybody. A cactus vine (*Harrisia* sp.) climbing an ironwood tree next to the banquet room came into full bloom during the presentation. It blooms one night a year with big white flowers and a sweet fragrance. It was another one of Mother Nature's desert treats for us.



Other awards presented included the Klinger Award to David A. Yetman and Thomas R. Van Devender for their book *Mayo Ethnobotany: Land, History, and Traditional Knowledge in Northwest Mexico*. The Fulling Award went to Eve Emshiller (Field Museum of Natural History) for her paper "Conservation and Evolution of Clonally Propagated Crops—What Do We Know?" with an Honorable Mention to My Lien T. Nguyen (University of Hawai'i) for her paper on "(Re)constructing Culture in the Vietnamese Diaspora: The Case of Cookbooks." The Morton Award went to Sarah Khan (City University of New York and the New York Botanical Garden) for her poster on "'Madhumeha': *Diabetismellitus* and Classical Ayurvedic Formulations for Treatment."

The 2003 SEB scientific programs opened with the daylong symposium entitled "Ethnobotany of the Sonoran Desert and Vicinity," which featured stimulating talks showcasing the intensive ethnobotanical work done in the Sonoran Desert and vicinity, mainly in the state of Sonora, México. It included the following titles: "Introduction to the Ecology of the Sonoran Desert Region," by Mark Dimmitt; "Economic Botany vs. Ethnobotany: What is the Difference," by Amadeo M. Rea; "Pre-Columbian Agaves: Living Plants Linking an Ancient Past in Arizona," by Wendy Hodgson; "Palms and Peoples in Sonora, México," by Elaine Joyal; "Columnar Cacti in Cultures of Northwest Mexico," by David Yetman; "Mayos and the Tropical Flora of Southern Sonora," by Thomas R. Van Devender and David Yetman; "On Plants, Women, and Health: Mayo

Domestic Medicine," by Noemi Bañuelos and Patricia Salido; "Sonoran Desert Plants Selected by the Seri Indians for Diabetes: Adaptations and Applications of *Opuntia bigelovii*, *Senna covessii*, *Rhizophora mangle*, *Bursera laxiflora*, and *Krameria grayi*," by Laura Monti; "Seri Ethnobiology Revisited," by Richard Felger and Mary Beck Moser; "Ethnobotany of the Maicoba Mountain Pima in Eastern Sonora, México," by Ana Lilia Reina and Thomas R. Van Devender; and "Beyond the Desert: Ethnobotanical Studies in the Sierra Tarahumara, Chihuahua," by Robert Bye. Contentious issues were especially evident in Amadeo Rea's paper. He argued that economic botany asks questions of how people use plants and label a particular Linnean species while ethnobotany uses folk taxonomy asking questions about how people perceive, label, and think about organisms in their environment. This presentation sparked a lively discussion to begin the symposium. The symposium was well received; it covered a new area (Sonoran Desert and vicinity) for many of the SEB participants and resulted in an exciting exchange of ideas.

The meeting concluded with a second symposium on "Ethnobotany in Southern Mexico," organized by Gary Martin, John Stepp, and Tamara Tickin. Other presenters included Brent Berlin, Eugene Hunn, Barbara Frei Haller, Daniela Soleri, Javier Caballero, Patricia Colunga-García, and Silvia Purata. Brent Berlin's thesis that people select as medicinal species the most common species in their local floras generated considerable discussion. Submitted by Ana Lilia Reina yecora@mindspring.com

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important procedural steps. Objectives, products, and local benefits of the research must be defined with local or indigenous communities so that the overall research will include issues of relevance to the community. The first step is verification of research results among the collaborators; the second is determination of the final disposition of results (publication) and assignment of collective or individual intellectual property (authorship). Ethnobiologists approach the first step in two ways: confirmation of results and final drafts of documents with cultural colleagues, and distribution of resulting documents within the communities in which information has been collected. Typically, special documents are generated that are suitable for local education efforts, are written in local languages, and/or contain information of interest to communities that might be of marginal interest to external communities of scientists. Approval to publish results is acquired from all knowledge stakeholders with deletion of information that is

considered to be sensitive, personal, or socially controversial/derisive. Intellectual property rights of publications are assigned as co-authorship, major acknowledgments of contributions, or receipt of patents, trademarks, copyrights or other warrants of value recognized by the international community. In some cases, ethnobiologists also may need to honor local cultural traditions of intellectual property rights management and ownership in ways that may seem to be inconsistent with western traditions. When in conflict, ethnobiologists honor the positions of their host cultures and colleagues above those of their own cultures/institutions.

