

Nathan Laurenz

65 8842 0728

nathanlaurenz@gmail.com

nathanlaurenz.com

EDUCATION

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY **B. S., Interdisciplinary Studies** Aug 2018-May 2022
Entomophagy Concentration **Entomology & Fungal Biology Minors**
Relevant coursework in insect physiology, genetics, global agricultural policy, and sustainable development

PROFESSIONAL BIOTECH EXPERIENCE

Research & Development Manager: [Karang Foodie](#)

➤ Direct all R&D pertaining to fauna and feedstocks at the company Black Soldier Flies and European Garden Snails
Research & Development Manager: [Insect Feed Technologies](#) *Singapore* Aug 2022-Feb 2023

- Additional role as *Operations Manager*: ran day-to-day operations for pilot BSF facility
- Managed R&D department which consisted of 4 permanent employees and 14 rotating interns
- Chose research direction and oversaw applicable experiments to increase black soldier fly production
- Directly communicated research goals and progress to investors and key stakeholders

Entomological Market Consultant: [Little Fat Worm Biotechnology](#) *Virtual* June-Sept 2021

- Managed import regulations and client acquisition for sale of bulk dried mealworms raised in China for animal feed in U.S. markets
- Developed relationships with officials and regulatory agencies including the United States International Trade Commission, Department of Agriculture, Food and Drug Administration, and Customs and Border Patrol

Entomological Consultant: [LIVIN Farms](#) *Vienna, Austria* May-Aug 2019

- Launched LIVIN Farms' first industrial-scale mealworm breeding facility in Vienna, including assisting with site selection, factory design, equipment selection, technological implementation, and other high-level decisions
- Managed R&D projects to develop the feed formulation and breeding routine

ACADEMIC RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Publication List: co-authorship

- Losey, John E., et al. "Insects and Spiders on the Web: Monitoring and Mitigating Online Exploitation of Species and Services." *Global Ecology and Conservation*, vol. 36, Aug. 2022, doi.org/10.1016/j.gecco.2022.e02098.

Cornell University: College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS) *Ithaca, NY*

Lab of Patrick O'Grady Jan-May 2022

- Collected and identified mycological field samples for Diptera monitoring and life cycle studies

Lab of Dr. Jennifer Thaler

Jan-May 2019

- Managed Chrysomelid colonies to research the evolutionary relationship of host plant chemical defenses and their specialist herbivores

Lab of Dr. Elson Shields

Sept-Dec 2018

- Collected and processed 100 laboratory samples per hour for a beneficial nematode research project

Michigan State University

Lansing, MI

Lab of Dr. Zachary Huang

Mar-July 2018

- Led a small team that maintained 45 honeybee colonies and multiple experiments including a Nosema vaccine trial

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Entomological Consultant: [New York City Department of Parks & Recreation](#) *Ithaca, NY* Feb-May 2022

- Assisted in the development of a plan for mosquito and tick control in Rockaway Community Park

Entomological Sales Consultant: [Honeybee Embassy](#)

Ithaca, NY

Feb-May 2022

- Led a consulting project for the advancement of sales and foot traffic to a new farm location through the creation of an innovative marketing campaign and simplified messaging

Global Symposium Paper Adjudicator: [World Food Prize Foundation](#)

Virtual

Jan-Aug 2021

- Member of World Food Prize Foundation's Board of Reviewers
- Personally mentored and encouraged more than 50 young leaders in the fight to end hunger by writing thoughtful, personalized feedback for students who researched and wrote a paper on global food security challenges for a World Food Prize Youth Institute

Logistics Assistant Coordinator: [World Food Prize Foundation](#)

Des Moines, IA

Oct 2019

- Recruited by World Food Prize leadership to help lead the Norman Borlaug International Symposium, the world's largest hunger forum, by coordinating transportation and security for VIP delegates
- Directed team of logistics specialists for setting up venues, monitoring sessions, and provided logistical support

Butterfly Curator: [Dow Gardens](#)

Midland, MI

2016-18

- Cared for live lepidopteran adults and pupae of over 100 tropical species
- Guided tours of the butterfly house and led local excursions to explore native biodiversity

- Beekeeper:** Nathan's Apiary Breckenridge, MI 2014-18
- Maintained up to eight hives for collection and sale of honey, wax, propolis, pollen and pollination services
 - Offered educational tours, [filming](#), and speaking at events

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

- New York State Champion in Impromptu Public Speaking** 2021
- 1st runner-up in American Forensics Association National Tournament Novice Impromptu Public Speaking
 - Member of Cornell Speech Team that won New York State Championship in collegiate forensics
- Environment and Sustainability Communication Fellow** 2020
- Top in class cohort for Oral Communication
- 1st Place in Schwartz Award for Agricultural Journalism** 2019
- \$900 prize for exemplary journalistic work on edible insects
- Competition sponsored by Cornell Communication Department and open to all 4,000 students within the college
- Honorable Mention in Eastman-Rice Public Speaking Competition** 2019
- \$600 prize for extemporaneous speech on community building at Cornell
- Gleaner Community Service Recognition Award** 2018
- Awarded by Breckenridge, MI chapter for "Outstanding Commitment to Community"
- Gold Level President's Volunteer Service Award** 2017
- Civil Award Bestowed by President of the United States for extraordinary public service

COLLEGIATE LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

- Cornell Disciplinary Councils Voting Member** Aug 2021-May 2022
- University Hearing and Review Board and CALS Academic Integrity Hearing Board
- Listened to student infractions of the Cornell Code of Conduct, at both university and college level
 - Developed and implement appropriate punishment, up to expulsion
- Cornell College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Ambassador** Aug 2020-May 2022
- Selected as a top representative of CALS to make decisions on Cornell branding and assist with recruitment
- Hortus Forum Horticultural Club** Aug 2020-May 2022
- Served as treasurer, manage funds exceeding \$30,000 USD
 - Competitor in 2020 International Philadelphia Flower Show, the largest indoor flower show in the world
 - Club Awards: 119 total, 9 grand champion wins; Club 7th Overall
- Specialty Writer** Aug 2020-May 2022
- Michigan State University Extension: [Guest Writer](#)
 - Creme de Cornell: Cornell's premier food magazine: [Writer](#)
 - Guac Magazine: Cornell sponsored travel magazine: [Writer](#)
 - Maintain [personal blog](#) with over 1,000 unique annual visitors
- Program Associate for [New York Youth Institute](#)** Jan 2019-May 2022
- Planed logistics for nationally recognized agricultural research and career development program for between 30-100 high school students annually
 - Moderated and judged student oral presentations, help select delegates for international youth program
- Herpetological Society at Cornell** Jan 2019-May 2022
- Vice President & Treasurer officer roles
- Snodgrass and Wigglesworth Entomology Club** Jan 2019-Jan 2022
- Vice President & Treasurer officer roles
- Undergraduate Teaching Assistant** Aug-Dec 2020
- Section Leader for *Honeybees: Their intriguing biology and interactions with humans through the ages*
- Directed a weekly 40-minute section of 30 students through directed exercises about honeybees

SELECTED SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS – full list on [personal website](#), over 6,500 youth and adults reached

- TEDxCornell: TEDx speaker about the future of sustainable agriculture and alternative proteins Ithaca, NY, 2022
- Global Youth Institute: Led virtual immersion session for 550 high school students from 11 different countries as part of the World Food Prize annual events Des Moines, IA, 2021
- Gratiot County Conservation Council: Keynote speaker at council's annual shareholder reception Alma, MI, 2018

HOBBIES

- **Photography/Videography:** specialize in nature, portrait, and macro photography styles with works published in [multiple magazines and news outlets](#)
 - **Brewing:** run a small operation where microbes are harnessed to ferment beer, wine, kombucha, and vinegar
- Volunteer Nature Guide:** [Jane Goodall Institute Singapore](#) Singapore Nov 2022-present
- Lead educational nature walks with children and adults in Bukit Timah Nature Reserve