

The Entomological Society of Manitoba *Newsletter*



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About the ESM Newsletter

The Entomological Society of Manitoba Newsletter is published three times per year. It is a forum whereby information can be disseminated to Society members. As such, all members are encouraged to contribute often. The Newsletter is interested in opinions, short articles, news of research projects, meeting announcements, workshops, courses and other events, requests for materials or information, news of personnel or visiting scientists, literature reviews or announcements and anything that may be of interest to ESM members.

Marjorie Smith, Editor¹
Kateryn Rochon Co-Editor²

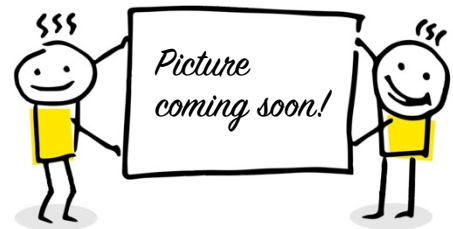
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Editors' Comments

Spring is finally arriving,
and at last, the ESM
Newsletter has broken
diapause!



First, I'd like to thank Jordan Bannerman, who is stepping down after five years in the Co-editor's chair, and helping to proof-read and format each issue. Jordan has moved into the Web Page chair – take a look at the ESM's website to see what Jordan has been up to:

<http://home.cc.umanitoba.ca/~fieldspg/index.html>

Welcome to Kateryn Rochon who is stepping into the Co-editor chair! Kateryn has volunteered to take on the proof-reading and formatting duties once performed by Jordan.

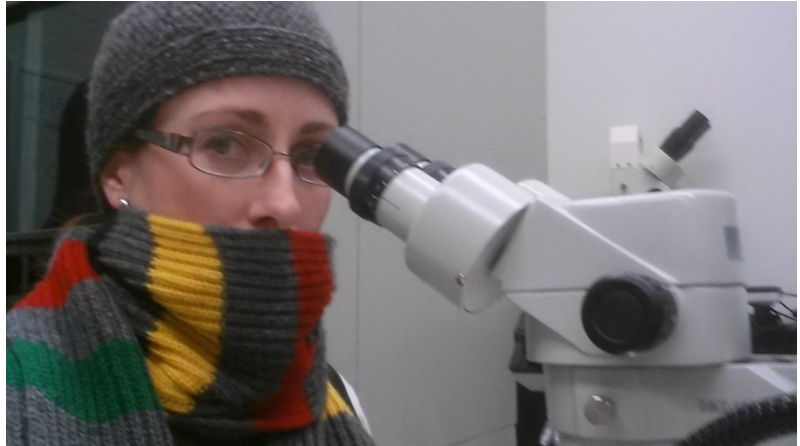
In this issue, we offer you a summary of our last AGM, the announcement of the first annual National Insect Appreciation Day on June 8, the recent retirement of two of our colleague entomologists, and a fascinating account of Todd Lawton's tiger beetle safari in northern Saskatchewan.

Marjorie Smith & Kateryn Rochon

President's Message

Greetings Fellow Entomophiles!

It is my pleasure to step into the role of president of this fine society for the 2018-2019 season. I believe exciting times lie ahead of us as the Executive Committees are bursting with ideas on how to improve societal function and propel us into embracing our role in the 21st century. On that note, I want to recognize the efforts of Jason Gibbs as Member-at-Large, Crystal Almdal as Youth Encouragement and Public



Education Chair, and our long-time (read: long-suffering) scrutineer, Colin Demianyk. These folks have given a lot of themselves to the ESM and its goals – make sure you thank them for their service the next time you see them! The Executive also welcomes new members: Tharshi Nagalingam as Member-At-Large, Emily Hanuschuk as the Youth Encouragement and Public Education Chair, John Gavloski as Scrutineer, and Alejandro Costamanga as President Elect.

The Executive Committee has had two meetings already this year and we've covered a lot of ground. There have been a lot of updates to how we do things as a society from finances to advertising. Speaking of advertising – have you checked the website lately? If not, you're in for a treat! Our webmaster Jordan Bannerman has been busy making things beautiful! Swing by and check it out!

In other exciting news, a National Insect Appreciation Day has been established! June 8th now hosts a fun way to share our love of insects with other Canadians. Why not organize a neighbourhood planting party to encourage pollinators to stick around? Maybe take the littles to a pond and see what they can scoop up. Share some pictures on social media of your favourite critters!

Of course, it would be silly to only talk about our interests on one day a year. Why not volunteer your time and expertise throughout the year? Throw the Public Education Chair a line and let her know if you'd be available to talk with schoolkids or fairground attendees this summer. There are also several committees looking for a few extra members – check out the website to see where you might fit. They would love to have you!

This Society has been around awhile, and that permanence is due to the great people who make up the membership. I can't wait to see what the rest of this year brings!

Stay frosty!

Erica Smith
ESM President

From the Regional Director

Exciting news from the Entomological Society of Canada!

As your elected Regional Director to the national society, I am thrilled to share with you the latest initiatives from the ESC.

