

Robin M. Giblin-Davis, Professor, Entomology and Nematology

90% Research; 10% Teaching

My position involves basic and applied research concerning soil, plant-parasitic and insect-associated nematodes. The research is focused on nematode biodiversity, identification and systematics, barcoding and molecular phylogenetics, soil ecology, and biological control. It also entails work on the management of nematode populations in warm-season turfgrasses, and woody and foliage ornamentals.

Education

B.S., University of California, Davis (Entomology), 1977
Accreditation, University of California, Davis (Art), 1977
Ph.D., University of California, Davis (Entomology), 1982

Employment

Associate Center Director (2000-2003) Ft. Lauderdale REC. University of Florida
Professor (1995-present) University of Florida
Associate Professor (1990-1995) University of Florida
Assistant Professor (1985-1990) University of Florida
Postdoctoral Associate (1982-1985) University of California, Riverside
Research Assistant (1978-1982) University of California, Davis

Research Responsibilities

Nematode molecular taxonomy and ecology

Objective 1: Validation of a molecular method for determining nematode species presence from soil for regulatory decisions, precision agriculture, biodiversity, biological control, invasion biology and soil conservation studies using protocols modified and optimized for the Genome Sequencer FLX 454 system.

Objective 2: Nematode species inventories and linking morphology and molecular operational taxonomic units (MOTUs) for biodiversity and new species descriptions and systematics.

2A: Turf nematode identification and ecology.

2B: Nematodes of Florida and the world (e.g., Florida, Tropical Rain Forests of Costa Rica and Panama, Australia, Turkey, etc.).

Teaching Responsibilities

Teaches General Principles of Nematology (NEM 3002) and Graduate Survey of Nematology (NEM 5002C) in spring of even numbered years and serves as a Graduate Faculty member.

Accomplishments

Served as Vice President, (2001-2002), President-elect, (2002-2003), President, (2003-2004), and Past-President (2004-2005) of the Society of Nematologists <http://www.nematologists.org/> and currently serves as chairperson of the Cobb Foundation (2007-2010).

Elucidated the population dynamics of the sting nematode, *Belonolaimus longicaudatus* on a highly susceptible St. Augustinegrass (FX-313) and evaluated turfgrass resistance to this nematode in St. Augustinegrass and Bermudagrass germplasm. Discovered differential host suitability and susceptibility in St. Augustinegrasses that may be due to differences in root architecture. Discovered, described, and continues to work with a new species of *Pasteuria* (*Candidatus Pasteuria usgae*) attacking *B. longicaudatus* (USDA funded).

Discovered and described an association between several new species of nematodes (*Schistonchus* and *Parasitodiplogaster*) which are associated with *Ficus* spp. and fig wasps in Florida and the Tropics. In cooperation with Drs. Kerrie Davies (Australia), Natsumi Kanzaki (Japan), Yongsan Zeng (China), Selcuk Hazir (Turkey), and Alejandro Esquivel (Costa Rica), continues to study this model system and describe new species (NSF funded).

Elucidated and field-tested the male-produced aggregation pheromones and attractive host-plant volatiles for the palmetto weevil, *Rhynchophorus cruentatus*, the rotten sugarcane weevil, *Metamasius hemipterus sericeus*, and the South American palm weevil, *Dynamis borassi* (all potential vectors for the red ring nematode of palms). Also helped identify aggregation pheromones for the New Guinea sugarcane weevil, *Rhabdoscelus obscurus* (USDA funded).

Continues to elucidate the ecology, biology and coevolutionary relationships of *Fergusobia/Fergusonina* gall complex for use as a biological control agent against shoot and inflorescence buds of *Melaleuca quinquenervia* in Florida (USDA funded). This is done in cooperation with Kerrie Davies, Matt Purcell and Gary Taylor (Australia), Sonja Scheffer, Paul Pratt and Ted Center (USDA), Weimin Ye (NC Dept. Ag.), and Kelley Thomas (UNH).

