

Gillian Telfer

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Date of Birth: 4 September 1971

Place of Birth: Edinburgh, Scotland

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EDUCATION

CENTRO DE ECOLOGIA APLICADA "PROF. BAETA NEVES", INSTITUTO SUPERIOR DE AGRONOMIA,
TAPADA DA AJUDA, 1399 LISBOA CODEX, PORTUGAL
2001 – 2005 (sub. 2006) PhD Forestry Engineering

Thesis title: "*The influence of forest landscape composition and structure on spider communities in Mafra (Portugal) and Hamsterley Forest (Durham, England)*".

Summary: In Portugal, two types of anthropogenic disturbance effects are currently being observed. Firstly, extensive activities such as agriculture, prescribed fire and afforestation have reduced the remnants of primitive Iberian oak forests to worryingly low levels. Secondly, with the ever-increasing need for timber, intensive forestry regimes have been implemented to cope with the demand. In Portugal, the widespread use of eucalyptus plantations at the expense of natural mixed-species stands is probably having a significant (although largely unknown) impact on biodiversity. In addition to spatial heterogeneity between the original and transformed habitats, disturbance to biosystems in plantations will be further enhanced by temporal factors such as succession, a subject that is covered in the final year work at Hamsterley Forest, England.

This PhD work aimed to assess the main impacts of man-made activities in the ancient landscape of Portugal where the impact on critical taxa, for conservation and ecological purposes, is poorly known. Studies were carried out comparing spider diversity in natural and semi-natural forest areas and studying edge effects across a plantation-grassland ecotone. From this research, major additions were made to the Portuguese checklist, and at present 24 species have been added to the Iberian list and 7 new species to Science. In Hamsterley Forest successional effects on spider assemblage structure were compared between *Quercus robur* (oak) and *Picea sitchensis* (Sitka spruce) forests.

UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM, SOUTH ROAD, DURHAM, ENGLAND
1995 – 1997

MSc Invertebrate Ecophysiology

Thesis title: "*Ecophysiological Studies on Invertebrate Diapause*".

Summary: Diapause performs two main functions in the life-cycle of an insect. In addition to protecting the organism from adverse seasonal conditions, diapause synchronises active stages of development with optimal conditions for growth. In most temperate species, photoperiod and temperature are the two principal zeitgebers involved in insect periodicity and diapause expression. This study focused on the effects of day length and temperature on a number of diapausing insect species (Carabid beetles, Tipulid flies and Coleopteran moths) found around County Durham.

NAPIER UNIVERSITY, COLINTON ROAD, EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND

1990 – 1994

BSc (Hons.) Biological Sciences - Class 2.1 (Upper Second)

Years 1 and 2:

Core Subjects: Human Biology, Biochemistry, Psychology, Sociology, Information Technology.

Year 3:

Core Subjects: Cell Biology, Psychology, Sociology, Information Technology.

Specialist Subjects: Immunology, Microbiology and Mechanisms of Animal Behaviour.

Project Title: "*The effects of HIV on the immune system: current theories*".

Year 4:

Core Subjects: Cell Biology, Psychology, Sociology.

Specialist Subjects: Microbiology and Mechanisms of Animal Behaviour.

Dissertation Title: "*The effect of industrial dusts on membrane lipid peroxidation*".

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL, GALASHIELS, SELKIRSHIRE, SCOTLAND

February 2006 – present

Galashiels Woodland Development Officer

Main duties: To oversee the daily management of Gala Policies and Langlee Woodlands and to liaise with the general public in order to enhance the potential of community woodlands in and around Galashiels. Preparation and implementation of interpretation, recreational development, biodiversity and conservation projects along with educational material relating to the 5-14 Curriculum. Overseeing the work of contractors and voluntary groups (in particular Community Justice Teams) on major path work (1km of improved track and 1km of wheelchair-friendly paths). Working in partnership with Borders Forest Trust on the Forest School project at Newcastleton Primary School. Representing management group at public meetings and media interviews. Active leader of an after-school nature club (SWT Wildlife Watch Club). Report writing, budget responsibility and database management. This position is funded by the Forestry Commission's WIAT Fund.