First, the ESC is proud to declare **JUNE 8 “National Insect Appreciation Day”!** Let’s take this opportunity to share our appreciation of six-legged and eight-legged critters with others (6-8, get it?). Contact your local schools and museums and help promote this special day by organizing events. The ESC website will soon have resources for schools and museums to assist with the development of special programs. The ESC is also working to make this an officially recognized day in North America, with enthusiastic support from the Entomological Society of America.

Coming this fall, in time for the 2020 membership year, the ESC is establishing a new membership category for amateur entomologists: **Entomology Enthusiast Member**. This new category is meant to attract people who have an interest in entomology and/or are engaged in entomological pursuits (e.g. collects and/or studies insects as a pastime), but are not professional entomologists, nor are training to become professional entomologists. "Entomology Enthusiast Members" will receive an approximate 50% discount from the Regular Member annual membership dues, and shall gain online access to *The Canadian Entomologist* and other ESC publications.

The Student and Early Professional Affairs Committee is working to update the **Directory of Entomological Education**. You can find the directory here: <http://esc-sec.ca/entomology-resources/directory-of-entomological-education/>. If you can or wish to supervise or co-supervise students, please visit the directory to check if your name is on the list! If you wish to add your name OR if you wish to modify your existing information, please contact the Student and Early Professional Affairs Committee at students@esc-sec.ca.

And finally, do you have an entomology story to make Manitoba shine? Let me know! The ESC *Bulletin* (<http://esc-sec.ca/publications/bulletin/>) has a special section to showcase regions, and I need your help to show off all the great things we do. For example, the September 2018 issue showcased the Grassland Butterfly Conservation Program at the Assiniboine Park Zoo.

Don't be shy, tell me what else we should be bragging about! You can reach me by email here: kateryn.rochon@umanitoba.ca.

74th Annual Meeting of the ESM

The 74th Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of Manitoba was held in Winnipeg at the Freshwater Institute, Fisheries and Oceans Canada on 19 October, 2018 and at the Department of Entomology, University of Manitoba on 20 October, 2018. The theme of the meeting was “Invasive species: Impacts on forestry to managed pollinators”.

The ESC’s Joint Annual Meeting comes early in 2019
Mark your calendars! This year, the ESC joins with the Acadian Entomological Society (AES) and the Canadian Society for Ecology and Evolution (CSEE) **August 18-21** in beautiful **Fredericton, New Brunswick**. You can find all the details on the meeting website: <http://csee-esc2019.ca>. Registration opened April 5th, and Early-bird deadline is June 5th!

Friday began with the keynote address entitled “Managing insect invasions: what’s worked, what hasn’t, and some controversial new prospects” by Dr. Daniel Simberloff, Gore Hunger Professor of Environmental Science at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN.

The talk was followed by 16 submitted paper oral presentations (11 in the student competition), and 4 submitted poster presentations, all in the student competition.

As in other years, the “Meet-the-Speakers Mixer” was held Friday evening, generously hosted by Pat MacKay and Bob Lamb, where ESM meeting attendees and friends gathered for refreshments and conversation. The ESM student awards were presented at the gathering.

The meeting continued on Saturday with four symposium speakers:

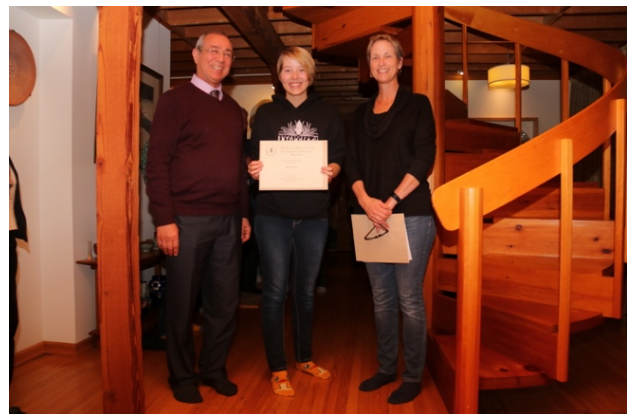
- “Dawn of the bloodsucking invaders” by Kateryn Rochon of the Department of Entomology, University of Manitoba in Winnipeg.
- “Bee-yond borders: exotic bees in North America and new records of native species for Manitoba and Canada” by Jason Gibbs of the Department of Entomology, University of Manitoba in Winnipeg.
- “Invasive species in Prairie agroecosystems” by Alejandro Costamangna, Department of Entomology, University of Manitoba in Winnipeg.
- “Emerald ash borer and other urban forestry problems that might arrive in Canada” by John Ball of South Dakota State University, Department of Agronomy, Horticulture & Plant Science, in South Dakota.

ESM 2018
Programme Committee
<i>Chair</i>
Robbin Lindsay
<i>Past Chair</i>
Paul Fields
<i>Members</i>
Erica Smith
Terry Galloway
Mahmood Iranpour
<i>Fund Raising</i>
Ian Wise
<i>Social/Refreshments</i>
Gina Karam
<i>Venue</i>
Cheryl Podemski
<i>Registration</i>
Sheila Wolfe
Sarah Semmler

The symposium was followed by a catered lunch and the Annual General Business Meeting.

ESM Student Awards, 2018: And The Winners Are...

