

Department of Entomology presented her a testimonial plaque. Several species have also been named in her honor and they are listed below.

Hers has been a fruitful career topped by monumental publications in aphid systematics and biology. Apparently, retirement from government service as a professor in the State University will not mean stoppage from work especially research, minus the burden of preparing lectures, checking exams, marking or grading and correcting students' manuscripts. It will in fact give more time to concentrate on aphid systematics, examine long accumulated collections and write books and articles for the first and foremost Filipino aphidologist.

SPECIES NAMED IN HONOR OF PROFESSOR VENUS J. CALILUNG

Class Insecta

Order Diptera

Family Calliphoridae

Bengalia calilungae Rueda, 1985: 341

Order Hemiptera: Sternorrhyncha: Psylloidea

Family Phacopteronidae

Pseudophacopteron calilungae Navasero, 1998: 7

Order Thysanoptera: Terebrantia

Family Thripidae

Neohydatothrips calilungae Reyes, 1994: 245

Class Arachnida

Sub-class Acari

Family Cunaxidae

Cunaxa venusae Corpuz-Raros & Garcia, 1995: 615

Sub-class Araneae

Family Clubionidae

Clubiona venusae Barrion & Litsinger, 1995: 131

Family Salticidae

Orthrus calilungae Barrion, 1998: 104

Family Zodariidae

Langbiana calilungae Barrion & Litsinger, 1992: 56

NEW TAXA DESCRIBED BY PROFESSOR VENUS J. CALILUNG

Aphidoidea:

Mesotrichosiphum Calilung, 1967

Mesotrichosiphum uichancoi Calilung, 1967

Juncomyzus hillerislammersi Calilung, 1972

Matsumuraja calorai Calilung, 1972

Uichancoella Calilung, 1975

Uichancoella gabrieli Calilung, 1975

DR. VENUS J. CALILUNG: The First Filipino Aphidologist

Ireneo L. Lit, Jr.

In April, 1967, two companion articles on Philippine aphids came out in the Philippine Agriculturist. Those were the first fruits of Dr. Venus J. Calilung's efforts which started in the early 1960's when she received from then Dean Leopoldo B. Uichanco his aphid collection and started building up her own - Dr. Calilung's aphidological collection is now nearing the 20,000 mark (slides). She is a systematic entomologist well-respected here and abroad and has earned a formidable place in the history of Philippine entomology as the first Filipino aphidologist, having organized what was then fragmentary knowledge of only 27 aphid species before 1967 and added nearly a hundred species she discovered, including two new genera, five new species and numerous new faunal records. Through her leadership we now have the fundamental knowledge about the biology, flight patterns and natural enemies of important species such as the green peach aphid, sugarcane wooly aphid, and many other species especially vectors of plant viruses.

As a testament to her outstanding career as a teacher, she was conferred the Distinguished Teacher Award for the Biological Sciences in 1986. She has set a record in having taught throughout her teaching career altogether 10 departmental course offerings excluding several zoology courses. Her two laboratory manuals in general entomology and insect morphology and other syllabi remain as standards for laboratory instruction in entomology both in the UPLB and in other colleges and universities.

As an administrator, she had been the steadfast captain of a ship that is the Museum of Natural History as it was struggling to survive in a sea that supports hi-tech endeavors but is inhospitable to basic researches. As its director, she set long missing stable foundations for the MNH like the acquisition of its present building, lobbying for much needed financial support, initiating a then free-entrance visitors program and the Executive Order to make its existence official.

More recently she has taken as an additional field of study the taxonomy of Philippine Chrysomelidae (done in collaboration with a number of her students with herself concentrating on the Cassidinae); biology, ecology and biological control of thrips especially *Thrips palmi* Karny, *Ceratothrips reticulatus* Reyes and *Megalurothrips usitatus* Bagnall; and management of insect pests in vegetable crops, legumes, abaca, *Azolla*, *Sesbania*, *Leucaena* (ipil-ipil) and others. Her work on thrips earned for her an Outstanding Published Paper Award from the NAST. She has also inspired many of us to go into insect systematics, myself for one on mealybugs and other scale insects, two others on psyllids or jumping plant lice, one on blowflies, two more on chrysomelids, and others on aphid parasitoids, ants associated with aphids and other Sternorrhyncha, natural enemies of aphids, etc.

In recognition of her outstanding career as scientist and teacher and her extraordinary person as a supportive colleague, her colleagues in the UPLB

Psylloidea:

Arytaina uichancoi Braza & Calilung, 1981

Paurocephala adelaidae Braza & Calilung, 1981

Paurocephala artocarpae Braza & Calilung, 1981

Psylla cajanae Braza & Calilung, 1981

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