

Curriculum Vitae

I. PERSONAL DATA

Last name : **Csontos**
First name : **Attila Sandor**

Status : Visiting Researcher (Fulbrighter)
Institution : University of Florida
Department of Entomology &
Nematology

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II. EDUCATION

School Achievements, Educational Background in Chronological Order

- 2000** Visiting Researcher (PhD-student) at the Entomology Dept. of the University of Florida till January 2001
- 1999** Obtained a nine-month Fulbright Award to the University of Florida
- 1998** Passed the „B” (written) English Advanced-level Hungarian State Language Examination
- 1997** Started doctoral studies as a Ph.D.-student at the Pannon University of Agricultural Sciences in the field of Nematology
- 1997** Took the TOEFL exam with 573 points
- 1996** Passed the „A” (oral) English Advanced-level Hungarian State Language Examination
- 1995** Graduated from the Pannon University of Agricultural Sciences as an Agriculturist specializing in Agricultural Chemistry in Keszthely
- 1993-94** One year sholarship in England at Nottingham University in Sutton Bonington at the Faculty of Agronomy (I studied and sat for an examination in Plant Cell and Molecular Biology; Biology and Society; Food Chemistry)

- 1993** Took one month part-time course in English in Nottingham, organized by the Centre for English Language Education
- 1989-95** Attended Pannon University of Agricultural Sciences, Georgikon Faculty (starting my undergraduate studies at Veszprem, at Veszprem University)
- 1985-89** Attended O. Herman Grammar School in Miskolc, passed GCE
- 1977-85** Elementary School; started learning English

School Achievements, Educational Background

I graduated in 1995 from the Pannon University of Agricultural Sciences as an Agriculturist specializing in Agricultural-Chemistry in Keszthely, Hungary.

As the Pannon Agricultural- and the Veszprem Chemical Universities cooperated in such specialised courses, first I spent one year in Veszprem and studied various kinds of chemical disciplines like Organic - and Inorganic Chemistry, Analytics, Biotechnology etc.

Then I took 4 years in Keszthely and I specialized mainly on Entomology, Nematology and Helminthology. I took part in the courses of Acarology, Biological Control, Plant Protection, Virology, Genetics and Biotechnology as well.

I am interested in the behavioral and physiological studies of nematodes and insects, insect population biology, social insect biology, natural resource management and environmental protection.

I carried out research and wrote my thesis on insect photoperiodism, which is a very exciting theme for research. I published and co-authored articles as part of my scientific researchwork.

In 1993 I earned a year-long TEMPUS-scholarship to England to the Nottingham University in Sutton Bonington at the Faculty of Agronomy. I took part in a one month part-time English language course in English in Nottingham, organized by the Centre for English Language Education. I prepared part of my diploma thesis in England.

In 1998 I passed the English Advanced-Level State Language Examination and in the previous year I passed the TOEFL exam as well with the result of 573 points.

I began my Ph.D.-studies in September 1997 at the Pannon University. I started my investigations in connection with the influence of various ecological factors on entomopathogen nematodes.

I obtained a nine-month Fulbright Award to the University of Florida in 1999 (from August 1999 till May 2000). I could manage to prolong my researchwork from September 2000 till January 2001.

III. PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

1. One month part-time professional journey in Belgium at the laboratory of the firm named Foss Electric where I studied food safety techniques (infrared spectroscopy and atomabsorbic spectrophotometry) in 1992.
2. In Nottingham I studied food safety and analyses besides other subjects (various plant sciences).

IV. REFERENCES

1. Prof. Grover C. Smart Jr

Professor and Graduate Coordinator at the Entomology/Nematology Dept. of the University of Florida

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2. Dr. Byron J. Adams

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3. Dr. Khuong B. Nguyen

Senior Biological Scientist

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4. Prof. Gyula Sáringer

Professor, Member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences

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5. Dr. Miklós Nádasy

Assistant Professor, Head of the Entomology Department for the Pannon University, in Hungary

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V. MY STUDY OBJECTIVES

Scientific research on Nematodes have been carried out for a long time at our university. However, less research has been made and consequently less knowledge has been gathered in connection with the ecology of entomopathogen Nematodes.

I am interested in the ecological studies of entomopathogen nematodes and insects.

I began my Ph.D.-studies in September 1997 at the Pannon University. I started my investigations in connection with the influence of various ecological factors on Nematodes. I am using in my scientific investigations various *Steinernema* and *Heterorhabditis* species on *Galleria mellonella* larvae and examine diverse ecological factors like humidity (soil moisture), temperature, soil type etc. on the efficacy of different nematode strains.

Now I am expanding *Heterorhabditis bacteriophora* HP88, *Steinernema glaseri*, *Steinernema riobrave*, *Steinernema arenaria* in my research. I study the movement of the above mentioned species/strains in sandy soils at various temperatures.

I am investigating the influence of such factors like temperature, edaphic- and pH-conditions, on entomopathogen Nematodes. The knowledge of the influence of these environmental and ecological factors can be used to protect cash crops from herbivorous insects more efficiently.

If we get to know the environmental demands of such Nematodes we can propagate them and reach a usable population. Using these animals would be an environment friendly way of plant protection, which can play an important role in sustainable agriculture as well.

VI. PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Hungarian publications

- articles, periodicals :

NÁDASY M. - PRIBÉK D. - CSONTOS A. (1996) : A fotoperiódus hatása a *Pieris brassicae* L. és az *Athalia rosae* L. lárváinak táplálékfogyasztására. - *Növényvédelem*, 32 : 515-520.

CSONTOS A. (1999): Az ökológiai tényezok hatása az entomopatogén nematodákra. – V. Ifjúsági Tudományos Fórum, 18-22.

- abstracts :

NÁDASY M. - CSONTOS A. - GÁL CS. - PRIBÉK D. (1995) : Ökológiai vizsgálatok a *Pieris brassicae* lárváival. - Növényvédelmi Tudományos Napok, Budapest, Előadások összefoglalója, 58.

Foreign publications :

- poster :

Gy. SÁRINGER & A. CSONTOS (1998) : Role of ecological factors (photoperiod, temperature) on the inception of diapause of *Leucoptera malifoliella* Costa (Lep., Lyonetiidae) ; Poster on the International Symposium on Crop Protection, Gent, Belgium.

VII. SPECIFIC SKILLS

Computer Skills :

MS-DOS, Windows applications : Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Access, Corel Draw; Internet, Telnet, Outlook Express, Eudora Light, CC-mail, mIRC, ICQ etc.

Language Proficiency :

- Hungarian - mother tongue
- English - fluent
- French - fair
- German - basic
- Russian - basic

VIII. OTHER

Hobbies, Interests :

- science
- languages
- literature
- travelling
- outdoor activities, sports
- computers, Internet surfing

Attila Csontos

Ph.D.-student / Fulbrighter

Entomology/Nematology Dept.

Gainesville, FL. September 10th 2000.