The winner of the **ESM Student Achievement Award** was **Leah Irwin** (University of Manitoba). Leah will soon graduate with a B.Sc. in Biological Sciences, with a concentration in Evolution & Diversity and a minor in Entomology. Leah is an academically gifted student, and was one of the top students in every Entomology course in which she enrolled. She also has extensive Entomology-related work experience and, to date, she has worked as a research assistant for all but one member of the Department of Entomology at the University of Manitoba! Leah is broadly interested in Entomology, and has a special skill and passion for insect collection and curation and has used her talents to make important contributions to the curation and maintenance of the J.B. Wallis-R.E. Roughley Museum of Entomology.





This year's winner of the **Orkin Student Award** is **Nolan Novotny** (University of Manitoba), who is working towards a B.Sc. degree in Biological Sciences with a concentration in Ecology & Environmental Biology, and a minor in Entomology. According to Nolan, he decided that he wanted to “be an Entomologist and get a Ph.D. because ”insects are cool!” Nolan is well on the way to achieving the goals of his young self. He is a superb student, with top marks and excellent writing skills. He is currently completing his undergraduate honours thesis under the

supervision of Dr. Hare in the Department of Biological Sciences, studying slave-workforce optimization in slave-making ants. Nolan plans to pursue his M.Sc. with Dr. Hare, continuing his research on slave-making ants. Then he plans to pursue his Ph.D., then become a post-doctoral fellow, and then finally become a professor and establish his own research program and “teach to share knowledge and inspire future entomologists and biologists”. We wish Nolan all the best with his future plans: he is certainly off to a good start!

The 2018 **ESM Graduate Scholarship** winner is **Megan Colwell** (Department of Entomology, University of Manitoba). Megan has been enrolled as a Ph.D. student with the Department of Entomology at the University of Manitoba since 2014, and is supervised by Dr. Rob Currie (University of Manitoba) and Dr. Steve Pernal (Agriculture Canada). Megan earned her M.Sc. (Biology) in 2014, and her B.Sc. (Honours, Biology) in 2010, both from Acadia University. Megan's research focusses on identifying the effects of waxborne viruses on bees, and developing economical methods to reduce their impact. Megan has co-authored two papers in high-impact journals, and two technical reports. Her referees indicate that Megan is “not only a great scientist, but also a tremendously gifted communicator”. She has recently presented her work to beekeepers and at local, national, and international scientific meetings, and was the recipient of the Canadian Association of Professional Apiculturists Student Award of Merit for her contributions to bee research and service to the industry.



The **President's Prize for best oral presentation** at the 2018 Annual Meeting was presented to **Martine Balcaen** for her paper “What drives the spatial distribution of mosquitoes? Mark-recapture experiments and landscape-level modeling in Winnipeg, Manitoba.” The paper described work Martine completed for her M.Sc. degree at the University of Winnipeg, in the Department of Biology.

The **President's Prize for best poster presentation** at the 2018 Annual Meeting was presented to **Gina Karam** for her poster “Adult population dynamics of the stable fly (*Stomoxys calcitrans*, L.) on Manitoba dairy farms.”



IN MEMORY

Samuel Ralph Loschiavo (28 June 1924 – 9 April 2018)

by Paul Fields and Noel White

Sam Loschiavo died after a short illness at the age of 93, after a long a fruitful career as an entomologist, husband, father and community activist.

On June 28, 1924 Sam was born in Transcona, Manitoba, Canada to Frank and Catherine Loschiavo, immigrants from Italy. He earned his BSc, MSc and PhD from the University of Manitoba. While at the University of Manitoba, he served in the Canadian Officers Training Corps in preparation to joining the Royal Canadian Air Force.

He began his career in entomology in 1946 at the age of 22 as a summer student helping with the survey and insecticide trials of grasshoppers in Saskatchewan. He had a brief foray into European elm bark beetle behaviour research at the University of Wisconsin (1961-62), before he spent the rest of his entomological career studying the little brown beetles that so successfully infest stored products. His MSc thesis (University of Manitoba, 1950) was on the sublethal effects of DDT on confused flour beetle. His PhD thesis (University of Manitoba, 1964) was on chemosensory influence of some extracts of brewers' yeast and cereal products on aggregation and feeding behavior of the confused flour. From 1950 to 1956 he worked in Ottawa on the use of DDT to control flour mill insects, sublethal effects of fumigants and insect food preferences. He returned to Winnipeg in 1957 as a Research Scientist at the then Agricultural Canada. He served as Section Head of Stored Product Section from 1982-1984. He retired from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada in 1987.



His scientific work was productive and varied ranging from insecticides, insect behaviour, detection, nutrition anti-feeding compounds and attractants. He authored or co-authored 77 scientific papers in 19 different peer-viewed scientific journals and one US and Canadian patent. One of his many achievements was the invention of the probe pit fall trap (Loschiavo and Atkinson, 1967) that is used today in many forms around the world (Canada, USA, China, India and Europe). He did pioneering work on insect nutrient and feeding behaviour. He showed the insects could be used as a bioassay to estimate nutritive value of cereals (Loschiavo et al. 1969).