Continues to develop a morphological and molecular database of nematodes of Florida, the Caribbean, and Costa Rica (USDA funded). In cooperation with Drs. Deborah Neher (U. Vermont), Tom Powers (U. Nebraska), Patricia Stock (U. Arizona), Natsumi Kanzaki (Japan), and Kerrie Davies (Australia) conducts a species inventory of nematodes in tropical rain forests of Costa Rica (NSF funded). <http://nematode.unl.edu/CRhome.htm>.

Development and validation of new molecular method of metagenomic analysis of nematodes using 454 Genome Sequencer FLX methodology. This methodology has great potential for improving taxonomic resolution in future studies of nematode ecology in agricultural ecosystems and for soil conservation. This is done in cooperation with Dorota Porazinska (UF), Kerrie Davies and Matt Purcell (Australia), Kelley Thomas, Way Sung and Krys Morris (UNH), and Simon Creer (Wales).

Awards

Citation for Outstanding Achievement (Entomology Undergraduate Award). U.C. Davis. 1977.
Best Student Paper Award, Society of Nematologists meeting, New Orleans, LA. 1980.
Achievement Award for Research, Florida Entomological Society, Stuart, FL. 1994.
University of Florida Research Foundation (UFRF) Professorship (\$18,000) 1998-2001.
The Honor Society of Agriculture, Gamma Sigma Delta, Certificate of membership in recognition of outstanding achievement. 2000.

Career Publications

Books: 1 (coauthor)
Refereed papers: 114
Chapters in books: 12
Miscellaneous publications: 87

Selected Publications

Books:

Howard, F. W., D. Moore, R. M. Giblin-Davis, and R. Abad. 2001. Insects on palms. CABI Publishing. New York, NY. 400 Pp.

Books, contributor of chapter(s):

Giblin-Davis, R. M. 1993. Interactions of nematodes with insects. In: Nematode Interactions. [W. Khan, ed.]. Chapman & Hall, London. 302-344.

Giblin-Davis, R. M. 2000. *Pasteuria* sp. for biological control of the sting nematode, *Belonolaimus longicaudatus*, in turfgrass. In: American Chemical Society Symposium Series No. 743: Fate and Management of Turfgrass Chemicals. Oxford Press 408-426.

Giblin-Davis, R. M., K. A. Davies, G. S. Taylor, and W. K. Thomas. 2004. Entomophilic nematode models for studying biodiversity and cospeciation. In: Nematology, Advances and Perspectives. [Z. X. Chen, S. Y. Chen, and D. W. Dickson, eds.]. Tsinghua University Press/CABI Publishing. Vol. 1. Pp. 493-540.

Griffith, R., R. M. Giblin-Davis, P. K. Koshy, and V. K. Sosamma. 2005. Chapter 13. Nematode parasites of coconut and other palms. In: Plant parasitic nematodes in subtropical and tropical agriculture, 2nd edition. [M. Luc, R. Sikora, and J. Bridge, eds.]. CABI Publishing. Pp. 493-527.

Refereed papers:

Giblin-Davis, R. M., P. Busey, and B. J. Center. 1992. Dynamics of *Belonolaimus longicaudatus* parasitism on a susceptible St. Augustinegrass host. *Journal of Nematology*, 24: 432-437.
http://fulltext10.fcla.edu/DLData/SN/SN0022300X/0024_003/92_65.pdf

Busey, P., R. M. Giblin-Davis, B. J. Center. 1993. Resistance in *Stenotaphrum* to the sting nematode. *Crop Science*, 33: 1066-1070.

Giblin-Davis, R. M., T. J. Weissling, A. C. Oehlschlager, and L. M. Gonzalez. 1994. Field response of *Rhynchophorus cruentatus* (F.) (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) to its aggregation pheromone and fermenting plant volatiles. *Florida Entomologist*, 77: 164-177.
http://fulltext10.fcla.edu/DLData/SN/SN00154040/0077_001/98p0310p.pdf

Giblin-Davis, R. M., B. J. Center, H. Nadel, J. H. Frank, and W. Ramirez B. 1995. Nematodes associated with fig wasps, *Pegoscapus* spp. (Agaonidae), and syconia of native Floridian figs (*Ficus* spp.). *Journal of Nematology*, 27: 1-14.
http://fulltext10.fcla.edu/DLData/SN/SN0022300X/0027_001/95_01.pdf

Giblin-Davis, R. M., P. Busey, and B. J. Center. 1995. Dynamics of *Hoplolaimus galeatus* parasitism on different St. Augustinegrass genotypes. *Journal of Nematology*, 27: 1-6.
http://fulltext10.fcla.edu/DLData/SN/SN0022300X/0027_004/95_60.pdf

Giblin-Davis, R. M., J. E. Peña, A. C. Oehlschlager, and A. L. Perez. 1996. Optimization of semiochemical-based trapping of *Metamasius hemipterus sericeus* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae). *Journal of Chemical Ecology*, 22: 1389-1410.

