Dr Joe M. Roberts FHEA FRES

Harper Adams University – Shropshire, United Kingdom ☐ +44 (0)1952 815534 • ☑ jroberts@harper-adams.ac.uk

Education

Harper Adams University

Shropshire, UK

PgC Teaching and Supporting Learning in Higher Education

2021-2023

Thesis: Enhancing statistics education for applied zoology undergraduates: a focus group study.

Harper Adams University

Shropshire, UK

PhD Invertebrate Chemical Ecology

2013-2017

Thesis: The chemical ecology of prey location and recognition by the predatory mite Phytoseiulus persimilis.

University of the West of England

Bristol, UK

MSc Advanced Forensic Analysis, Merit

2012-2013

Thesis: Interactions between covering and burning on insect succession to a human cadaver proxy.

University of the West of England

Bristol, UK

BSc (Hons) Forensic Biology, First Class

2009-2012

Thesis: Does covering impact insect succession to a human cadaver proxy?

Professional Appointments

Harper Adams University

Shropshire, UK

Reader in Integrated Pest Management

Dec 2024-Present

- · Secure competitive research council funding to research sustainable pest management.
- · Publish research in peer-reviewed journals and present at national and international conferences.
- · Deliver undergraduate and postgraduate modules related to integrated pest management and insect biology.
- · Supervise postgraduate research projects.

Applied Ecology Programme Co-Ordinator

Aug 2021-Oct 2025

- \cdot Managed a suite of 3 applied ecology postgraduate degree programmes with approx. 30 students enrolled.
- · Lead a team of 6 faculty members and co-ordinate validation activities.
- · Develop strategic initiatives to enhance the programme's academic quality and industry relevance.
- · Monitor and evaluate programme outcomes, implementing improvements based on student feedback.
- · Liaise with Student Services to provide wellbeing support.

Lecturer in Integrated Pest Management

Apr 2020-Nov 2024

- · Secure competitive research council funding to research sustainable pest management.
- · Publish research in peer-reviewed journals and present at national and international conferences.
- · Deliver undergraduate and postgraduate modules related to integrated pest management and insect biology.
- · Supervise undergraduate and postgraduate research projects.

Postdoctoral Research Associate

Feb 2018-Mar 2020

- · Researched vine weevil biology and ecology that led to 3 peer-reviewed publications.
- · Identified breeding materials for aphid-resistant traits in brassica crops.
- · Presented at national and international conferences.

Royal Entomological Society

Trustee Aug 2021–Jul 2025

- · Contribute to the development and implementation of the Society's strategic plans and policies.
- · Review the Society's financial activities to ensure sustainability and compliance with legal regulations.
- · Develop policies that guide the Society's operations and mission fulfilment.

Keele University Staffordshire, UK

Postdoctoral Research Associate

Jan 2018-Mar 2020

London, UK

- · Carried out research on insect vectors of human disease that led to 1 highly cited peer-reviewed publication.
- · Managed laboratory operations with responsibility for analytical instrumentation.
- · Developed and implemented data collection software to increase insect bioassay efficiency.

Teaching

Philosophy

My teaching philosophy centers on fostering critical thinking, practical skills and real-world application in integrated pest management and entomology. Examples of these approaches include:

- · Problem-based learning: Utilising real-world pest management scenarios to develop decision-making skills.
- · Field-based instruction: Incorporating hands-on experiences through field trips to reinforce theoretical concepts.
- · Technology integration: Using data-driven practices to teach modern pest management.
- · Interdisciplinary collaboration: Integrating concepts from ecology to provide a holistic understanding.
- · Industry partnerships: Engaging with global businesses to provide students with case studies and guest lectures.
- · Adaptive teaching: Tailoring content delivery to diverse learning styles, including kinesthetic approaches.

Excellence and Innovation

- Consistently excellent student feedback across all modules (4.9/5.0 average over 5 years; 2020–2025), including postgraduate modules Insect Physiology and Behaviour (4.9) and Data Visualisation and Analytics (4.9).
- Won Student Voice Award for Assessment and Feedback (Sep 2024) and nominated for Innovative Lecturer Award (Sep 2025).
- Developed and successfully launched MSc Biological Recording (2024), the UK's first postgraduate programme focused on standardised methodologies for biodiversity monitoring, with strong industry engagement from the Field Studies Council.
- Contributed specialist Data Visualisation sessions to NERC-funded Entomology Summer Schools (2023–2024), delivered to 20 early career researchers with excellent feedback.
- Secured £20,000 Royal Entomological Society scholarship funding supporting 10 postgraduate entomology students over 2 years (2024–2026).
- Served as Applied Ecology Programme Co-Ordinator (2021–2025), managing a portfolio of 3 MSc programmes with approximately 30 students and leading a team of 6 faculty members through 2 validation events.
- Created interactive, gamified learning resources for IPM training, including choose-your-own-adventure scenarios based on real-world pest management decisions.

Student Mentorship and Supervision

- Supervised 15 PhD students as Director of Studies or Second Supervisor (2020–Present), with 3 successful completions.
- · Supervised 1 MPhil student to successful completion (2020–2023).
- · Mentored 38 undergraduate and postgraduate research projects.
- Served as CREST Award supervisor for secondary school students (2021 and 2025), introducing Year 12 pupils to entomological research methods.