Sam was very involved in both the Entomological Society of Manitoba and Entomological Society of Canada. He served as president of the Entomological Society of Canada (1980), was a member of the steering committee for the 17th International Congress of Entomology, was named as a Fellow of the Entomological Society of Canada (1981) and elected as an Honorary Member of the Entomological Society of Canada (1988). He had many contributions to the local society, serving as the President of the Entomological Society of Manitoba (1988), as Secretary for several years and Editor of the Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Manitoba and trustee of the Endowment Fund. In recognition of his contributions and expertise in entomology he was given a lifetime appointment as Honorary Professor at the University of Manitoba.

Sam served and founded many community organizations and was a founder or co-founder of many, including, the still very successful, Folklorama. He was chair of several committees, vice-president of the Citizenship Council of Manitoba and the Folk Arts Council of Manitoba. He served on the Board of Directors for Citizens Against Impaired Driving, Manitoba Opera Association, Villa Rosa, Manitoba Grants Advisory Council, and the Manitoba Historical Society. In 1991, he received Citation for Citizenship from the Government of Canada in recognition of his work in the cause of citizenship and volunteerism. In 2000, he received Canada's highest civilian honour in being named to the Order of Canada. In 2002 he was awarded the Queen's Golden Jubilee medal and 2012 the Queen's Diamond Jubilee medal.

Loschiavo, S.R., Atkinson, J.M., 1967. A trap for the detection and recovery of insects in stored grain. *The Canadian Entomologist* 99(11), 1160-1163.

Loschiavo, S.R., McGinnis, A.J., Metcalfe, D.R., 1969. Nutritive value of barley varieties assessed with the confused flour beetle. *Nature* 224 5216, 288.

Walter Krivda (1932-2018)

by Robert Wrigley, Terry Galloway and Michael Leblanc



SOME MEMBERS AND GUESTS ATTENDING THE MEETINGS
Seated left to right: Mrs. R. GLEN; L. P. GREY; H. E. Mr. A. ADRIAN ROBERTS;
 P. H. H. GRAY; T. N. FREEMAN (front); W. KRIVDA; J. G. FRANÇLEMONT;
 O. PECK; D. C. FERGUSON (front); R. LAMBERT.
Standing, left to right: R. GLEN; E. G. MUNROE; Mrs. O. PECK; R. LEUSCHNER;
 B. P. BEIRNE; Mrs. B. P. BEIRNE; G. EHLE.

Walter Krivda (middle row, kneeling, with long black hair) attending the 3rd Lepidopterists Society meeting held in Ottawa in July, 1952

Walter Vladimir Krivda was born of Ukrainian parents in The Pas, Manitoba in 1932. During childhood and teenage years, Walter was fascinated with Nature, and could often be found catching insects, pressing plants, picking mushrooms, and wandering through the fields and forests around his home. Describing himself as timid young boy and speaking no English, he had a difficult time in school at first, but his language skills improved rapidly when he later transferred to a Catholic school, where classes were conducted in both French and English. After graduating from high school in 1952, Walter was hired at the Entomological Research Station in Ottawa, which greatly increased his knowledge of insects. He later pursued his education by attending United College (now the University of Winnipeg) and the University of Ottawa, where he graduated in 1954. His first job was teaching school (the only teacher for all nine grades) at Gillam, Manitoba, located at Mile 326 on the Hudson Bay Railway. The town consisted of only one street, and wolves were frequent visitors, as evidenced by tracks in the snow and their nightly howling.

In the following years he taught at Hecla and Virden, Manitoba, and in 1961, he became the first Park Naturalist for Riding Mountain National Park, headquartered at Wasagaming, Manitoba. In 1965 he transferred to Prince Albert National Park with an office at Waskesieu, Saskatchewan. At both locations, he documented plant and animal life, preserved natural-history specimens, prepared interpretive programs and displays, and gave lectures and nature tours for the public.

His next position was with the Canadian Wildlife Service in Edmonton, where his work focused on identifying plants and lichens related to big-game feeding habits. He apparently missed teaching because he accepted the position of Supervisor of Extension Services at the Vocational Centre in The

Pas, which evolved into the Keewatin Community College. Walter taught numerous courses over four decades, with one of his favourites being the Adult Basic Education Course which prepared students, who had been away from school for some time, to attend full-time college. Even in retirement, he continued tutoring students, and encouraging in them an interest in biology. In 1970, Walter was awarded a Manitoba Centennial Medal by the Manitoba Historical Society for his; “contributions to Manitoba in the teaching profession and for his many years of research in natural history and work for museums.” Walter was particularly active with the Sam Waller Museum in The Pas. He was well known to the staff and readers of the Opasquia Times newspaper in The Pas through his articles, such as his 2008 recommendation to band trees to protect them against cankerworms, and of course he took this as an opportunity to describe the entire life cycle of the moth.



