

Laura Gatch

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Education

Bachelor of Science in Insect Science (Entomology): Emphasis in Science

August 2014-December 2017

GPA: 3.76

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Experience

Laboratory Technician

Spring 2017-July 2019

Hebets Lab, Biology Department, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE

- Manage feeding distribution schedule, feed, and record status of *Schizocosa* specimen cohort including deaths, molts, parasitism, and aberrances.
- Design and perform auditory percussion experiments for courtship displays in *S. stridulans*.
- Process and analyze data on *Schizocosa* maturation patterns
- Analyze auditory and visual recordings to determine courtship patterns and individual phenotypes.
- Construct and maintain habitats for *Schizocosa* cohort.
- Edit and revise numerous grant proposals and reports.
- Process and analyze data collected on *Schizocosa* over the past 20 years.

Conservation Collaborator

October 2014-December 2018

Omaha HDZ, Lincoln Zoo, Nebraska Parks & Wildlife, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE

- Design and direct mark-and-release program of adult Salt Creek Tiger Beetles.
- Engineer and implement new marking system for tracking of adult Salt Creek Tiger Beetles.
- Oversee and coordinate feeding of Salt Creek Tiger Beetle larvae.
- Design and maintain schedule for sexing, tagging, monitoring, and release of Salt Creek Tiger Beetles.
- Oversee and exclusively create official correspondence with Nebraska Parks and Wildlife, Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo, Lincoln Zoo, and University of Nebraska – Lincoln.
- Track and assess released adult Salt Creek Tiger Beetle populations at saline wetland habitat sites.
- Rescue and resuscitate damaged Salt Creek Tiger Beetle populations.
- Monitor, record, and analyze feeding behavior of Salt Creek Tiger Beetle larvae.
- Monitor and report site conditions.
- Train National Park Service intern in conservation management.
- Manage and direct transportation of adult Salt Creek Tiger Beetles and equipment between Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo facilities and University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Undergraduate Researcher

Fall 2016-Spring 2017

Hein Lab, Entomology Department, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE

- Establish and implement thresholds for identifying KRS virus in corn kernels
- Monitor and maintain colonies of wheat curl mites
- Prepare plants for experimental use
- Ensure proper stock and organization of lab materials

English Tutor

Fall 2016-December 2017

Self-employed, Lincoln NE

- Instructed in the English language at a 3rd-7th grade level with an ESL student.
- Assist in completion of homework.
- Coach in life skills including cooking, sportsmanship, science, and chess.

Arthropod Zoo Caretaker

November 2014-July 2017

Entomology Department, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE

- Maintain health and monitor welfare of arthropods.
- Coordinate and perform feeding and hydration of arthropods.
- Design, construct, and maintain arthropod habitats.
- Research and design care instructions for new contributions to the arthropod zoo.
- Collaborated with outreach committee to identify new contributions to arthropod zoo
- Performed outreach to visitors, groups, and students.
- Design handling guidelines for outreach events.

Lab Prep Worker

August 2016-December 2016

Biology Department, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln NE

- Gather components for and set up experiments for LIFE121 lab course.
- Deliver instructions to other lab prep workers and ensure compliance.
- Feed and care for reptiles, amphibians, and arthropods.
- Pot and maintain plants.
- Clean and maintain labs.

TA (Teaching Assistant) Intern

August 2016-December 2016

Biology Department, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln NE

- Assist in maintaining smooth lab operation for LIFE121 lab course.
- Grade and record marks for lab abstracts and reports.
- Hold office hours in the LIFE121 lab resource room.

VBS (Vacation Bible School) Science Teacher

August 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016

St. Philip Presbyterian Church, Hurst, TX

- Developed science lesson plans for grades 1-5 to connect the Bible to science with insect themes.
- Design and perform classic demonstrations and experiments.
- Select, catch, and bring live insect demonstrations to encourage broad perspectives in science.
- Present daily core lessons, often utilizing puppetry, to all participants in VBS.
- Teach specific classroom curriculum to grades 1-5
- Lead interactive Energizer activities with grades Pre-K-5

Honors, Awards, and Activities

National Merit Scholar

CASNR Dean's List, 2014, 2016, 2017

UNL Honor's Program

Insect Science Club President

CASNR Graduate with Distinction

Poster Session Participant at ISBE conference 2018

Attendee at American Arachnological Society conference 2018