Undergraduate Modules

I have taught content on the following undergraduate modules during my tenure at Harper Adams University:

Module Name	Level	Role	Description
Key Skills in Zoology	4	Module Tutor	An introduction to academic writing
Fresh Produce	5	1	An overview of integrated pest management
Insect Life History Strategies	5		Fundamentals of insect physiology
Introduction to Entomology	5		An overview of key invertebrate pest groups
Advanced Agronomy	6	1	An overview of integrated pest management
	6		An overview of applied entomology
1-			An introduction to pest identification
Population and Community Ecology		1	Predator-prey interactions
Invertebrate Pests and Beneficials	6		An overview of pest biology and management
Insect Conservation	6	Module Tutor	An introduction to herbivorous insects

Postgraduate Modules

I have delivered content on the following postgraduate modules during my tenure at Harper Adams University:

Module Name	Level	Role	Description
Experimental Design and Analysis	l		An introduction to statistics and R
Biology and Taxonomy of Insects	l	Module Tutor	An introduction to basic entomology
Commercial and Practical Biocontrol	7	Module Tutor	An overview of biological control
Ecological Entomology	7	Module Tutor	An overview of plant-insect interactions
Insect Physiology and Behaviour	7	Module Leader	An introduction to basic entomology
Data Visualisation and Analytics	7	1	An introduction to data visualisation using R
Plant Health and Biosecurity	7	Module Tutor	An introduction to pest biology and management

Research Interests and Achievements

My research focuses on plant-insect interactions from a chemical perspective to develop novel pest management tools that reduce societal reliance on synthetic insecticides in global agricultural production systems. I have a particular emphasis on:

- · Chemical ecology of pest insects and their natural enemies.
- · Development of novel monitoring tools for agricultural pests.
- · Integration of biopesticides and biocontrol agents in crop protection.
- · Data-driven integrated pest management.
- · Use of metabolomics to identify novel health markers in animal production.

Key Achievements

- · Published 26 peer-reviewed articles in the last 5 years.
- · h-index = 10 (m-index = 1.43) with 425 total citations (Google Scholar October 2025).
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$ Co-leading REF impact case studies on pesticide metrics and pest monitoring.
- · Developed a novel 'smart' monitoring tool for early detection of vine weevil.

Collaboration

- · Lead on BBSRC project with Aston University on photonic noses for in-field pest monitoring.
- International collaborations with Teagasc (Ireland) and the University of Zambia (Zambia) on aphid monitoring and management.
- · Cross-disciplinary project with Imperial College London on magnetic induction pest control.
- · Ongoing partnership with RNA Agribio Ltd. on RNA-based biopesticides.
- · Developing novel acoustic-based pest detection systems with Biofonic.

Research Funding

Between April 2020 and October 2025 I have been the Principal Investigator or Co-Investigator on 30 grant applications totalling more than £6 million. Of these, 15 were selected for funding worth £2.5 million with a £670k value to Harper Adams University.

Active Grants

Developing a management programme for cabbage stem flea beetle (Co-I) <i>Funder: AHDB</i> Collaborators: ADAS, Rothamsted, NIAB	£81,000 2025–2027
Insecticide Resistance Monitoring (Co-I) Funder: Defra Collaborators: ADAS	£10,000 2025-2026
Strategic Cereal Farm East (Co-I) Funder: AHDB Collaborators: Morley Agricultural Foundation	£12,000 2025–2026
Environmental monitoring in smart-hive apiaries (PI) Funder: Harper Adams University QR Collaborators: N/A	£9,253 2025–2026
Entomology Summer School (Specialist) Funder: NERC (56021) Collaborators: Royal Entomological Society	£25,474 2025–2026
Soil biology and Integrated Pest Management (PI) Funder: Natural England Collaborators: N/A	£35,600 2024–2025
SoilScope – machine learning-enabled acoustic monitoring (Co-I) Funder: Innovate UK (10116097) Collaborators: Biofonic and Scotland's Rural University College (SRUC)	£364,408 2024–2026
Development of safe RNA based biopesticide (Co-I) Funder: Innovate UK (10099044) Collaborators: University of Plymouth and RNA Agribio Ltd	£209,838 2024–2026
The aphid factor – aphid genetic diversity and endosymbionts (Co-I) Funder: Keele University Collaborators: Keele University	£70,810 2023–2026
Aphid monitoring as a decision support tool (PI) Funder: Teagasc Walsh Scholarship (2022015) Collaborators: Teagasc	£122,490 2022–2026
Completed Grants (2020–2024)	
Entomology Summer School (Specialist) Funder: NERC (21120186) Collaborators: N/A	£39,298 2023–2024
Smart trap for improved early detection of vine weevil (Co-I) Funder: BBSRC (BB/X011968/1) Collaborators: University of Greenwich, Sentomol and Zest Sustainable ICM	£32,967 2023–2024
Modelling impact of cabbage stem flea beetle (Co-I) Funder: BBSRC (BB/X011976/1) Collaborators: Biomathematics and Statistics Scotland and ADAS	£38,438 2023–2024
Establishing a 'smart-hive' apiary (Co-I) Funder: Harper Adams University QR Collaborators: N/A	£9,298 2023–2024
Feasibility of photonic noses for pest monitoring (PI) Funder: BBSRC (BB/X005658/1)	£147,762 2022–2023

