Contacts for Department of Pest-management and Conservation

Faculty of Agriculture & Life Sciences
Lincoln University
PO Box 85084
Lincoln 7647
Christchurch, New Zealand
Website: http://www.lincolnecology.org.nz/

Dean
Professor Grant Edwards  Email: Grant.Edwards@lincoln.ac.nz

Head of Department
Associate Professor Adrian Paterson  Email: Adrian.Paterson@lincoln.ac.nz

Administrator
Arneka de Vries  Email: Arneka.deVries@lincoln.ac.nz
Introduction to the Faculty of Agriculture & Life Sciences

The Faculty of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Lincoln University provides knowledge and expertise to lead New Zealand into a dynamic, innovative and sustainable future in a wide range of disciplines related to Agriculture, Food and the Environment. It is a multidisciplinary research and teaching Faculty with 17 Professors and 150 staff. The Faculty of Agriculture and Life Sciences provides expertise throughout the ‘farm to fork’ value chain.

The Faculty is a centre of excellence for postgraduate education. It provides a continuum of postgraduate programmes from the fundamental areas of science through to the applied in disciplines relating to soils, the environment and its management, plants, animals, viticulture and oenology, food, farm management, conservation and pest management. The Faculty also provides undergraduate degrees in: Agricultural Science, Viticulture & Oenology, Science (which includes a number of majors), and Diplomas in Agriculture, Horticulture and Agricultural and Horticultural Management.

Most importantly, there are wide ranging employment opportunities for the Faculty’s graduates who are sought after by innovative and progressive organisations in New Zealand and worldwide.

The Faculty has excellent collaborations with the agriculture and horticulture industries and research in these areas is directed towards solving industry problems. Collaboration is also very strong with government-funded research organisations that are based in Lincoln or elsewhere in New Zealand. Notably, the Faculty is an integral part of the Marlborough Wine Research Centre, a new initiative to provide leading research to this important industry. This is only one of many examples of our credibility with industry partners: meeting expectations and solving problems in a modern society. The Faculty of Agriculture and Life Sciences also has extensive links to a wide range of international research organisations.

The Faculty has access to excellent facilities, including well-equipped laboratories, controlled environment rooms, animal laboratories, a winery, advanced analytical instruments and computing facilities. The Faculty’s field facilities incorporate a wide range of production systems including arable cropping and pastures (three research farms totalling 430 ha), a vineyard, horticultural research area, lysimeters, access to a ‘best practice’ commercial dairy farm and a new purpose-built research dairy farm. The Faculty also has access to a wide range of livestock including sheep, beef and dairy cattle, and deer.

There are four departments in the Faculty:

- Agricultural Sciences
- Pest-management and Conservation
- Soil and Physical Sciences
- Wine, Food and Molecular Biosciences

The Faculty is research led and has a number of specific research centres, including the:

- Centre for Soil and Environmental Quality
- Centre for Viticulture and Oenology
- Centre for Advanced Computational Solutions
- Centre for Wildlife Management and Conservation
Introduction to the Department of Pest-management and Conservation

The Department currently comprises 8 academic staff, 40 postgraduate students, and 6 additional technical and support staff. We focus on modern approaches and tools in molecular, behavioural, community and ecosystem ecology as well as plant pathology. Research and teaching is supported by excellent laboratory and field facilities.

In 2011, the Department established a new Centre for Wildlife Conservation and Management.

Lincoln University introduced the first ecology course in New Zealand and continues to pioneer advances in this subject, providing practical hands-on experience in land-based applied ecology. Academic staff contribute to the Bachelor of Science programme, particularly the Conservation and Ecology major and the Environmental Science major, and contribute to courses that include Bachelor of Viticulture and Oenology, Bachelor of Agricultural Science and Bachelor of Environmental Management. A large number of students progress to Honours awards and higher degrees (M.Sc. and Ph.D.) within the Department. Many others graduate and pursue successful careers in the environment sector. Current growth areas are in Vertebrate Pest Management, Conservation Ecology, Restoration Ecology and Plant Protection, particularly given the ‘Predator Free 2050’ and ‘Biosecurity 2025’ initiatives.

All academic staff supervise postgraduate students at M.Sc. and Ph.D. level, supporting postgraduate groups of domestic and overseas students. The department currently has research projects throughout New Zealand, on local university farms, from Banks Peninsula and the West Coast to the Chatham Islands, and with extensive national and international collaboration. We work closely alongside the CoRE Bio-Protection Research Centre, also based in the same building at Lincoln University. We also have close working links with neighbouring Crown Research Institutes, including Landcare Research, Plant and Food, Department of Conservation as well as various iwi, industries and other universities.