Giblin-Davis R. M., A. C. Oehlschlager, A. L. Perez, G. Gries, R. Gries, T. J. Weissling, C. M. Chinchilla, J. E. Peña, R. H. Hallett, H. D. Pierce, Jr., and L. M. Gonzalez. 1996. Chemical and behavioral ecology of palm weevils. *Florida Entomologist*, 79: 153-167.
<http://www.fcla.edu/FlaEnt/fe79p153.pdf>

Baldwin, J. G., R. M. Giblin-Davis, C. D. Eddleman, D. S. Williams, J. T. Vida, and W. K. Thomas. 1997. Buccal capsule of *Aduncospiculum halicti* (Nemata: Diplogasterina): an ultrastructural and molecular study with implications for phylogeny. *Canadian Journal of Zoology*, 33: 407-423.

Giblin-Davis, R. M., R. Gries, G. Gries, E. Peña-Rojas, I. Pinzon, J. E. Peña, A. L. Perez, H. D. Pierce, Jr., and A. C. Oehlschlager. 1997. Aggregation pheromone of the palm weevil, *Dynamis borassi* (F.) (Coleoptera: Curculionidae). *Journal of Chemical Ecology*, 23: 2287-2297.

Vanderbilt, C. F., R. M. Giblin-Davis, and T. J. Weissling. 1998. Mating behavior and sexual response to aggregation pheromone of palmetto weevil *Rhynchophorus cruentatus* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae). *Florida Entomologist*, 81: 351-360. <http://www.fcla.edu/FlaEnt/fe81p351.pdf>

Center, B. J., R. M. Giblin-Davis, E. A. Herre, and G. C. Chung-Schickler. 1999. Histological comparisons of parasitism by *Schistonchus* spp. (Nemata: Aphelenchoididae) in Neotropical *Ficus* spp. *Journal of Nematology*, 31: 393-406.
http://fulltext10.fcla.edu/DLData/SN/SN0022300X/0031_004/393.pdf

Hunsberger, A., R. M. Giblin-Davis, and T. J. Weissling. 2000. Symptoms and within-tree population dynamics of *Rhynchophorus cruentatus* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) infestation in Canary Island date palms. *Florida Entomologist*, 83: 290-303. <http://www.fcla.edu/FlaEnt/fe83p290.pdf>

