

LEO C. RIMANDO: SCIENTIST, TEACHER AND ARTIST**L. A. Corpuz-Raros¹**

Thirty years ago, he wrote of the "death of a dream and the birth of a new direction" as the founding editor of the PHILIPPINE ENTOMOLOGIST. Decades before then, Filipino entomologists merely dreamed of their own journal by which to communicate and advance the frontiers of their science. Upon reorganization of the Philippine Association of Entomologists in 1967 (originally organized in 1962), the Executive Board of the organization resolved to make this dream come true. Leo C. Rimando took the cudgels for the journal, bore the pains of its birth and early childhood, and set the standards of excellence and professionalism among Filipino entomological authors and reviewers. With equal devotion of other editors who succeeded him, the journal has matured to be at par with the best of its kind all over the world. It has become the flagship journal by which the international scientific community can gauge developments in Philippine entomology. Leo retires from government service on the 30th anniversary of the journal, secure in his feeling that the baby he so devotedly nurtured is now a fully grown person.

But Leo is more than an editor of a scientific journal. He actively practiced and wrote science himself, particularly in acarology of which he is also its father in the Philippines. As a newly graduated instructor of entomology at the then University of the Philippines College of Agriculture (UPCA) in 1956 and during the first phase of the UPCA-Cornell Contract, he often went on mite collecting trips with Dr. John G. Matthyse, one of the Cornell University professors who came to Los Baños under the program. With this experience, he developed an interest in mites and pursued acarology as a field of specialization in the University of California, Berkeley. Even before starting his graduate work at Berkeley, he attended the 1957 Summer Institute of Acarology, then at the University of Maryland (now permanently based in the Ohio State University). For a masteral thesis, he did a taxonomic study on Philippine Tetranychidae or spider mites and related phytophagous mites, utilizing the material collected by Dr. Matthyse who brought them to Dr. A. Earl Pritchard at Berkeley when he went back to the United States. Leo had Dr. Pritchard as his graduate advisor. This work was published in 1962 as UPCA Technical Bulletin No. 11 after Leo's return from his graduate studies. It has become significant not only for the Philippines but also for most of Southeast Asia and other parts of the Oriental Region, because many of the species he described therein eventually turned out to be widely distributed. Some have even earned the reputation of being pests of crops especially citrus. He pursued further work on spider mites in the Philippines but because he assumed other greater responsibilities, his acarological work was set aside for a long time, to be resumed only on the eve of his retirement. He has recently ventured into the predatory superfamily Raphignathoidea and has com-

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pleted studying existing collections of the Eupalopsellidae and partly of the Stigmaeidae. He has published nine taxonomic papers on mites in addition to his others on scale insects and other entomological topics (Table 1). In these taxonomic papers, he described 43 species mostly as senior author, and erected 7 new genera, 1 tribe and 1 subfamily (Table 2). Among his acarological discoveries, the genus *Aponychus* is perhaps the most famous since this is now known to occur not only in the Philippines but almost worldwide with 21 species described under or transferred to it from older genera, from all except the Nearctic and Australian zoogeographical regions.

Upon his return from graduate studies, Leo instituted acarology as a formal course offering of the Department of Entomology, along with insect morphology and insect taxonomy. He inspired a number of major students to work on mites for their thesis researches including the author of this paper, then a masteral student under his advisorship. Although only the author later picked up acarology as a professional field of research, mite taxonomy is one of the most visible areas of activity in entomology in the country today. Acarology is Leo's legacy to Philippine science.

Leo means more than a scientist and scientific journal editor. In the early 1970s when UPCA was reorganized as the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) and the College of Sciences and Humanities (now the College of Arts and Sciences or CAS) was established, he took charge of organizing the Department of Life Sciences (now the Institute of Biological Sciences) and played a lead role in establishing the Bachelor of Science in Biology Program of the CAS. Together with a core of young instructors whom he personally recruited and trained to teach basic biology as an integrated and investigative field, he developed other basic areas of biology with particular strengths in genetics, microbiology and molecular biology. He handled two general biology courses which are required as a general education courses for most curricular programs of UPLB, and developed the lecture syllabi and laboratory manuals for these courses. His prowess as a teacher blossomed as biology teacher, and students remember him as the best teacher they ever had. He is also revered as the best teacher among entomology students. Leo, the acarologist and entomologist, is the systematist who dared and braved the much greater challenges of a biology teacher. The biology program he developed is another legacy he left to the University at large.

