

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology 840 Main campus Dr. Raleigh, NC 27609 https://cals.ncsu.edu/entomology-and-plant-pathology/

Swapna Priya Rajarapu

Position: Postdoctoral Research Scholar Address: North Carolina State University

E-mail: srajara2@ncsu.edu

rajarapuswapna@gmail.com

Google scholar Website

Education

2009 - 2013 Degree: Doctorate

Major: Entomology

Dissertation Title: Integrated omics on the physiology of emerald ash borer

(Agrilus planipennis Fairmaire)

PI: Drs. Daniel Herms and Larry Phelan

University/college: The Ohio State University, USA

2006 - 2008 Degree: Masters

Major: Biochemistry

University/college: Osmania University, India

2003-2006 Degree: Bachelors

Major: Biochemistry

University/college: Osmania University, India

Professional experience

Jan 2019-present Postdoctoral Research Scholar, North Carolina State University

"Understanding the molecular interactions of an insect vector and their virus

and their ability to modify the host plants."

PI: Dr. Dorith Rotenberg

Nov 2016- Jan 2019 Postdoctoral Researcher, The Ohio State University, USA

"Extending durability of aphid resistance by understanding mechanism of

virulence to Rag-genes in Soybeans"

"Identification of salivary gland effectors of an insect vector, Graminella

nigrifrons"

PI: Dr. Andrew Michel

Aug 2017-Dec 2017 Instructor, OSU- Agricultural Institute of Technology, USA

Pesticides and their uses

June 2013-Oct 2016 Postdoctoral Research Associate, Purdue University, USA

"Engineering of termite-derived biocatalysts for use in sustainable energy

production"

PI: Dr. Michael Scharf

June 2009 - 2013 Graduate Rsesearch Assistant, The Ohio State University, USA

Sep 2009 - May 2010 Graduate Teaching Associate, The Ohio State University, USA



RESEARCH

Publications

Under review

2020 Mittapelly, P., **Rajarapu, S.P**., Phelan, P. L., Michel, A., Symbiont-mediated provisioning of nutrients in the brown marmorated stink bug. Journal of Insect physiology. *Manuscript submitted in July 2020*

In press

2020 Rajarapu, S.P., Ullman, D.E., Uzest, M., Rotenberg, D., Ordaz, N. A., Whitefield, A. E., Plant-virus-vector-interactions, State-of-the art Virology, ISTE Sciences Publishing limited.

Published

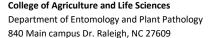
2020 Rajarapu, S.P*., Bansal, R., Mittapelly, P. and Michel, A., 2020. Transcriptome Analysis Reveals Functional Diversity in Salivary Glands of Plant Virus Vector, Graminella nigrifrons. *Genes*, *11*(11), p.1289.

*Corresponding author

- 2020 Rotenberg, D., Baumann, A.A., Ben-Mahmoud, S. Christiaens, O., Dermauw, W., Ioannidis, P., Jacobs, C.G., Jentzsch, I.M.V., Oliver, J.E., Poelchau, M.F. and Rajarapu, S.P et al. 2020. Genome-enabled insights into the biology of thrips as crop pests. BMC Biol 18, 142 https://doi.org/10.1186/s12915-020-00862-9 (12th author)
 Contribution: Orthologous transcripts encoding immunity genes in three thrips species
- **2020** Mittapelly, P. and **Rajarapu***, **S.P.**, 2020. Applications of Proteomic Tools to Study Insect Vector—Plant Virus Interactions. *Life*, *10*(8), p.143.

*Corresponding author

- **2017 Rajarapu, S. P.,** and Scharf, M. E. Saccharification of second generation feedstock by an insect gut-microbe bioreactor using initial protein level assessment. 2017. Frontiers in energy research 5, 5. doi: 10.3389/fenrg.2017.00005
- **2015 Rajarapu, S. P.,** Shreve, J., Bhide, K. P., Thimmapuram, J., Scharf, M. E. Metatranscriptomic profiles of Eastern subterranean termites, *Reticulitermes flavipes* (Kollar) fed on second generation feedstocks. 2015. BMC genomics 16.1: 332
- **2013 Rajarapu, S. P.**, Mittapalli, O., 2013. Glutathione-S-Transferase profiles of a wood boring beetle, the emerald ash borer, *Agrilus planipennis*. Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology Part B: Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. 165, 66-72, 10.1016/j.cbpb.2013.02.010.
- **2012** Mittapalli, O., Mamidala, P., **Rajarapu, S. P**., 2012. mRNA profiles of piRNA pathway genes in emerald ash borer *Agrilus planipennis*. Insect Science.19, 1744-7917
- **2012 Rajarapu, S. P.,** Mamidala, P., Mittapalli, O., 2012. Validation of reference genes for gene expression studies in the emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*). Insect Science. 19, 41-46.



