ISCE - APACE 2025
AOTEAROA

18-22 August 2025
Christchurch, New Zealand

Plant & Food Research
Rangahau Ahumāra Kai

Scientific committee short bios (in alphabetical order)

Adriana Najar-Rodriguez, Plant and Food Research, New Zealand

I completed my BSC in Biology (National University of Colombia) and MSc and PhD in Entomology (University of Queensland). Then I worked as a Postdoc and Team Leader in Chemical Ecology at ETH Zurich for 8 years. I am currently a Senior Scientist at Plant and Food Research in New Zealand. Throughout my career, my investigations have addressed invasive insect pests (lepidopterans, aphids, and thrips), native insects, and invasive weeds. I have worked in Colombia, Australia, Switzerland, Germany and New Zealand. My applied work has typically concentrated on major agricultural market species, including potatoes (Colombia), cotton (Australia), several vegetables and summer and stone fruits (Switzerland), and also research relevant to the New Zealand forest industry. Topics covered by my research have included chemical ecology and bitrophic (insect-insect and plant-insect) and multitrophic (plant-herbivore-natural enemy) interactions, and effects of climate change on such interactions, novel behavioural manipulation tools for insect pest control and novel and non-invasive detection methods for biosecurity threats, among others insect communication, multitrophic interactions, biological control, insect pest management, effects of climate change on agricultural systems and associated herbivores and natural enemies, and behavioural genetics.

Aijun Zhang, United States Department of Agriculture, USA

Dr. Aijun Zhang is a Research Chemist with the USDA-ARS, Invasive Insect Biocontrol and Behavior Laboratory in Beltsville, Maryland. He graduated in 1979 from Beijing Medical University, School of Pharmacy and received his Ph.D. degree in Forest Chemistry in 1992 from State University of New York-College of Environmental Science and Forestry. His major research currently is in the fields of chemical ecology, electrophysiology, chemical synthesis, natural products, and integrated pest management. Over 30 years in his research career, he has published over 190 peer-reviewed publications, including 18 granted US patents, 9 issued international patents. He is a member of the Entomological Society of America since 2003 and a lifetime member of ISCE since 1994. He received Applied Chemical Ecology Awards from APACE in 2020, ISCE in 2021, Award of Senior Scientist of the Year, Northeast Area, USDA-ARS, 2022, and USDA-REE Under Secretary's Award, 2022. Dr. Zhang currently serves as associate editor of Scientific Reports, Insects, Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution, and Environmental Entomology.

Alvin Kah-Wei Hee, Universiti Putra Malaysia, Malaysia

Alvin earned a Ph.D. in Applied Entomology from Universiti Sains Malaysia in 2004, after completing a BAppSc with First Class Honors in Applied Biology from the same university in 1996. He is currently an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Science, Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Serdang, Malaysia. He's a Visiting Professor at Zhejiang Normal University in Jinhua, China (2024-2029), and at the Zhejiang Academy of Agricultural Sciences in Hangzhou, China, from (2023-2026). He is also currently the Assistant Head of the Department of Biology in the Faculty of Science at UPM.

Whilst focusing his research on tephritid fruit flies' particularly that of the Oriental fruit fly, he is also active in engaging with international researchers through his involvement as an active member of the International Society of Chemical Ecology (ISCE), International Fruit Fly Steering Committee, Immediate Past Chair of the Tephritid Workers of Asia, Australia and Oceania (TAAO) as well as President of the Asia-Pacific Association of Chemical Ecologists (APACE). Alvin is a Fellow of the Royal Entomological Society. Alvin is also currently an Associate Editor for Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution, Review Editor for Frontiers in Physiology, Subject Editor for Bulletin for Entomological Research and Invited Editor for Journal of Chemical Ecology. He has also reviewed multiple manuscripts for top journals such as PNAS, Journal of Pest Science, Journal of Economic Entomology as well as Journal of Chemical Ecology.

Andrea Clavijo McCormick, Ministry for Primary Industries, New Zealand

Andrea’s research explores chemical signals mediating species interactions, particularly in the context of biological invasions and environmental change. Her scientific journey began in her native country, Colombia, where she developed pheromone-based pest management strategies against an invasive pest of potato crops. Her passion for understanding how chemicals shape ecological relationships led her to the Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology in Germany, where she earned her PhD in 2014 exploring direct and indirect defences in poplar trees. She then took her expertise to the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich for a postdoctoral position. In 2016, Andrea moved to New Zealand to work at Massey University, where she held the positions of Lecturer and then Senior Lecturer in Ecology until 2021. She currently works at the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI), where she supports evidence-based decision-making for New Zealand's biosecurity system in her role as Manager of the Plant Risk Team. Throughout her career, she has obtained prestigious fellowships and grants, including a Max Planck Doctoral Fellowship, a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship, and a Marsden grant from the Royal Society of New Zealand - Te Apārangi.