- Giblin-Davis, R. M., R. Gries, B. Crespi, L. N. Robertson, A. H. Hara, G. Gries, C. W. O'Brien, and H. D. Pierce, Jr. 2000. Aggregation pheromones of two geographical isolates of the New Guinea sugarcane weevil, *Rhabdoscelus obscurus*. *Journal of Chemical Ecology*, 26: 2763-2780.
- Bekal, S., J. Borneman, M. S. Springer, R. M. Giblin-Davis, and J. O. Becker. 2001. Phenotypic and molecular analysis of a *Pasteuria* strain parasitic to the sting nematode. *Journal of Nematology*, 33: 110-115. http://fulltext10.fcla.edu/DLData/SN/SN0022300X/0033_002/110.pdf
- DeCrappeo, N., and R. M. Giblin-Davis. 2001. *Schistonchus aurea* n. sp. and *S. laevigata* n. sp. (Aphelenchoididae); associates of native Floridian *Ficus* spp. and their *Pegoscapus* pollinators (Agaonidae). *Journal of Nematology*, 33: 91-103. http://fulltext10.fcla.edu/DLData/SN/SN0022300X/0033_002/91.pdf
- Giblin-Davis, R. M., D. S. Williams, W. P. Wergin, D. W. Dickson, T. E. Hewlett, S. Bekal, and J. O. Becker. 2001. Ultrastructure and development of *Pasteuria* sp. (S-1 strain), an obligate endoparasite of *Belonolaimus longicaudatus* (Nemata: Tylenchida). *Journal of Nematology*. 33: 227-238. http://fulltext10.fcla.edu/DLData/SN/SN0022300X/0033_004/227.pdf
- Giblin-Davis, R. M., J. Makinson, B. J. Center, K. A. Davies, M. Purcell, G. S. Taylor, S. Scheffer, J. Goolsby, and T. D. Center. 2001. *Fergusobia/Fergusonina*-induced shoot bud gall development on *Melaleuca quinquenervia*. *Journal of Nematology*. 33: 239-247. http://fulltext10.fcla.edu/DLData/SN/SN0022300X/0033_004/239.pdf
- Giblin-Davis, R. M., D. S. Williams, S. Bekal, D. W. Dickson, J. O. Becker, and J. F. Preston. 2003. '*Candidatus Pasteuria usgae*' sp. nov., an obligate endoparasite of the phytoparasitic nematode, *Belonolaimus longicaudatus*. *International Journal of Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology*. 53: 197-200.
- Giblin-Davis, R. M., K. A. Davies, K. Morris, and W. K. Thomas. 2003. Evolution of parasitism in insect-transmitted plant nematodes. *Journal of Nematology*, 35: 133-141. http://fulltext10.fcla.edu/DLData/SN/SN0022300X/0035_002/133.pdf
- Preston, J. F., D. W. Dickson, J. E. Maruniak, G. Nong, J. A. Brito, L. M. Schmidt, and R. M. Giblin-Davis. 2003. *Pasteuria* spp.: Systematics and phylogeny of these bacterial parasites of phytopathogenic nematodes. *Journal of Nematology*, 35:1:98-207. http://fulltext10.fcla.edu/DLData/SN/SN0022300X/0035_002/198.pdf
- Brito, J. A., J. F. Preston, D. W. Dickson, R. M. Giblin-Davis, D. S. Williams, H. C. Aldrich, and J. D. Rice. 2003. Temporal formation and immunolocalization of an endospore surface epitope during *Pasteuria penetrans* sporogenesis. *Journal of Nematology*. 35: 278-288. http://fulltext10.fcla.edu/DLData/SN/SN0022300X/0035_003/278.pdf
- Taylor, G. S., K. A. Davies, and R. M. Giblin-Davis. 2003. Species-richness in gall-flies (Diptera: Fergusoninidae), nematodes (Nematoda: Neotylenchidae) and associated parasitoids and inquilines on Myrtaceae. *Records of the South Australian Museum Monograph Series*. 7: 249-256.

Crow, W. T., R. M. Giblin-Davis, and D. W. Lickfeldt. 2003. Slit injection of 1,3-Dichloropropene for management of *Belonolaimus longicaudatus* on established bermudagrass. *Journal of Nematology*. 35: 302-305. http://fulltext10.fcla.edu/DLData/SN/SN0022300X/0035_003/302.pdf

Davies, K. A., and R. M. Giblin-Davis. 2004. The biology and associations of *Fergusobia* (Nematoda) from the *Melaleuca leucadendra*-complex in eastern Australia. *Invertebrate Taxonomy*, 18: (2004):291-319.

Giblin-Davis, R. M. 2004. Nematodes as mutualists: where and how did these associations evolve? *Nematology Monographs & Perspectives*. 2: 383-394.

Giblin-Davis, R. M., S. J. Scheffer, K. A. Davies, G. S. Taylor, J. Curole, T. D. Center, J. Goolsby, and W. K. Thomas. 2004. Coevolution between *Fergusobia* and *Fergusonina* mutualists. *Nematology Monographs & Perspectives*. 2: 407-417.

