

Entomological Society of Saskatchewan Inc.

VOLUME 18 ISSUE 1 ESS NEWSLETTER APRIL 15, 1997

Editor: Wayne Goerzen
107 Science Place, Saskatoon, SK S7N 0X2

ESC-ESA JOINT MEETING

Keith Moore, ESC Regional Director

The joint meeting of the Entomological Society of Canada / Entomological Society of Alberta will be held at the Crown Plaza/Chateau Lacombe Hotel in Edmonton, Alberta on October 4 - 7, 1997. Symposia will be held on "Biodiversity: What's Next", "Insects and Ecosystem Productivity", and "Fluctuating Asymmetry". Tentative Workshop titles are "Communicating Entomology", "Lygus Bug Management", and "Biocontrol of Field Crop Pests".

For additional information contact Dr. Bruce Hemming, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Alberta, Tel (403) 492-4173, Fax (403) 492-9234, e-mail "bhemming@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca".

A current Entomological Society of Canada membership list was included with the March, 1997 ESC "Bulletin"; the list contains members phone, fax, e-mail, and mailing address information.

NEW MEMBER PROFILE - REBECCA HALLETT

I moved from Vancouver to Saskatoon in October, 1996 in order to start a Postdoctoral Fellowship with Dr. Julie Soroka at AAFC. My postdoctoral research assignment is two-fold:

- i. the development of a rearing method for the flea beetle, *Phyllotreta cruciferae*, and
- ii. identification of mechanisms of resistance to flea beetles in *Brassica* and allied genera.

I completed my Ph.D. ("Aggregation pheromones of coleopteran pests of palms") in August, 1996 under the supervision of Dr. John Borden, as part of the Chemical Ecology Research Group, Centre for Pest Management, Department of Biological Sciences, Simon Fraser University.

I also did the Master of Pest Management Program at SFU. The research for both my Ph.D. and MPM was conducted in Southeast Asia, so living in Saskatoon is giving me many new climatic, cultural, agricultural, and entomological experiences.

My husband, Lawrence Murphy, is a psychotherapist and runs a counselling service, "Therapy Online", on the Web. We have one daughter, Asia, who is now 14 months old. Her favourite activities include puddle-jumping and playing the harmonica.

NEW SPECIES OF SASKATCHEWAN INSECTS

In the Collection of the Royal Saskatchewan Museum, Regina
 Ronald R. Hooper

LEPIDOPTERA

CECOPHORIDAE

Agonopterix lythrella (Wlsm.)

One specimen was collected by R. Hooper at Fort Qu'Appelle, SK, at an ultraviolet light trap, 13-VII-1995. Formerly west to Ontario and Illinois. The usual food plants are loosestrife and Saint John's wort, which have not yet been discovered at Fort Qu'Appelle.

Agonopterix pulvipennella (Clem.)

One specimen was collected by R. Hooper at Fort Qu'Appelle, SK, at an ultraviolet light trap, 29-V-1996. This eastern species has formerly been collected west to Cartwright, MB.

SESIIDAE

Carmenta mariona (Beut.)

One specimen was collected by K. Roney on a dry prairie hillside at Saskatchewan Landing Park, SK, 22-VI-1994. This species has formerly been collected north to Montana. This appears to be the first Canadian record.

ARCTIIDAE

Holomelina laeta (Guer-Menville)

On 9-VII-1995, J. Kozial collected several specimens of this species south of Armit, SK. This eastern species has formerly been taken west to Stonewall, MB.

COLEOPTERA

CARABIDAE

Stenolophus ochropezus (Say)

One specimen was collected by R. Hooper at an ultraviolet light trap by Roche Percee Regional Park, SK, 31-VII-1989. The identification was confirmed by G. Ball of Edmonton, AB. This eastern species was formerly collected westward as far as Aweme, MB.

CERAMBYCIDAE

Trachysida aspera brevifrons (H. Howden)

One specimen was collected at Tisdale, SK, by J. Kozial, 28-VI-1983. The identification was confirmed by Y. Bousquet of Ottawa. This subspecies was formerly taken west only to Ontario. The nominate subspecies occurs in British Columbia and Alberta. This important record for this species helps to bridge the gap between Ontario and Alberta.

CURCULIONIDAE

Thecesternus affinis (Lec.)

One specimen was picked up off the ground by K. Roney near Craven, SK, 23-III-1992. The identification of this specimen was confirmed by D. Bright of Ottawa. This prairie species of "Bison snout beetle" was formerly collected north to Alberta. Now we have record of its occurrence much farther east in Canada.

