



eastbio

the East of Scotland Bioscience Doctoral Training Partnership

EASTBIO Training Strand 1: Research Skills - 2014/15 Food Security priority area

Organised by the University of Aberdeen

2 April 2014, University of Aberdeen

Introduction to the programme, Blackboard Collaborate refresher and plans for the coming year.

List of discussion topics

July 2014

Professor Adam Price – “Plant biotechnology for Food Security”. The session scheduled for Tuesday 8 July, 10:00-11:00 with a general introduction on GM crops.

Please note: A recording of this session is available on the EASTBIO website (<http://www.eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk/student-resources>), restricted to accredited users. Contact enquiries@eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk for access information.

August 2014

Dr Paul G. Fernandes – “Food security issues for commercial fisheries”. The session will be held online at the following dates/times:

Session 1	8 August	Introduction and setting of main task: respond to the question: What is the status of European fish stocks? Students to consider the evidence as presented in three types of sources: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• evidence from the scientific literature;• evidence from text books;• evidence from websites and the popular press
Session 2	15 August	Students to report back, tutorial and discussion on seafood security
Session 3	22 August	Final session with reflection on the topic

September 2014

Jon J. Hillier/ Pete Smith – “Intensification or extensification” OR “What is the carbon cost of achieving secure food production in developing countries?”. Discussion-based session held on Monday 29 September, 10:00-12:00.

October 2014

Jayne Hope – “Contribution of large animal scientific research to long term food security”

November 2014

Prof David E. Salt – ‘Can genomics help farmers secure crop production in the face of a changing global climate?’. The session will be held online at the following dates/times:

Session 1	3rd November at 2-3pm	Provide introduction and set out work to be done
Session 2	14th November at 2-3pm	Students discuss what they found out and refine new work to be done
Session 3	24th November at 2-3pm	Finalise discussion and round off

December 2014

Karen Halliday – “Food security in a changing climate”

*****March-April 2015 -- Please note that this session got cancelled due to the lead tutor's ill health. Apologies for any inconvenience.**

Baukje de Roos/ Janet Kyle – “Foods, security and human health”

Session 1	12th March, 2-3pm	Provide introduction and set out work to be done
Session 2	19th March, 2-3pm	Students discuss fish and meat questions: what they found out & refine new work to be done
Session 3	2nd April, 2-3pm	Students discuss impact population growth on provision of a sustainable healthy balanced diet
Session 4	9th April, 2-3pm	Final discussion and round off

Three questions to be raised:

1. Current recommendations highlight a healthy diet should include at least two portions of fish a week, one oily and one white fish. Is this recommendation achievable and sustainable? Consider the role of aquaculture.
2. The negative health and environmental impacts of meat production and consumption have been widely debated in recent years, with the common message highlighting a need to reduce meat intake. Is a plant-based diet achievable? Is there sufficient land and water to sustainably produce the quantities of food required?
3. Healthy balanced diets include land and aquatic-based food items. Can we meet a growing global populations' dietary and nutrient needs? ***

July 2015 (Final training session)

Professor Chris Secombes – “What are the issues facing sustainable production of fish by aquaculture”

17th July, 10-11 am - Background to aquaculture and introduction to the issues to study.

28th July, 10-12 am - Discussion of issues and possible solutions.