

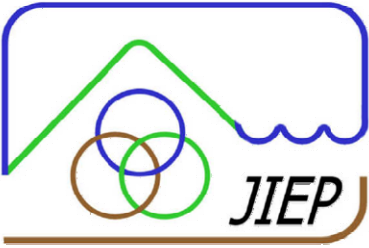


Photo credit: Karen McIntyre

January 2013

the environmental professional quarterly

JAMAICA INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



Volume 3, Issue No. 1

Welcome to the January 2013 issue of the Jamaica Institute of Environmental Professionals (JIEP) Quarterly Newsletter—The Environmental Professional Quarterly (EPQ). It is the intention that this newsletter will keep persons informed of the JIEP's activities and the environmental profession in Jamaica.

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New Genus and Species of Jamaican butterfly tops the list of (the) ten new animal species discovered in 2012

One of Jamaica's less recognized achievements in 2012 was that we topped the list of (the) ten new animal species with the finding from a University of Florida team of a new butterfly species in the Cockpit Country. Two of the discovery team members, Vaughan Turland and Tom Turner, kindly provided the JIEP with an exclusive perspective:

In 2006, I (Vaughan) set out to photograph all of Jamaica's butterfly species. Why, because most have never been photographed before. Little did I realize how difficult the task would be. It has been an amazing voyage of discovery, with around 4,000 hours been spent in spectacular surroundings, collating and documenting information.

Jamaica has 135 species of butterfly including 35 full endemics and 22 endemic subspecies. Many of these endemics are uncommon or rare, some are very rare and only known from museum specimens, and most have never been photographed in the field. Historically, Jamaican

JIEP MISSION STATEMENT
To maintain high standards of professionalism among our members in order to improve the environmental management capacity and practices in Jamaica.

butterflies have been described from pinned specimens and artist illustration based on these museum specimens. In many instances as a result of color fading and change which occurs with age, the descriptions are quite often incomplete or contain inaccuracies especially in relation to colour and detail. Whilst photography of live specimens also has its limitations, for example some insects rarely open their wings when perched, a combination of these media results in greater accuracy and increased knowledge.

In 2009 through a chance meeting, Dr. Tom Turner an eminent Jamaican entomologist agreed to work with me on the project. Very quickly, the project was expanded to include photography of immature stages. It is probably in this area that we have made the most new and exciting discoveries which are helping to determine the origin of some species and to reevaluate their status. During the course of this still ongoing project which we anticipate will run for several more



Troyus turneri allotype female (23 July 2011)

(Continued on page 4)

JIEP Spotlight Learie Miller MCIP RPP, EP

Learie Miller has worked in the Environmental field both locally and internationally for approximately 30 years. He had a fascination with the outdoors and was a founding member of the Blue Mountain Hiking Club when he attended Excelsior High School. It was therefore not surprising that he pursued Geography and Geology at UWI Mona as he went on field trips of the Jamaican Geographical and Geological Societies even as a 6th Form student. He graduated with an Upper Second Class honours degree majoring in Geography with minors in Geology and Economics and also completed with honours the Diploma in Management Studies.

Learie was the recipient of a Canadian Commonwealth Scholarship to the University of Toronto Institute of Environmental Studies and Department of Geography where he completed a collaborative Masters of Science (MSc) degree in Environmental Management and Geomorphology in 1989. He also completed a Masters in Spatial Analysis (MSA) degree from Ryerson University in 2004. In addition to his formal academic qualifications Learie has completed various professional courses over the years including Project Management and one on Environmental Economics and Policy Analysis from Harvard University. He is probably one of the few Jamaicans who has professional designations in both land-use planning and the environmental fields, as he is not only a Member of the Canadian Institute of Planners (MCIP) and a Registered Professional Planner (RPP), but also a Canadian Certified Environmental Professional (EP).

He has worked in many different spheres of the environment ranging from doing hands on activities to

providing senior policy advice and these included at different times of his career being a Soil Conservation Officer, a Watershed Management Coordinator, a Resources Planner, a Senior Policy Analyst, an Advisor in Environmental Planning and a Director for Conservation and Protection. He has also done consulting and was an Adjunct Faculty member of the Geography Department and the Management Institute of National Development. In all of these activities he has always learnt something new while gaining immense job satisfaction.

