Lorenza Beati

Curator of the U.S. National Tick Collection, Associate Professor at Georgia Southern University

Statesboro, GA, US

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Biography

Lorenza Beati's research focuses on the study of the taxonomy, evolutionary relationships, and population genetics of arthropods, in particular hard-ticks (Acari: Ixodidae) and the New World sand fly genus Lutzomyia (Diptera: Psychodidae). These taxonomic groups include a number of species involved in the transmission of diseases to humans and animals. She is particularly interested in: - Developing molecular tools for a finer taxonomic identification of different groups of vector species and for linking immature stages of ticks to the corresponding adult species. - Reassessing the systematic relationships of vector taxa, by phylogenetic analyses of morphological and molecular characters. - Using phylogenetic reconstructions to better understand the evolutionary history of these taxa, and the development of specific associations between vectors, hosts, pathogens, environment, and geographic distribution. Studying the intraspecific genetic structure of arthropod vectors of medical importance.

Areas of Expertise

Hard-Ticks, Ecology of the Swiss Alps, Systematic Biology, Arthropod Diversity, Population Genetics of Arthropods

Education

University Aix-Marseille II
Ph.D.

University of Lausanne
M.D. Medicine

Laboratoires de Parasitologie
D.E.A. Parasitology

Accomplishments

Georgia Southern University SPRInG Grant "Pilot Assessment of Murine Typhus in the Southeastern USA". PI M. Eremeeva; CO-PIs L. Durden, L. Beati
2011

Georgia Southern University Faculty Research Seed Award ?Genetic diversity of Ixodes trianguliceps, a nidicolous tick which maintains pathogenic microorganisms in nature? CO-PI W. Irby.
2013

REVSYS NSF grant #1026146 - Exploiting a large existing resource for biogeographical and host-parasite data: linking immature and adult amblyommine ticks
2010

Georgia Southern University Academic Year 2012-2013 Award in Excellence in Research
2012

NSF Collaborative-Linked EID award #914390 - Testing alternative hypotheses for gradients in Lyme disease in the eastern United States: climate, host, community and vector genetic structure
2009
