MERCER AWARD
NAOMI CAPPUCCINO

Dr. Naomi Cappuccino (Département des Sciences Biologique, Université du Québec à Montréal, Québec) was chosen for the 1993 Mercer Award for her paper "The nature of population stability in Eurosta solidaginis, a non-outbreaking herbivore of goldenrod" (Ecology 73:1792-1801). The paper involved insightful experiments on population regulation, thoughtful interpretation of the results, and an impressive ability to extrapolate a crucial ecological process over space and time; it is a model for modern studies of population regulation. Dr. Cappuccino received her B.A. from Brown, where she worked with Peter Kareiva, and her Ph.D. at Cornell, working with Richard Root. Her prize-winning research was carried out with the support of an NSF postdoctoral fellowship.

Mercer Award Subcommittee:
Peter M. Vitousek (Chair)
Linda Brubaker
Richard Holmes
Ellen Ketterson
Roy Stein
Kirk Winemiller
Elvira Cuevas

WILLIAM S. COOPER AWARD
CLIFF R. HUPP

The William S. Cooper Award is given by the Society for recent contributions in geobotany, physiographic ecology, plant succession, or the distribution of organisms along environmental gradients.

The 1993 recipient of the William S. Cooper Award is Dr. Cliff R. Hupp for his 1992 paper "Riparian vegetation recovery patterns following stream channelization: a geomorphic perspective" which appeared in Ecology 73:1209-1226.

Stream straightening, dredging, and clearing has been one of the principal methods of regulating stream discharge and peak flow. This channelization has been controversial because of the significant changes in the fluvial processes it engenders. Cliff Hupp took advantage of a natural experiment created when a large number of streams were channelized between 1959 and 1978 in Western Tennessee. As a part of a large multidisciplinary study, he analyzed 150
sites along 15 streams that had undergone major human channelization. The study documents basin-wide ecologic, hydrologic, and geomorphic processes that bring about an integrated characteristic recovery sequence. A six-stage model of channel evolution is used to provide a spatial and temporal framework for plant ecologic and fluvial geomorphic interpretations. The study finds that the processes of channel bed aggradation, woody vegetation establishment, and bank accretion are linked and signal the recovery of the channel to quasi-equilibrium fluvial processes.

This study is a further example of the significant insights that hydrogeologic processes have on vegetation dynamics and vice versa. Fluvial processes are well defined and provide the mechanisms that explain how landforms develop. These processes thus are important to tality and mortality forces on plant populations. In turn, the plant populations influence the rates of the hydrogeologic processes. The paper is a distinct contribution from a scientist in the U.S. Geological Survey who brings an unusual interdisciplinary approach to the study of plant community dynamics. The expertise of a stream geomorphologist was essential to the paper's strong contribution to vegetation recovery along stream channels.

William S. Cooper Award Selection Committee:
Edward A. Johnson (Chair)
Carol K. Augspurger
Frank W. Davis
Martin C. Kellman
Craig G. Lorimer
William J. Platt
Keith Van Cleve


MURRAY F. BUELL AWARD

M. DENISE DEARING

Murray F. Buell ascribed great importance to the participation of students at meetings and to excellence in the presentation of papers. To honor his dedication to the Ecological Society of America and to the younger generation of ecologists, this award is presented to a student for the outstanding oral paper presented at the Society's annual meeting.

The 1993 winner of the award is M. Denise Dearing for her paper “The manipulation of secondary compounds by the North American pika” based on her current doctoral research at the University of Utah under the supervision of Phyllis Coley. Denise received her bachelor's degree from Eastern Connecticut State University and her master's degree from the University of Vermont.

Receiving honorable mention citations are Ann L. Herzig of Cornell University for her paper “The effect of population density on long-distance movement by the goldenrod specialist, Trirhaba virgata (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae),” Suzanne E. Worcester of the University of California at Berkeley for her paper “Colonial ascidians rafting on eelgrass: do adults have greater success dispersing than larvae?”, and James B. Ferrari of the University of Minnesota for his paper “A spatial model of leaf litterfall for hemlock-hardwood forests.”

1993 Student Awards Selection Committee:
Kiyoko Miyanishi (Chair)
Jan Beyers
Nancy Eyster-Smith
John Madsen
Paul Rygiewicz
Sam Scheiner

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