

# CPHST NEWS



## WELCOME CPHST-COLOMBIA



People



Places



Projects & Programs



Publications



Policy & Plans



Presentations



Philosophy

The Centro de Excelencia Fitosanitaria (Center for Phytosanitary Excellence or CEF) in Bogota, Colombia was formed in the early 2000's with direction from Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) International Services (IS), funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and administrative support from the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA). The CEF was established as an entity of the Instituto Colombiano Agropecuario (Institute for Colombian Agriculture or ICA – the equivalent of USDA, APHIS) to serve as a regional center for phytosanitary expertise and pest risk analysis. The creation of CEF was strongly supported by the United States as a key strategy in encouraging the cultivation of alternative crops and the diversification of exports for Colombia and the region.

The CEF was roughly based on the concept of Centers of Phytosanitary Excellence (COPE) which have been proposed for various regions of the world. The fundamental objective of COPEs is to provide a means for countries – especially developing countries -- to pool



scientific information and research as well as analytical resources to support phytosanitary trade initiatives in the region. A key area of interest and importance for all countries is risk analysis, which is where the CEF also focused as a starting point.

The creation of CEF to assist with pest risk analyses has been viewed as a great asset to Colombia and the entire Latin American region. A significant capacity for risk analysis has developed along with a close relationship between CEF and APHIS' Center for Plant Health Science and Technology (CPHST), especially the Plant Epidemiology and Risk Analysis Laboratory (PERAL). CEF's work, however, has not been limited to risk analysis, as the CEF has also expanded with initiatives in pest surveillance, GIS, and phytosanitary treatments.

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From the left: Camilo Echeverri, Luis Ernesto Forero, Elkin Florez, Bob Griffin, Vic Harabin, Richard Dunkle, Nancy Arciniegas, Olivier Parfait, Carlos Lozano, Guiovanni Zambrano, Dan Sheesley, and Darya Chehrezad  
May 22, 2007, Bogota, Colombia

## CPHST COLOMBIA (Continued from page 1)



Currently, CPHST-Colombia staff are working on PRAs, such as passion fruit, Swiss chard, celery, and tomatoes.

This past spring, the APHIS Management Team discussed the future and management of the CEF. The team determined that the financial support provided by APHIS to the CEF would be used to create appointments for some CEF staff that would be employed by APHIS as Foreign Service Nationals (FSNs) attached to the U.S. Embassy under the supervisory direction of APHIS IS and the technical direction of CPHST. This unit has been designated as CPHST-Colombia.

The establishment of CPHST-Colombia clarifies reporting lines, organizational structure, workload, and work integration priorities for work directly related to APHIS' mission and objectives. Although the group is physically located in Colombia, they

are tasked with an increasingly broad range of CPHST work including risk analyses, data gathering, and treatment research.

From May 21-23, 2007, **Richard Dunkle**, PPQ Deputy Administrator; **Dan Sheesley**, IS Deputy Administrator; **Vic Harabin**, CPHST Acting Director; and **Bob Griffin**, PERAL Lab Director, visited Bogota to meet with the CPHST-Colombia staff and officially welcome them to APHIS. They met with the six highly motivated and dedicated staff that were selected for their technical skills and leadership abilities in key phytosanitary areas, including the design and implementation of systems approaches and integrated pest management, pest detection and survey, risk assessment, eradication methods, and treatment. CPHST-Colombia staff members include:

**Guiovanni Zambrano** - risk analyst/agronomist/technical liaison

**Olivier Parfait** - risk analyst/biologist/training specialist

**Nancy Arciniegas** - risk analyst/agronomist/plant pathologist

**Luis Forero** - risk analyst/agronomist/

GIS specialist

**Elkin Florez** – risk analyst/agronomist/treatment specialist

**Carlos Lozano** – import/export agribusiness/marketing specialist/administrative liaison

The team is under the direct supervision of Darya Chehrezad, the current IS attaché in Bogota, and Camilo Echeverri, an FSN with APHIS in Colombia.

We welcome our new colleagues in CPHST-Colombia and look forward to a long and productive relationship.