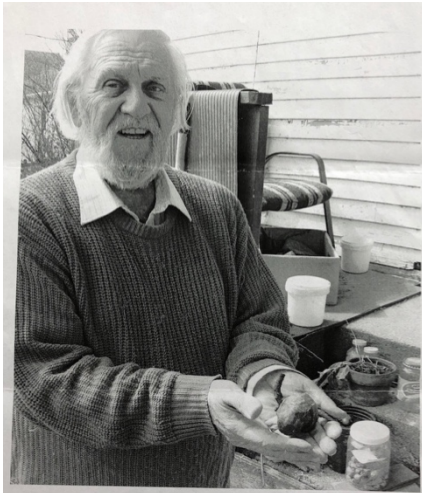
Walter posing with a tray of goliath beetles during a visit to Robert Wrigley's Winnipeg home in 2014. (photo by Robert Wrigley)

Wrigley first met Walter back in the early 1970s during Walter's occasional visits to the Manitoba Museum, where he spent the day happily perusing the research collections of plants and insects, and determining the identifications of his specimens. In later years, he sent in bottles of beetles from The Pas area (with Walter's penchant for thrift, preserved in mouth wash), which Wrigley mounted and deposited into the J.B. Wallis-R.E. Roughley Museum of Entomology. Walter frequently requested entomology books and spare beetle specimens so that he could teach local youth how to prepare and identify specimens, in the hopes they would take an interest in entomology. While interested in diverse natural-history subjects, two of his favourite projects were raising wasps from galls and tending varieties of garden plants. He encouraged Wrigley to plant his huge fava beans, a variety he emphasized were brought by his parents from the Old Country; he said they were excellent in soups (and they were).

One of his routines during the warmer months was to check out the street lights each evening for unusual moths. He corresponded frequently with scientists in Ottawa regarding the identifications of insects and plants, and recorded a number of distributional

records of species from The Pas. Walter was eager to share his exciting discoveries, and consequently, he frequently published his research, ranging from slugs and fungi to butterflies and shrews, in *The Blue Jay* -- the Journal of Nature Saskatchewan, Regina. Over the decades, Walter accumulated vast collections of plants, moths, butterflies, beetles, small mammals, and birds, and the authors are investigating (through the Provincial Trustee) where he planned to donate them. We want to ensure the safe disposition of his historically valuable collections.

Unable to type letters or labels, Walter's hand-writing style was notoriously challenging to decipher, so his occasional letters required some time and effort to interpret. However, he could readily talk on the phone for an hour or more, jumping from one topic to another, such as classical music, ancient history, and his family recipes. He was the ultimate story teller, with a breadth of knowledge (largely self-taught) that was truly impressive. Known to children of The Pas area as 'Santa,' and to adults as 'Uncle Walter,' he was recognized as a pillar and legend in the community. Kind, gentle, and generous of nature, he was quick to offer greetings to people on the street, and often handed fresh fruit and preserves from his garden to anyone walking by his home. Walter passed away on September 17, 2018 at the age of 86 years. He will be missed by his many friends in The Pas, and by his natural-history colleagues down south.



Walter appeared in an article in the *Opasquia Times* newspaper in The Pas on May 16, 2008, entitled, "Weird growth catches Krivda's eye." Shown displaying a large gall on the stem of a rose bush, he explained how the growth was caused by a wasp which had laid its eggs inside the rose stem, and would soon be covered in small holes where the young wasps escaped. (photo by Rob Lindsay)

Michael Leblanc grew up in The Pas where Walter was a long-time friend of the family. Every Thursday night Walter came by the house and over tea, crackers, and preserves, he would discuss insects, life, and solve all of the world's problems. Walter was always willing to give freely of information, and most loved discussing entomology. He was also very well versed in what was edible in the bush, and held many field trips with students and anyone else who wished to learn. He taught what mushrooms, berries, and other plants were good to eat, and then picked certain leaves for making tea.

Walter loved to teach and expand people's minds, loved his entomology and his insect collection, and his large collection of books, of which he had no doubt read each one. Even in the hospital, a few weeks before his death, he was still trying to teach, regaling visitors with stories from the history of The Pas, including Michael's son Riley during their hospital visit. Walter was full of knowledge and was willing to give it to anyone that wanted it. His loss is more than just a loss of a good man, but the loss of a lifetime of knowledge. Even though Riley only met Walter shortly before his death, he knew Walter through the stories his family would tell him. Riley's love for entomology was enhanced by the knowledge Michael gained from Walter and passed onto him. Walter will be missed.

The authors wish to thank to Michelle Locke and Vazrick Nazari (CNC) for submitting a photograph of Walter, and Sharain Jones (Museum Director, Sam Waller Museum, The Pas) for directing the authors to the following publication:

Krivda, W. 1983. In; The Pas Gateway to Northern Manitoba. The Pas Historical Society, The Pas, Manitoba. pp. 312-314.