NEW MEMBER PROFILE - BRIAN GALKA

As I type this column for the Entomological Society of Saskatchewan newsletter, I think back to when I moved to Saskatoon about a year ago. The weather was similar to what we experienced in Saskatoon as a not so amusing April Fool's joke this year in the form of 13 centimetres of snow. As a native of Saskatchewan, I accepted snow in April as nothing out of the ordinary. I was looking forward to being back in Saskatchewan after a 13 year hiatus in Manitoba, where I did my Masters degree under the supervision of Dr. Reinhart Brust at the University of Manitoba and started my AAFC career.

Previous to that, I lived in Regina from 1970 to 1983 and had my first introduction to entomology as a "summer student" at the recently-closed Regina Research Station. The station was noted for its contributions to the field of weed and herbicide research; however, the father of my best friend at the time was an entomologist at the station. Many of you will fondly remember Murray Maw. It was through that work experience first as a "weekend waterer" and later as a summer student, that I got to know many of the people that I would see again some 19 years later as professionals employed with AAFC at the Saskatoon Research Centre.

Dr. Julie Soroka was one of the first people I encountered while at Regina. Back then I was just beginning my B.Sc. studies and Julie had yet to begin her Masters. Other familiar faces I saw upon my return were Dr. Gordon Thomas, Dr. Brenda Frick, Robin Wise, Scott Shirriff, Judy and Larry Hume, Joanne Derby, Margaret Malloy, Dr. Allan Cessna, and Dr. Garry Bowes. The summer of 1978, I worked part-time with Drs. Thomas, Hume, and Bowes. Part of my work entailed helping Brenda Frick with her Masters program on blue-burr. The next four summers were spent working for Dr. Garry Bowes, whose research focused on control of aspen poplar in Saskatchewan rangeland. The work was great and the pay was good even by today's standards.

As the summers went by I became fairly good at identifying rangeland forbs, woody plants and some of the grasses. The staff and students at the station were a small but close-knit group that excelled in research and made each day something to look forward to. Last month I went back to the Regina station for the closing tribute. It was something I somewhat dreaded, since I believed the mood would be sombre and many of the faces I had known almost 20 years earlier would now be a reminder of one's mortality more than anything. I was pleasantly surprised that this was not so!

After completing my Bachelor's degree in 1983, I was at loose ends for a job so I decided to pursue a Master's degree. After a very brief sojourn here with Dr. Bob Elliott and Dr. Cedric Gillott, I ended up at the University of Manitoba. I had begun a Master's program at the University of Saskatchewan, however funding did not come through and my transcripts, birth certificate and resume were lost in the mail when I applied to the University of Manitoba. At the University of Manitoba, I studied diapause in the mosquito *Aedes togoi* and graduated in February, 1987. The entomology department at the University of Manitoba was then a very active department with about thirty graduate students, six or seven undergrads, and six professors. It was a great learning experience and I look back fondly upon those days.

Soon I was scouring the job boards and ended up working on a contract with a friend of mine, Lloyd Saul, in monitoring and control of blackflies on the North and South Saskatchewan Rivers and the Torch River system. Twelve hour working days were not that uncommon. River treatments with methoxychlor and *Bacillus thuringiensis* always seemed to occur when the air temperature was 5°C and it was raining. Having been born on the prairies, I got an appreciation for how beautiful the woodlands of Saskatchewan could be. Unfortunately the contract was cut short after only three months, and I ended up moving back to Winnipeg.

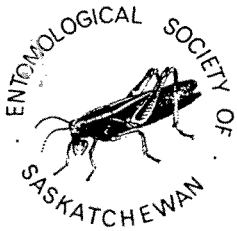
In October of 1987, I got a call from Dr. W. Turnock. Somehow Bill had heard that I was looking for work, and I agreed to a one year term, part of a joint federal-provincial program where I was to succeed Dr. Palinaswamy Pachagounder in conducting surveys of European Corn Borer, lygus bugs, cabbage root maggot, sunflower midge and pea aphid on various crops in Manitoba. Dr. Pachagounder had landed a permanent job as a research scientist at the Winnipeg Research Station (now the Cereal Research Centre).

The summer of 1988 was one of the hottest on record for the prairies. I had a crew of six students who were a tremendous help in collecting the vast amount of data in these projects. This was a term project, however, and I was looking for permanent work. In December 1989, I was successful in obtaining an indeterminate technical position under the supervision of Dr. Bob Lamb at the Winnipeg Research Station. I worked with Bob on various aspects of flea beetle biology in canola and later on photoperiodism of the potato-flax aphid, *Macrosiphum euphorbiae*.