The CEF Team (May 2004)



Submitted by Bob Griffin and Vic Harabin



## IDENTIFICATION TRAINING AND RESOURCES FOR PPQ

CPHST's Identification Technology team (ITP) met several of its strategic objectives in spring 2007 by providing identification tools, training on how to access and use these tools, and development support to PPQ and its cooperators.

### New Identification Tools

Three new internet-based Lucid identification tools were delivered to PPQ in spring 2007. These tools consist of interactive matrix keys that are Java applets (and thus cross-platform), along



with associated media – images and html pages – to facilitate identification.

*Aquarium and Pond Plants of the World, Edition 2.0* (APPW E2) ([http://](http://www.lucidcentral.org/keys/aquariumplants2/)

[www.lucidcentral.org/keys/aquariumplants2/](http://www.lucidcentral.org/keys/aquariumplants2/)). A major revision to the highly popular first edition of *Aquarium and Pond Plants of the World* was created through collaboration between CPHST and the California Department of Food and Agriculture. APPW E2 covers over 140 genera of aquatic plants currently collected around the world for the freshwater aquarium and pond plant trade. Many species in the trade have become serious environmental weeds

Continued on next page

## Identification Training (continued from page 2)



in a number of countries, commonly due to discarded aquarium material.

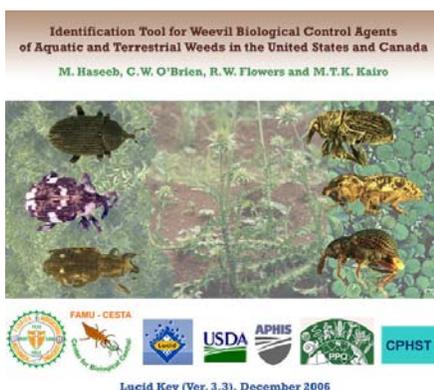
Sixteen new taxa were added to the second edition. In addition, all taxon fact sheets were revised with selected pages incorporating new diagnostic information for identifying the Federal Noxious Weed aquatics, the key matrix was completely reorganized, and the internet site given a whole new look. We believe APPW E2 is more streamlined and user-friendly. One user commented: "This is a great product...I was immediately impressed with the design and layout of the tool."

*Scale Insects – Identification Tools for Species of Quarantine Significance (Scale Insects)* (<http://www.sel.barc.usda.gov/scalekeys/index.html>), developed by ARS's Systematic Entomology Lab in collaboration with the University of Maryland, contains four Lucid tools: *Scale Families*, *Mealybugs*, *Soft Scales*, and *Other Scales*. This resource focuses on scales intercepted at U.S. ports of entry over the past five years and features outstanding illustrative photos and drawings, extensive diagnostic information, links to "ScaleNet" information, and a cross-linked glossary. Scale Insects is an amazingly rich resource for identification of these serious pests, which are small, cryptic, and particularly difficult to detect.

A recent user of Scale Insects

commented "...although I know very little about insects, if I was given a scale insect and a microscope, I feel competent that I could identify a specimen with this key."

*Weevil Biological Control Agents of Aquatic and Terrestrial Weeds in the United States and Canada (WBCA)* (<http://www.famu.org/weeviltool>) was created through a long-term federal-state partnership between APHIS and Florida A&M University (FAMU) to support survey, identification, and verification of weevil biological control



agents associated with aquatic and terrestrial weeds. WBCA provides an easy-to-use interactive identification key and a wealth of outstanding images, including over 140 showing diagnostic characters and the dorsal and lateral habitus for each of the 38 species.



Participants and instructors of CPHST's May 2007 "Making the Most Out of Lucid Identification Tools" workshop at the Center for Biological Control, Florida A&M University.



Co-Instructor, Terrence Walters (standing), working with the participants of the May 2007 Lucid workshop at the Los Angeles Plant Inspection Station.