We therefore recommend that the NSF and other funding agencies follow the lead taken by the NIH in the ICBG proposal format and redevelop the research application forms to assess whether researchers will be taking these ethical requirements into account.

Submitted by Jan Salick,
jan.salick@mobot.org

Classes *Continued from page 12*

Dr. Robin J. Marles
Dept. of Botany, Brandon University
Brandon, MB R7A 6A9
Canada
(204) 727-7334
marles@brandonu.ca
<http://www.brandonu.ca/botany/marles.html>

Dr. Will McClatchey
Botany Dept./Univ. of Hawai'i at Manoa
3190 Maile Way
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 956-6704
mcclatch@hawaii.edu
<http://www.botany.hawaii.edu/faculty/McClatchey/default.htm>

Dr. Rustem S. Medora
Professor of Pharmacognosy
University of Montana School of Pharmacy
Missoula, MT 59812
(406) 243-4943
medora@selway.umt.edu
http://www.umt.edu/oip/pub_directory/alpha/i-medora.htm

Dr. Paul Minnis
Dept. of Anthropology/Univ. of Oklahoma
26 Dale Hall
Norman, OK
(405) 325-2519
minnis@ou.edu
<http://www.ou.edu/anthropology/faculty/minnis.html>

Awards

Continued from page 3

DID NOT MEET CRITERIA TO BE CONSIDERED THIS YEAR

Kwa'ioioloa, Michaeo and Ben Burt, 2001. **Na Masu'u kia'I Kwara'ae: Out Forest of Kwara'ae.** British Museum Press, 46 Bloomsbury Street, London WC1B 3QQ - Nominated by Mark Merlin 26 Mar. 2002. [NO REVIEW YET]

Marles, Robin J., Christina Clavelle, Leslie Monteleone, Natalie Tays, Donna Burns, 2000. **Aboriginal Plant Use in Canada's Northwest Boreal Forest,** UBC Press and Natural Resources Canada, Canadian Forest Service. 368 pp., color illustrations, hardcover. ISBN 0-7748-0737-7. \$XX.Xx. [Nominated by Tim Johns, April 4, 2003. [REVIEW SENT BY TIM JOHNS, BUT NO COPIES RECEIVED BY COMMITTEE]

Nabhan, Gary P., 2001. **Coming Home to Eat: The Pleasures and Politics of Local Foods.** 288 pp. W.W. Norton & Company; ISBN: 0393020177. Nominated by Nat Bletter March 27, 2002. [review sent on Apr. 16, 2003]. NO COPIES SEEN BY HEW PRENDERGAST OR TIM JOHNS.

Daniel F. Austin, Ph.D.
Book Review Editor, Economic Botany
daustin@desertmuseum.org



Classes *Continued from page 14*

New York University
(See Michelle Provenzano)

Dr. Christine Padoch
Institute of Economic Botany
NYBG/ Yale University
cpadoch@nybg.org
<http://www.nybg.org/bsci/staf/padoch.html>

Dr. William Parry
Dept. of Anthropology/Hunter College
City University of New York
(212) 772-5657
wparry@hunter.cuny.edu
<http://maxweber.hunter.cuny.edu/anthro/parfld.html>

Dr. Sandra Peacock
Okanagan University College
7000 College Way
Vernon, BC V1B2N5
Canada
(250) 762-5445
speacock@ouc.bc.ca
http://www.ou.bc.ca/anth/departament_FACULTY.htm

Dr. Deborah Pearsall
Dept. of Anthropology
University of Missouri-Columbia
107 Swallow Hall
Columbia, MO 65211
(314) 882-3038
PearsallD@missouri.edu
<http://www.missouri.edu/~anthwww/people/pearsall.html>

