

Dr. Eric Benbow

Associate Professor

Department of Entomology

College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Department of Osteopathic Medical Specialties

College of Osteopathic Medicine



Dr. Eric Benbow is an associate professor in the Department of Entomology at Michigan State University. He also has a joint appointment in the Department of Osteopathic Medical Specialties that is represented by on-going, nationally funded research on the human postmortem microbiome, microbial interactions with insects and applications in forensics and human health.

Through his work, Dr. Benbow is committed to developing studies that have potential translation in disease management by bridging disciplines of agriculture, entomology, microbial ecology and disease.

In recent years, his growing research program has developed from a focused effort on insect ecology to advanced inquiry into how insects and microbes interact within ecological networks. His lab is using this understanding of multikingdom interactions to identify potential opportunities for managing the networks in applications such as water-related disease emergence and forensics.

Dr. Benbow joined the Department of Entomology in 2014 as an assistant professor and was promoted to associate professor in 2015. He earned a Ph.D. and B.S. from the University of Dayton.

Global research interests

- Aquatic entomology and disease ecology
- Insect-microbe interactions
- Decomposition ecology and forensics

Geographic focus:

- Benin
- Ghana
- Malawi