

Erick J. Rodriguez
Division of Plant Industry, Entomology
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
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EDUCATION

- B.S. Agriculture** December 1998
Francisco Luis Espinoza National University, Nicaragua
- M.Sc. Entomology** July 2010
University of Panama, Panama
Thesis: Evaluation of traps and attractants to capture *Anastrepha* species
(Diptera: Tephritidae)
Advisor: Dr. Cheslavo A. Korytkowski
- Ph.D. Entomology** August 2022
University of Florida
Thesis: Integrative taxonomy to enhance accuracy of identification
of fruit fly larvae in the genus *Anastrepha* (Diptera: Tephritidae)
Advisor: Dr. Marc A. Branham

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Research Scientist I** August 19, 2022 – present
Curator of Diptera and minor orders
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services,
Division of Plant Industry / Entomology Section

Current responsibilities

Serves as Research Scientist conducting expert taxonomic identifications of Dipteran families and minor orders in support of the mission of the Division of Plant Industry. Conducts research on systematics of agriculturally important flies, which include plant pests within the family Tephritidae (fruit flies). Plans, develops and conducts research on systematics, taxonomy, distribution and host relationships of these flies. Curates specimens of Dipteran families and minor orders in the Florida State Collection of Arthropods (FSCA), which includes organizing and digitizing identified specimens systematically and fostering relations with Federal and state institutions, national and foreign researchers, and general public.

Research Interests

Systematics, classification, taxonomy, identification of agriculturally important flies (Insecta: Diptera). Emphasis is on the family Tephritidae (true fruit flies), especially the New World fauna and the pest genus *Anastrepha*. Research includes the discovery of new species, description and illustration of all life stages, analysis of their evolutionary relationships, and production of interactive identification tools for larval and adult stages. The biology and natural history of phytophagous Diptera, particularly determining the host plants of fruit flies (Tephritidae).

- Graduate Research Assistant** May 2017 – August 15, 2022
University of Florida, Department of Entomology and Nematology
- Biological Scientist IV** November 2012 – April 2017
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services,
Division of Plant Industry / Enhancement of Fruit Fly Larvae Identification and Taxonomy

Graduate Research Assistant
University of Panama, Panama,
Central American Program of Entomology

May 2008 – July 2010

Plant Inspector
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Nicaragua (MAGFOR)

May 1999 – April 2008

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Volunteer Research Associate
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services,
Division of Plant Industry, Florida State Collection of Arthropods (FSCA)

May 2017 – August 2022

Volunteer at the U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agriculture Research Service,
Insect Ecology and Behavior laboratory, Miami, Florida

June 27, 2012 – Nov 15, 2012

Volunteer at the U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agriculture Research Service,
Insect physiology laboratory, Miami, Florida

March 27, 2012 – April 17, 2012

PUBLICATIONS

Rodriguez, E. J., G. J. Steck, M. R. Moore, A. L. Norrbom, J. Diaz, L. A. Somma, R. Ruiz-Arce, B. D. Sutton, N. Nolzco, A. Muller and M. A. Branham. *In Press*. Exceptional Larval Morphology of Nine *Anastrepha* species (Diptera: Tephritidae) within the *mucronota* group. *ZooKeys*.

Moore, M. R, G. J. Steck, **E. J. Rodriguez**, A. L. Norrbom, R. Ruiz-Arce, T. N. Tood, C. G. Roberts, H. Troya, J. E. Vilatuña, D. A. Donoso, B. M. Wiegmann, B. K. Cassel, J. Soghigian, J. Xuan, A. Muller, A. Gangadin, N. Nolzco, P. A. Rodriguez Clavijo, E. Arevalo Peñaranda, P. Srivastava, S. V. Drovetski, E. Quisberth Ramos, J. J. Lagrava Sánchez, F. Colque, M. Savaris, S. Lampert, J. Martinez, N. A. Canal, C. Keil, A. Padilla, J. O. Tigreiro, P. Rodriguez, Y. Peñaloza Barria, S. Gripenberg, M. Rivera, M. A. Branham. *In Press*. A COI DNA barcode library for *Anastrepha* Schiner (Diptera: Tephritidae). *PLoS ONE*.

Norrbom, A. L., A. Muller, A. Gangadin, B. D. Sutton, **E. J. Rodriguez**, M. Savaris, S. Lampert, P. A. Rodriguez Clavijo, G. J. Steck, M. R. Moore, N. Nolzco, H. Troya, C. Keil, A. Padilla, B. M. Wiegmann, B. Cassel, M. A. Branham and R. Ruiz-Arce. 2021. New species and host plants of *Anastrepha* (Diptera: Tephritidae) primarily from Suriname and Pará, Brazil. *Zootaxa* 5044: 1–74.

Rodriguez, E. J., G. J. Steck, A. L. Norrbom, M. Moore, B. D. Sutton and M. A. Branham. 2021. Description of *A. amplidentata* and *A. durantae* with review of larval morphology of the *fraterculus* group (Diptera: Tephritidae). *Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington* 123(1): 169–189.

Steck, G. J., **E. J. Rodriguez**, A. L. Norrbom, V. S. Dutra, B. Ronchi-Teles and J. G. Silva. 2019. Review of *Anastrepha* (Diptera: Tephritidae) immature stage taxonomy, pp. 57–85. *In* D. Pérez-Staples, F. Díaz-Fleischer, P. Montoya and M. T. Vera, eds. Area-wide management of fruit fly pests. CRC Press, Boca Raton. 412 pp.

Norrbom, A. L., G. J. Steck, **E. J. Rodriguez**, B. D. Sutton, N. Nolzco, C. Keil, A. Padilla, A. and P. A. Rodriguez Clavijo. 2019. New species and distribution records of *Alujamyia* Norrbom and *Molynocoelia* Giglio-Tos (Diptera: Tephritidae). *Israel Journal of Entomology* 49 (2): 73–86.
<http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3357988>

Dutra, V. S., B. Ronchi-Teles, G. J. Steck, **E. J. Rodríguez**, A. L. Norrbom, B. D. Sutton and J. G. Silva. 2018. Description of third instar larvae of *Anastrepha curitis*, *A. pickeli*, and *A. pulchra* (Diptera: Tephritidae). Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington 120: 9–24.

Rodríguez Clavijo P. A., A. L. Norrbom, E. Arévalo Peñaranda, F. Balseiro Tehran, P. A. Díaz, M. C. Benitez, J. Gallego, M. I. Cruz, J. M. Montes, **E. J. Rodríguez**, G. J. Steck, B. D. Sutton, E. Quisberth Ramos, J. J. Lagrava Sánchez and F. Colque. 2018. New records of *Anastrepha* (Diptera: Tephritidae) primarily from Colombia. Zootaxa 4390(1): 001–063.

Norrbom, A. L., N. B. Barr, P. Kerr, X. Mengual, N. Nolazco, **E. J. Rodríguez**, G. J. Steck, B. D. Sutton, K. Uramoto and A. Zucchi. 2018. Synonymy of *Toxotrypana* Gerstaecker with *Anastrepha* Schiner (Diptera: Tephritidae). Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington 120(4): 834–841.

Mengual, X., P. Kerr, A. L. Norrbom, N. B. Barr, M. L. Lewis, A. M. Stapelfeldt, S. J. Scheffer, P. Woods, Md-S. Islam, C. A. Korytkowski, K. Uramoto, **E. J. Rodríguez**, B. D. Sutton, N. Nolazco, G. J. Steck and S. Gaimari. 2017. Phylogenetic relationships of the tribe Toxotrypanini (Diptera: Tephritidae) based on molecular characters. Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution 113: 84–112.

Collantes González, R., P. A. Rodríguez, B. Romero, **E. J. Rodríguez**. 2016. Estados inmaduros de *Leptoglossus zonatus* (Hemiptera: Coreidae): agente relacionado con la caída de naranjas (*Citrus sinensis*) en Azuero, Panama. Aporte Santiaguino 9 (1): 93–100.

