



SOVE Newsletter

President's Message



Lal Mian
lmian@csusb.edu

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you all for your record participation in the 48th Annual Conference (dubbed 50th Anniversary Conference) of SOVE held October 7-11, 2018 at the Tenaya Lodge, Fish Camp-Yosemite National Park, California. I will start with a big thank you to our sponsors, namely Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Clarke, MGK, Central life Sciences, Dr. Mir Mulla, PLOS, Valent BioSciences Corp., ADAPCO, Inc., AMVAC, FMC, UNIVAR, KABS German Mosquito Control, and Dhillon Land Co. Your support did make a big difference, especially with helping out our student attendees. The 50th Anniversary Meeting was dedicated to Dr. Mir S. Mulla for his decades of unparalleled loyalty, service, and support to the Society in its mission to promote vector ecology around the world (see photo on p. 3). The conference proceedings started with a welcome by vice president, Lyle Petersen, followed by a brief awards ceremony by Petersen and SOVE president Lal Mian; announcements by executive director, Major Dhillon; presidential address by Lal Mian; keynote address by William Reisen; and regional reports by Dhillon for the European-SOVE director, Alexandra Chaskopoulou (who could not be available), Rui-De Xue for the Asian SOVE director, Gunter Muller, Latin American director, Paulo Pimenta, and the Indian SOVE director, Ashwani Kumar. This year's awardees for the distinguished achievement award were

Nancy Hinkle and Steve Dobson and those for the distinguished service award were Vicki Kramer and William Van Dyke.

The conference offered 60 oral presentations over 10 symposia that covered diverse topics, ranging from genomics and genetic manipulation to vector-borne zoonotics, emerging vector-borne infections, vector-pathogen interactions, disease outbreaks and trends, CDC regional centers of excellence in vector-borne disease, vector control around the world, and student presentations. The presentations were thorough and shed ample light on some of the cutting-edge research on vector-borne diseases. Besides oral presentations, there were 87 poster displays showcasing research outcomes in vector ecology and control strategies. For the conference attendees most of which came from different parts of the United States, we had some overseas members in attendance as well, representing different areas: Australia, South America (Argentina, Brazil), European Union (Germany, Greece, Lithuania, Romania), and Asia (India, Japan, Thailand).

Besides the main conference, there were other events worthy of mention here. These included our favorite field ecology day trip, first Women in Science initiative (credit Melissa Nolan), and the students meeting (mentored by past-president Mike Kaufman). There was also the annual meeting of the SOVE Board of Directors on October 1 and a SOVE-BOD business meeting on October 10. I was delighted to see some of you at the meeting, showing interest of our membership in the Society's affairs.

The year 2018 marked by the 50th Anniversary Conference went extremely well. Other matters addressed in 2018 included student representation at the Board (Kaufman's initiative), Women in Science initiative (Led by Nolan), andcont'd on p.2

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Incoming President's Message

Ulrich Bernier

Dear Colleagues:

As we enter 2019, I reflected back on the history of the Society which was presented by President Lal Mian during the 2018 (50th Anniversary) meeting held in Yosemite National Park. I reflected back to my first SOVE meeting, which I attended in 2005, and realized that there were many of my colleagues in this room who have had the pleasure of attending meetings for a much longer period than I have. I feel fortunate to have seen this society grow and establish branches throughout the world (Europe, Latin America, India, Asia, and Africa). This society is my favorite of all the societies that I am a member of and this is due greatly to the composition of members. Major Dhillon sums this up best when he says, "SOVE is a family."

I look forward to serving the Society as President during the upcoming year. A notable transition taking place during this year will be the retirement of Major Dhillon, our current Executive Director for SOVE. Bill Van Dyke will serve as the Associate Executive Director to eventually assume the position of Executive Director. I look forward to working with Major and Bill in the future. My personal charge will be to assist past-president Mike Kaufman and the SOVE student committee to enhance the involvement of the younger members (students and professionals) in our Society. I believe that they are the key for keeping SOVE a strong, healthy, and relevant Society for decades to come.

I look forward to corresponding with you in the future. I can be reached through my e-mail (uli.bernier@ars.usda.gov).

In closing, I hope that you had a great Holiday season and a Happy New Year. I look forward to seeing you at the 2019 conferences.

Uli

...President's address cont'd from p. 1.

some needed changes to the SOVE by-laws. We have already revived a Student Corner page in the SOVE Newsletter.

As the SOVE President, I also had the opportunity to attend the 21st Annual conference of the E-SOVE held October 23-26, 2018, in Palermo, Italy. It was a great conference; it was well-prepared and warmly hosted. My accolades go to both the Scientific and the Local Arrangement committees of E-SOVE for a job well done!

On December 20, 2018, both as SOVE president and on a personal note, I was invited to attend a meeting of the Board of Trustees of Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control District, Corona, California. On behalf of the SOVE Board, I was able to award a plaque to the President of the Board of Trustees for their generosity in providing the SOVE Headquarters free office space and staff time for the past 22 years. At this occasion, I gave a special Presidential Honor Award to Major Dhillon for his unmatched service to the Society over the last 22 years. In addition, as Professor and Coordinator of Environmental Health Science at California State University, San Bernardino, I gave a special plaque to Major Dhillon recognizing him for his partnership in research, facilitation of student internships, and service on the program Advisory Committee for 20 years (see photos on page 16).

And finally, in the not so distant future, my tenure as president will end on December 31, 2018 and a new Board will take charge from January 1, 2019, with president-elect Ulrich Bernier ascending to become president; vice president Lyle Petersen to president-elect, new vice president Isik Unlu (welcome aboard!), Mian becomes past-president, Major Dhillon goes as executive director Emeritus and William Van Dyke takes on as the new executive director. I would like to officially pass on the gavel to our incoming President Bernier with one promise, for sure, I made with then President Kaufman in Mallorca, Spain last year, that I will not screw things up. I full-heartedly enjoyed serving as your president and I thank you for providing me this wonderful opportunity.

Best wishes,

Lal

50th Anniversary Meeting—Photos



Vice President Lyle Petersen welcomes conference attendees

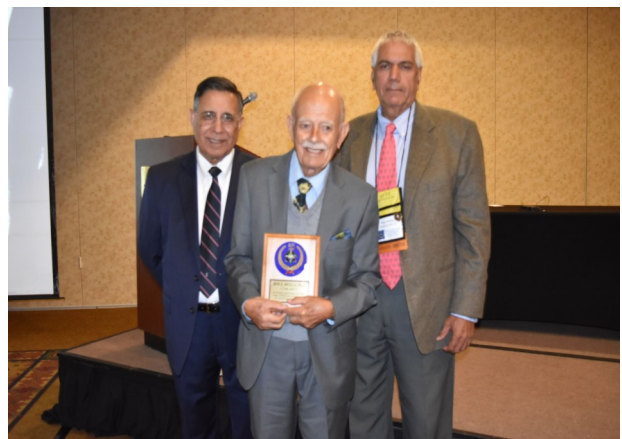


Executive Director Major Dhillon makes early conference announcements

Conference Dedication

“On behalf of the Board of the Society for Vector Ecology I am delighted to dedicate the 50th Anniversary Conference of the SOVE to Dr. Mir S. Mulla for his decades of loyalty, service, and sustained support to the Society in its mission to promote vector ecology around the world,” announced by President Lal Mian in his Address to the Conference.

