Forest Insect Ecology



But first: the insectan mode of life.

(1) Saprophagous -- Feed on dead organic matter.

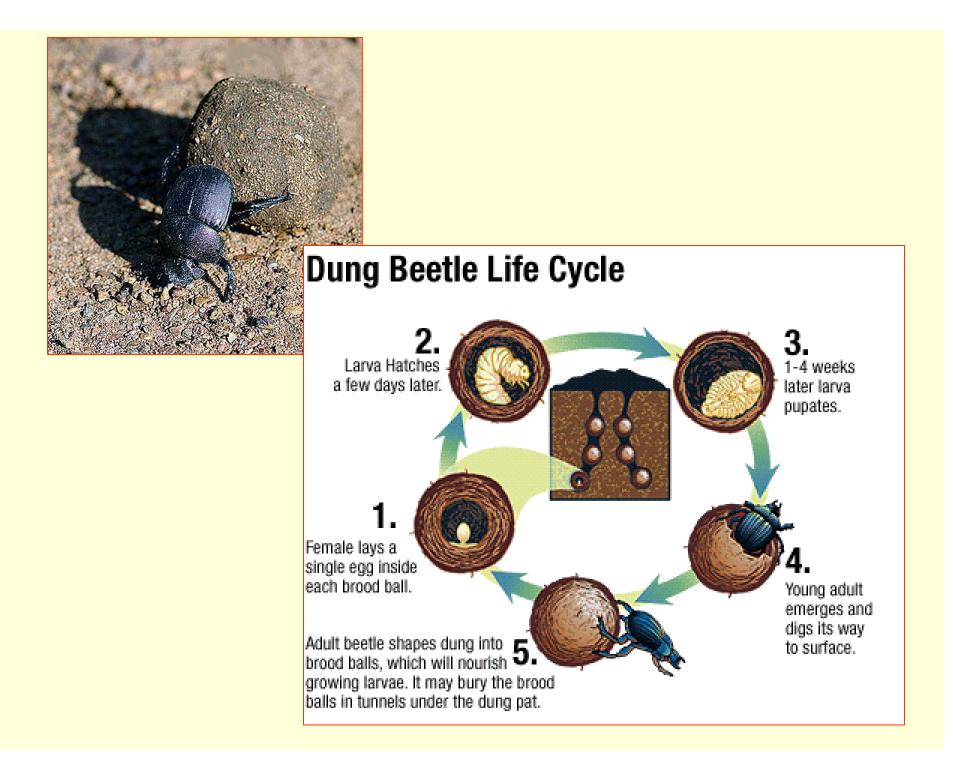
General scavengers
Humus feeders
Dung feeders
Dead plant tissues (woodborers, ambrosia beetles etc)
Carrion feeders

(2) Phytophagous -- Feed on living plant matter.

Leaf chewers (defoliators)
Leaf miners (defoliators)
Stem girdlers (barkbeetles)
Stem borers
Gall makers
Sap suckers

(3) Zoophagous -- Feeding in or on living animals

Parasitoids Parasites Predators



The carrion feeding beetles, Trogidae, and Dr. Chuck Baker.

Classes: I, II, III, and IV



Remember: Insect parasitoids always kill their prey.

It's not that entomologists who established the word "parasitoid" were from Brooklyn...

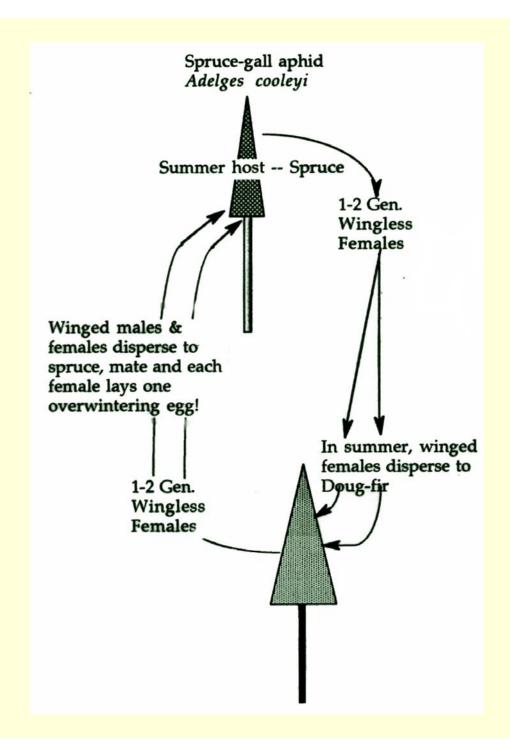
Toity poiple boids a-sittin' on de koib a-choiping and a-boiping and eating doity woims and their parasitoids.

A bit about reproduction in insects

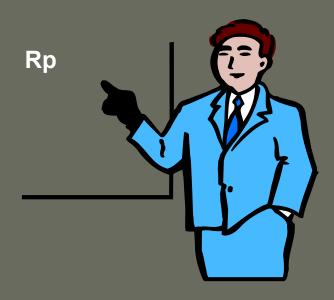


Reproduction can be:

- Oviparous
- Viviparous
- Viviparous
- By paedogenisis
- By parthenogenisis
 - sporadic
 - constant
 - cyclic



What factors determine how fast insect populations reproduce or the Reproduction Potential?



2 factors used in calculation of Rp: Fecundity & SR

Table 4-1	Fecundity	of	Some	Major	Forest-insect	Pests,	Determined by	Vari-
ous Means							4.5	2

Species	Eggs			
Spruce budworm (eastern)		359		
Gypsy moth		1178	4	
Forest tent caterpillar		327		
Saratoga spittlebug	(1)	15		
Balsam woolly adelgid	(')	248	12	
White pine weevil		115	Sex	
Pales weevil		107	<u> </u>	
Southern pine beetle		159	e.a	
Engelmann spruce beetle	± *	176	5.9	

xRatio: (no. females/population)

- collect 1000 pupae of WSBW
- raise them to adults

Authority

Brown and Cameron, 1979

Morris, 1963

Hodson, 1941 Ewan, 1961

500 are females

• SR =
$$\frac{500}{1000}$$
 = 0.5 (2)

As long as an insect population can breed without biological or abiotical restrictions, the reproductive potential is: Rp = Zⁿ

REPRODUCTIVE POTENTIAL OF INSECTS: RULE OF

Reproductive Potential: $Rp = Z^n$

Where: Rp is Reproductive Potential

Z = (Fecundity)(Sex Ratio)

n = Number Generations per Yr.

Fecundity = The average number of eggs laid/female.

Sex Ratio = No. Females
No. of Individuals
in the sample

An example:

Western spruce budworm (WSBW)

- Fecundity = 175eggs/female
- -SR = 0.5
- One generation/yr

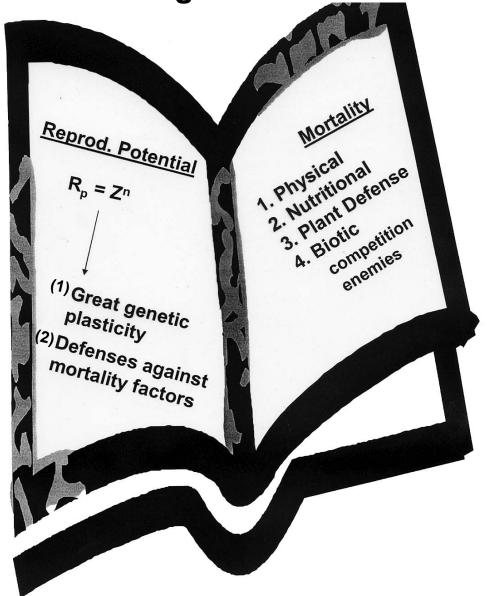
$$Rp = [(175)(0.5)]^1$$

So, 1 female can produce 87.5 new individuals



What about the great ledger of life?