Collaborators: Aston University

Student: Amy Marsh Funder: Harper Adams University

Conditional, Assert Children	
Prototype tool for autonomous monitoring of flying insects (PI) Funder: Harper Adams University QR Collaborators: N/A	£4,845 2022–2023
Smart monitoring tool for vine weevil adults (PI) Funder: AHDB (2110377) Collaborators: N/A	£47,220 2021–2022
Benchmarking on-farm crop protection sustainability (PI) Funder: School of Sustainable Food and Farming Collaborators: N/A	£3,623 2021–2022
Improving monitoring and control of vine weevil (Co-I) Funder: Teagasc Walsh Scholarship (2020034) Collaborators: Teagasc and Keele University	£117,336 2020–2024
Improved monitoring of aphid BYDV vectors in winter cereals (Co-I) Funder: AHDB (21120186) Collaborators: Russell IPM	£70,178 2020–2023
Reducing impact of cabbage stem flea beetle on oilseed rape (Co-I) Funder: AHDB (21120185) Collaborators: ADAS	£550,520 2020–2023
Magnetic induction pest controller for cabbage stem flea beetle (Co-I) Funder: Innovate UK (99116) Collaborators: Imperial College London and Inductive Power Projection Ltd	£496,582 2020-2022
Student Supervision Current PhD Students - Director of Studies Exploiting plant essential oils in integrated pest management Student: Wiktoria Rusin	2024-2027
Funder: MIBTP Managing aphids in Irish cereal crops Student: Jack Perry Funder: Teagasc Walsh Scholarship	2022-2026
Are physically acting bioinsecticides compatible with UK arable cropping systems? Student: Aimee Tonks Funder: MIBTP	2022-2025
Current PhD Students – Second Supervisor	
Feeding strategies to enhance the well-being of dairy calves during weaning Student: Ffion Lewis Funder: Barham Benevolent Fund	2025–2028
Preventing, predicting, and protecting crops from vectors of BYDV Student: Miranda Bracy Funder: CTP-Sustainable Agriculture Innovation	2025–2029
Investigating plant processes activated by novel biostimulant products Student: Umali Herath Funder: MIBTP	2024–2027
Leveraging metabolomics to identify copper toxicity within the dairy industry	

2024-2027

Metabolomics for biomarker discovery in dairy cows Student: Jess McCullough Funder: MIBTP	2023–2027
Developing methods of using chitin to reduce potato cyst nematode populations Student: Ronald Manjoro Funder: CTP-Sustainable Agriculture Innovation	2023–2027
Enhancing biological pest control: learning mechanisms in parasitoid wasps Student: Nikoletta Foskolou Funder: Harper Adams University	2023–2028
Developing a push-pull system for aphid pests in potato crops Student: John Owen Funder: CTP-Sustainable Agriculture Innovation	2023–2027
The aphid factor – aphid genetic diversity and endosymbionts Student: Tom Foster Funder: Keele University	2023–2026
Optimising partial biofumigation for management of potato cyst nematodes Student: Francis Kawalya Funder: CTP-Sustainable Agriculture Innovation	2022–2026
Attacking the clones: understanding resistance of aphid pests to biological control Student: Laura Martinez-Chavez Funder: CTP-Fruit Crop Research	2021–2025
PhD Students – Completed	
Improved monitoring and trap cropping for managing aphid BYDV vectors Student: Maria Elisa Damascena de Almeida Leandro Funder: AHDB	2020–2024
Improving monitoring and control of vine weevil in soft-fruit and ornamental crops Student: Eugenia Fezza Funder: Teagasc Walsh Scholarship	2020–2024
Induced mutation and silicon-derived resistance to aphids Student: Kennedy Zimba Funder: International Atomic Agency	2019–2023
MPhil Students - Completed	
The ecology of aphid hyperparasitoids Student: Jenna Shaw Funder: John Oldacre Foundation	2020-2023
Administration and Leadership	
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Science Review Committee – Member	Belfast, NI 2025–Present
 Review grant applications for the Northern Irish Government. 	

Neview grante applications for the frontier mish develorment.	
L'Oréal-UNESCO	London, UK
Science Review Committee – Member	2025–Present

· Review grant applications for the Women in Science UK and Ireland Young Talent Awards.

Harper Adams University	Shropshire, UK
125th Anniversary Steering Group – Member	2025-Present

· Participate in strategic planning for 125th Anniversary celebrations in 2026.

Editorial Group - Member

2024-Present

- · Participate in strategic planning to optimise outputs across social media platforms.
- · Contribute content to social media content and campaigns.

Ethics Committee - Member

2024-Present

- · Review research ethics applications from across the University.
- Develop policy in relation to research ethics involving invertebrates.

University of Liverpool

Merseyside, UK 2024-Present

UK BYDV Committee - Member

- · Participate in strategic planning sessions to address the impact of BYDV on UK cereal crops.
- · Collaborate with cross-disciplinary teams of researchers, policymakers and industry experts.

Royal Entomological Society

London, UK

Education and Training Committee - Member

2025-Present

· Attend quarterly meetings to develop and implement educational programmes to promote entomology.

Aphid/Hemiptera Special Interest Group - Convener

2024-Present

· Organise bi-annual meetings for entomologists researching aphids or Hemiptera.