Current research projects include a programme on novel approaches of vertebrate pest control, development of humane and non-persistent products for the control of multiple pest species (possums, rodents and mustelids). Other groups are using modern molecular techniques to provide new insights into the resilience of native species to invasive plants and animals. We also have projects on biodiversity and the provision of ecosystem services such as clean water and healthy soils, conservation of birds and insects, and processes that structure biological communities, like fire and fragmentation. We also investigate interactions between pathogens, hosts and their environment with a view to developing sustainable control methods. Land-based applied ecology is our main focus.
Research and Teaching Strengths within the Faculty include:

**Agricultural Sciences**
- Animal production; dairy, sheep, beef and deer
- Plant production; crops, pasture and horticulture
- Animal genetics
- Animal health
- Nutrition; animal and plant
- Physiology; animal and crop
- Agronomy
- Animal products
- Animal welfare
- Grazing ecology
- Parasitology and immunology
- Reproductive physiology
- Rumen function

**Soil and Physical Sciences**
- Agricultural greenhouse gas science, measurement, mitigation and modelling
- Antarctic soils
- Environmental biochemistry
- Nitrate leaching and mitigation
- Remediation of contaminated soils
- Rhizosphere process science
- Soil and environmental physics
- Soil biology, biochemistry and molecular biology
- Soil fertility and nutrient management
- Soil geomorphology, quaternary geology and soil-landscape modelling
- Soil micro-morphology
- Soil nutrient cycling and management
- Stable isotope methodologies
- Sustainable land management
- Trace elements in soils

**Pest-management and Conservation**
- Animal behaviour
- Conservation and Biodiversity
- Ecological restoration
- Evolutionary biology
- Fire ecology
- Molecular ecology
- Plant pathology
- Plant microbiology
- Remediation of degraded and contaminated land
- Soil ecology
- Sustainable agriculture and ecosystem services
- Wildlife and pest management

**Wine, Food and Molecular Biosciences**
- Animal models for human health
- Biochemistry and cell biology
- Biotechnology
- Computer modelling
- Food biochemistry
- Immunology
- Microbiology
- Molecular biology
- Plant biology
- Systems biology
- Toxicology
- Wine science
- Viticulture

Specialist unit
- Centre for Wildlife Management and Conservation
Department of Pest-management and Conservation
Research and Teaching Strengths

Conservation and Pest Management is one of 4 departments in the Faculty of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Lincoln University. The Department of Pest-management and Conservation focuses on Land-Based Applied Ecology, carrying out research and teaching in the following specialist areas:

### Specialist Areas

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<td>• Dr James Ross</td>
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</table>
Mike Bowie

Senior Tutor
NZDS, NZCS, MApplSc

DDI: 03 423 0734
Burns 516
Mike.Bowie@lincoln.ac.nz

Member of:
- The Entomological Society of New Zealand
- Society for Ecological Restoration

Teaching:
Conservation Ecology, Entomology, Ecological Restoration and Wildlife Management

Research:
- Restoration ecology
- Conservation of invertebrate species
- Monitoring restoration trajectory

Selected Publications:
Seona Casonato

Senior Lecturer of Plant Pathology
BAppSc (University of Melbourne)
BAppSc (Hons) (RMIT University, Melbourne)
PhD (RMIT University, Melbourne)

DDI: 03 423 0724
Burns 335B
Seona.Casonato@lincoln.ac.nz

Member of:
- Australasian Plant Pathology Society
- New Zealand Plant Protection Society
- The Australasian Association of Nematologist (AAN)

Teaching:
Plant Pathology, Integrated Plant Protection, Weed Biological control, Plant Health, Biosecurity

Research:
- Applied plant pathology of horticultural crops
- Biological control of weeds with fungal pathogens
- Fungal ecology in the New Zealand landscape

Selected Publications:
Much of my research has led to client publications.
Natalia Cripps-Guazzone

Teaching:
Plant Protection, Plant Pathology, Biology and Genetics

Research:
My PhD looked at rhizosphere competence in selected Trichoderma species. My Master degree addressed the influence of abiotic factors on the production of secondary metabolites in medicinal plants.

