School of Natural Resources
University of Missouri

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WEEKLY READER

AWARDS and HONORS

Tunde Ojewola has been selected as one of two recipients for the 2017 USGS National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center (NCCWSC) Science to Action Fellowship. This award supports the development of a policy-relevant product related to the impacts of climate change on fish, wildlife, their habitats, and users. It exposes graduate students to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) through the USGS National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center (NCCWSC), whose mission is to provide scientific information, tools, and techniques to help natural resource managers anticipate and adapt to the impacts of climate change on fish, wildlife, and ecosystems. Part of his time this summer will be spent in Reston, VA. (Submitted by **Mark Morgan**, Faculty Advisor.)

Missouri Coop student **Kyle Kuechle** (first person on the right) was awarded best platform presentation at the Ozark-Prairie Regional Chapter of the Society of Environmental Toxicology (SETAC) conference on May 16. Kyle (advised by **Lisa Webb**) presented research on 'Neonicotinoid concentrations in Missouri wetland sediments: the relationship to watershed and wetland land practices'.

Three graduate students advised by SNR faculty received the Trans World Airlines Scholarship this upcoming year. **Michael Moore** (PhD student with **Craig Paukert**), **Rachel Owen** (PhD student with **Keith Goyne** and **Lisa Webb**) and **Joe LaRose** (MS student co-advised by **Lisa Webb** and Debbie Finke [Plant Science]) will each receive the $7,000 scholarship, which was established to fund students performing research in areas which will impact environmental issues. Only five non-law students are selected throughout the University of Missouri system.

PRESENTATIONS/PUBLICATIONS/RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

It is not often that one runs into illegal logging operations. That was the case when visiting Malawi as part of a country visit to former USDA Borlaug Fellow, Maggie Munthali (she was co-mentored on use of GIS tools by **Hong He**). Maggie is pictured here along with officers of the Ntchisi Forest Reserve east of Lilongwe. This area should be covered by a full forest canopy but has been almost completely cleared by illegal charcoal makers. In the center of the photo is a commonly used rustic charcoal-making kiln. Dozens of such piles dot a degraded landscape. (Submitted by and photograph taken by **Francisco Aguilar**.)

The Center for Agroforestry and SNR students, Jihyun Park, Danh C. Vu, and Novianus Efrat, developed a first scientific-based, 100% organic based formulated skin care product with elderberry extracts. This is the outcome of a team project for the class "Special Topic: Natural Product for Skin-care and Cosmetic Applications". The formulation integrates the state of art delivery system (liposome) and bioactive ingredients for skin-care application (anti-inflammatory and anti-aging). The team has formulated their prototypes and will file the invention disclosure this summer for their formulation.

Prairie Fork Conservation Area update: The spring Field Experience/Trip is coming to an end as schools are out for summer: we have had the MU Ornithology class out birding; we have had a mixed class of second and third graders explore along with two fourth grade classes who compared habitats; we had a fifth grade class look at our ongoing research activities along with hiking to the research plots; and, we had six days of sixth graders who got up close using microscopes with macroinvertebrates. We have also had two Cub Scout group campouts who also did a service project. We continue to see Edward Jones current associates and retired associates who meet with Pat Jones and explore what we are currently doing with the property. Top left photo: One of the highlights of investigating what's in the water is looking through the microscopes and drawing what they see. Bottom left photo: Let's look at what we all collected from dip netting at crow pond. Above right photo: What is it? Looking closer in the two way viewers pond side. (Submitted by and photos by Amber Edwards.)

The National Drought Information System (NIDIS) – (drought.gov) is holding a Long Range (Weather) Forecasting Rodeo for one year to make Temperature and Precipitation forecasts for the 3-4 Week and 5-6 week timeframe. The forecasts are made for the Western half of the USA. The Rodeo last from May 2017 – to May 2018 and the prize is $100,000.00. The Rodeo has drawn 188 research groups from around the world into the competition including a group within the Global Climate Change Group in the School of Natural Resources. Our group is using techniques developed in our research. The first results are in and our group was number #2 in forecasting both the 3-4 week temperatures and precipitation for May. Aggregating both categories puts us in 2nd place overall (with an aggregate score of .4094) behind the leader who has 0.4119 points! (Submitted by **Tony Lupo**.)

Weeks 3&4 Temperature

Team	Newest Score	Average Score ▼
ping_liu_sbu	0.7427	0.7427
DampedPersistence	**0.4769**	**0.4769**
lupoa13	0.4372	0.4372
bgzimmerman	0.2555	0.2555
jjhwang	0	0
knowak	0	0
mzaslavskiy	0	0
redsapphire	0	0
THETAe	0	0
StillLearning	-0.0319	-0.0319
Salient	-0.1905	-0.1905
asanteko2000	-0.4484	-0.4484
prxwx	-0.5788	-0.5788
CFSv2	**-0.7978**	**-0.7978**

Weeks 3&4 Precipitation

Team	Newest Score	Average Score ▼
Salient	0.6654	0.6654
lupoa13	0.3816	0.3816
ping_liu_sbu	0.0811	0.0811
jjhwang	0	0
knowak	0	0
mzaslavskiy	0	0
redsapphire	0	0
THETAe	0	0
bgzimmerman	-0.2056	-0.2056
prxwx	-0.2597	-0.2597
StillLearning	-0.2714	-0.2714
asanteko2000	-0.3389	-0.3389
DampedPersistence	**-0.4545**	**-0.4545**

This *Weekly Reader* will be distributed electronically every Friday (except during breaks). Please send announcements to Cindy Greenwood, Editor (greenwoodci@missouri.edu) by Thursday @ 5 p.m. If you'd like to unsubscribe from the *Weekly Reader*, please email Cindy. Thanks to Laura Hertel for the *Weekly Reader* Tiger logo.