

Benjamin M. Gochnour

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EDUCATION

University of Georgia Ph.D. Forestry and Natural Resources	Athens, GA Fall 2018 - Present
University of Georgia Master of Entomology Thesis: "Invasion of a major U.S. seaport: Community effects of and novel control methods for the tawny crazy ant, <i>Nylanderia fulva</i> ."	Athens, GA December 2017
University of Central Florida Bachelor of Science Biology	Orlando, FL December 2012

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of Georgia Entomology Department Research Technician Conducted field surveys and collection of pollinators Curated collection of pollinator insects Identified collected insects to species	UGA Athens, GA January 2018 - July 2018
Georgia Museum of Natural History Independent Study, Ants of Georgia Processed litter samples Mounted and labeled specimens Identified ants to species	UGA Athens, GA January 2015 - December 2017
Dr. Joshua R. King Insect Ecology Research Laboratory Research Technician Maintained current research goals and timelines Organized and cared for the live, Florida ant collection Pursued independent research at Wekiwa Springs	UCF Orlando, FL October 2011 - June 2014
University of Central Florida Arthropod Collection Volunteer Identified many insect specimens to species Updated and added to the collections database Operated and repaired insect traps around Seminole county	UCF Orlando, FL May 2011 - June 2014

PUBLICATIONS

- Gochnour, B. M.**, Suiter, D. R., & Booher, D. (2019). Ant (Hymenoptera: Formicidae) Fauna of the Marine Port of Savannah, Garden City, Georgia (USA). *JOURNAL OF ENTOMOLOGICAL SCIENCE*, 54(4), 417-429. doi:[10.18474/JES18-132](https://doi.org/10.18474/JES18-132)
- Gandhi, K., Klepzig, K., Barnes, B., **Gochnour, B.**, McCarty, E., Sheehan, T., . . . Vogt, J. T. (2019). *Bark and woodboring beetles in wind-damaged pine stands in the southern United States* (WSFNR 19-38). Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources.
- Gochnour, B. M.**, Suiter, D. R., Davis, J. W., & Huang, Q. (2018). Use of an Argentine Ant, *Linepithema humile*, Semiochemical to Deliver an Acute Toxicant. *INSECTS*, 9(4), 13 pages. doi:[10.3390/insects9040171](https://doi.org/10.3390/insects9040171)
- Gochnour, B.**, MacGown, J. A., & Suiter, D. R. (2015). *The Tawny Crazy Ant, Nylanderia fulvia, in Georgia* (Circular Number 1064). UGA Extension and University Printing Service. Retrieved from <http://caes.uga.edu/publications>
- Ohyama, L., J. R. King, **B. M. Gochnour**. In Press. Changes in an invaded Florida ant (Hymenoptera: Formicidae) community over 25 years. *Florida Entomologist*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Forest Health

Created and presented course and laboratory material Spring 2020
Edited and graded test materials

Natural Resource Conservation

Created and presented the IPM section of the course Fall 2019
Edited and graded test materials

Forensic Entomology

Instructed students in identification of forensically important flies and beetles Fall 2015
Managed a decomposition study over several months
Created written and specimen ID based exams

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy

Instructed students in proper vertebrate dissection techniques Spring 2011
Created anatomical diagrams and study guides
Set up and proctored dissection based exams

Biology I for non-majors

Instructed students in fundamental aspects of biology Fall 2010

Instructed students in basic laboratory techniques
Created and presented course material

INVITED TALKS

NRC - IPM lecture Fall 2019 & Spring 2020

Forest Health - Insect Management Strategies; Defoliators.

Labs - Insect Orders; Defoliators; Bark Beetles; Sap Suckers.

PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS AND PRESENTATIONS

Entomological Society of America

2014 Annual meeting: Attended

2015 Annual meeting: "Effects of the Tawny Crazy Ant on the ant community at the port of Savannah, Georgia"

2016 Annual meeting: "Effects of the tawny crazy ant (*Nylanderia fulva*) on the ant community at the Port of Savannah, Georgia"

2019 Annual meeting: "Bark beetle-associated communities in lightning struck longleaf pine trees"

Georgia Entomological Society

2014 Annual meeting: Attended

2015 Annual meeting: Poster "Early detection of exotic species at Georgial Ports"

2016 Annual meeting: 1st place Student paper competition "Effects of the Tawny Crazy Ant on the ant community at the port of Savannah, Georgia"

National Conference on Urban Entomology

2016 Annual meeting: "Effects of the Tawny Crazy Ant on the ant community at the port of Savannah, Georgia"

Invasive Ant Meeting

2016 Annual meeting: "The Tawny Crazy ant (*Nylanderia fulva*) at the Port of Savannah, Georgia"

2017 Annual meeting: "Effects of the tawny crazy ant (*Nylanderia fulva*) on the ant community at the Port of Savannah, Georgia"

National Pest Management Association

2015 Annual Meeting: "Invasive ants at Georgia's ports"

2016 Annual Meeting: "The tawny crazy ant at the Port of Savannah, Georgia"

2017 Annual Meeting: Attended

2018 Annual Meeting: Attended

Customs and Border Protection Agency: Pest Risk Meeting

July 2015 Annual meeting: Attended

July 2016 Annual meeting: "A new invasive ant at the port of Savannah, Georgia"

Customs and Border Protection Agency: Organizational Meeting

2015 Meeting: Attended

Georgia Port Authority Facilities Tour

2015: Attended

Warnell Graduate Student Symposium

2019 Annual meeting: Poster “Symbiosis in longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*) ecosystems”

Ohyama, L., J.R. King., **B.M. Gochnour**. (2019, April) *Changes in an invaded ant community in Florida over 25 years*. Poster presented at the University of Central Florida Graduate Research Fair, Orlando, Florida

Gochnour, B., Barnes, B., Sheehan, T., Villari, C., Klepzig, K., & Gandhi, K. (2019). Response of subcortical beetles to windthrow, salvaging, and prescribed burning following Hurricane Michael. In *Proceedings of the 60th Southern Forest Insect Work Conference*. Savannah, GA.

Klepzig, K., Sheehan, T., **Gochnour, B.**, Bishop, C., Villari, C., & Gandhi, K. (2019). Hurricane Michael: Wind damage and forest health in a complex longleaf pine ecosystem. In *Proceedings of the 60th Southern Forest Insect Work Conference*. Savannah, GA.

Gochnour, B. M., Klepzig, K. D., Hoebeke, E. R., Barnes, B. F., & Gandhi, K. (2019). *Bark beetle-associated communities in lightning struck longleaf pine trees*. Poster session presented at the meeting of Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America.

Gochnour, B., Bishop, C., Barnes, B., Sheehan, T., Klepzig, K., Villari, C., & Gandhi, K. (2019). *Response of bark beetles and associates to wind disturbance, salvage operations, and prescribed fire following Hurricane Michael*. Poster session presented at the meeting of Southern Pine Health Research Cooperative Semi-annual Meeting.

Klepzig, K., Sheehan, T., **Gochnour, B.**, Bishop, C., Villari, C., & Gandhi, K. (2019). Hurricane Michael: Wind damage and forest health in a complex longleaf pine ecosystem. In *60th Southern Forest Insect Work Conference*. Savannah, GA.

Gochnour, B., Barnes, B., Sheehan, T., Villari, C., Klepzig, K., & Gandhi, K. (2019). *Response of subcortical beetles to windthrow, salvaging, and prescribed burning following Hurricane Michael*. Poster session presented at the meeting of 60th Southern Forest Insect Work Conference, Savannah, GA.

Gochnour, B. M., Sheehan, T., Barnes, B. F., Klepzig, K. D., & Gandhi, K. (2019). Response of bark beetles and associates to wind disturbance, salvage operations, and prescribed fire following Hurricane Michael. In *Unknown Conference* (pp. 31).

