

Project Update: October 2013

During August and September 2013 in Iguazu National Park we carried out much of the field work (about 85%) according to the project objectives.

The work done so far are:

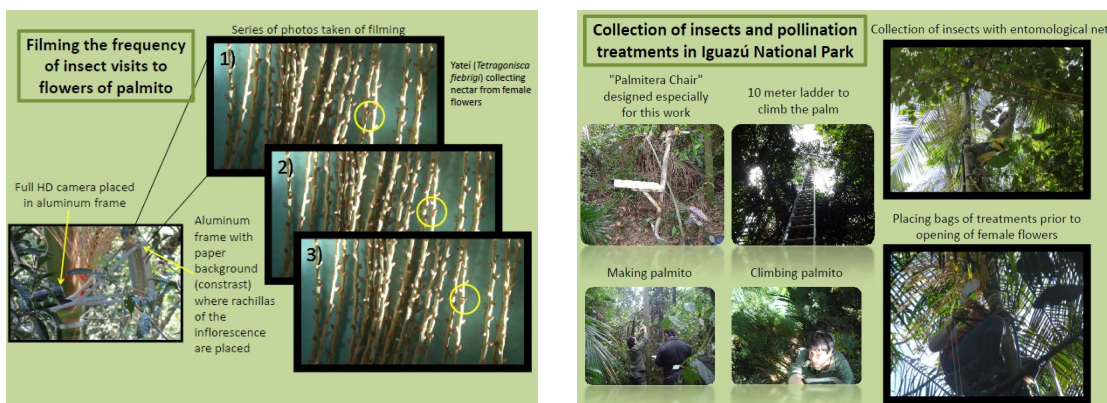
- We placed four pollination treatments in a total of 40 palms (160 treatments).
- We conducted insect collections for periods of 30 minutes with entomological net in 17 female and 12 male inflorescences in a total of 29 palms.
- Were filmed footage of approximately 2 hours in each palm to assess the frequency of insect visits (13 female inflorescences and seven male) in a total of 20 palms (40 hours of filming).
- We conducted in-depth interviews with 4 families of palm harvesters and documented activities during working hours.

Some Preliminary Results

- Stingless bees (*Meliponini*), wasps and flies are mostly insect groups visiting both male and female flowers of the palm.
- Among the bees, *Tetragonisca fiebrigi* and at least two species of genus *Plebeia*, are the most abundant and most frequently visit flowers



Teamwork (from left to right): Biologist Ana Clara Vennier, Dr. Fernando Zamudio, Biologist Pablo Ramello y Park ranger Marcio Antunez



Left: Collection of insects and pollination treatments in Iguazú National Park. Right: Filming the frequency of insect visits to flowers of Palmito.