

## The weekly newsletter from the Botany Department at Trinity College Dublin

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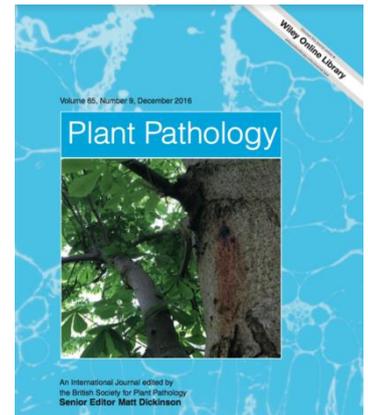
### News & Publications

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▪ **Brian McGuinness**, Botany TCD and Teagasc MSc Research student, has just submitted his thesis on *Escallonia* leaf spot disease in which he describes, among other things, a new fungal species. Well done Brian!

▪ Transition year and BT young scientist winner, **Anna McEvoy's** work with **Brian McGuinness** and **Trevor Hodkinson** featured on the cover of December 2016 *Plant Pathology Journal*. The picture shows a bacterial disease of horse chestnut that causes the tree to ooze red sticky fluid from its trunk and severe branch dieback. The paper describes the incidence and molecular characterisation of the disease in Ireland.

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/ppa.12529/full>  
[cid:947E3087-CA90-4751-B6E1-AA632C0B367F@tcd.ie]



▪ Botany PhD student **Sai Aroju**, **Trevor Hodkinson** and others presented work on genomic selection in perennial ryegrass breeding at the [Teagasc Annual Walsh Fellowship Seminar](#) on November 10th.



▪ As part of the All Ireland Pollinator Plan, **Jane Stout** co-authored the [Business Guidelines](#) which were launched by Bord Bia last week and received press coverage in the [Irish Times](#) and [Offaly Express](#).

▪ **Mike Jones** and **Matt Saunders** had a paper published in *Global Change Biology Bioenergy* entitled "The potential use of papyrus (*Cyperus papyrus* L.) wetlands as a source of biomass energy for sub-Saharan Africa". <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/gcbb.12392/full>

▪ **Matt Saunders** and **Mike Jones** are co-authors on a paper published in *Environmental Modelling and Assessment* entitled "Soil organic carbon (SOC) equilibrium and model initialisation methods: an application to the Rothamstead carbon (RothC) model". <http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10666-016-9536-0>

**PHYTOBYTES** needs your input, yes you!

Whether you are student or staff, please send any news you have, big or small, to Anne ([dubearna@tcd.ie](mailto:dubearna@tcd.ie)) with the subject heading Phytobytes. Let's share the latest news and always be aware of what is happening at Botany!

## Upcoming events

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▪ Botany will host international SFI funded conference 'Sustain - Endophytes for a growing world' from 28<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> August 2017. The conference will highlight cutting-edge research using endophytes and will synthesise the most promising approaches to endophyte supported plant production.



Please register your interest at <https://www.tcd.ie/Botany/sustain2017/sustain2017.php> and watch the conference [video](#) featuring our very own **Brian Murphy**.

## Grants

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Congratulations to **Matt Saunders** and **Mike Williams** on their recent grant successes:

- H2020-INFRA-SUPP (CSA): Supporting EU-African cooperation on research infrastructures for food security and greenhouse gas observations (Total grant €2 million, TCD, **Matt Saunders** Work Package leader)
- EPA Climate Call 2016: Soil organic carbon and land use mapping (SOLUM) (Total grant €300,000, TCD, **Matt Saunders** coordinating, **Mike Williams** Work Package leader)

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