

# Eric R. Scott, PhD

*Postdoctoral Associate*

University of Florida  
+1 925-788-9855  
✉ [ericscott@ufl.edu](mailto:ericscott@ufl.edu)  
🌐 [ericscott.com](http://ericscott.com)  
🐦 LeafyEricScott  
📷 Aariq

Updated 2021-10-08

## Education

- 2014–2020 **PhD**, *Tufts University*, Medford, MA.
- Indirect and interactive effects of climate and herbivory on tea metabolites and quality
  - PI: Colin Orians
- 2007–2010 **MS**, *University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*, Urbana, IL.
- Interactions between habitat and ungulate herbivory limit the spread of *Ipomopsis aggregata* (Polemoniaceae).
  - PI: Ken Paige
- 2002–2006 **B.A.**, *Whitman College*, Walla Walla, WA.
- Behavioral evidence for host-race formation in the gall midge *Dasineura folliculi* (Felt).

## Teaching Experience

- 2020 **Ecological Statistics and Data (Instructor of record)**, *Tufts University*, Medford, MA.
- Developed curriculum to teach probability theory, generalized linear models, mixed effects models, and hierarchical models using ecological examples
  - Created assignments and assessments in R Markdown
  - Mentored a teaching assistant in charge of a lab section
- 2019 **Organisms and Populations (Lecture TA)**, *Tufts University*, Medford, MA.
- Created and evaluated student assessments
  - Ran course management site including management of live and recorded video lectures
- 2016–2018 **Biostatistics (Recitation Instructor)**, *Tufts University*, Medford, MA.
- Created original curriculum and assessments for a required recitation to teach R for biostatistics (available on GitHub)
- 2015 **Organisms and Populations (Lab TA)**, *Tufts University*, Medford, MA.
- Actively participated in redesigning course to focus on case-studies, quantitative reasoning, and CUREs
  - Mentored and managed undergraduate teaching assistants
- 2014 **Cells and Organisms (Lab TA)**, *Tufts University*, Medford, MA.
- Created weekly quizzes to assess learning and preparation for lab
  - Mentored and managed undergraduate teaching assistants

2011–2014 **General Biology I (Adjunct Faculty)**, *Front Range Community College*, Fort Collins, CO.

- Taught students with a wide variety of backgrounds and life goals introductory biology concepts in a guaranteed transfer credit course
- Created and continuously revised my own curriculum and assessments and engaged in revising and creating laboratory exercises used by all introductory biology sections

2010 **Environmental Biology (Discussion TA)**, *UIUC*, Urbana, IL.

- Encouraged students from a wide range of backgrounds to think critically about important environmental issues

2007–2009 **Organismal and Evolutionary Biology (Lab TA)**, *UIUC*, Urbana, IL.

- Worked with diverse populations as part of the Merit program for high achieving students from under-served groups
- Received a Teaching Excellence Award from the School of Integrative Biology in March 2009

#### [Guest Lectures](#)

May 2020 **Tea chemistry, the environment, and health**, *Medicinal Plants*, Tufts ExCollege.

Oct 2019 **Paired t-tests**, *Biostatistics*, Tufts University.

Feb 2019 **Lessons from fieldwork experiences**, *Intro to environmental fieldwork*, Tufts University.

Dec 2018 **Lessons from fieldwork experiences**, *Intro to environmental fieldwork*, Tufts University.

Oct 2018 **Tea sustainability in a changing climate**, *Sustainability in Action*, Tufts University.

Apr 2018 **Tea chemistry, the environment, and health**, *Medicinal Plants*, Tufts ExCollege.

#### [Training and Professional Development](#)

May 2021 Virtual Field Course working group. [brunalab.org/virtualfieldcourse](https://brunalab.org/virtualfieldcourse)

May 2021 Addressing Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Justice in STEM Teaching. University of Florida

Mar 2021 Cultural Competence, Crucial Conversations (C4) & Equity. University of Florida

Nov 2020 Brain, Bias, Being Anti-Racism Workshop. Tufts University

Oct 2020 Setting Student Expectations Through an Effective Course Syllabus. University of Florida

Aug 2020 Anti-Racist Theory & Teaching Practice. University of Florida

- Sep 2013 Working with Student-Veterans: Strategies and Guidance for Creating Veteran-Supportive Classrooms. Front Range Community College
- Sep 2012 How to get students to “eat the textbook”. Front Range Community College

