

CORNELL
UNIVERSITY

STATION NEWS

GENEVA
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BRIEFS

NEW FACE IN THE LIBRARY

The Geneva Library has a new employee, Michael Fordon, who is serving as collections assistant, working 20 hours/week. His duties are to staff the library help-desk, help researchers find material, aid people using the library's computers in their searches for journal articles, and assist in all daily library operations.

Michael lives in Geneva. He graduated from Binghamton University in May 1999, with a bachelor's degree in history. His interests include American military history, especially naval history. He has served three internships at the Naval Historical Center in Washington, D.C., and specializes in the Revolutionary War and WWII eras. He is also interested in Scandinavian languages, having studied Old Norse and Norwegian. He also likes to play chess.

I look forward to meeting people at the Station," said Michael, who wants to continue working in research, either by helping others or doing research on his own.

In other library news, Jane Irwin now spends three-quarters of her time directing and teaching in the Learning Technology Center. Jeanne Samimy continues as assistant to the director, and Marty Schlabach is serving as acting director.

NYSAES FIELD MAPS

The maps of the NYSAES Research Fields have now been placed on the Stations web site and can now be found at:

<http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/fru/maps/>

These maps are static images organized by year, from 1995 to 1999. Though each map is similar in design, subtle differences are reflected as changes occur annually in features like plot boundaries, plot names, additions to existing tile lines, and so forth.

Two file formats exist for each map: a JPEG version for viewing in your web browser and a PDF version for printing to either color or B&W printers.

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Station History Is On The Press!

On a day fairly early in 1980, Director Donald W. Barton, Dr. Paul J. Chapman, professor emeritus of entomology, and Pat Krauss, head of the department of publications, met in the director's office for a conversation that went something like this:

"Chappie," said Director Barton. "We are going to celebrate the centennial of the Experiment Station in 1982. We need a history of those first 100 years, and I would like you to write it."

"I agree that a history of the first 100 years would be nice," commented Chapman. "I'll be pleased to try and see if I can put some words on paper that will mean something."

The history of the first 100 years (1882-1982) of the Geneva Experiment Station project was to have been finished in two years, but is just now coming to completion, 19 years later. It is chronicled in a magnificently prepared book authored not only by Paul Chapman but also by Dr. Edward H. Glass, another professor emeritus of entomology.

Why did it take so long to complete this monograph? If you knew Dr. Chapman ("Chappie," to most who were close to him), you knew that he would never take on any job without doing it to the very best of his ability. He approached writing the history of the Station the same as he did any of his many research projects for which he received such acclaim throughout his active career. Dr. Chapman read every annual report published by the Station and many of the thousands of publications issued by the institution. He conducted personal interviews with many long-term Station employees, gleaned as much personal information about people as he could.

After months of research and contemplation, Chappie decided the best way to organize the history was by Director. As he "finished" a chapter and finished is in quotes because a chapter was never completely finished by Chappie—would be reviewed by numerous individuals. Then, Chappie would rework the chapter and continue to massage it from time to time.

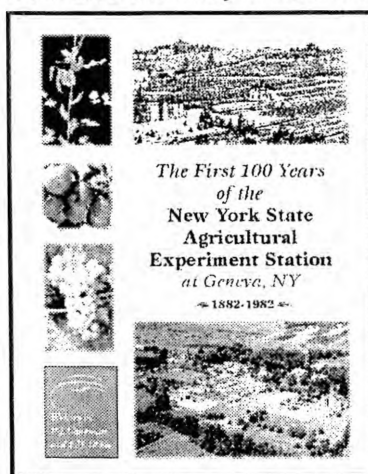
It soon became obvious that the history would never be completed by the time of the centennial celebration of the Station in 1982. But, Director Barton and subsequent directors have all taken the attitude that this is such an important document that it is well worth the extra years involved in its production.

As the years went by and Chappie got older (he had retired in 1968 at age 68), he recognized that he probably would not be able to complete the book before he died. He approached his long-time friend and professional colleague, Dr. Ed Glass, to see if he would

(Continued on page 2)



In 1992, Paul and Mrs. Chapman made a very generous contribution to Cornell University, establishing a graduate Student Fellowship in the Department of Entomology. He is pictured here with former department head and co-author, Edward H. Glass, and the plaque commemorating the fellowship.



