

International Symposium on Frugivores and Seed Dispersal (FSD)

Complete series history, 1985–2024 · host city, country, lead organizers, thematic focus and outcomes **Compiled by Pedro Jordano** ·

Sourced from historical meeting records and proceedings. Date: Jul 04, 2026

#	Year	Host City & Country	Lead Organizers	Thematic Focus & Significant Outcome
1	1985	Los Tuxtlas Biological Station, Veracruz, Mexico	Ted Fleming; Alejandro Estrada	Founding meeting to assess the status of the field (~50 scientists). Established the discipline; foundational volume <i>Frugivores and Seed Dispersal</i> (Estrada & Fleming, 1986). ^{1,2}
2	1991	Catemaco, Veracruz, Mexico	Ted Fleming; Alejandro Estrada	Larger audience; shift toward evolutionary, hypothesis-driven research. Produced the widely cited <i>Frugivory and Seed Dispersal: Ecological and Evolutionary Aspects</i> (1993). ³
3	2000	São Pedro, São Paulo, Brazil (6–11 Aug)	Wesley Silva; Doug Levey; Mauro Galetti	Recognized the applied / conservation significance of dispersal and a shift toward mechanistic process. Volume <i>Seed Dispersal and Frugivory: Ecology, Evolution and Conservation</i> (2002). ⁴
4	2005	Griffith University (Nathan campus), Brisbane, Australia (9–16 Jul)	Andrew Dennis; Ronda Green; David Westcott; Eugene Schupp	Theme: “Theory and its application in a changing world” — bridging theory with real-world problems; 27 countries represented. Proceedings published 2007. ⁵
5	2010	Montpellier, France (13–18 Jun)	Pierre-Michel Forget (chair); Katrin Böhning-Gaese; Pedro Jordano; Joanna Lambert; Anna Traveset; Joe Wright	25th-anniversary “Silver Jubilee”; 220+ researchers. Theme: “Mechanisms and Consequences of a Key Interaction for Biodiversity.” Documented expansion into networks, molecular and movement ecology. ⁶
6	2015	Drakensberg, South Africa	Colleen Downs; Nina Farwig; Pierre-Michel Forget; Norbert Cordeiro; Dennis Hansen; Shumpei Kitamura; Renee Borges	First African edition; broadened the geographic representation of the series. ²
7	2020	Corbett Tiger Reserve landscape, Uttarakhand, India (2–6 Mar)	Soumya Prasad (chair); Renee M. Borges; Aparajita Datta; Divya Mudappa; Sindhu Radhakrishna; Geetha Ramaswami; Jayanti Ray Mukherjee; Asmita Sengupta; Ghazala Shahabuddin; Sachin Sridhara H.S.; H.S. Sushma	Theme: “Seed Dispersal in the Anthropocene — frugivory & seed dispersal in changing landscapes.” Produced a 25-paper special issue shared by <i>Oikos</i> and <i>Journal of Avian Biology</i> . ^{7,8}
8	2024	Ilhéus, Bahia, Brazil (4–8 Aug)	Eliana Cazetta (UESC); Paulo Guimarães Jr. (USP); Rodrigo Fadini (UFOPA); Marina Côrtes (UNESP); Ricardo Bovendorp (UESC); Mauro Galetti (UNESP); Vanessa Staggemeier (UFRN); Alexander Christianini (UFSCar); Caroline Dracxler (USP)	Theme: “Unifying ecology, evolution and conservation in a human-modified world.” Sessions on eDNA / nucleic acids, trait-matching, plant–frugivore networks and movement ecology. ^{9,10}

Notes on the series

- Editions 1–3 were formally titled “International Symposium-Workshop on Frugivores and Seed Dispersal”; later editions dropped “Workshop.”
- The series follows a roughly five-yearly cadence and has produced five major edited volumes (from editions 1–5); editions 6–8 channelled outputs into journal special issues rather than standalone books.

Sources

1. Levey, Silva & Galetti (eds.), 2002, historical introduction (Mairal PDF), <https://mariomairal.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Levey-D.-J.-al.-Eds-2002-Seed-Dispersal-and-Frugivory-Ecology-Evolution-and-Conservation.pdf>
2. FSD Past Frugivores & Seed Dispersal Meetings, <https://fsd2020.wordpress.com/past-frugivores-seed-dispersal-meetings/>
3. Annals of Botany review of the series volumes, <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC4233861/>
4. CABI Books — Third International Symposium-Workshop (São Pedro, 2000), <https://www.cabidigitallibrary.org/doi/book/10.1079/9780851995250.0000>
5. 4th FSD Program and Abstracts (Rainforest CRC, Brisbane 2005), https://rainforest-crc.jcu.edu.au/publications/frugivores_handbook.pdf
6. Smithsonian repository — 5th FSD, Montpellier 2010, <https://repository.si.edu/items/609a50f4-a611-4167-b4dc-8e6ee165a73f>
7. FSD 2020 Organizing Committee (Corbett, India), <https://fsd2020.wordpress.com/organizing-committee/>
8. Oikos Journal — FSD 2020 special issue, <https://www.oikosjournal.org/blog/special-issue-frugivory-seed-dispersal>
9. 8th FSD Symposium proceedings (Ilhéus, Brazil 2024), https://vbn.aau.dk/ws/portalfiles/portal/768592639/ANAIIS_FSD.pdf
10. FSD 2024 conference site, <https://fsd2024.com.br/>