### Lucid Workshops

During odd years, the ITP schedules on-site training workshops for PPQ and cooperators interested in learning how to access and use electronic identification tools in the workplace. In May of this year, **Julia Scher** and **Terrence Walters** instructed *Making the Most Out of Lucid Identification Tools*. One workshop was held at FAMU and two at the Los Angeles Plant Inspection Station. Each half-day workshop included a guided group Lucid identification session, best practice guidelines, system requirements for accessing and using Lucid tools, and individual hands-on identification practice.

Feedback from the participants at the end of each workshop was constructive and positive. The participants especially enjoyed the hands-on time with Lucid during the group and individual identification practice

sessions and a number of them suggested that the workshop be expanded to a full-day for additional practice sessions. Future workshop sessions are now being planned in Gainesville, Miami, and Seattle during summer of 2007.



Submitted by Terrence Walters,  
Julia Scher & Jeff Drake



## MY EXPERIENCES WITH THE NEW PEST ADVISORY GROUP



Banana weevil

One of the most rewarding experiences during my last three years with the Center for Plant Health Science and Technology (CPHST) has been working with the New Pest Advisory Group (NPAG). Working with NPAG is rewarding because we deal with new and imminent plant pests that threaten U.S. agriculture. It is also rewarding because the process constantly evolves and improves, thanks to the contributions of the many talented leaders and insightful analysts.

When I started working as an NPAG analyst, the basic infrastructure was already in place. The previous leaders were very astute and wrote the standard operating procedures (SOP's) in the *Lite Workbook*. Performing my job would be extremely difficult without the *Lite Workbook*. As an aside to an otherwise serious article, I now realize that the name is actually an oxymoron because government SOP's are never light in content. It appears that the founders of NPAG had a collective sense of humor. Another useful thing that they did was develop an online database, which provides PPQ with easy access to both current and historical documents. Previous leaders also created a direct link to the PPQ Executive Team (ET) and developed a document to record and track ET decisions. After all, what good is a voice if no one hears you speak or remembers what you said? If you can not tell, I have the utmost respect for everyone that has served the NPAG, and to borrow a few words from a previous Chair, "the current leaders are only standing on the shoulders of giants." That does not mean that they have not contributed to the process. Because of the efforts done in the past,

our contributions continue to build and improve upon the process and work.

One of the most amazing things that I have seen the current NPAG Chair, **Brian Spears**, do is negotiate recommendations on the fly at ET meetings. He intently listens to the feedback and discussions among ET members and spontaneously converts their concerns into new or modified recommendations. This strategy and our current policy of discussing recommendations with action leaders prior to presenting the recommendations to the ET have reduced our rejection rate from about 23 percent to less than 5 percent in 2006. Another amazing contribution of Spears was the development of a formalized pre-assessment process. Historically, NPAG analysts had to answer two questions to determine if an organism was an NPAG issue. They asked themselves, "Is the organism injurious to plants or plant products?" and "Does the organism fit the IPPC definition of a quarantine pest?" If the answer to both of these questions was yes, then NPAG completed a report and made recommendations. If the answer to one or both of the questions was no, then NPAG did not complete a report. The problem with this procedure was that it spontaneously grew from a simple e-mail to the point where analysts were virtually completing a report to say that the organism was not an NPAG issue. Spears streamlined the pre-assessment process into a form with ten yes or no questions that are supported by either a comment or a reference. This new process cut the time that it takes to determine whether an NPAG report is needed from an historical average of almost 35 workdays to less than 10 workdays.

By far, the most amazing thing that the current NPAG staff has done is finish all of the old pest cases on our To Do List (TDL). The TDL is a living document that contains a list of all the organisms that NPAG is working on or needs to work on. It also contains draft

reports in various stages of development. In the past, the list of organisms that we were working on or needed to work on spanned multiple pages. In the winter of 2006, Spears directed an effort to complete all of the old pest cases, but our charge was successful only because everyone pulled together and worked as a team. By October of 2006, NPAG had completed all of the pest files that were opened in previous years, and for the first time in our recorded history the TDL was up to date. During this time, we closed nine old pest files. Two of them needed additional information that the ET requested in 2003, two needed input from the National Plant Board, one needed a consensus decision from PPQ, and four needed to be reassigned due to personnel changes.