<https://digitalcollections.lib.umanitoba.ca/islandora/object/uofm%3A2278811#page/326/mode/1up>
(accessed October 23, 2018)

Walter Krivda's publications in The Blue Jay

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|--|--|
| <p>1960. A record of <i>Boloria toddi toddi</i> double-brooded in The Pas, Manitoba. <i>The Blue Jay</i> 15(4): 181.</p> <p>1973. Macoun's Arctic in central Canada. <i>The Blue Jay</i> 31(3):184-185.</p> <p>1974 (with W.J. Cody). <i>Carex maratima</i> Gunn. An adventive sedge at The Pas, Manitoba. <i>The Blue Jay</i> 32(1): 25-26.</p> <p>1974. A white-banded say sphinx moth – new to Manitoba. <i>The Blue Jay</i> 32(1): 32.</p> <p>1976. Movement in spring peepers. <i>The Blue Jay</i> 34(1): 17.</p> <p>1976. Additional Manitoba records of the short-tailed shrew. <i>The Blue Jay</i> 34(2): 116.</p> | <p>1979. <i>Colias christina</i> habitat destroyed at The Pas, Manitoba. <i>The Blue Jay</i> 37(2): 89.</p> <p>1979. <i>Euptoieta claudia</i> in Manitoba. <i>The Blue Jay</i> 37(4): 200-201.</p> <p>1980. House sparrows feeding on <i>Malacosoma</i> moths. <i>The Blue Jay</i> 38(3): 189-190.</p> <p>1981. The pearly eye at The Pas, Manitoba. <i>The Blue Jay</i> 39(2): 82.</p> <p>1981. Hibernating bumble bees at The Pas, Manitoba. <i>The Blue Jay</i> 39(4): 195.</p> <p>1982. Giant water beetles at The Pas, Manitoba. <i>The Blue Jay</i> 40(1): 15.</p> <p>1982. Fungi preserving. <i>The Blue Jay</i> 40(2): 72.</p> |
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1982. White-faced queen wasp attacks crane fly at The Pas. 40(3): 153.
1983. Dispersal of the pearly eye at The Pas, Manitoba. The Blue Jay 41(1): 8.
1983. The rare *Epirrhanthis geometer* moth at The Pas, Manitoba. The Blue Jay 41(3): 141.
1984. Manitoba records for showy aster. The Blue Jay 42(2): 70.
1985. Chinese elm – a new food plant for the mourning cloak butterfly. The Blue Jay 43(2): 130.
1985. Sudden disappearance of morels at The Pas, Manitoba. The Blue Jay 43(3): 150.
1986. Ghost moth in spider web at The Pas. The Blue Jay 44(1): 5.
1986. Variegated fritillary breeding at The Pas, Manitoba. The Blue Jay 44(3): 166-167.
1987. American carrion beetle rare at The Pas, Manitoba. The Blue Jay 45(1): 3.
1987. The sticky groundsel at The Pas, Manitoba. The Blue Jay 45(3): 145.
1988. A rare migrant California tortoise shell butterfly at The Pas, Manitoba. The Blue Jay 46(2): 75.
1991. Mummified bats at The Pas. The Blue Jay 49(2): 105.
1993. Road kills of migrating garter snakes at The Pas, Manitoba. The Blue Jay 51(4): 197-198.
1997. Road kills of migrating garter snakes at The Pas, Manitoba. The Blue Jay 55(2): 137.
2001. Yellow underwing (*Noctua pronuba*), a new moth in Manitoba. The Blue Jay 59: 206.
2001. House sparrow swiftly kills and eats *Catocala* moth at The Pas, Manitoba. The Blue Jay 59: 210.
2002. European skipper at The Pas, Manitoba. The Blue Jay 60: 183.
2002. Common roadside skipper vanishes at The Pas, Manitoba. The Blue Jay 60: 226.
2003. Compton tortoiseshell deaths in abandoned cars. The Blue Jay 61: 126.
2004. Copper underwing at The Pas, Manitoba. The Blue Jay 62: 47.
2006. Large earthworm at The Pas, Manitoba. The Blue Jay 64: 112.
2006. Net butterfly records. The Blue Jay 64: 113.
2006. Crested shield fern (*Dryopteris cristata*) at The Pas, Manitoba. The Blue Jay 64: 173.
2007. European skipper population explosion at The Pas, Manitoba. The Blue Jay 65: 168.
2008. Pink Lady's slipper population at Reed Lake, Manitoba. The Blue Jay 66: 52.
2008. Showy lady's slipper, *Cypripedium reginae*, in disturbed habitat at The Pas, Manitoba. The Blue Jay 67: 178.
2011. Slugs as a control measure for burdock at The Pas Manitoba? The Blue Jay 69(3): 130.
2014. 99% population crash in grass moths (*Crambus* sp.) at The Pas, Manitoba. The Blue Jay 71(1): 60.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joint Meeting of the Entomological Society of Canada, the Acadian Entomological Society, and the Canadian Society for Ecology and Evolution

Fredericton, 18-21 August 2019 <http://csee-esc2019.ca/index.html>

46th Apimondia International Apicultural Congress

Montréal, 8-12 September 2019 <http://www.apimondia2019.com/>

14th International Symposium: Ecology of Aphidophaga (IOBC-Global Working Group meeting)

Montreal, 16-20 September 2019 <http://www.aphidophaga14.uqam.ca>

26th International Congress of Entomology (Entomology for our planet)

Helsinki, Finland, 19-24 July 2020 <http://www.ice2020helsinki.fi/>

Joint Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of Canada and the Entomological Society of Alberta

Calgary, 18-21 October 2020

Congratulations to Noel and Colin!

By Paul Fields

Noel White has retired after 37 years of working at AAFC. Colin Demianyk has retired after 40 years at AAFC. Their official retirement date was 24 April 2019. They have been working together since 1993.