Selected publications:


**Timothy Curran**  
**Senior Lecturer of Ecology**  
BSc (Hons) (University of NSW), PhD (University of New England)  
DDI: 03 423 0739  
Burns 527B  
Timothy.Curran@lincoln.ac.nz  
Member of:  
- New Zealand Ecological Society (Councillor 2015-2017; Vice-President 2017-)

**Teaching:**  
ECOL103 New Zealand Ecology and Conservation (examiner),  
ECOL204 Molecular Ecology and Evolution, ECOL293 Field Ecology Methods, SCIE393 Advanced Field Research (co-examiner), ECOL608 Research Methods in Ecology.

**Research:**  
My research lies mainly in the field of plant functional ecology, although I maintain an interest and have some experience in animal ecology. I am particularly interested in using plant functional traits to understand how plants survive extreme climatic events, such as drought, cyclones and frost, or other disturbances, such as fire, and using these findings in restoration ecology, my other main field of interest. Recently, much of my research focusses on plant flammability.

Specific projects include:
- Evolution of flammability in plants  
- Traits associated with plant flammability  
- Identifying low flammability plants for use as green firebreaks to reduce fire spread  
- Assessing how invasive plants change community flammability and fire regimes  
- Understanding how NZ plants respond to fire  
- Identifying traits associated with plant response to drought, frost and cyclones  
- Using traits to assemble ecological communities that are resistant and resilient to global change.

**Selected Publications:**  
- Wyse SV, Perry GLW, **Curran TJ** (2017) Shoot-level flammability of species mixtures is driven by the most flammable species: implications for vegetation-fire feedbacks favouring invasive species. *Ecosystems* doi: 10.1007/s10021-017-0195-z  
- Battersby, PF, Wilmshurst, JM, **Curran, TJ**, McGlone, MS, Perry, GLW. (2016) Exploring fire adaptation in a land with little fire: serotiny in Leptospermum scoparium (Myrtaceae). *Journal of Biogeography*
Nicholas Dickinson

Professor of Ecology
BSc (Hons) Applied Biology (CNAA), PhD (University of Keele)

DDI: 03 423 0741
Burns 447
Nicholas.Dickinson@Lincoln.ac.nz

Member of:
• New Zealand Ecological Society;
• Royal Society of New Zealand;
• New Zealand Society of Soil Science;
• New Zealand Grassland Association;
• British Ecological Society;

Teaching:
Plants and soils, applied ecology, environmental pollution, ecological restoration, ecosystem modelling

Research:
• Ecological restoration
• Phytotechnologies
• Soil ecology
• Nutrient and pollutant mass balance modelling

Selected Publications:
Charles Eason

Professor of Wildlife Management: - which focuses on increased recovery of native biodiversity through enhanced wildlife management and effective land-based conservation; and toxins as biocides or drugs.

Burns 529
Charles.Eason@lincoln.ac.nz

Member of:
• New Zealand Ecological Society;
• New Zealand Institute of Directors;
• Royal Society of New Zealand

Teaching:
Toxicology, Vertebrate Pest Management, Conservation and Wildlife Biology

Research:
Research focused on humane safer tools for culling unwanted introduced vertebrate pests and protecting native species in an acceptable manner, and drugs derived from natural compounds:
• Toxicology
• Development of alternatives to 1080
• Humane control of vertebrate pests
• Enhanced control of predators
• New toxins in advanced delivery systems
• Natural compounds as drugs and biocides

In particular:
• 2015-18 continuing research on: - i) species specific delivery systems and low residue toxins e.g. norbormide, paraaminopropiophenone, diphacinone and cholecalciferol as alternatives to 1080 and brodifacoum ii) natural compounds as drugs and biocides

Selected Publications:
Eirian Jones

Associate Professor in Plant Pathology & Mycology
BSc(Hons) (Manchester Metropolitan Univ., UK) PhD (Univ of Edinburgh, Scotland, UK)

DDI: 03 423 0746
Burns 335
Eirian.Jones@lincoln.ac.nz

Member of:
• Australasian Plant Pathology Society;
• New Zealand Plant Protection Society;
• British Society for Plant Pathology;
• British Mycological Society

Teaching:

Research:
• Control of plant diseases, in particular biocontrol of soil-borne and woody trunk plant pathogens.
• Soil microbial ecology and in particular the interaction between plant pathogens and biocontrol agents.
• Epidemiology of woody trunk disease pathogens.

Selected Publications:
Elaine Murphy

Adjunct Associate Professor
BSc (Hons 1) University of New South Wales; PhD Victoria University of Wellington

DDI: 03 423 0742
Johnstone Memorial Laboratory
Elaine.Murphy@lincoln.ac.nz

Member of:
• New Zealand Ecological Society
• Ornithological Society of New Zealand

Research:
I have over 30 years research experience in the biodiversity area in New Zealand. I have worked on threatened species, animal pests and toxins.