Education and Training Committee - Chair

2023-Present

- · Lead the development and implementation of educational programmes to promote entomology.
- · Oversee the creation of educational resources and materials, including publications and online content.
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$ Manage a team of committee members, delegating tasks and guiding strategic initiatives.
- · Implement mentorship programmes for students and early-career professionals.

Membership Committee – Member

2022-Present

- · Participate in quarterly committee meetings to discuss and implement membership policies and initiatives.
- \cdot Evaluate fellowship applications, ensuring candidates meet the Society's standards.
- · Contribute to developing strategies for member recruitment and retention.

Association of Applied Biologists

Warwickshire, UK

Biocontrol and IPM Committee – Member

2021-Present

· Co-organise the Society's national conference on biological control and integrated pest management.

Professional Activities

Professional Body Membership

Higher Education Academy

Fellow 2023–Present

Association of Applied Biologists

Member 2021-Present

International Organisation of Biological Control

Member 2021–Present

Fellow 2020-Present

Editorial Roles

Crop Protection IF: 2.5

Associate Editor 2022–Present

Annals of Applied Biology IF: 2.2

Associate Editor 2022–Present

Conference Organisation

Royal Entomological Society

UK-France Summit on Aphid Research Oct 2026

Association of Applied Biologists

Biocontrol in Uncertain Climatic and Economic Environments

Nov 2024

Royal Entomological Society

Aphid Special Interest Group Jul 2024

Association of Applied Biologists

How Do Biopesticides Become Appropriately Regulated?

Nov 2022

Peer Review

Journals

I have carried out 104 reviews for 25 publications since April 2020:

Journal	Impact Factor	No. Reviews
Acarologia	0.9	2
Agricultural and Forest Entomology	1.6	1
Agronomy	3.3	2
Annals of Applied Biology	2.2	11
Anthophila	N/A	1
Arthropod-Plant Interactions	1.2	1
Applications in Plant Sciences	2.7	3
Archives of Phytopathology and Plant Protection	1.0	1
Chemoecology	1.6	2
Crop Protection	2.5	3
Ecological Entomology	2.0	8
Entomologia Experimentalis et Applicata	1.4	10
Entomologia Generalis	5.6	2
Insects	2.7	4
Journal of Applied Entomology	1.7	2
Journal of Chemical Ecology	2.2	3
Journal of Economic Entomology	2.2	1
Journal of Pest Science	4.3	5
New Phytologist	8.3	1
Pest Management Science	3.8	3
Physiological Entomology	1.6	21
PLOS ONE	2.9	2
Scientific Reports	3.8	1
The European Zoological Journal	1.6	1

Grants

I have carried out 6 reviews for 3 funding agencies since April 2020:

Funding Body	Research Council	No. Reviews
UK Research and Innovation	BBSRC	4
Agence National de la Recherche	Agroecologie and Numerique	1
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs	N/A	1