Noel did his BSc and MSc at the University of Guelph. His MSc examined the use of predatory mites in apple orchards. He came to Winnipeg and completed his PhD on insect population dynamics in stored grain under the AAFC scientist Ranendra (Ron) Sinha. He then worked on carbon dioxide as a control method for stored grain as a Research Associate in the Department of Agriculture Engineering at the University of Manitoba under the supervision of Bill Muir and Ron Sinha. He did such a good job, AAFC hired him as a Research Scientist in 1981.

Noel has a long and varied career in stored product protection, covering insect ecology, insecticides, detection of pests, moulds and mycotoxins. He has been an author on over 300 publications, 20 reviews and book chapters and book on stored grain ecosystems.

He and Digvir Jayas (University of Manitoba) won the very prestigious Brockhouse Canada Prize for Interdisciplinary Research in Science and Engineering in 2008 with \$250,000 in research funding. Noel is looking forward to spending more time with his three grandchildren, two sons and their families.

Colin did his BSc, BSA and MSc at the University of Manitoba. His MSc was on the effect of the larger grain borer on stored corn as assessed by abiotic, biotic and bioenergetics variables. He began working for Ron Sinha as a technician in 1979 to 1992. He was then seconded to the Canadian Grain Commission for 1 year as their entomologist, Coordinator for Infestation Control and Sanitation Programs. He remained in the capacity of biologist upon his return to AAFC where he worked with Noel White from 1993 to this present day.

Colin has authored/coauthored 18 referred scientific papers, 4 book chapters and 63 technical transfer releases, reports and miscellaneous publications. Together with Noel they have shepherded over 70 PhD, MSc and postdoctoral fellows and were part of an AAFC, University of Manitoba and Canadian Grain Commission collaboration awarded the AAFC Agcellence award in 2000 for a CD-ROM on comprehensive grain storage protection.

Colin is looking forward to spending more time with his wife, Carole, two grandchildren, two children and their families, putting the final touches on their cottage near Lake of the Woods, and winning a few more vintage snowmobile races.



Colin Demianyk (left) and Noel White (right).

No Country for Old Men

By Todd Lawton

Originally the plan was to visit northern Saskatchewan for two weeks, in mid June of 2018, to collect *Cicindela*, Tiger Beetles. These insects require relatively sunny and warm conditions for activity but spring weather in northern Saskatchewan is often erratic. Favourable weather did not present until late in the first week.

The roads in far northern Saskatchewan vary greatly in their quality and condition. Most lead to mining operations, power projects or quarries. They are littered with abandoned vehicles, I saw about ten cars, it seems that the cost of recovering these vehicles exceeded their value. Northern roads were not made for small passenger cars; many are composed of sharp crushed rock from mining operations. A minor mechanical breakdown can bring catastrophic consequences when there is no cell phone coverage.

Highway 905 reaches above the 59th parallel, to the Wolliston Lake area, with a winter road extending to the eastern end of Lake Athabasca. It is heavily used by mining trucks and is in reasonable condition. It's reassuring when there are other drivers on remote roads; most of them were courteous.

I set-up in a campground by Courtney Lake, anglers had left several fish carcasses in the woods; I wondered if this would draw in bears. There was a new washroom building on site that had not been finished. I decided to repurpose it as a cabin for the night; the vents appeared to have mesh that would keep out biting insects. By morning I realized my mistake, black flies had entered, in abundance, and crawled up under my sleeping bag to find an unsuspecting host.

My interest was mapping the intergrade zone between *C. limbata nympha* and *C. l. hyperborea*. *C. limbata* prefer areas of open sand, in the north this is principally found on road cuts and naturalized portions of sand and gravel pits. They don't occur on fresh road cuts but soon appear once the soil settles and begins to get encroached by vegetation. Over time the sand is stabilized by lichen growth and *C. limbata* eventually disappears. The trick is to find sandy habitat that is not recently exposed and is not too stabilized. Few sand areas meet these criteria and far less are large enough to support more than a small number of beetles. This makes it challenging to collect series that are large enough to show the range in variation. There are also large sand areas that, for whatever reason, do not support *C. limbata* populations. It isn't clear why; I suspect it has to do with sand depth, exposure and/or moisture. I collected at a number of small sites along hwy 905 and eventually found a large sand flat with good numbers that I dubbed "*limbata* heaven." While walking sand flats in northern Saskatchewan I was surprised by the large number of wolf and bear tracks, both young and adults.



Left for scrap, an abandoned car on northern Saskatchewan highway 905. (Photo by Todd Lawton)



Seemingly great beach habitat for *Cicindela hirticollis* at Murison Lake, SK, but sadly they were absent.

Conditions continued to be sunny and warm so I decided to also survey hwy 955, in the NW portion of the province. This road extends to within 100 kms of Lake Athabasca. My hope was that I might find a population of *C. hirticollis athabascensis*. I had studied aerial photographs of the area and recorded the coordinates for apparent sandy roadside habitat and sandy beaches. *C. h. athabascensis* is only known from the Lake Athabasca area, they are large tiger beetles and can be blue or green as well as brown which is typical for the species. The habitat is only accessible by plane, boat/canoe or ATV and much of it is in protected areas where collecting is prohibited. All this makes it a desirable insect to find at new sites.

