

**SYMPOSIUM 27: AVIAN MALARIA AS A MODEL OF HOST-PARASITE
INTERACTIONS IN TROPICAL ENVIRONMENTS**

Bonito, 22nd June 2012 (Friday)

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It is increasingly evident that parasites and pathogens exert important influences on the distribution and abundance of host species, and that they are also critical determinants of invasion success in both natural and altered environments. Habitat alteration creates new contacts among species and produces the potential for emerging infectious diseases (EIDs). Nonetheless, for many kinds of hosts, little is known about their parasites and potential impacts. Owing to the availability of DNA amplification and sequencing, information is accumulating on the geographic and host distribution of avian haemosporidian (“malaria”) parasites, which are becoming a model system for studying host-parasite relationships in natural and altered systems. In this symposium, based on studies of avian haemosporidia, we shall explore the nature of parasite-host relationships in intact communities of tropical birds (Svensson, Braga), impacts of habitat alteration on parasite communities (Sehgal), potential and realized impacts of introduced malaria and other pathogens in tropical island systems (Atkinson, Parker), and the role of tropical migrants in transmitting diseases between distant regions (Bensch).

TALKS (Room Terena, 16h30-18h00)

- 16h30-16h45 (S27.CO.01) **Ecology of avian pox and malaria in the Hawaiian islands: an ongoing conservation crisis.** *Carter T. Atkinson*
- 16h45-17h00 (S27.CO.02) **Risks and consequences of the spread of avian malaria between the tropics and the temperate regions.** *Staffan Bensch*
- 17h00-17h15 (S27.CO.03) **Galapagos birds and their blood parasites.** *Patricia Parker*
- 17h15-17h30 (S27.CO.04) **Fine scale habitat elements impact the prevalence and diversity of avian haemosporidian parasites in tropical ecosystems.** *Ravinder Sehgal*
- 17h30-17h45 (S27.CO.05) **Prevalence and diversity of avian haemosporidian parasites in different biomes in Brazil.** *Erika Martins Braga*
- 17h45-18h00 (S27.CO.06) **Organization of a tropical and a temperate assemblage of avian malaria parasites.** *Maria Svensson Coelho*

POSTERS (Karuha Space, 15h30-16h30)

- S27.P.01. **Host-specificity analyses of avian malaria parasites in bird communities from Southeast Brazil.** *Gustavo Augusto Lacorte*
- S27.P.02. **Testing hypothesis of host exploration strategies using data on distribution of avian *Plasmodium* lineages in bird communities from Southeast Brazil.** *Gustavo Augusto Lacorte*
- S27.P.03. **Colonization history and origin of the Galápagos flycatcher (*Myiarchus magnirostris*; Passeriformes: Tyrannidae) and its parasites.** *Eloisa Sari*