From time to time people need a change in their lives, and in late 1992 I decided to try my hand at air traffic control. I had always had an interest in flying, and gliding was, and still is, one of my hobbies. At the time, Transport Canada was very short of controllers and had an agreement with other federal departments that could allow an individual to be seconded for up to six months with full salary while training at Cornwall, Ontario. Under the agreement, if the individual failed the course while still at Cornwall he/she would still be guaranteed a job (not necessarily the same job) with the federal government. Of the 2000 people that wrote the entrance exam that winter, only 12 applicants from Saskatchewan and Manitoba passed the interview and made it to Cornwall. Today, I know of only two people from my class that are currently controllers at Winnipeg. After failing the procedural IFR simulations I was back with Agriculture Canada.

My former position had been filled, so I was given the opportunity to venture into something new. I knew next to nothing about cereal breeding or cytogenetics but Dr. Jim Bole, director at the centre, suggested that they had a new program where the technology to develop double haploid wheat plants was just about to get underway. They were looking for someone to develop this technology so I joined the team headed by Drs. Taing Aung, Neil Howes, and Fred Townley-Smith. The project involved emasculation of wheat lines, followed by pollinating them with corn pollen. The corn contributes nothing genetically and a haploid wheat plant may develop if an embryo is formed in the process. The maturing roots are treated with colchicine which doubles the chromosomal complement, in effect giving two identical sets of chromosomes. The entire plant genome is homozygous dominant. Every gene present is expressed. This proved to be a great boon for cereal breeders, pathologists, and even entomologists, who used these new varieties to screen for wheat midge resistance. My colleagues and I were subsequently presented with an Innovation Award by the federal government for our efforts.

The federal budget then came in February, 1995, cutting many federal jobs. My position was one of the "affected" ones and I was given the option of taking a buy-out or moving to Saskatoon. I had heard that the University of Saskatchewan was one of the best in the country in the area of biotechnology. The Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada research centre was undergoing a major retrofit that would make it the new flagship for AAFC research stations. I found that Winnipeg was getting too big, and there was too much crime. It was time to head home, and here I am a year later. Currently I am working with Dr. Lorraine Braun at the AAFC Saskatoon Research Centre on evaluation of the effects of *Bacillus thuringiensis* on the midgut epithelium of *Mamestra configurata*.



MINUTES OF THE 1996 ANNUAL MEETING
November 28, 1996, 1:30 PM
Board Room Saskatoon Research Centre, AAFC

PRESENT: A. Arthur, L. Braun, M. Braun, J. Doane, B. Elliott, M. Erlandson, B. Galka, C. Gillott, L. Grenkow, L. Harris (President), L. Jeffs, G. Khatchatourians, P. Mason, N. Melnychuk, O. Olfert (Secretary), D. Peschken, J. Soroka, R. Weiss

1. Call to order at 13:30 by President L. Harris.
2. Introductions were made by all present.
3. **MOTION:** Olfert/Moore. THAT the agenda as circulated be approved.
CARRIED.
4. **MOTION:** Olfert/Mason. THAT the minutes of the May 10, 1996, meeting be accepted as circulated.
CARRIED.
5. Business arising from the minutes.
 - 5.1 Lloyd Harris reported on progress made to complete the film on insect pests of canola. 1996 was an excellent year to complete certain segments, footage is being edited, script is next. A number of scientists have agreed to co-operate in production of the script; insect biology and agronomic practices will be emphasized. It is expected that the film will be completed in 1997, and is expected to be 45 minutes in length. Approximately \$19,000 in donations were received to date, there are not likely to be any excess funds.
6. Treasurer's Report. Julie Soroka's report is attached as Appendix A.
MOTION: Soroka/Mason. THAT the treasurer's report be accepted as circulated.
CARRIED.

The Society's finances will require official audit this year, G. Khtachatourians to meet with the Treasurer to discuss naming an auditor.

7. Secretary's Report. In the past year the duties of the secretary consisted of drafting agendas, putting together the minutes, and forwarding correspondence to appropriate committees (eg. The Brooks Scholarship committee). The society still receives a free copy of "Proceedings from ESM" each year and various catalogues listing entomological books for sale; please see me if you wish to see the copy. There are still a large number of "Entomologists of Saskatchewan" available free for new members or sold at cost for other organizations. In 1996 the Secretary nominated the Youth Encouragement Committee for a national wards relating to promotion of science (Micheal Smith Award). Unfortunately, the nomination was not successful.

MOTION: Olfert/Braun. THAT the secretary's report be accepted as read.
CARRIED.

8. Newsletter. Wayne Goerzen submitted the following report to the membership; it was read by O. Olfert.

The ESS Newsletter, Volume 17(1), was published on August 14th, 1996. This issue contained the ESS spring meeting minutes and financial statement, an announcement of the ESS fall meeting tour, information on the ESC-AESC 1996 joint meeting, a report from ESC, and news from AAFC-Saskatoon and the University of Saskatchewan. Also included in the newsletter was a list of entomology courses offered at the U of S and a complete listing of the books in the ESS library. I wish to thank Keith Roney for contributing to the newsletter a very special tribute to Ron Hooper. The next issue of the ESS Newsletter will be published early in 1997. Any ESS members interested in submitting an articles for inclusion in the newsletter are invited to do so at their earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted, Wayne Goerzen

MOTION: Olfert/Soroka. THAT the Newsletter report from the Editor be accepted as presented.
CARRIED.

9. Regional Director's Report. Keith Moore presented the following report to the membership:

1. Pending Changes Related to the Strategic Review of E.S.C. Structure and Operations

a) Organizational:

- There will be a reduction in the number of Directors-at-Large from six to three.
- Positions of Assistant Bulletin Editor and Editor -Memoirs have been eliminated.
- Achievement and Awards Committee will select; Fellows, Honorary Members, Gold Medal, and Hewitt Award winners. Nominees (for Fellow and possibly for other awards) will now remain eligible for awards for several years without re-nomination.
- Scholarship and Graduate Research-Travel Grants and Student Awards Committees have been combined.
- Science Policy and Public Education Committees have been combined.
- 'Marketing' and 'Headquarters' established as continuing committees.
- Annual Meeting and Endangered Species committees are eliminated.*
- Number of members on the Finance and Common names committees have been reduced to four and three respectively (no longer mandated).*

b) Publications:

- Publication of *Memoirs* will be discontinued. (Two issues in final stages of preparation will be published in the coming year).
- Non E.S.C. Members will be allowed to publish in the Canadian Entomologist

beginning Jan 1 1997 with an extra page charge of \$10.00 per page.

-Manuscripts not submitted in electronic form to Can Ent will be levied an extra \$5 per page.

-Manuscripts submitted without a translated abstract or with a poor quality one will cost an extra \$50 in publication charges starting Jan. 1, 1997.

-The publications committee is exploring the possibility of contracting out copy editing as well as changing printers for *Can Ent* for a potential saving of up to \$40,000 per year.

-The dimensions of the *Bulletin* may be changed from 6 1/2"x10" to 6"x9" for a potential saving of about \$3000 per year.

c) Relations with Affiliated Societies

-Mandated regional representation on the Science Policy and Education Committee.*

-Conduct business with the SEQ in the French language as much as possible.

-Establish a section of the *Bulletin* to deal specifically with news from Affiliated Societies.*

-Continued support of Affiliated Societies public education programs.

-A WWW home page has been established to promote Canadian entomology, the address is: (<http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/esc.hp/homepage.htm>).

-Terms for financing future joint meetings are to be negotiated with the individual societies. There has been no consistent pattern in the past, however the preference of the board would be to advance \$4000 to the regional society with the first \$1500 of profit returned to the parent society, further profits being split 50/50. The E.S.C. will continue to backstop the meetings financially.

2. Annual Meeting Site Selection

-The site of the annual meeting in 1997 will be Edmonton, in 1998 Quebec City.

-The Site Selection Committee for the joint year 2000 meeting has chosen Montreal.

-The President and Governing board of the E.S.C. has asked me to enquire if the E.S.S. wishes to host a joint E.S.S.-E.S.C annual meeting in 1999?*

3. Other Items from the E.S.C. Board Meeting

-The Editor of *The Canadian Entomologist* has informed the board of his intention to resign (no later than Dec. 31, 1997), a replacement has not yet been found

-The E.S.C. will now accept MasterCard or Visa for membership or other payments.

-The total costs of the book project *Diseases and Pests of Vegetable Crops in Canada* was approximately \$194,000, split evenly by E.S.C. and C.P.S. At a sales volume of 400 -500 books per year the remaining 3000 books could be sold in 6 -8 years with the E.S.C. breaking even or making a slight profit.