On the website “Dangerous Roads,” highway 955 is described as “very rough and it is recommended to carry multiple spares for each vehicle. The rough gravel trail includes sharp protruding rocks, bone-jarring “rough spots” and patches of soft sand.” Equipped with three spare tires and a jerry can of extra gas I headed north; what could go wrong? There were no hotels in La Loche so I drove to Clearwater Provincial Park in late afternoon; I hoped I could find a campsite. It turned out I was the only camper there; a couple boaters were in the area but they left in early evening. I set-up my tent and settled down for a much needed rest. I stared at the top of my tent both excited and a little nervous about what the next day would bring. I heard a muffled crunch outside my tent by my head, it sounded like a mouse or vole. Then I heard scratching against nylon and realized my tent was being abruptly pushed in over my feet. I yelled “HEY!” as loud as I could, there was no point in choosing my words carefully as I was fairly sure I was contending with a bear. I quickly found my glasses and unzipped the tent, cautiously peering around the side. Nothing. I stepped out, crouching by the tent as I peeked over the top, and there it was. A huge bear, or at least it looked big to me. Perhaps it wasn’t, I wasn’t really thinking clearly. What concerned me was the bear didn’t immediately run upon seeing me. I dropped to all fours and feverishly searched the ground for a small rock that I could throw. I became self-consciously aware that I was only in my underwear and hoped that I didn’t have a human audience. I found a rock and threw it causing the bear to lope away. I knew staying in the tent was no longer an option; I would have to sleep in the car. If I fold down my back seat it opens a trap door into the trunk, this creates a shallow and narrow passage where I can extend my legs into the trunk and rest my head on my spare tire behind the driver’s seat. There isn’t enough clearance to roll over and it’s terribly uncomfortable, but it is bear proof and that’s where I spent the night.

The following morning I was up at 6 am, sore and tired but ready for adventure. I found a couple small sites where there were limited numbers of *C. limbata* on the southern reaches of the road. It was a significant distance further to reach the sandy beach areas but I was willing to chance it. The condition of the road deteriorated as I wended my way north. I pushed on, against better judgment, driving over badly rutted sections and through drifts of gravel. I could barely contain my excitement when I finally reached the sandy beach. It looked perfect and I practically ran to the shore. But it was not to be; I found five species of tiger beetles but not *C. hirticollis*. Not about to give up, I spotted a thin strip of sand on the far shore of the lake; I convinced myself that *C. hirticollis* would be there. Reaching the site was not easy. I drove up the road to a point where I estimated the end of the lake would be. I took a GPS reading so I could relocate my car and headed into the woods. I soon hit a large expanse of muskeg, deep moss with criss crossed fallen trees. I remembered that I had a roll of flagging tape and

set out a trail. Walking was slow and difficult. I eventually reached a small rise and over the top was the beach! I immediately saw large tiger beetles flying into the wind and readied my net but unfortunately they turned out to be *C. tranquebarica*. In the north, habitat preferences can be atypical, *C. hirticollis* can be found away from water and *C. tranquebarica* and *C. limbata* can inhabit beaches. When I walked the beach for the second time, downwind, I began to see many *C. limbata* and collected a nice series. Smaller tiger beetles will often stay hidden when they are approached from downwind; if they attempt to fly they can lose control and be blown into the path of a potential predator. Disappointingly, there were no *C. hirticollis* but the beach was beautiful; it felt like a private beach in a tropical paradise. As I was preparing to leave I noticed there were hundreds of beetles on the rocks at the water's edge, I collected several, there were *Scarabaeidae*, *Buprestidae*, *Byrrhidae*, *Lucanidae*, *Lampyridae*, *Carabidae*, *Chrysomelidae*, *Cerambycidae* and others.

Filled with the warm glow that comes from physical exertion and a successful day in the field I began my journey to the south. But my good mood was to be short lived, within 10 minutes I blew a tire. It was completely flat within seconds. I immediately realized how challenging it would be to change a tire on soft sandy gravel.

Fortunately, I had a new hydraulic jack with low clearance and I hoped this would help; it did! As the car slowly rose the jack moaned and creaked, shifting slightly with the increasing weight. I prayed that the jack would hold and quickly changed the tire. At a time like that you realize the danger inherent in being in a very remote location (I once had a car fall off a jack, almost

pinning my arm, in Death Valley and it cost me \$700 to get the rental car back on the road). With a fresh tire in place I set off again. Almost immediately the engine light came on (I found out later it was a broken O₂ sensor, probably from bottoming out on the road). Another tire would be flat from a slow leak by evening.

I had a feeling that my luck had run out. I decided to return to Winnipeg after only five days on the road. My trip had been very successful, I had collected about 400 *Cicindela* specimens, gained a better understanding of the intergrade zone between *C. l. nympha* and *C. l. hyperborea* and made a range extension for *C. repanda*. I will probably return in 2019, with four spare tires, to complete my survey work.



The infamous highway 955 in northwest Saskatchewan.

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