
Eric J. von Wettberg

Ecology and Evolution
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Ecology and Evolution **December 2006**

Brown University, Providence, RI

- Dissertation Advisor: Prof. Johanna Schmitt
- Dissertation Title: *Landscape genetics and local adaptation in *Impatiens capensis**

Fulbright Fellow and Rotary Ambassadorsial Scholar **1999-2000**

Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University, Copenhagen, Denmark

- Advisor: Dr. Jacob Weiner
- Project title: *Using crop density and spatial planting pattern to suppress weeds in organic cereal crops*

B.A. Biology **May 1999**

Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA

- Graduated Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi
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RESEARCH

Interests

- Repeated evolution of local adaptation to landscape features and disturbance regimes, such as extreme soil types, degraded agricultural lands, overhead canopy in forest understory plants, and burning and mowing regimes in grasslands
- Correlated evolution of traits, such as drought and extreme soil tolerance, and seedling etiolation and shade avoidance elongation
- Effects of spatial patterns of environmental factors and dispersal on local adaptation and population connectivity in common, rare and invasive plants

Grants, Awards, Honors and Fellowships

- **NIH National Research Service Award** **2007-2010**
Genomics of Nickel tolerance in *Arabidopsis lyrata*
- **NSF Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant** **2004**
Local adaptation and landscape genetics of plastic shade avoidance responses in *Impatiens capensis*
- **EPA STAR Graduate Fellowship** **2004-2007**

Landscape genetics of escaped ornamental *Impatiens*

- **SICB Graduate Student Travel Award** **2004**
For travel to the UK to collect introduced invasive genotypes of North American *Impatiens capensis*
- **Nature Conservancy Wald Grant** **2002**
For study of conservation genetics of *Liatrix scariosa* var. *Novae-Angliae*, a rare New England grassland perennial, with Kelly Gravuer and Johanna Schmitt
- **Sigma Xi Grant in Aid of Research** **2001-2004**
For study of temporal change in allocation to dispersal structures in seeds of *Liatrix scariosa* var. *Novae-Angliae*
- **Lande Summer Research Award, Swarthmore College** **1997, 1998**
For summer research on social behavior in halictid bees in Lakonia, Greece, and Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory, Colorado, USA

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

- von Wettberg, E.J.** and Weiner, J. 2003. Nutrient heterogeneity does not make belowground competition size-asymmetric in glasshouse populations of *Triticum aestivum*. *Plant Ecology*. 169: 85-92.
- Richards, M. H. **von Wettberg, E.J.** and Rutgers A. 2003. A novel social polymorphism in a primitively eusocial Hymenopteran. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science USA*, 100: 7175-7180.
- * Gravuer, K. **von Wettberg, E.J.** and Schmitt, J. 2003. Dispersal biology of *Liatrix scariosa* var. *novae-angliae* (Asteraceae), a rare New England grassland perennial. *American Journal of Botany*. 90: 1159-1167.
* Undergraduate mentored publication
- von Wettberg, E.J.** and Weiner, J. 2004. Effects of distance to crop rows and to conspecific neighbours on the Size of *Brassica napus* and *Veronica persica* weeds. *Basic and Applied Ecology*, 5: 34-41.
- Huber, H. Kane, N. Heschel, M.S. **von Wettberg, E.J.** Banta, J. Leuck A. and Schmitt, J. 2004. Frequency and microenvironmental pattern of selection on plastic shade avoidance traits in a natural population of *Impatiens capensis*. *American Naturalist*, 163: 548-563.
- * Gravuer, K. **von Wettberg, E.J.** and Schmitt, J. 2005. Population differentiation and genetic variation inform translocation decisions for *Liatrix scariosa* var. *novae-angliae*, a rare New England grassland perennial. *Biological Conservation*, 124: 155-167.
* Undergraduate mentored publication

von Wettberg, E.J. and Schmitt, J. 2005. An experimental separation of stem and leaf shade avoidance responses in *Impatiens capensis*. *American Journal of Botany*, 92: 868-874.

von Wettberg, E.J. Huber, H. and Schmitt, J. 2005. Interacting effects of microsite quality, plasticity, and dispersal distance from the parental site on fitness in a natural population of *Impatiens capensis*. *Evolutionary Ecology Research*. 7: 531-548.