Below President Lal Mian presents the recognition plaque to Dr. Mulla (left) and next Dr Mulla holds the plaque while he is flanked by Lal Mian and Major Dhillon (right).



SOVE Award Presentations



Nancy Hinkle receiving SOVE Achievement Award



Vicky Kramer receiving SOVE Service Award



Bill Van Dyke receiving SOVE Service Award



President-elect Uli Bernier presenting a gavel to President Lal Mian

50th Anniversary Meeting of SOVE—Plenary Session Photos



Lal Mian giving Presidential Address



SOVE Assembly at Presidential Address



Bill Reisen giving Keynote address



Melissa Nolan speaking on Women in Science

SOVE 50th Anniversary Conference



Reporting Ashwani Kumar for India SOVE Region



Reporting Rui-De Xue for Asian SOVE Region



Drs. Mir Mulla and Lal Mian with a group of students

50th Anniversary Meeting of SOVE—Photos

For more pictures go to www.sove.org



Presidential Address

Good Morning Everybody and welcome to the 50th Anniversary Conference of the Society for Vector Ecology! Let the celebrations begin with conference dedication first, SOVE history highlights later.

Conference Dedication

On behalf of the Board of the Society for Vector Ecology I am delighted to dedicate the 50th Anniversary Conference of the SOVE to Dr. Mir S. Mulla for his decades of loyalty, service, and sustained support to the Society in its mission to promote vector ecology around the world.

SOVE History Highlights

1967. Conversation of a professional society among 17 concerned vector ecologists in California, spear-headed by Harvy Magy of Cal Public Health.

1968. On April 19, the group formed the Cal Association of Vector Ecologists (CAVE) with Roy Eastwood as president, Harvy Magy vice president and John Shanafelt as secretary-treasurer. The goal here was to bring together people with different backgrounds (e.g., biologists, entomologists, vector ecologists, epidemiologists, microbiologists, mammalogists, and civil engineers). As the group solidified, CAVE drafted its By-Laws and Constitution.

1971. President Harvy Magy gave a presentation entitled, “The Genesis and Goals of the Society of Vector Ecologists” at the annual conference of the California Mosquito Control Association (CMCA), held January 25-27, 1971; The presentation was published in the Proceedings and Papers of CMCA in 11/1971. The first meeting of the CAVE was held on March 20, 1971 in Fresno, California with Harvy Magy. In March 1971, CAVE was renamed as the Society of Vector Ecologists (SOVE) with the possibility to expand membership beyond California and abroad, representing different geographical regions although getting enough members by region seemed to be challenging at that time. Later in 1988, its name was changed to the Society for Vector Ecology (keeping the acronym SOVE unchanged) for tax-exempt status for the membership dues and moving further from professional individual interest to promoting the science and education of vector ecology. For more information, refer to Madon and Hopla (2005), the only available reference the SOVE history.¹

SOVE Newsletter (1971-2018)

The SOVE Newsletter was started in 1971, with both John Shanafelt and Minoo Madon voluntarily doing all the information gathering, proofing and printing. The editorship of the Newsletter from 1971-2018, can be summed up by starting with John Shanafelt and Minoo Madon, followed by Roger Nasci, Nancy Hinkle, Mir Mulla, and Lal Mian (2012-present).

Bulletin/Journal of Vector ecology (1974-2018)

The SOVE Bulletin was started in 1974 with Minoo Madon as editor (1974-1982) with help from Major Dhillon, followed by editor Jim Webb 1983-1991; upon Webb’s resignation, then associate editor Lal Mian carried out editorial tasks with help from then President Bill Reisen till the selection of Marc Klowden as editor in 1992-present. Marc is assisted by his wife Anne Klowden. Thank you Marc and Anne. The JVE Editorial Board started with Mir Mulla as chair, followed by Woldgridge Foster.

Secretary-Treasurer/Executive Director (1971-2018)

The SOVE secretary-treasurer position was held by John Shanafelt from 1971 to 1976, followed by Minoo Madon (1977-83), Frank Pelsue (1984-87), Gilbert Challet (1988-1997), and Major Dhillon 1998-present. With the 2017 revision to the by-laws, the secretary-treasurer position was reclassified as executive director to better reflect the duties performed under the new position.

Office Staff

--John Shanafelt from 1968-82
 --Justine Keller at Orange County MVCD (1982-97);
 --Tina Ranisaliyevich (1998-2000), Lori Bheeler (2000-2004),
 Ruth MacDonald (2005-08), Valerie Montigny (2009-present) all at
 Northwest MVCD, Corona, CA.

SOVE webmaster

The following two individuals served the Society as webmaster:
 Jared Dever (2007-2011), William Van Dyke (2012-present)

SOVE Headquarters - HQs

The SOVE Headquarters were stationed at John Shanafelt’s home, Orange County, California where John carried out all day-to-day activities from 1968-82. The headquarters were moved to the Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District (OCMVCD) in Santa Ana, California in 1982; and were relocated again to the Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control District (NWMVCD) in Corona, California in 1998. It is worthwhile to mention that neither Shanafelt nor any of the two districts ever charged rent for providing office space for the SOVE staff. These individuals, including the agency management and governing boards are to be applauded for their generosity in providing office space to the SOVE headquarters...cont’d—p.9



Cont'd from p.

Looking back at the 50 years of SOVE, many changes, events, and personalities took turns in time to keep SOVE alive and well, financially and otherwise. To begin with, there were 50 presidents who carried the Society with time commitment, dedication and great leadership. The SOVE presidents are chronologically named in the list below. The first president Roy Eastwood (1969) had a second term in office in 1976.