Andrew Hayes, University of the Sunshine Coast, Australia

Dr Andrew Hayes began his research career studying the blood–gas physiology of decapod crustacean but soon moved to the exciting area of chemical ecology. His early work on chemical ecology was investigating the signals used to maintain social status in wild European rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*). He stayed within the field of vertebrate chemical communication, studying signals related to genetic relatedness in lemurs (*Propithecus edwardsii*), predator odours in Australian native rats (*Uromys, Melomys and Rattus*) and inter-specific signals in the cane toad (*Bufo marinus*). Since 2008 he has been studying the signals used by insects (produced by both insects and the plants they feed on), to find hosts and mates, and his research is focused on exploiting these signals to protect horticulture and forestry crops. He is a Senior Research Fellow at the Forest Research Institute, University of the Sunshine Coast, Queensland, Australia.

Claudia Lange, Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research, New Zealand

Dr Claudia Lange is a molecular ecologist and capability leader in the Biocontrol and Molecular Ecology team at Manaaki Whenua. Her research is focussed on microbe-insect-plant interactions and their impacts on biocontrol, biosecurity, and biodiversity, to improve environmental management outcomes. After her MSc in biotechnology in her home country Germany, she investigated the chemical ecology of insect-plant interactions at the Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology. After her move to New Zealand in 2006, she developed genetic markers for fungal biocontrol agents and gained a PhD in microbiology and genetics at Lincoln University in 2016. At Manaaki Whenua, she applies her expertise to weed biocontrol, insect microbial ecology, biosecurity, and native insect conservation programmes. As the leader of the international consortium on Microbe-Insect-Plant-Interactions (MIP), she develops new

research on the impact of microbiomes on insect fitness, and the outcomes for biocontrol and biosecurity with collaborators from New Zealand, Germany, France, the Netherlands, and Switzerland.

Dong Ho Cha, United States Department of Agriculture, US

Dong Cha is a Research Biologist at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center in Hilo, Hawaii. He received his PhD in Forest Resources from the Pennsylvania State University in 2002 and conducted postdoctoral research at Cornell University under mentorship of Wendell Roelof. His primary research interests centre on understanding the chemical signals that mediate interactions among plants, herbivores, natural enemies and microbes, with the goal of innovatively using semiochemicals to manage insect pests. His research program integrates electrophysiology, behaviour, microbial ecology, and genomics, along with field-scale experiments to develop novel pest management approaches. He is also focused on developing phytosanitary treatment for fresh agricultural commodities to address invasive insect trade-barriers. Dong serves as a subject editor for Journal of Economic Entomology and Environmental Entomology and maintains extensive national and international collaborations on basic and applied research projects in the chemical ecology of insect pests in tree and small fruits.

Jeremy Alison, Canadian Forest Service, Canada

My current research is focused on developing an understanding of the chemical ecology of forest insects. In the short-term this information is used to develop new and improve existing integrated pest management tactics and programs of insects affecting Canadian forests; and

in the long term, to develop a more complete understanding of the role of chemical signals and cues in natural forest systems and the evolutionary forces shaping the chemical ecology of forest insects. I also participate in a satellite lab in applied chemical ecology at the University of Pretoria in the Forestry and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute. The primary focus of this research program is the development of an understanding of the chemical ecology of insect pests of plantation forests and agricultural tree crops in the southern hemisphere.

