

NEWS

August 2008

Los Amigos forest ecology training workshop.

Organized by the RAINFOR project with support from the Moore Foundation.

Location: Los Amigos Research Centre and Conservation Concession (CICRA), Madre de Dios, Peru

Dates: 5 - 11 August 2008

23 participants from across Latin America and Europe attended this workshop for young scientists in using tree plots for assessing and monitoring the structure and function of tropical forests. The excellent facilities of this fantastic study site, a wildlife-rich reserve in the heart of the Peruvian Amazon and located at the southern end of the continuous western Amazon forest that stretches as far north as Colombia and Venezuela, helped make it a success. Participants were trained in standard international techniques for assessing forest structure and dynamics (wood density, stand biomass, tree and liana growth rates, and modes of mortality) and carbon cycling (production of litter and woody debris, necromass, root biomass, and soil respiration). The emphasis was on field techniques, supplemented by short lectures, with teaching provided by staff from Brazil, Peru, the UK, the US, and the Netherlands.

