



## Department of Zoology Faculty of Science / University of Peradeniya



### Prof. T.C. Weeraratne

*B.Sc., M.Phil. (Perad.), Ph.D. (Perad.)*

#### Professor in Zoology

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### About Me

I earned my Ph.D. in 2017 from the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, with a distinguished period spent at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, U.K., courtesy of the prestigious Commonwealth Split-site scholarship. This international exposure and collaborative experience have enriched my academic journey, contributing to a global perspective in my research. My academic journey commenced with a B.Sc. (Hons.) in Zoology from the University of Peradeniya in 2005, followed by an M.Phil. in 2012. I have expertise in medical and molecular entomology research, with a primary focus on mosquito-borne diseases. My research spans across diverse domains, including molecular taxonomy of insects, insecticide resistance, and resistance mechanisms of vectors and pests, as well as plant-derived biopesticides, aiming to control vectors and pests sustainably. As an academic dedicated to both research and teaching, I deliver undergraduate courses including Comparative Anatomy and Animal Physiology, Insect Pest Management, Histology, Invertebrate Diversity, and Applied Entomology.

### Higher Education Qualifications



**PhD**

University of Peradeniya  
Sri Lanka  
(2017)



**MPhil**

University of Peradeniya  
Sri Lanka  
(2012)



**BSc**

University of Peradeniya  
Sri Lanka  
(2005)

## Awards, Scholarships, Memberships & Fellowships



President's Award for Scientific Research 2018 (DNA barcoding of morphologically characterized mosquitoes belonging to subfamily Culicinae from Sri Lanka. *Parasites & Vectors*, 11 (1), 266)



President's Award for Scientific Research 2018 (Genetic diversity and population structure of malaria vector mosquitoes *Anopheles subpictus*, *Anopheles pedtaeniatus*, and *Anopheles vagus* in five districts of Sri Lanka. *Malaria journal*, 17(1), 271)



President's Award for Scientific Research 2017



Commonwealth Split-Site Scholarship 2014 (for One year), tenable at Liverpool School of tropical Medicine (funded by the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission, United Kingdom)



NRC Merit Award for Scientific Publication - 2013



Prof. Felix Prashantha Amerasinghe Memorial Research Award for the best research contribution in the field of Zoological Sciences 2013/2017



University Award for Academic Excellence 2004/2005



Commonwealth Scholarships Association Alumni (2016 to present)



Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science (Life member 2015 to present)



Sri Lankan Vector Biology Society (2017 to present)



? Award of Excellence in Research, Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya, 2019



Award of Excellence in Research, Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya, 2021



Principle Investigator- University Research Grant- UGC/2018/40/S (2018-2019)- Classification and phylogeny of mosquitoes based on external morphology of adults, male genitalia and DNA barcoding (Rs. 434,090.00)- Completed



Principle Investigator- PGIS Research Grant- (PGIS/2020/12)- Insecticide Resistance levels and resistant mechanisms in insect pests of stored grains in Sri Lanka (Rs. 993750.00)- Completed



Co-investigator- Multidisciplinary Research Grant 2022 (Grant No.136)- "Microbial control of mosquitoes: Microbes as Bio-larvicides and Fitness indicators of Dengue Vector Mosquitoes" (Rs. 2,409,500.00)- Completed











Principle investigator of ? University Research Grant 2023 - URG/2023/31/S- Effects of physiochemical characteristics of "Breeding sites and blood meal type on body morphology and fitness of dengue vector mosquitoes" (Rs. 368,300.00) - Completed

## Positions Held

-  Chairperson/Faculty Safety Committee- (April 2023 to present)
-  Chairperson of Board of Study in Zoological Sciences, Postgraduate Institute of Science, University of Peradeniya- (April 2023 to October 2024)
-  Chairperson/Postgraduate Institute of Science, Annual Research Congress (RESCON) 2023
-  Chairperson of the Science Undergraduate Research Symposium 2022
-  Center Coordinator for the National Biology Olympiad Examination conducted by the Institute of Biology, Sri Lanka- (2018 to present)
-  Part-time Senior Student Counselor, Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya- (2020, 2021, 2022)
-  Member of Quality Assurance Cell, Faculty of Science- (2016 to 2024)
-  Member of Board of Study in Zoological Science, Postgraduate Institute of Science- (2020 to present)
-  Member of Faculty Safety Committee- (2019 to present)
-  Executive Committee member of the Science Teachers' Association (UPSTA), Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya- (2015 to 2019)
-  Coordinator for the Foundation courses (Biology component), Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka- (2010/2011, 2013/2014, 2021/2022)
-  Secretary/University of Peradeniya, Science Teachers Association (UP-STA)- (2021/2022)
-  Secretary of Quality Assurance Cell, Faculty of Science- (2018 to 2021)
-  Co-coordinator/Biomedical Sciences Degree Programme, Department of Zoology, Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya- (2021 to Present)
-  Member of the Faculty Web Committee, Faculty of Science- (2023 to present)
-  Member of the Administrative Staff of the Committee Unit for Excellence in Biodiversity Research- (2020 to present)
-  Member of the Student Academic Advisory Committee (SAAC), Faculty of Science- (2022 to present)
-  ...

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## My Teachings

-  BIO1002: Basic Life Sciences
-  BL116: Introductory Environmental Biology
-  SCI1011: Laboratory Safety
-  ZL216: Invertebrate Diversity
-  ZL302: Comparative Anatomy and Animal Physiology
-  ZL307: Fish Biology
-  ZL322: Insect Pest Management
-  ZOO2192: Functional Histology

## Research Interests (Research Fields/ Projects)

Medical and Pest Entomology, Molecular taxonomy

## Ongoing Research and Projects



**Classification and phylogeny of mosquitoes based on external morphology of adults, male genitalia and DNA barcoding**

University Research Grants (URG/2018/40/S) Completed



**Insecticide resistant levels and resistant mechanisms in insect pests of stored grains and, use of plant products in their control**

PGIS Research Grant No. PGIS/2020/12



**Insecticide resistance and resistance mechanisms of Culex mosquitoes in Sri Lanka**



**LARVICIDAL ACTIVITY OF GARLIC (Alivum sativum) EXTRACT AGAINST MOSQUITO GENUS Aedes**



**Breeding site characterization and fitness of dengue vector mosquitoes**



**Use of Microbes as Bio-larvicides and Fitness indicators of Dengue Vector Mosquitoes**



**Epidemiology and Vector Surveillance of Leishmaniasis in Central Sri Lanka**



**Effects of physiochemical characteristics of breeding sites and blood meal type on body morphology and fitness of dengue vector mosquitoes**

University Research Grant- URG/2023/31/S



**PARASITIDS OF RICE PESTS: NATURE OF PARASITISM AND HOST MANIPULATION BY A SELECTED LARVAL PARASITOID**

Undergraduate Research

## Key Publications



Nothing to show under this subheading !!!

## Conferences



Nothing to show under this subheading !!!

## My Publications

Please goto the website.

<https://sci.pdn.ac.lk/zoology/staff/Thilini-Weeraratne>