

# Schedule of Events

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**Sunday, November 13**

5:00 – 7:00 pm    **Registration**  
Normandie Hotel, San Juan, Puerto Rico  
Sixth Floor

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# Schedule of Events

Monday, November 14

8:00 – 9:45      **Registration and coffee**  
Normandie Hotel, San Juan, Puerto Rico  
Sixth Floor

9:45 – 10:00      **Welcome**  
Normandie Hotel, San Juan  
Sixth Floor, Room: Silver East I

**Terry Hueth.** Program Manager, State and Private Forestry. USDA FS International Institute of Tropical Forestry, Río Piedras, Puerto Rico

10:00 – 10:20      Opening keynote  
*Key Species in Changing Ecosystems*

**Nicholas V. L. Brokaw.** Lead Principal Investigator of the Luquillo Long Term Ecological Research Program. Institute of Tropical Ecosystem Studies, University of Puerto Rico – Río Piedras Campus

## SESSION I – Earthworms and ecosystem processes

Session Moderator: Samuel James

10:20 – 10:55      Keynote  
*Defining the role of earthworms in plant litter decomposition*

**Xiaoming Zou**<sup>1,2</sup>, Grizelle González<sup>3</sup>, and Douglas Schaefer<sup>1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>Institute for Tropical Ecosystem Studies, University of Puerto Rico; <sup>2</sup>Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, The Chinese Academy of Sciences, and <sup>3</sup>USDA FS International Institute of Tropical Forestry, Río Piedras, Puerto Rico

10:55 – 11:15      *Efecto de la inoculación de **Pontoscolex corethrus** Muller (Oligochaeta: Glossoscolecidae) sobre nitrógeno mineral disponible en casa de invernadero en la Amazonía peruana*

**Sandra Celia Tapia-Coral**<sup>1</sup>, Flávio Luizão<sup>1</sup>, Eleusa Barros<sup>1</sup>, Beto Pashanasi<sup>2</sup>, and Dennis del Castillo<sup>3</sup>. <sup>1</sup>Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazonia, Manaus, Amazonas, Brasil; <sup>2</sup>Universidad Nacional de la Amazonía Peruana, Yurimaguas, Loreto, Perú; <sup>3</sup>Instituto de Investigaciones de la Amazonía Peruana, Iquitos, Loreto, Perú

11:15 – 11:35      *Relaciones con la estructura del uso de la tierra de las comunidades de lombrices en la cuenca del río La Vieja, Colombia*

**Alexander Feijoo** and Maria Constanza Zúñiga, Universidad Tecnológica de Pereira, Pereira, Risaralda, Colombia

11:35 – 11:55      *The effect of habitat disturbance on the re-colonization of native earthworms in*

### *Puerto Rico*

Ching-Yu Huang<sup>1</sup>, Grizelle González<sup>2</sup>, and Paul F. Hendrix<sup>1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>Institute of Ecology, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, USA; <sup>2</sup>International Institute of Tropical Forestry, USDA Forest Service, San Juan, Puerto Rico

11:55 – 1:45

Lunch

Normandie Hotel, Sixth Floor, Room: Ocean View

## Schedule of Events

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Monday, November 14

### SESSION II – Title: Earthworms on agro-ecosystems

Session Moderator: Sandra Tapia

1:45 – 2:20

Keynote

*Lombrices de tierra invasoras en Brasil: diversidad, distribución e importancia ecológica en los agro-ecosistemas*

George Brown. Embrapa Soja, Londrina, Paraná, Brasil

2:20 – 2:40

*Earthworm populations, microbial biomass and coffee production in different experimental coffee management systems (Costa Rica)*

Yaniria Sánchez-de León<sup>1</sup>, Elias de Melo<sup>2</sup>, Gabriela Soto<sup>2</sup>, Jodi Johnson-Maynard<sup>1</sup> and Javier Lugo-Pérez<sup>1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho, USA; <sup>2</sup>Centro Agronómico Tropical de Investigación y Enseñanza, Turrialba, Costa Rica

2:40 – 3:00

*A preliminary survey of the earthworms of the Bosque del Pueblo, Adjuntas, Puerto Rico*