Probably best known for his contribution to the development of and subsequent work with NRCA and NEPA he has attributed his professional development and success to the guidance of excellent

professionals ahead of him in the system such as the late Jacob Taylor, Richard Thelwell and Cleveland Cunningham and others who are still contributing like Leonie Barnaby, Eleanor Jones, Beverley Miller, Paul Carroll, Don Rose, Franklin McDonald, Wendell Miller, Parris Lyew-Ayee Snr. and Fred Campbell. As a consequence and in giving back he has made sure to mentor many persons who were junior to himself in the system and tried where possible to advance their career through advice, facilitating where possible further studies and promotion.

Learie has served the Jamaican Geographical Society as council member and President and has been involved with JIEP since its inception. Learie has been married to Debbie-Ann for 28 yrs and they have a daughter and son.

Prepared by: Learie Miller

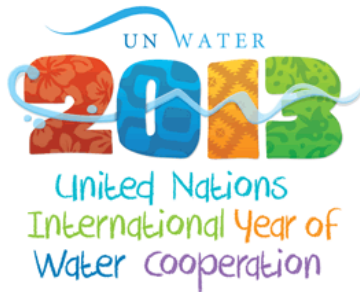


I conclude these reflections with a quotation which has meant much to me in recent years as I have entered the eighth decade of my own life and journeys. It comes from the title of Marshall Goldsmith's book (2007) on how successful people may become even more successful. It simply reads: "What got you here won't get you there". New thinking, new paradigms, new policies and new actions are what is required if we are to achieve sustainable human development and environmental integrity and justice for all, especially the poor, in this decade and the decades to come.

DR. BARRY WADE

Members Corner What is the year 2013 designated as?

The United Nations declared 2013 as the International Year of Water Cooperation (Resolution A/RES/65/154) , as well as the International Year of Quinoa (Resolution A/RES/66/221).



International Year of Water Cooperation

Issues regarding water education, water diplomacy, transboundary water management, financing cooperation, legal frameworks, and the linkages with the Millennium Development Goals will be highlighted and successful water cooperation initiatives showcased. The objective of this International Year is to raise awareness on the potential for increased cooperation, and challenges facing water management in light of the increase in demand for water access, allocation and services.

Read more at <http://www.unwater.org/watercooperation2013.html>

International Year of Quinoa (IYQ)

Quinoa, the 'golden grain of the Incas', has exceptional nutritional quality - high in protein, fiber and minerals, low in sugar and gluten-free. It is endemic to the coastal regions of Chile and the mountains of the Andean countries; however it is known to grow in varying agro-ecological areas and can withstand drought and poor soil conditions. The aim of the IYQ is to bring attention to the role that quinoa's biodiversity and nutritional value plays in providing food security and nutrition and the eradication of poverty.

Read more at <http://aiq2013.org/en/>



Past Events

Speakers Forum

CVSS National Volunteer Centre, 2D Camp Road, Kingston 5 - December 3, 2012

Barry A. Wade PhD., O.D., J.P and Chairman of Environmental Solutions Limited gave an insightful presentation on "Landlessness, Squatting and Environmental Refugees in Jamaica: A Role for Environmental Professionals" at the JIEP Speakers Forum held in December 2012. The event was a success mainly due to the thought-provoking presentation which led to one of our more riveting question and answer sessions. Resulting from this, many challenges to the JIEP to serve as custodians in some of the issues raised in the paper were noted. The JIEP Council has been in introspection to determine exactly what role we can play in the environmental landscape, given our volunteers and members.

An electronic copy of the presentation is available online at <http://www.jiep.org/drupal/content/jiep-speakers-forum-0>

Also, please take some time to complete the Speaker's Forum Poll at <http://www.jiep.org/drupal/content/speakers-forum-questionnaire>



Dr. Barry Wade (at podium) presenting "Landlessness, Squatting and Environmental Refugees in Jamaica: A Role for Environmental Professionals"



Audience listening attentively to Dr. Wade's presentation

(Continued from page 1)

years, we were fortunate enough in 2011 to discover a very small skipper near the town of Troy, Trelawny in the southern Cockpit Country which we could not identify. As we now know this turned out not only to be a new species, but Jamaica's first endemic butterfly genus, suggesting that it been present on Jamaica for a very long time.

