

Ecological Considerations

The accumulation of radionuclides by insects has received little attention from the viewpoint of a potential human health hazard because insects are usually not directly in a food chain that leads to man (Crossley and Pryor, 1960). However, insects play an important role in the breakdown of plant litter and are an important part of the biological cycling of essential mineral elements in deciduous forest ecosystems. In desert steppe regions, annual production of plant material is low and litter does not accumulate on the soil surface in appreciable amounts. *Eleodes hispilabris* feeds upon a variety of living and dead plant material above ground as adults but the larvae are mostly subterranean. Tagging plants with radionuclides would appear to be one way to contribute to the knowledge of consumer organisms of semi-arid regions. Radionuclides would also be useful in determining the roles of mineral elements under different temperature and moisture regimes and in the discrete life cycle stages of darkling beetles.

Literature Cited

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- Crossley, D. A., and M. E. Pryor. 1960. The uptake and elimination of cesium-137 by a grasshopper, *Romalea microptera*, Health Physics 4:16-20.
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Association News

Biology of Alder Symposium Proceedings Published

Proceedings of the symposium, sponsored by the Botany-Zoology and Forestry Section at the 1967 NWSA meeting at Pullman, have been published by courtesy of the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture. The proceedings, entitled "Biology of Alder" and edited by J. M. Trappe, J. F. Franklin, R. F. Tarrant, and G. M. Hansen, include 28 papers and a total of 297 pages. Topics include aspects of *Alnus* taxonomy, distribution, ecology, soil and micro biological relationships, physiology, and growth and yield. Individual copies may be obtained without charge by addressing a request to the Director, Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, Box 3141, Portland, Oregon, 97208.

Constitution Changes Proposed

Some proposed changes in the constitution of the Northwest Scientific Association will be voted on at the annual meeting (Eastern Washington State College, Cheney March 21-22, 1969). They are outlined below.

Present Constitution—Article III

Article III. Membership

Membership in this Association shall be divided into the following classes:

- (1) Member: Anyone interested in the purpose of the Association may become a member on the annual payment of four dollars.
- (2) Student Member: Any college student, graduate or undergraduate, may become a member of the Association upon the payment of annual dues of two dollars: Student members shall receive *Northwest Science* and will have all privilege except voting and holding office.
- (3) Institutional Member:
 - a. State universities, colleges, and similar educational institutions with enrollments of 2,500 or more—Annual dues, \$25.
 - b. Teachers colleges, junior colleges, or other educational institutions with enrollments less than 2,500 and professional organizations—Annual dues, \$10
- (4) Honorary Life Member: An individual who has given unusual service to the Association or who has attained outstanding recognition in his field may be elected to Honorary Life Membership at an annual meeting by a vote of three fourths of the members present.
- (5) Sustaining Member: An individual may become a sustaining member by paying annual dues of \$10 or more a year. A business organization, state or Federal agency may become a sustaining member through payment of annual dues of \$25 or more a year.
- (6) Honorary Trustees: Chosen as provided in Article V, Section 2.

Proposed amendment to replace current wording of Article III and to add Section 8, Article V

Article III. Membership

Membership in this Association shall consist of the following categories:

- (1) Member: Any individual interested in the purposes of the Association may become an individual member upon payment of annual dues. Members have all privileges including voting, holding office, and receiving *Northwest Science*.
- (2) Student Member: Any high school or college student may become a member of the Association upon the payment of annual student membership dues. Student members shall receive *Northwest Science* and will have all privileges of membership except voting and holding office.
- (3) Institutional Member: There shall be two categories of institutional memberships, upon payment of institutional membership annual dues:
 - a. Institutional Member (large): Available to all universities, colleges, community colleges, and similar educational institutions with enrollments of 3,000 or more students.
 - b. Institutional Member (small): Available to all universities, colleges, community colleges, and similar educational institutions with enrollments of less than 3,000 students and to professional, business, research organizations, and public agencies.

Institutional membership carries no voting nor office holding privileges, but shall receive *Northwest Science*.

- (4) Honorary Life Member: An individual who has given unusual service to the Association or who has attained outstanding recognition in his field may be elected to honorary life membership at an annual meeting by a vote of three-fourths of the members present. Honorary life membership carries all privileges of membership, including voting, office holding, and receipt of *Northwest Science*.
- (5) Sustaining Member: Two classes of sustaining memberships shall exist:
 - a. Individual Sustaining Member: This class of membership is available to any individual upon payment of individual sustaining membership annual dues. Individual sustaining members have all privileges of members, including voting, holding office and receiving *Northwest Science*.
 - b. Organizational Sustaining Member: Any institutional member may select the alternative of becoming a sustaining member upon payment of the necessary organizational sustaining membership annual dues. The organization will receive *Northwest Science*.
- (6) Honorary Trustees: Chosen as provided in Article V, Section 2.

Article V. Board of Trustees

Section 8 [to be added to the constitution] The Board of Trustees of the Association shall have the authority and responsibility to prepare a set of bylaws and to amend them as needed.

Bylaws—Northwest Scientific Association

Article I. Dues by classes of membership

1. Member: Individual membership dues are \$5.00 annually. (Change from \$4.00)
2. Student Member: Dues are \$2.00 annually. (No change)
3. Institutional Member:
 - a. Dues for institutional membership (large) are \$30.00 annually. (Change from \$25.00)
 - b. Dues for institutional membership (small) are \$15.00 annually. (Change from \$10.00)
 - c. Institutional members will have their names published in each issue of *Northwest Science*. (No change)
4. Honorary Life Member: There are no dues for honorary life members. (No change) Honorary life members will have their names published in each issue of *Northwest Science*. (Change)
5. Sustaining Member: Dues for sustaining membership are a minimum of \$10.00 (no maximum) for individuals, and a minimum of \$50.00 (no maximum) for organizations, institutions and agencies. (Change from \$25.00) Sustaining members will have their names published in *Northwest Science*. (No change)