Beyond Leo as scientist and science teacher is Leo, the artist. His other interests and talents reflect the broadness and well roundedness of his being, unparalleled among UPLB constituents. To some extent, his science suffered from these other interests, but these too, added to the transformation of the UPLB academe from the "cow college" image it was deridingly accorded by the urban academe, to the more refined, more cultured milieu we now take pride in being part of. Theatrical art is his particular interest in the arts, performing roles as actor since high school in 1948 until he already became a professor and scientist, and as director and technical consultant of plays staged not only in Los Baños but also in Metro Manila and other nearby areas. He has performed acting roles in numerous productions and as director of 25 different plays. The theatre artist is himself a playwright and has written 5 different plays for stage, including *Salidumay*, *East of Eden* based on Steinbeck's novel, *The Loves of Imay*, *Batingaw* and *Ang Tao sa Ibaba*.

Some of the plays he directed or wrote expressed another facet of Leo's life and philosophy as Filipino nationalist. Shortly before and during martial rule under

Marcos, the theatre became his medium by which to express dissent and nationalist advocacies. Leo actively participated in progressive cultural groups, organizing poor sectors including urban laborers and farmers, and working with them in their struggle to survive decently as Filipinos and human beings. After he retired, he is still actively involved in civic activities with non-governmental organizations.

The roots of such a man of many talents are traceable to teacher-parents in Naguilian, La Union where he was born on August 26, 1933. He obtained his elementary education in the Naguilian Elementary School (1947), secondary education in the Naguilian Academy (1951), undergraduate education with a degree of Bachelor of Science in Agriculture in 1955, graduate education at the University of California, Berkeley with a Master of Science degree (1960), and post MS graduate studies in Cornell University. He attended the Summer Institute of Acarology for the second time at the Ohio State University in 1969.

After graduation with his BSA degree he served as Assistant Instructor of the UPCA Department of Entomology, took a teaching position in Xavier University in Cagayan de Oro City in 1956-57, then did his graduate studies in the United States. From there he came back to UPCA with initial base in the Department of Entomology (1961-73), and later in the Department of Life Sciences under the CAS (1973-81). He transferred to the Don Mariano Marcos State University at Bacnotan, La Union in 1981 but came back to UPLB shortly afterwards in 1984. He retired from his original department as Professor of Entomology in 1998.

Rather ironically, Leo was a belated recipient of awards in areas where he really excelled and stood up as commonly perceived by students and peers. Perhaps this is a reflection of the very low premium the Philippine award system puts on the basic sciences and the prevailing distortions in our educational and scientific outlook, the result of centuries of subjugation by colonial powers. If awards have to speak clearly for what a man is really worth, his L.B. Uichanco Memorial Award for Outstanding Entomologist given by the Philippine Association of Entomologists (1995) and Outstanding Alumnus Award for Teaching by the UPCA Alumni Association (1998) are more than deserved. Not that awards mean that much; Leo Rimando's life transcends the material values of such things as a man of principle and culture. More lasting and profound are informal honors accorded by professional peers and students whose professional lives he closely touched. They have named 1 genus and 7 species of mites, 3 species of spiders and 1 species of mosquito in his honor and in recognition of his scientific contributions (Table 3).

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Table 1. Publications of Leo C. Rimando.

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Table 2. Mites discovered and named by L.C. Rimando.

