

Adam H. Sparks

professional profile

- Wide ranging career demonstrating consistent success both in a non-profit international NGO and academia.
- Experience in conceptualising projects through successful grant applications, project management and attaining desired results.
- Extensive background of experiences in working with diverse partners.
- Broad experience in effective communication ranging from peer-reviewed journal articles to extension presentations and popular press.

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Adam H. Sparks
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skills

GIS
modelling
R programming

Experience

2016–Present	University of Southern Queensland Toowoomba, Queensland, AUS	Associate Professor
2012–2015	International Rice Research Institute Los Baños, Laguna, PHL	Scientist I
2011–2012	International Rice Research Institute Los Baños, Laguna, PHL	Post-Doctoral Fellow
2009–2010	Kansas State University Manhattan, Kansas, USA	Post-Doctoral Research Associate
2002–2004	University of Nebraska-Lincoln Lincoln, Nebraska, USA	Research Technologist
2000–2003	University of Nebraska-Lincoln Clay Center, Nebraska, USA	Research Technician
1999–2000	Purdue University West Lafayette, Indiana, USA	Assistant Director
1997–1999	Purdue University West Lafayette, Indiana, USA	Research Technician

Education

2009	Ph.D. Plant Pathology Epidemiology and Ecology of Plant Pathogens Dissertation: <i>Disease risk mapping with metamodels for coarse resolution predictors: global potato late blight risk now and under future climate conditions</i>	Kansas State University, USA
2007	Post Graduate Certificate Geography Geographic Information Science	Kansas State University, USA
2000	B.Sc. Agronomy Soil and Crop Management	Purdue University, USA

Publications

Invited Talks

- 2018 **Upscaling models, downscaling data or the right model for the right scale of application?**
2018 International Congress of Plant Pathology
Boston, Massachusetts, USA
- 2016 **Using modelling and mapping for digital insights into diseases in the rice field**
2016 Korean Society of Plant Pathology Fall Meeting and International Conference
Seoul National University
Pyeongchang, Gangwon-do, Korea
- 2014 **Taking cloud crop protection from the field to the cloud**
4th International Rice Congress (IRC2014)
Bangkok, Thailand
- 2014 **Impact of climate change on rice diseases**
Workshop on the impact of climate change on crop pests and diseases, and adaptation strategies for the Greater Mekong Sub - Region (GMS)
Hotel Continental Saigon,
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
- 2014 **Epidemiology and Disease Management of rice brown spot: Research priorities and knowledge gaps**
66th Annual Indian Phytopathological Society Meeting
Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya University,
Raipur, India
- 2013 **Biosecurity risks in Southeast Asia impacting on human food supplies**
Pacific Environmental Security Forum
Australian Department of Defence (ADoD) and U. S. Pacific Command (US-PACOM)
Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
- 2010 **Global potato late blight risk in response to climate change, possible futures for a historic disease**
Emerging infectious diseases in response to climate change.
New York Academy of Sciences,
New York, New York, USA

Doctoral Dissertation Mentorship

- Current **Mladen Cucak** (Collaborator) Maynooth University/TEAGASC, IRL
Can we still use 'Irish Rules' to forecast development of potato late blight epidemics in Ireland?
- Current **Charles T. Gray** (Collaborator) La Trobe University, AUS
Statistical Meta-research
- 2016 **Sith Jaisong** (Principal Supervisor) University of the Philippines, Los Baños, PHL
Network analysis of rice crop health survey data for characterization of yield reducing factors of tropical rice ecosystems in south and southeast Asia

Master's Thesis Mentorship

2017	Patrick Kiplimo Toroitich (Collaborator)	Strathmore University, KEN
	A model for early detection of potato late blight disease: A case study in Nakuru County	
2016	Jerico Bigornia (Principal Supervisor)	University of the Philippines, Los Baños, PHL
	Environmental performance of water saving technologies for irrigated low-land rice production	

Extramural Support

2017	USQ Research Infrastructure Program 2017	AUD 25000
	PIs: D. Adorada, A. Sparks, A. Young	
2016-2019	EPIC (Developing Ecologically-based Participatory IPM package for rice in Cambodia)	USD 2.2 million
	PIs: B. Hadi (IRRI), A. Sparks, V. Kumar (IRRI), A. Stuart (IRRI), R. Oliva (IRRI), I.R. Choi (IRRI)	
2016-2019	Syngenta-IRRI Scientific Knowledge and Exchange Program	USD 484,274
	Phase III, Sub-Project 1 - Crop Health Management	
	PIs: A. Sparks (IRRI) and K. K. Fui (Syngenta)	
2015-2017	Identifying resistant rice germplasm to false smut using combined screening approaches and understanding the mechanisms underlying rice resistance	USD 653,914
	Epidemiology and environmental characterisation of false smut,	
	PIs: B. Zhou (IRRI), C. M. Vera Cruz (IRRI) and A. Sparks (IRRI)	
2013-2017	PRISM (Philippine Rice Information System)	USD 2.8 million
	Component B - Crop Health Monitoring,	
	PIs: A. Nelson (IRRI), A. Sparks (IRRI), G. S. Arida (PhilRice), E. J. P. Quilang (PhilRice)	
2013-2015	Syngenta-IRRI Scientific Knowledge and Exchange Program	USD 454,640
	Phase II, Sub-Project 2 - Crop Health Management	
	PI: A. Sparks (IRRI) and K. K. Fui (Syngenta)	

Awards

2016	GovHack 2016 First Place Award for Paddock to Plate Category, John Conner Hack
	As part of the Toowoomba Trio with K Pembleton and G Grundy

Professional Affiliations

Australasian Plant Pathology Society (APPS)

American Phytopathological Society (APS)

International Society for Plant Pathology (ISPP)

Professional Service

Co-founder Open Plant Pathology

Section Editor Tropical Plant Pathology

Member Australia National Plant Biosecurity Diagnostic Network

Member ExtensionAUS Field Crop Diseases Community of Practice

Member International Congress of Plant Pathology (ICPP) Epidemiology Committee