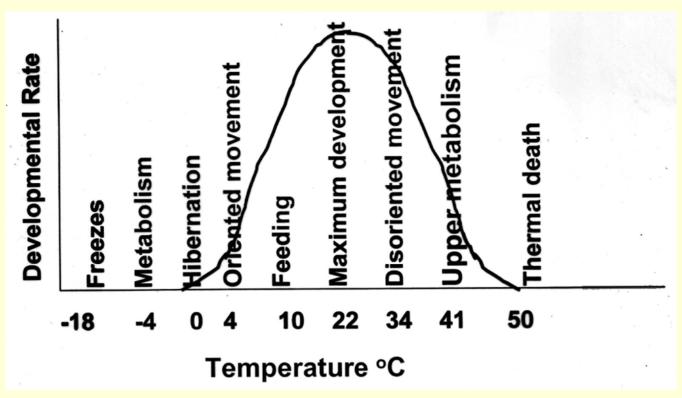
Mortality factors work against the Rp:

- 1. Physical: weather, moisture, light
- 2. Nutritional: qualitative and quantitative
- 3. Biotic: natural regulation by living factors

Physical mortality-factor: temperature

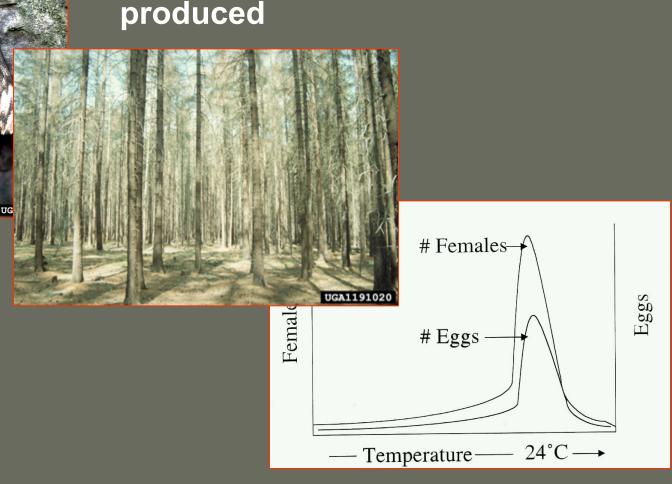
Most important factor in regulating insect numbers, but each species has a definite temperature range within in which it lives or dies.



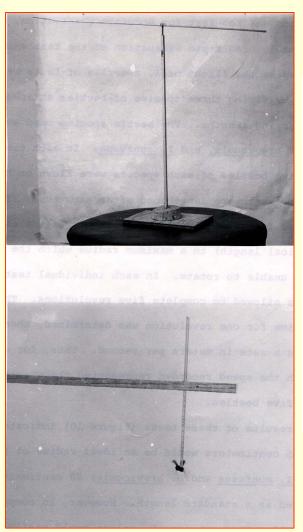


A European Example

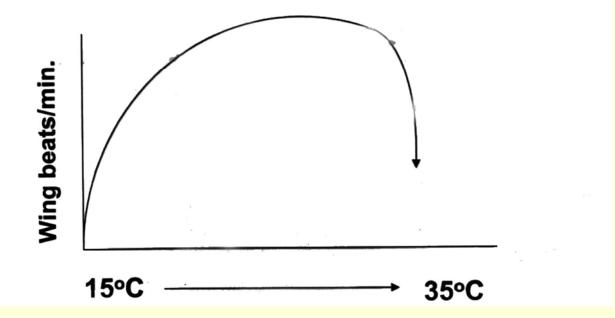
It's not clear why, but at an optimal temperature more female nun moths, *Lymantria monacha,* are produced



Wingbeat frequency of the DFB



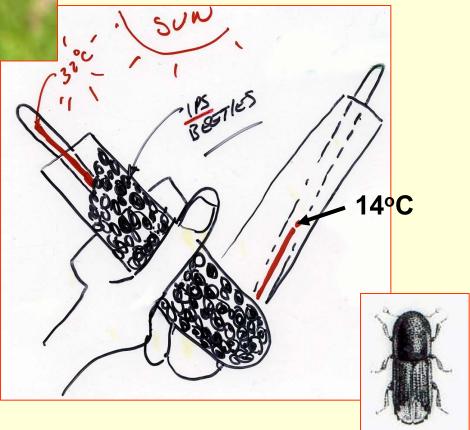
Douglas-fir beetle, Dendroctonus pseudotsugae





As insects have certain temperature ranges for flight, look for sun-basking

- cerambycids
- bumblebees
- flies etc.



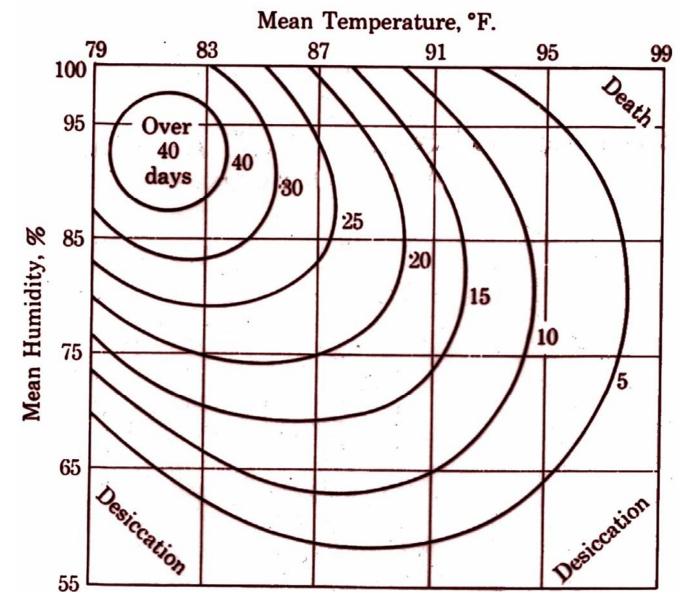
Mortality-factor: moisture

- Under favorable moisture conditions, forest insects are less susceptible to temperature extremes.
- Forest insects have definite combinations of temperature and humidity regimes that are either lethal or beneficial.

Zones of maximum life of an adult cerambycid, Hoplocerambyx spinicornis, at different combinations of temperature and relative humidity.



Habitat Parameters

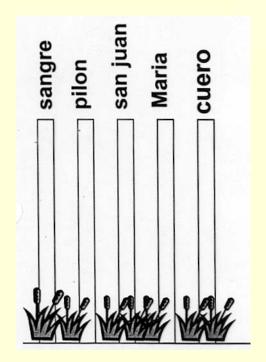


Studies with Xyleborus ferrugineus and moisture



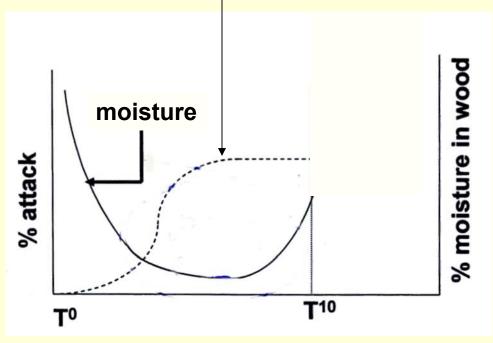
Posts of: "sangre, pilon, San Juan, Maria and cuero de sapo."