Rodríguez, P. A., **E. J. Rodríguez**, A. L. Norrbom and Emilio Arévalo. 2016. A new species and new records of *Cryptodacus* (Diptera: Tephritidae) from Colombia. Zootaxa 4111 (3): 276–290.

Sutton, B. D., G. J. Steck, A. L. Norrbom, **E. J. Rodríguez**, P. Srivastava, N. Nolazco Alvarado, F. Colque, E. Yábar Landa, J. J. Lagrava Sánchez, E. Quisberth, E. Arévalo Peñaranda, P. A. Rodríguez Clavijo, J. K. Alvarez-Baca, T. Guevara Zapata and P. Ponce. 2015. Nuclear ribosomal internal transcribed spacer 1 (ITS1) variation in the *Anastrepha fraterculus* cryptic species complex (Diptera, Tephritidae) of the Andean region, pp. 175–191. In M. De Meyer M, A. R. Clarke, T. M. Vera and J. Hendrichs, eds. Resolution of cryptic species complexes of tephritid pests to enhance SIT application and facilitate international trade. Issue 540. Zookeys. 558 pp.

Norrbom, A. L., **E. J. Rodríguez**, G. J. Steck, B. A. Sutton and N. Nolazco. 2015. New species and host plants of *Anastrepha* (Diptera: Tephritidae) primarily from Peru and Bolivia. Zootaxa 4041: 1–94.

Rodríguez, P. A., **E. J. Rodríguez**, B. Romero and R. D. Collantes. 2011. Relación de la caída de naranjas (*Citrus sinensis*) (L.) con dos especies de *Leptoglossus* GUÉRIN-MÉNEVILLE (Hemíptera: Coreidae) en la Región de Azuero, Panamá. Revista Scientia (Journal of the University of Panamá), Junio de 2006 – Junio 2011, Vol. 21(1): 77-87.

Rodríguez, P. A., B. Romero and **E. J. Rodríguez**. 2011. Reporte del descortezador *Ips grandicollis* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Scolytinae) y de su parasitoide *Roptrocerus* (Hymenoptera: Pteromalidae) en plantaciones de *Pinus caribaea* en el proyecto de reforestación bosque siglo XXI, Coclé: Panamá. Revista Scientia (Journal of the University of Panamá), Junio de 2006 – Junio 2011, Vol. 21(2): 135-138.

PRESENTATIONS

Rodríguez, E. J., G. J. Steck, M. Moore, A. L. Norrbom, B. D. Sutton, and M. A. Branham. Exceptional Larval morphology of nine *Anastrepha* species and their distribution across the *mucronota* species group (Diptera: Tephritidae). ESA, ESC and ESBC Joint Annual Meeting in Vancouver, Canada. Oct 31– Nov 3, 2021.

G. J. Steck, A. L. Norrbom, **E. J. Rodriguez**. Morphological Diagnostic Characteristics for Larvae of Pest Fruit Fly Genera. 10th Meeting of Tephritid Workers of The Western Hemisphere “Americas Congress on Fruit Flies”. November 2th–6th, 2020.

Rodriguez, E. J., G. J. Steck, A. L. Norrbom, M. Moore, B. D. Sutton and M. A. Branham. Utility of the larval characters in understanding taxonomy of the genus *Anastrepha* (Diptera: Tephritidae)”. Sociedad Entomologica del Peru, internacional webinar de moscas de la fruta. Oct 19–23 2020.

Rodriguez, E. J., A. L. Norrbom, G. J. Steck, B. D. Sutton, R. Ruiz-Arce, N. Barr, T. Tood, P. Srivastava, M. A. Branham, M. Moore, B. M. Weigmann, N. Nolazco, G. Lamas, A. Muller, A. Gangadin and C. Keil. Diversity of *Anastrepha* (Diptera: Tephritidae) in Latin America: Current status and knowledge from a USDA Farm Bill Project. ESA, ESC and ESBC Joint Annual Meeting in Vancouver, Canada. Nov 11–14, 2018.