## Research Experience

- 2020– **Postdoctoral associate**, *Bruna Lab*, University of Florida.
- Present
- Manage and integrate long-term datasets on precipitation and plant demography
  - Served as primary mentor for two REU students
  - Use generalized additive models and two-dimensional splines to test for potentially lagged and non-linear effects of drought on vital rates
  - Use integral projection models to understand effects of drought and fragmentation on population viability
- 2019–2020 **Graduate Research Assistant**, *Crone Lab*, Tufts University.
- Developed the R package *bumbl* which provides functions for modeling bumblebee colony growth.
- 2014–2020 **Graduate Researcher**, *Tufts University*, Medford, MA.
- Conducted collaborative, interdisciplinary research on the effects of climate change and insect herbivory on tea metabolites
  - Designed and carried out field, greenhouse, and lab experiments at the Tea Research Institute in Hangzhou, China and at Tufts University
  - Mentored undergraduate assistants in computational, lab, and field experiments
  - Developed international collaborations
- 2017–2018 **NSF grant coordinator**, *Tufts University*, Medford, MA.
- Scheduled and coordinated conference calls and meetings with collaborators
  - Maintained public-facing website for grant
  - Communicated research findings to general public via blog posts and social media
- 2010 **Research Assistant**, *Colorado Natural Heritage Program*, Fort Collins, CO.
- Worked as part of a team to survey remote wetlands throughout Colorado
  - Carried out soil and vegetation sampling protocols and plant identification in the field
- 2007–2010 **Graduate Researcher**, *UIUC*, Urbana, IL.
- Successfully completed research projects investigating the effects of soil nutrients and herbivory on compensatory growth and chemical defenses in a wildflower
  - Mentored undergraduate research assistants
- 2005 **Research Intern**, *Bucknell University*, Lewisburg, PA.
- Collaborated with post-doctoral researcher to design a pilot study investigating host-race formation in a gall midge
  - Designed and carried out field and lab experiments, analyzed data, and contributed to published manuscripts

## Mentoring Experience

- Ellie McDaniel (UF class of 2024) was a summer REU student working on the statistical assumptions and data limitations of applying distributed lag non-linear models to plant demographic analyses.
- Andrew Mercadante (UF class of 2022) was a summer REU student working on edge effects in fragmented tropical forests.
- Ji-Peng Wei (Masters student at Tea Research Institute) collaborated on four papers with

me and was an integral collaborator for most of my PhD work. He went on to work in the tea industry China.

- Ming-Ming Guo (Zhejiang University class of 2018) helped carry out field experiments in China in 2018 and co-authored a publication. Ming-Ming was accepted into a PhD program at the Tea Research Institute in Hangzhou, China.
- Amma Agyei (Tufts class of 2022) conducted chemical analyses on tea samples and co-authored a publication. She was accepted to a combined BS/MS program in biomedical engineering at Tufts.
- Lan Ngo (Tufts class of 2018) piloted a research project to look for indirect effects of climate change in a microbially ripened tea product. She was hired as a Research Data Specialist at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.
- Gabriel Taylor (Tufts class of 2018) accompanied me to China in 2017 to assist with fieldwork. After graduation, he worked for a labor union doing contract enforcement.
- Michelle Mu (Tufts class of 2018) piloted a machine learning method for detection of leafhopper damage in leaf scans. She went on to receive a MS from Northeastern and work as a research associate for a biotech firm.

---

## Grants

- Mar 2021 **NSF REU Supplement.**  
● \$7,200
- Nov 2019 **R Consortium Infrastructure Steering Committee Grant.**  
● \$6,000
- Jan 2016 **Tufts Institute for the Environment Fellowship.**  
● \$4,975.00
- Mar 2009 **Program in Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology Research Grant.**  
● \$850.00
- Mar 2009 **Francis M. and Harlie M. Clark Research Support Grant.**  
● \$2,500.00
- Mar 2008 **Francis M. and Harlie M. Clark Research Support Grant.**  
● \$2,500.00
- Mar 2008 **Program in Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology Research Grant.**  
● \$850.00

---

## Awards and Honors

- Nov 2019 First place in section for student talks. Entomological Society of America
- Mar 2019 Finalist for Outstanding Contributions to Undergraduate Education Award. Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
- Mar 2019 First place in Tufts Graduate Research Symposium 15 minute talk category. Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
- Nov 2018 First place in section for student talks. Entomological Society of America

