

AARON N. SEXTON

Fondation pour la recherche sur la biodiversité
Centre de Synthèse et d'Analyse sur la Biodiversité
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EDUCATION

- 2022 **Ph.D. University of Louisville**, Biology, Advisor: Sarah Emery.
Dissertation: “*Plant-pollinator communities responsive to local and landscape level factors in grassland restorations*”
- 2017 **B.A. University of Denver**, Ecology & Biodiversity, Advisor: Robin Tinghitella.

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

- March 2022 **Postdoc**, Fondation pour la recherche sur la biodiversité
- pres. Project: NAVIDIV – *Inland navigation infrastructures and biodiversity: impacts and opportunities for waterwayscape management*. Advisor: Alienor Jeliakov
- 2022-pres. **Adjunct Faculty**, University of Strasbourg
- 2020-21 **Adjunct Faculty**, Spalding University
- 2018-22 **Educational Consultant**, Idlewild Insectarium
- 2013-17 **Research Technician**, University of Denver
- 2016 **Research Technician**, Alaskan Long-Term Ecological Research Station

PUBLICATIONS

- Sexton, A. N.**, Benton S. F.*, and Emery, S. M. (2023) Urbanization and plant diversity influence different parameters of floral phenology. *Urban Ecosystems*.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11252-022-01326-4>
- Sexton, A.N.**, Garces, K. R., Huber, M.R.*, and Emery, S.M. (2023) Urban grassland restorations have reduced plant fitness but not pollinator limitation. *Acta Oecologica*.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actao.2023.103898>
- Kylea R. Garces, **Aaron N. Sexton**, Abigail Hazelwood*, Nate Steffens, Linda Fuselier, Natalie Christian. (2023) It takes two: Online and in-person discussions offer complementary learning opportunities for students. (*In peer-review*)
- Sexton, A. N.**, Benton S. F.*, Browning, A. B.*, and Emery S. M. (2021) Reproductive patterns of solitary cavity-nesting bees responsive to both local and landscape factors. *Urban Ecosystems*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11252-021-01116-4>
- Sexton, A. N.** and Emery S. M. (2020) Grassland restorations improve pollinator communities: a meta-analysis. *Journal of Insect Conservation*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10841-020-00247-x>
- Jenck, C. S., Lehto W. R., Ketterman B. T., Sloan L. F.*, **Sexton A. N.***, and R. M. Tinghitella. (2019) Phenotypic divergence among threespine stickleback that differ in nuptial coloration. *Ecology & Evolution*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.6105>

* Donates an undergraduate researcher at time of publication

PUBLIC OPINION PIECES

Bernheim forest and Bell Bowl Prairie are warnings of increasing seizure of wild lands. Aaron Sexton. Courier Journal, March 2023

Why historically redlined South and West Louisville need more green space. Aaron Sexton. Courier Journal, October 2021.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2017-21	University of Louisville, Graduate Fellowship \$44,000
2021	Cornett Entomological Research Grant \$500
2021	Furnish Teaching Award, Top Graduate Student Teacher in U of L Biology Dept.
2020	Joan Ehrenfeld Award (<i>Top Student Presentation in Urban Ecology at ESA</i>)
2020	Kentucky Native Plant Society \$500
2020	Beechmont Garden Club \$1,000
2019	University of Louisville Graduate School of Arts & Sciences \$248
2019	National Science Foundation, Graduate Research Fellowship, Honorable Mention
2018	Kentucky Academy of Sciences, Marcia Botany Fund \$1,565
2018	Kentucky Natural History Society \$800
2018	University of Louisville College of Arts & Sciences \$500
2018	University of Louisville Biology Graduate Student Association \$175
2018	University of Louisville Graduate School of Arts & Sciences \$250
2016	University of Denver, Dean's Scholarship \$500
2015-16	University of Denver, H&B Agnew Scholarship \$500 (<i>Two-time awardee</i>)

