

Curriculum Vitae: Thomais Kakouli-Duarte

Lecturer and Principal Investigator

Molecular Ecology and Nematode Research Group

EnviroCORE, Department of Science and Health

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<http://agribiotics.itcarlow.ie/>

Qualifications

1995 Ph.D. Thesis: Biological Control of the Black Vine Weevil, *Otiorhynchus sulcatus* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) with Entomopathogenic Nematodes (Nematoda: Rhabditida). University of Reading, U.K.

1991 M.Sc. Technology of Crop Protection. M.Sc. Thesis: Association between *Sclerotium rolfsii* and *Meloidogyne javanica* on *Phaseolus vulgaris*.
University of Reading, U.K.

1990 Diploma Crop Production, Grade: 1st Class. Technological Education Institute of Western Macedonia, Florina, Greece.

Work Experience

2003-present Lecturer in Environmental Biotechnological Sciences. Department of Science and Health, Institute of Technology Carlow, Kilkenny Road, Carlow, Ireland. Main duties: teaching (Molecular Genetics, Immunology, Cell Biology, Ecology), research, course development, promotion and student recruitment.

2000-2003 Assistant Lecturer in Environmental Biotechnological Sciences. Department of Science and Health, Institute of Technology Carlow, Kilkenny Road, Carlow, Ireland. Main duties: teaching (Molecular Genetics, Immunology, Microbiology), research.

1997-2000 Postdoctoral research fellow. Department of Biology, National University of Ireland, Maynooth. Research project funded by EU FP4. Title: Development of standardised

molecular techniques for the identification of insect quarantine pests.

1998-1999 Part time lecturer Population Genetics. Department of Biology, National University of Ireland, Maynooth. Population Genetics module of the 3rd year (Hons) Biology and Biotechnology degrees.

1998-1999 Part time tutor. Department of Experimental Physics, National University of Ireland, Maynooth. Higher Diploma in Applied Physics: Co-supervision of a research project entitled "Chaos in biological systems".

1996-1997 Senior demonstrator in Biology. Department of Biology, National University of Ireland, Maynooth.

1995-1996 Postdoctoral research fellow. Department of Biology, National University of Ireland, Maynooth. Research project funded by EU Training and Mobility Grant. Title: The identification and characterisation of active transposable elements in the entomopathogenic nematodes, *Heterorhabditis* spp.

1993-1994 Part time technician in the Crop Protection Research Unit. Department of Agriculture, University of Reading, U.K.

1992-1994 Nematology demonstrator. Department of Agriculture, University of Reading, U.K.

1992-1993 Part time research assistant. Department of Agriculture, University of Reading, U.K.

Research Theses Supervised

· PhD Thesis, 2007: Boyle, S. An investigation on the genetic structure and variation of Irish and exotic *Steinernema feltiae* (Nematoda: Steinernematidae). Institute of Technology Carlow.

· MSc Thesis, 2007: Courtney, L. Towards the development of *Sclerotinia* resistant white clover. Institute of Technology Carlow.

· MSc Thesis, 2009: O' Connor, W. Development of a DNA array for soil nematode community characterisation. Institute of Technology Carlow.

Research Team at Present

One PI, five postgraduate students and two undergraduate students.

Research Interests:

Molecular ecology; nematode biodiversity in the context of environmental change; nematode sentinels; bumble bee conservation; biological control; molecular quarantine diagnostics.

Research Funding Secured:

More than 1.3 million euro in the last 5 years

Membership of Professional Bodies

- Secretary, Postgraduate Research Programme Board, Institute of Technology Carlow, 2011-present
- Chairperson, Postgraduate Research Programme Board, Institute of Technology Carlow, 2006-2010
- Secretary, Biology Course Board, Institute of Technology Carlow, 2007-2010
- Member of R & D Committee of the Academic Council of the Institute of Technology Carlow, 2006-2012
- Representative of the Institute of Technology Sector in the National Working Group for FP7-Environment, coordinated by the EPA, 2008-present
- Irish representative member in the Management Committee of COST Action 872 “Exploiting genomics to understand plant-nematode interactions”, 2008-2011.
- Member of the organising and scientific committee for Environ 2007; IT Carlow in association with ESAI, 27-28 January 2007
- Examination Board of NUIM (PhD external examiner)
- Teagasc Biological Safety Committee
- Teagasc Interview Board

- Association of Applied Biologists (A.A.B.)

- Royal Entomological Society

- The European Society of Nematologists (E.S.N.)

- The Society of Nematologists (S.O.N.)

- Member of the Entomophilic Nematode Committee of S.O.N. 2005-2006

- Member of the Nematology Working Group of the Association of Applied Biologists, 2010-2012

- Reviewer of manuscripts in the following journals: Journal of Applied Soil Ecology, European Journal of Plant Pathology, Environmental Bioindicators, Experimental Parasitology, Journal of Nematology, Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry, Hellenic Plant Protection Journal.

- Member of the Steering Committee of BioNet, 2002-2006

- Member of the Programme Committee of the BioNet Inaugural Conference 2003 at the Galway – Mayo Institute of Technology

- Member of the Organising and Programme Committee of the BioNet Annual Conference 2004 at the Institute of Technology Carlow

- Member of the Organising and Programme Committee of the BioNet Annual Conference 2006 at the ITT-Dublin

Reviewer of Manuscripts in:

- Journal of Applied Soil Ecology
- European Journal of Plant Pathology
- Environmental Bioindicators
- Experimental Parasitology
- Journal of Nematology
- Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry
- Hellenic Plant Protection Journal

Congress Organisation

- Chairperson and Session Organiser: Advances in Nematology. The Association of Applied Biologists. The Linnean Society, London, UK. 13 December 2005.
- Chairperson and Chief Scientific Organiser of the 1st International Symposium on Nematodes as Environmental Bioindicators. The Association of Applied Biologists, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, UK, 12-13 June 2007.
- Convenor and Session Organiser: Climate change, soil health monitoring and nematode bioindicators. 5th International Congress of Nematology, Brisbane, Australia. 13-18 July 2008.
- Chairperson and Session Organiser: Nematodes as bioindicators. Joint 30th International ESN Symposium & 5th *Phylloxera* Symposium, Vienna, Austria. 19-23 Sept 2010.
- Chairperson and Session Organiser: Advances in Nematology. The Association of Applied Biologists. The Linnean Society, London, UK. 14 December 2010.

Other Achievements

- President of the Hellenic (Greek) Community of Ireland 2006-2011.
- Secretary of the Greek Orthodox Community in Ireland 2006-present
- Coordinator of a COST Action application amassing 37 research teams from 16 Europe countries, two peripheral, one Asian and one Pacific. February 2008.

- Selected to represent Ireland by undertaking an exchange visit to Greece for third-level education experts within the frame work of the Cultural Agreement between Ireland and Greece. Visiting Institute: Foundation for Research and Technology, Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, University of Crete, Greece. 18 to 25 August 1998. eraklionH

Publications

- Books: 3
- Peer-Reviewed in International Journals: 11
- Technical Reports- Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Food: 2
- Invited Presentations: 5
- Conference Abstracts and Proceedings: 48
- Popular Science Articles: 2