



## IN MEMORIAM

HARRY R. GROSS, JR.

(1939-1994)

Harry R. Gross, Jr., was born in New Orleans, LA, on March 16, 1939, and passed away on May 3, 1994 in Wesley Woods Hospital in Decatur, GA. He is survived by his wife, Marlyne Adam Gross of Tifton, and a daughter, Lisa Gross of Atlanta, GA. Dr. Gross was a Supervisory Research Entomologist and Research Leader of the Insect Biology/Management Systems Research Unit, USDA-ARS, Insect Biology and Population Management Research Laboratory at Tifton, GA.

He graduated from Louisiana State University, obtaining his B.S. (1960), M.S. (1964), and Ph.D. (1967) degrees in Entomology. Throughout his career, Dr. Gross was employed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service. He began his research career in 1967 at Gulfport, MS, working on the white-fringed beetle before transferring in 1971 to the Insect Biology and Population Management Research Laboratory (formerly Southern Grain Insects Research Laboratory), Tifton, GA. Dr. Gross was a member of Sigma Xi, the Entomological Society of America, the Southeastern Branch of ESA, the Southeastern Biological Control Working Group (SBCWG), and the Georgia and Florida Entomological Societies. Dr. Gross was President of the SBCWG in 1990. He was awarded the USDA Certificate of Merit in 1983 for exemplary leadership and managerial accomplishments as Director and Research Leader for the Insect Suppression Research Unit. He served as a member of an advisory panel to provide expertise in the development of a National Biological Control Program for ARS. Dr. Gross published 74 articles and made over 70 scientific presentations at professional meetings (10 of which were invitational) during his career.

This article is from *Florida Entomologist Online*, Vol. 77, No. 3 (1994).  
*FEO* is available from the Florida Center for Library Automation gopher (sally.fcla.ufl.edu)  
 and is identical to *Florida Entomologist (An International Journal for the Americas)*.  
*FEO* is prepared by E. O. Painter Printing Co., P.O. Box 877, DeLeon Springs, FL. 32130.

Harry served on numerous committees within the Sigma Xi organization (Program Chairman), the Georgia Entomological Society (Public Relations, Resolutions, and O. I. Snapp Awards committees), the Entomological Society of America (Fellows Committee), and Southeastern Branch ESA (Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Program Chairman, Agricultural Awards, and Auditing Committees). Dr. Gross also served as Chairman of the Southern Regional Project S-59, Fall Armyworm Conference and the *Heliiothis* Conference.

Dr. Gross was a dedicated scientist who spent many long and hard hours at his work. His invention (08/062,516) on "Beehive-mounted device for utilizing honeybees (Hymenoptera: Apidae) in the dissemination of biocontrol agents" was allowed in May 1994. Dr. Gross was an expert on integrated biocontrol strategies for key insect pests and highly knowledgeable of their behavior and population dynamics. He unraveled several mysteries of how parasites and predators use an array of chemical signals to identify and locate pest insects, and how man might manipulate parasites and predators to provide better control of insect pests. He also helped build a foundation for basic knowledge that is, and will continue to be, used by entomologists throughout the world. Dr. Gross was the first to demonstrate the potential for augmentative releases of *Archytas marmoratus*, a primary parasitoid of the corn earworm and fall armyworm, and developed a system for its large scale rearing. He demonstrated that corn earworm male moths use visual cues to locate mates and showed that these visual cues could improve the efficiency of insect pheromone traps. Dr. Gross also demonstrated the presence of previously unknown indigenous pupal parasitoids for the fall armyworm and the tobacco budworm. The frequent citations of his research in international scientific journals offer but a glimpse of the significance with which Dr. Gross's contributions are viewed by the world scientific community. Harry will long be remembered by his friends, colleagues, coworkers, and especially by the technical support personnel, because of his friendliness, fairness and leadership at the IBP-MRL. At the request of Mrs. Gross, a "Harry R. Gross, Jr. Memorial Fund" has been established with the Tifton Sigma Xi Club. Contributions may be made in Harry's name and sent to the Sigma Xi Club, c/o Dr. Larry Newton, CPES, P.O. Box 748, Tifton, GA. 31793-0748.

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