Xyleborus attack leveled off





Attacks leveled off as the host material became drier?

Why?

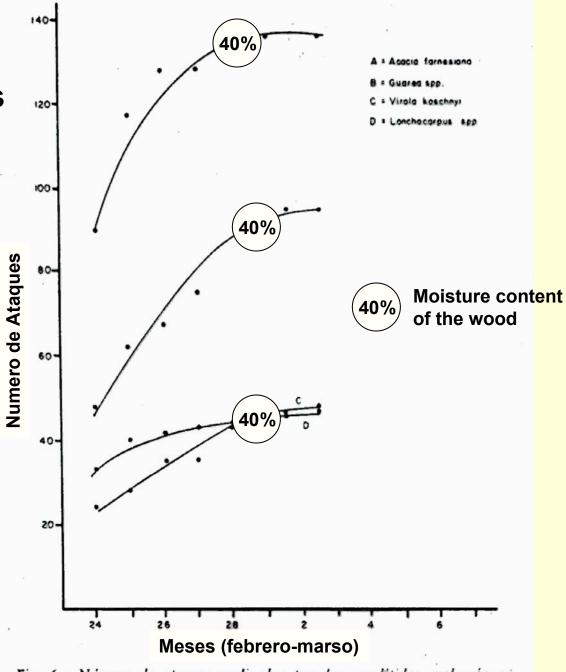
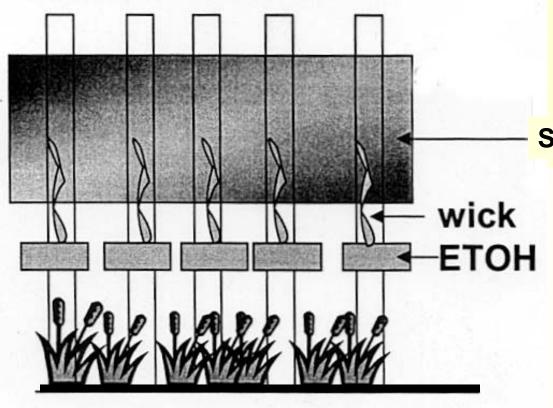
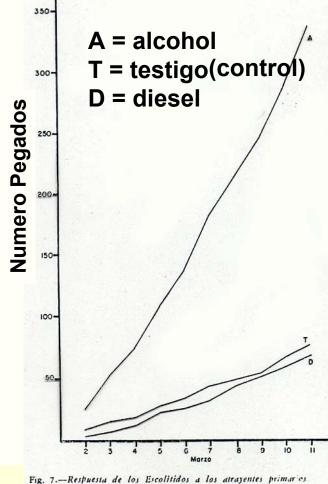


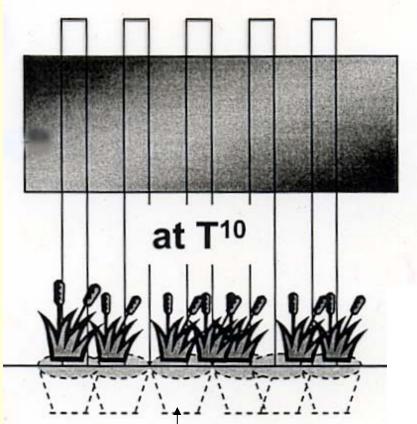
Fig. 6.—Número de ataques realizados por los escolitidos ambrosia a cuatro especies de madera.



Ok, ambrosia beetles were attracted but no new attacks.

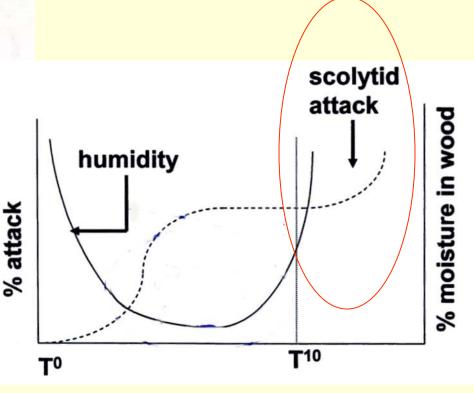
Stikum-special





Plastic wash basins with water.

The importance of humidity in life of ambrosia beetles.

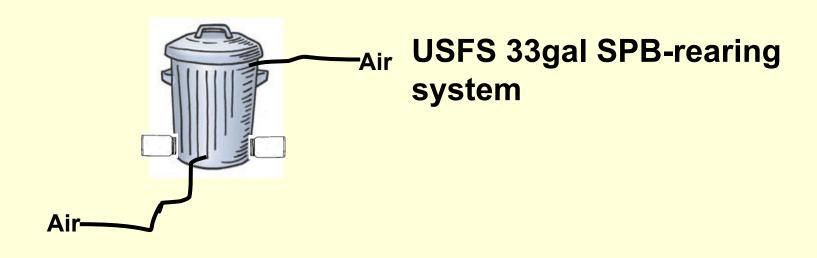


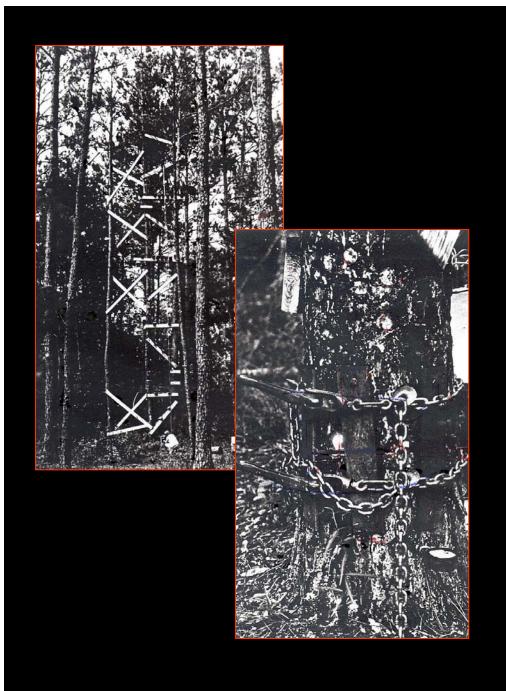


Rearing the southern pinebeetle in winter



SPB-rearing house at BTI lab

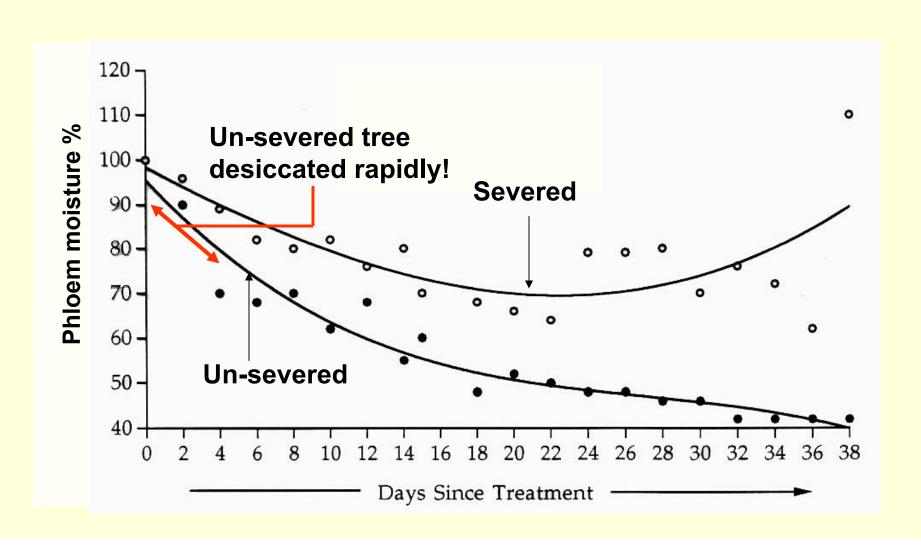




A severed loblolly pine and an un-severed pine:

- a circular plug was cut out of each tree twice a day;
- the phloem temperature and moisture content were determined for each plug.
- both trees were baited with the SPB pheromone.

