



RIVERSIDE

DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY

ENTM250 Seminar Series



Speaker:

Dr. Tobin J. Hammer

Assistant Professor

Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
University of California, Irvine

Date: Monday, May 15, 2023

Time: 4:00 pm - 4:50 pm

Format: In-Person Seminar & Virtual Access

Location: Genomics Auditorium 1102A

Zoom: 938 1040 4405

Passcode: 833289

Title:

“Bumble bee bacteria: ecology, function, and potential roles in bee declines”

Abstract:

Gut bacterial symbionts might be involved in insect declines, and could have applications for conservation (e.g., probiotics). However, what the “normal” microbiome is, how it affects hosts, and how it responds to the environment, are poorly understood for large swaths of insect diversity. Bumble bees are a useful model in that they have a small number of characteristic, specific, and culturable gut bacterial species, whose functions can be studied experimentally. In my talk I will focus on an emerging pattern of global, recurring symbiont loss in wild bumble bee populations. I will present our latest efforts to understand its ecological drivers and potential consequences for bee health.

Refreshments will be served in the Entomology Building Courtyard at 3:30pm