

Adam H. Sparks

Professional Profile

- Wide ranging career demonstrating consistent success both in non-profit international NGO and academic settings.
- 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.

contact

Centre for Crop Health
University of Southern
Queensland
Toowoomba QLD 4350
Australia
adam.sparks@usq.edu.au
+61 (4) 1548 9422
adam.h.sparks

web

adamhsparks.netlify.com
0000-0002-0061-8359
Adam H. Sparks
@adamhsparks
adamhsparks

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: Disease risk mapping with metamodels for coarse resolution predictors: global potato late blight risk now and under future climate conditions	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

- 2019 **The Impact of Plant Pathology on the Global Economy**
IX Symposium on Updates in Phytopathology
Viçosa, Minas Gerais, Brazil
- 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 sustainable 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 (USPACOM)
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 Mentorship

- 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 Mentorship

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

Honours Thesis Mentorship

Current	Tarynn Potter (Associate Supervisor) <small>University of Southern Queensland, AUS</small> A taxonomic revision of <i>Fusarium</i> spp. associated with sorghum in Queensland
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Extramural Support

2019-2020	FAO Consultancy: Technical Consultant for Developing an In-country Agrometeorology Bulletin for Cambodia PI: A. Sparks	AUD 80,000
2019-2021	GRDC Post-doctoral Fellowship Project USQ1903: A model for predicting chickpea ascochyta blight risk, Parent Project: DAW1810 PI: A. Sparks	AUD 510,800
2018-2021	GRDC Research Project DAW1810: Disease epidemiology and management tools for Australian grain growers Subcontract from DPIRD WA to USQ PI: A. Sparks	AUD 650,429
2018-2021	RIRDC Project PRJ-010814: Northern rice Australia - Developing rice growing packages for tropical climates PIs: G. Ash, K. Pembleton, A. Sparks	AUD 2,074,773
2017	GRDC Research Project DAQ00186: Improving grower surveillance, management epidemiology knowledge and tools to manage crop disease 1-Year Extension to Existing Project PI: A. Sparks	AUD 1,237,992
2017	USQ Research Infrastructure Program 2017 PIs: D. Adorada, A. Sparks, A. Young	AUD 25,000
2016-2019	EPIC (Developing Ecologically-based Participatory IPM package for rice in Cambodia) PIs: B. Hadi (IRRI), A. Sparks, V. Kumar (IRRI), A. Stuart (IRRI), R. Oliva (IRRI), I.R. Choi (IRRI)	USD 2.2 million
2016-2019	Syngenta-IRRI Scientific Knowledge and Exchange Program Phase III, Sub-Project 1 - Crop Health Management PI: A. Sparks (IRRI) and K. K. Fui (Syngenta)	USD 484,274
2015-2017	Identifying resistant rice germplasm to false smut using combined screening approaches and understanding the mechanisms underlying rice resistance Epidemiology and environmental characterisation of false smut, PIs: B. Zhou (IRRI), C. M. Vera Cruz (IRRI) and A. Sparks (IRRI)	USD 653,914
2013-2017	Philippine Rice Information System (PRISM) Component B - Crop Health Monitoring, PIs: A. Nelson (IRRI), A. Sparks (IRRI), G. S. Arida (PhilRice), E. J. P. Quilang (PhilRice)	USD 2.8 million
2013-2015	Syngenta-IRRI Scientific Knowledge and Exchange Program Phase II, Sub-Project 2 - Crop Health Management PI: A. Sparks (IRRI) and K. K. Fui (Syngenta)	USD 454,640

Awards

- 2019 **Theo Murphy (Australia) Initiative for support for 'Re:produce – kick-off meeting of reproducible research network'** AUD 17,000
With R. Panczak (P.I.), P. Baker, F. Gacenga, R. King, L. Li, J. Lodge, C. Lim and N. Schnyder
- 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 Certifications

Certified Software Carpentries Instructor (2019)

PRINCE2 Foundation (2014) candidate number: P2R/009385 HiLogic Pty Ltd.

Professional Affiliations

Australasian Plant Pathology Society (APPS)

American Phytopathological Society (APS)

International Society for Plant Pathology (ISPP)

Australia New Zealand Open Research Network (ANZORN)

Professional Service

2019–Present	USQ Hacky Hour Toowoomba, Qld, AUS	Helper for R Programming
2018–Present	Open Plant Pathology Global	Co-founder
2018–Present	Tropical Plant Pathology Global	Section Editor for Epidemiology
2018–Present	USQ Athena SWAN (Scientific Women's Academic Network) SAGE (Science in Australia Gender Equality) Submission Committee Toowoomba, Qld, AUS	Member
2016–Present	USQ CCH Advisory Committee Toowoomba, Qld, AUS	Member
2013–2015	Manila (Philippines) R Users Group Manila, PHL	Founding Member
2016–Present	Australia National Plant Biosecurity Diagnostic Network Toowoomba, Qld, Australia	Member
2016–Present	ExtensionAUS Field Crop Diseases Community of Practice Toowoomba, Qld, Australia	Member
2013–Present	International Congress of Plant Pathology (ICPP) Epidemiology Committee Global	Member
2018–Present	International Congress of Plant Pathology (ICPP) Crop Loss Committee Global	Member
2013–2015	IRRI Crop and Environmental Sciences Division Seminar Series Los Baños, Laguna, PHL	Coordinator
2013–2015	IRRI One Corporate System (OCS) Advisory Committee Los Baños, Laguna, PHL	Member
2013–2015	IRRI National Employee Recognition Program Committee Los Baños, Laguna, PHL	Member
2005–2007	K-State Plant Pathology Webpage Advisory Committee Manhattan, KS, USA	Member
2006–2007	K-State Plant Pathology Graduate Student Club Manhattan, KS, USA	President
2004–2009	K-State Plant Pathology Graduate Student Club Manhattan, KS, USA	Member
2004–2009	K-State Agronomy Graduate Student Club Manhattan, KS, USA	Member