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2011 Rajarapu, S. P., Mamidala, P., Herms, D.A., Bonello, P., Mittapalli, O., 2011 Antioxidant genes of the emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*): gene characterization and expression profiles. Journal of Insect Physiology. 57, 819-24.

- **2011** Mamidala, P., **Rajarapu, S. P.,** Jones, S.C., Mittapalli, O., 2011. Identification and Validation of Reference Genes for Quantitative Real-Time Polymerase Chain Reaction in *Cimex lectularius*. Journal of Medical Entomology 48, 947-951.
- **2011** Bai, X., Mamidala, P., **Rajarapu, S. P.,** Jones, S.C., Mittapalli, O., 2011. Transcriptomics of the Bed Bug (Cimex lectularis). PLos ONE 6, e16336.
- **2010** Bhandary, B., **Rajarapu, S. P.,** Rivera-Vega L, Mittapalli, O., 2010. Analysis of Gene Expression in Emerald Ash Borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) Using Quantitative Real Time-PCR. Journal of Visualized Experiments. DOI 0.3791/1974.
- **2010** Mittapalli, O., Bai, X., Mamidala, P., **Rajarapu, S. P.**, Bonello, P., Herms, D.A., 2010. Tissue-specific transcriptomics of the exotic invasive insect pest emerald ash borer PLoS ONE 5, e13708.

Awards

- 2016 International Congress of Entomology travel award, ICE 2016, Orlando, Florida (\$1000)s
- 2013 President's Prize winner for ten-minute paper presentation in plant insect interaction at Entomological Society of America annual meeting 2013, Austin, Texas.
- 2012 President's Prize winner for ten-minute paper presentation in physiology, biochemistry and toxicology section 3 at Entomological Society of America annual meeting, Knoxville, Tennessee.
- **2008** Inter collegiate Competition in Scientific writing secured 2nd place, Osmania University, Hyderabad, India.
- 2006 Certificate of excellence in academics in Masters of Biochemistry at Bhavan's Vivekananda Arts and Science College, Osmania University, Hyderabad, India 2006-2008.

Grants

- **2017 Rajarapu, S. P.,** Microbiome contribution to insecticide resistance in global agricultural pest. Qiagen Microbiome Awards. *(Not funded)*
- **2015** Scharf, M. and **Rajarapu S. P.,** Termite digestion of agricultural feedstocks. NSF SusChEM renewal grant. *(Not funded)*
- **2011 Rajarapu, S. P,** (PI) **\$5000**. Deciphering the counter-defense strategies in the midgut of the emerald ash borer larvae (*Agrilus planipennis* Fairmaire). SEEDS The OARDC Research Enhancement Competitive Grants Program.



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Oral Presentations

Invited:

- **2013 Rajarapu, S. P.** Molecular interactions of emerald ash borer with its co-evolved and a novel host. Fall Seminar series. Department of Entomology, Purdue University.
- **2012 Rajarapu, S. P.**, Muilenburg, V., Phelan, L., Herms, D. A., Mittapalli, O., Transcriptomic responses of emerald ash borer midgut on its native and novel host. OARDC-scholar association, The Ohio State University.

Submitted presentations:

- **2017 Rajarapu, S. P.**, Bansal, R, Michel, A. Identification of salivary gland effectors from Black faced leafhopper, *Graminella nigrifrons*. Entomological Society of America Annual meeting 2017, Denver, Colorado.
- **2016 Rajarapu, S. P.**, Dunn, P, and Scharf, M. E. Exploiting the termite digestome for biofuel production. International Congress of Entomology 2016, Orlando, Florida.
- **2015 Rajarapu, S. P.**, and Scharf, M. E. Protein level responses of *Reticulitermes flavipes* gut fed on Corn Stover and Soybean Residue. Entomological Society of America Annual meeting 2015, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- **2014 Rajarapu, S. P.**, Shreve, J., Bhide, K. P., Thimmapuram, J., Scharf, M. E. Metatranscriptomic profiless of Eastern subterranean termites, *Reticulitermes flavipes* (Kollar) fed on second generation feedstocks. Entomological Society of America Annual meeting 2014, Portland, Oregon.
- **2013 Rajarapu, S. P.**, Phelan, L., Herms, D. A., Mittapalli, O., 2013 Fate of green ash phenolics in the larval midgut of *Agrilus planipennis* Fairmaire. Entomological Society of America Annual meeting 2013, Austin, Texas.
- **2012 Rajarapu, S. P.**, Muilenburg, V., Phelan, L., Herms, D. A., Mittapalli, O., 2012. Midgut-specific profiles of the emerald ash borer larvae (*Agrilus planipennis* Fairmaire). Entomological Society of America Annual meeting 2012, Knoxville, Tennessee.
- 2012 Mittapalli, O., Mamidala, P., Rajarapu, S. P., Herms, D. A., Bonello, P. Midgut transcriptomics of an invasive insect species. International Congress of Entomology Conference. Aug 19-25, 2012
- **2011 Rajarapu, S. P.**, Bai, X., Mamidala, P., Bonello, P., Herms, D. A., Mittapalli, O., 2011. Expression profiles of antioxidant genes in the emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*). Entomological Society of America Annual meeting 2011, Reno, Nevada.
- **2011 Rajarapu, S. P.**, Bai, X., Mamidala, P., Bonello, P., Herms, D. A., Mittapalli, O., 2011. Deciphering the defense strategies in the emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*). Third Annual EAB Research and Technology meeting, Shisler conference, Wooster, Ohio.