In my mind, the NPAG has immense impacts on PPQ issues and boundless rewards for pest analysts who are up to the challenge. Our recommendations may support an eradication program, as they did with gladiolus rust (*Uromyces transversalis*), they may take a perceived threat and explain why it is not and should not be a concern to PPQ, or they may, after ET approval, clearly state PPQ's regulatory policy. Rewards for the analyst range from personal satisfaction to recognition for a job well done, but my favorite is watching all the hard work translate into a PPQ action.



**NPAG Core photo:** Left to right - Anthony Koop (botanist), Lynn Garret (agricultural economist), Alison Neeley (entomologist), Tara Holtz (ecologist), Brian Spears (NPAG Chair), Stephanie Kubilus (NPAG Coordinator), Keith Colpetzer (Executive Secretary), and Feridoon Mehdizadegan (plant pathologist); Not pictured - Andrea Sato (NPAG Database Manager), Robert Schall (plant pathologist), and Kim Schwartzburg (plant pathologist).



Submitted by Keith Colpetzer



## CAPACITY BUILDING- NEW RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

To help fulfill its mission and requests from others, CPHST personnel occasionally devote time and energy to capacity building. Examples of capacity building include hosting foreign visitors, training plant protection officials from developing countries, and traveling abroad to work with Ministry of Agriculture officials on pest problems of mutual concern. Over the past several years, APHIS has seen requests for capacity building grow substantially. In response, APHIS leaders have decided to establish a staff dedicated to managing capacity building agency-wide. This staff is called ITRCB- International Technical and Regulatory Capacity Building- and is housed at the International Visitor's Center in Riverdale, MD. The Acting ITRCB Director and Program Manager is **Eric Hoffman**. The Acting Project Managers are **Mark Knez** and **John Shaw**. Permanent staff will be hired in the near future.

Each APHIS unit will have a lead person to help facilitate the approval process and make decisions. Our own **Vic Harabin** is serving as the PPQ point of contact, with **Daniel Fieselmann** as back-up. Capacity building requests need to be approved by the ITRCB before the activities are accepted and started. A request form must be filled out and sent to

ITRCBrequests@aphis.usda.gov in order to initiate the process. The forms can be found on the PPQ intranet website: <http://inside.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/itrcb/index.shtml>. The requests are first reviewed and approved by Vic Harabin or Daniel Fieselmann.

The purpose of this new initiative is to ensure that Agency resources are properly managed to support capacity building without compromising other mission critical work. An overview document prepared by the ITRCB staff explains the rationale:

"It is important to recognize that APHIS cannot fulfill all capacity building and international visitor requests. Some requests will be denied. Strategies to manage this workload include prioritizing according to 10 criteria, channeling of most requests into standardized APHIS courses, and limiting individual training to the highest priority activities. 'Trump cards' for prioritization include Presidential and Secretarial initiatives, issues directly related to resolution of a Secretary's List Priority SPS issue, and/or APHIS Administrator/Deputy Administrator priorities."

The document goes on to say, "The APHIS Center for Capacity Building is now up and running and key positions have been temporarily filled. The Center handles all requests for APHIS

international capacity building (domestic and foreign) as well as all requests for international visitors to APHIS. Requests for APHIS participation from any source, including FAS and other U.S. government agencies as well as international organizations, etc. must be channeled through this Center. Requests involving multiple agencies and/or departments are managed by FAS."

What does this mean to you as a CPHST scientist? International travel involving capacity building, in addition to the usual international travel approvals, requires that you follow the ITRCB process. Hopefully, the new rules of engagement will allow us to accomplish our important work, while providing appropriate oversight. International work is important to the safeguarding mission. Still, it must be balanced with more routine mission critical operations.



Placing a dry-trap in a mango tree in rural northeastern Tanzania



Submitted by Daniel Fieselmann & Vic Harabin



## CPHST WORKFLOW REVIEW

During the development of the PPQ Strategic Plan for CPHST and the CPHST Operational Plan, PPQ identified a need to evaluate and revise the processes CPHST uses to accept and prioritize work requests. In response to this need, CPHST, along with representatives from each PPQ unit and PPD Business Practices Team (BPT), formed the Work Request

Working Group to identify and assess each work process and their approval and prioritization flows. The final goal of the group is to evaluate, modify, and improve CPHST processes used to identify and support PPQ priority needs.