Giblin-Davis, R. M., B. J. Center, K. A. Davies, M. F. Purcell, S. J. Scheffer, G. S. Taylor, J. A. Goolsby, and T. D. Center. 2004. Histological comparisons of *Fergusobia*/*Fergusonina*-induced galls on different myrtaceous hosts. *Journal of Nematology*. 36: 249-262. http://fulltext10.fcla.edu/DLData/SN/SN0022300X/0036_003/249.pdf

Scheffer, S. J., R. M. Giblin-Davis, G. S. Taylor, K. A. Davies, M. Purcell, M. L. Lewis, J. Goolsby, and T. D. Center. 2004. Phylogenetic relationships, species limits, and host specificity of gall-forming *Fergusonina* Flies (Diptera: Fergusoninidae) feeding on *Melaleuca* (Myrtaceae). *Annals of the Entomological Society*. 97: 216-1221.

Giblin-Davis, R. M., S. Hazir, B. J. Center, W. Ye, N. Keskin, R. Thorp, and W. K. Thomas. 2005. *Bursaphelenchus anatolius* n. sp. (Nematoda: Parasitaphelenchidae), an associate of bees in the genus *Halictus*. *Journal of Nematology*. 37: 336-342. http://fulltext10.fcla.edu/DLData/SN/SN0022300X/0037_003/336.pdf

Crow, W. T., D. L. Porazinska, R. M. Giblin-Davis, and P. S. Grewal. 2006. Entomopathogenic nematodes are not alternative to fenamiphos for management of plant-parasitic nematodes on golf courses in Florida. *Journal of Nematology*. 38: 52-58.

Su, Nan-Yao, W. Ye, R. Ripa, R. H. Scheffrahn, and R. M. Giblin-Davis. 2006. Identification of Chilean *Reticulitermes* (Isoptera: Rhinotermitidae) inferred from three mitochondrial gene DNA sequences and soldier morphology. *Annals of the Entomological Society*. 99: 352-363.

Giblin-Davis, R. M., W. Ye, N. Kanzaki, D. S. Williams, K. Morris, and W. K. Thomas. 2006. Stomatal ultrastructure, molecular phylogeny, and description of *Parasitodiplogaster laevigata* n. sp. (Nematoda: Diplogastridae), a parasite of fig wasps. *Journal of Nematology*. 38: 137-149.

Giblin-Davis, R. M., N. Kanzaki, W. Ye, M. Mundo-Ocampo, J. G. Baldwin, and W. K. Thomas. 2006. Morphology and description of *Bursaphelenchus platzeri* n. sp. (Nematoda: Parasitaphelenchidae), an associate of nitidulid beetles. *Journal of Nematology*. 38: 150-157.

Giblin-Davis, R. M., N. Kanzaki, W. Ye, B. J. Center, and W. K. Thomas. 2006. Morphology and systematics of *Bursaphelenchus gerberae* n. sp. (Nematoda: Parasitaphelenchidae), a rare associate of the palm weevil, *Rhynchophorus palmarum* in Trinidad. *Zootaxa* 1189: 39-53.

Gozel, U., B. Adams, K. Nguyen, R. Inserra, R. Giblin-Davis, and L. Duncan. 2006. A phylogeny of *Belonolaimus* populations in Florida inferred from DNA sequences. *Nematropica*. 36:149-165.

Luc, J. E., W. T. Crow, J. L. Stimac, J. B. Sartain, and R. M. Giblin-Davis. 2006. Influence of *Belonolaimus longicaudatus* on nitrate leaching in turf. *Journal of Nematology*. 38:461-465.
http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/Crow_RP_23.pdf

Ye, Weimin, R. M. Giblin-Davis, H. Braasch, K. Morris, and W. K. Thomas. 2007. Phylogenetic relationships among *Bursaphelenchus* species (Nematoda: Parasitaphelenchidae) inferred from nuclear ribosomal and mitochondrial DNA sequence data. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*. 43:1185-1197. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ympev.2007.02.006>

Luc, J. E., W. T. Crow, J. L. Stimac, J. B. Sartain, and R. M. Giblin-Davis. 2007. Effects of *Belonolaimus longicaudatus* management and nitrogen fertility on turf quality of golf course fairways. *Journal of Nematology*. 39: 62-66. http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/Crow_RP_24.pdf

Zeng, Y., R. M. Giblin-Davis, and W. Ye. 2007. Two new species of *Schistonchus* (Nematoda: Aphelenchoididae) associated with *Ficus hispida* in China. *Nematology*. 9:169-187.

