

LESLIE JEAN POTTS

Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Entomology, in progress University of Kentucky 2015-2020 (expected)

Advisor: Dr. Nicholas M. Teets

Certificate in Applied Statistics

M.S. Biology, 2015 University of Kentucky 2012-2015

B.S. Wildlife Biology, Murray State University 2008-2012

Magna Cum Laude, Dean's list 2008 to 2012

Advisor: Dr. Dayle D. Saar

GRANTS AND FUNDING

USDA Agriculture & Food Research Initiative (AFRI) Fellowship (\$95,000) 2018-2020

University of Kentucky Women's Club Fellowship (\$2,000) 2018

Kentucky Opportunity Fellowship, University of Kentucky (\$20,000) 2016-2017

Lyman T. Johnson Diversity Fellowship, University of Kentucky (\$15,000) 2013-2015

Ribble Endowment Grant, University of Kentucky (\$8,000) 2013-2015

Mini-Ribble Research Grant, University of Kentucky (\$700) 2013

Ribble Research Fellowship, University of Kentucky (\$4,000) 2012

Graduate Teaching Assistantship, University of Kentucky (\$20,000) 2012-2015

Biology Honors Scholarship, Murray State University (\$500) 2012

John W. Carr Academic Scholarship, Murray State University (\$16,000) 2008-2012

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed

Teets, N.M., Kawarasaki, Y., **Potts, L.J.**, Philip, B.N., Gantz, J.D., Denlinger, D.L., & Lee, R.E. (2019). Rapid cold hardening protects against sublethal freezing injury in an Antarctic insect. *Journal of Experimental Biology*, 222 (15).

Kawarasaki, Y., Teets, N.M., Philip, B.N., **Potts, L.J.**, Gantz, J.D., Denlinger, D.L., & Lee, R.E. (2019) Characterization of drought-induced rapid cold-hardening in the Antarctica midge, *Belgica antarctica*. *Polar Biology* 1-10.

Westneat, D. F., **Potts, L. J.**, Sasser, K. L., & Shaffer, J. D. (2019). Causes and Consequences of Phenotypic Plasticity in Complex Environments. *Trends in ecology & evolution* 24(6) 555-568.

Potts, L.J. and J.J. Krupa. 2016. Does the Dwarf Sundew (*Drosera brevifolia*) Attract Prey? *American Midland Naturalist* 175: 233-241.

Saar, D.E., Bundy, N.C., and **L.J. Potts**. 2012. Status of *Morus murrayana* (Moraceae). *Phytologia* 94(2).

PRESENTATIONS

Oral Presentations

Potts, L.J. and N.M. Teets. Overwintering Spiders: Physiological Responses to the Winter Season. 2019. Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology. Tampa, Florida.

Potts, L.J. and N.M. Teets. Biochemical Adaptations of Overwintering Spiders. 2017. American Arachnology Society Conference. Juriquilla, Queretaro, Mexico.

Potts, L.J. How Spiders are Responding to Climate Change: Implications for the Future of Pest Control. 2017. University of Kentucky, Department of Entomology 3mt competition. Lexington, Kentucky.
First Place Prize

Potts, L.J. An Integrative Approach to Understanding Overwintering in Spiders. 2016. University of Kentucky Entomology Seminar Series. Lexington, Kentucky.

Potts, L.J. Interactions in a Tangled Web: Testing for Exploitative Competition between carnivorous plant and spider. 2014. American Arachnology Society Conference. Newark, Ohio.

Potts, L.J. Interactions in a Tangled Web: A potential competitive relationship between carnivorous plant and web-building spider. 2014. Conference for Ecology, Evolution and Behavior. Lexington, Kentucky.

Potts, L.J. Potential negative interactions between carnivorous plant and web-building spider. 2014. Eco-Lunch Seminar Series. Lexington, Kentucky.

Potts, L.J. How do Carnivorous Plants get their Grub? 2013. Eco-Lunch Seminar Series. Lexington, Kentucky.

Poster Presentations

Potts, L.J. and Nick M. Teets. Trophic Cascades: The Effect of Spiders on Leaf Litter Decomposition. 2016. International Society of Arachnology Conference. Golden, Colorado.

Potts, L.J. and James. D. Harwood. Generalist predator behavior in response to an invasive pest, the brown marmorated stink bug (*Halymorpha halys*). 2015. Entomological Society of America Conference. Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Potts, L.J. How do Sundews get their Grub? Identifying attraction mechanisms of *Drosera brevifolia*. 2013. NSF EPSCoR conference. Nashville, Tennessee.

Potts, L.J. Isolating attraction mechanisms of a carnivorous plant, *Drosera brevifolia*. 2013. Tracy Farmer Institute for Sustainability and the Environment Research Showcase. Lexington, Kentucky.

