

Sarah Kate Hargreaves, Ph.D.

Education

Dr. Sarah Hargreaves received her Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from Iowa State University, Ames, USA in 2014. She previously received a M.Sc. (2005) and B.Sc. (2002) in Ecology from University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada.

Positions

Dr. Hargreaves has worked as Program Manager for the Ecological Farmers Association of Ontario's (EFAO) Farmer-led Research Program since January 2016. Between Graduate Assistantships from 2005-2008, she worked as a Research Associate in maize genetics at Iowa State University.

Research Interests

Dr. Hargreaves has a broad background in soil ecology, with specific training and expertise in microbial ecology and agricultural soil health. Her Ph.D. research focused on plant-microbe interactions in perennial vs. annual-based cropping systems, which provided evidence of the seasonality of plant-microbe interactions. Dr. Hargreaves is also committed to outreach and has considerable experience communicating science to farmers and the general public. As a member of Practical Farmers of Iowa (PFI), she became inspired by the power of farmer-led research as a mechanism for knowledge generation and scientific literacy. Since moving back to Ontario, she has worked with the Ecological Farmers Association of Ontario to develop Canada's first farmer-led research program. In this capacity, Dr. Hargreaves' research interests are focused on helping farmers generate evidence-based knowledge about sustainable farming practices. She has published 5 peer-reviewed publications in the area of microbial ecology and methodology, 1 peer-reviewed publication on Arctic soil ecology and 1 peer-reviewed publication in sustainability science.

Notable Awards & Honours

Dr. Hargreaves received a prestigious NSF Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant in 2012 for \$15,000. In addition, she received numerous graduate student awards from the Ecological Society of America (2013: Agroecology Section, \$600), Iowa State University (2012: EEB William Clark Graduate Student Award, \$600; 2009, 2011: EEOB Graduate Student Research Grants, \$500 each), Michigan State University (2009: Lauff Tuition Award, \$2,000) and the Northern Scientific Training Program (2001-2004: \$2,000 each).