A detailed close-up photograph of a fly's head and antennae. The fly has large, iridescent eyes with purple and blue patterns. Its antennae are long and segmented, with a dark, spiky tip. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green.

SPIDERS, INSECTS & WILD ANIMALS

in Mayan Ethnobotanical Garden
surrounding FLAAR Office

Dr Nicholas Hellmuth



FLAAR Reports
Digital-photography.org

SPIDERS, INSECTS & WILD ANIMALS

in Mayan Ethnobotanical Garden
surrounding FLAAR Office

Photography: Dr Nicholas Hellmuth and Erick Flores
Design and layout: Valeria Avilés



1








Another species of native stingless Guatemalan bee.

There are at least five species of bees which regularly visit the FLAAR garden, plus wasps and lots of species of beetles (including beetles which pollinate).





This species of black stingless bee attacked the original occupants of one of our nests. The black bees slaughtered scores of the smaller stingless bees.

But once the black bees had robbed whatever they were after, within a month the original stingless bees re-established their tunnel-entrance.

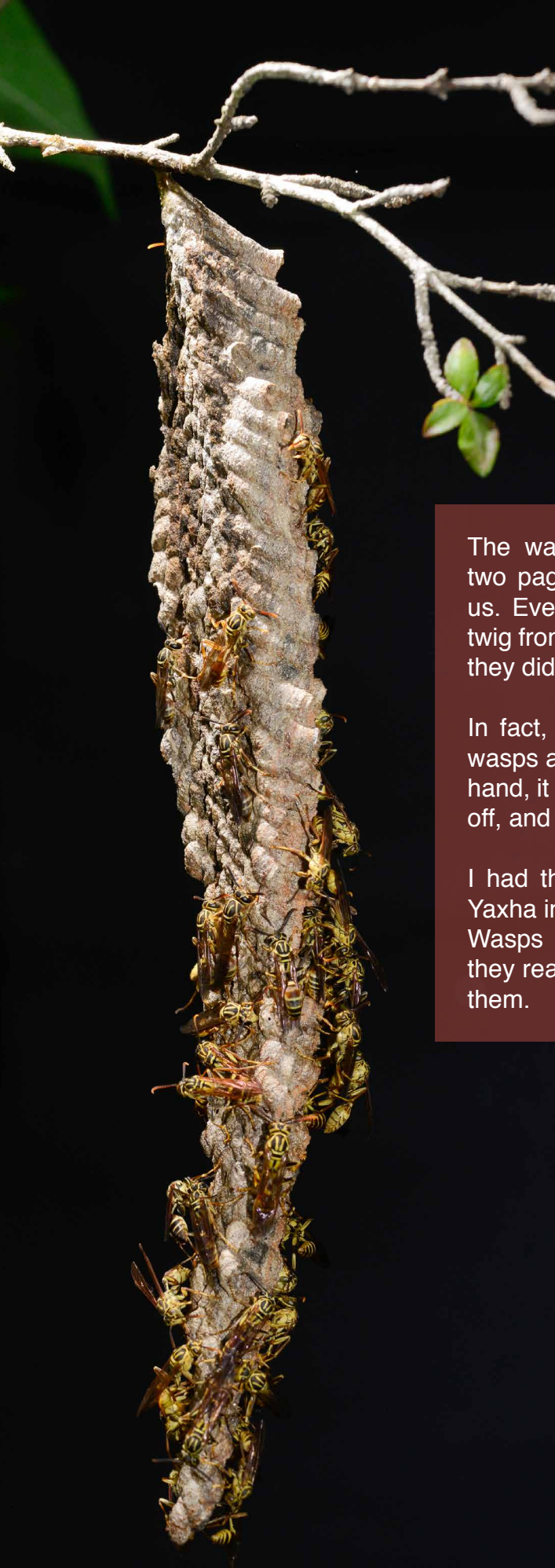




7



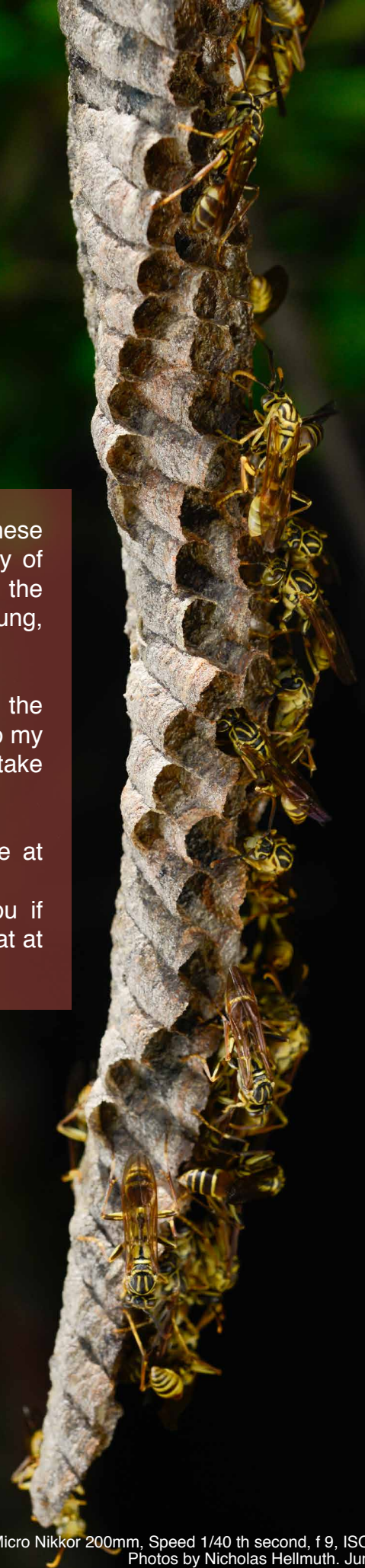





The wasps pictured on these two pages never stung any of us. Even when we moved the twig from which their nest hung, they did not attack.

In fact, even when one of the wasps accidentally flew into my hand, it would turn around, take off, and not sting me.

I had the same experience at Yaxha in the 1970's. Wasps would not sting you if they realize you will not swat at them.