Sonia Borges, S. Maldonado and A. Santiago. Department of Biology, University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico

3:00 – 3:20

*Earthworm numbers and biomass in a biodiversity tree plantation in the tropics (Panamá)*

Malena Sarlo<sup>1,2</sup> and Catherine Potvin<sup>1,2</sup>. <sup>1</sup>McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada and <sup>2</sup> Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá City, Panamá

3:20 – 3:45

PM Break

3:45 – 4:05

*Exotic and native terrestrial oligochaeta in agroecosystems of central, southern and eastern Uruguay*

Enzo Grosso<sup>1</sup>, Gabriella Jorge<sup>1</sup> and George Brown<sup>2</sup>. <sup>1</sup>Universidad de la República, Iguá, Montevideo, Uruguay; <sup>2</sup>Embrapa Soja, Londrina, Paraná, Brasil

4:05 – 4:25

*Las lombrices de tierra en los diferentes sistemas de uso en la Amazonia Peruana*

**Beto Pashanasi.** Universidad Nacional de la Amazonía Peruana, Facultad de Zootecnia  
Yurimaguas, Loreto, Perú

4:25 – 4:45 ***Earthworm biodiversity in agricultural systems of Jaguapitã, Paraná state, Brasil***

**Daiane Nunes<sup>1</sup>**, George Brown<sup>2</sup>, and Amarildo Pasini<sup>1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>Universidade Estadual de Londrina, Londrina, Paraná, Brasil; <sup>2</sup>Embrapa Soja, Londrina, Paraná, Brasil

5:00 – 7:00 **Poster session and social**

Normandie Hotel, Sixth Floor, Room: Silver East II

7:00 - **Dinner on your own**

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# Schedule of Events

Tuesday, November 15

## SESSION III – Earthworms in forested ecosystems

Session Moderator: Catalina C. Mischis

- 9:00 – 9:35      Keynote  
*Ecosystem complexity, soil fauna and soil organic matter dynamics in aggrading systems*
- Elvira Cuevas<sup>1</sup> and Francisco Herrera<sup>2</sup>. <sup>1</sup>Department of Biology, University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico; <sup>2</sup>Centro de Ecología, Instituto Venezolano de Investigaciones Científicas, Caracas, Venezuela
- 9:35 – 9:55      *Evaluación del potencial de especies de Oligochaeta como indicadoras en ecosistemas de Uruguay*
- Stella Zerbino<sup>1</sup>, Claudia Rodríguez<sup>2</sup>, and Nora Altier<sup>3</sup>. <sup>1</sup>INIA, La Estancuela, Colonia, Uruguay; <sup>2</sup>Universidad de la República, Montevideo, Uruguay; <sup>3</sup>INIA, Las Brujas, Canelones, Uruguay
- 9:55 – 10:15      *Earthworm communities in eight tropical forests in the eastern Puerto Rico*
- Grizelle González<sup>1</sup>, Emerita García<sup>1,2</sup>, Sonia Borges<sup>2</sup>, Maria M. Rivera<sup>1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>USDA FS International Institute of Tropical Forestry, Río Piedras, Puerto Rico; <sup>2</sup>University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico
- 10:15 – 10:35      *Earthworm density and species richness in Spathodea campanulata forests in northern Puerto Rico*
- Ariel E. Lugo<sup>1</sup>, Oscar J. Abelleira<sup>2</sup>, Sonia Borges<sup>2</sup>, Lauren J. Colón<sup>3</sup>, Syndi Meléndez<sup>4</sup>, and Mariela A. Rodríguez<sup>5</sup>. <sup>1</sup>USDA FS International Institute of Tropical Forestry, Río Piedras, Puerto Rico; <sup>2</sup>University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez, PR; <sup>3</sup>University of Puerto Rico High School, Río Piedras, PR; <sup>4</sup>Juan Quirindongo Morell High School, Vega Baja, PR; <sup>5</sup>Luis Muñoz Marín High School, Barranquitas, PR
- 10:35 – 10:50      AM Break
- 10:50 – 12:00      *Workshop I – On important research questions of earthworm ecology and taxonomy in Latin America*
- 12:00 – 1:45      Lunch