The determination of the status of *Troyus turneri* A. Warren & Turland 2012, was a costly, complex collaborative international project involving several scientists from Jamaica and USA. Its success depended heavily on access to extensive overseas data bases of genitalia and DNA analysis by acknowledged experts in the study of Hesperidae and included Dr. Andrew Warren (USA) and Jamaican, Dr. Delano Lewis (McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity, Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida) as well as Dr. Tom Turner (Jamaica/USA), who studied at UWI, and for whom the insect was named.

Like all new discoveries, very little is known about the tiny Turner's Gold Striped Skipper, *Troyus turneri* at the present time. Only three specimens have been collected so far, all within the same quarter kilometer section of a woodland trail. We now believe the specimens, all found settled on foliage early in the morning, had recently emerged from pupae. Another puzzle is why this insect has only been found in a very limited location and why no adults have been observed in flight or visiting flowers. Quite amazingly, this trail has been visited by insect collectors and scientists for over seventy years and we have also visited this site for a joint total of over 250 hours. During this time no one has reported seeing this insect. We have no idea why it occurs only at this particular locality on the trail, but if the insect was crepuscular this could explain it as scientists visiting this site normally arrive no earlier than 0900 hrs and depart at about 1600 hrs. This theory has yet to be proved and the fascinating research continues.

Undoubtedly, there are many species of flora and fauna out there still to be discovered. In our own limited field, we have "rediscovered" species not seen for 70 years and others considered by some commentators to be perhaps extinct. Yes, there is a degree of luck in making discoveries, but much of it is simply down to detailed research, spending time in the field, and the ability to withstand the incessant bites of wood mosquitoes. Of prime importance though is the protection of the environment for the conservation of the flora and fauna, particularly of the Cockpit Country, where the need for constant high humidity levels is vital to the survival of the many endemic species now recorded only from these already fragmented forests. Without this, many animals, especially insects, undoubtedly including many species not yet described or recorded will simply become extinct. The humidity can be seriously reduced by any further cutting of the forest whether for trails, cultivations, mining exploration, mining, removal of large trees for timber, or the removal of saplings for fish pots and yam sticks. In fact we have evidence that even the brushing of existing trails can temporarily affect the appearance of certain butterfly species.

In summary, if we can stop the dreadful and ignorant devastation of our unique habitats and spend more time in the forests rather than at meetings or in the office, the next discovery may be just a field trip away.

Prepared by: Vaughan Turland and Tom Turner

Environment in the News

'We are going to lose our forests' NEPA, Forestry Department join hands to stem budding charcoal export trade

Read more: <http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/-We-are-going-to-lose-our-forests-13355374#ixzz2Ip7jbFWg>

Environmentalist questions use of ShoreLock technology for beach restoration

Read more: <http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/-Not-in-Negril-13285839#ixzz2Ip7tqwMU>

EU says pesticides linked to bee decline should be restricted

Read more: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-21277933>

President Obama, consider this your 'Need-to-Do' list

Read more: [http://www.greenpeace.org/international/en/news/Blogs/makingwaves/president-obama-consider-this-your-need-to-do/blog/43739/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+greenpeace/allblogs+\(Greenpeace+Blog+Aggregator:+All+our+blogs+in+one+feed\)&accept=cf2af9ac78426646bdf729e1c579df34&accept=0251760ca5837726121b55913d8bb327](http://www.greenpeace.org/international/en/news/Blogs/makingwaves/president-obama-consider-this-your-need-to-do/blog/43739/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+greenpeace/allblogs+(Greenpeace+Blog+Aggregator:+All+our+blogs+in+one+feed)&accept=cf2af9ac78426646bdf729e1c579df34&accept=0251760ca5837726121b55913d8bb327)

Dear Environmental Professional

What are your thoughts regarding the new butterfly species discovered in Jamaica?

