



Summer 2011



Darcy Chase, Ron Kendall



Richie Erickson, Ron Kendall



Ron Kendall, Scott Weir, Linda Beach (Waste Control)



Ron Kendall, Bryson Finch, Linda Beach (Waste Control)

Operation Idiopathic Decline

The Bobwhite quail population on the Rolling Plains of Texas has sharply declined in the past two years. TIEHH researchers have teamed up with researchers from Texas A&M University to investigate various diseases and parasites as related to the decline of Bobwhite quail.

A total of \$2 million in funding has been released by the Rolling Plains Quail Research Foundation for this project. Dr. Ron Kendall, TIEHH Director, and his co-investigators have received \$249,154 for their project, "Contaminant Analysis in Quail Tissues". Dr. Steve Presley, Associate Professor, and his co-investigators have received two awards: \$349,459 for "Central Specimen Receiving, Processing and Distribution Laboratory" and \$247,483 for "Prevalence of Arboviral, Infectious and Zoonotic Pathogens."



Dr. Ron Kendall



Dr. Steve Presley



FACT

The Northern Bobwhite quail is a ground-dwelling bird native to the United States, Mexico, and the Caribbean.

The name "bobwhite" derives from its characteristic whistling call.

Bobwhite quail form coveys of 5-30 birds during non-breeding season, but pair off during breeding season.

Outstanding Student Awards

Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc. and Waste Control Specialists sponsor awards each year for our most outstanding students in environmental toxicology. Students receiving the awards are selected on criteria such as publications and grants submissions, among others. This year's recipients are:

Syngenta Crop Protection

MS Darcy Chase

PhD Richie Erickson

Waste Control Specialists

MS Bryson Finch

PhD Scott Weir

The winners of the TIEHH Student Association's annual Toxicology Expo were:

1st Place—Scott Weir

2nd Place—Kaylyn Germ

3rd Place—Richie Erickson

The students also held their first annual photo contest. Winners were:

Director's Choice:

Greg Zychowski

1st Place:

Anna Hoffarth

2nd Place Tie:

Jennifer Cole

Kim Wooten

TIEHH News



Ramkumar receives the Innovators Award from Irasema Velasquez, Chairwoman of the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce, and Michael Shaffer, Business Development Committee Chairman of the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce

Dr. Seshadri Ramkumar, Associate Professor, has been elected Chairman of the Materials Interest Group of the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists (AATCC). He also received an honorary fellowship from the The Textile Association, the world's largest professional association related to textiles.

Dr. Ramkumar has received the Inaugural Innovators Award from the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce for his invention of "Fibertect" and was honored by the Lubbock Chapter of the Association of Women in Communications with a Headliner Award. Headliner awards are given to those whose achievements have received wide-

spread public media recognition.

Dr. Ramkumar and his team, Utkarsh Sata, Venkata Kolli, Muralidhar Lalagiri, Sudheer Jinka, and Vinitkumar Singh, presented five papers at the 2011 Beltwide Cotton Conference. Dr. Ramkumar also presented a paper at the Textile Association meeting in India, where he received the Best Technical Paper Award.

Dr. Ramkumar delivered a keynote lecture at the Nonwoven Symposium on "Cotton Nonwovens for Oil Industry" at the 2011 Beltwide Conference. The paper was co-authored by Vinitkumar Singh.

Dr. Ramkumar was invited by

the 20th Century Club of Lubbock to deliver a lecture, "Fibertect: Mind to Market".

"Fibertect" has been successfully commercialized by Chantilly, VA-based First Line Tech, LLC., and is currently being used by a variety of groups, including first responders. "Fibertect" is manufactured by Waco, TX-based Hobbs Bonded Fibers.



Carrie Bradford

Dr. Steve Presley has been named Chairman of the City of Lubbock Board of Health for 2011.

Dr. Presley has been testing the water of many local wells after a local doctor discovered arsenic in his well water after his dogs became ill. Dr. Presley and some of his students, Kristyn Urban, Sam Hawkins, and Anna Gibson, are continuing their research on this most important topic.



Phil Smith

Drs. Phil Smith and George Cobb, and their research groups, are in collaboration with National Park Service to determine mercury concentrations in organisms from South Padre Island, TX.

Dr. Weimin Gao was the recipient of the Outstanding Faculty Award given by the TIEHH Student Association at their annual Spring Banquet.

Alumni News

For her contribution to the Delasco Forge Vapor Intrusion Site in Grand Prairie, Texas, **Dr. Carrie Bradford**, a 2002 (M.S.) and 2005 (Ph.D.) alumni, has received the United States Environmental Protection Agency, "Outstanding Use of Innovative Approaches to Achieve RCRA Permitting and Corrective Action Goals Team Award". Dr. Bradford and her team received recognition for the "hours spent

communicating and coordinating activities necessary to investigate and mitigate the vapor intrusion pathway into homes and businesses, and for using state-of-the-art technology to conduct sampling surrounding the former bomb-making facility."

Shawna Nations Biggs, who graduated with her Master's in 2009, is lead author on a

recently published article in Chemosphere, "Acute effects of Fe₂O₃, TiO₂, Zn) and CuO nanomaterials on *Xenopus laevis*". Co-authors are Mike Wages, Dr. Jaclyn Cañas, Dr. Jonathan Maul, Dr. Chris Theodorakis, and Dr. George Cobb. This article also represents Dr. Cobb's 100th peer-reviewed journal article.