<u>Ultimate Results</u>: SPBs didn't survive in the severed tree – broods were drenched and covered with mold



SPB emergence holes as well as "respiration holes"

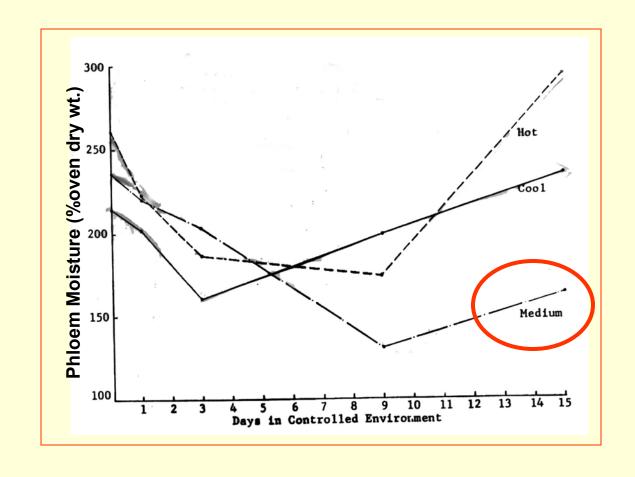


As they cut their egg galleries they also punch out these "respiration holes" – really to obtain a fast desiccation rate of the phloem

Rearing SPB in logs represented a medium temp/humid regime

Rearing chamber





Medium SPB rearing regime

GAUMER & GARA-SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE

Table 3.—Effects of regimes maintained in environmental chambers on emergence time, pupal weight, and increase ratio of D. frontalis broods

Regimes		No. of	beetles	Average	Average	Ratio of
Temperature, C.	R.H., %	Attacking, sq. ft.	Emerging, sq. ft.	emergence time, days	pupal wt.,	increase
14-16	60-70	26.5	172	46	31	3 - 24
20-22	60-70	24.5	131	31	24	2.67
20-22	50-60	27.4	215	31	127	3.93
26-28	40-50	28.8	149	30	22	2.58
34-36	40-50	26.9	177	29	21	3.28
34-36	40-50	25.4	*37	26	22	2.69
40-42	30-40	18.6		*	,—	
44-46	10-20	23.8	**	**	_	_

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Mortality-factor: nutritional – (1) food quantity



For openers!

The quantity of food available to forest insects is really a function of **forest-succession**. This being the case, inspired forest management can often lower the impact of insect damage.

Functional Stages of a forest

Regeneration:

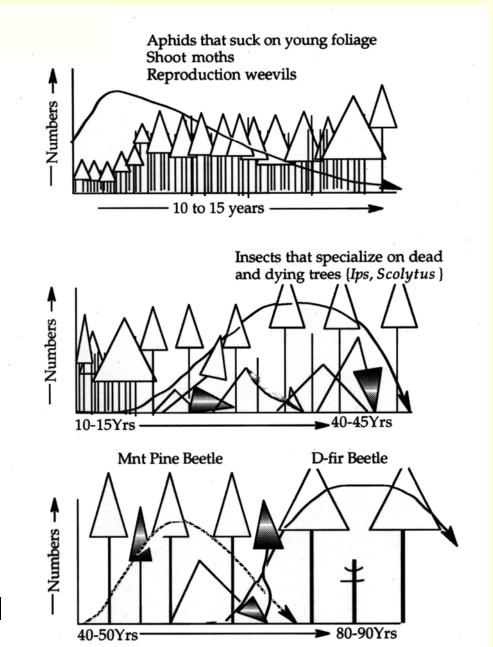
- competition
- mortality

Suppression:

- crown closure
- suppression
- mortality

Species shift:

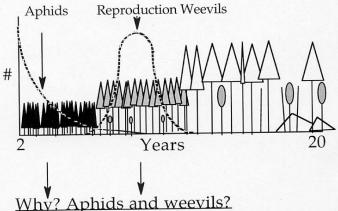
- suppression
- gap formation
- late successional development



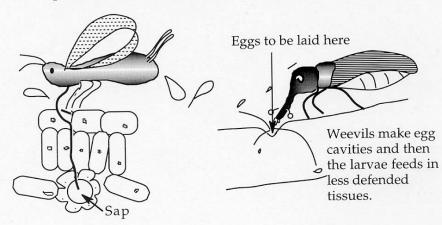
Reproduction Stage

Nutritional Env. Resistance Factor -- Food Quan.

Food Quantity = f (Successional Dynamics, Susceptibility of hosts/host defense systems, Rapidity of growth etc.).



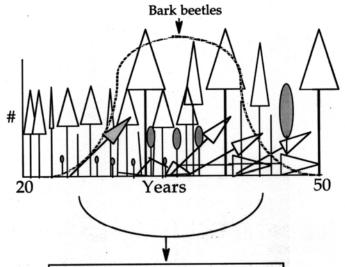
- (1) Hosts have invested in having fast-developing juvenile growth
- (2) Juvenile foliage has qualitatively toxic compounds.



Suppression Stage

Nutritional Env. Resistance Factor -- Food Quan.

Food Quantity = f (Successional Dynamics, Susceptibility of hosts/ host defense systems, Rapidity of growth etc.).



There is major competition for light as trees take dominance and some are left behind and weaken.

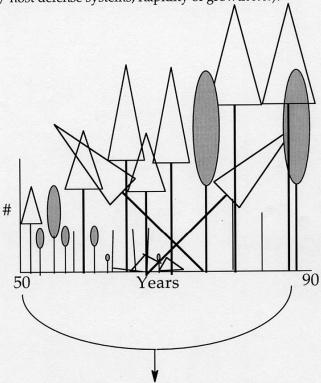
The weakened trees and moribund and recently dead trees are susceptible to the bark beetles: *Ips, Scolytus, Pseudohelesinus,* and many others.

As stand closure occurs the dominant and codominant "winners" invest energy in defending themselves with high-cost defensive chemicals: resins, phenolics, and tannins.

Species-shift Stage

Nutritional Env. Resistance Factor -- Food Quan.

Food Quantity = f (Successional Dynamics, Susceptibility of hosts/ host defense systems, Rapidity of growth etc.).



What are the major stand issues that deal with stand susceptibility? Hmm?

- Density/drought relationships
- ***** The fire history
- **★** Silvicultural/logging history

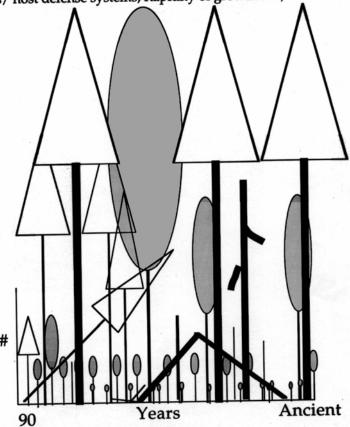
Pine Forests -- Mountain pine beetle

Douglas-fir Forests -- Douglas-fir beetle (wind throw)

Oldgrowth Stage

Nutritional Env. Resistance Factor -- Food Quan.

Food Quantity = f (Successional Dynamics, Susceptibility of hosts/host defense systems, Rapidity of growth etc.).

