

ASSOCIATION OF APPLIED BIOLOGISTS

President: Prof. Christine Foyer, BSc, PhD



April 2021

***‘Promoting Applied Research in Agriculture,
Horticulture and Food Science’***



Who's Who?

AAB Specialist Groups:

***Applied Mycology And Bacteriology
Biological Control and Integrated Pest Management
Cropping And The Environment
Food Systems
Nematology
Pesticide Application
Plant Physiology and Crop Improvement
Soil Biology
Virology***

**Association of Applied Biologists
Warwick Enterprise Park, Wellesbourne, Warwick, CV35 9EF
Registered Charity No. 275655 Contact geraint@aab.org.uk
Tel: +44 (0)2476 999486 <http://www.aab.org.uk>**



President Elect: Mike Gooding, BSc, PhD (who is he?)

I am very grateful to the AAB for accepting me as its President Elect. It is an association that I have contributed to over many years, but it has certainly not been one way transaction. As for many of you the AAB has supported me through my PhD, during years as a lecturer, and then as a professor. It has also supported many of the research students I have been privileged to supervise. My research has often been influenced by attendance at AAB conferences; not only through the formal presentations and papers, but also through the many interactions that occur informally at such events. The AAB has also provided me with opportunities to organise conferences and join other members on committees to support the development and dissemination of our subjects.

AAB has been a natural home for me. Long before it was fashionable (and for many years it was definitely unfashionable), it was important for me that the biological sciences should be targeted at addressing real-world problems – to make an impact. Courses and strategies that I have been involved with developing often have tag lines such as ‘Putting Biology to Work’, ‘Biology that Delivers’, and the like. This sentiment speaks to the very essence of Applied biology: we are here to make a difference.

I was blessed with an excellent biology teacher during my A Levels (Ms Swift, Banbury School, 1979-81) who allowed me to run the first of far too many designed experiments on crops to assess the effect of humidity on the fungal succession on oranges (the classroom was filled with the smell of rotting oranges for weeks). I then specialised in Plant Biology at Birmingham University, which in those days provided the support for students to run four experimentally based projects in the final year. Mine included industrial microbiology, biological production of hydrogen, viruses in potato seeds, and chemicals to sensitize rice to blast disease. The obsession with mouldy plants continued at Harper Adams where I studied crop protection before completing a PhD on the interactions between disease control and nutrition of wheat quality. My PhD was supervised Peter Kettlewell, Trevor Hocking and Paul Davies; Peter Shewry also helped out in the final year. All four were significant contributors to AAB. It was whilst at Harper Adams that I made my first contributions to AAB conferences, and became involved in what developed into the Plant Physiology and Crop Improvement Group. My lecturing career in Crop Science and Agronomy started at the Royal Agricultural College, before moving to the University of Reading. I was honoured to be Head of School of Agriculture, Policy and Development at Reading from 2008 to 2014, before becoming Director of the Institute of Biological, Environmental and Rural Sciences at Aberystwyth University between 2014 and 2018. I am currently an Honorary Professor at Aberystwyth.

My research continued to develop as I worked in the areas of sustainable crop production and in the improvement of food quality. Research approaches have got more complicated, and the datasets have got larger and less complete, but included the coupling of genetics with phenomics, mechanistic models, agronomy, and field performance.

In my role as President Elect I will, with the President, support the association to continue to develop and deliver on its strategy. The AAB is ideally placed to help meet the challenges of environmental sustainability and food and energy security. Financially, we are in a good place, and is important that we invest in activities and projects that ensure we grasp the opportunities to make a difference. ‘Lockdown’ has been a significant challenge but it has also forced us to evaluate and innovate in meeting delivery and how to facilitate interaction. It is also evident that one of the best ways to make an impact is to engage and support the next generation of applied biologists, and it is important that we continue to find the best ways of doing this.

As I have said before, more than ever, society needs applied biology and well-supported applied biologists. I look forward to working for and with you to make sure AAB plays a full part in meeting this need.

Mike

Important Conference Updates

ASSOCIATION OF APPLIED BIOLOGISTS

President: Professor Christine Foyer



Legume Science and Practice 2

A three day virtual conference

on 1st-3rd September 2021



CALL FOR PAPERS

Association of Applied Biologists, Warwick Enterprise Park, Wellesbourne, Warwick CV35 9EF, UK
Registered Charity No. 275655; <http://www.aab.org.uk>
Tel: +44 (0)2476 999485; Email: john@aab.org.uk

Advances in Legume Science and Practice 2

1st September–03rd September 2021

Virtually via ZOOM

Call for Abstracts Deadline 31st May 2021

SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT



ASSOCIATION OF APPLIED BIOLOGISTS
President: Professor Christine Foyer

Thinking differently about soil-borne disease management

A one day virtual conference
on 10th November 2021



Photographs by kind permission of Dr Faye White, ADAS, Cambridge, UK.