Recent research has been on:
• New toxins and delivery systems for predator control
• Eradication of pests on islands
• Predator-prey dynamics

I hold an adjunct position at the University. I am a Principal Scientist for the Department of Conservation and a Science Advisor to Zero Invasive Predators.

Selected Publications:
Adrian Paterson

Associate Professor of Zoology
BSc(Hons), PhD (Otago)

DDI: 03 423 0750
Burns 526
Adrian.Paterson@lincoln.ac.nz

Member of:
• Systematic Society of Biologists

Teaching:

Research:
Biogeography of New Zealand; host-parasite coevolution; evolution of behaviour and diversity, conservation and behavioural ecology, wildlife biology.

In particular:
Dispersal and colonization of species on islands; speciation and in New Zealand; spider diversity in grasslands; monitoring of vertebrates (e.g. kiwi, possums, stoats, tahr, leopards, red panda); cat behaviour in native areas; non-invasive methods of collecting DNA from field populations; historical DNA diversity; trait evolution.

Selected Publications:
• Emami-Khoyi A., Hartley, D.A., Ross, J.G., Murphy, E.C., Paterson, A.M., Cruickshank, R.H., Else, T.A. (2016) Complete mitochondrial genome of the stoat (Mustela ermine) and New Zealand fur seal (Arctocephalus forsteri) and their significance for mammalian phylogeny. Mitochondrial DNA.
James Ross

Senior Lecturer of Biometrics and Wildlife Management

BPR&TM (Hons), PhD (Lincoln)

DDI: 03 423 0752
Burns 527A
James.Ross@lincoln.ac.nz

Member of:
• New Zealand Ecological Society;
• Australasian Wildlife Management Society;
• New Zealand Royal Society
• Director of the Centre of Wildlife Management and Conservation

Teaching:

Research:
• Management of introduced pest species in New Zealand
• Economic analysis of pest control in New Zealand
• Methods for assessing wildlife population abundance and density

In particular:
• Assessing the efficacy and welfare of new kill-traps for ferrets, stoats and rodents
• Developing alternative toxins for possum and stoat control
• Investigating behavioural adaptation to control devices for possums
• Investigating new techniques for monitoring low-density possum populations
• Reducing the risk to non-target species by investigating the efficacy of bird and deer repellents

Objective leader in the Centre of Wildlife Management and Conservation.

Selected Publications:
Jon Sullivan

Senior Lecturer of Ecology
BSc (Hons) Botany (University of Canterbury), PhD Biology (University of Pennsylvania)

DDI: 03 423 0756
Burns 524
Jon.Sullivan@Lincoln.ac.nz

Member of:
• New Zealand Ecological Society;
• New Zealand Biosecurity Institute;
• Entomological Society of New Zealand;
• Canterbury Botanical Society

Teaching:
New Zealand ecology, natural history, and conservation; plant ecology; botany; biological invasions; management of environmental weeds.

Research:
• How do native and naturalised insect herbivores alter weed invasions?
• The ecology of native and naturalised New Zealand Senecio species and their food web of insect herbivores: why are weedy senecios (e.g., ragwort) so abundant while many endemic senecios are in decline?
• How do woody weeds alter native forest succession?
• Using community observations to track changes in populations of common insects, plants, and birds (through the New Zealand Biodiversity Recording Network).

Selected Publications:
Teaching:
Plant Pathology, Integrated Plant Protection, Plant Pest Management, Grape Pest and Disease Management, Sustainable Plant Protection

Research:
- Evaluating the impact of plant parasitic nematodes on agriculturally important crops
- Development and implementation of novel management strategies to manage plant parasitic nematodes

Selected Publications:
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<td>Paterson, Adrian</td>
<td>Head of Department, Associate Professor of Zoology</td>
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<tr>
<td>de Vries, Arneka</td>
<td>Administrator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Banks, Jon</td>
<td>Adjunct Senior Lecturer</td>
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<td>Bowie, Mike</td>
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<td>Casonato, Seona</td>
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<td>Cripps-Guazzone, Natalia</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAME</td>
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<td>Dollery, Rebecca</td>
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<td>Understanding the ecology of dryland Kānuka communities in Canterbury to increase the restoration trajectory in an intensive dairy farm environment</td>
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<td>Establishment of threatened native plants on the walls of irrigation dams within a dairy landscape</td>
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* *Leptospermum scoparium*