

Curriculum Vitae

Alexander L. Wild

Doctoral Candidate
Department of Entomology
University of California at Davis
One Shields Avenue
Davis, CA 95616
Telephone: (530)752-9977
Email: alwild@ucdavis.edu

Research Interests

Biosystematics and evolution of ants (Hymenoptera: Formicidae) using a combination of molecular, morphological, and biogeographic data with an emphasis on the species level. Current projects include a taxonomic revision and phylogeny of the Neotropical ant genus *Linepithema*, a faunistic study on the ants of Paraguay, and a variety of smaller studies in the ant genera *Pachycondyla* and *Leptanilloides*.

Professional Preparation

1999 – present University of California at Davis. Ph.D. candidate in Entomology, degree anticipated June 2005.

1995 Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME. A. B. *summa cum laude* in Biology and Environmental Studies.

Academic/Professional Appointments

- 2005 U. C. Davis, Research Assistant. Currently working for Dr. Philip Ward (U. C. Davis) on an Assembling the Tree of Life (NSF - ATOL) grant to reconstruct the phylogeny of the Formicidae. Responsibilities include many aspects of molecular lab research including DNA extraction and amplification.
- 2004 U. C. Davis, Research Assistant. Worked for Dr. Philip Ward and Dr. Brian Fisher (California Academy of Sciences) on an “Ants of Madagascar” biotic inventory project. Responsibilities included checking ant identifications from the project’s field parataxonomists, delineating species and writing taxonomic keys for the genera *Technomyrmex* and *Tapinoma*.
- 2004 U. C. Davis, Teaching Assistant, Entomology 109, “Insect Diversity in the California Sierra Nevada.” Co-taught with Dr. Philip Ward a 5 week intensive field entomology class. Activities included giving regular lectures, assisting students in specimen curation and identification, grading student collections, and organizing collection and curation equipment for the class. Teaching responsibilities included Coleoptera and the Orthopteroid and Hemipteroid orders.
- 2003 U. C. Davis, Teaching Assistant, Entomology 107, “California Insect Diversity.” Under the supervision of Dr. Philip Ward. Responsibilities included organizing collection and curation equipment, assisting students in specimen curation and identification, and grading student collections.
- 2002 U. C. Davis, Teaching Assistant, Entomology 109, “Insect Diversity in the California Sierra Nevada.” As for Entomology 109 (2004), listed above.
- 2000 U. C. Davis, Teaching Assistant, Molecular and Cellular Biology 10, “Human Genetics.”
- 1999-2000 Graduate Research Assistant (U.C. Davis). Assisted in the curation of the U. C. Davis Bohart Museum ant collection under the supervision of Dr. Philip Ward.
- 1998-1999 U.S. Peace Corps/Paraguay. Agriculture Sector Coordinator. Activities included organizing a series of week-long workshops in sustainable agriculture for Paraguayan subsistence farmers and Peace Corps volunteers, re-designing the Peace Corps agriculture plan to boost emphasis on no-till

agriculture and increase coordination with local organizations, interacting with Paraguayan communities to determine placement of incoming volunteers, providing logistical support to volunteers, and editing a monthly newsletter.

- 1995-1998 U.S. Peace Corps/Paraguay. Apiculture extensionist. Responsibilities included teaching beekeeping with Africanized honeybees in several subsistence farming communities as well as agroforestry and sustainable agriculture extension.
- 1995-1999 Museo Nacional de Historia Natural del Paraguay. Curated the ants in the Paraguayan National Museum on a volunteer, part-time basis.
- 1995 Invertebrate Laboratory Intern. Archbold Biological Station, Lake Placid, Florida. Assisted in the curation of the Archbold insect collection under the supervision of Dr. Mark Deyrup.

Relevant Skills

- Ten years of professional experience in insect collection, curation, and identification.
- Strong ability in general insect identification, particularly in California.
- Excellent curation skills. Curation experience includes several institutional collections. Personal research collection contains over 30,000 specimens in 300 families, with a concentration on ants.
- Experience in the design and use of taxonomic keys.
- Over ten years of experience in the design and implementation of scientific research in entomology and systematics.
- Strong grant-writing skills; received over \$95,000 in funds as a graduate student from several sources, including a fellowship and a research grant from the National Science Foundation.
- Molecular laboratory skills include DNA extraction, amplification, purification, primer design, and sequence analysis.
- Bioinformatics software experience includes BioLink, Lucid, Auto-Montage, PAUP*, Clustal, McClade, Mr Bayes, and Sequencher.
- General software experience includes MS Word, MS Excel, MS Powerpoint, Netscape Composer, Adobe Photoshop, and Phase One Capture One.
- Insect photography. Photographs are featured in the California Academy of Sciences exhibit "Ants: Hidden Worlds Revealed" and have appeared in Discover Magazine, Ranger Rick, the History Channel, and elsewhere. Online gallery is viewable at www.myrmecos.net.
- International research experience in over 15 countries, with an emphasis in Latin America.
- Excellent public outreach skills. Experience includes agriculture extension, classroom and science center visits, and on-campus outreach events at U. C. Davis.
- Fluency in English, Spanish and Guaraní, with additional communications skills in Portuguese and French.

