

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

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### News

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- The results of the [Trees of Trinity College photographic competition](#) will be released on Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 11 am. The winning photographs will be used to embellish the *Trees of Trinity College Dublin* booklet, of which the 4th edition is currently in preparation.

### Publications

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- **Eileen Power** recently published three new articles:

- Analysis of nectar from low-volume flowers: A comparison of collection methods for free amino acids. [Methods in Ecology and Evolution \(2017\) \(Early view\)](#).

- A method for analysing small samples of floral pollen for free and protein-bound amino acids. [Methods in Ecology and Evolution \(2017\) \(Early view\)](#).

- Nutritional composition of honey bee food stores vary with floral composition. [Oecologia \(2017\) 185: 749-761](#).

- **Mike Jones** is a co-author on a new publication on which **Mohammed Abdalla**, a former post-grad and post-doc in the Botany Department is lead author:

Critical review of the impacts of grazing intensity on soil organic carbon storage and other soil quality indicators in extensively managed grasslands. [Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment \(2017\) 253: 62-81](#).

### Conferences & Outreach

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- **Jane Stout** and **Hannah Hamilton**, along with several others from the school, led the Irish Forum on Natural Capital [Natural Capital Stewards meeting](#) to identify challenges in terms of integrating natural capital into reporting and accounting systems of public and private organisations, and to identify research opportunities.
  - **Jane Stout** gave an invited lecture in the Plant Sciences Department at the [University of Oxford](#) on the direct impacts of invasive species on native pollinators. She also visited the [University of Bern](#), Switzerland, to deliver a guest lecture.
  - **Jane Stout** addressed the issue of waste in her latest Irish Times piece: [Halloween is a load of rubbish](#).
  - **Matt Saunders** attended a workshop in Brussels which focused on [Setting the course for peatland climate mitigation](#) in agricultural, climate and nature protection policies at the EU level.
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▪ On 17th November **John Parnell** chaired a session at a conference on 'Botany in Early Modern Ireland' held in the Worth Library. At the conference, his former M.Litt. student **Dr. Emer Lawlor** gave a presentation entitled 'There is some point we may advance to: Caleb Threlkeld's Life and Sources'. **Caleb Threlkeld wrote Ireland's first Flora** and Emer was able to absolutely confirm that **his herbarium collection is held in the TCD Herbarium** [as suspected by Doogue, D. & Parnell, J. (1992). Fragments of an eighteenth century herbarium - possibly that of Caleb Threlkeld in Trinity College, Dublin (TCD). *GLASRA* new series 1(2) 99-109.]

▪ **Jane Stout, Aoife Delaney, Laura Russo, James Murphy, Sarah Gabel, Saorla Kavanagh** and Plant Sciences Graduate **Alison O'Reilly** all attended and presented at the annual **SCAPE** (Scandinavian Association for Pollination Ecology) meeting in Norway (photos below).



Next year the meeting will be hosted in Ireland by Jane and Dara Stanley – this will be the first time in its 32 year history that the meeting has been held outside Scandinavia!



**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!