# Joshua L. Konkol

[jkonkol@ufl.edu](mailto:jkonkol@ufl.edu)

## Education

Aug 2020 – Present **University of Florida**

PhD student in Plant Pathology, 3.94 GPA

Jan 2018 – Dec 2018 **University of Florida**

Microbiology and Cell Science graduate coursework, 3.41 GPA

Jan 2014 – July 2017 **Miami Dade College**

Undergraduate coursework, 3.37 GPA

Aug 2007 – May 2009 **University of Virginia**

Master’s candidate in English Literature, ABT, 3.31 GPA

Aug 2003 – May 2007 **Florida State University – cum laude**

Bachelor of Arts in English and Philosophy, 3.62 GPA

## Research Experience

Aug 2019 – Present **Graduate Research Assistantship**

University of Florida Plant Pathology Department

Nov 2013 – July 2019 **Biological Scientist II, Plant Pathology**

University of Florida Tropical Research and Education Center

Nov 2009 – Nov 2013 **Laboratory Technician, Plant Pathology**

University of Florida Tropical Research and Education Center

## Awards

Mar 2019 **Graduate School Preeminence Award Fellowship**

University of Florida Plant Pathology Department

Nov 2018 **Outstanding Performance as a Biological Scientist**

University of Florida Tropical Research and Education Center

## Memberships

Feb 2018 **American Phytopathological Society**

## Conferences and Workshops

Aug 2020 **American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting, Denver, CO (online).**

Sept 2019 **IX World Avocado Conference, Medellin, Colombia.**

Aug 2019 **American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting, Cleveland, OH.**