Ye, W., R. M. Giblin-Davis, K. A. Davies, M. Purcell, S. J. Scheffer, G. S. Taylor, T. D. Center, K. Morris, and W. K. Thomas. 2007. Molecular phylogenetics and the evolution of host plant associations in the nematode genus *Fergusobia* (Tylenchida: Fergusobiinae). *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*. 45:123-141. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ympev.2007.02.027>

Zeng, Y., R. M. Giblin-Davis, W. Ye, G. Belair, G. Boivin, and W.K. Thomas. 2007. *Bradynema listronoti* n. sp. (Nematoda: Allantonematidae), a parasite of the carrot weevil *Listronotus oregonensis* in Quebec, Canada. *Nematology*. 9:609-623.

Wheeler, G. S., Pratt, P. D., R. M. Giblin-Davis, and K. M. Ordnung. 2007. Intraspecific variation in leaf oils of *Melaleuca quinquenervia* in its naturalized range in Florida, the Caribbean, and Hawaii. *Biochemical Systematics and Ecology*. 35:489-500. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.bse.2007.03.007>.

Hazir, C., R. M. Giblin-Davis, N. Keskin, W. Ye, N. Kanzaki, B. J. Center, S. Hazir, H. K. Kaya, and W. K. Thomas. 2007. *Bursaphelenchus debrae* n. sp. (Nematoda: Parasitaphelenchidae), an associate of the bee *Halictus brunnescens* in Turkey. *Nematology*. 9:777-789.

Kanzaki, N., A. Fukiko, R. M. Giblin-Davis, K. Hata, K. Soné, K. Kiontke, and D. Fitch. 2008. *Teratorhabditis synpapillata* (Sudhaus 1985) (Rhabditida: Rhabditidae) is an associate of the red palm weevil, *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae). *Nematology*. 10:207-218.

Porazinska, D. L., P. D. Pratt, and R. M. Giblin-Davis. 2007 (published in 2008). Consequences of *Melaleuca quinquenervia* invasion on soil nematodes in the Florida Everglades. *Journal of Nematology*. 39:305-312.

Gulcu, B. Hazir, S., Giblin-Davis, R. M., Ye, W., Kanzaki, N., Mergen, H., Keskin, N., and Thomas, W. K. 2008. Molecular variability of *Schistonchus caprifici* from *Ficus carica* in Turkey. *Nematology*. 10:639-649.

Zhao, Z. Q., Ye, W., Giblin-Davis, R. M., Li, D. M., Thomas, W. K., Davies, K. A., and Riley, I. T. 2008. Morphological and molecular analysis of six aphelenchoidoids from Australian conifers and their relationship to *Bursaphelenchus* (Fuchs, 1937). *Nematology*. 10:663-678.

Kanzaki, N., R. M. Giblin-Davis, Y. J. Cardoza, W. Ye, K. F. Raffa, and B. J. Center. 2008. *Bursaphelenchus rufipennis* n. sp. (Parasitaphelenchidae) and redescription of *Ektaphelenchus obtusus* (Ektaphelenchidae): associates from nematangia on the hind wings of *Dendroctonus rufipennis* (Coleoptera: Scolytidae). *Nematology*. 10:925-955.

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Kanzaki, N., R. M. Giblin-Davis, and B. J. Center. 2009. Redescription of four North American *Bursaphelenchus* species from Massey's type material. *Nematology*. 11:129-150.

Powers, T. O., D. A. Neher, P. Mullin, A. Esquivel, R. M. Giblin-Davis, N. Kanzaki, S. P. Stock, M. M. Mora, and L. U. Lorio. 2009. Tropical nematode diversity: Vertical stratification of nematode communities in a Costa Rican humid lowland rainforest. *Molecular Ecology*. 18:985-996.

Porazinska, D., R. M. Giblin-Davis, W. Farmerie, T. Powers, N. Kanzaki, L. Faller, K. Morris, A. Tucker, W. Sung, W. K. Thomas. 2009. Evaluating high-throughput sequencing as a method for metagenomic analysis of nematode diversity. *Molecular Ecology Resources*. doi: 10.1111/j.1755-0998.2009.02611.x (In Press).

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