Publications

- Wild, A. L. 2005. Taxonomic revision of the *Pachycondyla apicalis* species complex (Hymenoptera: Formicidae). *Zootaxa* 834: 1-25.
- Roura-Pascual, N, A. V. Suarez , C. Gómez, P. Pons, Y. Touyama, A. L. Wild, & A. T. Peterson. 2004. Geographic potential of Argentine ants (*Linepithema humile* Mayr) in the face of global climate change. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London, Series B* 271:2527-2534.
- Wild, A. L. 2004. Taxonomy and distribution of the Argentine ant *Linepithema humile* (Hymenoptera: Formicidae). *Annals of the Entomological Society of America* 97(6): 1204–1215.
- Wild, A. L. 2003. Digital Macro Photography of Ants in the Field. *Notes from Underground* 10 (1): 4. Available online: <http://www.notesfromunderground.org/features/newfolder/myrmecologicalphotography.html>.
- Wild, A. L. 2003 ("2002"). The genus *Pachycondyla* (Hymenoptera: Formicidae) in Paraguay. *Boletín del Museo Nacional de Historia Natural del Paraguay* 14: 1–18.
- Suarez, A.V., M. Benard, N.D. Tsutsui, T.A. Blackledge, K. Copren, E.M. Sarnat, A.L. Wild, W.M. Getz, P.T. Starks, K. Will, P.J. Palsbøll, M.E. Hauber, C. Moritz, and A.D. Richman. 2002. Correspondence: Conflicts around a study of Mexican crops. *Nature* 417:897.
- Orians, C. M., C. H. Huang, A. Wild, K. A. Dorfman, P. Zee, M. T. T. Dao, and R. S. Fritz. 1997. Willow hybridization differentially affects preference and performance of herbivorous beetles. *Entomologia Experimentalis et*

Presentations

- Wild, A. L. 2004. An Overview of Latin American Regulations. Oral Presentation, Section A, Entomological Society of America Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT, USA.
- Wild, A. L. 2004. Phylogeny and Male Trait Evolution in the Neotropical Ant Genus *Linepithema*. Oral Presentation, Section A, Entomological Society of America Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT, USA.
- Wild, A. L. 2004. Distribution of the Argentine ant (*Linepithema humile*) in South America. Oral Presentation, Section 17, International Congress of Entomology, Brisbane Australia.
- Wild, A. 1999. No-till Agriculture in Paraguay: Balancing Indigenous Knowledge with Modern Technology. CIIFAD Forum, Cornell University.

Grants/Awards

- 2003 National Science Foundation Dissertation Enhancement Award (\$21,205)
- 2002 U.C. Davis Jastro Shields Research Award (\$2,500)
- 2002 U.C. Davis Center for Population Biology, Graduate Research Award (\$1,124)
- 2001 U.C. Davis Jastro Shields Research Award (\$2,500)
- 2001 U.C. Davis Center for Biosystematics, Graduate Research Award (\$1000)
- 2001 U.C. Davis Center for Population Biology, Graduate Research Award (\$1000)
- 2001 U.C. Davis Center for Biosystematics, Graduate Research Award (\$1000)
- 2000 U.C. Davis Jastro Shields Research Award (\$1,800)
- 2000 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (\$22,000/year for three years in stipend & fees)
- 1995 Macomber Prize, awarded annually by Bowdoin College to the outstanding graduating senior in Biology

Professional Affiliations

- Member, Entomological Society of America; 2004-2005 ESA Education and Youth Committee
- Affiliate, U.C. Davis Center for Population Biology
- Member, Entomology Club at U. C. Davis

References

Dr. Philip S. Ward (major professor)
Department of Entomology
University of California at Davis
One Shields Avenue
Davis, CA 95616
psward@ucdavis.edu
530-752-0486

Dr. Peter S. Cranston
Department of Entomology
University of California at Davis
One Shields Avenue
Davis, CA 95616
pscranston@ucdavis.edu
(530)754-5803

Mr. Stefan Cover
Curatorial Assistant
MCZ Ant Room
26 Oxford Street
Cambridge, MA 02138-2902
cover@oeb.harvard.edu
(617)495-2464

