

Abelardo Moreno falleció el 3 de mayo de 1992, a la edad de 79 años, y durante su fructífera vida recibió numerosas distinciones y condecoraciones, conferidos por la Academia de Ciencias de Cuba, la Universidad de la Habana, otras instituciones científicas y culturales, y por el Estado cubano, en reconocimiento a su dedicación y contribución a la ciencia en nuestro país.

Abelardo Moreno, one of Cuba's most important ornithologists and conservationists, was born on February 13, 1913, in the former province of Las Villas. He graduated from the University of Havana in 1934 with a doctorate in Natural Sciences, obtaining the Diploma of Eminent Student and the Extraordinary Award for studies abroad. The eminent Cuban naturalist, Dr. Carlos de la Torre, considered Moreno to be his best disciple. Two years after the death of Dr. de la Torre (1955), Moreno became the Academic Chairman of the Academy of Medical, Physics and Natural Sciences of Havana. Dr. Moreno was a Professor in the University of Havana for 37 years, where he taught Ornithology for 26 years. He developed considerable teaching materials on ornithology, including dichotomous keys to study the Cuban birds. His classes were renowned for their excellence and for the modern methods, concepts, and scientific theories he presented. In recognition of his dedication to teaching, Dr. Moreno was named Titular Professor, and for his contribution to science he obtained the Doctorate in Biological Sciences and the post of Titular Research Worker.

Dr. Moreno carried out many studies on the Cuban fauna. He joined his teacher Dr. de la Torre in his studies on malacology, and subsequently he specialized in scorpions, birds, and conservation. He made an important study on the Cuban birds in the larger museums of the United States, working together with such prominent scientists as Paul Bartsch and Alexander Wetmore. He published many scientific reports, as well as articles on birds with an objective of creating a conservation ethic among the public.

From his earliest studies of the status of the Cuban fauna Dr. Moreno realized the necessity of protecting natural resources. In 1940 he was appointed Director of the Commission for the Protection of Nature. He was an active member of the Cuban Society of Natural History "Felipe Poey." In 1949, he founded and presided over the Cuban Society for the Conservation of Nature. In the same year he was nominated President of the Cuban Section of the International Council for Bird Preservation, a position he held for 38 years. In 1976, Abelardo Moreno chaired the Scientific Council for the Conservation of Flora and Fauna, creating provincial commissions and new regulations and resolutions for the protection of many species, as well as for the establishing of new protected natural areas. Dr. Moreno was also a pioneer in setting up a zoological park in the country, on which he began work in 1938.

Dr. Moreno compiled the results of his studies of Cuban birds over more than 40 years in his monumental work,

"Ornitología Cubana" (3 volumes, more than 6,200 pages). His other major work, "Las Aves," is on the morphology, ecology, geographic distribution, and conservation of the most representative species of each avian order. Both works are well-illustrated and will soon be published.

Abelardo Moreno died in May 1992 at the age of 79 years. His valuable contributions and dedication to science in Cuba were well recognized through the many honors and distinctions conferred by the University of Havana, the Academy of Sciences, other cultural and scientific institutions, and by the Cuban State.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETINGS

LA UNIVERSIDAD DE CABA A LA NATURALEZA
PRIMER SIMPOSIO DE ECOLOGÍA
6—11 December 1993
La Habana Cuba

The first symposium of ecology will be held at the University of La Habana, with topics of autecology, population, communities, ecosystems, human ecology, applied ecology, and the teaching of ecology in higher education. The deadline for abstracts of papers is 15 October 1993. Correspondence regarding the scientific program should be sent to

Dr. Alcides Sampedro Marín
Departamento de Biología Animal y Humana
Calle 25 # 455 entre J e I Vedado
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Telephone: 329-0000/321321
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Registration for the symposium is \$70 (U.S.). An accommodations package for the stay in Cuba is available for \$260 (U.S.).

For further information on the symposium, contact:
Lic. Roberto Rosado
Gerente de Turismo Especializado Mercadu
Calle 13 #951 esq. 8 Vedado CP 12300
La Habana, Cuba
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III SIMPOSIO DE ZOOLOGÍA
21-24 JUNE 1994
LA HABANA, CUBA

The Third Symposium on Zoology will be held at the Havana International Conference Center in June 1994. The Symposium will include oral presentations of papers and posters on an array of topics, including systematics, evolution, ecology,