Chronological list of SOVE Presidents

1969-R. Eastwood, 1970-H. Magy, 1971-H. Greenfield, 1972-W. Wardon, 1973-M. Kramer, 1974-E. Mortenson, 1975-R. Eastwood, 1976-C. Rogers, 1977-R. Husbands, 1978-G. Challet, 1979-M. Christiansen, 1980-C. Hansen, 1981-C. Meyer, 1982-R. Fontaine, 1983-M. Mulla, 1984-J. Graham, 1985-R. Tonn, 1986-B. Brown-Westerdahl, 1987-C. Hopla, 1988-M. Madon, 1989-C. Moore, 1990-Glen Collett, 1991-J. Webb, 1992-W. Reisen, 1993-N. Becker, 1994-Susan Palchick, 1995-B. Eldgridge, 1996-F. Beams, 1997-M. Service, 1998-R. Thomas, 1989-D. Dame, 2000-John Edman, 2001-M. Klowden, 2002-R. Lane, 2003-A. Spielman, 2004-T. Scott, 2005-U. Kitron, 2006-J. Day, 2007-R. Novak, 2008-B. Beard, 2009-N. Hinkle, 2010-N. Newton, 2011-G. Lanzaro, 2012-K. Linthicum, 2013-W. Walton, 2014-D. Norris, 2015-B. Alten, 2016-D. Kline, 2017-M. Kaufman, 2018-L. Mian.

During its 50 years, SOVE recognized its members for distinguished service and distinguished professional achievements:

--Distinguished Service Awards –35 (see list below).

--Distinguished Achievement Awards—35 (see list below)

--Life-time Achievement Award. It was given to Mir Mulla and Dan Strickman.

--Life-time Service Award: It was given to Major Dhillon and Norbert Becker

List of SOVE-Distinguished Service Award Recipients (35)

1985-R. Fontaine; 1986-G. Challet; 1987-J. Webb; 1991-J Keller; 1992-H.B. Munns; 1993-F. Beams; 1996-M. Madon; 1997-N. Becker; 1998-C. Dahl; 1999-D. Dame; 2000-M. Klowden; 2001-R. Bellini; 2002-M. Dhillon; 2003-N. Hinkle; 2004-C. Hopla; 2005-C. Aranda; 2006-L. Beehler, W. Reisen; 2007-S. Juliano; 2008-L. Mian; 2009-B. Alten, K. Aultman, S. Cagler, P. Schadler, M. Zgomba; 2010-D. Candito; 2011-B. Beard; 2012- R. Xue; 2013-G. Lanzaro, R. Novak; 2014-M. Cheng; 2015-E. Veronesi; 2016-T. Zhao; 2017-M. Miranda, W. Walton.

List of SOVE-Distinguished Achievement Award Recipients (35)

1988-W Reeves; 1989-R. Peters; 1991-B. Francy; 1992-R. Barr, T. Work; 1993-M. Service; 1994-C. Hopla; 1995-G. Craig; 1996-R. Washino; 1997-P. Reiter; 1998-B. Eldridge; 1999-J. Mouchet; 2000-W. Burgdorfer; 2001-W. Reisen, W. Takken; 2002-H. Briegle; 2003-W. Crans; 2004-G. O'Meara; 2005-A. Spielman; 2006-M. Mulla; 2007-R. Rykman; 2008-C. Moore; 2009-N Ozer, R. Russell; 2010-C. Apperson; 2011-P. Lounibos; 2012-J. Schlein; 2013-J. Edman, F. Schafner, M. Zgomba; 2014-G. White; W. Foster; 2016-K. Linthicum; 2017-G. Lanzaro, V. Robert.

Apart from above awards, at the 50th Anniversary of SOVE, the Board has awarded 50 members for their service and support of their Society. These include Nicole Achée, Bulent Alten, Dan Arias, Benjamin Beard, Norbert Becker, Ulrich Bernier, Sinval Pinto Brandão, Dennis Candito, Alexandra Chaskopoulou, Gilbert Challet, Major Dhillon, Woodbridge Foster, Nancy Hinkle, Michael Kaufman, Justine Keller, Anne Klowden, Marc Klowden, Ashwani Kumar, Gregory Lanzaro, Qiyong Liu, Minoo Madon, Lal Mian, Christina McCarthy, Chester Moore, Mir Mulla, Gunter Muller, Valerie Montigny, Steve Mulligan, Roger Nasci, Maria Helena Neves, Melissa Nolan, Lyle Petersen, Paulo Pimenta, Steven Presley, William Reisen, Marian Shannon, David Sullivan, Isik Unlu, Eva Veronesi, Rui-De Xue, William Van Dyke, William Walton, Stephanie Whitman, Marija Zgomba, and our sponsors—Clarke, MGK, Valent, and Central Life Science.

Society for Vector Ecology Composition***SOVE Board of Directors***

President: Lal Mian; President-elect: Ulrich Bernier; Vice President: Lyle Petersen; Past President: Michael Kaufman

Executive Director: Major Dhillon

Northeastern US: Isik Unlu; Southeastern US: Rui-de Xue

North Central US: Nicole Achée; South Central US: Melissa Nolan

Northwestern US: David Sullivan; Southwestern US: Steve Mulligan

Asian SOVE: Gunter Muller; Brazilian SOVE: Paulo Pimenta

Euro-SOVE: Alexandra Chaskopoulou; Indian SOVE: Ashwani Kumar

SOVE Financial Health

Financially SOVE is looking very stable (more at Business Meeting 10/17/18)

Other matters

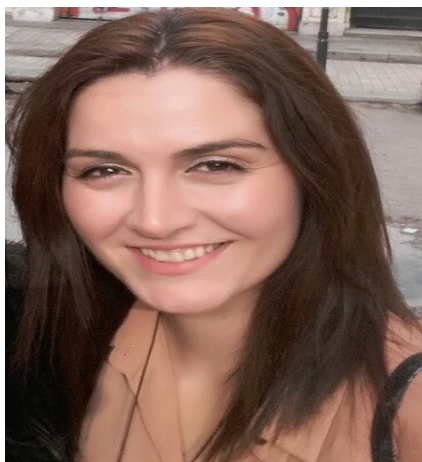
You will see some changes to the Board: 1/1/2019, increased women participation, and active student participation

I would like to acknowledge vice president Lyle Petersen for putting up an outstanding scientific program for the conference! I would also like to acknowledge a few individuals here: Major Dhillon, who has ably won this (new) special Presidential Honor Award (to be mailed to him); Pash Dhillon, the lady behind Major's success; and last but not least, my wife, Judy Mian.

Thanks everybody and enjoy the conference!

¹Madon MB, Hopla CE. 2005. The history of the Society for Vector Ecology. J Vector Ecol. 10(1): 1-3.

Regional Reports



EUROPEAN SOVE

Alexandra Chaskopoulou

regional director

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

On behalf of the European Society for Vector Ecology, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 21st Euro SOVE conference in the beautiful city of Palermo, Sicily.

