

LENScience Senior Biology Seminar Series Student Update Number 14 – June 20th, 2011

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Seminar 5 Preparations: Harnessing Biodiversity

We welcome Lincoln University and the Bio Protection Research Centre for Seminar 5.

Clean, green New Zealand? Join us for this seminar as we explore the challenges of protecting our plant-based primary industries from such threats that could have devastating impacts on New Zealand's economy.

This seminar will explore the work of New Zealand's leading bioprotection scientists from the Bio-Protection Research Centre, one of New Zealand's seven Centres of Research Excellence. Working with key national and international collaborators and using the latest technologies and ecological theory, the Centre is developing new biological knowledge of pest organisms and their interactions with host plants, leading to the development of novel biologically-based solutions.

The Great Worm Census - June 23rd, 2011

We do hope that you have collected a sample of soil for the Great Worm Census. Details of how to collect the data can be found on page 2 of the [Pre-Seminar Preparation Instructions](#).

An [editable data table](#) has been created online. Please check that your data is entered by June 23rd.

Do you lead your school environmental group?

LENScience and the Bio-Protection Research Centre will be providing resources for student leaders who run environmental groups in their school. Two activities will be provided to encourage you to support increased biodiversity in a section of your school grounds.

If you are an Environmental Group Leader, please email LENScience@auckland.ac.nz with your name, contact details and a brief summary of the type of activities your group is involved in.



Bio-Protection
Bioprotection science for New Zealand



An Invitation to participate in the
LENScience Senior Biology Seminar Series, No 5

'Harnessing Biodiversity'

with Professor Steve Wratten

Thursday 23rd June 2011
Lincoln University

Stewart building, Lecture Theatre 1
from 3.45-5.15pm

Afternoon tea from 3.15pm
Interactive live session - presentation
coming from Auckland.

This seminar is part of the LENS series and is aimed at Scholarship level Biology. There will be the usual pre-reading material and opportunity for questions with feedback.

Register with sue.unsworth@lincoln.ac.nz

Content will interest, extend and stimulate your Biology scholarship pupils. Pupils from Year 12 and 13 Biology also welcome.

Steve Wratten is Professor of Ecology at Lincoln University and Visiting Professor at Charles Sturt University. He is Deputy Director of the Bio-Protection Research Centre, a Centre of Research Excellence. He has worked at the universities of London, Southampton, Cambridge, UK, holds three doctorates and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand. He has around 400 refereed publications, including six books. His main research concerns evaluating and enhancing "nature's services" (ecosystem services). Using resource economics techniques, the existing value of these services (such things as biological control of pests, pollination, soil formation) is estimated and then habitat manipulation ("ecological engineering") is used to enhance these services on farmland to provide profit and real evidence of sustainability. This work is done across several agricultural sectors but the most prominent work is in vineyards - see <http://bioprotection.org.nz/greening-waipara>



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