

# Christopher D. Muir

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## Current position

2019 - *Assistant Professor*  
Department of Botany University of Hawai'i at Mānoa  
Honolulu, Hawai'i, USA

## Areas of specialization

Evolutionary Biology; Plant Ecophysiology; Quantitative Biology

## Past Appointments

2017 - 2018 *Scientist* – Biological Statistics for Global Agronomy  
Novozymes Inc.  
Durham, North Carolina, USA

Novozymes develops biological solutions to improve yield and make crops more sustainable. I lead data analysis for the global field trial program to commercialize new agricultural products. I developed computational workflows to process, analyze, and interpret large datasets for stakeholders.

2017 *Computational Biologist*  
Poisson Consulting Ltd.  
Vancouver, Canada

I helped conserve natural resources in Canada through statistical consulting for industrial and government clients. I developed open source software in R to analyze and make sense of large ecological datasets using Bayesian statistical approaches.

2015 - 2017 *Postdoctoral Researcher*  
Departments of Botany and Zoology  
University of British Columbia  
Vancouver, Canada

2013 - 2015 *Biodiversity Postdoctoral Fellow*  
Biodiversity Research Centre  
University of British Columbia  
Vancouver, Canada

As a postdoctoral researcher I studied fundamental problems in the evolution and ecology of biodiversity. My funding provided extraordinary independence to develop and pursue my research interests in evolutionary physiology using theory, computational approaches, phylogenetic comparative methods, and field experiments.

#### Education

2013 PHD in Evolutionary Biology (Geology minor)  
Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, USA

2006 BS in Biology (Economics minor), College of William and Mary  
Williamsburg, Virginia, USA

#### Grants, honors & awards

##### SUBMITTED

2019 EPSCoR RII Track 4  
“Penetrating the inner lives of leaves to breed water-wise crops using math, 3D imaging, and experiments.” PI **Muir**, \$133,971

Acquisition Performance Computing Cluster for Data Intensive Research. Collaborator.

##### AWARDED

2019 UHM Office of Vice Chancellor of Research Faculty Tracel Award (\$2,000)

2013 - 2015 Biodiversity Postdoctoral Fellowship (UBC, \$100,000)

2012 - 2013 Payne Dissertation Year Fellowship (IU, \$20,000)

2011 Evo-Devo-Eco Network Research Exchange Experience (\$3000)

2010 Rosemary Grant Award from the Society for the Study of Evolution (\$2450)

2008 - 2012 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship (\$120,000)

2008 Charles B. Heiser Graduate Fellowship in Plant Evolution (IU, \$1000)

2008 Indiana University Fellowship (\$10,000)

2008 METACYT Fellowship (IU, \$10,000)

2007 Society for Systematic Biology Graduate Research Award (\$1650)

## Publications

18 peer-reviewed publications; 11 as first author

### PREPRINTS

**Muir CD**. tealeaves: an R package for modelling leaf temperature using energy budgets. In review at *AoB PLANTS*.

 preprint  code  cran

**Muir CD**, MÀ Conesa, J Galmés. Independent evolution of ab- and adaxial stomatal density enables adaptation.

 preprint

### OTHER MANUSCRIPTS IN REVIEW

Conesa MÀ, **CD Muir**, A Molins, J Galmés. Stomatal anatomy coordinates leaf size with Rubisco kinetics in the Balearic *Limonium*). In review at *AoB PLANTS*.

 code

Conesa MÀ, JJ Peguero-Pina, **CD Muir**, A Molins, EJ Roldán, E Gil-Pelegrín, J Galmés. Leaf hydraulics and venation traits are decoupled in the tomatoes and relatives (*Solanum* sect. *Lycopersicon* sect. *Juglandifolia* and sect. *Lycopersicoides*). In review at *Physiologia Plantarum*.

Lowry DB *et al.* (author 23 of 37). The case for the continued use of the genus name *Mimulus* for all monkeyflowers. In review at *Taxon*.

### PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

2019

**Muir CD**. Is amphistomy an adaptation to high light? Optimality models of stomatal traits along light gradients. *Integrative & Comparative Biology*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/icb/icz085>

 preprint  code

Bontrager M, **CD Muir**, AL Angert. Geographic and climatic drivers of reproductive assurance in *Clarkia pulchella*. *Oecologia*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00442-019-04390-4>

 preprint  code

2018

**Muir CD**. Light and growth form interact to shape stomatal ratio among British angiosperms. *New Phytologist* 218: 242-52.

 preprint  code  data

2017

**Muir CD** & AL Angert. Grow with the flow: a latitudinal cline in physiology is associated with more variable precipitation in *Erythranthe cardinalis*. *Journal of Evolutionary Biology* 30: 2189-203.

