

Happy  
New  
Year  
2021!



# News fEBB

Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Monthly Newsletter

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## Monthly Discussion

*What are your thoughts about the outreach on ecological and evolutionary sciences? How can we improve them to combat the pandemic of misinformation and the lack of trust around our disciplines?*

**Want to join the discussion? Respond to the correspondina email**

*Faculty: recruiting new lab members? Consider posting on Ecolog or Twitter to directly promote our EEB program!*

## Announcements

*The United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030. More info:*  
<https://www.decadeonrestoration.org/about-un-decade>

*The Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology (SICB) virtual annual meeting, 3 January – 28 February*

*MLK's day, Jan 18<sup>th</sup>*

*EEB faculty meeting, Jan 25<sup>th</sup>*

## Paper Spotlight

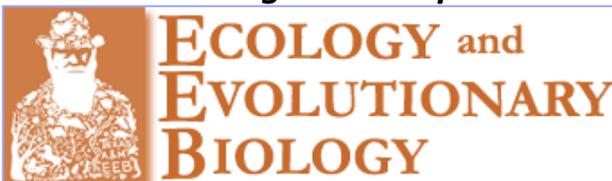
The crickets, katydids, and grasshoppers usually communicate through sounds. In a recent research published in *Nature Communications* by Dr. Hojun Song of the Entomology Department and collaborators, they showed that the evolution of acoustic communication in Orthoptera dates back around 350 million years. Throughout this time, the two suborders (Ensifera and Caelifera) have evolved in multiple occasions the capacity to produce and create sound using different body parts. Orthopterans were one of the oldest animals that employed sounds to communicate, contributing to the evolution of acoustic landscape on Earth... besides they liven up our warm summer nights.

For further details about this tale please read:

Song et al. 2020. **Phylogenomic analysis sheds light on the evolutionary pathways towards acoustic communication in Orthoptera.** *Nature Communications*. 11:4939. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-020-18739-4>



**You or a colleague accomplish something? Let us know by tweeting #TAMUEEB**



For more information visit:  
[eeb.tamu.edu](http://eeb.tamu.edu)

# Laboratory Highlight

## Coastal and Wetlands Ecology Lab, Texas A&M Galveston

### PI: Dr. Anna Armitage

*In the Coastal and Wetlands Ecology Laboratory, Dr. Armitage and her students examine the community-level interactions and processes that structure coastal ecosystems such as trophic interactions, nutrient enrichment, or anthropogenic alterations. For more information visit: <https://www.tamug.edu/armitage/>*

*Rachel Glazner is a Ph.D. Student of the EEB program studying the predator-prey interactions in marsh-mangrove ecotones.*



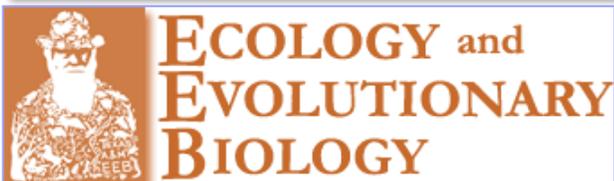
*Marissa Llosa is a M.S. Student studying freshwater tidal and prairie wetland restoration.*

*Janelle Goeke is a Ph.D. Student of the EEB program studying the bottom-up effects relating to a changing plant community in salt marshes.*



*Jamie Thompson is a Ph.D. Student of the MARB IDP program studying mangrove and marsh interactions in the Gulf Coast.*

*Ashley McDonald is a Ph.D. Student of the MARB IDP program studying coastal and wetlands ecology.*



For more information visit:  
[eeb.tamu.edu](http://eeb.tamu.edu)