Awards

Innovative Lecturer (Nominated) Harper Adams University Student Voice Award Assessment and Feedback Hero (Won) Blavatnik Awards for Young Scientists Outstanding Early Career Researcher (Nomination) Jul 2024 Impact and Engagement Policy Contributions Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Measuring Sustainable Environment-Food Systems Report Advisory Panel, DEFRA Reforming UK Biopesticide Regulations Selected Invited Presentations Horticultural Trades Association Grower Day Vine Weevil Control Strategies Jun 2024 Red Tractor Measuring Pesticide Impact in the United Kingdom University of Liverpool ByDV Research at Harper Adams University Apr 2024 Certis-Belchim Formulating Biopesticides for Use in Arable Crops Harper Adams University Artificial Intelligence in UK Higher Education British Bee Keepers Association Crop Protection Post-Neonicotinoids Trinity College Dublin Sustainable Crop Protection Consultancy Great Lakes Greenhouses Sustainable Production Advisor Biobest Education Advisor Society of People Against the Insect Apocalypse Specialist Agriculture Advisor Rentokil	, tival 43	
Assessment and Feedback Hero (Won) Blavatnik Awards for Young Scientists Outstanding Early Career Researcher (Nomination) Jul 2024 Impact and Engagement Policy Contributions Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Measuring Sustainable Environment-Food Systems Report Jun 2023 Advisory Panel, DEFRA Reforming UK Biopesticide Regulations Selected Invited Presentations Horticultural Trades Association Grower Day Vine Weevil Control Strategies Red Tractor Measuring Pesticide Impact in the United Kingdom University of Liverpool BYDV Research at Harper Adams University Apr 2024 Certis-Belchim Formulating Biopesticides for Use in Arable Crops Harper Adams University Artificial Intelligence in UK Higher Education British Bee Keepers Association Crop Protection Post-Neonicotinoids Trinity College Dublin Sustainable Crop Protection Consultancy Great Lakes Greenhouses Sustainable Production Advisor Biobest Education Advisor Society of People Against the Insect Apocalypse Specialist Agriculture Advisor Rentokil	Harper Adams University Student Voice Award Innovative Lecturer (Nominated)	Sep 2025
Impact and Engagement Policy Contributions Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Measuring Sustainable Environment-Food Systems Report Advisory Panel, DEFRA Reforming UK Biopesticide Regulations Jul 2022 Selected Invited Presentations Horticultural Trades Association Grower Day Vine Weevil Control Strategies Red Tractor Measuring Pesticide Impact in the United Kingdom University of Liverpool BYDV Research at Harper Adams University Apr 2024 Certis-Belchim Formulating Biopesticides for Use in Arable Crops Apr 2023 British Bee Keepers Association Crop Protection Post-Neonicotinoids Trinity College Dublin Sustainable Crop Protection Consultancy Great Lakes Greenhouses Sustainable Production Advisor Biobest Education Advisor Society of People Against the Insect Apocalypse Specialist Agriculture Advisor Rentokil	Harper Adams University Student Voice Award Assessment and Feedback Hero (Won)	Sep 2024
Policy Contributions Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Measuring Sustainable Environment-Food Systems Report Advisory Panel, DEFRA Reforming UK Biopesticide Regulations Selected Invited Presentations Horticultural Trades Association Grower Day Vine Weevil Control Strategies Jun 2024 Red Tractor Measuring Pesticide Impact in the United Kingdom May 2024 University of Liverpool ByDV Research at Harper Adams University Apr 2024 Certis-Belchim Formulating Biopesticides for Use in Arable Crops Oct 2023 Harper Adams University Artificial Intelligence in UK Higher Education British Bee Keepers Association Crop Protection Post-Neonicotinoids Trinity College Dublin Sustainable Crop Protection Nov 2020 Consultancy Great Lakes Greenhouses Sustainable Production Advisor Biobest Education Advisor 2024-Present Biobest Education Advisor Society of People Against the Insect Apocalypse Specialist Agriculture Advisor Rentokil	Blavatnik Awards for Young Scientists Outstanding Early Career Researcher (Nomination)	Jul 2024
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Measuring Sustainable Environment-Food Systems Report Advisory Panel, DEFRA Reforming UK Biopesticide Regulations Selected Invited Presentations Horticultural Trades Association Grower Day Vine Weevil Control Strategies Jun 2024 Red Tractor Measuring Pesticide Impact in the United Kingdom May 2024 University of Liverpool ByDV Research at Harper Adams University Certis-Belchim Formulating Biopesticides for Use in Arable Crops Oct 2023 Harper Adams University Apr 2024 British Bee Keepers Association Crop Protection Post-Neonicotinoids Trinity College Dublin Sustainable Crop Protection Nov 2020 Consultancy Great Lakes Greenhouses Sustainable Production Advisor Biobest Education Advisor Society of People Against the Insect Apocalypse Specialist Agriculture Advisor Rentokil	Impact and Engagement	
Measuring Sustainable Environment-Food Systems Report Advisory Panel, DEFRA Reforming UK Biopesticide Regulations Selected Invited Presentations Horticultural Trades Association Grower Day Vine Weevil Control Strategies Jun 2024 Red Tractor Measuring Pesticide Impact in the United Kingdom May 2024 University of Liverpool BYDV Research at Harper Adams University Apr 2024 Certis-Belchim Formulating Biopesticides for Use in Arable Crops Apr 2023 Harper Adams University Apr 2023 British Bee Keepers Association Crop Protection Post-Neonicotinoids Apr 2022 Trinity College Dublin Sustainable Crop Protection Nov 2020 Consultancy Great Lakes Greenhouses Sustainable Production Advisor Biobest Education Advisor 2024-Present Biobest Education Advisor Society of People Against the Insect Apocalypse Specialist Agriculture Advisor Rentokil	Policy Contributions	