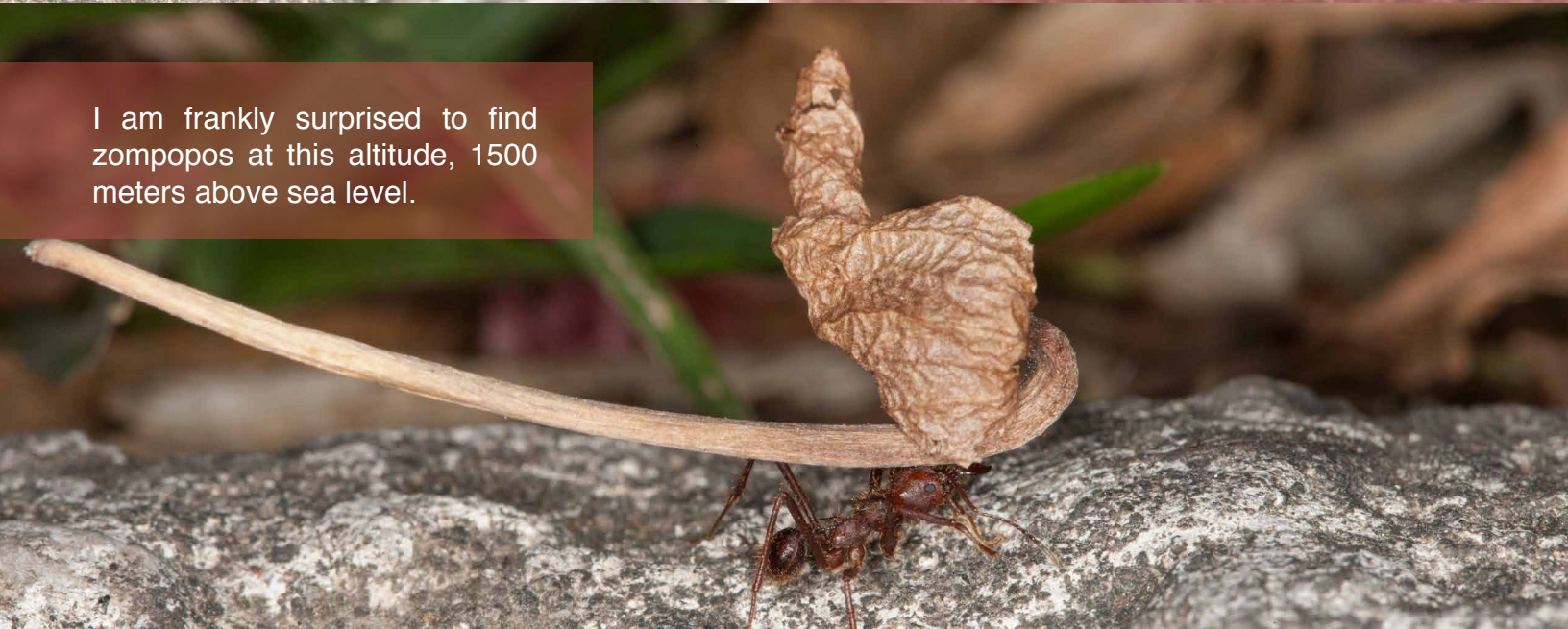


There were several large nests of zompopos (leaf-cutting ants) out on the street, 50 meters from the entrance to our garden.



12

For many months the ants hiked in and harvested both leaves and flower parts from our garden.



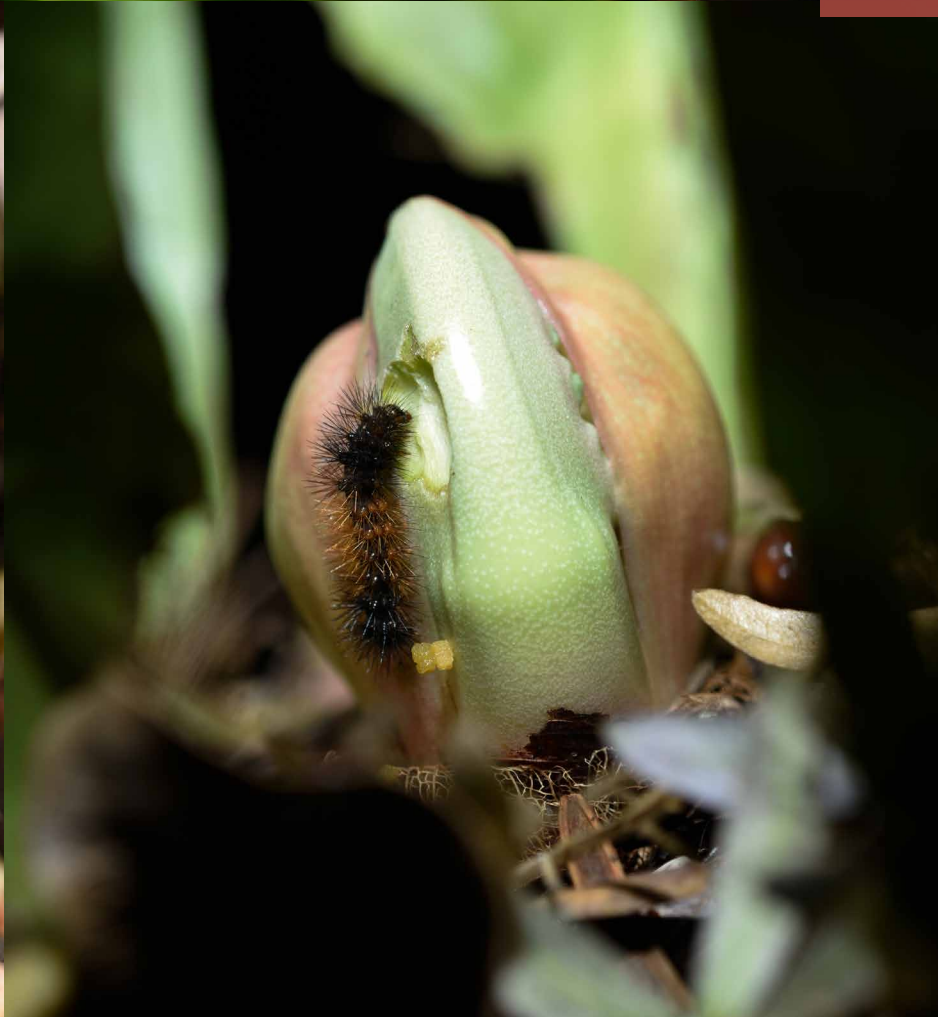
I am frankly surprised to find zompopos at this altitude, 1500 meters above sea level.



Butterfly eggs on leaves in the FLAAR garden. When you plant special flowers that attract butterflies you get happy butterfly mothers laying their eggs.



After a few weeks, the eggs hatch into these larvae. We have them of many sizes, colors, and structure of stinging hairs.