Order PARASITIFORMES

Family PHYTOSEIIDAE

1. *Amblyseius calorai* Corpuz and Rimando, 1966. *Philipp. Agric.* 50: 132.
2. *A. cinctus* Corpuz and Rimando, 1966. *Ibid.* 50: 119.
3. *A. imbricatus* Corpuz and Rimando, 1966. *Ibid.* 50: 127.
4. *A. labis* Corpuz and Rimando, 1966. *Ibid.* 50: 124.
5. *A. lenis* Corpuz and Rimando, 1966. *Ibid.* 50: 118
6. *A. linearis* Corpuz and Rimando, 1966. *Ibid.* 50: 125 [now considered as junior synonym of *A. asiaticus* (Evans 1953)]
7. *Paraphytoseius cracentis* (Corpuz and Rimando), 1966. *Ibid.* 50: 115 [originally combined with *Ptenoseius*].

Order ACARIFORMES

Family EUPALOPSELLIDAE

8. *Exothorhis bixae* Rimando and Corpuz-Raros, 1966. *Philipp. Ent.* 10: 112.
9. *E. damortis* Rimando and Corpuz-Raros, 1996. *Ibid.* 10: 105.
10. *E. eorhis* Rimando and Corpuz-Raros, 1996. *Ibid.* 10: 114.
11. *E. lenis* Rimando and Corpuz-Raros, 1996. *Ibid.* 10: 110.
12. *E. matulis* Rimando and Corpuz-Raros, 1996. *Ibid.* 10: 108.
13. *Paraeupalopsellus clareae* Rimando and Corpuz-Raros, 1996. *Ibid.* 10: 100.

Family STIGMAEIDAE

14. *Eustigmaeus baguioensis* Rimando and Corpuz-Raros, 1997. *Philipp. Ent.* 11: 4.
15. *E. barrioni* Rimando and Corpuz-Raros, 1997. *Ibid.* 11: 6.
16. *E. manus* Rimando and Corpuz-Raros, 1997. *Ibid.* 11: 9.
17. *E. molawini* Rimando and Corpuz-Raros, 1997. *Ibid.* 11: 11.
18. *E. rarusi* Rimando and Corpuz-Raros, 1997. *Ibid.* 11: 13.
19. *Ledermuelleria maladahon* Rimando and Corpuz-Raros, 1997. *Ibid.* 11: 17.

Genus 1. **Makilingeria** Rimando and Corpuz-Raros 1996. *Asia Life Sci.* 5: 156.

20. *Makilingeria lagunae* Rimando and Corpuz-Raros, 1996. *Ibid.* 5: 157.

21. *Mullederia filipina* Rimando and Corpuz-Raros, 1996. *Ibid.* 5: 145.
 22. *M. makilingae* Rimando and Corpuz-Raros, 1996. *Ibid.* 5: 149.
 Genus 2. **Mullederiopsis** Rimando and Corpuz-Raros, 1996. *Ibid.* 5: 151.
 23. *Mullederiopsis barrionae* Rimando and Corpuz-Raros, 1996. *Ibid.* 5: 152.
 24. *M. plumata* Rimando and Corpuz-Raros, 1996. *Ibid.* 5: 154.
 Genus 3. **Wooderia** Rimando and Corpuz-Raros, 1996. Philipp. Ent. 11: 19.
 25. *Wooderia philippica* Rimando and Corpuz-Raros, 1990. *Ibid.* 11: 20.
 Genus 4. **Chaudhria** Rimando and Corpuz-Raros, 1997. *Ibid.* 11: 22.
 Type species: *Ledermuelleria parasitica* Chaudhri 1965.

Family TETRANYCHIDAE

Tribe 1. **EUTETRANYCHINI** Rimando and Corpuz-Raros, 1996.
 Philipp. Ent. 10: 11. Type genus: *Eutetranychus* Banks 1957.

Subfamily 1. **APONYCHINAE** Rimando, 1966. Philipp. Agric. 50: 106.

