

Dominykas Aleknavičius

CONTACT INFORMATION

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EDUCATION AND ACADEMIC DEGREE

2015 – 2019 Vilnius university / The Nature Research Centre, Doctoral degree. Dissertation theme: „Chemoecological peculiarities of *Rhagoletis batava* Hering (Diptera, Tephritidae)”.

2013 – 2015 Vilniaus university, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Ecology master's degree (Magna Cum Laude diploma).

2009 – 2013 Vilniaus university, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Ecology bachelor's degree.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2021 – untill now **Insect rearing research & development manager**
Divaks, UAB

2020 – untill now **Researcher**
The Nature Research Centre, Laboratory of Chemical and Behavioural Ecology

2019 – 2021 **Director**
Ensifera, UAB

2015 – 2020 **Senior laboratory assistant**
The Nature Research Centre, Laboratory of Chemical and Behavioural Ecology

2015 – 2019 **PhD student**
Dissertation theme: „Chemoecological peculiarities of *Rhagoletis batava* Hering (Diptera, Tephritidae)”, The Nature Research Centre, Laboratory of Chemical and Behavioural Ecology

2015 **Junior researcher**
The Nature Research Centre, Laboratory of Chemical and Behavioural Ecology

2013 – 2015 **Senior laboratory assistant**
The Nature Research Centre, Laboratory of Chemical and Behavioural Ecology

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Optimisation of edible insects farming, mass-grown insects microbiological safety, dietary improvements, reproduction system (cultivation process) balancing. Control of agricultural pests using attractive volatile organic compounds. Fundamental and applied research on insect behavior.

PUBLICATIONS

Scientific articles published in journals (books), indexed in „Clarivate Analytics Web of Science“ database (with citation index):

1. Blažytė-Čereškienė, L., Aleknavičius, D., Apšegaitė, V., Būda, V. (2022) Response of Parasitic Wasp *Cotesia glomerata* L. (Hymenoptera: Braconidae) to Cabbage Plants of Two Varieties: Olfactory Spectra of Males and Females. *Journal of Economic Entomology*, 115 (5): 1464–1471. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jee/toac135>
2. Aleknavičius, D., Lukša, J., Strazdaitė-Žielienė, Ž., Servienė, E. (2022) The bacterial microbiota of edible insects *Acheta domesticus* and *Gryllus assimilis* revealed by high content analysis. *Foods*, 11 (8): art. no. 1073.
3. Blažytė-Čereškienė, L., Būda, V., Apšegaitė, V., Radžiutė, S., Būdienė, J., Aleknavičius, D., Mozūraitis, R. (2022). Sea Buckthorn *Hippophae rhamnoides* and Fruit Flies *Rhagoletis batava*: Search for Volatile Semiochemicals Involved in Pest Attraction. *Horticulturae*, 8 (2): art. no.179.
4. Mozūraitis, R., Apšegaitė, V., Radžiutė, S., Aleknavičius, D., Būdienė, J., Stanevičienė, R., Blažytė-Čereškienė, L., Servienė, E., Būda, V. (2022) Volatiles produced by yeasts related to *Prunus avium* and *P. cerasus* fruits and their potentials to modulate the behaviour of the pest *Rhagoletis cerasi* fruit flies. *Journal of Fungi*, 8 (2): art. no. 95.
5. Lukša, J., Vepškaitė-Monstavičė, I., Apšegaitė, V., Blažytė-Čereškienė, L., Stanevičienė, R., Strazdaitė-Žielienė, Ž., Ravoitytė, B., Aleknavičius, D., Būda, V., Mozūraitis, R., Servienė, E. (2020) Fungal microbiota of sea buckthorn berries at two ripening stages and volatile profiling of potential biocontrol yeasts. *Microorganisms*, 8 (3): art. no. 456.
6. Būda, V., Blažytė-Čereškienė, L., Radžiutė, S., Apšegaitė, V., Stamm, P., Schulz, S., Aleknavičius, D., Mozūraitis, R. (2020) Male-Produced (-)-delta-Heptalactone, Pheromone of Fruit Fly *Rhagoletis batava* (Diptera: Tephritidae), a Sea Buckthorn Berries Pest. *Insects*, 11 (2): art. no. 138.
7. Mozūraitis, R., Aleknavičius, D., Vepškaitė-Monstavičė, I., Stanevičienė, R., Emami, S.N., Apšegaitė, V., Radžiutė, S., Blažytė-Čereškienė, L., Servienė, E., Būda, V. (2020) *Hippophae rhamnoides* berry related *Pichia kudriavzevii* yeast volatiles modify behaviour of *Rhagoletis batava* flies. *Journal of Advanced Research*, 21: 71–77.
8. Aleknavičius, D., Būda, V. (2019) Trapping peculiarities, flight and mating dynamics of sea buckhorn fruit fly (*Rhagoletis batava*) in Lithuania. *Zemdirbyste-Agriculture*. 106 (1): 81–86.

PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

- 2016 – 2020 **Laboratory assistant** at project „The role of metabolites in three-trophic interactions between plant, microorganisms and phytophagous insects”.
- 2014 **Laboratory assistant** at project „Search of biomarkers for detection of hazardous substances in grains and their products for quality and safety control (MIKOTOX)”.

INTERNSHIP AND TRAINING

- 2019 – 2022 Postdoctoral internship in The Nature Research Centre, Laboratory of genetics „Cricket cultivars for novel food: safety evaluation based on microbiota’s analysis”.

PARTICIPATION IN SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCES

International scientific conferences:

1. **Aleknavičius, D.**, Lukša, J., Strazdaitė-Žielienė, Ž., Servienė, E. (2022, June 15 – 17). Metagenomic analysis of bacterial communities of the edible insect the house cricket [Poster presentation]. FEBS3+, Tallinn, Estonia.
2. **Aleknavičius, D.**, Markaitytė, E., Stanevičienė, R., Servienė, E. (2022, August 8 – 12). Feed associated bacteria effect on behavioral responses of edible cricket cultivars [Poster presentation]. ISCE-APACE 3rd joint meeting, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

PARTICIPATION IN THE STUDY PROCESS

Supervision of bachelor and master students:

Valentina Kavaliauskaitė	Bachelor thesis: „Optimization of Methodology for Assessment of Microbiological Contamination of Food Insects“ (VGTU, Bioengineering study programme)	2020 – 2021
Eglė Markaitytė	Bachelor thesis: „Feed associated bacteria effect on olfaction and behavioral responses of cricket cultivars“ (VU LSC, Biology study programme)	2019 – 2022

OTHERS

1. Chief of project „Diet formulation and reproduction system of rearing optimization of yellow mealworm”, Customer: Divaks, UAB (2021 – 2022).
2. Chief of project „Applied research for cultivation of the yellow mealworm”, Customer: Divaks, UAB (2021 – 2022).