Michelle Provenzano
Graduate Studies Program
The New York Botanical Garden
Bronx, New York 10458-5126
mprovenzano@nybg.org
<http://www.nybg.org/bsci/grad/>

Dr. Carlos Ramirez-Sosa
Dept. of Biology/St. Lawrence University
Canton, NY 13617
(315) 229-5810
cramirez@stlawu.edu
<http://it.stlawu.edu/~cram/>

Dr. Joseph R. Rohrer
Dept. of Biology/Univ. of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
355 Phillips Hall
Eau Claire, WI 45702-4004
(715) 836-5586
jrohrer@uwec.edu
<http://www.uwec.edu/Biology/Faculty/rohrer/rohrer.htm>

Dr. Enrique Salmon
Dept. of Anthropology/Fort Lewis College
1000 Rim Drive
Durango, CO 81301
(970) 247-7030
salmon_e@fortlewis.edu
<http://anthro.fortlewis.edu/ethnobotany/>

Dr. Andrea Schwarzbach
Dept. of Biological Sciences/Kent State Univ.
256 Cunningham Hall
Kent, OH 44242
(330) 672-3370
aschwarz@kent.edu
<http://dept.kent.edu/biology/Schwarzbach.html>

Dr. Beryl B. Simpson
Dept. of Botany/University of Texas-Austin
BIO 112
Austin, TX
(512) 471-7335
beryl@mail.utexas.edu
<http://www.biosci.utexas.edu/IB/faculty/SIMPSON.HTM>

Dr. Djaja Soejarto
Dept. of Medicinal Chemistry & Pharmacognosy
Program for Collaborative Research in the
Pharmaceutical Sciences
University of Illinois at Chicago
318 PHARM, M/C 877
(312) 996-8889

Dr. Tamara Ticktin
University of Hawai'i at Manoa
Botany Department
3190 Maile Way
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 956-3928
ticktin@hawaii.edu
<http://www.botany.hawaii.edu/faculty/ticktin/>

Dr. Nancy Turner
School of Environmental Studies/Univ. of
Victoria
Sedgewick Bldg., Rm. C135
Victoria, BC V8W 2Y2
Canada
(250) 721-6124
<http://web.ubic.ca/enweb/html/respect.htm>

Dr. Donald Ugent (emeritus)
Dept. of Plant Biology/Southern Illinois
University-Carbondale
Carbondale, IL 62901
(618) 536-2331
ugent@siu.edu
<http://www.science.siu.edu/plant-biology/emeritus/ugent/>

Dr. David Unander
Biology Dept./Eastern University
1300 Eagle Road
St. Davids, PA 19087-3696
(610) 341-5800
dunander@eastern.edu
http://www.eastern.edu/academic/trad_undg/sas/depts/biology/faculty.html

Yale University
(See Michelle Provenzano)

Dr. J. Giles Waines
Dept. of Botany & Plant Sciences
Univ. of California-Riverside
2117 Batchelor Hall
Riverside, CA 92502
(909) 787-3706
giles.waines@ucr.edu
<http://plantbiology.ucr.edu/people/faculty/waines.html>

Stanford Zent
Departamento de Antropología
Instituto Venezolano de Investigaciones
Científicas
Venezuela
szent@medicina.ivic.ve

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Classes

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Jan 6-17, 2004: Plants in Human Affairs January Intensive. Held in Hawai'i at the Ohana Keauhou Beach Resort on the Big Island's beautiful Kona Coast, this 4-credit, 12-day intensive course explores humanity's ago-old symbiotic relationship to plants. Team-taught by ethnobotanist Kathleen Harrison and ethnopharmacologist Dennis McKenna, this course covers the role of plants in the evolution of civilizations, wars, migrations, religion, spirituality, art, medicine, and science. Guest lectures by local experts and frequent field trips bring the subject alive in one of the most beautiful and biodiverse environments on the planet. This course is sponsored jointly by the Center for Spirituality and Healing at the University of Minnesota and the Kohala Center in Kameula, Hawai'i. For information and details of costs, credit, accommodations, etc., visit <http://www.csh.umn.edu/WhatsNew/index.html> or contact Nancy Feintheil: telephone 612 626-5166, email feintheil@umn.edu.



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Lawrence, KS 66044

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