- Feb 2017 First place in Tufts Graduate Research Symposium 5 minute talk category. Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
- Feb 2016 Second place in Tufts Graduate Research Symposium 15 minute talk category. Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
- Mar 2009 Teaching Excellence award. UIUC School of Integrative Biology
- May 2006 Cynthia Lechner Biology Award. Whitman College
- Mar 2006 First place in M.S. graduate student poster competition. Entomological Society of America, Pacific Branch
- Nov 2005 Superior Poster Presenter. Sigma Xi

## Publications

\* indicates undergraduate mentee author

in press **Scott, E R; Uriarte, María; Bruna, Emilio M.**, *Delayed Effects of Climate on Vital Rates Lead to Demographic Divergence in Amazonian Forest Fragments*, Global Change Biology. <http://doi.org/10.1111/gcb.15900>.

2021 **Donatelli, C M; Roberts, A S; Scott, E R; DeSmith, K; Summers, D; Abu-Bader, L; Baxter, D; Standen, E M; Porter, M E; Summers, A P; Tytell, E D**, *Foretelling the Flex—Vertebral Shape Predicts Behavior and Ecology of Fishes*, Integrative and Comparative Biology. <http://doi.org/10/gkf9ck>.

2021 **Scott, E R; Crone, E E**, *Using the Right Tool for the Job: The Difference between Unsupervised and Supervised Analyses of Multivariate Ecological Data*, Oecologia. <http://doi.org/10.1007/s00442-020-04848-w>.

2021 **Scott, Eric R.; Wei, Ji-Peng; Li, Xin; Han, Wen-Yan; Orians, Colin M.**, *Differing Non-Linear, Lagged Effects of Temperature and Precipitation on an Insect Herbivore and Its Host Plant*, Ecological Entomology. <http://doi.org/10.1111/een.13023>.

2020 **Scott, E R; Li, X; Wei, J-P; Kfoury, N; Morimoto, J; \*Guo, M-M; \*Agyei, A; Robbat, A; Ahmed, S; Cash, S B.; Griffin, T S; Stepp, J R; Han, W-Y; Orians, C M**, *Changes in Tea Plant Secondary Metabolite Profiles as a Function of Leafhopper Density and Damage*, Frontiers in Plant Science. <http://doi.org/10.3389/FPLS.2020.00636>.

2020 **Szöcs, E; Stirling, T; Scott, E R; Scharmüller, A; Schäfer, R B**, *Webchem: An R Package to Retrieve Chemical Information from the Web*, Journal of Statistical Software. <http://doi.org/10.18637/jss.v093.i13>.

- 2019 **Kfoury, N; Scott, E R; Orians, C M; Ahmed, S; Cash, S B; Griffin, T; Matyas, C; Stepp, J R; Han, W-Y; Xue, D-Y; Long, C-L; Robbat, A**, *Plant-Climate Interaction Effects: Changes in the Relative Distribution and Concentration of the Volatile Tea Leaf Metabolome in 2014–2016*, *Frontiers in Plant Science*. <http://doi.org/10.3389/fpls.2019.01518>.
- 2019 **Orians, C M; Schweiger, R; Dukes, J S; Scott, E R; Müller, C**, *Combined Impacts of Prolonged Drought and Warming on Plant Size and Foliar Chemistry*, *Annals of Botany*. <http://doi.org/10.1093/aob/mcz004>.
- 2019 **Scott, E R; Li, X; Kfoury, N; Morimoto, J; Han, W-Y; Ahmed, S; Cash, S B; Griffin, T S; Stepp, J R; Robbat, A; Orians, C M**, *Interactive Effects of Drought Severity and Simulated Herbivory on Tea (Camellia sinensis) Volatile and Non-Volatile Metabolites*, *Environmental and Experimental Botany*. <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.envexpbot.2018.10.025>.
- 2018 **Kfoury, N; Morimoto, J; Kern, A; Scott, E R; Orians, C M; Ahmed, S; Griffin, T; Cash, S B; Stepp, J R; Xue, D-Y; Long, C-L; Robbat, A**, *Striking Changes in Tea Metabolites Due to Elevational Effects*, *Food Chemistry*. <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.foodchem.2018.05.040>.
- 2018 **Li, X; Wei, J-P; Scott, E R; Liu, J-W; Guo, S; Li, Y; Zhang, ; Han, W-Y**, *Exogenous Melatonin Alleviates Cold Stress by Promoting Antioxidant Defense and Redox Homeostasis in Camellia sinensis L.*, *Molecules*. <http://doi.org/10.3390/molecules23010165>.
- 2018 **Scott, E R; Orians, C M**, *Differential Changes in Tea Quality as Influenced by Insect Herbivory*, *Stress Physiology of Tea in the Face of Climate Change*. [http://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-13-2140-5\\_10](http://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-13-2140-5_10).
- 2017 **Kfoury, N; Scott, E R; Orians, C M; Robbat, A**, *Direct Contact Sorptive Extraction: A Robust Method for Sampling Plant Volatiles in the Field*, *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry*. <http://doi.org/10.1021/acs.jafc.7b02847>.
- 2009 **Dorchin, N; Scott, E R; Clarkin, C E; Luongo, M P; Jordan, S; Abrahamson, W G**, *Behavioural, Ecological and Genetic Evidence Confirm the Occurrence of Host-Associated Differentiation in Goldenrod Gall-Midges.*, *Journal of evolutionary biology*. <http://doi.org/10.1111/j.1420-9101.2009.01696.x>.