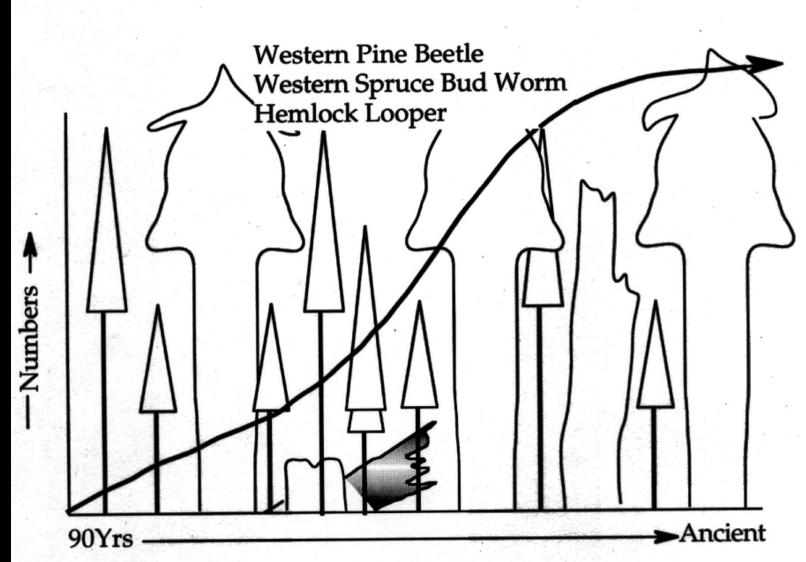


The old/large pioneering species cannot produce enough photosynthates (energy) for maintenance of biomass !! Now, that's a big problem!!

- ♠ Reduced foliar defenses
- ★ Reduced subcortical defenses (sapwood/phloem interface)
- ★ Reduced growth

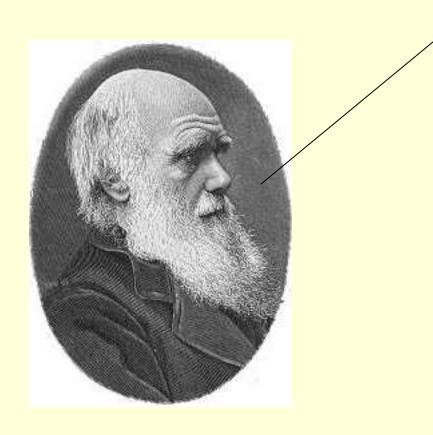
Root rots!, Western pine beetle, Western spruce bud worm, Hemlock looper & D-fir tussock moth.

When old pioneering species or simply old lates successional species are not producing enough carbohydrates, they get in trouble.



Mortality-factor: nutritional – (2) food quality

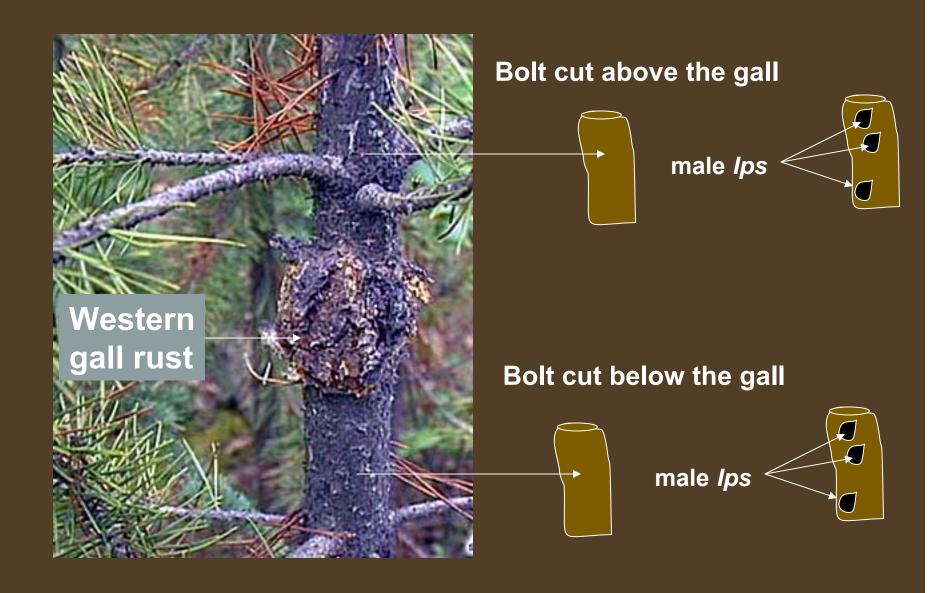
There's a great example of food quality being important in "survival of the fittest" with barkbeetles.



Barkbeetles generally live in phloem tissues of weakened, unhealthy trees: a temporary habitat!

What does that mean?

- Most barkbeetles normally find and breed in phloem of logging slash, windthrows, water-stressed trees, the moribund (e.g. trees damaged by fire) etc.;
- When this kind of food material occurs, it's scattered all over the landscape, and;
- This food is drying out, or fermenting, or otherwise becoming unsuitable.
- Thus, the main task of barkbeetles is to quickly find and breed in this kind of host material. They have a tough task!





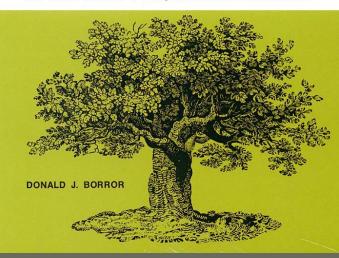
Ips pheromone wafts out into the atmosphere. Question: Did the infested bolts from above the gall or those from below the gall attract the t lps?

Ans.: the phloem above the gall had a greater concentration of carbohydrates than the phloem from below the gall. Hence, *lps* males that fed on higher quality phloem made a more powerful pheromone.

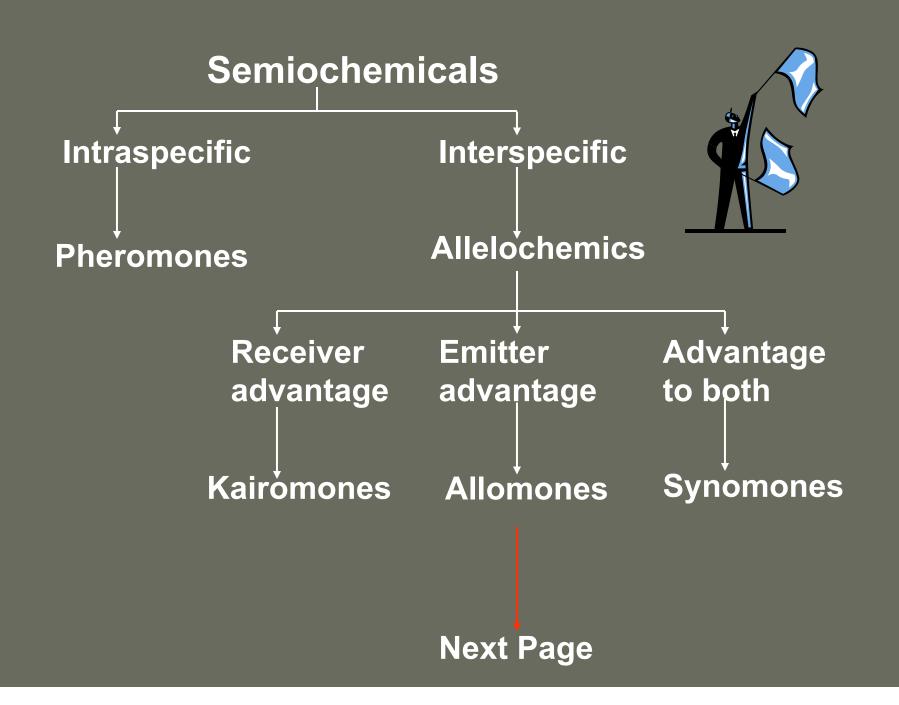
Of course, the quality of plant material to herbivores has a lot to do with defensive chemicals that trees have evolved. This brings us into the world of Semiochemicals.

