

Chuan-Kai Ho

Email: chuanho@tamug.edu
Department of Marine Biology
Texas A&M University at Galveston
5007 Avenue U, Galveston, TX, 77551

Research Interests

Basic research in ecology: trophic interactions; geographic variations in trophic interactions.

Ecological applications: assessing the impact of climate change on trophic interactions; applying ecology to conservation or agriculture.

Education

1996 BS, Botany, National Chung-Hsing University, Taiwan
2001 MS, Conservation Biology, University of Maryland
2008 PhD, Ecology and Evolution, University of Houston

Publications

2004 Carol E. Goranson, Chuan-Kai Ho, and Steven C. Pennings. 2004. Environmental gradients and herbivore feeding preferences in coastal salt marshes. **Oecologia** 140: 591-600.

2007 Steven C. Pennings, Martin Zimmer, Natália Dias, Martin Sprung, Nilam Davé, Chuan-Kai Ho, Amy Kunza, Caroline McFarlin, Malte Mews, Anett Pfaunder, and Cristiano Salgado. 2007. Latitudinal variation in plant-herbivore interactions in European salt marshes. **Oikos** 116: 543-549.

2008 Chuan-Kai Ho and Steven C. Pennings. 2008. Consequences of omnivory for trophic interactions on a salt-marsh shrub. **Ecology** 89: 1714-1722.

2009 Steven C. Pennings, Chuan-Kai Ho, Cristiano Salgado, Kazimierz Wieski, Nilam Dave, Amy Kunza, Elizabeth L. Wason. Latitudinal variation in herbivore pressure in Atlantic Coast salt marshes. **Ecology** 90: 183-195.

2009 Chuan-Kai Ho, Steven C. Pennings, and Thomas H. Carefoot. Is diet quality an overlooked mechanism for Bergmann's rule? **American Naturalist** *accepted*.

Manuscripts

2009 Chuan-Kai Ho and Steven C. Pennings. Preference and performance in plant-herbivore interactions across latitude. *Manuscript in revision*.

2009 4 more manuscripts by the end of 2009 (2 each from PhD and Postdoc work)

Awards

1995 Undergraduate Research Scholarship from the National Science Council, Taiwan

2003~2007 Travel Award from the Dept. of Biology, University of Houston (US \$2,100)

2004~2007 National Estuarine Research Reserve Graduate Research Fellowship,
NOAA (US \$60,000)

2005 Graduate Student Oral Presentation Award, ERF 2005 Conference

2007~2008 Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grants, National Science Foundation
NSF (US \$9,600)

Presentations

- 2003 Inaugural Meeting of the International Biogeography Society, NV
- 2003 Gulf Estuarine Research Society Spring Meeting, Port Aransas, TX
- 2003 ESA Annual Meeting, Savannah, GA
- 2005 ESA Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada
- 2005 Biennial Conference of the Estuarine Research Federation, Norfolk, VA
- 2005 E&E Seminar, Dept. of Biology and Biochemistry, University of Houston
- 2006 Student Talk, Dept. of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Rice University
- 2006 ESA Annual Meeting, Memphis, TN
- 2007 ESA Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA
- 2008 Recent Advances in Marine Science Seminar, Texas A&M University
- 2008 Biodiversity Research Center, Academia Sinica, Taiwan
- 2009 ESA Annual Meetings, Albuquerque, NM

Research and Educational Experience

- 1990 Butterfly Museum Guide, Taipei, Taiwan
- 1994 Volunteer Educator, Kenting National Park, Taiwan
- 1995 RA, Dr. J.H. Lin, National Chung-Hsing University
- 2000 RA, Dr. D.E. Gill, University of Maryland
- 2002~2008 RA, Dr. S.C. Pennings, University of Houston & University of Georgia Marine Institute (Sapelo Island)
- 2002~2007 Field survey of latitudinal variations on salt-marsh plants and herbivores along the Atlantic Coast from Florida to Maine (3000 mi round trip x 16 times)
- 2003 Biogeographic survey of European salt marshes in Germany, Netherlands, Spain, and Portugal (with Dr. S.C. Pennings, funded by the National Geographic Society)
- 2005 Created a salt marsh plant identification poster for public education at 3 National Estuarine Research Reserves.
- 2007~2008 Photographing insects and creating an insect identification website for public education at the ACE Basin National Estuarine Research Reserve.

Teaching

- 2007 Biol 1162 Introductory Biology Laboratory

Referees

- Dr. Anna Armitage (409) 740-4842 armitaga@tamug.edu
Postdoc advisor, Texas A&M University at Galveston
- Dr. Steven C. Pennings (713) 743-2989 spennings@uh.edu
PhD advisor, University of Houston
- Dr. Blaine J. Cole (713) 743-2679 bcole@uh.edu
PhD committee member, University of Houston
- Dr. Tony Frankino (713) 743-2173 frankino@uh.edu
PhD committee member, University of Houston