

Science Protagonists: Puerto Rican discovers insect in Panama and it is named in her honor ^[1]

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Charluz Arocho Rosario is a native of San Juan and a resident of Texas, where she will soon complete her doctorate in Medical-Veterinary Entomology (Provided).

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The entomologist Charluz Arocho Rosario made the discovery of the new species of stink bug during an expedition to the Central American country in which the researcher was dedicated to the search for beetles.

In the Central American country, Arocho Rosario collected, in 2022, a stink bug, of which she could not identify the species because she only collected one specimen. The following year, the Puerto Rican entomologist returned to Panama and, upon collecting two additional samples and comparing the three specimens, it was identified as a new species, named *Chlorocoris charluzae* Thomas.

“(It is) a lot of excitement. It fills me with pride that, after so many years, because I have been collecting insects for many years, well, we managed to find a new species, which had not yet been described. It is a dream,” said the San Juan native, who lives in Texas, where she will soon complete her doctorate in Medical-Veterinary Entomology.

Arocho Rosario obtained, in 2019, her master's degree in Medical-Veterinary Entomology from Texas A&M University, where she is studying for her doctorate. She also has a bachelor's degree in Animal Science from the University of Puerto Rico Mayagüez Campus.

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- [Entomolgy](#) [4]
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- [Environmental and agricultural sciences](#) [7]

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