- 2007 **Dorchin, N; Clarkin, C E; Scott, E R; Luongo, M P; Abrahamson, W G**, *Taxonomy, Life History, and Population Sex Ratios of North American Dasineura (Diptera : Cecidomyiidae) on Goldenrods (Asteraceae)*, Annals of the Entomological Society of America. [http://doi.org/10.1603/0013-8746\(2007\)100\[539:TLHAPS\]2.0.CO;2](http://doi.org/10.1603/0013-8746(2007)100[539:TLHAPS]2.0.CO;2).
- 2006 **Dorchin, N; Scott, E R; Abrahamson, W G**, *First Record of Macrolabis (Diptera : Cecidomyiidae) in America: A New Inquiline Species from Dasineura folliculi Galls on Goldenrods*, Annals of the Entomological Society of America. [http://doi.org/10.1603/0013-8746\(2006\)99\[656:FROMDC\]2.0.CO;2](http://doi.org/10.1603/0013-8746(2006)99[656:FROMDC]2.0.CO;2).

## Software

- 2021 **bumbl: Tools for modeling bumblebee colony growth**, *ER Scott*, <https://cran.r-project.org/package=bumbl>.  
● Author and maintainer
- 2020 **webchem: retrieve chemical information from the web**, *E Szöcs, D Muench, J Ranke, ER Scott, J Stanstrup, R Allaway, Tamas Stirling*, <https://cran.r-project.org/package=webchem>.  
● Contributor and maintainer
- 2018 **holodeck: A tidy interface for simulating multivariate data**, *ER Scott*, <https://cran.r-project.org/package=holodeck>.  
● Author and maintainer

## Presentations

### Research Talks

- Mar 2021 **Impacts of insect herbivory on tea quality: strategies for a changing climate**, *University of Florida Entomology and Nematology Department Seminar*, University of Florida.
- Aug 2020 **Introduction to webchem**, *European Chemicals Agency*.
- Aug 2020 **Using the right tool for the job: Understanding the difference between unsupervised and supervised analyses of multivariate ecological data**, *Ecological Society of America*.
- Nov 2019 **Non-linear effects of tea green leafhopper (*Empoasca onukii*) density on tea (*Camellia sinensis*) secondary metabolites and implications for tea quality**, *Entomological Society of America Joint Meeting*, Saint Louis, MO.  
● First place in section (P-IE Chemical Ecology)
- Nov 2019 **Effects of Climate Change on Tea Quality**, *Biology Seminar*, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth.