Junwei (Jerry) Zhu, United States Department of Agriculture, US

Dr. Junwei (Jerry) Zhu is a Lead Scientist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, Agroecosystem Management Research Unit in Lincoln, Nebraska, USA. He received his Ph.D. in Chemical Ecology from Lund University, Sweden in 1995. Dr. Zhu has been involved in research and development using semiochemicals for integrated pest management at several Academic Institutes (postdoc at University of Kentucky, USA; Assistant Professor at Lund University, Sweden; Research Assistant Professor and Associate Scientist at Iowa State University, USA). Dr. Zhu joined USDA-ARS in 2007 focusing on medical and veterinary entomology to develop novel tools for animal and human protection. He has published over 115 high profile research papers and book chapters and has been granted 8 US patents and 1 European patent. Many of them have been licensed by industries and developed into commercial products and sold worldwide. He has been awarded millions of dollars of external research funding from NSF, USDA, DOD-DARPA, DWFP, NIFA and various research foundations and industries. Dr. Zhu has also experienced his entrepreneurship with a start-up Biotech company (MSTRS Technologies, Inc.) that develops and manufactures semiochemical-based products for controlling insect pests in agricultural and urban settings. Under his leadership, the company received the 2007 National Tibbetts Award (top 40 among 4000 small businesses selected in the US). Dr. Zhu has been elected as the President of the International Society of Chemical Ecology, and the President of the Asia-Pacific Chemical Ecologist Association. He has been a panel member of AAAS, USDA, BARD, NC Research Council, etc., and a research consultant/collaborator of Pfizer-Animal Science, BASF, SC-Johnson, Zoetis, Cargill, Nitto, Inc., etc. Dr. Zhu has joined editorial boards of several well-known scientific journals. He serves as an Associate Editor of Journal of Chemical Ecology

(including as Guest Editors of two JCE special issues), a Subject Editor of Journal of Insect Science, and an Associate Editor of Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution.

Magali Proffit, Centre d'Ecologie Fonctionnelle et Evolutive (CEFE), CNRS, France

Magali received her PhD from the University of Montpellier in 2007. She then worked as a post-doc at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, and at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden. She was recruited in 2013 to the CNRS at the Mediterranean Institute of Biodiversity and Ecology in Marseille. Since 2014, She has been working at CEFE in Montpellier. She has been a member of the International Society of Chemical Ecology (ISCE) since 2004, has consistently attended ISCE meetings and has been ISCE councillor. Her research activities are mainly oriented in the field of chemical ecology and build bridges between different disciplines to understand the processes underlying plant-insect chemical communication and the impact of environmental variation on the maintenance of biotic interactions. In the last ten years, she has directed several projects on the impact of air pollution on plant-pollinator chemical communication. She has a strong theoretical and technical background in pollination biology, phenotypic plasticity of insect olfaction, adaptation to environmental variation and chemical ecology in general.

Maria Carolina Blassioli Moraes, Embrapa Genetic Resources and Biotechnology, Brazil

Maria Carolina Blassioli Moraes earned a Bachelor's degree in Chemical Technology from the University of Campinas, São Paulo, Brazil (1995), followed by a Master's degree in Chemistry from the University of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil (1997), and a PhD in Analytical Chemistry from the same institution (2001). She completed two post-doctoral research fellowships: the

first in 2002 at the Centre for Nuclear Energy in Agriculture (CENA/USP) and the second in 2005, at Rothamsted Research (UK). After this, she joined Embrapa Genetic Resources and Biotechnology (CENARGEN, Brasília) as a research scientist in the Chemical Ecology group. Dr. Blassioli Moraes has been a member of the International Society of Chemical Ecology (ISCE) since 2005 and has consistently attended ISCE meetings.

Over the last five years, she has published 44 papers on chemical ecology, solidifying her expertise in the field. She also serves as a scientific adviser for the newly established Latin American Association of Chemical Ecology (ALAEQ), demonstrating her commitment to advancing chemical ecology in Latin America. Additionally, she mentors Master's and Ph.D. students from prestigious Brazilian universities, covering key research areas such as the chemical characterisation of volatile molecules, insect behaviour, the development of analytical methods for studying semiochemicals involved in tritrophic interactions, and formulation of semiochemicals for field applications.

Michael Georg Rostás, University of Göttingen, Germany

Prof. Michael Rostás has been the Head of Agricultural Entomology at the University of Göttingen (Germany) since 2018. His scientific career has taken him through research stations in Lincoln (New Zealand), Neuchâtel (Switzerland), Berlin and Würzburg (Germany). His research focuses on the chemical ecology of crop plants, pests, and beneficial fungi such as Trichoderma and Metarhizium. His work concentrates on analysing defence and signalling mechanisms in arable cropping systems. He develops innovative approaches like RNA-spray technologies for pest control and investigates insect resistance in oilseed rape and sugar beet.