Potts, L.J. Distinguishing between Red and White Mulberries (*Morus rubra* and *M. alba*) and their hybrids. 2012. Posters at the Capitol, Undergraduate Research Showcase. Frankfort, Kentucky.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Adjunct Faculty at Transylvania University, Lexington KY. Non-major science course focused on climate change (BHC 301). Responsibilities include designing lecture material and lab exercises for 20 senior students. Spring 2019.
- Adjunct Faculty at Kentucky Community and Technical College, Henderson, KY. Online Introductory Biology class (BIO 112). Responsibilities included creating lectures, quizzes, exams, discussion boards through Blackboard for 25 students. Summers 2016-17.

- Teaching assistant for Introductory Biology lab (University of Kentucky, BIO 111). Responsibilities including writing, teaching and grading labs for 75 students in 3 sections. Fall 2014.
- Lead Teaching assistant for Evolution lab (University of Kentucky, BIO 304). Responsibilities include coordinating with other TA's on student information, feedback, and writing, teaching, grading labs for 60 students in 2 sections. Spring 2014.
- Teaching assistant for Evolution lab (University of Kentucky, BIO 304). Responsibilities include writing, teaching and grading labs for 60 students in 2 sections. Fall 2012-Fall 2013.

MENTOR EXPERIENCE

- Randell Brewer, sophomore undergrad AgBioTech student. Taught insect and spider rearing protocol and introduced him to basic research science. Randell was accepted to the Univ. of KY Dental program. 2016-19.
- Andrew Dale, senior undergrad entomology/business student. Lead him in fieldwork, helped him with presentations and writing of scientific projects. Andrew graduated with his bachelor's degree in business and entomology. 2015-16.
- Rebecca Wentz, senior undergrad biotechnology student. Lead her in fieldwork and analyzing data. Rebecca obtained her master's degree at the University of Florida department of Entomology. 2013.
- Lila Michaels, senior undergrad biology student. Mentored her in experimental design, data collection and analyses. Lila obtained her master's degree in German. 2012-2013.

SERVICE

Outreach/Extension

- Outreach Team Member for NSF-funded Antarctica research program. Responsibilities include working with the public to provide programs and on-site skype sessions from Palmer Station Antarctica. Winter 2017-18.
- At-large council member of the University of Kentucky Student Sustainability Council. Responsibilities include working with undergraduate and graduate students to vote on ideas, projects and plans related to promoting sustainability on campus and in the community. 2016-current.
- Volunteer at UK Ag Extension Pest Control Short Course. Responsibilities included interacting with general public about spiders and pest insect species, helping with registration, and providing general entomology-related information. 2016.
- Volunteer at BioBonanza, Lexington, Kentucky. Responsibilities included presenting entomology to the general public. 2016.
- Science Teacher at Living Arts and Science Center, Lexington, Kentucky. Responsibilities included creating and presenting science-based lessons to a wide range of students around the state. 2014-16.
- Lead Coordinator for Insect Discovery Night at Living Arts and Science Center, Lexington, Kentucky. Responsibilities included creating and presenting general insect information to parents and children, recruiting volunteers, creating art activities involving insects. 2016.

- Volunteer at Insect-a-Palooza, Entomology Student Society event at The Arboretum, Lexington, KY 2015.
- Volunteer for Kentucky Association for Environmental Education Conference, Lexington, Kentucky. 2014.
- Lead Science teacher for 2-week day camp, Camp Shawano, Lexington, Kentucky. Responsibilities include creating and organizing lesson plans, recruiting outside teachers. 2014.

Leadership positions

- Secretary for H. Garmen Entomology Graduate Student Organization. University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky. 2017-current.
- Faculty Liaison for H. Garman Entomology Graduate Student Organization. University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY. 2016-current.
- Coordinator for Outreach Science Programs, Living Arts and Science Center & UK Dept. of Entomology, Lexington, KY. 2016.
- Eco-Lunch Seminar Organizer. Seminar series for Ecology, Evolution and Behavior talks. University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky. 2014-2015.

ORGANIZATIONS

Society for College Science Teachers 2016-present.

Entomological Society of America. 2015-present.

American Arachnology Association. 2014-present.

Graduate Women in Science (SDE/GWIS Beta Chi Chapter). 2013-present.

The Wildlife Society. 2011-present.

NAAEE (North American Association for Environmental Education). 2008-present.

KAS (Kentucky Academy of Sciences). 2008-present.

NON-ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

First place runner up in photography contest, "Nature's Musings" for photo, "Sticky Plants". Henderson, KY 2014.

Fashion Designer at Betabrand, San Francisco, CA. 2015.

REFERENCES

Dr. Nicholas M. Teets, Research Advisor, University of Kentucky, Dept. of Entomology
n.teets@uky.edu

Katherine Bullock, Discovery Education Director, Living Arts and Science Center
kbullock@lasclex.org

Dr. James Wagner, Chair of Biology, Transylvania University
jwagner@transy.edu

GRE SCORES

Date: 11/16/2011

Verb/?: 153/62

Quant/?: 154/67

Analytical/?: 5.5/96