The primary goal of the Euro SOVE conferences has been to bring together scientists from the field of vector ecology and control, in order to share current research development, enhance networking and increase visibility of everyone's accomplishments. The meetings are always highly informative with diverse presentations, exceptionally great quality of talks, with ample opportunity to socialize with each other while enjoying the local beauties and traditions of our country. So, I am hopeful and confident that the Palermo meeting will meet and surpass everyone's expectations.

We – scientists – have made remarkable progress in the recent years to communicate and network with each other, as evident by the increasing number of collaborative international projects and networking activities. But how active are we in engaging with the public and the policy makers? And when we do, are we using the right “language”? If someone looks at some of the public's perspective on vaccination, GMOs, and global warming, it becomes clear that there is a certain amount of doubt and even fear of science and technology—And how is this relevant to our field? What about the release of sterile and/or transgenic mosquitoes? Or what about the emergency response plans to West Nile virus outbreaks in Greece and with aerial ultra-low volume (ULV) space spray application in Texas? How do the public and regulators perceive these technologies? We say “transgenic mosquitoes,” people think “mosquito mutants/monsters.” We say “ULV space sprays,” they think “spray with carcinogenic chemicals.”

Some of this doubt is based on misinformation or may be a consequence of an important communication gap between scientists and society. We are often so caught up in our sci-

entific agenda and the need to excel through publishing that we may neglect or simply not know how to reach out to the public. So how can we strengthen our links with our communication in order to improve their understanding and trust in science and, also, to better prioritize our scientific goals based on social needs? I look forward to address these important questions with all of you.

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to Alessandra Torina, Major Dhillon, Norbert Becker, Bill Van Dyke, and Michalis Miaoulis for their tremendous contribution in organizing the conference and to all members of the local organizing committee for being such wonderful hosts. My heartfelt thanks to our scientific committee for their help in shaping a highly informative scientific program, but most importantly to all of you, dear conference participants and speakers, for making all this possible.



21st Conference of the European SOVE

Lal Mian, SOVE President
Major Dhillon, Executive Director

The 21st Conference of the European SOVE (E-SOVE) themed “Arthropod Vector Science for the Benefit of Society: Educate, Empathize, Engage,” was held October 22-26, 2018 at NH Hotel in Palermo, Italy. The venue and ambience were great for the occasion. The conference was very informative and well-organized with the topics adequately addressing the theme. There were four keynote lectures delivered on different days. Keynote lecture: Gene editing population sex determination pathway for malaria vector control by Andrea Crisanti was given on Monday, October 22; keynote lecture: Insecticide resistance and novel technologies for improving the efficiency and sustainability of mosquito control by John Vontas on Tuesday, October 23; keynote lecture: Tick-pathogen molecular interactions for the control of vector-borne diseases by Jose de la Fuente on Thursday, October 25; and keynote lecture: Integrated *Aedes* management for the control of *Aedes*-borne diseases by David Roiz on Friday, October 26. Wednesday, October 24, was a field excursion day for conference participants to network and visit special places of historical and cultural importance in the surrounding areas. The oral scientific presentations, all given in English, were offered in 10 different symposia: Symposium 1: Vector ecology and behavior I; Symposium 2: Vector ecology and behavior II; Symposium 3: Vector-pathogen interactions; Symposium 4: Reaching out to society, bridging research and policy, and practice for solving real-life vector-borne problems; Symposium 5: Novel vector control tool I; Symposium 6: Novel vector control tools II; Symposium 7: Vector networks and projects: An update; Symposium 8: Emerging and re-emerging vector-borne diseases; Symposium 9: Invasive vector species: Surveillance and management strategies I; and Symposium 10: Invasive vector species: Surveillance and management strategies II. In addition, there were 92 poster presentations displayed over two sessions, Tuesday and Thursday. The conference was attended by 191 registrants from 27 countries representing 5 continents with a majority Europeans (88%).

On the opening day, the plenary session was moderated by Marieta Braks in place of Alexandra Chaskopoulou. The session started with a welcome by the Local Arrangement Committee Chair, Alessandra Torina who next introduced and translated Ing. Antonio Sala, Palermo City Mayor’s Office, for his address welcoming the conference delegates to Palermo. The SOVE Executive Director, Major Dhillon made some announcements and was followed by a Presidential Address by the SOVE President Lal Mian who went over the history of ESOVE and the parent SOVE celebrating its 50th Anniversary.

On Friday, October 26, the final day of the conference, the official welcome was made by Silvio Borrello, Chief Veterinary Officer, Italian Ministry of Health, followed by Salvatore Seminara, General Director and Santo Caracappa, Health Director of the Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Sicilia.

During the last hours of the conference, Bill Van Dyke (NWMVCD) gave an exciting and thought-provoking talk entitled, “Vector Control for the Benefit of Society: Educate, Empathize, Engage” before the last presentation, *Aedes aegypti* in Europe: Past, Present and Future by William Wint. After some final announcements by Alessandra and Marieta, the SOVE President thanked the participants and declared the conference as closed.

The E-SOVE Conference was sponsored by Valent BioSciences, Enbiotech, Biogenitts AG, Comune di Palermo, [Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Sicilia](#) “A Mirri,” European Biological Control Laboratory—USDA, and Università degli Studi di Palermo and we thank them for their generous contribution and support. We would like to thank the scientific, organizing and local arrangement committees for putting such a great, well-balanced program for the conference. Last but not least, we thank Alessandra Torina and Santo Caracappa of the sponsoring Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Sicilia for all the off-conference events that provided ample opportunity for conference participants to meet and socialize with each other in a relaxed atmosphere.

**21st E-SOVE Conference
Palermo, Italy
Field Excursion Day**



Segesta—Archeological Park (left) and Greek Theater (right)



Erice—Pepoli-Venus castles (left) and a spectacular view of the coastline.

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Board of Directors
Society for Vector Ecology**

Forest View Room, Tenaya Lodge
Fish Camp (Yosemite), California
4:00 pm, October 7, 2018

Call to Order: President Lal Mian called the meeting to order at 4:08 PM and stated that this is the 50th Anniversary of SOVE.

Roll Call: Mian asked Board Members and attendees to introduce themselves.

Directors Lal Mian, Uli Bernier, Lyle Peterson, Michael Kaufman, Paulo Pimenta, Ashwani Kumar, Steve Mulligan, David Sullivan, Nicole Achee, Melissa Nolan, Rudy Xue and Major Dhillon were present.

Directors Alexandra Chaskopoulou, Gunter Mueller and Isik Unlu were absent.

Others Present: Bethany McGregor, Marc Klowden, Marija Zgombia, Elenora Flacio, Christina McCarthy, William Walton, William Van Dyke and Charlie Smith.