MÀ Conesa, **CD Muir**, EJ Roldán, A Molins, JA Perdomo, J Galmés. Growth capacity in wild tomatoes and relatives correlates with original climate in arid and semi-arid species. *Environmental and Experimental Botany* 141: 181-90.

Guerrero RF, **CD Muir**, S Josway, LC Moyle. Pervasive antagonistic interactions among hybrid incompatibility loci. *PLoS Genetics* 13: e1006817.

Rx preprint

**Muir CD**, MÀ Conesa, EJ Roldán, A Molins, J Galmés. Weak coordination between leaf structure and function among closely related tomato species. *New Phytologist* 213: 1642-53.

 data

2015 **Muir CD** & M Thomas-Huebner (undergraduate coauthor). Constraint around quarter-power allometric scaling in wild tomatoes (*Solanum* sect. *Lycopersicon*; Solanaceae). *The American Naturalist* 186: 421-33.

 data

**Muir CD**. Making pore choices: repeated regime shifts in stomatal ratio. *Proc R Soc B* 282: 20151498.

 data

2014 **Muir CD** & MW Hahn. The limited contribution of reciprocal gene loss to increased speciation rates following whole genome duplication. *The American Naturalist* 185: 70-86.

 data

**Muir CD**, JB Pease, LC Moyle. Quantitative genetic analysis indicates natural selection on leaf phenotypes across wild tomato species (*Solanum* sect. *Lycopersicon*; Solanaceae). *Genetics* 198: 1629-43.

 data

**Muir CD**, RP Hangarter, LC Moyle, PA Davis. Morphological and anatomical determinants of mesophyll conductance in wild relatives of tomato (*Solanum* sect. *Lycopersicon* and sect. *Lycopersicoides*). *Plant, Cell & Environment* 37: 1415-26.

2013 **Muir CD**. How did the Swiss cheese plant get its holes? *The American Naturalist* 181: 273-81.

2012 Hahn MW, BJ White, **CD Muir**, NJ Besansky. No evidence for biased co-transmission of speciation islands in *Anopheles gambiae*. *Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B* 367: 374-84.

2010 Moyle LC & **CD Muir**. Reciprocal insights into adaptation from agricultural and evolutionary studies in tomato. *Evolutionary Applications* 3: 409-21.

Moyle LC, **CD Muir**, MV Han, MW Hahn. The contribution of gene movement to the 'Two Rules of Speciation'. *Evolution* 64: 1541-57.

2009 **Muir CD** & LC Moyle. Antagonistic epistasis for ecophysiological trait differences between *Solanum* species. *New Phytologist* 183: 789-802.

Wilczek AM *et al.* (author 7 of 18). Effects of genetic perturbation on seasonal life history plasticity. *Science* 323: 930-4.

### Talks

#### INVITED SEMINARS (20 SINCE 2012)

2019 University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Department of Tropical Plant and Soil Sciences, *Synthesizing evolution and ecophysiology using leaves, trees, and math*.

2018 University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Department of Botany, *Synthesizing evolution and ecophysiology using leaves, trees, and math*.  
Michigan State University, *Evolving resilience: Lessons from the ecophysiology of crop cousins and other wild plants*.

2017 University of Virginia, *How and Why? Synthesizing Evolution and Physiology*.  
Rice University, *How and Why? Synthesizing Evolution and Physiology*.  
Purdue University, *How and Why? Synthesizing Evolution and Physiology*.

2016 University of Arizona, *How and Why? Synthesizing Evolution and Physiology*.  
University of Arkansas, *How and Why? Synthesizing Evolution and Physiology*.  
University of Wyoming, *How and Why? Synthesizing Evolution and Physiology*.  
University of Pittsburgh, *How and Why? Synthesizing Evolution and Physiology*.

2015 Virginia Tech, *How and Why? Synthesizing Evolution and Physiology*.  
University of Texas, Arlington, *How and Why? Synthesizing Evolution and Physiology*.  
University California, Davis, *How and Why? Synthesizing Evolution and Physiology*.  
Purdue University, *Is it time for an evolutionary physiological synthesis, yet?*.

2014 ETH Zürich, *The physiology and genetics of adaptation*.  
Simon Fraser University, *Phenotypic variation and constraint*.  
Harvard University Herbarium, *Why do some plants have stomata on both leaf surfaces?*.  
University of British Columbia, *Is it time for an evolutionary physiological synthesis, yet?*.  
Michigan State University, *Is it time for an evolutionary physiological synthesis, yet?*.