Naoki Mori, Kyoto University, Japan

Naoki Mori is a Professor at the Division of Applied Life Sciences, Graduate School of Agriculture, Kyoto University and his area of expertise is agricultural chemistry. He earned his MSc and PhD in Agriculture from Kyoto University. Then, he worked as a Postdoc in Dr James H Tumlison's group (USDA ARS, Gainesville Florida) for 2 years. His research interests include (1) Elucidation of physiological roles of insect-derived elicitors that induce resistance in plants for insects, (2) Elucidation of the origin of toxic compounds from dart frogs and snakes of the genus *Rhabdophis*, (3) Biosynthetic mechanisms of semiochemicals in astigmatid mites.

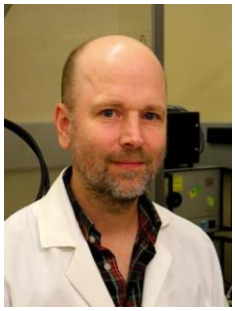
Nicoletta Faraone, Acadia University, Canada

Dr. Nicoletta Faraone is an internationally recognized Chemical Ecologist and a Natural Product Chemist. She holds a Bachelor in Science with Honour in Organic Chemistry from the University of Basilicata (Italy), a Master of Science in Natural Product Chemistry and PhD in Chemical Ecology from the University of Palermo (Italy). Dr. Faraone had extensive international postdoctoral training at Dalhousie University (Nova Scotia, Canada), Lund University (Sweden), and Acadia University (Nova Scotia, Canada). In 2019, she joined the Chemistry Department at Acadia University as a tenured-track assistant professor, and in May 2024, she was appointed as Associate Professor with tenure. She teaches Biochemistry, Metabolism, and Natural Product Chemistry.

Her research focuses on studying tick chemosensory system, how ticks detect odours from hosts and how they respond to repellents. She designs and develops novel essential oil-based tick repellent products using nanotechnology. Her research program provides critical tools

and knowledge in advancing research in tick repellent development, and the ideal environment to establish and supporting local and national industrial partners.

Recently, Dr. Faraone has focussed on studying the behavioural and neurological mechanisms of psychedelics and psilocybin for the treatment of depression and other mental health disorders by using fruit flies as model organism. Since 2019, Dr. Faraone has published 25 papers and supervised more than 50 students, technicians, research assistants, post-docs, and has received more than $3.0 million to support her research.



Paul Szyszka, University of Otago, New Zealand

Insects live in a complicated olfactory environment. Airborne odours distribute in small packages, intermingle, and fluctuate rapidly and chaotically. As a result, olfactory stimuli provide far less information about the location of their sources than visual or auditory stimuli. To understand how insects learn, recognise, and locate odour sources, Paul Szyszka uses behavioural experiments, electrophysiological recordings, and optical imaging of brain activity. He is currently a Senior Lecturer in Neuroscience and Zoology at the University of Otago, in New Zealand.

Renee Borges, Indian Institute of Science, India

Renee Borges is a graduate and post-graduate from the University of Bombay where she studied zoology, microbiology, and animal physiology. She is a PhD from the University of Miami, Coral Gables, and studied the foraging ecology of the Indian giant squirrel in relation to phytochemistry of Western Ghat forests in India for her doctoral degree. She was adjunct

faculty at the Wildlife Institute of India at Dehradun, and Deputy Director of Research at the Bombay Natural History Society.

Renee Borges is currently a Professor at the Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore. Her lab studies the mechanisms and the consequences of mutualism and parasitism in iconic symbiotic model systems such as fig and fig interactions, ant and ant-plant interactions and in fungus-farming termites. She also collaborates with physicists to understand soil-based architecture by animals such as termites, potter wasps and mud dauber wasps. She has investigated chemical and visual mimicry in spiders and the visual ecology of nocturnal bees.

Renee Borges is Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Biosciences* and is on the Editorial Board of several journals including the *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society*. She is a JC Bose National Fellow. She is currently Secretary of the Indian Academy of Sciences, based in Bangalore, and Secretary General of the International Union of Biological Sciences.

Ricardo Machado, University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland

Ricardo Machado conducted his PhD at the Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology in Germany, then moved to the University of Bern and then to the University of Neuchatel in Switzerland for his postdoctoral studies. His research focuses on the chemical and molecular ecology of multitrophic interactions in terrestrial ecosystems. His research system is composed of micro and macro-organisms such as plants, herbivorous insects, and diverse insect natural enemies and biological control agents such as predatory insects, insect parasitic nematodes, and entomopathogenic bacteria.