Selected Invited Presentations Horticultural Trades Association Grower Day Vine Weevil Control Strategies Red Tractor Measuring Pesticide Impact in the United Kingdom May 2024 University of Liverpool BYDV Research at Harper Adams University Certis-Belchim Formulating Biopesticides for Use in Arable Crops Oct 2023 Harper Adams University Apr 2024 Apr 2023 British Bee Keepers Association Crop Protection Post-Neonicotinoids Apr 2022 Trinity College Dublin Sustainable Crop Protection Consultancy Great Lakes Greenhouses Sustainable Production Advisor Biobest Education Advisor Society of People Against the Insect Apocalypse Specialist Agriculture Advisor Rentokil	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Measuring Sustainable Environment-Food Systems Report	Jun 2023
Horticultural Trades Association Grower Day Vine Weevil Control Strategies Jun 2024 Red Tractor Measuring Pesticide Impact in the United Kingdom May 2024 University of Liverpool BYDV Research at Harper Adams University Apr 2024 Certis-Belchim Formulating Biopesticides for Use in Arable Crops Oct 2023 Harper Adams University Artificial Intelligence in UK Higher Education Apr 2023 British Bee Keepers Association Crop Protection Post-Neonicotinoids Apr 2022 Trinity College Dublin Sustainable Crop Protection Nov 2020 Consultancy Great Lakes Greenhouses Sustainable Production Advisor 2024-Present Biobest Education Advisor 2024-Present Society of People Against the Insect Apocalypse Specialist Agriculture Advisor 2024-Present Rentokil	Advisory Panel, DEFRA Reforming UK Biopesticide Regulations	Jul 2022
Vine Weevil Control Strategies Jun 2024 Red Tractor Measuring Pesticide Impact in the United Kingdom May 2024 University of Liverpool BYDV Research at Harper Adams University Apr 2024 Certis-Belchim Formulating Biopesticides for Use in Arable Crops Oct 2023 Harper Adams University Apr 2024 Apr 2023 British Bee Keepers Association Crop Protection Post-Neonicotinoids Apr 2022 Trinity College Dublin Sustainable Crop Protection Consultancy Great Lakes Greenhouses Sustainable Production Advisor Biobest Education Advisor Society of People Against the Insect Apocalypse Specialist Agriculture Advisor 2024-Present Rentokil	Selected Invited Presentations	
Measuring Pesticide Impact in the United Kingdom May 2024 University of Liverpool BYDV Research at Harper Adams University Certis-Belchim Formulating Biopesticides for Use in Arable Crops Oct 2023 Harper Adams University Artificial Intelligence in UK Higher Education Apr 2023 British Bee Keepers Association Crop Protection Post-Neonicotinoids Apr 2022 Trinity College Dublin Sustainable Crop Protection Nov 2020 Consultancy Great Lakes Greenhouses Sustainable Production Advisor Biobest Education Advisor 2024-Present Biobest Education Advisor 2024-Present Society of People Against the Insect Apocalypse Specialist Agriculture Advisor 2024-Present Rentokil	Horticultural Trades Association Grower Day Vine Weevil Control Strategies	Jun 2024
BYDV Research at Harper Adams University Certis-Belchim Formulating Biopesticides for Use in Arable Crops Oct 2023 Harper Adams University Artificial Intelligence in UK Higher Education Apr 2023 British Bee Keepers Association Crop Protection Post-Neonicotinoids Apr 2022 Trinity College Dublin Sustainable Crop Protection Consultancy Great Lakes Greenhouses Sustainable Production Advisor Biobest Education Advisor Society of People Against the Insect Apocalypse Specialist Agriculture Advisor Rentokil	Red Tractor Measuring Pesticide Impact in the United Kingdom	May 2024
Formulating Biopesticides for Use in Arable Crops Arable Crops Apr 2023 Harper Adams University Artificial Intelligence in UK Higher Education Apr 2023 British Bee Keepers Association Crop Protection Post-Neonicotinoids Apr 2022 Trinity College Dublin Sustainable Crop Protection Nov 2020 Consultancy Great Lakes Greenhouses Sustainable Production Advisor Biobest Education Advisor Society of People Against the Insect Apocalypse Specialist Agriculture Advisor Rentokil	University of Liverpool BYDV Research at Harper Adams University	Apr 2024
Artificial Intelligence in UK Higher Education British Bee Keepers Association Crop Protection Post-Neonicotinoids Apr 2022 Trinity College Dublin Sustainable Crop Protection Nov 2020 Consultancy Great Lakes Greenhouses Sustainable Production Advisor Biobest Education Advisor Society of People Against the Insect Apocalypse Specialist Agriculture Advisor Apr 2023 Apr 2022 Apr 2022 Trinity College Dublin Nov 2020 Nov 2020 2024-Present 2024-Present 2024-Present	Certis-Belchim Formulating Biopesticides for Use in Arable Crops	Oct 2023
Crop Protection Post-Neonicotinoids Apr 2022 Trinity College Dublin Sustainable Crop Protection Nov 2020 Consultancy Great Lakes Greenhouses Sustainable Production Advisor Biobest Education Advisor Society of People Against the Insect Apocalypse Specialist Agriculture Advisor Rentokil	Harper Adams University Artificial Intelligence in UK Higher Education	Apr 2023
Sustainable Crop Protection Consultancy Great Lakes Greenhouses Sustainable Production Advisor Biobest Education Advisor Society of People Against the Insect Apocalypse Specialist Agriculture Advisor Rentokil	British Bee Keepers Association Crop Protection Post-Neonicotinoids	Apr 2022
Great Lakes Greenhouses Sustainable Production Advisor 2024–Present Biobest Education Advisor 2024–Present Society of People Against the Insect Apocalypse Specialist Agriculture Advisor 2024–Present Rentokil	Trinity College Dublin Sustainable Crop Protection	Nov 2020
Sustainable Production Advisor Biobest Education Advisor Society of People Against the Insect Apocalypse Specialist Agriculture Advisor Rentokil	Consultancy	
Education Advisor Society of People Against the Insect Apocalypse Specialist Agriculture Advisor Rentokil 2024–Present 2024–Present	Great Lakes Greenhouses Sustainable Production Advisor	2024–Present
Specialist Agriculture Advisor 2024-Present Rentokil	Biobest Education Advisor	2024-Present
	Society of People Against the Insect Apocalypse Specialist Agriculture Advisor	2024-Present
	Rentokil Insect Chemical Ecology Advisor	2023-Present