Additions to Agenda:

Send money for overseas regions
Presidential Recognition Award

4. **Approval of Minutes:** *A motion made by Mulligan to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2017 Board meeting held in Mallorca, Spain as presented, and seconded by Kaufman, passed unanimously.*

5. **Committee Reports:**

A. Publications

Journal of Vector Ecology, Klowden pointed out that his report is attached with the agenda documents. He discussed some salient points of the report such as the number of manuscripts received by region; he also indicated the JVE impact factor standing at 1.4. He further discussed the lack of reviewers for manuscripts. Several suggestions were made to recruit reviewers. Nolan suggested giving reviewers discounts for publishing in JVE. McGregor said to recruiting students for reviewers. Kumar suggested announcing the need for reviewers in the general session. Klowden also reported that a program is available to check plagiarism and Wiley has made it available to us free of charge.

Continuous publication: Klowden recommended not to pursue this as Wiley was unable to do so. The Board agreed with Klowden. Klowden also reported that lots of overseas manuscripts are very poorly written and he has to spend lots of time to review and rewrite them. He asked about new rates for such manuscripts. Several ideas were discussed. It was the general conclusion of the Board that we ask the students to review such papers and rewrite in a manner which is in the right format to be sent to reviewers. This will require the authors to pay students.

Newsletter:

Newsletter Editor Lal Mian thanked everybody, especially the Directors for submitting their reports and news. He indicated that the student page was excellent. Peterson asked about the metrics about newsletter reading. Van Dyke will report to this.

B. Membership:

Executive Director Dhillon reported that we have 550 members. We have over 100 members in Latin America region primarily from Brazil and Argentina. He thanked Pimenta and McCarthy for their dedication to SOVE in recruiting new members. He further stated that we explore Africa for new membership. He stated that there was no need to increase membership dues as SOVE was in good financial condition. He discussed the special awards which will be bestowed upon approximately 50 members who have significantly contributed their services to SOVE over the past 50 years. Dhillon reported pointed out a record 256 registrants at the 50th Anniversary Meeting. This was the first time that SOVE was unable to generate enough revenue to meet the expenses. Due to special expenses such as extra lunches, Women in Science breakfast, special awards, bags, etc., SOVE will lose some money at the conference. He stated that it was not a bad thing to give money back to the members as SOVE financially was in excellent shape. Nolan discussed "Women in Science" (WIS) and reported that out of 100 ladies registered, 66 signed up for WIS. She suggested to form a committee to hold this event at every SOVE conference.cont'd on p 14

Cont'd from p. 13

C. Regional Reports:

1. Dhillon reported that ESOVE Director, Alexandra Chaskopoulou, could not attend the meeting due to the sudden death of her father and he requested a moment of silence. The Board held a moment of silence in memory of Alexandra's father. The Board also conveyed their condolences to Alexandra. In Chaskopoulou's absence, Dhillon reported that the ESOVE meeting will be held in Palermo, Italy on October 22 – 26 at the NH Hotel; and so far, there have been 164 people registered.

Paulo Pimenta reported on the Brazilian SOVE meeting, which was held along with MedTrop meeting in Recife. It was attended by approximately 120 people. He recommends to change the name of Brazilian SOVE to Latin American SOVE. He said that he attended the meeting in Mendoza, Argentina where Christina McCarthy helped him to recruit over 30 members. He stated that hopefully we would hold the Latin American SOVE conference in La Plata, Argentina next year.

Nolan suggested that we should explore other South American countries.

Kumar apologized that he could not hold the Indian SOVE region meeting earlier this year due to unforeseen circumstances. He reported 42 members, with 11 serving on the advisory board and 7 members on executive committee. The website is ready and working. The meeting will be held February 13 - 17, 2019 in Goa, India. The venue is already booked and we already they have been offered some sponsorships. He described the various awards and their criteria. He also requested seed money for the meeting.

Rudy Xue discussed the details of the Asian SOVE meeting.

David Sullivan reported that Montana has its first case of Lyme disease.

2. Renaming of Regions: *Motion made by Mulligan and seconded by Xue to change the name of Brazilian Region to Latin American Region. Passed unanimously.*

Indian Region - No change was recommended

D. Awards:

Peterson reported that the achievement award recipients were Nancy Hinkle and Steve Dobson and service award recipients Vicki Kramer and another individual who would be named at the award ceremony.

6. Financial Report:

A. Financial Statement 2017: Dhillon discussed the details of the financial report. *Motion made by Kumar and seconded by Peterson to approve the financial report as presented, passed unanimously.*

B. CD Investments: SOVE has three CD's in the amount of \$111,957.77.

As CD investments were discussed under Financial Report, no further discussion was necessary.

C. Euro SOVE account: Dhillon reported about experiencing difficulties with ESOVE account in Germany, being misguided by the Deutsch Bank in setting up the account. Bill Van Dyke and Norbert Becker were working with Deutsch Bank and PayPal to resolve the issue, hopefully resolving it in January. Dhillon further reported to have approximately 40,000 Euros in the PayPal account and 31,000 Euros in Deutsch Bank. Becker has transferred 27,000 Euros to pay the first invoice for the ESOVE conference. He recommended that the Board authorize Van Dyke and Becker to resolve the issues with both Deutsch Bank and Paypal. *Motion made Sullivan and seconded by Achee to authorize Norbert Becker and Bill Van Dyke to resolve the money transfer and find out the best way possible to open an account in Europe for ESOVE conferences, passed unanimously.*

Dhillon further stated that we have enough money in Deutsch Bank and Paypal accounts to pay the expenses of ESOVE conference in Palermo, but we will not have access to the Paypal funds till January 15, 2019. Bill Van Dyke reported that Paypal assured him that they will allow him to transfer all the funds in Paypal account to Deutsch Bank. Since there will not be enough money in the Deutsch Bank account to satisfy all of the invoices, he recommends that all remaining invoices be paid by funds in SOVE in America. The Board agreed that this will be the best solution when Paypal allows to transfer the funds then SOVE will be reimbursed by ESOVE funds. *Motion by Ashwani Kumar to authorize Executive Director to pay the ESOVE invoices from SOVE account in a timely manner, seconded by Nicole Achee. Passed unanimously.* The Board authorized Dhillon not to exceed the amount over \$50,000.00 and for additional money, if necessary, seek a reauthorization from the Board.

.....*cont'd on p. 15*

—cont'd from p. 14

7. Annual Conferences:

8. A. The Board directed Dhillon to get proposals from Puerto Rico for holding the 2019 conference. Dhillon stated the proposals are received, they will be presented to the Board for selecting a hotel.
- B. The Board has authorized Dhillon to get proposals from Hawaii for the 2020 annual conference.