Respectfully submitted, Keith Moore

MOTION: Moore/Eerlandson. THAT the Regional Director's report be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

10. Committee Reports.

10.1 Teaching of Entomology in Saskatchewan.

Cedric Gillott reported that a list of the entomology classes offered at the University of Saskatchewan was compiled and published in the ESS Newsletter. A similar list of courses offered by the U. of Regina will be compiled soon.

10.2 Common Names.

The E.S.C. Common Names Disk is being distributed through the head office (\$15.00 +\$ 3.50 shipping and handling + \$1.30 G.S.T. = \$19.80). Updates and corrections are; incorporated into new disks, e-mailed to registered purchasers, and are published in the *Bulletin*.

The E.S.C. Board has adopted the suggestion of the Strategic Review Committee to reduce the size of the Insect Common Names Committee to three members, (chair, English language expert, French language expert).

Respectfully submitted, Keith Moore

MOTION: Erlandson/Harris. THAT the ESS purchase a copy of the disk and that permission be sought from the ESC to produce hardcopies of the common names for ESS members

CARRIED

10.3 Amateur Encouragement

The E.S.S. has been involved in a number of projects in the last six months including:

1.) Presentations to classrooms and interest groups; 2.) Ecology summer camp for the U. of S.; and 3.) "Bug to School" promotion at the Circle Park Mall. (included a \$100 honourarium). Thanks to all the individuals who volunteered their time.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Melnychuk

10.4 Proceedings and Archives.

No report. The 1995 Proceedings was distributed to members in August.

10.5 Honours and Awards

No report.

10.6 A. R. Brooks Scholarship

O. Olfert reported that the society received 2 applications for the award in 1995. The applications have been passed on to the review committee comprised of C. Gillott, W. Chapco and C. Franke. The committee unanimously agreed that the scholarship should be awarded to Mr. Lloyd Jeffs, U. of S. President L. Harris presented Lloyd with a cheque for \$500.

10.7 Microscope Committee

No report.

10.8 Slide Library.

Report from D. Peschken attached as Appendix C.

10.9 Annual Fall Meeting.

L. Harris reported that 12 people attended the field trip to the badlands area of the Big Muddy in September, 1996. The two-day tour included a visit to the brick factory in Avonlea, museum in Willow Bunch, and the badlands associated with the Big Muddy river.

10.10 Nominations

J. Soroka reported the following nominations for E.S.S. executive positions.

President	G. Khachatourians
Vice-President	S. Hartley
Secretary	L. Grenkow
Treasurer	J. Soroka
Regional Rep.	K. Moore (Year 3 of a 3-yr term)
Auditors	W. Goerzen

MOTION: Soroka/Mason. THAT all committee reports be accepted as presented.

CARRIED.

11. Installation of New Executive.

In-coming President G. Khachatourians heartily thanked the out-going executive for their efforts on behalf of the society.

12. New Business**12.1** Spring Meeting.

Members present agreed that the Spring Meeting should be held in May, 1996 in the Saskatoon area at the President's discretion.

12.2 1999 Joint Meeting with ESC

The consensus was that the ESS could deliver on a joint meeting in 1999. A 3-member ad-hoc committee (G. Khachatourians, K. Moore and P. Mason) will examine the potential for program, theme, etc. After deliberations the President and Secretary will offer an invitation to the ESC.

12.3 Insects of the Yukon Book

J. Soroka read a letter from the Biological Survey Foundation requesting funding to support publication of the book. There was some discussion on the extent of ESC involvement in the Foundation

MOTION: Soroka/Peschken. THAT the Society pledge \$500 towards publication of the book.

CARRIED.

13. Appointment of Committees for 1995/1996

13.1 Representatives to E.S.C.

Common Names	K. Moore
Membership	O. Olfert
Scholarship	J. Soroka
Public Education	P. Mason

O. Olfert agreed to inform the E.S.C. secretary and the Bulletin editor of these appointments.

13.2 E.S.S. Committees

Newsletter: W. Goerzen

Teaching of Entomology: C. Gillott, G. Khatchatourians

Amateur Encouragement: B. Galka

Proceedings and Archives: K. Roney

Honours and Awards: C. Gillott, B. Elliott

A.R. Brooks Award: C. Gillott, B. Chapco, L. Harris

Microscope: J. Kozial

Slide Library: D. Peschken

Fall Meeting: G. Khatachatourians

Nominations: J. Soroka, O. Olfert

ESS Membership: J. Tranberg, L. Jeffs, C. Franke

14. Adjournment.

MOTION: C. Gillott. THAT the meeting adjourn at 16:00