- May 2019 **Can a leafhopper rescue tea from climate change?**, *The Cambridge Entomological Club*, Cambridge.
- Mar 2019 **Can pests rescue tea quality from climate change?**, *Gervay-Hague Lab Group Meeting*, UC Davis.
- Mar 2019 **Multivariate Statistics for Ecology and Baked Goods**, *Tufts Graduate Student Symposium*, Tufts University.  
 ● First place in 15 min talk category
- Nov 2018 **The importance of insect herbivore density to induced metabolite blends in tea plants (*Camellia sinensis*) and implications for tea quality**, *Entomological Society of America Joint Meeting*, Vancouver, BC.  
 ● First place in section (P-IE turf and horticulture)
- Jul 2018 **Can pests rescue tea quality from climate change?**, *Chinese Academy of Agricultural Science Tea Research Institute (TRI CAAS) Seminar Series*, Hangzhou, China.
- Mar 2018 **Combined effects of drought and herbivory on tea metabolites**, *Biology Department Seminar*, Tufts University.
- Mar 2017 **A novel, high-throughput method for sampling volatiles in the field**, *Entomological Society of America Eastern Branch Meeting*, Newport, RI.
- Feb 2017 **Can insect damage improve tea quality in a changing climate?**, *Tufts Graduate Student Symposium*, Tufts University.  
 ● First place in 5 minute talk category
- Feb 2016 **A New Method For Sampling Plant Volatiles in the Field**, *Tufts Graduate Student Symposium*, Tufts University.  
 ● Second place in 15 min category
- Jan 2016 **Sampling Plant Volatiles in the Field: An Alternative to Dynamic Headspace Sampling**, *Gordon Research Seminar: Plant Volatiles*, Ventura, CA.
- Nov 2015 **An Alternative Method for Sampling Plant Volatiles**, *Biology Department Seminar*, Tufts University.
- Apr 2006 **How gall makers enslave plants to build homes**, *Whitman College Undergraduate Conference*, Walla Walla, WA.

### Posters

- Aug 2021 **Habitat-dependent delayed effects of climate on demographic vital rates in a fragmented Amazonian landscape**, *Ecological Society of America*.



- Nov 2018 **Interactive effects of drought and herbivory on tea (*Camellia sinensis*) volatile and non-volatile metabolites**, *Entomological Society of America Joint Meeting*, Vancouver, BC.
- Aug 2017 **Generating and analyzing metabolomic data from tea plant volatiles**, *Data Intensive Studies Center (DISC) Symposium*, Tufts University.
- Feb 2016 **Sampling Plant Volatiles in the Field: An Alternative to Dynamic Headspace Sampling**, *Gordon Research Conference: Plant Volatiles*, Ventura, CA.
- Mar 2006 **Behavioral evidence for host race formation in a gall midge**, *Entomological Society of America Pacific Branch Annual Meeting*, Kehei, HI.  
 ● First place in M.S. graduate student poster competition
- Nov 2005 **Behavioral evidence for host race formation in a gall midge**, *Sigma Xi Annual Meeting and Student Research Conference*, Seattle, WA.  
 ● Superior Poster Presenter award

## Outreach

- 2015–2016, **Scientist Pen-Pal**, *Letters to a Prescientist*.
- 2018–2021 ● Scientist pen-pal paired with a middle-school pre-scientist
- Fall 2019 **#TeaScienceTuesday**, Instagram.  
 ● A social media campaign where I live-streamed a short discussion about an aspect of tea science
- 11/20/19 **The Chemistry of Tea**, *The London Tea Room*, Saint Louis, MO.  
 ● Class for general public on tea science
- 9/27/19 **The Chemistry of Tea**, *Mem Tea*, Somerville, MA.  
 ● Class for general public on tea science
- 4/26/17 **Bug-Bitten Tea**, *Pint of Science*, Cambridge, MA.  
 ● An informal talk to the public about my research at a local pub

## Service

- Review Editor for Plant Metabolism and Chemodiversity section of *Frontiers in Plant Science*
- Manuscript Reviews**

- Agronomy (1)
  - Journal of Chemical Ecology (1)
  - Ecological Entomology (3)
  - International Journal of Climatology (2)
  - Oecologia (1)
  - Frontiers in Cellular and Infection Microbiology (1)
- 2020– Secretary and co-founder. UFPDA (UF Postdoc Association)
- Present
- 2015–2016 President. Tufts BUGS (Biology Union of Graduate Students)

2009–2010 Outreach and policy committee. UIUC Graduate Students in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (GEEB)

2008–2009 Graduate student symposium food committee chair. UIUC Graduate Students in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (GEEB)

#### [Presented Workshops](#)

Jan 2018 R Notebooks: Richly annotate your statistical analyses and produce dynamic reports. Workshop

Jan 2009 Using RSS feeds to stay up-to-date in ecology/Using Papers to organize your literature. GEEB Workshop