8. **8th International Congress:** After a short discussion, Ulrich Bernier recommended that SOVE hold the Congress in Charleston, South Carolina. *Executive Director Dhillon made the motion and seconded by Sullivan to hold the International Congress in Charleston in 2021, passed unanimously.*

9. Recommendation:

A. Dhillon stated that he has served SOVE for 22 years and he will retire at the end of this year. He stated that Van Dyke has been helping him for the last 3 years and has done 90% of the work for the conference. Bill is very knowledgeable about SOVE and currently is our webmaster. He is very familiar with the SOVE's issues and activities. He, therefore, recommended Van Dyke to be appointed as the new Executive Director. After a short discussion, *a motion made by Mulligan and seconded by Rudy Xue to appoint Bill Van Dyke Executive Director as of January 1, 2019, passed unanimously.*

B. *Motion made by Rudy Xue and seconded by David Sullivan to authorize Bill Van Dyke to be co-signer on all SOVE accounts and financial investments, passed unanimously.*

C. Dhillon stated that he would like to help other regions especially ESOVE to set up the next meeting in Europe and requested funds to pay for travel expenses.

Motion made by Mulligan and seconded Achee to: Grant a title of Executive Director Emeritus to Major Dhillon and to Authorize Major Dhillon to continue to be co-signer on SOVE bank accounts and to Authorize funds not to exceed \$5,000.00 for Major Dhillon's travel expenses to set up ESOVE and other regional meetings, all motions passed unanimously.

10. **Student representative on SOVE Board:** Michael Kaufman thanked Bethany McGregor for attending the Board meeting and recommended to add a Student Board Member representing students. Dhillon stated that it would require a By-Laws change. *Motion made by Nolan and seconded by David Sullivan to add a student Board Member to the SOVE Board and amend By-laws as necessary to reflect this in other changes to the By-Laws, passed unanimously.*

Mian appointed Kaufman, Mulligan, Achee and Nolan for a committee to develop criteria for student representation on the Board.

11. **Three minute talk by special selected posters/presentations:** In the interest of time, the Board tabled this issue.

12. **Appointment of North Eastern Board Member:** Dhillon reported that with Isik Unlu moving to Florida, North Eastern Region needed to appoint a Regional Director. Mian was authorized to appoint a Director to replace Unlu.

13. Contracts:

1. **Valerie Montigny's contract:** On Dhillon's recommendation, *a motion was made by Mulligan and seconded by Kaufman to renew the contract of Valerie Montigny for an annual amount of \$14,500.00. After a short discussion, the motion was amended and seconded by Mulligan and Kaufman to approve the contract with Valerie Montigny for \$15,000.00 for 2019, passed unanimously.*

2. **Honorarium for Marian Shannon:** Dhillon stated that Marian Shannon assisted Valerie Montigny in keeping the financial books in order and to provide other services to SOVE. He recommended \$1,000.00 honorarium for Marian Shannon. *A motion made by Mulligan and seconded by Kumar to grant \$1,000.00 honorarium for Marian Shannon, passed unanimously.*

14. **Budget approval:** After a short discussion, *a motion by Rudy Xue and seconded by Kaufman to approve the budget with changes to Valerie Montigny's contract, passed unanimously.*

15. New items to agenda:

A. **Seed Money:** Dhillon gave a background on seed money, which was set up to provide financial support to ESOVE region in case the region needed money in the initial stages of organizing the conference. ESOVE has used the money and returned in full one time and approximately 90% the second time. Since the mechanism was set up to help ESOVE and at that time there were no other regions, it will be proper to offer the seed money to any other regions as well. *A motion made by Mulligan and seconded by Rudy Xue to authorize Executive Director in consultation with the President to transfer funds not to exceed \$5,000.00 to any region, which requests financial help, passed unanimously.*cont'd on p. 16

.....cont'd from p. 15

B. Special Presidential Award: Mian recommended that a President should be authorized to give a special award to an individual who has provided significant services to SOVE. After a short discussion, a motion by Kumaran and seconded by Sullivan to authorize the President to give this award to be known as "Presidential Honor/Order Award" to an individual at his/her discretion, passed unanimously.

16. Board Member Comments: Pimenta recommended to give a Young Scientist award. After some discussion, Mian appointed Pimenta, Achee, Bernier and McGregor to a committee to formulate some rules/mechanisms to grant this award.

17. New Officers Announcement: Dhillon reported that Isik Unlu has been elected as the new Vice President of SOVE.

18. Adjournment: Mian adjourned the meeting at 6:55 PM.

I certify that the above minutes substantially reflect the action taken by the Board of Directors at the meeting held on October 7, 2018.

Major S. Dhillon

Major S. Dhillon, Ph.D.

Executive Director



North West Mosquito and Vector Control District Board President, Berwin Hanna, accepting a plaque award from SOVE President Lal Mian (top left); Major Dhillon receiving a Presidential Honor Award from SOVE president (top right) and with Board members (bottom left). Major Dhillon with Board members also accepting a plaque award from Prof. Lal Mian, CSU San Bernardino, Environmental Health Program (bottom right).

Minutes of the SOVE Annual Business Meeting Society for Vector Ecology

Tenaya Lodge
Yosemite, California
5:30 pm, October 10, 2018

Call to Order: President Lal Mian called the business meeting to order at 5:40 PM.

President's Report: Mian stated that Peterson did a great job on the program, we had 256 attendees and 84 posters. This is a new record for SOVE annual conference. Next year's conference will be held in Puerto Rico, 2020 SOVE in Hawaii and the International Congress in Charleston, NC. Last year we had a very successful Congress in Mallorca, Spain.

Minutes: *Motion by Sullivan, seconded by Becker to approve the minutes of October 5, 2017 Business Meeting held in Melia Palas Hotel in Mallorca, Spain, passed unanimously.*

Financial Report: Executive Director Dhillon discussed the financial statement and stated that the Society is in a very good financial state. He also stated that each individual was subsidized approximately \$87.00 due to higher than expected expenses. We will know the exact amount when all bills are paid, this amount may change. Dhillon also stated that this is his last meeting as an Executive Director and the Board has appointed Bill Van Dyke as the new Executive Director starting January 1, 2019. Bill is highly familiar in organizing SOVE conferences and SOVE activities. Dhillon stated that "I will always be available if SOVE needs any assistance and it has been a great honor to serve SOVE". *Motion by Mulligan and seconded by Kumar to approve and accept the financial report (Executive Director's last financial report), passed unanimously.* Mian thanked Bill Van Dyke, Valerie Montigny, Executive Director Major Dhillon and the Northwest MVCD Board for their services to the SOVE Board.

Any other items: No new items.

Change of gavel: Mian handed the gavel to incoming President Bernier.