(BRIEFS, continued from page 1)

Years 1995 through 1998 show the geographically referenced spatial geometry derived from digitized tracings of aerial photos, by the Saratoga Associates (1995). The 1999 maps have a digitized aerial photo in GEOTIFF format as a "backdrop." These aerial photo images are known as Digital Ortho Quarter Quads (DOQQs). They are geo-referenced and match the projection parameters of the overlying farm features and have undergone correction standards to remove errors inherent in all aerial photos. Each pixel has a resolution of 1 meter by 1 meter. The fly-over date for these DOQQs, recently available from the USGS, was April 1995. Detailed metadata (data about the data) for all of the map features can be viewed at the web site.

The maps are not error-free. Each map year represents a separate spatial database that is being maintained for archival purposes. Please advise the farm database overseer of corrections, comments, or errors you detect, via e-mail only at:

hjk4@nysaes.cornell.edu

Plans are in place to develop dynamic farm maps that can be queried for their plot history and be output as maps on the fly. Dynamic map server technology is developing and redeveloping at such a frenzied pace that it is prudent to ride out the tide of developmental changes in order to gain speed in functionality and user friendliness. For the moment, the greater goal is to get good accurate historical data into each yearly database. We are grateful for your insights and help in removing inaccuracies.

H. Kredo

Winter Holiday Schedule

The Cornell University Winter Holidays will be observed from Friday, December 24, 1999, through Friday, December 31, 1999 (six working days.) We will return to work on Monday, January 3, 2000. Regular employees required to work during this period will be paid according to the Time Away From Work Policy - Holidays <http://www.univco.cornell.edu/hr/692.html>.

Charie Hibbard

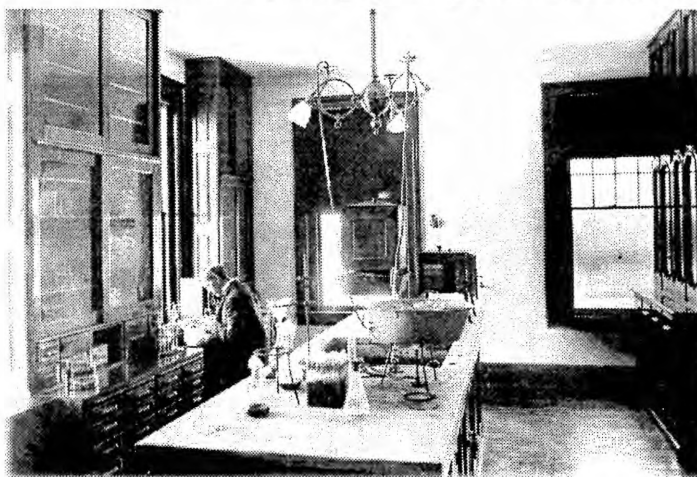
(HISTORY, continued from page 1)



Lewis Sturtevant, the first Director of the Station.

ing this history completed and made available to interested readers.

Dr. Ed Glass has committed hours and hours to the project. For the past two years, it has also consumed the time and attention of Station photographer Joe Ogrodnick, who has directed the search and organization of photo files, as well as the electronic enhancement of more than 96 images from the Station's vast collection of institution- and agriculturally-related photographs. Graphics Manager Elaine Gotham is responsible for the book and cover design, Linda McCandless for production management, and Matt Lewis for distribution. Syracuse Litho is printing the 309-page history. All photographs are being reproduced in hand-



One of the laboratories in the Botany Laboratory—1884. This was the Denton House, which was later named Parrott Hall.

some sepia duotones. There will be 1500 soft-cover copies, which will sell for \$20 each, and 500 case-bound copies, for \$25 each.

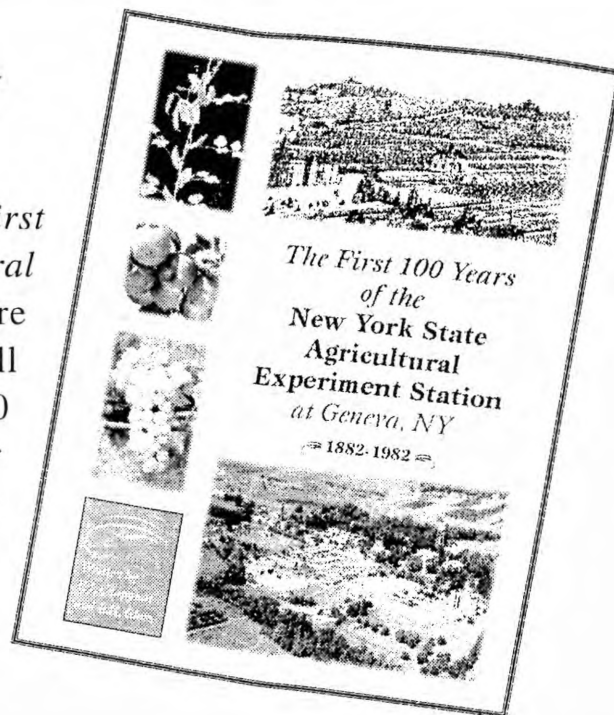
An important chapter in the Station's history ends with the publication of this monograph. A tremendous debt of gratitude is owed both Paul Chapman and Ed Glass for the outstanding job they did in writing this history. We think readers will find it fascinating as it describes not only much of the research accomplished by the Station family over the years, but includes hundreds of interesting stories about the people of the Station.

When you get your copy of the history, enjoy it to the fullest. And, if you see Ed Glass around campus, which he is every day, let him know how much you appreciate the fine job that he and Chappie did to preserve the history of this great institution.

R. E. Krauss, Editor

Book Signing

To celebrate the publication of *The First 100 Years of the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva, NY*, there will be a book signing in the Jordan Hall Lounge, on Wednesday, Dec. 22, from 10 a.m.-noon, and from 2-4 p.m. Co-author Dr. Ed Glass will be signing soft-cover copies of the book. Dr. Barton and Dr. Hunter will make brief comments at 10 a.m. and toast the book's release.



CALENDAR of EVENTS DECEMBER 10-17, 1999

CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE: Refrigerator, electric range and electric dryer. All in excellent condition. Call Nancy at x2313 or 789-5485.

CAR FOR SALE: 1990 Chevrolet Beretta GTZ, 115,000 miles, air, no rust. Car was checked out by mechanic who said engine is in good shape but it needs new timing chain and wheel bearing. Edmunds.com lists resale price at over \$3,000 but am asking \$1,200 due to needed repairs. Please contact Tim at tlw10 or x2374.

WANTED: Older U.S. coins (pre-1950), foreign coins and stamps for my niece and nephews' coin collections for Christmas. I am willing to exchange for equivalent U.S. dollar value or homemade cookies! Please send to Cathy Heidenreich, Plant Pathology, x2433.

FOR SALE: Queensize Sealy Mattress. Only used for a short time. Call Judy/Tom at 789-1142.

WELL-FURNISHED ONE BEDROOM APARTMENT. Available immediately. One mile from Station. \$350 per month including utilities, no pets. Please contact 789-7379 or 789-1638, Mary Lou Consentino.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS: Handmade Ottoman-style sterling silver jewelry for sale. Perfect gift for ladies. For details, email: nb51@cornell.edu

WANTED: Tops grocery tapes. The tapes are a fund-raising activity in support of the Geneva High School Marching Band/Color Guard. Please send tapes to Judy Birkett, Jordan Hall.

WANTED: Used, old, ratty, artificial Xmas tree (silver, white, pink a bonus). Also, old Xmas lawn ornaments. Thank you. Please email: bkg1@nysaes.cornell.edu

FOR SALE: 1990 Honda Civic (3 door), gold, brown interior. NO RUST. New: tires, cv joints, brakes, shocks, exhaust. Stereo cassette plus an extra stereo cassette (the newer one's digital- I was going to swap them out, but don't have time). We'll even throw in a set of chains for nasty weather. 130,000 miles. Gets great gas mileage and can haul a lot of stuff. Asking \$2500 or best offer. Contact us by email (mlk25@cornell.edu) or by phone (x2419, 789-5345 home) if you are interested. Mike & Helen Kirby

PEOPLE

CONGRATULATIONS

Tiffany Fisk and her husband David have just had a baby girl, born at GGH, on December 8, 1999, at 7:00 p.m.! Jessica Lee weighed in at 7 1/2 lbs. and is 19 inches tall. This is the Fisk's second child. They have a daughter, Brittany who is 4 years old.

MEETINGS

Geneva Arboretum Association Meeting
G19 Hedrick Hall
Tuesday, December 14, at 11:30 a.m.

SEMINARS

HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

Date: December 13, 1999
Time: 11 a.m.
Place: Jordan Hall Staff Room
Title: "The Impact of Brassica Cover Crops on Root Lesion Nematodes"
Speaker: Stewart Chirova, M S candidate, Field of Vegetable Crops

FOOD SCIENCE

Date: Friday, December 15, 1999
Time: 10:30 a.m.
Place: Food Science and Technology Conference Room Food Research Lab, Second Floor
Speaker: Li-chen Wu, Ph.D. candidate, Food Science and Technology, Geneva
Title: "Isolation and Characterization of Apple Juice Haze-Active Proteins"

Like Having “God As Your Co-Author”

Imagine “rewriting the Bible with God as your co-author.” That’s how Michael Villani, professor of entomology, characterized writing the second edition of *Turfgrass Insects of the United States and Canada*, with original author Haruo Tashiro, retired professor of entomology at the Station, and Patricia J. Vittum, associate professor of entomology at the University of Massachusetts.

The first edition, which was released in 1987 and written solely by Tashiro, is considered the “bible” of the turfgrass industry. It is the manual of choice among golf courses from Pebble Beach to Silver Creek. In 1992, because of advances in such areas as Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Tashiro knew it was time to write a new edition.

The second edition, which took three years to complete, is a true example of collaboration and teamwork. Tashiro, who has been retired for over 15 years, thought the book would benefit from having co-authors because he was not as comfortable as he would have liked to be with some more current topics like IPM, which was just an emerging field when he retired. Tashiro enlisted Villani, his successor in the department, and his last graduate student, Vittum, to co-author the new edition.

In addition to updating the original chapters, the second edition includes new or extensively rewritten chapters on areas such as: IPM, the principles of biological controls, sampling techniques, setting thresholds, and chemical control strategies. The new edition also features more recent images featuring the life stages of nearly all turfgrass pests found in the United States and Canada.

According to Villani, “The book was a true collaboration. Pat Vittum was the first author because she tended to tackle those distasteful tasks that go with the glory and responsibility of first authorship.”

Before the rewrite started, the three authors sent copies of the original chapters to turf entomologists around the country with the request that they take a hard and critical look at the chapter(s) and offer feedback and suggestions. Vittum and Villani then split up the original chapters and worked on improving readability, adding new citations, and reorganization.

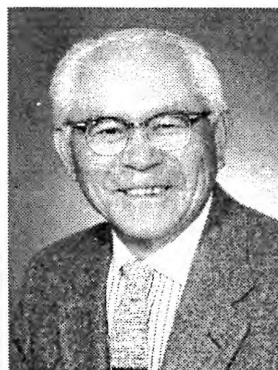
Villani’s responsibilities were the soil insect chapters. He credits graduate student Paul Robbins with having major input on several of the scarab chapters. New life-sized line drawings by Robert Jarecke, who worked in Villani’s lab, were added to each chapter. Species distribution maps were drawn by Station graphic artist Elaine Gotham. Vittum and Villani then added the new chapters on integrated pest management, chemical control tactics, and biological control tactics. Villani credits graduate student Jennifer Grant with major input on the biocontrol chapter.

After each chapter was rewritten, Tashiro would read it and made suggestions. All three authors then reviewed the entire text.

The new edition features over 550 color images. Many of the images were taken by Tashiro himself who set up a little photo lab in the basement of his home, with the aid of Station photographers Joe Ogrodnick and Rob Way. Although Tashiro admits he is, “of course, very proud of the entire book,” he is “most pleased” with how the new plates look. Ogrodnick is credited for taking those photographs that Tashiro didn’t.

This edition appears to be as well received as the original. “There is no book available that offers such comprehensive, yet in-depth coverage of turfgrass insects and associated pests,” said Dr. Rick L. Brandenburg, professor of entomology at North Carolina State University. Many others join Brandenburg in offering wholehearted praise of the book and believe it will continue to be regarded with respect by the turf community.

When asked about plans for a third edition, Tashiro gives the nod to Villani who says maybe he’ll tackle that one in another 10 years.



Haruo Tashiro



Michael Villani

The second edition of *Turfgrass Insects of the United States and Canada*, is a Comstock book published by Cornell University Press. It has 28 chapters, 422 pages and 576 color images on 72 plates. It is available from amazon.com for \$60.