# Schedule of Events

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Tuesday, November 15

## SESSION IV: Earthworms and sustainable development

Session Moderator: Beto Pashanasi

- 1:45 – 2:20      Keynote  
*¿Es Pontoscolex corethrurus una amenaza para las lombrices nativas de las selvas tropicales de México?*  
Carlos Fragoso. Departamento Biología de Suelos, Instituto de Ecología A.C., Xalapa, Veracruz, Mexico
- 2:20 – 2:40      *Distribución geográfica de la fauna exótica de lombrices de tierra (Annelida: Oligochaeta) en la Argentina y sus posible causas de introducción*  
Catalina C. Mischis<sup>1</sup> and Julio A. D. Herrera<sup>1,2</sup>. <sup>1</sup>Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Córdoba, Argentina; <sup>2</sup>Becario CONICET, Argentina
- 2:40 – 3:00      *Crecimiento y reproducción de Eisenia fetida (Savigny) en diferentes sustratos*  
Yolmar Ríos. Universidad Centroccidental Lisandro Alvarado, Barquisimeto, Lara, Venezuela
- 3:00 – 3:20      PM Break
- 3:20 – 3:40      *Presentations on workshop I*
- 3:40 – 5:00      *Workshop II – On the design of studies and / or methodologies to answer important research questions of earthworm ecology and taxonomy in Latin America (Network level)*
- 5:00 – 5:20      *Presentations on workshop II*
- 5:20 – 6:00      Posters
- 6:00 –            Dinner on your own
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# Schedule of Events

Wednesday, November 16

## SESSION V – Earthworm Invasions and Vermi-composting

Session Moderator: Stella Zerbino

- 9:00 – 9:35      **Keynote**  
*Exotic earthworm invasions: extent, mechanisms, impacts and mitigation*  
  
Paul Hendrix, Ching-Yu Huang, and Bruce Snyder. Institute of Ecology, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, USA
- 9:35 – 10:10      *Las bases y los beneficios del vermi-compostaje*  
  
Sonia Borges. University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico
- 10:10 – 10:45      *La lombricultura en Venezuela, estado actual y perspectivas*  
  
Yolmar Ríos. Universidad Centroccidental Lisandro Alvarado, Barquisimeto, Lara, Venezuela
- 10:45 – 11:00      **AM Break**
- 11:00 – 11:25      *Molecular data and invasive earthworm species – imagining the future*  
  
Samuel James. Kansas University Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Research Center, Lawrence, Kansas, USA
- 11:25 – 12:00      *Earthworm invasions in the tropics*  
  
Grizelle González. USDA FS International Institute of Tropical Forestry, Río Piedras, Puerto Rico
- 12:00 – 1:45      **Lunch**
- SESSION VI- Management of exotic species**  
Session Moderator: Grizelle González
- 1:45 – 2:20      *El marco legal de la introducción de especies exóticas a Puerto Rico y sus consecuencias*  
  
Miguel A. García. Bureau of Fisheries and Wildlife, Department of Natural and Environmental Resources, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico
- 2:20 – 2:55      *U. S. Department of Agriculture - Regulations concerning the importation of live organisms for agricultural purposes*  
  
Wilfredo García. United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) - PPQ, Carolina, Puerto Rico

# Schedule of Events

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Wednesday, November 16

2:55 – 3:30	<i>Manejo de animales vivos a través del Servicio Postal</i> Yazdel Molina. United States Postal Service, Puerto Rico
3:30 – 3:50	Panel Discussion
3:50 – 4:10	PM Break
4:10	Wrap-up Discussion
7:00	Banquet

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# Schedule of Events

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Thursday, November 17

8:30 – 4:00      Field trip to the Luquillo Experimental Forest and the Caribbean National Forest, Luquillo  
Pick – up at the Lobby of the Normadie Hotel  
Dinner on your own

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# Schedule of Events

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## Friday, November 18

8:00 - 5:30 Taxonomy Course at the Universidad del Este, Carolina

Pick – up at the Lobby of the Normadie Hotel

7:00 Tour of Old San Juan

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