President Bernier: Bernier introduced the new Board and asked them to stand up. He thanked the sponsors. He stated that Indian SOVE will be held on February 13 – 16, 2019 in Goa and Latin American SOVE will be held in La Plata, Argentina and Asian SOVE will be May 27 – 31 in China next year. He also reported that there will be student representatives on the SOVE Board and we are working on the logistics. Kaufman will be in charge of this issue. He also mentioned that SOVE may recruit students to review papers. He stated that Isik Unlu has been elected the Vice President of SOVE. Directors of SOVE thanked Executive Director and all attendees gave a standing ovation to Executive Director for his services.

Adjournment: Bernier adjourned the meeting at 5:58pm.

I certify that the above minutes substantially reflect the action taken by the Board of Directors at the meeting held on October 10, 2018.

Major S. Dhillon
Major S. Dhillon, Ph.D.
Executive Director

Society for Vector Ecology - Annual Financial Statement JANUARY - DECEMBER 2018

BANK BALANCES- DEC 31, 2017:

\$378,498.01

Certificates of Deposit

Funds invested in Certificates of Deposit, May 2006:

\$100,000.00

Interest Earned on Certificates of Deposit thru 2016

\$11,957.77

Interest Earned Jan-Dec 2018

\$62.76

Certificates of Deposit December 31, 2018

\$112,020.53

INCOME

EXPENSES

Dues/Membership	\$23,525.00
Royalties	\$18,980.49
Page Charges	\$15,540.00
JVE Editing Charges	\$560.00
Interest	\$345.43
Other Income	\$5,122.76
Total Income: Jan -Dec 2018	\$64,073.68

General:	Visa/MC Merchant Fees	\$3,247.84
	Bank Service Charges	\$470.00
	PayPal Charges	\$696.16
	Business Lunches/Entertainment	\$1,292.90
	Office Supplies	\$314.47
	Misc. expenses	\$554.63
	Travel Expenses/Travel Other/Misc.	\$2,946.24
	Total General Expenses:	\$9,522.24
Computer:	Software	\$179.88
	Webhosting/Constant Contact	\$802.94
		\$982.82

2018 - 48th Annual Conference, Yosemite, CA

Registration	\$78,240.00	
Sponsorship	\$17,485.00	\$1,665.44
Hotel		
Excursion		\$17,500.00
Poster Boards		\$0.00
Audio Visual		\$0.00
Student Stipend		\$2,400.00
Petty Cash/Tips		\$520.00
Travel		\$1,245.70
Programs		\$560.30
Awards		\$1,309.54
Badges/Bags/Pens		\$5,145.26
Supplies		\$613.05
Honorarium		\$1,000.00
Hospitality/Dinner/Receptions		\$64,668.73
Misc.		\$2,292.52
	\$95,725.00	\$98,920.54

2018 E-SOVE Conference- Palermo, Italy

		\$33,228.88
	\$95,725.00	\$33,228.88



Taxes:	2017 FTB Filing Fee	\$80.00
	2017 Tax Prep	\$425.00
	Total Taxes Expenses:	\$505.00
Postage:	Misc. Postage	\$15.06
	Total Postage:	\$15.06
Services:	Mark Klowden-Editor	\$5,000.00
	Anne Klowden	\$13,085.00
	Valerie Montigny-Secretarial Services	\$17,250.00
	Webmaster	\$2,250.00
	Total Service Expenses:	\$37,585.00
TOTALS FOR Jan -Dec 2018	\$159,798.68	\$180,759.54

FUND RECONCILIATION

CBB Bank - 5207 Bal. Fwd 12/31/17	\$265,776.65
CBB Bank - 3688 Bal. Fwd 12/31/17	\$110,454.05
Paypal - Bal Fwd 12/31/17	\$2,267.31
Income	\$159,735.92
Expenditures	\$180,759.54
Bank Balance 12/31/18	\$357,474.39
Certificate of Deposit	\$112,020.53

TOTAL FUNDS **\$469,494.92**

Ending Bal from Bank Statements	December, 2018
CBB - 5207	\$246,670.56
CBB - 3688 (Savings)	\$110,736.72
Paypal	\$67.11
Undeposited Funds	\$0.00
	\$357,474.39
Variance	\$0.00

Students' Corner

Bethany McGregor Student Representative

I would like to begin by thanking Dr. Michael Kaufman for his efforts to arrange a meeting of the SOVE student and post-doctoral members in Yosemite. At this inaugural meeting, we laid the foundation for an official student organization within the society. Student involvement is already increasing as many student and post-doctoral members have volunteered to participate as reviewers for the Journal of Vector Ecology and the governing board has voted to include a student representative on the board with full voting rights. In the upcoming months, efforts will be made to begin the democratic process of electing future student representatives. The student membership of SOVE is very appreciative of the active role that the society is taking to further include students and young professionals.

Nine students received travel grants to attend and present at this year's SOVE student symposium in Yosemite. The symposium, organized and moderated by Casey Parker, was very successful and featured presentations on a wide variety of topics ranging from classroom outreach to axenic mosquitoes. Below are some comments by participants in this year's student symposium:

"Speaking at SOVE for the last few years has allowed me to share my research with a diverse group of vector biologists and receive feedback on the research I am conducting. Additionally, being the moderator for the past 2 years has introduced me to new students who are the future of our industry. It's very rewarding to see the student symposium come together and to see the other student presenters do an incredible job communicating their science. I love SOVE and the relationships I have formed through the organization and am proud to be a student member!"

-Casey Parker, PhD student, University of Florida

"The student travel grant with SOVE gave me my first opportunity to give an invited presentation on my MS research. It was an exciting experience to get to meet so many leaders in the field of vector ecology as the smaller atmosphere allowed me to interact with other attendees on a more personal level than I have previously been able to at conferences. Perhaps most importantly, I was able to meet my peers from all over the continent and find out about the exciting and diverse re-



search projects they are working on."

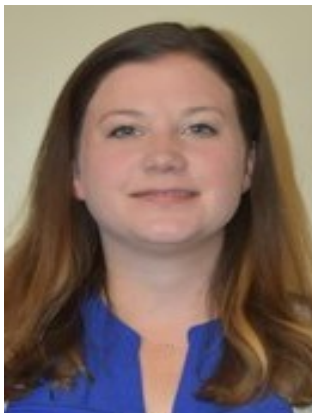
-Kristin Sloyer, PhD student, University of Florida

"Participating in the Student Symposium of SOVE was an extremely rewarding and fun experience. Not only do we get to report our results and show how exciting our research is, but we get to present our research to some of the top names in the field. It felt surreal (and somewhat nerve-wracking) to be able to present my research to leaders in the field as well as connect with them after my talk. My experience at SOVE was marked with getting to know my fellow student presenters, meeting new and seasoned researchers, and participating in the field day from SOVE, all of which made this conference unforgettable. I highly recommend students to present at SOVE in the future because of the intimate setting between you and other researchers as well as learning from leading labs and agencies throughout the country."