Articles in review and preparation

* Auyeung, D. **von Wettberg, E.J.** and Schmitt, J. Implications of dispersal mechanisms for invasion across eustuarine bodies. *Plant Ecology*, in review. * Undergraduate mentored publication

von Wettberg, E.J. Remington, D.L. and Schmitt, J. Replicated population differentiation in plasticity? Shade avoidance in *Impatiens capensis*. *American Naturalist*, in review.

* Mandle, L., **von Wettberg, E.J.** Hoffman, M. and Schmitt, J. Escape from a climate cage? The naturalization of ornamental *Impatiens walleriana* in an expanded climate range. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science*, in review. * Undergraduate mentored publication

von Wettberg, E.J. and Schmitt, J. Is there a correlation between different phytochrome-mediated plasticities? *Evolution*, in review.

Natural History and Educational Materials

von Wettberg, E.J. 2004. Transvestism of the Land. *Watersheds*. 2: 24-26.

von Wettberg, E.J. 2001. Muskrat Ramble. *The New York State Conservationist* 56: 8-10.

von Wettberg, E.J. 2001. A Guided Tour of the Madison Lane Wetland. A pamphlet printed by the Madison Lane Landtrust, Hamilton, N.Y., USA.

Selected Invited Seminars

Population differentiation in shade avoidance responses in *Impatiens capensis*. Ecological Society of America/Intercol proposed symposium, Montreal, Canada, 2005.

What we wish we knew as undergraduates. Evolution Meeting, Fairbanks, Alaska, 2005. Co-presented with Dr. Johanna Schmitt.

Shade avoidance and high irradiance responses in *Impatiens capensis*, Utrecht University, the Netherlands, 2004.

Size symmetric below ground competition in wheat for heterogenously distributed nutrients, Danish Agricultural Research Station, Foulum, Denmark, 2000.

Teaching Assistant

- *Ecology*, Ecology and Evolution, Brown University **Spring 2004**
- *Seed Plant Diversity*, Ecology and Evolution, Brown University **Fall 2002, 2003**
- *Insect Biology*, Ecology and Evolution, Brown University **Spring 2002**
- *Evolution*, Ecology and Evolution, Brown University **Fall 2001**
- *Introductory Biology*, Biology Department, Swarthmore College **1997-1998**

Natural History Teaching

- Naturalist Intern, New York State DEM **Spring 2001**

Guest Lectures

- *Seed Plant Diversity*, Ecology and Evolution, Brown University **Fall 2002-2004**
- *Conservation Biology*, Ecology and Evolution, Brown University **Fall 2005**

Pedagogical Training

- *Teaching Certificate Program I-III* **May 2003-2006**
The Harriet W. Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning, Brown University
- *Writing Associate* **1997-1998**
Writing Program, Swarthmore College

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND COMMITTEES

Reviewer: *Biological Conservation* (2006), *Canadian Journal of Botany* (2006), *Plant Biology* (2006), *American Journal of Botany* (2005), *Plant Ecology* (2005), *New Phytologist* (2004-2005), *Biology Letters, Royal Society* (2004); *Oecologia* (2004); *Ecological Applications* (2003); Clonal plant workshop, *Evolutionary Ecology* (2000).

Member: American Society of Naturalists, Botanical Society of America, Society for the Study of Evolution, Ecological Society of America, Rhode Island Natural History Survey, New England Botanical Club, New England Society for Conservation Biology.

RI Invasive Species Council **2005-2006**
Participated in updating of the invasive species watch list for Rhode Island.

RI Plant Conservation Task Force **2002-2006**
Prioritized species for conservation efforts and assist with surveys of rare species populations in Rhode Island.

New England Invasive Plant Atlas Survey **2002-2005**
Monitored Providence and Block Island for invasive plant species.

EEB Department Graduate Teaching Liaison **2003-2004**
Sheridan Center for Teaching in Higher Education, Brown University

Science Teaching Consultant **2003-2006**
Sheridan Center for Teaching in Higher Education, Brown University

Career Services Panelist **2005**

How to Succeed in Graduate School, Career Services, Brown University

Alumni Panelist **2004**

Biology Department Graduate School Night, Swarthmore College

Environmental Change Initiative Chair Search Committee **2004**

Graduate Student representative, Environmental Studies, Brown University

FACULTY AND STUDENT REFERENCES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST