Curriculum Vitae

Kenneth A. Geisert, M.Sc.

Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology,
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CURRENT POSITION

Ph.D. Entomology Student, Aug. 2026 – Present
Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, North Carolina State University (NCSU)
Co-Advisors: Gareth S. Powell, Alexandra Duffy

EDUCATION

M.Sc. Entomology, Aug. 2024 – May 2026
Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, North Carolina State University (NCSU)
Advisor: Gareth S. Powell
Thesis: *A revision of the West Indies genus Nesanoplium (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) with phylogenetic insights into Clytini.*

B.Sc. Insect Ecology and Conservation, Aug. 2020 – May 2024
B.Sc. Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology, University of Delaware (UD)
Undergraduate Mentor: Charles R. Bartlett
Minor: Human Development and Family Science

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2024–Present	**Graduate Research Assistant**, North Carolina State University
2023–2024	**Research Curator Assistant,** University of Delaware Insect Collection (UDCC)
2022–2023	**Research Assistant,** USDA-ARS Beneficial Insects Introduction Unit, Newark, DE
2021	**Entomology Intern,** Connecticut Agricultural Experimentation Station, New Haven, CT
2019	**Summer Intern,** Connecticut Audubon Society, Westport CT

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Published/In Press

2. **Kenneth A. Geisert**, Gareth S. Powell, Lorena L. Lopez. 2026. *Prionus imbricornis* (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae), an emerging pest in North Carolina blueberries. *Journal of Integrated Pest Management*, 17 (1): pmag018. Link
1. Gareth S. Powell, **Kenneth A. Geisert**. 2026. World catalog of Prostomidae Thomson, 1859 (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae). *Pan-Pacific Entomologist*, 102 (1): 15–25. Link

EXTENSION PUBLICATIONS

1. Ezra M. Bailey, S.Z. Yusseff-Vanegas, **Kenneth A. Geisert**, B.G. Smythe, C. Owings, J.K. Tomberlin, J. Pierce, C.B. Hubbard. 2026. Adult new world screwworm identification and commonly confused species. *New Mexico State University Cooperative Extension Service Publications*, Guide A-156. Link

GRANTS AND FUNDING **(total awarded $3,250)**

2026 Center for Systematic Entomology: Peck Collection Enhancement Endowment. *Contributions towards the taxonomy of Cerambycidae*. (PI: **K. Geisert,** $1,750)

2025 Center for Systematic Entomology. *Imaging of Coleoptera: Cerambycidae Specimens for Database Preservation*. (PI: **K. Geisert,** $1,500)

AWARDS AND HONORS **(total awarded $1,100)**

2026 **DEPP Award for Excellence** ($750), awarded to one M.Sc. entomology student in the department

2024 **Dean's Award for Undergraduate Excellence** ($250), awarded to one senior in the department

2020–2024 **Destination Delaware Merit Scholarship**, all four years

2020–2024 **Dean's List,** all four years

Photography (6)

2026 **Issue Cover,** 2026 *Pan-Pacific Entomologist*, 102 (1)

2026 **Graduate Student/Postdoc Photography 2nd Place** ($100), NC State University Envisioning Research Contest. Link

2025 (4) **Best in Show, Adult Arthropods, Immature Arthropods, Entomologists in Action, and Unusual/Artistic.** North Carolina Entomological Society Photo Contest.

2025 **Honorable Mention,** NC State University Envisioning Research Contest. Link

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Presentations (1)

2025 **Kenneth A. Geisert**, Gareth S. Powell. Revision of the West Indies genus, *Nesanoplium* (Cerambycinae: Elaphidiini), with New Species and an Illustrated Key; Life In Wood Symposium: Advances in Cerambycidae and Buprestidae Research, Entomological Society of America annual meeting.

Contributed Presentations (1)

2026 **Kenneth A. Geisert**, Gareth S. Powell. Revision of the West Indies genus, *Nesanoplium* (Cerambycinae: Elaphidiini), with New Species and an Illustrated Key; Center for Systematic Entomology annual meeting.

Posters (1)

2026 **Kenneth A. Geisert**, Kyle E. Schnepp, Gareth S. Powell. Curating the Cerambycidae Collection at NCSU: Recent Growth through Community Donations; Carolina Biodiversity Collaborative annual meeting.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

North Carolina State University

Teaching Assistant/Lab Instructor, ENT502: Insect Diversity and Systematics, Fall 2025 (14 students)

Invited Lectures (1)

2024 **Kenneth A. Geisert.** An Introduction to Insect Taxonomy; Environmental Science Class, Fairfield College Preparatory High School (20 students)

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2026–present **Member** for the NCSU Entomological Society of America's Entomology Games

2023–2024 **President** of the UD Beekeeping Club

2023–2024 **Student Committee**, UD Agricultural Day

2022–2024 **Captain** for the UD Entomological Society of America's Entomology Games

2021–2023 **President** of the UD Entomology Club; UD

MUSEUMS/COLLECTIONS STUDIED **totaling 17 days***

*Collections where I was actively a student or employed there were excluded from total days

Virginia Tech Insect Collection, Blacksburg, VA (VTEC) 2025
Florida State Collection of Arthropods, Gainsville, FL (FSCA) 2025
*North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC (NCSU) 2024
*University of Delaware Insect Collection, Newark, DE (UDCC) 2023–2024
United States National Museum of Natural History, Washington D.C. (USNM) 2024–2026

FIELD EXPERIENCE **totaling 102 days**

International – 11 days
2025 **Peru** (Finca Las Piedras)

Domestic – 91 days
Connecticut, Delaware, Louisiana, Maryland, North Carolina (William B. Umstead State Park, Gill State Forest), Pennsylvania (Goat Hill Barrens Preserve),Virginia, Florida (Archbold Research Station, Florida Keys)

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

2026–present North Carolina Entomological Society
2025–present (The) Coleopterists Society
2025–present Center for Systematic Entomology (CSE)
2025 (The) Pacific Coast Entomological Society (PCES)
2024–present Entomology Collections Network (ECN)
2022–present Entomology Society of America (ESA)

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES

2026 **Supervisor,** Specialty Crops Integrated Pest and Pollinator Management Lab, NCSU
2026 **Temporary Diagnostician Entomologist**, Plant Disease and Insect Clinic, NCSU
2024 **Organizer,** coordinated and led (4) departmental insect night light trappings , NCSU
2024 **Student Representative,** Beekeeping Club new dean tour, UD
2023 **Student Representative,** Entomology Club provost tour, UD
2023 **Exhibitor**, ESA's Eastern Branch Meeting: It's a Bug's World, UD

SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE

2026 *A 'mystery beetle' is devouring North Carolina's precious blueberries*. Popular Science. Link
2026 *Researchers identify beetle pest damaging roots beneath NC blueberry fields.* WECT News 6. Link
2026 *NC State researchers identify "mystery bug" that's been attacking North Carolina blueberry farms.* National Public Radio, WUNC News. Link.
2026 *Scientists identify 'mystery beetle' attacking blueberry farms across North Carolina*. North Carolina State University. Link
2025 *Peru Expedition Advances NC State Insect Collection, Research*. North Carolina State University. Link
2024 *Turtle Power Comic.* University of Delaware Magazine, Vol. 33 (1): 28-31. Link
2024 *Moth Night draws nearly fifty participants, hundreds of moths*. Durham County Open Space Program. Link
2024 *Turtle Power*. University of Delaware, UDaily. Link
2024 *It's almost time for University of Delaware Ag Day 2024*. University of Delaware. Link
2024 *Get Ready for Ag Day; UD's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources gears up for annual showcase for the*

community. University of Delaware. Link

2023 *New events meet old favorites at Dover Comic Con*. Link

2022 *Ag Day Returns; Community invited to agriculture and natural resources showcase on April 30*. University of Delaware. Link

2022 *University of Delaware Ag Day is back!* University of Delaware. Link

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Citizen Science – 175,000+ determinations

2026–present **Merit Identifier,** Delaware Biodiveristy Project; https://www.marylandbiodiversity.com/

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2023–present **Curator,** iNaturalist.org; https://www.inaturalist.org/people/3546458

Selected Outreach – approximately 20,000 people reached; $3,200 raised

2024–present (14) Tours of the NC State University insect museum; NC State University ($200 raised)

2024 NC Museum of Natural Science Bug Fest, NCSU Entomology Graduate Student Association

2022–2024 Beekeeping/Entomology Club, main exhibitor for UD's Ag Day ($3,000 raised)

2022–2024 Beekeeping/Entomology Club, general exhibitor for Kid's Greenfest

2022–2023 Entomology Club, general exhibitor for Tri-State Bird and Rescue open house

2022 Entomology Club, organized black light event for Mt. Cuba Center's (MCC) Night Hike Lights

2022 Entomology Club, presented on arboreal insects at MCC's Tree Festival

2022 Entomology Club, presented to students at Olive B. Loss Elementary School

2022 Entomology Club, presented to middle-schoolers at George Read Middle School

2022 Beekeeping Club, presented best practices for beekeeping for Noble Hill Horse Rescue

2022 Entomology Club, general exhibitor for MCC's Literacy Night Forest

2021–2023 Beekeeping/Entomology Club, general exhibitor for UD's Fall Fest

2021 Entomology Club, general exhibitor for Lum's Pond State Park

2021 Entomology Club, general exhibitor for UD's Family Parent Weekend

2021 Entomology Club, general exhibitor for Brandywine Creek State Park