## Outreach Events

Feb 2020 **Bishop Middle School Family Science and Robotics Night**

## Publications

1. Castillo, R., Vazquez, A., **Konkol, J.L.**, Vargas, A.I., Ploetz, R.C., Etxeberria, E., Schaffer, B. 2020. Leaf gas exchange, sap flow and xylem anatomy of three *Persea* species in response to laurel wilt. Tree Physiology. **Submitted for peer review.**
2. Choudhury, R.A., Er, H.L., Hughes, M.A., Smith, J.A., Pruett, G.E., **Konkol, J.L.**, Ploetz, R.C., Marois, J.J., Garrett, K.A., van Bruggen, A.H.C. 2019. Host density dependence and environmental factors affecting laurel wilt invasion. *bioRxiv*, 642827. <https://doi.org/10.1101/642827>. **Submitted for peer review.**
3. G.L. Beier, C.D. Lund, B.W. Held, R.C. Ploetz, **J.L. Konkol**, R.A. Blanchette. 2020. Variation in xylem characteristics of botanical races of *Persea americana*. **Submitted for peer review.**
4. Pérez-Martínez, J.M., Ploetz, R.C. and **Konkol, J.L.** 2018. Significant *in vitro* antagonism of the laurel wilt pathogen by endophytic fungi from the xylem of avocado does not predict their ability to control the disease. Plant Pathology. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ppa.12878>.
5. Saucedo, J.R., Ploetz, R.C., **Konkol, J.L.**, Carrillo, D. and Gazis, R. 2018. Partnerships between ambrosia beetles and fungi: Lineage-specific promiscuity among vectors of the laurel wilt pathogen, *Raffaelea lauricola*. Fungal Microbiology. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00248-018-1188-y>.
6. Saucedo, J.R., Ploetz, R.C., **Konkol, J.L.**, Ángel, M., Mantilla, J., Menocal, O. and Carrillo, D. 2017. Nutritional symbionts of a putative vector, *Xyleborus bispinatus*, of the laurel wilt pathogen of avocado, *Raffaelea lauricola*. Symbiosis. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13199-017-0514-3>.
7. Ploetz, R.C., **Konkol, J.L.**, Pérez-Martínez, J.M., Fernandez, Randy. 2017. Management of laurel wilt of avocado, caused by *Raffaelea lauricola*. Eur J Plant Pathol 149: 133-143. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10658-017-1173-1>.
8. Ploetz, R.C., **Konkol, J.L.**, Narvaez, T., Duncan, R.E., Saucedo, R.J., Campbell, A., Mantilla, J., Kendra, P.E. and Carrillo, D. 2016. Presence and prevalence of *Raffaelea lauricola*, cause of laurel wilt, in different species of ambrosia beetle in Florida USA. Econ. Entomol. 110:347-354. <http://10.1093/jee/tow292>.
9. O’Donnell, K., Sink, S., Libeskind-Hadas, R., Hulcr, J., Bateman, C., Kasson, M.T., Ploetz, R.C., **Konkol, J.L.**, Ploetz, J.N., Carrillo, D., Campbell, A., Duncan, R.E., Liyanage, P.N.H., Eskalen, A., Na, F., Geiser, D.M., Freeman, S., Mendel, Z., Sharon, M., Aoki, T., Cossé, A.A. and Rooney, A.P. 2016. Invasive Asian *Fusarium* – *Euwallacea* ambrosia beetle mutualists pose a serious threat to forests, urban landscapes and the avocado industry. Phytoparasitica 44:435-442. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12600-016-0543-0>.
10. Ploetz, R.C., Thant, Y.Y., Hughes, M.A., Dreaden, T.J., **Konkol, J.L.**, Kyaw, A.T., Smith, J.A. and Harmon, C.L. 2016. Laurel wilt, caused by *Raffaelea lauricola*, is detected for the first time outside the southeastern USA. Plant Disease 100:2166. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-03-16-0411-PDN>.
11. Sanahuja, G., Ploetz, R.C., Lopez, P., **Konkol, J.L.**, Palmateer, A.J. and Pruvost, O. 2016. Bacterial canker of mango, *Mangifera indica*, caused by *Xanthomonas citri pv. mangiferaeindicae*, confirmed for the first time in the Americas. Plant Disease 100:2520. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-03-16-0412-PDN>.
12. Ploetz, R.C., Freeman, S., **Konkol, J.L.**, Naser, Z., Shalan, K., Barakat, R., Israeli, Y. 2015. Tropical race 4 of Panama disease in the Middle East. Phytoparasitica 43:283–293. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12600-015-0470-5>
13. Ploetz, R.C., Schaffer, B., Vargas, A.I., **Konkol, J.L.**, Salvatierra, J., and Wideman, R. 2015. Impact of laurel wilt, caused by *Raffaelea lauricola*, on leaf gas exchange and xylem sap flow in avocado, *Persea americana*. Phytopathology 105:433-440. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1094/PHYTO-07-14-0196-R>.
14. F. García-Bastidas, N. Ordóñez, **J. Konkol**, M. Al-Qasim, Z. Naser, M. Abdelwali, N. Salem, C. Waalwijk, R. C. Ploetz, and G. H. J. Kema. First Report of *Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. cubense* Tropical Race 4 associated with Panama disease of banana outside Southeast Asia. 2014. Plant Disease 98:694. <https://doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-09-13-0954-PDN>.
15. O’Donnell, K., Sink, S., Libeskind-Hadas, R., Ploetz, R.C., **Konkol**, **J.L.**, Ploetz, J.N., Carrillo, D., Campbell, A., Duncan, R.E., Kasson, M.T., Liyanage, P.N.H., Eskalen, A., Geiser, D.M., Hulcr, J., Bateman, C., Freeman, S., Mendel, Z., Campbell, P.R., Geering, A.D.W., Aoki, T., Cossé, A.A., and Rooney, A.P. 2014. Discordant phylogenies suggest repeated host shifts in the *Fusarium–Euwallacea* ambrosia beetle mutualism. Fungal Genetics and Biology. 82:277-290. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.fgb.2014.10.014>.
16. Kasson, M.T., O’Donnell, K., Rooney, A.P., Sink, S., Ploetz, R.C., Ploetz, J.N., **Konkol,** **J.K.,** Carrillo, D., Freeman, S., Mendel, Z., Smith, J.A., Black, A., Hulcr, J., Bateman, C., Black, A.W., Campbell, P.R., Geering, A.D.W., Dann, E.K., Eskalen, A., Mohotti, K., Short, D.P.G., Aoki, T., Fenstermacher, K.A., Davis, D.D., Geiser, D.M. 2013. An inordinate fondness for *Fusarium*: Phylogenetic diversity of fusaria cultivated by ambrosia beetles in the genus *Euwallacea* on avocado and other plant hosts. Fungal Genetics and Biology 56:147-157. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fgb.2013.04.004>.
17. Ploetz, R.C., **Konkol, J.L.** 2013. First report of gulf licaria, *Licaria trianda*, as a suscept of laurel wilt. Plant Disease 97:1248. <https://doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-01-13-0027-PDN>.

## Presentations

1. **J. L. Konkol,** R. Castillo-Argaez, A. Vazquez, R. Fernandez, A. I. Vargas, R. C. Ploetz, B. Schaffer. Clonal and seedling avocado rootstocks exhibit similar variability in their responses to laurel wilt disease. Paper presented at the IX World Avocado Conference 2019, Medellín, Columbia 2019.
2. R.C. Ploetz, **J.L. Konkol**, J.R. Saucedo, B. Schaffer1, D. Carrillo, J. Rollins, J. Smith, and R. Blanchette. Laurel wilt: A global threat to avocado production. Paper presented at the IX World Avocado Conference 2019, Medellín, Columbia 2019.
3. R. Castillo-Argaez, **J.L. Konkol**, A. Vazquez, R. Fernandez, A.I. Vargas, R.C. Ploetz, B. Schaffer. Laurel wilt susceptibility related to physiology of grafted avocado trees. Paper presented at the IX World Avocado Conference 2019, Medellín, Columbia 2019.