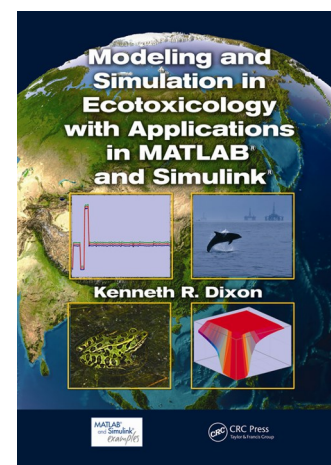
Shawna Nations Biggs

Ken Dixon Publishes Textbook

Dr. Ken Dixon has written a textbook, "Modeling and Simulation in Ecotoxicology," scheduled to be published September 9, 2011 by CRC Press (ISBN 9781439855171). The book describes how to develop mathematical models and run computer simulations of the effects of toxic agents on biological and ecological processes using-MATLAB software. The textbook will be used in the Department of Environmental Toxicology online course, "Modeling and Simulation in Ecotoxicology, (ENTX 6391)" beginning in the Fall 2011 Semester. The course is open to anyone, not just TTU stu-

dents. This is an online course using Blackboard www.blackboard.ttu.edu. The course consists of assigned readings in the textbook, exercises in MATLAB and Simulink, discussion board activities, and midterm and final exams. This course assumes some knowledge of calculus and statistics (including topics such as statistical distributions, hypothesis testing, ANOVA, and regression). Additional assignments will be made for those students who need refresher sessions on these topics. ENTX 6391 is designed for students with little or no prior experience

with modeling. Topics include methodology of model development, implementation, and simulation as applied to ecotoxicology; principles of systems, modeling, and simulation; modeling the stressor-response; toxicokinetics; individual organism effects and individual-based models; population, community, and ecosystem effects; parameter estimation; design and analysis of simulation experiments; and, model validation. Anyone interested in enrolling in the course should contact Dr. Dixon at ken.dixon@tiehh.ttu.edu.



Dr. Ken Dixon is Professor of Statistics and Modeling in the Department of Environmental Toxicology at TIEHH.

The following students have received awards, grants, fellowships and/or scholarships:

Lisa Arneson	MS	Preston and Ima Smith Endowed Graduate Scholarship TTU Graduate School Travel Award
Darcy Chase	MS	American Chemical Society 2011 Graduate Student Award TTU Summer Thesis Research Award
Jennifer Cole	PhD	TTU Graduate School Travel Award Paul Whitfield Horn Fellowship Cash Family Endowed Scholarship
Bryson Finch	MS	TTU Summer Thesis Research Award
Sudheer Jinka	PhD	TTU Graduate School Travel Award
Venkata Kolli	PhD	TTU Graduate School Travel Award Taraknath Das Foundation Grant-in-Aid of Research Award TTU OIA Texas Public Education Grant
Muralidhar Lalagiri	PhD	Study Abroad Competitive Scholarship TTU Graduate School Travel Award
Chuanwen Lu	PhD	TTU Graduate Student Research Poster Award—3rd Place
Babina Shrestha	PhD	Study Abroad Competitive Scholarship
Vinit Singh	PhD	TTU Graduate School Travel Award NSF Scholars Program of the American Chemical Society
Song Tang	PhD	Society of Toxicology Travel Award TTU Graduate School Travel Award Study Abroad Competitive Scholarship TTU Graduate Student Research Poster—3rd Place
Tulika Tyagi	MS	Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation Grant
Jiafan Wang	PhD	TTU Graduate Student Research Poster—2nd Place
Sandy Wiggins	MS	SETAC/EA Engineering Jeff Black Award
Shuangying Yu	PhD	Paul Whitfield Horn Fellowship



Jennifer Cole



Song Tang



Tulika Tyagi



Shuangying Yu

**The Institute of Environmental
and Human Health (TIEHH)
and
Department of Environmental
Toxicology**

Texas Tech University

Box 41163
Lubbock, TX 79409-1163
(T) 806.885.4567
(F) 806.885.2132

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"We will be a leader in research and education, integrating environmental and human health sciences. Our Institute will contribute innovative solutions to environmental problems by embracing disciplinary diversity, creating partnerships and committing to excellence."

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May/August 2011 Graduates and Fall 2011 Incoming Students

Graduates of Environmental Toxicology

Student	Advisor
Ph.D.:	
Venkata Kolli	Ramkumar
Les McDaniel	Cobb
Guangqiu Qin	Maul
Rasesh Shah	Anderson
MS:	
Vinay Allagadda	Mayer
Darcy Chase	Anderson
Nina Dacko	Presley
Anna Hoffarth	Presley
Dawn Sleakis	Cox
Sandy Wiggins	Godard-Codding
Greg Zychowski	Godard-Codding

Incoming Students

Anu Anele	PhD	Univ. of Cologne
Ifelouwa Bamgbose	MS	Univ. of Houston
Catherine Baxter	MS	Texas A&M
Aaron Conti	MS	UT Austin
Carla Fomby	MS	McMurry Univ.
Zachary Gonzales	MS	Texas Tech Univ.
Carmen Kautz	PhD	Univ. of Guam
Andrew McEachern	MS	NC State Univ.