The working group will identify how CPHST accepts and prioritizes work



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## RED PALM MITE OUTREACH: SLOWING THE SPREAD OF A NEW INVASIVE PEST

The red palm mite (*Raoiella indica*, Tenuipalpidae), a pest of coconuts and ornamental palms in Asia and Africa arrived in the Caribbean in 2004. By 2007, the pest had spread to as many as eleven islands, including Puerto Rico. Red palm mite populations are extremely large and the mite is attacking a variety of new hosts, such as bananas, ginger and heliconias. Due to the immanent risk of the pest spreading to the continental United States, CPHST is working with APHIS IS, APHIS PPQ, ARS, Florida Division of Plant Industry (DPI), PPQ Caribbean Safeguarding Initiative, Puerto Rico



Palm Society Sale, March 2007

Department of Agriculture, Florida Cooperative Agriculture Pest Survey (CAPS), the University of Florida, and the University of Puerto Rico to develop programs to identify potential pathways for the pest, optimize survey protocols, and determine mitigation strategies that will help safeguard American agriculture and minimize its impact in the region. The red palm mite is a difficult pest to detect due to its small size (<100 microns), the height of palm trees, and the large number of highly dispersed host plants where the mite could first establish. Training surveyors, nursery growers and citizens to recognize the pest and its damage in the field would facilitate early detection of the pest and thereby increase the

possibility that efforts can be put into place that would limit the movement of red palm mite to new areas. The presence of *R. indica* in Puerto Rico provided an opportunity to teach pest survey specialists, identifiers, state departments of agriculture representatives and scientists from Arizona, California, Florida, Mississippi, Puerto Rico, Texas, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, and St. Croix to recognize field symptoms, characterize a host plant, process samples, and identify the pest and potential natural enemies. Similar offshore survey and training was also conducted in Cayman Islands and Panama. In the United States, extension meetings and Florida CAPS workshops equipped pest surveyors, Florida inspectors and nursery growers to begin surveying for red palm mite. Often citizens are the first to report the presence of a pest (e.g., pink hibiscus mealybug in Florida), therefore, outreach efforts have also targeted the general public. At the Broward Co. Extension Everything Palms event and South Florida Palm Society Spring Sale, over 1,500 palm enthusiasts from Florida and neighboring states learned how to identify red palm mite damage and are now equipped to assist in monitoring their communities. Additionally, APHIS PPQ Florida, DPI and CPHST worked to inform the Cruise Line Industry how craft items made from mite infested palm fronds may transport the pest to the continental U.S. National and international cruise lines were provided information for their staff and passengers to slow the spread of the pest through this pathway. All these outreach efforts have been made to slow the spread of the red palm mite until mitigation strategies are available to manage the pest.

APHIS red palm mite information website:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant\\_health/plant\\_pest\\_info/red\\_palm\\_mite/index.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/red_palm_mite/index.shtml)



L. McCornie, MOA, Trinidad & Tobago



Eduardo Varona, Florida PPQ State Operations Support Officer and Amy Roda, CPHST, Miami, explain the risk of palm handicrafts transporting red palm mite to Caribbean tourist agents at the International Seatrade Cruise Shipping Convention, Miami, FL.



Submitted by Amy Roda

*Workflow (continued from page 5)*

requests, what processes work well, and where we need improvement. To obtain some of this information, the group will distribute a survey to CPHST scientists and managers on workload time allocation. We need to know how CPHST staff divide their time between the different types of work processes. Some of the processes in question include PPQ needs assessment (a.k.a. call-for-work), emergency response, ad hoc projects, regulatory rulemaking, and other requests. Flow charts have been developed to capture and explain the steps of each work request. We want the results from the survey to provide an

accurate and on-the-ground understanding of our processes and concentrations of our workload. These data will be given to the BPT for assessment, guidance, and recommendations for improved project management applications and techniques. **Denise Barnes** (PPD-BPT) will continue the process by further exploring project prioritization and reprioritization and distribution of our operations.

