# Earthweek: Diary of a Changing World

Researchers at

York's Binghamton Uni-

versity looked at over 175

scientific papers and found

more than 500 reasons

why insect populations are

shrinking — from pesticide

many of these threats are

problems that's much more

size the need to look at the

that keep Earth's complex

ecosystems in balance.

and even war.

thought.

Week ending Friday, April 25, 2025

#### 'New' Colour

Researchers at the University of California, Berkeley, say they have produced a new color for humans to see by using laser pulses to stimulate only one type of cone cell in the retina, something natural light cannot do.

The breakthrough was achieved through a system called Oz, which precisely targets cones that sense medium-wavelength light, by stimulating only one type of colour-detecting cell, avoiding the usual blending that prevents our eyes from seeing certain colours.

Five volunteers described the color, dubbed olo, as an extremely saturated bluegreen unlike anything they had seen before.

The finding could lead to treatments for colour blindness or other eye disorders.

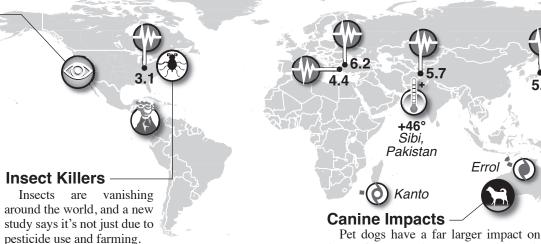
#### **Earthquakes**



Hundreds of people were injured in Istanbul during a magnitude 6.2

quake that officials say damaged 378 buildings.

• Tremors were also felt in New South Wales, central Japan, South Asia's Hindu Kush region, the Aegean Sea and southeastern Ohio.



## **New Tropical Cyclones**

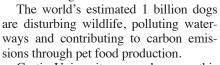
Subtropical Storm Kanto formed well to the south of Madagascar as the first such system in the region since Issa spun up use and climate change to during the southern Indian things rarely mentioned, Ocean's 2021-22 cyclone such as wildfires, pollution season.

While Kanto formed far The study shows that from land, Issa caused significant death and destrucconnected, creating a web of tion in parts of South Africa.

· After reaching Categocomplex than previously ry-5 force for a few hours, Super Cyclone Errol weak-The researchers empha- ened to a minimal tropical storm before making landbigger picture and to protect fall on Australia's norththe many different species western coast.

> Dist. by: Andrews McMeel Syndication ©MMXXV Earth Environment Service

#### the environment than most people realize, according to new research.



Antarctica Curtin University researchers say this is mostly caused by the actions — or inaction — of dog owners and not the dogs themselves. Simple steps like keeping dogs on leashes in sensitive areas, picking up waste and choosing more sustainable pet food could help reduce the canine environmental "paw print."



Initial phase of the Poás volcano eruption on April 21. Photo: RSN-UCR

## By Steve Newman

### Solar 'Droughts'

New research published in the journal Geophysical Research Letters reveals that climate change is making multiday solar power shortages, known as "solar droughts," more common, especially in tropical and developing regions.

These droughts happen when cloudy skies, high temperatures or pollution reduce solar power output just as energy demand surges, often for cooling purposes.

From 1984 to 2014, areas like the western US, eastern Brazil and parts of Africa experienced five or more solar droughts each year, increasing steadily over time.

Forecasts indicate these events could become seven times more frequent by the 2090s even if greenhouse gas emissions continue at only moderate levels.

#### Eruption



-75°

Vostok.

Costa Rica's Poás volcano produced its strongest eruption in years, spew-

ing ash that blanketed the country's Central Valley.

Authorities advised residents to wear N95 masks and limit outdoor exposure to protect against ash and toxic gas inhalation.