

# George (Jeff) H. Boettner

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## About Me/ Research Interests

I met Joe Elkinton when I volunteered to work on bird surveys for the Elkinton Lab, while working as an intern with the Manomet Bird Observatory in 1985. In 1986, I came to work for Joe on a gypsy moth project in the Quabbin Reservoir and I never left. Currently, I am the lab manager. My recent work involves traveling to British Columbia to collect and rear *Cyzenis albicans*, a species-specific tachinid fly, which we are importing to use to control winter moth outbreaks in New England. I have worked on parasites and diseases of gypsy moth, browntail moth, and winter moth, as well as conservation studies of rare butterflies and moths. One of my major interests is studying the non-target effects of biological control, in an effort to understand how to improve the safety of future biocontrol releases. I also have a fond love of botflies, especially *Cuterebra* which parasitize small mammals and rabbits.

## EDUCATION

### University of Michigan-Dearborn

**B.A. in Environmental Studies 1980** Concentration: Biology/Ecology

**Director**, University of Michigan-Dearborn Community Garden

**President**, Dearborn Naturalists Association, University of Michigan-Dearborn

**President**, Outdoor Club, Henry Ford Community College

## Peer Reviewed Publications

**Boettner, G. H.**, J. S. Elkinton and C. J. Boettner. **2000**. Effects of a Biological Control Introduction on Three Nontarget Native Species of Saturniid Moths. **Conservation Biology** 14(6): 1798-1806.

Brown, S. G., **G. H. Boettner** and J. E. Yack. **2007**. Clicking Caterpillars: Acoustic Aposematism in *Antheraea polyphemus* and Other Bombycoidea. **The Journal of Experimental Biology** 210: 993-1005.

Elkinton, J. S., and **G. H. Boettner**. **(2012 In Press)** Benefits and harm caused by the introduced generalist tachinid, *Compsilura concinnata*, in North America. **Biological Control**.

Elkinton, J. S., **G. H. Boettner**, M. Sremac, R. Gwiazdowski, R. R. Hunkins, J. Callahan, S.B. Schuefele, C.P. Donahue, A.H. Porter, A. Khrimian, B. M. Whited, and N. K. Campbell. **2010**. Survey for Winter Moth, (Lepidoptera: Geometridae) in Northeastern North America with Pheromone-baited Traps and Hybridization with the Native Bruce Spanworm, (Lepidoptera: Geometridae). **Annals of the Entomology Society of America** 103(2): 135-145.

Elkinton, J. S., M. Sremac, A. Porter, R. Gwiazdowski, Roy Hunkins, and **G. H. Boettner**. **2011** (in review). DNA Analysis of the Origins of Winter moth in North America. **Environmental Entomology** in review.

Elkinton, J. S., D. Parry and **G. H. Boettner**. **2006**. Implicating an Introduced Generalist Parasitoid in the Invasive Browntail Moth's Enigmatic Demise. **Ecology** 87(10):2664-2672.

Elkinton, J. S., E. Preisser, **G. H. Boettner** and D. Parry. **2008**. Factors Influencing Larval Survival of the Invasive Browntail Moth (Lepidoptera: Lymantriidae) in Relict North American Populations. **Environmental Entomology** 37(6):1429-1437.

Elkinton, J.S., A. E. Hajek, **G. H. Boettner** and E. E. Simons. **1991**. Distribution and apparent spread of *Entomophaga maimaiga* (Zygomycetes: Entomophthorales) in gypsy moth (Lepidoptera: Lymantriidae) populations in North America. **Environmental Entomology** 20(6): 1601-1605.

Elkinton, J.S., W. M. Healy, J. P. Buonaccorsi, **G. H. Boettner**, A.M. Hazzard, H.R. Smith and A.M. Liebhold. **1996**. Interactions among gypsy moths, white-footed mice and acorns. **Ecology** 77: 2332-2342.

- Liebhold, A. M., J. S. Elkinton, G. Zhou, M. E. Hohn, R. E. Rossi, **G. H. Boettner**, C. W. Boettner, C. Burnham, and M. L. McManus. **1995**. Regional correlation of gypsy moth (Lepidoptera: Lymantriidae) defoliation with counts of egg masses, pupae, and male moths. **Environmental Entomology** 24 (2): 193-203.
- Louda, S. M., D. Simberloff, **G. H. Boettner**, J. Connor, D. Kendall, and A. Arnett. **1998**. Insights from Data on the Nontarget Effects of the Flowerhead Weevil. **Biocontrol News and Information** 19 (3): 70N-72N.
- Meyers, J. H., **G. H. Boettner**, and J. S. Elkinton. **1998**. Maternal effects in gypsy moth: only sex ratio varies with population density. **Ecology** 79 (1): 305-314.
- Selfridge, J. A., D. Parry and **G. H. Boettner**. **2007**. Parasitism of Barrens Buck Moth, *Hemileuca maia* Drury, in early and late successional pine barrens habitats. **Journal of the Lepidopterists' Society** 61 (4):213-221.

### Book Chapters and Reports:

- Elkinton, J. S. and **G. H. Boettner**. **2004** Chapter 2: The Effects of *Compsilura concinnata*, an Introduced Generalist Tachinid, on Non-target Species in North America: A Cautionary Tale. *In: Assessing Host Ranges for Parasitoids and Predators used for Classical Biological Control: A guide to Best Practice*, eds R. G. Van Driesche and R. Reardon. United States Department of Agriculture Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team, Morgantown, West Virginia. FHTET-2004-03.
- Elkinton, J.S., W. M. Healy, J. P. Buonaccorsi, **G. H. Boettner**, H.R. Smith and A.M. Liebhold. **1997**. Gypsy moths, mice and acorns. Proceedings: Population Dynamics, Impacts, and Integrated Management of Forest Defoliating Insects. USDA Forest Service General Technical Report NE-1997
- Jordan, M., **G. H. Boettner** and D. Schweitzer, **2006**. Effects of biocontrol agents on non-target Lepidoptera (moths and butterflies). Special Report to The Nature Conservancy, North Atlantic Coast (NAC).
- Wagner, D. L., M. S. Wallace, **G. H. Boettner**, and J. S. Elkinton. **1998**. Status update and life history studies on the regal fritillary (Lepidoptera: Nymphalidae). *In: Grasslands of Northeastern North America: Ecology and Conservaton of Native and Agricultural Landscapes*, eds. Peter Vickery and Peter Dunwiddie. pp 261-276.

### Online and Popular Articles:

- Boettner, G. H. 2008**. An Inconvenient Moth: Winter Moth Invades New England. **Massachusetts Butterflies** (December 2008).
- Boettner, G. H. 2002**. When Biodiversity meets Biocontrol: The **Thin Green Line** Between Insect Conservation and Insect Control. **Conservation Perspectives**: Fall 2002 (the online journal of the New England chapter of the Society for Conservation Biology). Available at: <http://www.nescb.org/epublications/fall2002/boettner.html>

### Hobbies:

Woodworking: Currenty building a second kayak (see pic). Also enjoy restoring our 1890's Victorian house.