



THE BUG'S BUZZ

Congratulations to **Dave Coyle** for winning a \$2500 grant from Applied Ecological Services for his research on root herbivory by invasive weevils in northern hard forests.

Thanks to everyone who participated in Science Expedition 2006 held at the Engineering Building on Saturday, April 1. Over 1800 people visited the Entomology site. Well done Insect Ambassadors!

Chris Williamson was recognized recently at the North Central Branch of the Entomological Society of America meeting, held in Bloomington, IL, March 26-29, 2006, by receiving the Entomological Foundation Recognition Award in Urban Entomology. Good for you, Chris!

Did you know that Stuart Baker began umpiring baseball games about six years ago? He started umpiring Little League so that he could work with his son, Jordan, who started umpiring when he was about 13 years old. Stuart obtained WIAA certification to umpire high school baseball two years ago and last year began umpiring area home talent league. During the summer months he typically will umpire 6-8 games per week. (He claims he gets every call right!!!)

Heidi Kraiss won 1st place in a poster competition at the recent 61st Annual Meeting of the North Central Branch of the Entomological Society of America, Bloomington, IL, March 26-29, 2006. Congratulations, Heidi!

Bugs n' Suds has become the social event of Russell Labs! Friday visitors have included our friends from Forest Ecology and Management, Plant Pathology, and most recently even the Dean. You are encouraged to join the camaraderie and fun. There are still a few Fridays left in this semester!

Great News! Dr. Russell Groves has accepted the Vegetable Entomologist position and all that that entails and will arrive in Madison with his family sometime late Summer.

Kenneth Raffa recently celebrated his 25th wedding anniversary with a trip to St. Croix in the Virgin Islands. **Dan Mahr** is currently celebrating his 25th wedding anniversary with a trip to Peru. Congratulations to both Ken, Dan and their wives!

Diagnostic Lab Highlights by Phil Pellitteri – "I have seen a number of spider samples this spring. More than half have been submitted as "Brown Recluse" samples. In over 28 years, I have only seen four examples of that spider - two were during the same week last year and were in breeding populations in Janesville and about six blocks west of campus. Everything this spring has been something else. The odd sample so far this month was lubber grasshopper nymphs (*Romelia microptera*) emerging from the potting soil from a plant in Manitowoc. This critter is normally found in the southeast. Sounds like a Menard's special. A number of adult female deer tick samples have come in during the last three weeks. With a new record of over 1,440 human cases in 2005 in Wisconsin, it is important to protect one's self when you are out in the field. Permethrin clothing sprays have performed very well and will kill the tick before it gets a chance to transmit. If there is no snow on the ground, it is tick season."

To date there are two new graduate students scheduled to arrive for the Fall 2006-07 Semester: Hannah Gaines (Gratton) and John Couture (Lindroth).

A Little Entomology Trivia:

In 1909, Harry Russell appointed the 1st Chair of the Department of Entomology. Who was it?

(The first person to submit the correct answer in writing to Helen will win a water bottle emblazoned with the departmental logo!)

Did you know that in Mary Domann's other life she and her husband have a family owned and operated greenhouse business called Domann's Plants? It began approximately 25 years ago to allow Mary the opportunity to provide extra income for the family while still being home with the children. Over the years, the entire family has become involved. Their three daughters have been active participants in all phases of the business, from planning to production to sales. Now, the next generation (6 grandchildren) is also taking an active interest, always wanting to help "do hard work" in the greenhouse. Look for Domann's Plants at various area farmers markets, including Saturday's Dane County Farmers Market on the Square.

Mark your calendars for Friday, May 5th (last day of classes)! EGSA will be sponsoring the **final Bugs n' Suds** for the semester in lieu of the International Dinner. EGSA will provide the meat (chicken, brats, burgers) and meatless alternatives. Plans are tentatively to have it on the cement patio and lawn area in the back of the Russell Labs building. A sign up sheet will be circulated as the date draws closer for sides, i.e. buns, etc. Set up time is scheduled for 2pm with food and drinks beginning around 3pm.