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- **2010 Rajarapu, S. P.**, Bai, X., Bonello, P., Herms, D. A., Mittapalli, O., 2010.Cytochrome P450 signatures in the emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*), an exotic invasive insect pest. Entomological Society of America Annual meeting 2010, San Diego, California.
- **2010 Rajarapu, S. P.**, Bai, X., Mamidala, P., Bonello, P., Herms, D. A., Mittapalli, O., 2010. Detoxification and antioxidant defense strategies in the emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*). Third Annual EAB Mini symposium, USDA Forest Service, North Research Station, Delaware, Ohio.
- **2009 Rajarapu, S. P.**, Detoxification strategies in EAB midgut 2009. Second Annual EAB Mini symposium, USDA Forest Service, North Research Station, Delaware, Ohio.

Poster Presentations

- **2015 Rajarapu, S. P.**, Hoteling. J., and Scharf, M. E. Characterization of ATP binding cassette subfamily C transporters in *Reticulitermes flavipes*. Entomological Society of America Annual meeting 2015, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- **2013 Rajarapu, S. P.**, Muilenburg, V., Wijeratne, S., Sudhamala, B., Phelan, P. L., Herms, D. A., Mittapalli, O., 2013. Molecular characterization of the interaction between emerald ash borer, an invasive wood-boring beetle, and its novel and coevolved ash host species. Ohio State Agricultural Research and Development Annual conference, Wooster, Ohio.
- **2012 Rajarapu, S. P.**, Muilenburg, V., Phelan, P. L., Herms, D. A., Mittapalli, O., 2012. Omics of the emerald ash borer during interaction with ash. Plant and Animal Genome conference XX. San Diego, California.
- **2011 Rajarapu, S. P.**, Bai, X., Mamidala, P., Bonello, P., Herms, D. A., Mittapalli, O., 2011. Molecular characterization of antioxidant genes in the emerald ash borer, *Agrilus planipennis*. Ohio State Agricultural Research and Development Annual conference, Wooster, Ohio.

SERVICE	
2020	Executive advisor: Terra Bite Farms LLC
2018	Symposium co-organizer: "Shifting pest complexes: Management and Challenges in
	Soybean"
	ESA North Central Branch Meeting, Madison, Wisconsin
2017	Symposium co-organizer: "International collaborations in entomology: successes
	and challenges"
	Entomological Society of America Annual meeting, Denver, Colorado.
2017	Workshop co-organizer: "Avoiding pitfalls in early graduate school"
	ESA North Central Branch Meeting, Indianapolis, Indiana
2016	Moderator Contributed Papers: Physiology and Biochemistry: Fundamental



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	International Congress of Entomology, Orlando, Florida
2016	Symposium co-organizer: "Next Generation Technologies for Insect Control"
	International Congress of Entomology, Orlando, Florida
2015	Symposium co-organizer: "Leadership in Entomology"
	Entomological Society of America Annual meeting, Minneapolis, Minnesota
2015	Judge Undergraduate poster session
	Entomological Society of America Annual meeting, Minneapolis, Minnesota
2013	President (2013-2016)
	Association of Indian Entomologist in North America
2012	Vice President Entomology Graduate Student Association
	The Ohio State University, Ohio
2012	Grant review panel member
	SEEDS, OARDC Research Enhancement Competitive Grants Program, Columbus, Ohio
2011	Student Volunteer Virtual poster assistance
	Entomological Society of America Annual meeting, San Diego, California
2011	Presenter Insect collection and preservation
	Insect Night Walk, OARDC, Wooster, Ohio
2010	Student Volunteer Direction assistance
	Entomological Society of America Annual meeting, Reno, Nevada
2010	Presenter Insect collection and preservation
	Insect Night Walk, OARDC, Wooster, Ohio
2010	Judge, Poster Presentation, State Science Day, Columbus Ohio
2010	Judge, Undergraduate posters, Biological, Mathematical and Physical sciences
	Research Forum, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio
2009-10	Judge, Paper Presentations, ORIP summer internship program, The Ohio State
	University, Wooster, Ohio