DICTIONARY
of
WORD ROOTS
and
COMBINING FORMS

Compiled from the Greek, Latin, and other languages, with special reference to biological terms and scientific names



- 1. semio (L), signal
- 2. semiochemicals "...all chemicals produced by an organism that incite a response in another organism."



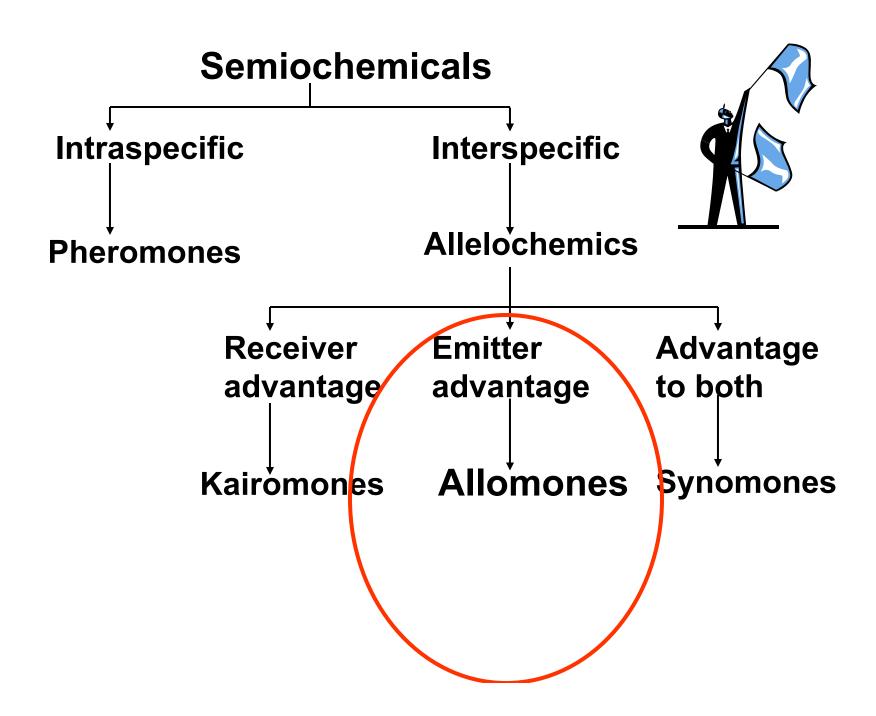
Some Allomones

- Repellents
- Feeding deterrents
- Growth regulants

There probably are millions of compounds that have evolved as allomones, *e.g.*:

- the nitrogen based alkaloids
- terpenoids
- phenolics
- proteinase inhibitors
- insect growth-hormone mimics





Some Allomones

- Repellents
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Nitrogen Based Allomones

Many are *non-protein* amino acids: insects feeding on these convert them into strange, unusable proteins. Many of these compounds are perceived by insects as feeding deterrents.

Nonprotein Amino Acids¹: Preparation of 5-Substituted-2-Aminoadipic Acid Derivatives

Kijun Hwang,* Namkyu Choi, and Inho Cho

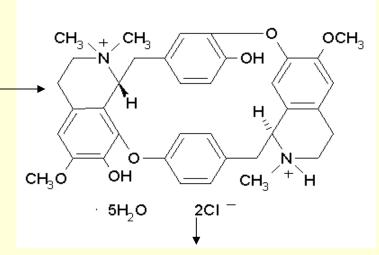
Department of Chemistry, College of Natural Science, Chonbuk National University, Dukjindong 664-14, Chonju 561-756, S. Korea Received August 13, 1998

The number and structural types of nonprotein amino acids² have increased dramatically over the past few decades. Some of the synthetic amino acids and nonprotein amino acids found in several plants exhibit interesting biological activities. For instance, methionine sulfoxamine (1)³ and phosphinothricin (2)⁴ serve as herbicides, fluorine containing amino acids as suicide enzyme inhibitor, β-cyanoala-

The Alkaloids

Plants often produce complex nitrogenous poisons:

- nicotine
- tomatine
- hellebore
- curare
- cocaine
- atropine
- morphine
- heroin
- many, many others



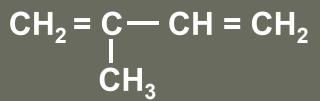


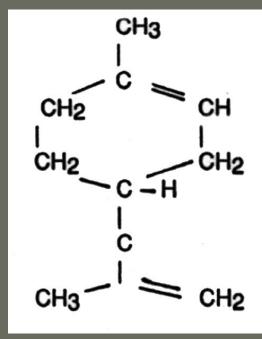
- Alkaloids are nitrogenous compounds and many are amino acid derivatives -- many are well known poisons;
- Nicotine has a long history as an insecticide;
- Tomatine is found in many Solinaceae; potatoes bred to contain tomatine are resistant to suite of herbivores.
- Some insects such as the cinnabar moth are immune to alkaloids in this case, to the invasive ragwort.

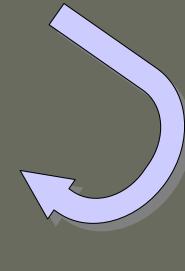
Ragwort contains alkaloids that protect plants from many herbivores. When the cinnabar moth was introduced to the PNW it started to wipe out the ragwort: a case of effective biological control!



Terpenoids (non-nitrogenous, 5 carbon chains of hydrocarbons)







an isoprene unit "puppy"

- -limonene
- $-\Delta_3$ carene
- -β pinene
- -α pinene

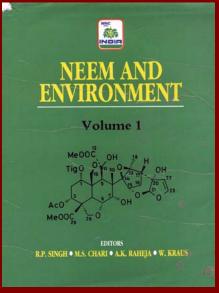


Chrysanthemum plantation as a source of pyrethrum.

Other terpenoids, such as gossypol provide major defense against herbivores, e.g. resistance to bollworm in cotton is directly proportional to gossypol content. Of course, companies producing cooking oils from cotton seed would want low concentration of this terpenoids.

Extracts from neem trees have a huge series of complex terpenoids. There is a terpenoids that kills insects at

concentrations of 0.04ppm.





Rotenone, Barbasco, Ro-Ko, Derris, etc.

1,2,12,12a,Tetrahydro-2-isopropenyl-8,9-dimethoxy-(1) benzopyrano-(3,4,-6)furo(2,3-6) (1)benzopyran-6(6aH) one

AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS

BOOK I INSECTICIDES

14TH EDITION

W.T. THOMSON

TYPE: Rotenone is a botanical insecticide having both contact and stomach-poison activity.

ORIGIN: First used on crops in British Malaya in 1848. England patented it in 1911. The chemical nature was determined in 1932. Sold in the U.S. by Fairfield America, Prentiss Drug, Penick and Co., and others. Supplied by Foreign-Domestic Chemicals, Inc.

TOXICITY: LD_{so}-132 mg/kg. Very toxic to fish. Swine are highly susceptible.

FORMULATIONS: Dusts 1/2-1%, 4-5% WP.

PHYTOTOXICITY: Non-phytotoxic.

