Minutes from the 569th Meeting of the Connecticut Entomology Society

March 25th, 2022

Zoom

Members: 23

Guests: 9

Social pre-meeting began at approximately 18:30.

**Business Meeting:**

-Meeting called to order at 19:30 by president Ray Simpson.

**Reports:**

-Hopefully this will be our final meeting on Zoom.

-If you haven’t paid your dues yet, please do. You can do so either by PayPal or by mail.

**Old Business:**

-All attendees of the symposium with receive gifts! Specifically, the gifts are a CT EntSoc coffee mug and a CT EntSoc water bottle.

**New Business:**

-The April 22nd 2022 meeting will be the last meeting of the semester, and will be in-person at the CT Agricultural Experiment Station. It’ll also feature Dr. Molaei, discussing the effects of climate change on ticks. An option to attend via Zoom will also be available.

-The April meeting will also mark the CES officer elections!

-Possible field outing in May 2022? To be determined, depending on weather and how things are going regarding Covid-19.

**Exhibits:**

-There was a diagram of all the beetle species found in Sleeping Giant Park.

**Evening Presentation:**

-First speaker was Janey, discussing ground beetle nitrogen recycling in eastern temperate forests. She mentions nitrogen as being important to plants, and that ground beetles consist of over 40k species alone, making them a great indicator species. Her hypothesis is that as forests age, you see more specialized species and less abundant ones.

-Next speaker was Stan, discussing the co-effects of climate warming and plant invasion on trophic interactions. He uses a three-trophic model that includes plants, grasshoppers, and spiders which consume the grasshoppers. The more spiders that are present, the less grasses the grasshoppers consume. Results were that there was no consistent effect in temperature.

-Then Quint spoke on testing observable changes in grasshopper phenotypical plasticity in response to climate change. Conclusion: they failed to find a trend across changes in geography.

-Finally for the ten-minute talks was Aidan, discussing the green darner (Anax junius) and morphological variation within that species. Isotope analysis is still something that needs to be conducted!

-The next talk was by Lukas, who talked about backyard baiting, and looking for winter moths in suburban habitats.

-The last talk was about tropical mountain gradient and incipient speciation in a taxon of Chelobasis beetles, a morphologically diverse taxon of neotropical beetles. They found there were about half a dozen haplotypes with some overlap.

Meeting adjourned at 20:54.

**Note: corrections and additions to the minutes are welcomed. Please email** **maxengel1@gmail.com****.**