

The importance of Wallace in evolutionary biology

Rosaura Ruiz Gutiérrez, UNAM

Juan Manuel Rodríguez Caso, University of Leeds

Ricardo Noguera Solano, UNAM

It is well known that evolution find one of his most important theoretical underpinnings in natural selection, an idea developed by Ch. Darwin and A.R. Wallace in the mid-nineteenth century. The historiography of biology has paid more emphasis on highlighting the contributions of Darwin, so here we revisit the importance of Wallace's work and its relevance for the development of evolutionary biology. The presentation covers three sections: one, a brief reconstruction of the motivations and interests that led Wallace to focus on the evolution, two, the theoretical basis of his proposal and their scopes, and finally, their concrete applications.