

## Project Update: February 2015

During the Christmas holidays we continued measuring petal reflectance of flowers fed on by butterflies. We also measured leaves surrounding inflorescences and single flowers in order to compare differences in contrast among flowers and their immediate environment, and that of reflectance values for butterfly wings. Additionally, we continued experiments where we manipulated inflorescences of *Lantana camara* to observe their influences on pollinator visitation rates. Our preliminary analysis show that butterflies exhibit different preferences for plants depending on the number of colour morphs present and the rewards they offer, e.g., *H. melpomene* were more attracted to all red flowers in comparison to other study species while *D. iulia* showed a proclivity for all yellow flowers. Of our new nectar source transplants a few of them have survived and have shown increase in foraging activity at their locations, however most of these were killed by foraging leaf cutter ants.



Guyanese field assistants measuring petal and leaf reflectance