2012

University of Virginia EEBio Seminar, *Through thick and thin: the adaptive significance of leaf trait variation in wild tomatoes.*

#### INVITED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 **Muir CD.** *Synthesizing evolution and ecophysiology using leaves, trees, and math.* Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, Tampa, Florida, USA.
- 2016 **Muir CD.** *What is evolutionary physiology?.* Evolution, Austin, Texas, USA.
- 2012 **Muir CD.** *Functional and genetic analysis of leaf traits associated with drought in wild tomatoes* (Poster). Ecological Genomics Symposium, Kansas City, Missouri, USA.

#### CONTRIBUTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 **CD Muir.** Poster: Assimilation *in silico* and in practice: Open source computational tools for simulating CO<sub>2</sub> assimilation and fitting models to data. *Gordon Research Conference: CO<sub>2</sub> Assimilation in Plants from Genome to Biome.* Newry, Maine.
- 2017 Conesa M<sup>Á</sup>, **CD Muir**, EJ Rold<sup>Á</sup>in, JJ Piguero-Pina, A Molins, J Galm<sup>Á</sup>s. Poster: Adaptive strategies in tomato wild relatives: sources to adapt tomato crop to more water-restrictive cultivation conditions. *XIV Solanaceae and 3rd Cucurbitaceae Joint Conference.* Barcelona, Spain.
- 2015 **Muir CD** & M Thomas-Huebner. Constraint around quarter-power allometric scaling in wild tomatoes. *Botany*, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
- 2014 **Muir CD**, JB Pease, LC Moyle. Connecting macroevolution to the genetics of adaptation: a case study using stomatal ratio. *Evolution*, Raleigh, North Carolina, USA
- Muir CD.** Pore choices: the adaptive significance of stomatal ratio. *American Society of Naturalists*, Asilomar, California, USA
- 2013 **Muir CD.** Pore choices: the adaptive significance of stomatal ratio. *Evolution*, Snowbird, Utah, USA
- Muir CD.** Poster: Functional and genetic analysis of leaf traits associated with drought in wild tomatoes. *Society of Integrative and Comparative Biology*, San Francisco, California, USA
- 2012 **Muir CD.** Through thick and thin: the adaptive significance of leaf trait variation in wild tomatoes. *Evolution*, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
- 2010 **Muir CD.** Genetics of drought adaptation in wild tomatoes. *Evolution*, Portland, Oregon, USA

2008 Evolution, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA

2006 Evolution, Stony Brook, New York, USA

Professional Activities, Affiliations & Outreach

EDITOR

2016 - 2017 Axios Review

EXTERNAL GRANT REVIEWS

2017 Austrian Science Fund (FWF)

2016 NSF Division of Environmental Biology

MANUSCRIPT REVIEWS

*American Journal of Botany, American Naturalist, Applications in Plant Sciences, Botany, Current Biology, Evolution, Global Ecology and Biogeography, International Journal of Plant Sciences, Journal of Evolutionary Biology, Molecular Biology and Evolution, Molecular Ecology, Nature Ecology and Evolution, New Phytologist, Plant Physiology, PLOS Biology, PLOS ONE, Proceedings B, Scientific Reports, Theoretical Population Biology*

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2019 Botany department scholarship reviewer

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2019 - 2021 Secretary, Division of Botany, Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology

2013 - 2015 Co-organizer SFU/UBC/UVic Ecology and Evolution Retreat

2014 - 2015 Organized UBC Biodiversity Lunchtime Internal Seminar Series (BLISS)

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

- The American Society of Naturalists
- Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology

Mentorship & Teaching

GRADUATE STUDENT COMMITTEES

Devon DeBevoise (member)

Caitlyn Genovese (member)

#### UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT MENTORSHIP AND COLLABORATION

2015 Courtney van den Elzen - Local adaptation to climate in monkeyflowers  
2012 Meret Thomas-Huebner (NSF REU) - Constraint around quarter-power allometric scaling in wild tomatoes

#### Other undergraduate assistants:

2017 Selina Dhanani, Alyson Eng, Geety Hafizi, Curtis Logan, Emily Okun  
2016 Vicki Thill and Austin Koontz (Univ Nevada-Reno undergraduates)  
2014 Lisa Lin and Erin Warkman (UBC Work-learn students)

#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2019 Instructor for BOT 455: Analysis of Biological Data (University of Hawai'i)  
2008 Assistant Instructor for L318: Evolution (Indiana University)  
2007 Assistant Instructor for L111: Evolution and Diversity (Indiana University)

#### Press Coverage

Discover: “[Why Do Houseplants Have Holey Leaves?](https://discovermagazine.com/2014/april/2-o-holey-leaf)”  
<https://discovermagazine.com/2014/april/2-o-holey-leaf>

New Phytologist: “[Plant evolutionary ecology: molecular genetics, global warming and invasions, and the novel approaches we are using to study adaptations](https://dx.doi.org/10.1111/nph.12028)”  
<https://dx.doi.org/10.1111/nph.12028>