Science Communication

New Scientist Live Life as an Entomologist	Oct 2024
Harper Adams University Year 10 Insect Day	Apr 2024
Harper Adams University Staffordshire Invertebrate Day	Feb 2023
Farmers Guardian Promoting Beneficial Insects on the Farm	Sep 2022
BBC Countryfile Crops and Bugs	Apr 2022
CREST Harper Adams University Student Project Supervisor	Aug 2021
BBC Radio 4 Farming Today	Nov 2020

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Manuscripts

- 1. Fezza E, **Roberts JM**, Bruce TJA, Walsh LE, Gaffney MT and Pope TW (2025) Question of compatibility: combining botanical garlic extract and entomopathogenic nematode as integrated biological control for vine weevil. *Biocontrol Science and Technology* (In Press).
- 2. Zhao H, Fu B, Auat Cheein F, Butler M, Harris WE, Pope TW and **Roberts JM** (2025) Novel nocturnal insect pest monitoring for sustainable crop protection using ensemble augmented deep learning classification. *Smart Agricultural Technology* 12:101244.
- 3. Fezza E, **Roberts JM**, Hall DR, Harte SJ, Bray DP, Bruce TJA, Walsh LE, Gaffney MT and Pope TW (2025) An apple a day does not keep the weevils away: enhancing vine weevil monitoring with fruit-based volatiles. *Journal of Applied Entomology* (In Press).
- 4. Kettle H, Coston DJ, White S, Pope TW, **Roberts JM** and Ewing D (2025) A process-based life cycle model of the cabbage stem flea beetle on winter oilseed rape: effects of temperature. *Journal of Theoretical Biology* 612:112185.
- 5. Ottih EC, **Roberts JM**, Bruce TJA and Tripet F (2025) Extended time to maturity in *Anopheles coluzzii*: implications of late egg hatch for vector control and transgene fitness. *Medical and Veterinary Entomology* 39:741-750.
- 6. Marsh AP, Sinclair LA, **Roberts JM**, Mackenzie AM and McCaughern JH (2025) A Re-evaluation of the optimal liver copper concentrations for health, performance and fertility of replacement Holstein–Friesian heifers. *Biological Trace Element Research* (In Press).
- 7. Leandro MEDA, **Roberts JM**, Dickin ET and Pope TW (2025) Effects of confinement and wheat variety on the performance of two aphid species. *Insects* 16:477.
- 8. Tonks AJ, Forbes E, **Roberts JM**, Jenkins T and Pope TW (2025) Using radio frequency identification technology to track the movement of slugs within domestic garden habitats. *Journal of Conchology* 45:559-570.
- 9. Zimba KJ, Sohati PH, Munyinda K, **Roberts JM** and Pope TW (2025) Can silicon complement mutation-derived resistance to cowpea aphid on cowpea? *Arthropod-Plant Interactions* 19:2.
- 10. Martinez-Chavez LM, **Roberts JM**, Karley AJ, Wamonje F and Pope TW (2025) The influence of genetic variation on pre-oviposition processes for host-parasitoid co-evolution. *Ecological Entomology* 50:1-16.
- 11. Azevedo RA, Pope TW, Wilcox A, **Roberts JM**, Millman CA, Back MA, Aradóttir GI and Parry MAJ (2024) A tribute to Prof. Simon R. Leather. *Annals of Applied Biology* 185:120-123.
- 12. Ewing DA, Coston DJ, White S, **Roberts JM**, Pope TW and Kettle H (2024) Temperature and time of season are the predominant drivers of cabbage stem flea beetle arrival at oilseed rape crops. *Crop Protection* 185:106904.
- 13. Fezza E, **Roberts JM**, Bruce TJA, Walsh LE, Gaffney MT and Pope TW (2024) The Garlic Gambit: an alternative strategy for controlling vine weevil. *Journal of Economic Entomology* 117:1968-1976.
- 14. Martinez-Chavez LM, **Roberts JM**, Karley AJ, Shaw B and Pope TW (2024) The clip cage conundrum: assessing the interplay of confinement method and aphid genotype in fitness studies. *Insect Science* 31:1581-1602.

- 15. **Roberts JM**, Clunie BJ, Leather SR, Harris WE and Pope TW (2023) Scents and sensibility: best practice in insect olfactometer bioassays. *Entomologia Experimentalis et Applicata* 171:808-820.
- 16. Fezza E, **Roberts JM**, Bruce TJA, Walsh LE, Gaffney MT and Pope TW (2023) Decoding attraction: improving vine weevil monitoring by exploiting key sensory cues. *Pest Management Science* 79:4635-4643.
- 17. Tonks AJ, **Roberts JM**, Midthassel A and Pope TW (2023) Exploiting volatile organic compounds in crop protection a systematic review of 1-octen-3-ol and 3-octanone. *Annals of Applied Biology* 182:121-134.
- 18. Zimba KJ, Sohati PH, Munyinda K, **Roberts JM** and Pope TW (2023) Gamma irradiation as a tool to produce cowpea genotypes resistant to aphid pests. *Arthropod-Plant Interactions* 16:665-675.
- 19. Zimba KJ, Sohati PH, Munyinda K, **Roberts JM** and Pope TW (2023) Induced mutagenesis: an underutilised component in the integrated management of aphid pests in Sub-Saharan Africa. *Crop Protection* 159:106030.
- 20. Zimba KJ, Sohati PH, Munyinda K, Kamfwa K, **Roberts JM** and Pope TW (2022) Evaluation of resistance to black bean aphid in selected varieties and mutant genotypes of common bean. *Annals of Applied Biology* 181:298-308.
- 21. Pope TW and **Roberts JM** (2022) Vine weevil, *Otiorhynchus sulcatus*, management: current state and future perspectives. *Annual Review of Entomology* 67:221-238.
- 22. Fezza E, **Roberts JM**, Bruce TJA, Walsh LE, Gaffney MT and Pope TW (2022) Optimising vine weevil monitoring tool design. *Insects* 13:1-12.
- 23. Boutsi S, Campbell H, Fezza E, George R, Godfrey C, Hoarau C, Leandro M, Pope TW, **Roberts JM**, Segar S, Shaw J, Tempest H and Zimba K (2021) Continuing entomological research during the Covid-19 pandemic. *Outlooks on Pest Management* 32:114-119.
- 24. Ali J, Covaci AD, **Roberts JM**, Sobhy IS, Kirk WDJ and Bruce TJA (2021) Effects of cis-jasmone treatment of brassicas on interactions with *Myzus persicae* aphids and their parasitoid *Diaeretiella rapae*. Frontiers in Plant Science 12:711896.
- 25. Meza FC, **Roberts JM**, Sobhy IS, Okumu FO, Tripet F and Bruce TJA (2020) Behavioural and electrophysiological responses of female *Anopheles gambiae* mosquitoes to volatiles from a mango bait. *Journal of Chemical Ecology* 46:387-396.
- 26. **Roberts JM**, Bruce TJA, Monaghan JM, Pope TW, Leather SR and Beacham AM (2020) Vertical farming systems bring new considerations for pest and disease management. *Annals of Applied Biology* 176:226-232.
- 27. **Roberts JM**, Jahir A, Graham J and Pope TW (2020) Catch me if you can: the influence of refuge/trap design, previous feeding experience, and semiochemical lures on vine weevil monitoring success. *Pest Management Science* 76:553-560.
- 28. **Roberts JM**, Kundun J, Rowley C, Hall DR, Douglas P and Pope TW (2019) Electrophysiological and behavioral responses of adult vine weevil to host plant odors. *Journal of Chemical Ecology* 45:858-868.
- 29. Smith GH, **Roberts JM** and Pope TW (2018) Terpene based biopesticides as potential alternatives to synthetic insecticides for control of aphid pests on protected ornamentals. *Crop Protection* 110:125-130.