Robert A. Raguso, Cornell University, USA

Dr. Robert Raguso is a Professor in the Department of Neurobiology & Behavior at Cornell University. He completed his doctoral studies at the University of Michigan (1989-95) and postdoctoral training at the University of Arizona (1996-99) before taking faculty positions at the University of South Carolina (1999-2007) and Cornell (2007-present).

Prof. Raguso's research explores the interface between the evolutionary diversification of chemical phenotypes (scent, nectar, oils) in flowers and multimodal sensory capabilities of their pollinators, with an emphasis on chemoreception and foraging behavior. He has studied the full range of ecological interactions in pollination, from generalized to specialized systems, including honest signaling in obligate mutualism, guilds of convergent "pollination syndromes", brood site deception and floral mimicry. Raguso, his students and collaborators have studied diverse global ecosystems, promoted methodological standardization and capacity building through analytical workshops and have extended their studies into the realm of microbial symbionts, including yeasts, bacteria and rust fungi.

Raguso has a history of service to the field of Chemical Ecology and to the ISCE. He has served as an associate / special features editor for the Journal of Chemical Ecology and as a councillor and current Vice President for the ISCE. He co-founded and co-chaired the first Gordon Research Conference on plant volatiles (1999) and has served on advisory boards for the Linnaeus Project (SLU Alnarp), the Max-Planck-Institute for Chemical Ecology (Jena) and the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology.

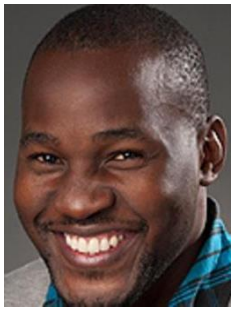
Suk-Ling Wee, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Malaysia

Dr Suk-Ling Wee earned her PhD from Universiti Sains Malaysia in 2002. From 2003 to 2007, she worked as a Research Scientist at New Zealand Plant and Food Ltd. before returning to her home state to join Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) in 2007. Her research interests focus on plant-insect interactions, the manipulation of insect behaviour and semiochemicals for integrated pest management (IPM), and the use of sterile insect techniques for area-wide control and management of insect pests. In addition to tephritid fruit flies, she has also studied blow flies, black soldier flies, moths, and weevils. Dr. Wee is a member of the Steering Committee for the Tephritid Workers of Asia, Australia, and Oceania (TAAO) and a former Council member of the Asia-Pacific Association of Chemical Ecologists (APACE). At present, Dr. Wee holds the position of Associate Professor at the Faculty of Science and Technology, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) and is appointed as a Visiting Professor at the College of Life Sciences, Zhejiang Normal University, China (2024 to 2029).

Sulav Paudel, AgResearch, New Zealand

Sulav Paudel is an entomologist with over 10 years of experience in developing and implementing integrated pest management (IPM) programs across diverse regions, including the United States, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, and the South Pacific Islands. He holds a multidisciplinary M.S. and Ph.D. in entomology and international agriculture & development from Pennsylvania State University, USA.

His research has focused on insect-plant interactions through the lens of chemical ecology, examining how insects respond to environmental stresses and plant chemical defences, with a particular emphasis on the role of semiochemicals in supporting sustainable pest management strategies. Currently, as a Senior Scientist at AgResearch in New Zealand, he applies these principles to biological control and remote surveillance of invasive insect pests in the South Pacific Islands. Sulav is passionate about integrating chemical ecology with pest surveillance to develop innovative, science-based solutions for global pest challenges.

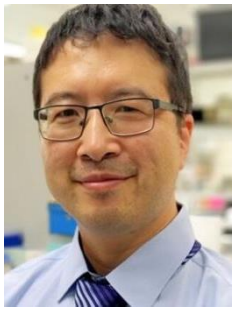


Umar Lubanga, Agriculture Victoria, Australia

I am a research scientist at Agriculture Victoria Research (AVR), within the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) in Victoria, Australia. My research focuses on insect and plant interactions. I have a strong interest in understanding how insects utilize semiochemicals and acoustic signals for mating and host location. My aim is to apply this knowledge to modify insect behaviour and develop environmentally sustainable insect management practices.

I am actively involved in multiple research projects focusing on the development, evaluation, and optimization of innovative tools for the detection and management of priority insect pests in Australia, including *Carpophilus truncatus* and *Ectomyelois ceratoniae*, commonly known as the carob moth — both of which are significant global pests of almonds.