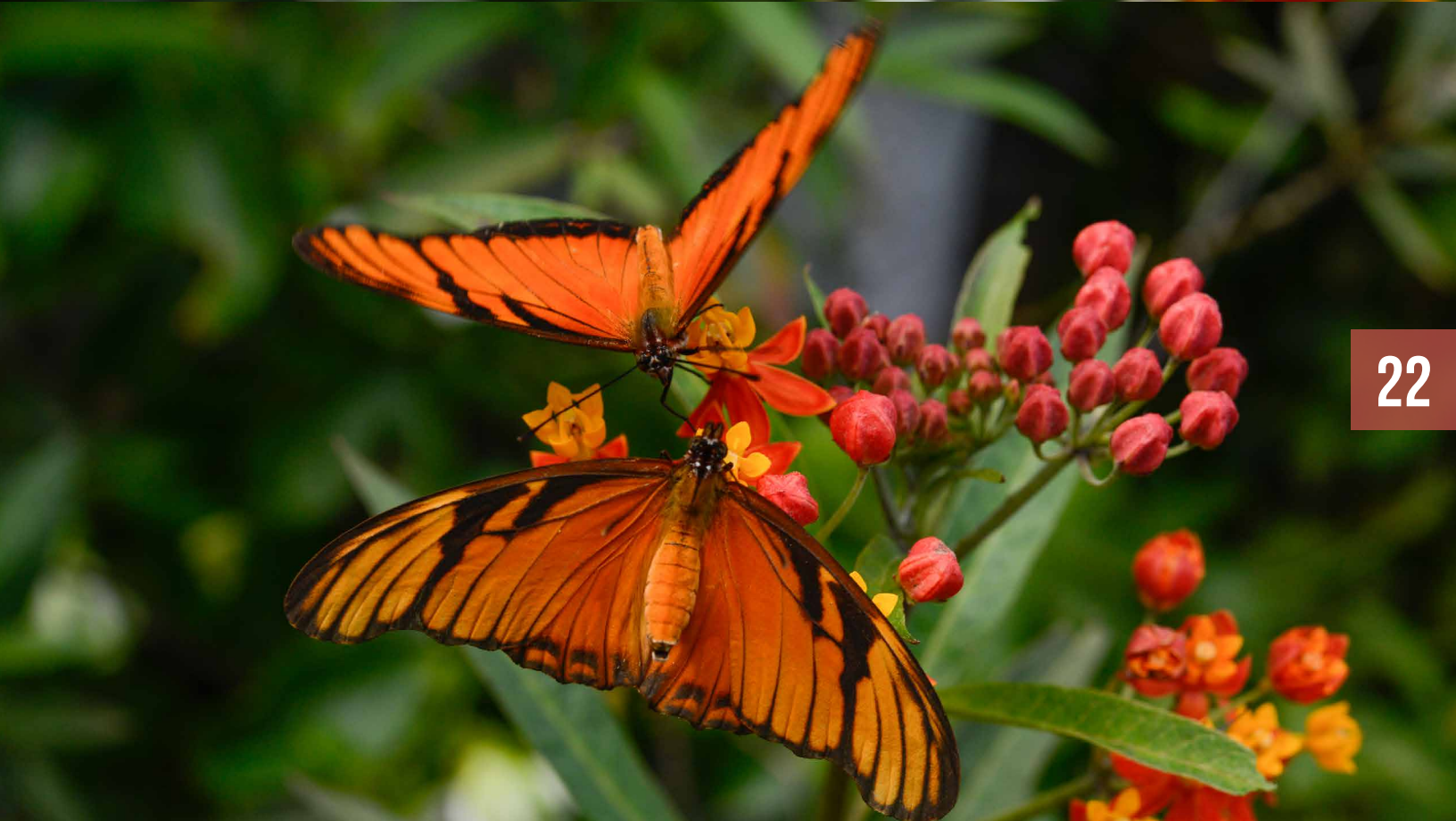




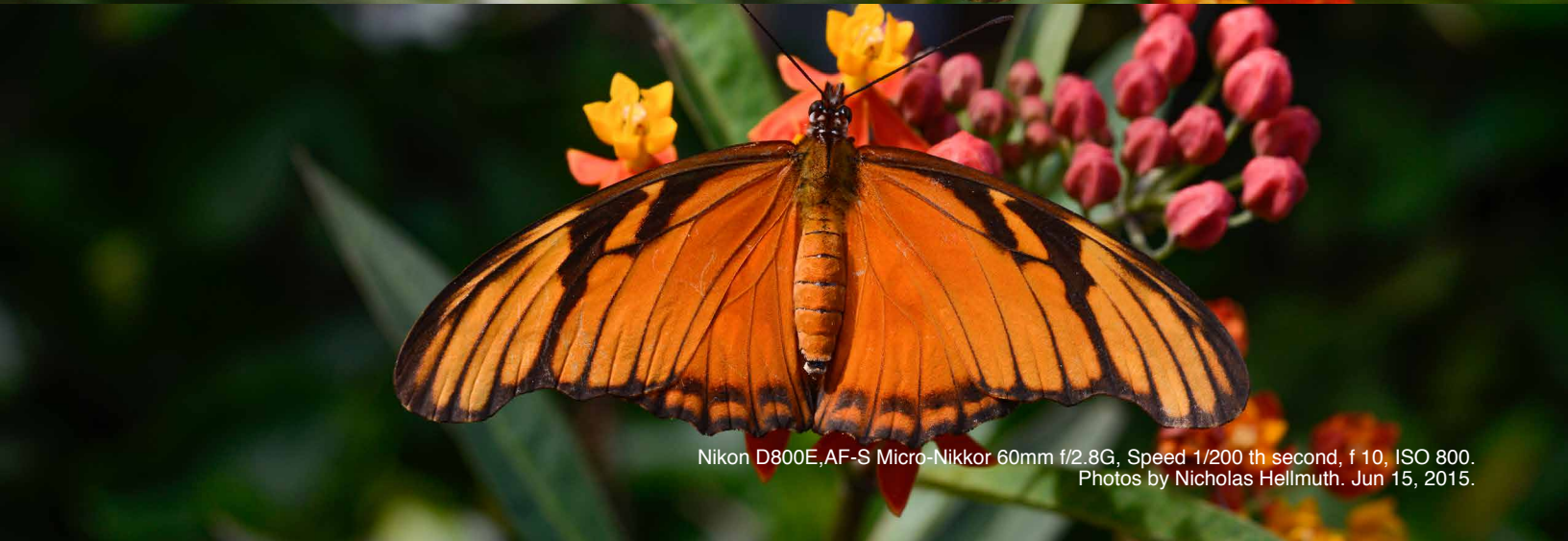
20







22







Canon EOS 1DS Mark III, EF 100mm f/2.8 Macro USM, Speed 1/40 th second, f 18, ISO 500.
Photo by Nicholas Hellmuth. Aug, 2012.



Nikon COOLPIX B700, Speed 1/60 th second, f 8, ISO 800.
Photo by Nicholas Hellmuth. Jul 1, 2017.



25



Canon EOS 6D, EF 100mm f/2.8 Macro USM, Speed 1/40 th second, f 16, ISO 1,000.
Photos by Nicholas Hellmuth. Jul 15, 2015.







Sony DSC-RX100M3, E 24mm f/1.8 ZA,
Speed 1/320 th second, f 4, ISO 125.
Photo by Vivi Díaz, Sep 24, 2015.



Nikon D800E, AF-S Micro-Nikkor 60mm f/2.8G, Speed 1/40 th second, f 13, ISO 1,000.
Photos by Nicholas Hellmuth. May 3, 2013.