Because each project is not static, our challenge is to develop a fluid process that accommodates all the types of

work we have and how we receive that work. A process(es) needs to be developed which enhances and supports communication internally and with project champions.

Committee members are **Matt Royer** (EDP), **Jane Levy** (PHP), **Steve Johnson** (WR), **Tom Chanelli** (ER), **Denise Barnes** (BPT) and CPHST headquarter and laboratory staff. The committee chair is **Phil Berger** (CPHST).



Submitted by Phil Berger & Christina Lohs

**CONGRATULATIONS PDDML**

For the past two years, **Paul Parker**, **Leeda Wood** and the staff at the Pest Detection, Diagnostics and Management Laboratory (PDDML) in Edinburg, TX have been developing an ISO 9001 compliant quality management system (QMS). On March 5-6, 2007, this system was put to the test as PDDML was audited by the American Systems Registrar (ASR), an RAB accredited ISO registration organization, for compliance to the ISO 9001:2000 international standard. It is with much pleasure and pride in the accomplishments and hard work of all employees at PDDML that we announce their successful ISO 9001:2000 certification.

PDDML is the first laboratory to achieve ISO 9001:2000 certification using the CPHST QMS (based on the CPHST quality manual and CPHST quality procedures). It is always difficult to be the first, so again we say congratulations to Paul Parker and the entire PDDML staff on attaining ISO 9001:2000 certification.

ISO was originally founded in 1946 for the purpose of promoting voluntary, common manufacturing, trade and communication standards and to encourage the trade of quality products and services around the globe. The benefits of using ISO 9001:2000 as a basis of an organization's quality management system include:

- ◆ Achieving a better understanding and consistency of all quality practices throughout the organization
- ◆ Ensuring the continued use of the required quality system year after year
- ◆ Improved documentation
- ◆ Improved quality awareness
- ◆ Strengthened confidence and relationships between the organization and its stakeholders and shareholders
- ◆ Reduction in cost and increased efficiency
- ◆ Formation of a foundation and discipline for continuous improvement activities within the

organization

The CPHST Quality Management Unit (**John Gallagher** and **Kathy Burch**) is tasked with spearheading the ISO certification process for CPHST. They are traveling throughout CPHST to assist the laboratories with the development and implementation of the CPHST quality management system. Currently, the CPHST Quality Manual and the associated twenty-three quality procedures have been authorized for use and are available on the CPHST website. To view these documents, access the CPHST website and follow the "Quality Management (ISO)" link.

The next CPHST laboratory scheduled for ISO 9001:2000 registration is the Analytical and Natural Products Chemistry Laboratory (ANPCL) in Gulfport, MS. Their registration audit is scheduled for July 2007 and we are anxiously anticipating another CPHST success.



Submitted by Kathy Burch



## CPHST SPOTLIGHT: Colothdian "Cloti" Tate

Colothdian "Cloti" Tate grew up in Baton Rouge, LA and is the oldest of four children. He attended Colby College in Kansas where he earned an Associates Degree and wrestled. He transferred to Iowa State University (ISU) in Ames, Iowa, where he continued wrestling, received a BS in Biology, and proceeded to earn an MS and PhD in Entomology. His thesis and dissertation focused on European corn borer neonate feeding preferences and alternate refuge strategies for resistance management.

After graduation, Colothdian accepted a postdoctoral research assistantship with

USDA-ARS CPMRU in Tifton, Georgia. He conducted research on diet development, transportation and release protocols, and radiation biology and assisted in field validating SIT-Inherited Sterility in support of the area-wide program against the invasive cactus moth, *Cactoblastis cactorum*. In January 2007, Colothdian joined CPHST Decisions Support and Pest Management Systems Laboratory in Phoenix, Arizona as an entomologist and mass rearing specialist. His current responsibilities are to develop new rearing methods to improve Pink Bollworm Rearing Facility insect

production and quality in support of the Pink Bollworm Eradication Program.

