



University of  
**Nottingham**  
Future Food

## Future Food Beacon newsletter

September 2020

### Colombian cocoa beans propel Luisa's Vegan Chocolates to Great Taste Awards 2020



The Future Food Beacon is working to empower female smallholders in Colombia using funding from the UK Prosperity Fund for Colombia. We work with farmers directly to improve their cocoa bean fermentation processes, ensuring they get a better-than-Fairtrade price for their beans.

The Future Food Beacon has directly connected female smallholder cocoa entrepreneurs

in Colombia with Luisa's Vegan Chocolates in Nottingham. This has proven to be a profitable relationship and it gives us particular pleasure to now announce that two of these collaborations have resulted in Great Taste Awards 2020! Luisa's chocolate made from Carmen's beans won a two star award and her chocolate from Yanira's beans earned one star! We congratulate all concerned and are off to order some shortly!

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## PhD studentship opportunities 2: International Agriculture DTP



The third round of the University of Nottingham - Rothamsted Research studentship programme is now open for applications! There are five projects on international agriculture available. [Apply now!](#)

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## KTN Agrifood Livestock & Aquaculture Internship opportunity



**JOB**

**AgriFood Livestock & Aquaculture Internship**

Three month placement for an AgriFood PhD student who has focus on innovation in the Livestock or Aquaculture industry

Applications close on 19 October 2020

This internship is open to PhD students with a focus on innovation in the Livestock or Aquaculture industry, Don't waste any time in **applying** if you're interested!



 Council for British Research in the Levant

 PALESTINE · EXPLORATION · FUND · 1865

Was Jordan's Black Desert green during the Late Neolithic?

with Dr Alexander Wasse, Prof. Gary Rollefson, Prof. Matthew Jones & Dr Yorke Rowan:

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Professor Matt Jones took part in a webinar entitled 'Was Jordan's Black Desert green during the late Neolithic?' and **The Jordan Times** covered the story!

## Future Food News

We are proud to announce that Gabriel Castrillo has further cemented his research position by landing a joint NSF/BIO-BBSRC award for his project '**A holistic approach to**



**understand drought adaptation in plants, their symbionts, and free-living microbiomes'**. We are confident that great things will come of this!

The publication in Current Biology of '***Uclacyanin Proteins Are Required for Lignified Nanodomain Formation within Casparian Strips***' by Guilhem Reyt et al attracted a good deal of attention online. **Our blog** concisely summarises how the paper came to be published.

This month, the Future Food Beacon welcomes its new Honorary Professor for 2020/2021, Pathmanathan Umaharan ('Uma'). Uma's **fascinating blog** tells the story of his successful international research career.

Future Food Beacon academics in Malaysia and the UK convened a successful inaugural online conference on Food Security in Small Island Developing States (FSSIDS) on 1-4 September 2020. Dr Chung Hong Tan describes what happened in **his blog**.

We return our focus to the fair city of Nottingham in our **most recent blog**, which documents how the Foodprint social supermarket managed to embed itself in the community in Sneinton.

The flow of exciting new publications from our researchers continues this month, including from:

- Gleb Yakubov (Assistant Professor in Food Composites) x 2!
- Anne Touboullic (Associate Professor in Operations Management)
- Heike Bartel (Associate professor in German Studies)
- Tim Foster (Professor of Food Structure - retired)

All of these papers are listed in the publications section below.

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## Upcoming talks, seminars and conferences

**Black Botanists** - a groundbreaking new online lecture series, starting in October 2020, designed to inspire young black researchers to pursue a career in botanical sciences

**Stand up for Science** workshop - this is aimed at any early career STEM or social science

researchers who are interested in doing more public engagement work- 09.00 - 13.00 on 17 November 2020

**The Diasporic Plate: Food in the Contemporary Diasporic World in Times of Crisis** series of online events 27 November - 11 December 2020

**Food futures in the anthropocene: place-based, just, convivial** 7-10 November, Launceston, Tasmania

**Nottingham Festival of Science and Curiosity** - 10-17 February 2021. Anybody interested in reaching out to the public of Nottingham with their science should consider registering for an introductory webinar on Eventbrite (below). You do not have to join the session aimed at your discipline.

Science, Medicine and Health Science	Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> Oct 1-1.30 pm	<a href="https://intro_fosac_science.eventbrite.co.uk">https://intro_fosac_science.eventbrite.co.uk</a>
Arts, Social Science	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> Oct 11-11.30 am	<a href="https://intro_fosac_artsss.eventbrite.co.uk">https://intro_fosac_artsss.eventbrite.co.uk</a>
Engineering	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2-2.30 pm	<a href="https://intro_fosac_eng.eventbrite.co.uk/">https://intro_fosac_eng.eventbrite.co.uk/</a>

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## New publications from Future Food

**Wood hemicelluloses exert distinct biomechanical contributions to cellulose fibrillar networks** Berglund et al (2020)

**Structural Insights into the Mechanism of Heat-Set Gel Formation of Polyisocyanopeptide Polymers** Gavrilov et al (2020)

**Tales from the countryside: Unpacking “passing the environmental buck” as hypocritical practice in the food supply chain** Glover et al (2020)

**Poetry on Eating Disorders in Men** (book chapter) Bartel (2020)

**Food biotechnology** Foster et al (2020)

**Effect of phosphorus supply on root traits of two *Brassica oleracea* L. genotypes** Pongrac et al (2020)

**A nociresponsive specific area of human somatosensory cortex within BA3a: BA3c?** Sanchez Panchuelo et al (2020)

**Uclacyanin proteins are required for lignified nanodomain formation within Casparian strips** Rey et al (2020)

**A harmonised systems-wide re-analysis of greenhouse gas emissions from sunflower oil production** Alcock et al (2020)

**The Effect of Dissolved Gases on the Short-Range Attractive Force between Hydrophobic Surfaces in the Absence of Nanobubble Bridging** [Azadi et al \(2020\)](#)

**Rapid temperature responses of photosystem II efficiency forecast genotypic variation in rice vegetative heat tolerance** Ferguson et al (2020)

**Low-Cost Automated Vectors and Modular Environmental Sensors for Plant Phenotyping** Atkinson et al (2020)

**Arctic rolls and gender roles - Female and male eating disorders in Karen Duve's *Regenroman* and other texts** Bartel (2020)

**A harmonised systems-wide re-analysis of green house gas emissions from sunflower oil production** Alcock et al. (2020).

**Barley sodium content is regulated by natural variants of the Na<sup>+</sup> transporter HvHKT1;5** Houston et al. (2020).

**Low cost automated vectors and modular environmental sensors for plant phenotyping** Bagley et al. (2020).

**Perspectives from CO+RE: How COVID-19 changed our food systems and food security paradigms** Bakalis et al. (2020).

**To tell us your news, share conference registrations or abstract opportunities, as well as any food-related reading please email:**

**Andrew Edwards** (Ed), Acting Communications Officer for the Future Food Beacon

 Share  Tweet  Forward