USES: Bush and vine crops, citrus, deciduous fruits, forage crops, mushrooms, asparagus, beans, beets, corn, eggplant, mustard, peas, potatoes, radishes, strawberries, tomatoes, and other vegetables. Also used to control undesirable fish.

The Phenolics

A basic phenolic is simply,

...a non-nitrogenous compound containing one or more hydroxyl on the benzene ring.

Tannins

Flavonoids

(Continue the Phenolics)

- There are lots of botanical insecticides and commercial feeding deterrents based on flavonoids.
- As insects ingest tannins, these compounds chemically tie up proteins and make them indigestible.
- Over evolutionary periods, insects begin to resist the effects of tannins and use them in providing interesting defensive strategies.
- Witness emerald moth larvae feeding on oak foliage.



Emerald moth, Nemoria arizonaria



- 1. Caterpillars born in spring feed on oak catkins; within days they look like fuzzy catkins,
- 2. Caterpillars born in summer (after catkins fall off) eat leaves and look like oak-twigs.
- 3. Only oak leaves are loaded with tannins.
- 4. When tannins are sprayed on catkins and fed to fuzzy larvae they begin to look like twigs!

Clearly a case of, "you are what you eat."

Spring form feeding on catkins





Summer form feeding on leaves







fed tannins extracted from foliage

Oaks invest energy in their foliage in order to produce tannins, a defensive chemical.

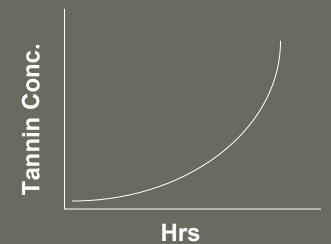


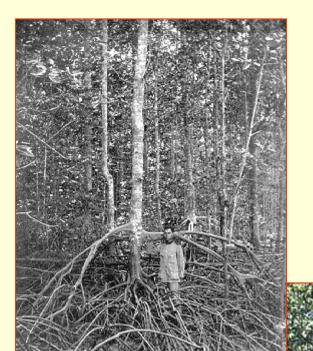
Lab in Kinkaid Dr. Davey Rhoades



Storage room in Kinkaid where red alder were stored







1989 there was a huge insect defoliation of mangrove trees in estuaries around Guayaquil, Ecuador.



"... I was there."

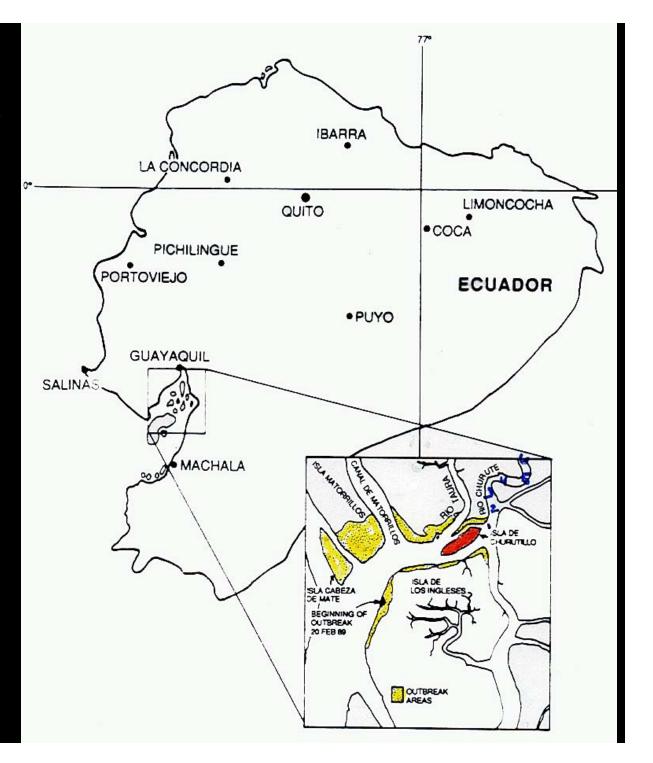
1989-90 outbreak of the bagworm, *Oiketicus kirbyi*, in mangrove forests near Guayaquil.



Male



Female





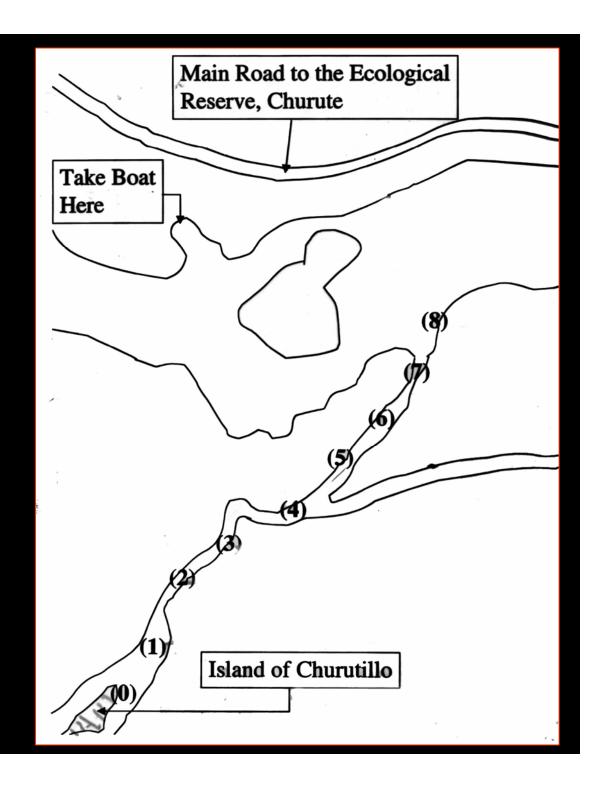
Severe bagworm defoliation of the mangrove forests of Churute Ecological Preserve



Establishment of eight sampling stations (1km apart) for *O. kirbyi*.

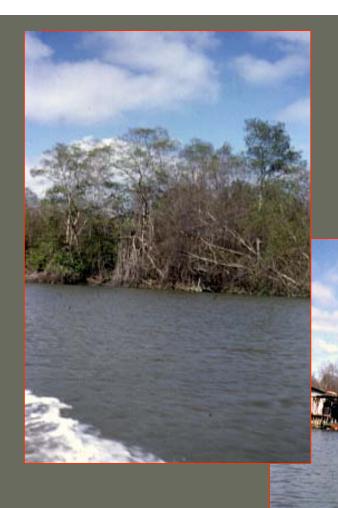
Station (0) was at the island of Churutillo, the most intense of the defoliation.

Station (8)(8km from Churutillo) was the least defoliated.





