IPS Grants and Awards for 2007

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IPS Research Grants: Alison Behie (Canada) “The roles of nutrition, stress and parasites in determining population density in black howlers”; Sarah Carnegie (Canada) “Reproductive strategies and hormonal patterns in wild female white-faced capuchins”; Marietta Dindo (UK) “Investigating primate social learning and culture”; Kathelijne Koops (UK) “Elementary technology of foraging and shelter in the chimpanzees of Nimba Mountains, Guinea”; Marie Pele (France) “What is the influence of psychological traits in the ability of macaques to delay gratification?”; Fiona Stewart (UK) “The evolution of shelter: Modelling human origins through field study of chimpanzee nest building”; Michael Wasserman (USA) “The role of phytoestrogens in the feeding ecology of red colobus monkeys”.

Charles Southwick Conservation Education Commitment Award: Jerry Akparawa, CERCOPAN. Lawrence Jacobsen Education Development Award: Christos Astaras (University of Göettingen) “Raising Awareness About Drill Conservation Status Among Youth at Korup Region, Southwest Cameroon”; Marina Cords (Columbia University) “Kakamega Environmental Education Program: Building a Conservation Education Center at Kibiri”; Damodar Gaire (Institute of Forestry, Nepal) “Creation of Community Awareness on Primate Conservation among the School Students and Indigenous People in the Buffer Zone of Bardia National Park, Nepal”.


Books


English version: Karen Strier, 1999. Harvard University Press. 170 pp. ISBN: 978-0674290082. The woolly spider monkey, or muriqui, is one of the most threatened primate species in the world. Because of deforestation in their natural habitat (the Atlantic coastal forests of southeastern Brazil) the muriquis are confined to less than three percent of their original range. As of 1987, there were only a dozen forest fragments known to support a total muriqui population of about 500. As of 1998, at least 20 forests are known to support at least 1000 muriquis. This book traces the natural history of the muriqui from its scientific discovery in 1806 to its current, highly endangered status. Karen Strier provides a case study of this scientifically important primate species by balancing field research and ecological issues. Through her accessible presentation, readers gain a broad understanding of primate behavior and tropical conservation.

Life in the Cerrado, a South American Tropical Seasonal Ecosystem, by Gerhard Gottsberger and I. Silberbauer-Gottsberger. 2005. The book describes the Cerrado (one of the top biodiversity hotspots in the world), a large scale South American ecosystem, its formation and origin, its plants and their adaptations, their rhythms of life, and their interactions with animals. The Central Brazilian Cerrado should be considered as a distinct vegetation type, distinguished from other topographically similar Central and South American vegetation types by its ecology, species composition and floristic diversity. Cerrado occurs frequently in savanna-like forms, but also as forest (closed arboreal canopy), woodland (open arboreal canopy), scrub and open grassland forms. Floristic similarities of Cerrado and Central and South American savannas and savanna-like vegetation are the result of a common origin of all these vegetation types and also testify to the floristic exchange between Neotropical savannas and Cerrado during the Tertiary and Quaternary. In the first volume is a detailed examination of its vegetation, its structure, dynamics and presumed origin. Emphasis is on the adaptational features of plants in relation to their physical environment, in particular climate, soil conditions and fire. Further, the utility to humans of Cerrado plants is discussed, as well as the influence of humans upon this ecosystem. We also discuss...