## Posters

1. **Konkol, J.L.**, Wang, Q., Rollins, J.A. (2020, August). Transformation of *Raffaelea lauricola* with GFP to visualize its colonization of swamp bay, *Persea palustris*. Poster presented at the American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting, Denver, CO (online only).
2. Beier, G.L., Lund, C.D., Held, B.W., Ploetz, R.C., **Konkol, J.L.**, Blanchette, R.A. (2020, August). Variation in xylem characteristics for botanical races of avocado. Poster presented at American Society for Horticultural Sciences Annual Conference, Orlando, FL.
3. Saucedo, J.R., Ploetz, R.C., **Konkol, J.L.**, Ángel, M., Mantilla, J., Menocal, O. and Carrillo, D. (2018, July). Nutritional symbionts of a putative vector, *Xyleborus bispinatus*, of the laurel wilt pathogen of avocado, *Raffaelea lauricola*. Poster presented at the International Congress of Plant Pathology, Boston, MA.
4. Pérez-Martínez, J.M., Ploetz, R.C. and **Konkol, J.L.** (2018, July). Significant *in vitro* antagonism of the laurel wilt pathogen by endophytic fungi from avocado does not predict their ability to control the disease. Poster presented at the International Congress of Plant Pathology, Boston, MA.
5. Ploetz, R.C., **Konkol, J.L.**, Pérez-Martínez, J.M. (2017, August). Management of laurel wilt of avocado, caused by *Raffaelea lauricola*. Poster presented at the American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.
6. Ploetz, R.C., **Konkol, J.L.**, Navarez, T., Duncan, R., Saucedo, J.R., Campbell, A., Carrillo, D., Kendra, P. (2017, August). Presence and prevalence of *Raffaelea lauricola*, cause of laurel wilt, in different species of ambrosia beetle in Florida. Poster presented at the American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.
7. Sanahuja, G., Ploetz, R.C., Lopez, P., **Konkol, J.L.**, Palmateer, A. (2016, August). Bacterial black spot of mango, *Mangifera indica*, caused by *Xanthomonas citri* pv *mangiferaeindicae*, is confirmed in the Western Hemisphere. Poster presented at the American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting, Tampa, FL.
8. Ploetz, R.C., Thant, Y., Hughes, M., Dreaden, T., **Konkol, J.L.**, Kyaw, A., Smith, J., Harmon, C. (2016, August). Laurel wilt, caused by *Raffaelea lauricola*, is detected for the first time outside the southeastern USA. Poster presented at the American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting, Tampa, FL.
9. Saucedo, J., Ploetz, R.C., Carrillo, D., **Konkol, J.L.**, Smith, J., Rollins, J., Ochoa, S. (2016, August). *Raffaelea arxii* may be the primary symbiont of *Xyleborus affinis*. Poster presented at the American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting, Tampa, FL.
10. Ploetz, R.C., Carrillo, D., **Konkol, J.L.**, Fernandez, R., Pérez-Martínez, J.M., Wideman, R., Duncan, R. (2015, August). Laurel wilt of avocado: Epidemiology of a recalcitrant disease of an important crop. Poster presented at the American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting, Pasadena, Ca.
11. Ploetz, R.C., Schaffer, B., Vargas, A., **Konkol, J.L.**, Salvatierra, J., Inch, S., Campbell, A., Wideman, R. (2013, August). Physiological impacts of laurel wilt on avocado. Poster presented at the American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting, Austin, TX.
12. Er, H.L., Hughes, M., Smith, J., Pruett, G., **Konkol, J.L.**, Ploetz, R., Marois, J., van Bruggen, A. (2013, August). Epidemiological study on laurel wilt. Poster presented at the American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting, Austin, TX.
13. Ploetz, R., Ploetz, J., **Konkol, J.L.**, O’Donnell, K., Campbell, A., Duncan, R. (2013, August). *Fusarium* symbionts of an ambrosia beetle (*Euwallacea* sp.) in southern Florida are pathogens of avocado, *Persea americana*. Poster presented at the American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting, Austin, TX.
14. Kasson, M.T., O’Donnell, K., Rooney, A.P., Sink, S., Ploetz, R.C., Ploetz, J.N., **Konkol, J.L.**, Carrillo, D., Freeman, S., Mendel, Z., Smith, J.A., Black, A.W., Hulcr, J., Bateman, C., Stefkova, K., Campbell, P.R., Geering, A.D.W., Dann, E.K., Eskalen, A., Mohotti, K., Short, D.P.G., Aoki, T., Fenstermacher, K.A., Davis, D.D., Geiser, D.M. (2013, August). An inordinate fondness for *Fusarium*: Phylogenetic diversity of fusaria cultivated by *Euwallacea* ambrosia beetles on avocado and other plant hosts. Poster presented at the American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting, Austin, TX.