Gochmour, B. M., Sheehan, T., Barnes, B. F., Klepzig, K. D., & Gandhi, K. (2019). *Response of bark beetles and associates to wind disturbance and salvage operations following Hurricane Michael*. Poster session presented at the meeting of Annual Meeting of the Georgia Entomological Society.

Gochmour, B., Suiter, D., Davis, J., & Huang, Q. (2018). Potential Use of Argentine ant, *Linepithema humile*, semiochemicals for the delivery of an acute toxicant. In *82nd Annual Meeting - Georgia Entomological Society*. Unicoi State Park and Lodge.

Gochmour, B., & Suiter, D. (2016). Effects of the Tawny Crazy ant (*Nylanderia fulva*) on the ant community at the Port of Savannah, Georgia. In *XXV International Congress of Entomology*. Orange County Convention Center.

Gochmour, B., & Suiter, D. (2016). Effects of the tawny crazy ant (*Nylanderia fulva*) on the ant community at the Port of Savannah, Georgia. In *2016 National Conference on Urban Entomology & Invasive Fire Ant Conference*. Embassy Suites Albuquerque.

Gochmour, B., & Suiter, D. (2016). Effects of the tawny crazy ant (*Nylanderia fulva*) on the ant community at the Port of Savannah, Georgia. In *80th Annual Meeting of the Georgia Entomological Society*. Callaway Gardens.

Gochmour, B., & Suiter, D. (2015). A preliminary list of ants at the ports of Georgia. In *Entomological Society of America Annual Meeting*. Entomological Society of America.

Gochmour, B., & Suiter, D. R. (2015). *Exotic ants at the port of Savannah*. Poster session presented at the meeting of 79th Annual Meeting of the Georgia Entomological Society.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Dr. Brian Forschler Social Insect Science Laboratory 2014 - 2018
Identified ant specimens for visiting scientists from around the world

H. O. Lund Club Insect Zoo Curator July 2015 - July 2017
Maintained a wide range of arthropods for departmental use
Coordinated specimen use at outreach events

Dr. Joshua R. King Insect Ecology Research Laboratory 2012 - 2014
Undertook large scale census style survey of the ant fauna in Central Florida
Developed novel trapping techniques for subterranean ant species
Hosted visiting scientists on collecting trips

OUTREACH

University of Georgia's Insectival

September 2014, 2015, 2016

Presented information about agricultural and urban pest species and their effects.

Spalding County Farm Safety Program

August 2016

Instructed elementary and middle school students about local biting and stinging insects and poisonous plants.

University of Georgia Summer Bug Camp

July 2017

Instructed elementary and middle school students in collection techniques and identification of local insects.

Native Pollinator “Bee House” Program March 2018

Taught elementary through middle school students or community members about the diversity and importance of native bee species and their role in the environment. Bee houses for mason and leaf cutter bees were installed at nine schools and community gardens around north Georgia.

UNERGRADUATE RESEARCH

Dr. Chris Parkinson Phylogenetics and Evolution Lab

UCF Orlando, FL

Undergraduate Research Assistant

August 2009 - May 2010

Prepared tissue samples for DNA extraction

Performed PCR and Gel Electrophoresis on DNA samples

Analyzed DNA sequences using alignment software

Dr. Llewellyn Ehrhart Marine Turtle Research Lab

UCF Orlando, FL

Undergraduate Research Assistant

June 2010 - August 2010

Prepared tissue samples for stable isotope analysis

Caught, tagged and released sea turtles

Surveyed turtle nests to assess reproductive fitness

ACADEMIC HONORS & AWARDS

2019, 2020: Robert Gooding McAlpine Scholarship for Research in Forest Biology

1st Place T.L. Bissell Award

Best Paper by a M.S. Student. Georgia Entomological Society 2016

3rd Place Georgia Entomological Society Photo Salon 2016

Biology Category

Dean’s List UCF College of Sciences

Indian River Community College Mentoring Scholarship

Florida Bright Futures Scholar