OATRIDGE COLLEGE, NEAR ECCLESMACHAN, WEST LOTHIAN, SCOTLAND

January 2006 – present

Lecturer (P/T)

Lecturer for the following SQA courses: HN Environment (Managing Environmental Resources Unit - Natural Resource Use and Ecosystems, Intermediate 2 level), HNC Countryside Management (Land Use Unit).

ALMONDELL & CALDERWOOD COUNTRY PARK, BROXBURN, WEST LOTHIAN, SCOTLAND

July 2005 – December 2005

Seasonal Calderwood Project Officer

Main duties: Worked alongside the Countryside Ranger Service on environmental education, interpretation and countryside management. Provided a point of contact to the park's visitors, and cultivated closer working relationships with landowners, land managers and countryside user groups. Patrolled waymarked trails and car parks, engaged school groups, youth groups and other interested parties in environmental activities. Worked with conservation and volunteer groups on site management projects including access and woodland management operations. Researched and designed leaflets and display interpretation of the park and surrounding area, led guided walks and talks to the general public and specialist interest groups. Led the "Acorn collection project" that involved local schools as part of Scottish Native Woods' "Growing up with Trees" programme.

Site management and site maintenance, and conducted biodiversity monitoring studies on locally important species (especially the Great Crested Newt) covered by Habitat Action plans. Prepared reports to Forestry Commission, Scottish Natural Heritage and West Lothian Council on progress. This position was funded by the Forestry Commission's WIAT Fund.

LONGRIDGE MOSS RESERVE, STONEYBURN, WEST LOTHIAN

July 2005 – March 2006

Convenor (Voluntary), Scottish Wildlife Trust

Main duties: Managed the SWT reserve, undertook practical conservation projects, liaised with SWT staff and neighbouring landowners, worked with voluntary conservation groups, recorded species and habitat change, updated species list, recorded bird and mammal sightings, monitored water levels, checked boundaries, removed litter.

ECOLOGY GROUP, LOS ALAMOS NAT. LABORATORY, LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO, U.S.A

January 2003 – August 2004

Consultant Entomologist

I was accepted in the Federal Laboratory as an "Official Visiting Student" to identify spiders collected from the Cerro Grande Fire Study. The fire, which occurred in 2001, burned a large part of the landscape (approximately 60,000 acres) and caused severe damage to the ponderosa pine forests, in addition to destroying many local homes and properties.

CENTRO DE ECOLOGIA APLICADA "PROF. BAETA NEVES", INSTITUTO SUPERIOR DE AGRONOMIA, TAPADA DA AJUDA, 1399 LISBOA CODEX, PORTUGAL

April 1999 – December 2000

Consultant Entomologist

Two biodiversity projects were undertaken at the Centre. The first, was an eight month study describing the species of spiders and carabids in a nationally owned and protected park, Tapada Nacional de Mafra. The second project, PAMAF, aimed to collect and identify a wide range of taxa from 100 selected areas around Portugal. This project aimed to assess the main impacts of anthropogenic disturbance regimes on biodiversity in natural and artificial forests.

SELECTION OF NON PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

WATERSTONES, SAUCHIEHALL STREET, GLASGOW, SCOTLAND

Bookseller/Cashier (Part-time), November 2004 to July 2005

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, 3 HILL PLACE, EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND

Administrative Assistant, September 1997 to September 1998 (Agency contract)

MURRAYBURN SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT, CALDER GARDENS, EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND

Domiciliary Carer, June 1996 to September 1996 (Summer Job)

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL, COUNTY HALL, DURHAM, ENGLAND

Assistant Librarian (Part-time) January 1996 to June 1996 (Maternity Leave Cover)

GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE, ST. ANDREWS SQUARE, EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND

Actuarial Clerk, January 1990 to September 1990, June to September 1991 & 1992 (Summer Jobs).

ROYAL VICTORIA HOSPITAL, COMELY BANK, EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND

Psychiatric Nursing Auxiliary, June 1989 to September 1989 (Summer Job)

VOLUNTEER WORK - SURVEYING EXPERIENCE

VOLUNTEER BADGER SURVEYOR (SOUTH LANARKSHIRE REGION), SCOTTISH BADGERS
April 2005 to present

VOLUNTEER BAT SURVEYOR (WEST SCOTLAND), BATS & THE MILLENIUM LINK
April 2005 to present

MEMBER, LOTHIAN AMPHIBIAN AND REPTILE GROUP
April 2005 to present

TRAINING COURSES ATTENDED

Courses in (i) Bat Identification, (ii) NBMP Introduction to Heterodyne Detectors, (iii) Harp Trapping and (iv) Scenes of Wildlife Crime. *Spring into Action, Training for Bat workers* – Organized by SNH and The Bat Conservation Trust, May 2005.