Colothdian relaxes by spending time with his family (wife and three kids), listening to music (jazz, blues, popular, etc.), swimming (especially to beat the Arizona heat), and golfing. He also enjoys just hanging out and resting.



## CPHST SPOTLIGHT: Brian Kopper

Brian Kopper was born in Michigan where he spent his summers outdoors gardening and collecting insects. He never really out grew these interests which helped to guide his education and career path. Brian attended Michigan State University where he earned a BS in Botany in 1995. While at MSU Brian worked in an entomology laboratory collecting and identifying insects. He decided to pursue graduate study in entomology (besides no one was hiring botany majors at the time!). In 1997, Brian completed his MS in Entomology from Kansas State University, where he studied the life history of a threatened butterfly. In 2001, Brian earned

his PhD in Entomology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison by investigating the effects of elevated levels of CO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> on the interaction between tree phytochemistry and lepidopteran folivores. After graduating, Brian continued working at the UW as a post-doctoral researcher studying stain fungi-bark beetle-pine tree interactions.

In 2003, Brian was hired by the USDA APHIS PPQ as a Pest Survey Specialist, where he identified entry pathways and guided survey efforts for exotic plant pests in MN, IL and WI. In 2005, Brian moved to Raleigh when he was promoted to Regional Program Manager, managing a number of

programs, including the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) program. Currently, Brian is on TDY with CPHST as the Response Recovery Systems & Technology Program NSPL.

When not at work Brian enjoys spending time with his wife and new baby boy. Brian still likes to garden, but he would rather observe insects in the field than collect them.



## CPHST SPOTLIGHT: Walter Gutiérrez

Walter Antonio Gutiérrez was born in Lima, Peru. He received his BS in Agronomy Science from the National Agrarian University -La Molina (UNALM) in Lima, Peru. Upon graduation, he worked as a plant breeder assistant for the Small Grain Breeding Program at UNALM. In 1984, he became a member of the Plant Pathology Department; during this time, he was teaching and doing research in small grains and native cereals in the Andean region of his country.

He moved to Raleigh, NC in 1991. During 1992 to 1994, he worked at the

North Carolina State University in the Plant Disease and Insect Clinic Laboratory under the supervision of Ronald Jones. He earned his PhD in Plant Pathology in 1997 and joined Dr. Thomas Melton's Tobacco Extension Program as post doctorate and was later promoted to senior researcher. During this time, he was responsible for the development of control strategies for the management of different diseases that affect the production of tobacco transplants in greenhouses and in the field.

In February 2007, Walter joined CPHST PERAL as a risk analyst. Currently, he is

on TDY as the National Program Staff Scientist for Response and Recovery Systems Technology under the direction of Phil Berger.

When not at work Walter enjoys spending time with his wife, Margarita, his son, Marco and his dog, Carmen. He also enjoys gardening and growing orchids.





## CPHST PUBLICATIONS



**Jang, E. B., T. Holler, A. L. Moses, M. H. Salvato, and S. Fraser.** 2007. Evaluation of a Single Matrix Food Attractant Tephritid Fruit Fly Bait Dispenser for Use in Federal Trap Detection Programs. *Proc. Of the Hawaiian Entomological Society* (In Press).

**Martinez, A. J., E. J. Salinas, and P. Rendon.** 2007. Capture of *Anastrepha* Species (Diptera: Tephritidae) With Multilure Traps and Biolure Attractants in Guatemala. *Florida Entomologist* 90 (1) 258-263.

**Sivinski, J., T. Holler, R. Pereira, and M. Romero.** 2007. The Thermal Environment of Immature Caribbean Fruit Flies, *Anastrepha suspensa* (Diptera: Tephritidae). *Florida Entomologist* 90 (2): 347-357.

**Tubajika, K. M.** 2007. Effectiveness of alkyl dimethyl benzyl ammonium chloride in reducing the population of *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *Vesicatoria* and *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *syringae* in tomatoes, beans, and peppers. *Archives of Phytopathology and Plant Protection* (In Press).

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