Eric R. Scott, PhD

Postdoctoral Associate



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
- 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 coauthored 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

- 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 Biolgoy. 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.

 $^{^{\}ast}$ indicates undergraduate mentee author

- 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.
- 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.C0;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.C0;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