Rodriguez, E. J., M. A. Branham, A. L. Norrbom, G. J. Steck and B. D. Sutton. Fruit fly survey in South America: Research facilities and logistics. North American Dipterists Society field meeting, Lubrecht Experimental Forest, Missoula, Montana. June 26 thru 30, 2017.

Rodriguez, E. J., M. A. Branham, A. L. Norrbom, G. J. Steck and B. D. Sutton. Fruit fly project in Peru: Surveys and diversity of *Anastrepha* (Diptera: Tephritidae). Fly School, Saint Gabriel Mountains, Wrightwood, Harmony Pines, Los Angeles, CA. June 04 thru 17, 2017.

Rodriguez, E. J., C. A. Korytkowski, E. Medianero, M. Rivera. Efficiency of traps and lures to capture species of *Anastrepha* (Diptera: Tephritidae). Annual Meeting of the Peruvian Entomological Society, Peru, Lima. Nov 2013.

Rodriguez, E. J., C. A. Korytkowski, E. Medianero, M. Rivera. Evaluation of traps and food and synthetic lures to capture species of the genus *Anastrepha* (Diptera: Tephritidae). Annual Meeting of the American Phytopathological Society-Caribbean Division joint with the International Integrated Pest Management Congress (IPM), Managua, Nicaragua. August 2010.

SERVICE

Board member 2018 – 2020
Center for Systematic Entomology, Gainesville, Florida

SYMPOSIUM AND WORKSHOP ORGANIZATION

Co-organizer and moderator Oct 31 – Nov 3, 2021
Symposium “Tephritidae Systematics, Diagnostics, Phylogeny, Evolution and Natural History” at the 2021 ESA Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado.

Co-organizer and moderator Oct 19 –23, 2020
International Webinar “Biology, Taxonomy, Mass Rearing, and Control of Fruit Flies” of the Peruvian Entomological Society.

Planning Committee member Feb – Jul 2019
Fruit Fly Taxonomic Training Workshop at the University of Florida, Department of Entomology and Nematology. Training held on July 16-18, 2019.

Co-organizer and moderator Nov 04 –11, 2018
Symposium “Latin American Entomology: Ecology and Biodiversity” at the 2018 ESA, ESC and ESBC Joint Annual Meeting in Vancouver, Canada.

PAPERS REVIEWED / EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Florida Entomologist (reviewer)
Check List the journal of the biodiversity data (reviewer)
Proceeding of the Entomological Society of Washington (reviewer)
Zootaxa (reviewer)
Revista U.D.C.A. Actualidad y Divulgación Científica (reviewer)
INSECTA MUNDI (review editor)

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

Entomological Society of America
Entomological Society of Washington
Center for Systematic Entomology
North American Dipterists Society
Society of Systematic Biologists

TRAVEL AND FIELDWORK

USA: Jun 04 thru 17 2017– Fly School, Saint Gabriel Mountains, Wrightwood, Harmony Pines, CA; June 26 thru 30 2017 – North American Dipterists Society field meeting, Lubrecht Experimental Forest, Missoula, Montana.

Neotropical: Multiple trips to collect *Anastrepha* in Central and South American countries during November 2012 to June 2019, each field trip for one to two months period.

Colombia: Anolaima, Cundinamarca and Villavicencio.

Ecuador: Orellana, Yasuni National Park, Estacion Cientifica Yasuni.

French Guiana: Roura (Kaw mountain) and Regina.

Panama: Panama (Cerro Azul, Altos de Pacora, Chepo), Cocle (Valle de Anton).

Peru: Cusco, Pilcopata (Villa Carmen Biological Research Station, and Sacred Valley); Madre de Dios, Puerto Maldonado (Centro de Investigacion y Capacitacion Rio los Amigos - CICRA); Loreto, Iquitos (Amazon Conservatory of Tropical Studies - ACTS Field Station, and Explornapo).

Suriname: Brokopondo District (Brownsberg Nature Park and Bergendal) and Para District.

LANGUAGES

English and Spanish