Dr. Eric Garraway, Dept. Of Life Sciences, UWI

Although pleased with the discovery of a new butterfly species, Dr. Garraway was not at all surprised. He stated that it actually was not a novelty that a new Lepidoptera species was discovered and emphasized that Jamaica's insect flora was quite diverse, yet severely understudied. He further highlighted that at least one new, endemic insect species to Jamaica is discovered each year (inclusive of other butterfly species of the Cockpit Country); however, the rate and number of discoveries would be improved with greater human, literature, and museum resources. Dr. Garraway related several examples of insect studies where he was unable to identify groups of specimens below the level of genus. With several insect genera commonly having several many species, subspecies and/or varieties the potential for overlooking one or more endemic species was high. He commented that the diversity and distribution of Hesperidae (the skipper-butterfly family to which *Troyus turneri* belongs) and other large groups need further study as there may be other new skipper species in Jamaica. He went on to state that this issue, regarding the difficulty of taxonomic work on insects in Jamaica, could only be addressed with increased access to the aforementioned human, literature, and museum resources.

Regarding his thoughts about *Troyus turneri* being used as a "flagship" species for the Cockpit Country, Dr. Garraway concluded that public perception would be important if this new species were to be considered. Hence a public relations study and campaign (if feasible) would need to be executed.

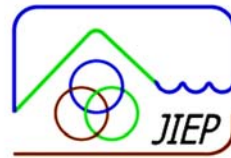
Prepared by: Philip Rose, JIEP Council Member

Dr. Kurt McLaren, Dept. Of Life Sciences, UWI

The general problem related to the management of the Cockpit Country is access. In the last decade, there has been an increase in deforestation rates, and this followed a period of general decline in deforestation rates during the 1990s. Deforestation to date is concentrated around the periphery of the forest, and the forest has been fragmented for the last 50 years due to an increase in the density of roads. Management options should include controlling access to the interior forest, as well understanding who is using the forest and why. The establishment of local forest management committees is a key step, as this will encourage stakeholder buy in. However, the socio-economic factors that drive deforestation are beyond the control of any single institution charged with the management of Cockpit Country because these factors are related to the status of Jamaica's economy, the availability of jobs (as most individuals who clear the forest do so out of need), and the enforcement of environmental laws/policies. A collective effort is needed from the top down (Government to local community members), to curb deforestation and to encourage habitat preservation.

Prepared by: Dr. Kurt McLaren

Upcoming Events



Calendar of Events 2013

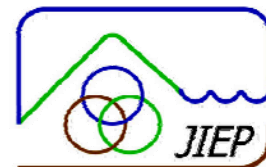
- JANUARY** JIEP Quarterly Newsletter (Volume 3, Issue No. 1)
- FEBRUARY** JIEP End of Year "Bokkle" Party
World Wetland's Day (February 2)
- MARCH** JIEP Speaker's Forum
World Water Day (March 22)
- APRIL** JIEP Quarterly Newsletter (Volume 3, Issue No. 2)
JIEP Link-Up
Earth Day (April 22)
- MAY** *International Day for Biological Diversity (May 22)*
- JUNE** JIEP AGM
United Nations World Environment Day (June 5)
Environmental Awareness Week (June 5 - 12)
World Oceans Day (June 8)
- JULY** JIEP Quarterly Newsletter (Volume 3, Issue No. 3)
- SEPTEMBER** JIEP Link-Up
International Coastal Cleanup Day (September 15)
International Ozone Day (September 16)
- OCTOBER** JIEP Quarterly Newsletter (Volume 3, Issue No. 4)
National Tree Planting Day (October 1)
National Wood & Water Day (October 2)
United Nations World Habitat Day (October 3)
- NOVEMBER** JIEP Speaker's Forum
Earth Science Week (November 9-15)

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Editor's Note

Happy 2013 JIEP members!! This January 2013 issue marks the 2nd Anniversary of the EPQ. Look forward to four issues this year (Volume 3): January, March, July and October. Please send your comments and any contributions for content to jiejsec@gmail.com.



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