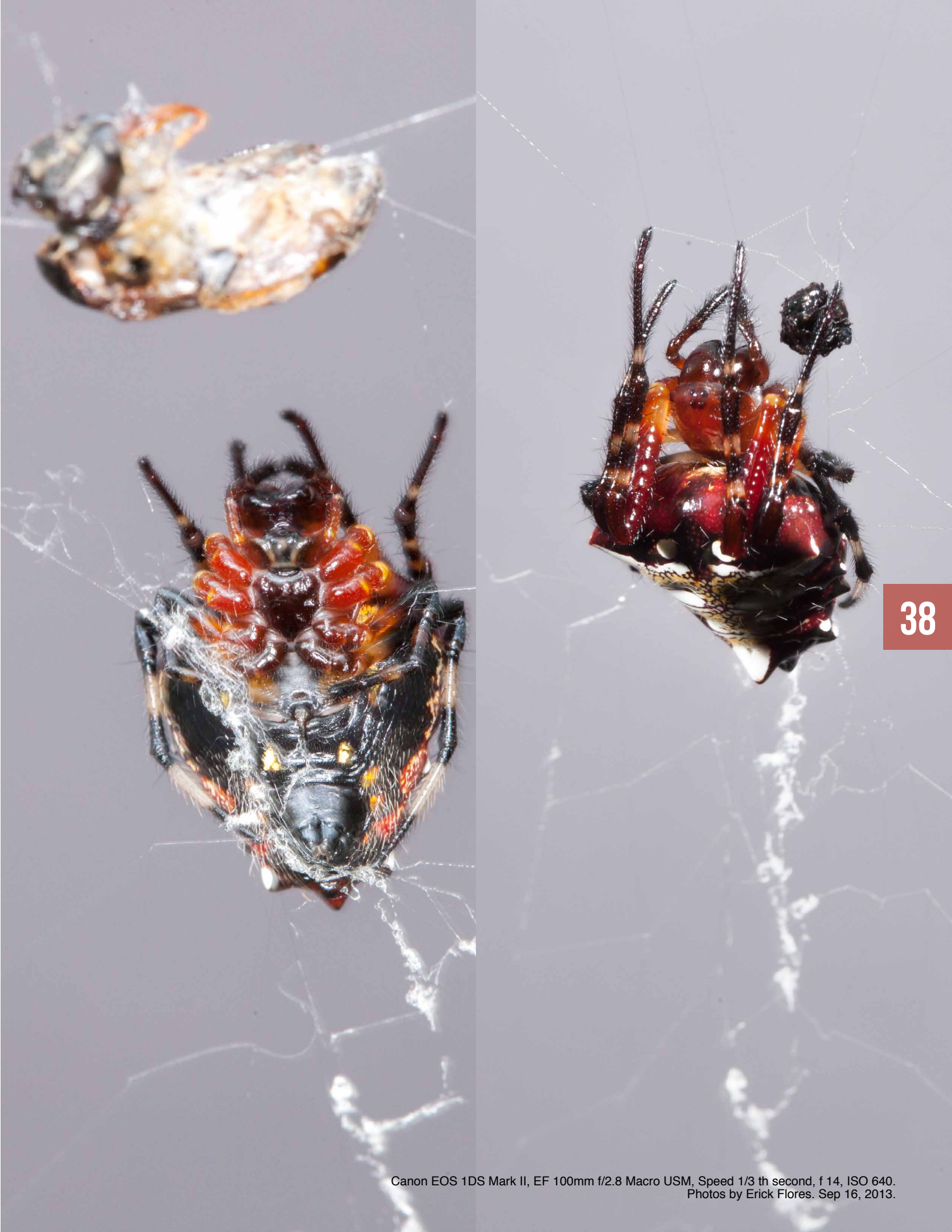


















Canon EOS -1D X Mark II, Canon MP-E 65mm
f/2.8, Speed 1/80 th second, f 16, ISO 100.
Photo by Erick Flores. Jul 24, 2017.



Canon EOS -1D X Mark II, Canon MP-E 65mm
f/2.8, Speed 1/80 th second, f 11, ISO 200.
Photo by Erick Flores. Jul 24, 2017.



Canon EOS -1D X Mark II, Canon MP-E 65mm
f/2.8, Speed 1/80 th second, f 16, ISO 100.
Photo by Erick Flores. Jul 24, 2017.



43



NIKON D5, AF Micro Nikkor 200mm,
Speed 1/160 th second, f 8, ISO 800.
Photos by Nicholas Hellmuth. Jul 10, 2016.





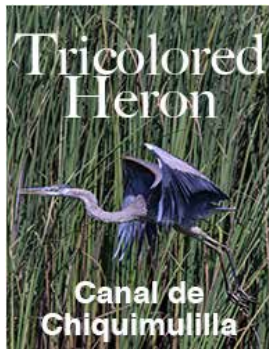
45



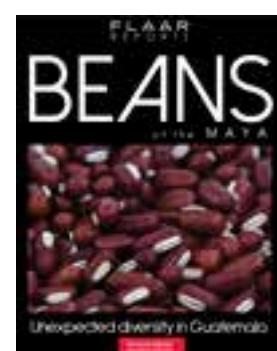


We hope you enjoy the quality of the photographs of university student Erick Flores. We at FLAAR encourage our students to do even better photography than Dr Nicholas.

We also hope you have recognized how unusual it is for an office to encourage all sizes, shapes, colors, and species of creatures to share our garden.



maya-ethnozoology.org



maya-ethnobotany.org