Currently, I am leading research initiatives to enhance an external trapping system designed for the management of the small hive beetle (*Aethina tumida*), a major pest threatening honeybee populations in Australia. My research encompasses various pest management strategies, including chemical ecology, applied insect acoustics, classical biological control, and integrated pest management.



Wei Xu, Murdoch University, Australia

Wei Xu obtained his Ph.D. in Agricultural & Environmental Chemistry at the University of California, Davis, in 2010. Prior to that, he earned an M.S. in Molecular Biology and Biochemistry from Sun Yat-sen University in China in 2004, and a B.S. in Microbiology from the same university in 2001. He has been an Associate Professor at Murdoch University in Australia since August 2024. Before this role, he served as a Senior Lecturer at Murdoch University from September 2018 to August 2024, and as a Lecturer in Entomology from January 2015 to August 2018. He began his career as an OCE Postdoctoral Fellow at CSIRO Ecosystem Sciences in Australia, where he worked from November 2010 to October 2013.
His research focuses on insect biology and chemical ecology. He and his team are dissecting how insects have fine-tuned their sensory systems to sense their environment and regulate their behaviours. Understanding these mechanisms will provide a vital tool for assessing crucial natural interactions of hosts and insects, as well as allowing us to develop new strategies for insect control.

Xue-xin Chen, Zhejiang University, China

Xue-xin Chen received his M.S. (1987) and Ph.D. (1994) in Entomology from Zhejiang University, China. He has been employed with Zhejiang University since 1987 and has been a full professor of Entomology since 1998. He became a Chang Jiang Distinguished Professor of Entomology in 2009. At present he has also served the director of Key Laboratory of Molecular Biology of Pathogens and Insect Pests, Ministry of Agriculture, China, and the director of Key Laboratory of Biology of Pathogens and Insect Pests of Zhejiang province, China. He once did his visiting studies in the Naturalis Biodiversity Center, the Netherlands; the Department of Entomology, University of Queensland, Australia; the Department of

Entomology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA (UIUC) and Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology, Harvard University, USA.

Xue-xin's primary interests are the evolutionary biology of parasitoid wasps and biological control of insect pests. Since later 1990's, this focus has been expanded to understand the molecular mechanisms underlying interactions between parasitoids and their hosts, and new methods and technologies for insect pest management. He has produced over 430 referred papers in a number of journals, such as Cell, Nature Communications, Annual Review of Entomology, PLoS Pathogens, PLoS Genetics, Molecular Biology and Evolution, Molecular Ecology, Journal of Applied Ecology, Biological Control and Biocontrol. He has been the leader for several research projects supported by the China Basic Research Development Program (973), the National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars, and Key Program of Natural Science Foundation of China. He has been awarded the second-class prize of the National Scientific and Technological Progress Award of China, the China Entomological Society Award for Outstanding Young Scientist, the Zhejiang Provincial Award for Outstanding Young Scientist, and the Baogang Education Fund Award for Excellent Teacher. He is the vice president of the Entomological Society of China and the chair of the Biological Control Committee; the president of the Entomological Society of Zhejiang province, China; and a member of the Consultative Committee of Biological Sciences, National Natural Science Foundation of China. He has been the Chief-in-Editor of the journal Crop Health, and Associate Editor of journals such as Acta Entomologica Sinica, Chinese Journal of Biological Control and Journal of Environmental Entomology.

Yonggen Lou, Zhejiang University, China

Dr. Yonggen Lou is a Qiushi Distinguished Professor at the Zhejiang University located in Hangzhou, China. He received his PhD degree in 1999. He completed his postdoc training at the Max-Planck Institute of Chemical Ecology in Jena, Germany, then worked as a visiting scientist in the Laboratory of Prof. Ted Turlings, Switzerland.

Prof. Lou primarily works on molecular interactions between plants and insects including molecular mechanisms of plant defence responses; tritrophic interactions and rice insect pest management. He has published over 190 research papers in scientific journals, such as *Nature*

Food, *Nature Plants*, *PNAS*, *Ecology Letters*, Current Biology, *eLife*, *Molecular Plant, New Phytologist*, *Plant journal*, *Plant Physiology*.

He served as an APACE councillor (2011-2015), an ISCE councillor (2021-2023), the Secretary of APACE (2019-2021), and was the Chair of the 2019 APACE meeting in Hangzhou. He is currently serving as the President of Chinese Chemical Ecologist Association. He also serves as editorial board members for Plants, People, Planet; Insect Science, *etc*.