

March 10, 2003

Dear Fellow Forest Entomologists,

It is with great pleasure that I announce the First Joint Meeting of the 12th National Symposium on Forest Parasitology and the 54th Western Forest Insect Work Conference in Guadalajara, Mexico November 3 – 6, 2003. Your organizing committee representing Mexico, US, and Canada has been hard at work to organize a truly international forest entomology experience in Mexico. The meeting will include the usual fine slate of forest entomology presentations. Bilingual moderators have been chosen for each session so that all presentations will be summarized in both English and Spanish.

The meeting will be held at one of Guadalajara's finest hotels - Hotel Fiesta Americana. Please make your hotel reservations directly at this website: www.fiestaamericana.com or by calling 1-800-343-7821. Our group code is USGPFAGD7. We have a guaranteed room rate of 108.00 USD (plus tax) for a double. Guadalajara is serviced by a modern airport with regular service from many US cities on Delta, United, America West, Aero Mexico, Continental, and others airlines.

A choice of two field trips will allow attendees a full day to get a feel for the beautiful countryside around Guadalajara. Private tourist agencies will be on site and can arrange for pre- or post-meeting tourist trips. A favorite is the one day "Tequila Train" that takes you via tourist train to Tequila, Mexico for a tour of agave plantations and a major tequila distillery, and a return journey complete with mariachis and, of course, plenty of beverage! Details of the available tours will be available on the website later this spring. The meeting will end with a traditional Mexican gala banquet. Check out our website for details: www.fsl.orst.edu/wfiwc/

To celebrate this truly North American meeting of forest entomologists and the first of its kind in Mexico, we are offering a special Mexican Graduate Student Scholarship. Our goal is to award three \$500 scholarships to Mexican graduate students. We already have one scholarship pledged for \$500 with only \$1000 of fundraising to go! If you wish to contribute to this scholarship, please send your contributions to: R. Ladd Livingston, Idaho, Department of Lands, 3780 Industrial Avenue South, Coeur d' Alene, ID 83815 (Phone (208) 666-8624, email llivingston@idl.state.id.us).

Finally, we would very much like to know in advance if you plan to join us in Guadalajara. Please email Cheryl.Miller@nau.edu to indicate your intent to attend, or better yet go ahead and complete the registration form available on the website today. An early indication of the number of participants will help us greatly in our planning.

Hope to see you in Guadalajara.

Sincerely,

Michael R Wagner
Regents Professor
Forest Entomology

Steering Committee: Jamie Villa (Mexico)
Rene Alfaro (Canada)
Mike Wagner (USA)