Insects and their Bat Predators. Training Workshop, Linlithgow July 2005. BATS & The Millennium Link.

Risk Assessment Preparation, Scottish Borders Council, 5 May 2006.

Paths to Health Walk Leader Training, Galashiels, 15 May 2006.

Mini-bus Driving, Scottish Borders Council, 16 May 2006.

John Muir Award Leader Training, Bridging the Borders, Coldstream, 20 May 2006.

Forest School Leader Training (Level 3), Bridgwater College, Somerset, 5-9 June 2006.

First Aid at Work, Scottish Borders Council, 15-16 & 18-19 June 2006.

PUBLICATIONS

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL (PUBLISHED)

G. Telfer & J. Butterfield (2004). The control of reproductive diapause in *Nebria salina* (Coleoptera: Carabidae). *Ecological Entomology*, **29**: 482-487.

G. Telfer, R. Bosmans, A. Melic & F. Rego (2003). The spiders of Portugal: additions to the country's checklist. *Iberian Journal of Arachnology*, **7**: 251-255.

J. Butterfield, **G. Telfer**, C. Fielding & J. C. Coulson (1999). The diapause syndrome in the seed-eating caterpillar of *Coleophora alticolella*. *Entom. Experimentalis et Applicata*, **92**: 321-330.

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL (IN PREPARATION)

R. Bosmans, **G. Telfer** & P. Cardoso. Additions to the Portuguese Linyphiidae (Araneae).

M. Branco, H. Santos & **G. Telfer**. Biodiversity of arthropods sheltered in pine processionary moth nests (submitted).

G. Telfer, P. Corcuera & J. Butterfield: Natural forests v. Semi-natural artificial plantations – a comparison approach using spiders as model biodiversity indicators from Portugal, England and Mexico.

G. Telfer, J. Butterfield, C. Huntley & F. Rego: Comparing effects of succession on ground-living spider diversity in Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*) plantations and Oak (*Quercus robur*) forests in Hamsterley Forest, County Durham, England.

G. Telfer, M. Cummer & T. Haarmann: Effects of fire and post-fire recovery on spider diversity in the Jemez Mountain Range, New Mexico, U.S.A.

Lopez-Pancorba & **G. Telfer** – *Lathys alticola*: a new report from Spain and Portugal (Araneae: Dictynidae).

INTERNATIONAL GRANTS AWARDED

1. PhD grant funded from the “Operacional Ciência, Tecnologia e Inovação” programme, Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, Portuguese Government, SFRH/BD/2710/2000.
2. COBICE, awarded by the European Union’s “Improving the Human Research Potential Knowledge Base” programme for a 3 week visit to the Copenhagen Natural History Museum in 2001, hosted by Dr. Nicolaj Scharff.

PERSONAL INTEREST AND SKILLS

- ◆ Excellent skills of communication and organisation.
- ◆ Confident working either in the laboratory or in the field on a number of scientific projects.
- ◆ Experienced in the collection and sorting of insects and arachnids.
- ◆ Comfortable when handling and collating large amounts of raw data.
- ◆ Class demonstration and tutoring experience: ranging from Environmental Education classes delivered to primary school children, to Statistical Analysis Techniques and Spider Identification workshops for postgraduate students.
- ◆ Knowledge of computer and statistical/data analysis packages such as Word for Windows, Power Point, Excel, SPSS, TWINSPAN, EstimateS and CANOCO along with web page design and construction.
- ◆ Experienced in poster and pamphlet design and production.
- ◆ Good written and verbal skills in Portuguese.
- ◆ Violin player for the last 25 years, and former member of the following orchestras: Scottish Junior Fiddle Orchestra, Lothian Schools Strathspey and Reel Society, Edinburgh Secondary Schools Orchestra, Santa Fe Community Orchestra.

REFEREES

Dr. J.E.L. Butterfield
Dept. Biological Sciences

Mr Jim Hogg
Parks Development Officer, Scottish Borders Council

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Selkirkshire, TD1
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