



Name: James P. Cuda, Ph.D.

Title and department: Associate Professor
Entomology & Nematology Dept.

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Education:

B.S. Texas A&M University, College Station Entomology Ph.D. 1983

M.S. Southern Illinois University, Carbondale Zoology M.S. 1976

Ph.D. Southern Illinois University, Carbondale Zoology B.S. 1973

Research Interests (with focus on Tropical Agriculture)

I conduct research on classical biological control of nonnative plants that have become invasive weeds of natural areas and aquatic ecosystems. Current projects include the discovery, identification, risk assessment, release, and evaluation of target-specific beneficial natural enemies from foreign sources for biological control of Brazilian peppertree (*Schinus terebinthifolius*), tropical soda apple, (*Solanum viarum*), hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) and hygrophila (*Hygrophila polysperma*). Also, involved in the evaluation of established arthropod natural enemies for biological control of the following invasive aquatic weeds: alligatorweed (*Alternanthera phylloxeroides*), water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*), water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*), hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*), and melaleuca (*Melaleuca quinquenervia*).

Five most significant publications:

Cuda, J. P., R. Charudattan, M. J. Grodowitz, R. M. Newman, J. F. Shearer, M. L. Tamayo, and B. Villegas. (in press). Recent advances in biological control of submersed aquatic weeds. *J. Aquat. Plant Manage*

Treadwell, L.W. and Cuda, J.P. 2007. Effects of defoliation on growth and reproduction of Brazilian peppertree (*Schinus terebinthifolius*). *Weed Science* 55: 137-142.

Cuda J. P., A. P. Ferriter, and V. Manrique (eds.). 2006. Florida's Brazilian peppertree management plan, 2nd edition: Recommendations from the Brazilian peppertree Task Force, Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council, April 2006. Available at <http://ipm.ifas.ufl.edu/reports/BPmanagPlan.pdf>.

Cuda, J.P. 2004. Biological control of weeds, pp. 304-308. In Capinera, J.L. (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Entomology*, Kluwer Academic Publishers. Dordrecht, Netherlands.

Cuda, J.P., Habeck, D.H., Hight, S.D., Medal, J.C., and Pedrosa-Macedo, J.H. 2004. Brazilian Peppertree, *Schinus terebinthifolius*: Sumac Family-Anacardiaceae, pp. 439-441. In Coombs, E., Clark, J., Piper, G., and Cofrancesco, A. (eds.), *Biological Control of Invasive Plants in the United States*. Oregon State University Press, Corvallis, OR.

Extramural support during past 5 years: \$ 1,944,252

Teaching Interests (with focus on Tropical Agriculture)

My teaching responsibilities include advising and mentoring graduate and under graduate students, and guest lecturing in the graduate/undergraduate courses: in Aquatic Weed Control, Biological Control, Insect Community Ecology, and Weed Ecology.

Extension/Outreach Interests (with focus on Tropical Agriculture)

Extension activities have focused on developing and implementing arthropod pest and weed management programs emphasizing biological control. I serve as a resource for county faculty on natural enemies of arthropod pests of agriculture, horticulture, structures, natural resources and public health. I also provide technical support and outreach activities on biological weed control to the University's Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants.

International Activities (with focus on Tropical Agriculture)

During the past 10 years, I have conducted or collaborated on weed biocontrol research projects and/or given presentations abroad in the following countries: Africa, Australia, Argentina, Brazil, India, and Paraguay. I also have been an invited speaker and poster presenter at international symposia in held Brazil, Canada, and France.