- Genus 5. **Aponychus** Rimando, 1966. Philipp. Agric. 50: 107.
 26. *Aponychus corpuzae* Rimando, 1966. *Ibid.* 50: 107.
 27. *A. rarus* Rimando, 1966. *Ibid.* 50: 110.
 28. *A. vannus* Rimando, 1968. Philipp. Ent. 1: 8.
 29. *Bryobia pritchardi* Rimando, 1962. Univ. Philipp. Coll. Agric. Tech. Bull. 11: 9.
 30. *Eotetranychus cendanai* Rimando, 1962. Philipp. Agric. 45: 537.
 31. *E. spanius* Rimando, 1962. *Ibid.* 45: 537.
 32. *Oligonychus antherus* Rimando, 1962. Univ. Philipp. Coll. Agric. Tech. Bull. 11: 25.
 33. *O. matthyssei* Rimando, 1962. *Ibid.* 11: 24.
 34. *O. orthius* Rimando, 1962. *Ibid.* 11: 22.
 35. *O. penai* Rimando, 1962. *Ibid.* 11: 22.
 36. *O. velascoi* Rimando, 1962. *Ibid.* 11: 23.
 37. *Schizotetranychus baltazarae* Rimando, 1962. Philipp. Agric. 45: 540.
 38. *S. floresi* Rimando, 1962. Univ. Philipp. Coll. Agric. Tech. Bull. 11: 17.
 39. *S. lechrius* Rimando, 1962. Philipp. Agric. 45: 542.
 40. *Tetranychus umalii* Rimando, 1962. Univ. Philipp. Coll. Agric. Tech. Bull. 11: 31.
 Genus 6. **Pritchardina** Rimando, 1962. Univ. Philipp. Coll. Agric. 11: 26. Type species: *Tetranychus fijiensis* Hisrt 1929.

Family TENUIPALPIDAE

- Genus 7. **Rarosiella** Rimando, 1996. Philipp. Ent. 10: 2.
 41. *Rarosiella cocosae* Rimando, 1996. *Ibid.* 10: 3.
 42. *Tenuipalpus orilloi* Rimando, 1962. Univ. Philipp. Coll. Agric. Tech. Bull. 11: 42.
 43. *T. pagesae* Rimando, 1962. *Ibid.* 11: 43.

Table 3. Arthropods named in honor of Professor Leo C. Rimando.**INSECTA: DIPTERA****CULICIDAE** (Mosquitoes)

1. *Aedes (Stegomyia) rimandoi* Basio, 1971. Philipp. Ent. 2: 52.

ARACHNIDA: ACARI (Mites)**PHYTOSEIIDAE**

2. *Amblyseius rimandoi* Schicha and Corpuz-Raros, 1992. *Phytoseiidae of the Philippines*, p. 158.
3. *Phytoseius rimandoi* Corpuz, 1966. Philipp. Agric. 50: 735.

TYDEIDAE

4. *Pronematus rimandoi* Salviejo, 1969. Philipp. Ent. 1: 275.

CUNAXIDAE

5. *Pulaeus rimandoi* Corpuz-Raros, 1996. Philipp. Ent. 10: 133.

CHEYLETIDAE

6. *Hoffmannita rimandoi* Corpuz-Raros, 1972. Philipp. Ent. 2: 262.

TENUIPALPIDAE

7. *Obuloides rimandoi* Corpuz-Raros, 1978. Kalikasan, Philipp. J. Biol. 7: 218.

OTOCEPHEIDAE

- Genus 1. *Rimandocephus* Corpuz-Raros, 1998. Philipp. Ent. 12: 116.
8. *Rimandocephus leoi* Corpuz-Raros, 1998. Philipp. Ent. 12: 117.

ARACHNIDA: ARANEIDA (Spiders)**LYCOSIDAE**

9. *Hippasa rimandoi* Barrion, 1981. Philipp. Ent. 5: 1.

GNAPHOSIDAE

10. *Scotophaeus leoi* Barrion and Litsinger, 1995. *Riceland Spiders of South and Southeast Asia*, p. 195.

TETRAGNATHIDAE

11. *Tetragnatha rimandoi* Barrion, 1998. Philipp. Ent. 12: 155.