Station (5): medium defoliated by *O.* — *kirbyi.*



Station (3)





Feeding bagworms



Collecting bagworms at Isla Churutillo

Checking for parasitism

Bagworms feeding on bark (foliage all gone)



Rearing the bagworms at the lab in Conocoto (near Quito)

Table 1. Emergence, pupal weights of males (M) and females (F) as well as survival of O. kirbvi larvae (L), pupae (P) and adults (A) as determined from laboratory rearings of material collected from mangrove forests of the Ecuadorian Ecological Reserve of Churute

Date	Numbers						Dying (%)	Males (%)	Weight (g)
	Dead			Alive			, , ,		
1989	L	P	A	L	P	A			$S_{\mu} = S_{\mu}$
7/20	22	36	2	3	16	14	65	52.1	0.45 1.17
8/17	63	97	10	12	30	16	74	91.4	0.28 0.54
9/11	82	107	2	15	8	0	89	100	0.20

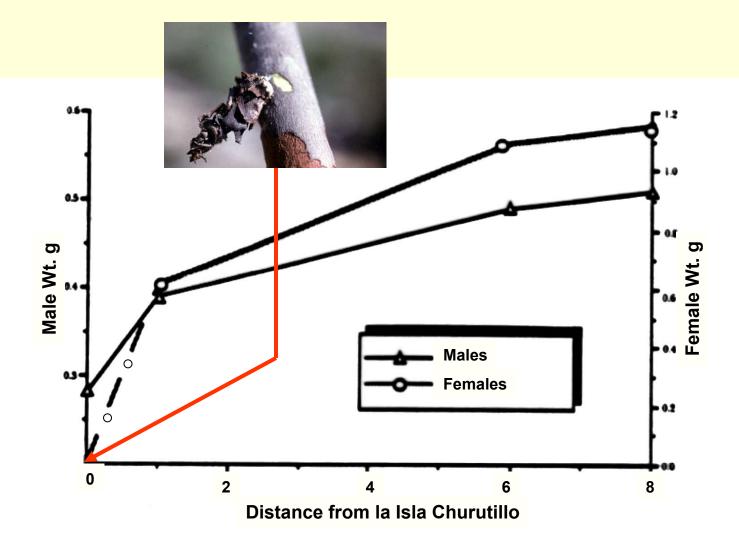


Figure 3. Decrease in weight of male and female O. kirbyi pupae reared from sites 8, 6, 1 and 0 km respectively from the Island of Churutillo, the most heavily defoliated area; no female pupae were collected from the island

Polymer International

Polym Int 49:574-578 (20)

A great amount of research on the tannins of mangrove species

Differential scanning calorimetry of hydrolysec mangrove tannin

S Sowunmi, 1* RO Ebewele, 2 O Peters 3 and AH Conner 4

Abstract: Mangrove-bark-tannin adhesives are potential substitutes for phenol-formaldehyde (PF) wood-bonding adhesives which are derived from petroleum, a finite natural resource. However, mangrove-bark-tannin adhesive exhibits poor adhesive properties, including brittleness, poor wet strength, and poor wood penetration. These shortcomings are due to its high reactivity and structural features. To reduce these shortcomings, the structure of the adhesive was modified by subjecting tannin to (a) caustic hydrolysis and (b) consecutive acetic anhydride and caustic hydrolysis. The effectiveness of these hydrolyses was determined by using differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) to monitor the reaction and cure characteristics of hydrolysed and unhydrolysed tannin with formaldehyde. These hydrolyses resulted in lowering both the activation energy and collision frequency of the cure reaction. Consequently, the initial reactivity of tannin towards paraformaldehyde, which was usually very high, was reduced. The resulting longer reaction time enhanced the extent of reaction, as was evident in the increase in heat of reaction of the hydrolysed tannin.

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Rhizophora mucronata

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Chemistry

Wood contains 4.4% resin, 63.4% cellulose (List and Horhammer, 1969–1979) and 1.5% ash (Watt and Breyer-Brandwijk, 1962). Tannin may vary in dry bark from ca 13–50%, leaves contain 9.1%, green fruits 12.0%, and ripe fruits 4.2%. Spent mangrove bark, after tannin extraction, can be used as a source of furfural (C.S.I.R., 1948–1976).

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There also are proteins, called <u>Proteinase Inhibitors</u>, that bind to insectan proteinases and immobilize them so that normal proteins can't be digested. Insects thus starve to death.

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Invertebrate proteinase inhibitors

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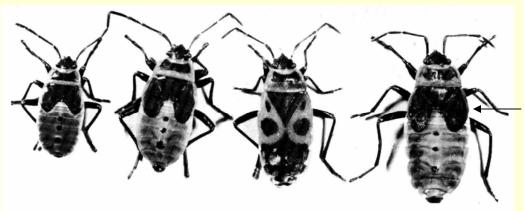
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Abstract

Peptides with inhibiting activity toward proteinases were isolated from marine invertebrates, insect plasma and nematodes. Some of them were characterized and studied in relation to their physiological function.

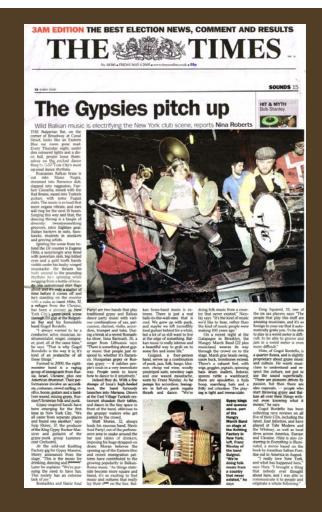
There are plant extracts that <u>mimic insectan juvenile</u> <u>hormones and ecdysone</u>. these hormones suppress formation of adult characteristics. Ferns in general have the equivalent of ecdysone produced by 200,000 larval moths – few insects feed on ferns.

Accidental Science by Karel Slama: rearing the bug Pyrrhocoris apterus led to break through research on juvenile hormones.



This should have been the adult stage!





Pyrrochorids reared on the New York Times exhibited the strange instar, but when reared on the London Times the last instar was normal and molted to the adult stage. The NY Times is made from balsam fir and the London Times from European fir – the famous "paper factor."

AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS

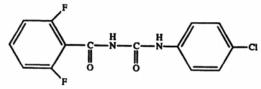
BOOK I INSECTICIDES

14TH EDITION

W.T. THOMSON

NAMES

DIFLUBENZURON, ADEPT, DIFLURON, DIMILIN, DUDIM, KITINEX, LARVAKIL, MICROMITE, VIGILANTE



N-[[(4-chlorophenyl)amino]carbonyl]-2,6-diflouorobenzamide

TYPE: Diflubenzuron is a benzoylurea-type compound interfering with chitin deposition.

ORIGIN: DUPHAR B.V., The Netherlands; 1972. Marketed in the US by Uniroyal Chemical Co. for crop uses, and by Hoechst for livestock application (cattle bolus).

TOXICITY: LD_{so} 4640 mg/kg. May cause slight eye irritation.

FORMULATIONS: 2 - 4 lb. flowable, 25 WP.

PHYTOTOXICITY: Non-phytotoxic at the recommended rates and uses. High rates have caused injury to poinsettlas, hibiscus and Reiger begonias.

USES: Larvicide in forestry, on pastures and rangeland, ornamental trees, mushroom houses, walnuts, artichokes, citrus, cotton, soybeans and ornamentals. Used against mosquito and fly larvae in non-crop areas. Used outside the U.S. on these and a number of additional crops. Used as a feed through additive on livestock outside the U.S.

IMPORTANT INSECTS CONTROLLED: Gypsy moth, boll weevils, army worms, leafworms, soybean caterpillar complex, cabbage caterpillars, Mexican bean beetle, mosquitoes, flies, sciarid flies, rust mites, leaf miners, codling moth, grasshoppers, fleas, cockroaches, lice and others.

RATES: Applied at 0.02-0.125 lb a.i./A.

APPLICATION: Apply around oviposition time of adults for ovicidal activity or at early larval instar stages for larvicidal activity. Thorough coverage is necessary. Apply as a foliar spray or as a soil drench.

PRECAUTIONS: No effects on adult insects. Toxic to crustaceans. Do not mix with alkaline compounds.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: This product interferes with the formation of the insect's cuticle. Active on the larval stages of development, causing an inability to moult successfully. Does not enter the plant, so sucking insects are not controlled. Ovicidal activity, either directly on the eggs or by action through the female. Feeding will continue for a short time after application (until the next moult), so results may not be visible immediately. Has a long residual activity with both stomach poison and contact activity. Relatively harmless to beneficial insects. Provides 30-60 day control. Compatible with other insecticides.