ANNOUNCEMENT & CALL FOR PAPERS

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Thinking Differently about Soil-Borne Disease Management

10th November 2021, Virtually via ZOOM
Call for Abstracts Deadline 30th June 2021

SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT

ASSOCIATION OF APPLIED BIOLOGISTS

President: Prof. Christine Foyer, BSc, PhD



Trees for the Future - Diversity and complexity for resilience and

carbon storage

A two-day conference at the
University of Birmingham, UK

Postponed due to Covid-19, now on 03-04 November 2021



Coast redwood forest, North California: Image courtesy of Jo Bradwell, JABBS

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Association of Applied Biologists, Warwick Enterprise Park, Wellesbourne, Warwick CV35 9EF, UK
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Trees for the Future - Diversity and complexity for resilience and carbon storage

03-04 November 2021

(Birmingham University, UK)

SUBMIT A POSTER ABSTRACT



ASSOCIATION OF APPLIED BIOLOGISTS
President: Prof. Christine Foyer, BSc, PhD

International Advances in Pesticide Application



A three day conference
at the Chamber of Agriculture, North Rhine
Westphalia, Germany
on 25-27 January 2022

Association of Applied Biologists, Warwick Enterprise Park, Wellesbourne, Warwick CV35 9EF, UK
Registered Charity No. 275655; <http://www.aab.org.uk>
Tel: +44 (0)2476 999485; Email: john@aab.org.uk

International Advances in Pesticide Application

25th–27th January 2022

Chamber of Agriculture, North Rhine Westphalia,
Germany

PROGRAMME AVAILABLE SOON

Important Conference Updates (continued)



Photographs by kind permission of Richard Garnett and James Thomas
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Tel: +44 (0)2476 5999484; Email: Carol@aab.org.uk

Closed Transfer Systems Workshop

26th January 2022 (TBC)

Chamber of Agriculture, North Rhine Westphalia,
Germany

[SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT](#)

ASSOCIATION OF APPLIED BIOLOGISTS
President: Professor Christine Foyer



Shaping the Future for Pollinators Innovations in Farmed Landscapes

ANNOUNCEMENT & CALL FOR PAPERS



A three-day conference at the
Cophthorne Hotel, Slough-Windsor
Postponed to 6-8 September 2022

Association of Applied Biologists, Warwick Enterprise Park, Wellesbourne, Warwick CV35 9EF, UK
Registered Charity No. 275655; <http://www.aab.org.uk>
Tel: +44 (0)2476 999485; Email: john@aab.org.uk

Shaping the Future for Pollinators: Innovations in Farmed Landscapes

6-8 September 2022

Save the Date! [Update available soon!](#)

[SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT](#)

Information on abstract submission

Conference programmes are based on the 'Conference Topic' and resulting 'Sessions' that reflect both the 'Conference Theme' and topics covered by the 'Invited "Keynote" Speakers'. Submitted abstracts, both oral and poster are selected by the conference organisers to reflect diversity within the 'Conference Topic' and generate discussion within conference participants.

We aim to host both 'face to face', 'virtual' and 'hybrid' meetings that generate discussion and feedback from participants in the selected fields.

How to submit an abstract

To upload your abstract, simply complete the form in the attached link [CLICK HERE](#). Enter your personal details, select which meeting you are submitting an offer for and whether your offer is for a platform (Oral) or poster presentation. Upload your file and click on submit abstract. Job done!

We normally have 1-page abstracts as a Microsoft word file ([CLICK HERE](#) for an example). Once an abstract has been "approved" by the conference organiser(s), you will not be able to make any changes to the abstract unless you contact the AAB office (john@aab.org.uk) for the paper to be "unapproved".

AAB FORWARD CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

2021

- 1-3 September**
[Advances in Legume Science and Practice 2](#)
1st September–03rd September 2021
Virtually via ZOOM
Call for Abstracts Deadline 31st May 2021
[SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT](#)
(Cropping and the Environment (CATE) group)
- 13 October
(TBC) Crop production with limited PPPs; challenges and opportunities
Virtually via ZOOM
(Cropping and the Environment (CATE) group and Food Systems groups)
- [Trees for the Future - Diversity and complexity for resilience and carbon storage](#)
3-4 November
03-04 November 2021
(Birmingham University, UK)
[SUBMIT A POSTER ABSTRACT](#)
- 10 November
[Thinking Differently about Soil-Borne Disease Management](#)
10th November 2021, Virtually via ZOOM
Call for Abstracts Deadline 30th June 2021
[SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT](#)
(Applied Mycology and Bacteriology group)
- 17-18 November
(TBC) Advances in Biocontrol and IPM 2021
Olde Barn Hotel, Marston, Lincs UK (Biocontrol & IPM group)
- 14 December
(TBC) Advances in Nematology 2021
Linnean Society, London, UK (Nematology group)

2022

- 25-27 January
[International Advances in Pesticide Application](#)
25th–27th January 2022
Chamber of Agriculture, North Rhine Westphalia, Germany
PROGRAMME AVAILABLE SOON
(Pesticide Application Group)
- 26 January
(TBC) Closed Transfer Systems Workshop
25th–27th January 2022
Chamber of Agriculture, North Rhine Westphalia, Germany
[SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT](#)
(Pesticide Application Group)

