

ARCHBOLD NOVEMBER 2016 NEWS

for curious minds



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Ants of Florida



Dr. Mark Deyrup has many areas of expertise including art, creative writing, ecology, and entomology with a specialty in ants. Deyrup created beautiful scientific drawings of over 200 species of ants for his book 'Ants of Florida'.

25 years in the making, the exquisite ['Ants of Florida: Identification and Natural History'](#) book written by [Dr. Mark Deyrup](#) is here. Deyrup said, 'I was first introduced to ants in New York City, where the little Pavement Ant (*Tetramorium caespitum*) could be found living in cracks in the cement. As a small child, I marveled how a wandering ant could seize a crumb and proceed straight back to its nest. Much, much later I learned that ants, and many other insects, are gifted with "dead reckoning". I never forgot ants, and as I learned more about them the desire to share that knowledge grew proportionately. **This is the origin of a book designed to help other naturalists identify and appreciate the natural history of the 239 ant species known to inhabit Florida.** The book is 425 pages long, with 90 plates of drawings of ants (beautiful scientific drawings by Deyrup), and over 700 references. The last 25 years has been a good time to study ants. For all our many faults, we humans are gifted with irrepressible curiosity and indomitable creativity, even if we become lost and confused more



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easily than your average ant.' Deyrup, M. 2016 *Ants of Florida: Identification and Natural History*. CRC Press. [Buy it on Amazon now!](#)

Wetland Restoration Workshop



Wetland at the MacArthur Agro-ecology Research Center, also known as Buck Island Ranch.

USDA conservation easements known as [Wetland Reserve Easements \(WRE\)](#) are a powerful, emerging force for conservation in Florida. Over the last decade, Florida has been the most active state in the nation for such easements with nearly 100,000 acres currently under wetland restoration. The USDA reaches out to partners for collaborations and advice. Last month, **Archbold's [MacArthur Agro-ecology Research Center \(MAERC\)](#) team (Betsey Boughton, Greg Sonnier, and Hilary Swain) were invited by USDA to a WRE Partners Planning Workshop on October 18-20th** at the Waccasassa Forestry Center in Gainesville, FL. State and federal agency partners expressed great interest in our talk on grazing management of wetlands presented by Greg Sonnier, a two-year Postdoc studying outcomes of wetland restoration at MAERC and the [Archbold Reserve](#). Sonnier emphasized that data collected over a four year period show that either low level cattle grazing or fire is required to maintain wetland communities. Fenced and unburned wetlands degrade over time. Furthermore, restoration of wetlands embedded in improved pastures is more difficult than wetlands in semi-native pastures because of different starting conditions, including fewer native wetland plants, more exotic plants, and higher

"Archbold Biological Station is one of America's iconic centers of continuous research and education in field biology. It is a prototype of what we need all across America."

— Edward O. Wilson

2017 Archbold Plant Ecology Internships

Research Internships available in Archbold Plant Ecology. Beginning March 2017 and thereafter; running 8 months. Applications due Nov. 28. Ideal for students with undergraduate degrees contemplating graduate school. [Learn more here.](#)



soil nutrients. More restoration results are expected over the coming months.

Wood Art of the Scrub



Doctrow sketching a recently burned Rosemary bald at Archbold. Recently retired from [South Florida State College Museum of Florida Art and Culture](#), Doctrow said, 'Time opened up for me to pursue art full-time.'

[Mollie Doctrow](#) went into recently burned Rosemary balds this October on a quest both spiritual and scientific. Doctrow is a master woodcut artist and current Archbold Artist-in-Residence inspired by landscapes and endangered plants of Florida. Doctrow's relationship with Archbold goes back. Visitors to Archbold encounter her [beautiful shrine boxes](#) honoring endangered scrub plants on the Nature Trail. Doctrow said, 'My first Artist-in-Residence experience with Archbold in 2011 set me on a path to learning more about the habitats where I work. Trudging through a dense thicket of palmetto and oaks for about 15 minutes, the landscape opened up to the Rosemary bald, open patches of white sand with burned rosemary. It felt like an island within a larger landscape. A bit surreal. Bending, twisting forms of dead rosemary strewn about the white sand. It had the feel of a graveyard, while teeming with life, young rosemary sprouts and fall flowers blooming. The landscape opens up in new ways as I learn more about it and get to know the people who work at the Station every day.'

Upcoming Events

Follow us on [Facebook](#) to learn about upcoming public events at Archbold.

It Takes a Village



Archbold's Ranch staff: l. to r. back row, operations L. Leitner, E. Sapp, C. Gross, L. Lollis, G. Danford, P. Paxton, G. Lollis, A. Yates, and researchers S. Pierre, G. Sonnier, M. Gaffney, E. Iverson, K. Brinkso, A. Saha, and l to r. front row (women) researchers S. Fruchter, H. Swain, B. Boughton, R. Whittington, M. Foster (Admin support) and S. Garvey.

When your "natural laboratory" is a large commercial cattle ranch, it takes a "whole village" to keep everything operating smoothly. Archbold's [MacArthur Agro-ecology Research Center](#), with 3,000 cows, is among the top 20 ranches in Florida and the top 400 in the country—in terms of number of head, and needs a broad and dedicated staff, twenty of whom were on hand for a recent Ranch staff photo. Gene Lollis (center back, check shirt) has been Ranch Manager heading up operations since 1996 and Betsey Boughton (center front, green shirt) provides scientific leadership as Research Director. The ranch team includes everyone from cowboys to mechanics to a Postdoc, research assistants, research technicians, and interns. Many live in cottages and homes on the Ranch which builds a great sense of community and place. This also makes for an easy commute to work!

Archbold Giving Tuesday



Check out our Youtube Videos!



Connect with us on Facebook!

[Archbold Facebook Event Calendar](#)

Directions to Archbold Biological Station

Eight miles south of Lake Placid. Entrance is 1.8 miles south of SR 70 on Old SR 8.



Butterfly nectaring on Shortleaf Blazing Star (*Liatris tenuifolia*) at Archbold.



Archbold will take part in the national campaign to inspire giving of all kinds during the holiday season. November 29 is the 5th annual #GivingTuesday, a day where all people unite to celebrate philanthropy and generosity. #GivingTuesday is a day to be an [Archbold Hero](#). Giving to a [small organization such as Archbold](#) nets very real, meaningful, tangible results that furthers our science, fuels our research, and helps to protect the life, land and waters of the heart of Florida and beyond. Programs, such as education, conservation and research, receive 100% of all donations to Archbold which is incredibly satisfying because it makes a true difference. Watch for [Archbold's #GivingTuesday](#) campaign on Facebook and in your email to be a part of this special day where giving is truly embraced and even contagious.

[Archbold Biological Station](#) | [MacArthur Agro-ecology Research Center](#) | [Archbold Reserve](#)

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