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

2022	<i>Impact of freshwater shipping on biodiversity is context-dependent.</i> SFE-GFO-EEF Joint International Conference on Ecological Sciences – Metz, France
2021	<i>Urbanization and plant diversity influence different aspects of floral phenology.</i> Ecological Society of America – Virtual
2020	<i>Urbanization and native plants: How local and landscape level factors influence solitary bee communities.</i> Ecological Society of America – Louisville, USA
2020	<i>Urbanization influences floral reproductive output but not floral phenology.</i> Graduate Network of Arts & Sciences Symposium – Louisville, USA
2019	<i>Floral phenology influenced by soil moisture, not urbanization.</i> Kentucky Academy of Sciences – Louisville, USA
2019	<i>Floral phenology influenced by soil moisture, not urbanization.</i> Ecological Society of America – Louisville, USA
2018	<i>Can urban prairie restorations support stable solitary bee communities?</i> Graduate Network of Arts & Sciences Symposium – Louisville, USA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor-of-Record

- 2022-23 *Scientific English*, University of Strasbourg (40 students)
2019-20 *Environmental Biology* (BIOL 263), University of Louisville (24 Students)
2020-21 *Environmental Science* (ENVS-101), Spalding University (22 students)

Teaching Assistant

- 2021 *Diversity of Life* (BIOL 242), University of Louisville (40 students)
2020-21 *Quantitative Biology* (BIOL 244), University of Louisville (60 students)
2017-18 *Laboratory for Biology: Current Issues and Applications* (BIOL 104), University of Louisville. (80 students/semester)

Undergraduate Research Mentoring

- 2020-21 Ally Michels – Project title: *Effects of soil microbes on above and belowground biomass on Chamaecrista fasciculata.*
2020-21 Marissa Huber – Project title: *Effects of urbanization and pollinator limitation on Chamaecrista fasciculata*
2019-20 Adam Browning – Project title: *Can bee pollen usage protect solitary bees against parasitism?* Awarded two grants during mentorship totaling \$3,500
2018-22 Lisa Heng – Project title: *How does land management affect urban tick abundances?*
2018-19 Sarah Fosnight – Project title: *Reproductive patterns of solitary cavity-nesting bees responsive to both local and landscape factors.* Awarded Summer Research Opportunity grant \$3,000
2018-19 Heather Griffith – Guided on field work, soil processing and experimental design
2018 Kristen Ehringer – Guided on pollen storage and identification
2016-17 Tutor, University of Denver (Ecology courses and labs)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- 2021 “*Botany of Christmas*” invited talk, Yew Dell Botanical Gardens
2021 “*Other Pollinators*” invited talk, Yew Dell Botanical Gardens
2021 FirstBuild Video Series, Bee expert, “*Prototyping A Solitary Bee Bath House For Home Conservation, Gardening, And Pollination*”
2021 Kentucky Conservations Conversations, Radio interview
2021 Jefferson County Master Gardener Conference, invited speaker. “*Whats the buzz? Natural history, ecology and maintenance of solitary bees*”
2020 Forward Radio, Interview
2020-21 Lead Organizer, University of Louisville Biology Dept. Fall Seminar Series
2020 Kentucky Master Gardener Conference, invited speaker: “*Whats the buzz? Natural history, ecology and maintenance of solitary bees*”

- 2020 Beer with a Scientist, invited speaker & organizer: *Urbanization and native plants: impacts on solitary bee communities*
- 2019-20 TriBeta Association, Entering Graduate School Panel, Panelist
- 2018-20 Kentucky Science Center STEMinar Series, invited speaker: *Urbanization and native plants: impacts on solitary bee communities*
- 2018-20 Manual High School, Science Fair Judge
- 2019 WCHQ Community Spotlight, Interview
- 2019 Louisville Metro Parks Department, Safety event teaching students about plants and insects in the parks
- 2019 Chance Elementary, Earth Day Event, invited speaker discussing pollinators
- 2019 Manual High School, Mentor for STEM research and careers
- 2018-19 Central High School, advisor for science fair project
- 2018-20 Moore Middle School, Day of Science event. Students visiting the University of Louisville, engaging them in the scientific process, plants, seed dispersal and experimentation

MEMBERSHIPS

Société Française d'Écologie et d'Évolution (2022-pres)

Ecological Society of America (2019-pres)

University of Louisville Biology Graduate Student Association (2018-2022)

President 2020-2021

Outreach Chair 2019-20