Manuscripts Under Peer-Review

- 1. Tonğa A, Ali J, Adams B and **Roberts JM** (2025) Signal-mediated sexual ritual in parasitoids: perception, mechanism and behaviour. *Physiological Entomology* (Under Review).
- 2. **Roberts JM**, Corradi M, Clunie BJ, Fezza E, Harris WE and Pope TW (2025) How effective are entomopathogenic nematodes for vine weevil (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) biological control? A meta-analysis. *Pest Management Science* (Under Review).
- 3. Tonks AJ, Pope TW, Cooper S and **Roberts JM** (2025) Effects of bioinsecticide exposure route on aphids and their natural enemies in oilseed rape. *Pest Management Science* (Under Review).
- 4. Mhango KJ, **Roberts JM**, Lewis MJ and Harris EW (2025) Hybrid ensemble deep learning with empirical priors for predicting soil available water capacity: achieving accuracy and emergent domain-knowledge compliance. *Biosystems Engineering* (Under Review).

Conference Proceedings

- 1. Fezza E, **Roberts JM**, Bruce TJA, Walsh LE, Gaffney M and Pope TW (2023) Factors influencing vine weevil monitoring tool efficacy. *IOBC-WPRS Bulletin* 167:44-45.
- 2. Martinez-Chavez L, Karley A, **Roberts JM**, Fountain M and Pope TW (2023) Clonal differences in the potato aphid determine responses to an aphid parasitoid. *IOBC-WPRS Bulletin* 167:120-121.
- 3. Corradi M, Fezza E, Hawthorne B, Salisbury A, Harris WE, **Roberts JM** and Pope TW (2023) Efficacy of entomopathogenic nematodes in peat alternative growing media. *IOBC-WPRS Bulletin* 167:33-34.

4. Lowenbery-DeBoer J, Pope TW and **Roberts JM** (2020) Feasibility of autonomous equipment for biopesticide application. *INFER Symposium on Agri-Tech Economics for Sustainable Futures* 3:118-129.

Book Chapters

- 1. **Roberts JM**, Leandro MEDA, Owen DJ and Pope TW (2026) Chapter 20: Use of Trap Cropping to Manage Aphid Vectors of Plant Viruses. In: *Trap Cropping*. Ed: Hokkanen H. CABI: Wallingford, UK.
- 2. **Roberts JM**, Clunie BJ and Pope TW (2025) Chapter 9: Application of Biofumigation in the Management of Insect and Mollusc Pests. In: *Application of Biofumigation in Crop Management Systems*. Ed: Back MA. CABI: Wallingford, UK.
- 3. Roberts JM et al. (2024) Chapter 3: Interact. In: Insects. Ed: Roy H. DK: London, UK.
- 4. Pope TW and **Roberts JM** (2022) Chapter 7: Pests of Farm Crops. In: *Lockhart and Wiseman's Crop Husbandry Including Grassland*. Eds: Samuel A and Dines L. Woodhead Publishing: Cambridge, UK.

Technical Reports

- 1. White S, Coston D, **Roberts JM** and Pope TW (2024) Reducing the impact of cabbage stem flea beetle. AHDB Project Report.
- 2. Roberts JM et al. (2023) Measuring sustainable environment-food system interactions. POSTnote.
- 3. **Roberts JM**, Harris WE, Butler M and Pope TW (2022) Developing a prototype smart monitoring tool for improved vine weevil monitoring in soft-fruit and ornamental crops. AHDB Project Report.