-Karen Poh, Post-doctoral Scholar, Penn State University

Finally, we have recently reactivated the SOVE Facebook page! This platform will allow us another avenue to reach current and potential members with our newsletter, journal, and announcements. In addition to SOVE materials, we are posting interesting vector ecology news items and jobs. Please subscribe to the SOVE Facebook and check in for new content often!





Vector Brief

Southern California Invasive Mosquito Update

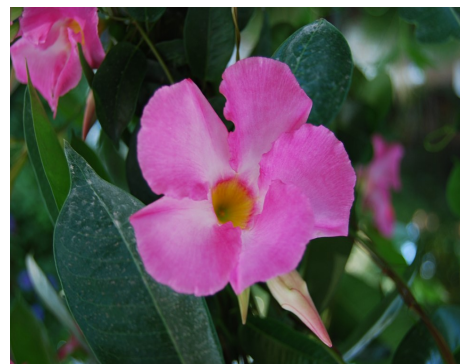
by

Angela Caranci

acaranci@northwestmvecd.org

As the busy breeding season came to an end in 2018, leaders of vector control agencies in southern California made a concerted effort to organize an Invasive *Aedes* Forum. As an attendee and relatively new transplant to the region, this forum presented a prime opportunity to interface with professionals and colleagues who have been ferociously fighting back the invading onslaught of several species of *Aedes*, some since 2011 and others still waiting anxiously, almost expectantly. Having moved from the Mid-Atlantic region, I was all too familiar with the bite pressure associated with these highly anthropophilic pests and could quickly commiserate with my new neighbors as they experience bites, and associated dermal reactions, unlike anything they recall from the invasive *Aedes*-free California they knew and loved. Through the end of 2018, 7 of 10 counties in southern California had reported the presence of *Ae. aegypti*, with five of those same counties also reporting presence of *Ae. albopictus* and fewer still reporting the presence of *Ae. notoscriptus*. Locally-transmitted, human cases of Zika in California have not yet been attributed to transmission via mosquito vectors and the number of travel-related cases have dropped precipitously since 2015-2016, from the peak of more than 500 annual cases down to only 62 confirmed cases in 2018. However, the threat of emerging vector-borne disease globally necessitates that surveillance of these important vector species remains a priority. This is the context with which regional representatives collected at the Invasive *Aedes* Forum to discuss administrative, surveillance, and control strategies specific to the local ecology, where reported breeding sources have occasionally been atypical and in a climate that can be unfavorable for truck-mounted control applications. However, among all the guided, break-out discussions, an important theme emerged time and again. Communication and engagement with the public throughout this region

must be the foundation to coordinate control of this group of vectors, possibly even more so than more familiar vector groups that our agencies target. The container-inhabiting nature of these species often creates logistical concerns in implementing control methods, with some agencies having allocated 60 minutes per property inspection upon request for service. This inspection time, coupled with up to 90% of service requests related to possible *Aedes* activity in 2018, could quickly lead to an unsustainable service model, a reality all too familiar to other regions where these species are established. From my perspective, a major agenda item going forward is the potential coordination among agencies throughout the region to work toward creating broad-level, educational messaging to bring the public up to date and develop adequate expectations of service that control agencies can provide, particularly while the threat of West Nile virus transmission looms large. As with all programs, science-based decision making must feed our response policies but engaging with residents to share the science of invasive *Aedes* surveillance and control methods is paramount and we look forward to developing improved messaging.



For Your Calendar

The 85th Annual Meeting of the American Mosquito Control Association will be held February 26—March 1, 2018 in Orlando, Florida. Visit www.mosquito.org

Member News

None

Resources

BEI Resources – Vector Resources, beyond the microbes

The Biological and Emerging Infections Resources Program (BEI Resources) was developed by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) as a centralized bioresource for research reagents to the scientific community (www.beiresources.org) The primary role of BEI Resources is the acquisition and authentication of several categories of materials for registered scientists, with a focus on emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases.

BEI Resources has built a large repository of materials available to the vector resource community free of charge. The resources include over 60 colonies of mosquitoes as well as adult and larval ticks, sand flies, and triatomines. These vectors are competent hosts for transmission of blood-borne arbovirus, parasitic and rickettsial diseases including Dengue, Zika, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, Lyme borreliosis, Chagas and malaria. The Vector Resources page hosts freely-downloadable insectary protocol manuals for each of these vector species, providing a rich array of insectary management, safety and experimental approaches for Vector Biology. These resources are available free of charge (shipping and handling may apply) to REGISTERED users in domestic and foreign institutions and NIH grant funding is not required. For information on all vector resources for researchers provided by DMID, visit the DMID Resources for Researchers website.

BEI Resources would like to highlight phlebotomine sand flies resources for leishmaniasis, bartonellosis, and papatasi fever research. BEI Resources and NIAID have an established partnership with the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research to distribute a limited number of Sand Fly Larval Pots and Adult flies to qualified researchers. All vectors are competent for transmission studies. This valuable and limited resource will be offered to qualified researchers to promote the research and development of products to reduce the risk of vector-borne diseases.

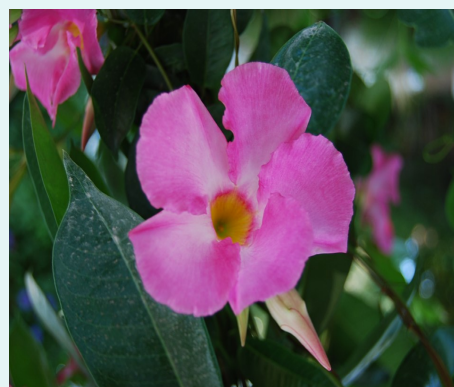
For a complete list of sand fly vectors available, please visit our website at [www. BEIResources.org](http://www.BEIResources.org).

<https://www.beiresources.org/Collection/28/Vector-Resources.aspx?page=1>

<https://www.beiresources.org/Catalog/VectorResources.aspx>

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We are on the Web!
www.sove.org

About SOVE

The Society for Vector Ecology is a professional organization formed in 1968 by a group of individuals involved in vector biology and control programs in California. The membership has since grown to represent an amalgamation of diverse research and operational and extension personnel from all over the world. The Society is committed to solving many complex problems encountered in the field of vector biology and control. Among these are the suppression of nuisance organisms and disease vectors through integration of control elements, such as environmental management, biological control, public education, and appropriate chemical control technology.

The Society publishes the biannual Journal of Vector Ecology that contains research and operational papers covering many phases of vector biology, ecology, and control. The Society also distributes a periodic newsletter and holds an annual conference in the months of September/October.

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