ccept the biological efined by Mayr (1963), interbreeding natural eproductively isolated .". A systematist uses information when minations, but freal or morphological le. When using mor-, the systematist must lty that morphological fferent gene pools. be evaluated for their us environmental ariability must be ntraspecific or interodern theoretical come added to the systemaspecies is still what matist says that it the systematist with s is the most important erminations. Examples difficult species economically important food animals.

S. Agricultural Res., Beltsville, MD--<u>The</u> cies

ristics are employed ation usually when served characteristics For diagnoses, or specific genetic type, rs may be determined specialized knowledge mmonly used biochemillozyme profiles and etermining DNA struciles are considered assessment of the studies of DNA. ter are applicable to es of an organism. assification of species, evaluate biochemical others and disraspecific and inter-He must know the the biochemical ing species level ions. Various ng DNA data will be ages and disies level

HOBERG, ERIC P. USDA, Agricultural Research Service, Biosystematic Parasitology Laboratory -- Species and the phylogenetic perspective.

Application of phylogenetic systematics has resulted in a broadened view of species that subsumes the Biological Species Concepts (BSC) (Mayr, 1963). In particular, the BSC while recognizing the importance of species, has focused at the Aevel of local populations rather than taxa, nondimensional, and is only applicable to sexually reproducing organisms. As such, recognition of patterns of differentiation and evolutionary history of discernable populations is complicated by the definition of composite species and paraphyly. In contrast, the evolutionary or phylogenetic species concept (ESC) of Simpson (1961) and Wiley (1981) considers species as recognizable historical entities with continuity in time and linked by common ancestry rather than by reproductive isolation or the ability to interbreed. Species are represented by terminal taxa and species groups are monophyletic. Thus the ESC / reintroduces history, provides an alternate means for determination of species boundaries and constitutes a definition that is nonarbitrary at the supraorganismal level. These concepts will be examined within the framework of helminth systematics.

WALLER, DEBORAH A. and ROBERT K. VANDERMEER2. Old Dominion University and USDA-ARS, Gainesville, FL2--Biochemical identification of fire ants in

<u>Virginia</u>. species of fire ants were introduced into the southeastern US in the early 1900's. The red Solenopsis ant, <u>Solene</u> has expanded imported fire invicta Buren, range northward through reproductive flights and transport with nursery stock. The black imported fire ant, Forel, <u>richteri</u> restricted to the border between Mississippi and Alabama, viable invicta x richteri hybrid has colonized Alabama, Mississippi and Georgia. It is unknown whether cold northern temperatures will limit the spread of <u>S. invicta</u> and/or the hybrid. In the present study we examined the species identity of fire ants that have recently invaded the Tidewater area of Virginia and Richmond, the northernmost limit of Biochemical analyses their range. of venom alkaloids and cuticular hydrocarbons were used to separate **ABSTRACTS**

 \underline{s} . invicta from the hybrid because these ants are morphologically Information resulting identical. from this study will be useful in the movement tracking these establishment patterns of important pests.

WATTS, S.A. 1, G.A. HINES 1, J.B. MCCLINTOCK 1, K.R. MARION 1, and T.S. HOPKINS². University of Alabama at irmingham and University of Alabama 2-dhemical communication of echinoderms in marine communities.

The abundance of echinoderms in near shore and deep water communities has a highly significant impact on community structure. Understanding echinoderm intra- and interspecies chemical communication will increase our knowledge of processes which influence community structure in marine ecosystems. We have initiated studies to determine the production and influence of hormones and steroid-baded pheromones from several species of echinode ms in the Gulf of Mexico. have determitped that: (1) echinoderms produce a variety of steroid metabolic products that are homologous to those found in vertebrates (androgens and estrogens) and that these hormones appear to regulate physiological processes such as reproduction; (2) several ech noderm species produce large quantities of water-soluble steroid conjugates that are considered to have pheromonal activity in other vertebrates (such as teleosts; and (3) some echinoderms produce 11-oxy androgens, which were previously found only in teleosts, suggesting a biochemical evolutionary link among these groups. These data suggest that these groups. These data suggest that these chemical signals regulate physiological processes within the organisms and influence the interactions of organisms within and among species. Knowledge of these biochemical signals can be used: (1) to predict and enhance mariculture production of economically-important echinoderms; (2) to chemically define developmental, reproductive and growth processes in echinoderms; and (3) to assess populations of organisms which might be modified by anthropogenic effects, including various sources of pollution.

ROWLEY, HEATHER J. 1 BRENT C. SHEALY, 1 IRENE KOKKALA, 1 and ROBERT D. HOYT. 2 Furman University 1 and Western Kentucky University2 --Development of cephalic and lateral line neuromasts of the fathead minnow. <u>Pimephales promelas.</u>

Fathead minnows were reared from eggs, and larvae were collected at regular intervals over a 60 day period. The emergence and distribution of free neuromasts in prehatching and posthatching latvae was determined with the use of scanning electron microscopy. The first free neuromasts appeared in the cephalic region of prehatching larvae at approximately 60 hrs. after fertilization. The supraorbital

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